



Learning for life!

Meridian Update

Term 1

**Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th
September school closed
for staff training.
Children back on
Wednesday 6th September**

www.meridianschool.co.uk



**Meridian Community Primary
School and Nursery**



@MeridianCPS

**Wednesday
19th
July
2017**

Dear Parents and Carers

I can't believe another year has come to an end – it has gone so quickly! We have had another successful year at Meridian and we were all delighted to welcome the Nursery as part of the school. All the children have loved the learning opportunities this year and they have all had to chance to celebrate their achievements in their end of year assemblies – all of which were brilliant!

Year 6

Our Year 6 children have been brilliant this year and I cannot praise them high enough for their hard work and determination to do their very best. They took the SATs seriously and as a result we were so proud of their achievements. I have enjoyed watching them grow and develop over the years and I know that they will be a real asset to their secondary schools – good luck and well done everyone!

Curriculum Chats for Parents

We have set the dates for Curriculum Chats for parents in September (see our Important Dates section) – make sure you put these dates in your diaries! These chats are an opportunity for you to meet the teachers and find out about the learning planned for the autumn terms. If you are unable to attend, the key information shared will be put on the website.

New Classes for September

The children all really enjoyed meeting their teacher in their new classroom last week. On the first day back, the Senior Leadership Team will be around on the playgrounds to guide you if you don't know where to go!

Meridian App

From September we are moving away from texting parents (as it has been costing the school a lot of money!) – we can still send you messages but we will do this via our app. So please make sure we can stay in touch with you and download the app. You can do this via the Apple App Store or Google Play.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer holiday and we look forward to seeing you all back in September.

Best wishes

Claire Westcott
(Headteacher)



TERM DATES 2017/2018

Term 1

Monday 4th September – Friday 20th October
INSET days on Monday 4th September and Tuesday 5th September – school closed for staff training.

Children back to school on Wednesday 6th September

Autumn break

Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October

Term 2

Monday 30th October – Wednesday 20th December

Christmas break

Thursday 21st December to Monday 1st January
Please note not all INSET days for 2017/2018 have been set

Important Dates

04.09 School closed for staff training
05.09 School closed for staff training
06.09 Children back to school
11.09 Year 1 Curriculum Chat @ 2.30pm
12.09 Year 2 Curriculum Chat @ 2.30pm
13.09 Year 3 Curriculum Chat @ 2.30pm
14.09 Year 4 Curriculum Chat @ 2.30pm
15.09 Year 5 Curriculum Chat @ 2.30pm
18.09 Year 6 Curriculum Chat @ 2.30pm
22.09 Jeans for Genes Day
02.10 Reception Curriculum Chat @ 2.30pm
03.10 Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6pm
05.10 Parents Evening 5.30pm – 7pm
13.10 PTFA Fancy Dress Disco

School Lunches

First day back school lunch will be:
Sausage with mash and gravy/Quorn sausage with mash and gravy. Both served with peas and sweetcorn. Chocolate Crispy Square.

You said . . . We did . . .

At this time of year, I like to share with you all the different ways we have responded to some of your suggestions. If you have any further suggestions that you would like us to consider, please do let us know or speak with one of the Parent Council Reps – their details are on our website.

You said	We did
You asked for an improved website . . .	We updated our website and made it more user friendly. We also now have an app that you can download too!
You asked for support with understanding how the school deals with bullying . . .	We organised for parent workshops and information sharing events as part of our Anti-Bullying week in November.
You asked for Social Media to be used to support communication with parents . . .	We updated our Facebook page and now have a Twitter feed embedded in our website to support communication with parents.
You asked for relevant Nursery information to be included in newsletters . . .	We now include key information about the Nursery in newsletters and even include photographs of the children enjoying their learning!
You asked for the Bins near the side entrance of the school to be hidden as they are unsightly . . .	We organised for EMCOR to cover this area temporarily and we are looking at the cost of different arrangements for hiding the bins

**These are just a few examples of how we have taken on board your views and ideas.
Thank you for your continued support to make Meridian the best it can be!**

Key Stage 2 Swimming Gala

A couple of weeks ago, we took a team from Meridian to the Swimming Gala at Seahaven Pool and they had an amazing time! It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to take part in a competition and we had lots of volunteers who wanted to represent the school. There were lots of different races for children to compete in and they all loved every moment of it! For our strongest swimmers, there was the Squadron Cup – a chance to compete against other strong swimmers and again the children taking part were brilliant!

Mrs Skippings said there was such a lovely atmosphere and the children cheered everyone on! Thank you to all the parents that came along to support the children and the school – we had some really positive comments about this event. Everyone that took part received a certificate and a medal too! And we came 4th overall! Well done to everyone that took part and thank you to Mrs Skippings for organising for us to attend!



Parent Questionnaire

	Based on 64 questionnaires	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
1	My child is happy at Meridian	77%	23%			
2	My child feels safe at school	67%	33%			
3	My child makes good progress at school	64%	36%			
4	My child is well looked after at school	73%	27%			
5	My child is taught well at school.	63%	37%			
6	My child receives appropriate homework for their age.	48%	44%	3%		5%
7	This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	47%	51%			2%
8	This school deals effectively with bullying.	33%	30%	6%		31%
9	This school is well led and managed	44%	48%	2%		6%
10	This school responds well to any concerns I raise	44%	39%	6%		11%
11	I receive valuable information about my child's progress	47%	48%	5%		
12	I feel comfortable visiting the school office and my queries are answered effectively and politely	41%	27%	28%		4%
13	I would recommend this school to another parent.	Yes	98%	No	2%	

Thank you to everyone that returned their questionnaire – this information is really useful, as were the comments that some of you took the time to write.

All this information was shared with governors and has been used to inform our School Improvement Plan for 2017/2018.

A message from our Chair of Governors

The end of a school year is a time for reflection and as Governors we take the time to do this too.

We have now been a Governing Body in our own right since January and the last 7 months has seen us grow in experience and confidence in our roles supporting and monitoring the work of the staff in the school.

We have had to concentrate a deal of our energies into supporting the senior school staff in strategic budget planning through tough times and are fully supportive of the creative way that increased costs and reduced income will ensure that education at Meridian will remain exciting and appropriate.

Our final tasks this year will be around analysis and questioning of end of year educational data that will lead to the formation of the school development plan for the 2017/2018 year.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer holiday!

Janet Anthony
Chair of Governing Body



Good Luck and Goodbye!

At this time of year, we often have people moving on to new and exciting adventures in their lives and this year is no exception. So . . .

Thank you to Mrs Dunt who has only been with us for a short while but has had a great impact at Meridian – we wish you well for the future.

Thank you to Mrs Duke for all her hard work at Meridian the past 18 months – good luck with your future plans.

Thank you to Mrs Stepney who has been with the school for 24 years – we wish you all the best for the future and thank you for all your hard work and commitment to the school over the years.

Thank you to Mrs Nicholson for all her hard work at Meridian – good luck with your future plans.

Good luck to Mrs Catlin who is going on maternity leave – we look forward to meeting the new addition to your family!

I know that some of you will have heard rumours about other members of staff leaving – Mrs Skippings, Mrs Ayres, Mrs Hornsbury, Mrs Richmond and Mrs Frampton. All of these people will be returning in September for a short while before they leave Meridian – so we will have the chance to wish them well and after the summer holidays!



Our wonderful Nursery

One of our biggest success stories this year has been the opening of our Nursery. The Nursery team, led by Miss Duffy have worked so hard to ensure the children are settled, happy and learning. A huge thank you all the parents who have shared their positive comments about the Nursery – I am very proud of the provision we have for our 2, 3 and 4 year olds. In our recent Pupil Questionnaire, lots of the children thought that one of the improvements this year in school is having our own Nursery – really shows how the Nursery is part of the school. We look forward to welcoming more children in September.



The Meridian App

Thank you for all your positive comments on our app. So far we've had nearly 200 downloads. Did you know you can receive notifications straight to your phone or tablet giving you important updates and events happening in school? Download it for free now!



Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google play

PTFA News

We had an amazing day on Saturday 8th July at our annual Summer Sizzler! The sun shone and lots of you came along to support our fundraising event. A huge thank you to Nicky Packham (the Chair of our PTFA) and all our PTFA members for their hard work and support putting this event on. We had lots of volunteers (parents and staff) on the day to ensure that we were able to have plenty of stalls and activities throughout the day – thank you everyone for all your help.

We raised **£1500** – which is wonderful news! At our next PTFA meeting we will be discussing how we plan to use our funds to support the children in school.

Our next meeting and AGM is 27th September at 7pm at school.

Future Events:

Friday 13th October – Fancy Dress Disco

Friday 1st December – Christmas Fair



Year Six End of Year Production

Jungle Book

Last night the Year 6 children put on a wonderful production of Jungle Book to their families and friends. It was great to see everyone joining in and giving it their all – the acting was fantastic and the singing was amazing. Well done and thank you to the Year 6 team for all their hard work and support – I know everyone watching really enjoyed it and could not believe how professional it was! It was like watching a West End production!

