

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year! I hope you had a lovely break at Christmas. It was lovely to see all the children back all keen and enthusiastic to get on with their learning.

Curriculum Chats

It was great to see parents attending our Curriculum Chats over the last two weeks. We organise these meetings to share the exciting learning opportunities planned for the next two terms and then this information is then added to the school website. We are currently in the process of updating this information – so please keep checking.

Parent Council Meeting

Don't forget that next week we are having our next Parent Council meeting so if you have any comments or questions you would like to ask the school, please do speak to one of our Parent Council Representatives – their details are on the school website.

Year 3 Swimming

Thank you to all the parents and carers of children in Year 3 for your support with swimming lessons. I really appreciate how tricky it can be to organise dropping children off at the pool in the mornings – but as always you have all been busy making arrangements to support each other with this. The children love going swimming and it is such an important life skill for them to either learn to swim or improve their skills – so thank you for supporting the school with this.

Forest school update

Children continue to enjoy their outdoor learning at Forest School. Please can parents ensure that children have suitable clothing and wellies for these sessions as they do get very muddy this time of year!

Parent Governor Vacancy

One of our Parent Governors, Katie Jeffries, has stepped from her governance role. I would like to thank Katie for all her support and hard work as a Meridian governor over the last few years. This does create a vacancy for a Parent Governor and a letter will be going out next week with more information about this. So if you want to find out more look out.

if you want to find out more, look out for this letter.

Best wishes

Claire Westcott

Claire Westcott (Headteacher)



responsibility

TERM DATES 2017/2018

Term 3

Tuesday 2nd January – Friday 9th February

INSET day Tuesday 2nd January – school

closed for staff training

Children back to school on Wednesday 3rd

January

February break

Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February **Term 4**

Monday 19th February – Thursday 29th March

<u>Spring break</u>

Friday 30th March – Friday 13th April

Term 5

Monday 16th April – Friday 25th May

May break

Monday 28th May – Friday 1st June **Term 6**

Monday 4th June – Friday 20th July

INSET day Monday 4th June – school closed

for staff training

Children back to school on Tuesday 5th June

Important Dates

25.01 Parent Council Meeting 9.00am in Annexe

30.01 Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6pm (all years)

31.01 Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6pm (2HP & 6J)

01.02 Parent Coffee Morning 9.00am in Annexe

01.02 Parents Evening 4.30pm – 7pm (not 2HP & 6J)

22.03 Parent Coffee Morning 9.00am in Annexe

27.03 Parent Open Afternoon 1.45pm

Thank you and goodbye!

I would like to wish Mrs Chris Jeffries and Mrs Carole Comber good luck as they leave Meridian on Friday 2nd February. Mrs Jeffries is currently recovering from a knee operation so that is why you have not seen her for the past few months. Mrs Jeffries has been at Meridian for over 30 years and Mrs Comber for over 25 years so I would to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to them both for all their hard work and commitment to the school and the children – they have been a very important part of Meridian's history for a long time and I know they will be greatly missed. We have a collection in the office should any parents wish to contribute.

Thank you!

Dropping children off in the morning

You may remember from a previous newsletter, that in order to keep children safe we ask that parents drop their children off at the entrance to the school building and <u>not come inside</u>. Thank you so much to all of you that have supported us with this.

However, a few parents are starting to come inside the building asking to speak with teachers.

The teachers have been requested to stand at their classroom doors to meet and greet the children as they come so it is not always possible to speak with them. Also as we have a staggered start to the day from 8.35am – 8.55am, teachers need to be able to settle their classes and keep an eye on their children so this time of the morning is not the best time to discuss any specific issues or concerns you may have.

You are very welcome to make an appointment or request a phone call from a teacher via the school office and they will get back to you as soon as they can.

Can I please make a particular plea to parents of children in **Miss Bridgman's** and **Mrs Jackson's** classes that you leave your children at the entrance of the mobile classroom or at the bottom of the ramp and not come inside to speak to these teachers as this is starting to become a cause for concern – the same expectations apply to the mobile classrooms as the main school building.

Thank you for your support this matter and ensuring the school is a safe place for children and staff.