



# Learning for life!

## Meridian Update

### Term 2

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October to  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**

### Term 3

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January – Friday  
9<sup>th</sup> February**

[www.meridianschool.co.uk](http://www.meridianschool.co.uk)



**Meridian Community Primary  
School & Nursery**



**@MeridianCPS**

**Wednesday  
20<sup>th</sup>  
December  
2017**

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Christmas Celebrations**

Our Christmas celebrations were lovely this year – it was great to see the children singing and performing to their families and friends. Thank you to all of you that were able to attend and clap and cheer in all the right places! We have had some really lovely comments about the quality of singing and it certainly put us all in the festive mood! Also, thank you to everyone for your generous donations to our chosen Christmas charity – Chestnut Tree House Children's Hospice. We collected £372.28 – amazing!

### **Curriculum Chats**

Thank you to those parents that spotted a mistake in the last newsletter – we have corrected and amended these dates both on the next page and on the school website.

Don't forget that these Curriculum Chats are an important way for us to share with you wonderful learning planned for terms 3 and 4. Teachers enjoy having the opportunity to explain what your children will be learning about and how you can support your children at home. We look forward to seeing you in the first few weeks back.

### **Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Mr Doody and his wife on the arrival of their new baby daughter – everyone is doing well. Mr Doody will return to school after his paternity leave on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Special Educational Needs at Meridian**

Miss Maslen will be attending our next Parent Council Meeting in January, so if you have a questions you would like to ask her or would like to find out more about how we support children with Special Educational Needs at Meridian, please speak with a Parent Council Representative who will raise these at the meeting.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

See you on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

Best wishes

*Claire Westcott*

Claire Westcott  
Headteacher



**TERM DATES  
2017/2018**

**Christmas break**

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December to Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January

**Term 3**

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February

**INSET day Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January – school closed  
for staff training**

***Children back to school on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
January***

**February break**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February

**Term 4**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March

**Spring break**

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April

**Term 5**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May

**May break**

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June

**Term 6**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July

**INSET day Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June – school closed for  
staff training**

***Children back to school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June***

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**2018**

- 08.01** Year 6 Curriculum Chat to parents 2.30pm  
**09.01** Year 5 Curriculum Chat to parents 2.30pm  
**10.01** Year 4 Curriculum Chat to parents 2.30pm  
**11.01** Year 3 Curriculum Chat to parents 2.30pm  
**12.01** Year 2 Curriculum Chat to parents 2.30pm  
**15.01** Year 1 Curriculum Chat to parents 2.30pm  
**16.01** Year R Curriculum Chat to parents 2.30pm  
**25.01** Parent Council Meeting 9.00am in Annexe  
**30.01** Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6pm  
**01.02** Parent Coffee Morning 9.00am in Annexe  
**01.02** Parents Evening 4.30pm – 7pm  
**22.03** Parent Coffee Morning 9.00am in Annexe  
**27.03** Parent Open Afternoon 1.45pm

**Attendance**

We are continuing our focus on improving attendance and punctuality across the school. Did you know that the average whole school attendance is 95%? Currently our whole school attendance from September until now is 94% - so there is still the need for improvement.

**Attendance for term 2:**

RE – 92.7%  
RH – 90.4%  
1A – 90.4%  
1EB – 90.5%  
1B – 91.7%  
2T – 92.7%  
2HP – 94.3%  
3H – 94.5%  
3M – 95.3%  
3B – 95.0%  
4P – 96.5%  
4R – 94.8%  
**5P – 96.7%**  
5M – 92.5%  
6R – 91.8%  
6J – 93.1%

**Well done to Miss Passingham's class for the best attendance this term!**

Please remember that you need to call school to inform us if your child is off sick and on their return, you must send in a **written note** explaining the reason for the absence. If you do not send in a note, this absence will be unauthorised.

## Forest School Update

During the last three days of term, children in all year groups had the opportunity to take part in the end of term Forest School celebrations. They enjoyed toasting marshmallows and drinking hot chocolate with Mr Legate. Even the staff had the chance to enjoy a Forest School breakfast before the children arrived!

Over the past few weeks, the children and Mr Legate have had everything thrown at them by Mother Nature: rain, wind, ice and even snow! Well done to all those children that continue to bring the appropriate Forest School clothing. The children have been making Christmas decorations to hang on the Christmas tree. They have learnt various new skills, like using a vegetable peeler to shape sticks and a palm drill to make holes in their decoration. These skills were challenging but all the children demonstrated amazing strength and perseverance to succeed.

### Christmas Tree Recycling

To encourage more diverse natural environment in our Outdoor Learning area we are trying to build natural fences. As well as encouraging lots of different wildlife into the site, it will be a more interesting environment for the children to explore and discover. To help us build these natural fences we are asking anyone who has a real Christmas Tree to drop them off to the school on Tuesday 2nd January.

### Mud Kitchen

Next term the children will be carrying out a number of different activities, one being the Mud Kitchen. This gives children the chance to develop their role play and imagination skills whilst enhancing their speaking and listening skills. We are trying to make the Mud Kitchen as exciting as possible – there will real sinks, water and even a fridge. If you have any old pots, pans or other kitchen utensils that you do not want any more please do donate them to the school to help the children and enhance the Outdoor Learning environment further.

Thank you for your continued support!



### Term 3

In term 3, the following classes will have Forest School on these days:

Monday: 3B (Mr Bulmer), 3H (Miss Howell), 3M (Miss Miles)

Tuesday: 1A (Miss Adams), 1B (Ms Baldrian), 1EB (Miss Bridgman)

Wednesday: 2T (Ms Treglown), 2HP (Mrs Halls/Mrs Price), RE (Miss East)

Thursday: 4P (Miss Pulleine), 4R (Mr Richards), RH (Miss Haley)

So don't forget to send your child into school with warm clothes, waterproof coat and suitable footwear (e.g. wellies or trainers)



### Nursery Sing-a-long!

The Nursery children did us proud this week when they sung a selection of Christmas songs to parents and grandparents at our Nursery Sing-a-long. It was lovely to see our youngest children joining, singing at the tops of their voices and some even entertained us with their dancing.

Well done to the Nursery children – you were superstars!



### After-school clubs

Our after-school clubs programme has experienced a few hiccups since we launched it in September. Thank you to everyone for your patience during this time. Mrs Hunt and I are in the process of meeting with some different after-school club providers in the New Year to look at re-launching a new and improved programme. We will be asking the children for any suggestions they might have too – if you as parents have any thoughts, please do pop into the school office or make a suggestion through the Parent Council (you can find out who the representatives are on the school website). We are committed to developing our after-school offer and will update you as when changes occur.



### Pantomime

We rounded off the term with a fantastic theatre group and their performance of Aladdin. The children loved it and were joining in with all the booing, cheering and shouts of “behind you!”

It was lovely to see everyone (children and adults!) enjoying themselves so much on the last day of term.



All the staff at Meridian wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!