

Dear Parents and Carers

Garden Area

The school has been working closely with the organisation YMCA Downslink to tidy up and get the garden ready for the children to use in the summer. Some of our children in Reception and Year 4 will be getting the opportunity to work with YMCA leaders whilst they train to become Forest School Leaders. A huge thank you to Yolandi Taylor and her team for organising this for the children at Meridian and I look forward to sharing with you what they have been learning in future newsletters. <u>Please can I remind parents that this garden area is for school use only, so please do not go into this area before or after school without permission from the school – thank you.</u>

Year 6 SATs

Well done to our wonderful Year 6 children for completing their SATs this week. They have worked incredibly hard all year to prepare for these tests and I have been so proud of their mature attitude to learning and their focus. I know that every single child did their absolute best and who could ask for anything more than that . . . They are all over now – hooray! I know they are now looking forward to rehearsing and performing their end of year production and visiting their new secondary schools. And I also know that their teachers have got lots of fun things planned for the rest of the year.

PTFA Disco

Don't forget it's the PTFA Spring Disco tonight. Children should receive their tickets today – look out for these in children's book bags. The Reception/KS1 disco is from 4pm to 5pm. The KS2 disco is from 5.30pm – 7pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

Toys in school

We are starting to see children bringing in toys from home into school. Please ensure that your child/children do not bring things in from home to avoid upset if they get lost or broken. Thank you for your support with this.

Best wishes

Westcott

Claire Westcott (Headteacher)



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TERM DATES
<u>Term 5</u>
Tuesday 18 th April – Friday 26 th May
(Bank Holiday – Monday 1 st May)
INSET DAY on Friday 26 th May – school closed
for staff training.
<u>May break</u>
Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June
<u>Term 6</u>
Monday 5 th June – Friday 21 st July
INSET DAYS on Thursday 20 th July and Friday
21 st July – school closed for staff training
<u>Term 1</u>
Monday 4 th September – Friday 20 th October
INSET days on Monday 4 th September and
Tuesday 5 th September – school closed for staff
training. Children back to school on
Wednesday 6 th September
No Dogs Please
Having met with EMCOR last week, I

Having met with EMCOR last week, I have found out about their policy with regards to having dogs on the school site.

Their policy is that **no dogs are to come onto the school site**, including those that are being carried by their owners.

I apologise for any confusion about this as I understood that it was ok to carry dogs – but I was wrong.

So please can you leave all dogs (big and small) outside the school grounds.

Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.



Important Dates

- 12.05 PTFA Disco
- 25.05 Year 5 Assembly to Parents @9am
- 26.05 School closed for staff training
- 16.06 Year 1 Assembly to Parents @9am
- 19.06 Year 6 Residential all week
- 22.06 Parent Coffee Morning @9am
- 23.06 Reception Assembly to Parents @9am
- 28.06 Reception/KS1 Sports Afternoon @1.30pm
- 29.06 KS2 Sports Afternoon @ 1.30pm
- 30.06 Year 3 Assembly to Parents @9am
- 07.07 Year 2 Assembly to Parents @9am Curriculum Open Afternoon from 1.45pm
- 10.07 Healthy Living Week
- 14.07 Year 4 Assembly to Parents @9am
- 18.07 Year 6 Production to whole school and
- parents with babies/toddlers @9am
 - Year 6 Production to Parents @6pm
- 20.07 School closed for staff training21.07 School closed for staff training
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- 04.09 School closed for staff training
- 05.09 School closed for staff training
- 06.09 Children back to school

Walk to School Week

It's Walk to School Week next week (15th May -19th May). It is a national event and encourages children and families to lead healthy lifestyles

Join thousands of children across the country celebrating the benefits walking brings.

It is widely acknowledged that walking to school makes children feel healthier and happier, while reducing congestion and pollution outside the school gates. Yet less than half of primary school children currently walk to school.

Living Streets (The UK Charity for everyday walking) want to reverse this decline and see every child that can, walk to school.

It would be great to join in this event and see how many children walk to school each day! If you live too far and drive to school perhaps you could park further away next week and have a walk to school ...

Active Kids vouchers

We are collecting Active Kids vouchers from Sainsbury's again this year. It is great way for us to get free equipment and resources for school. So please do send these in if you shop in Sainsbury's - you could also get friends and family to collect





Attendance

Excellent attendance at school is so important so that children do not miss the vital teaching and learning that takes place every day in class and do not fall behind. Our school target is 96% this year but unfortunately we are not on track to achieve this due to some poor attendance by some families. Our current percentage is only 93.7%, which is significantly below the national average. We are currently working the Education Behaviour and Attendance Service to see what additional strategies and support we can put in place to improve our attendance.

EVERY LESSON COUNTS!

Each week we celebrate the class with the best attendance and they earn coins for their treasure chest on the class behaviour board.

Well done to the following class so far this term:

Week 1: 2MD (Mermaid Class) 98.9% Week 2: 4P (Clownfish Class) 98.3%

If you would like support with any attendance worries you may have, do make appointment with either Ms Maslen (Assistant Headteacher) or Mrs Skippings (Learning Mentor)

Parent Council

We have got a Parent Council meeting in the next couple of weeks - so if you have anything you would like the Parent Council Representatives to raise at this meeting, please do let them know. We currently have parents representing most year groups. However if you are interesting in coming along to a slightly more formal meeting for parents to hear about school developments and share comments and suggestions from parents you are welcome to join us.

We have a provisional date of Wednesday 24th May at 9am. If this date changes, I will put a message on the website.

School Nurse Drop Ins

Our school nurse (Sam) is available every Tuesday morning from 8.45am for parents to drop in and chat with her about any concerns you might have about your child. Please come to the school office to sign in and Sam will meet with you. This wonderful service is no longer provided free of charge and is something that school has purchased to support parents, so please do come along and meet with her if you have any worries at all.

She is really lovely and be able to offer health support, advice or signpost you to services you can access.



Polling Station

The school will be used again as a Polling Station on Thursday 8th June for the General Election.

A letter will be going out next week for you to order a school packed lunch if you wish.

If not, you will need to provide your child with their own packed lunch on this day.

Thank you for your support with this matter