



Learning for life!

Meridian Update

Term 5

**Monday 16th April to
Friday 25th May**

Term 6

**Monday 4th June to
Friday 20th July**

www.meridianschool.co.uk



**Meridian Community Primary
School & Nursery**



@MeridianCPS

**Monday
30th
April
2018**

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you all had a great Easter break and managed to enjoy the recent sunshine – fingers crossed we see the sun again soon!

P.E. kits

Please can all children have the correct P.E. kit in school. We are noticing an increasing number of children having to either sit out of P.E. lessons or do P.E. in their school uniforms. Physical exercise is such an important part of the children's education and it is an expectation that they have a P.E. kit in school. Thank you for your support.

Children's Parade

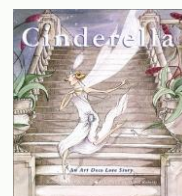
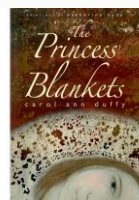
Don't forget we are taking part in the annual Brighton Festival Children's Parade on Saturday 5th May – if you would like to come along and watch the parade, head into Brighton and look out for our school banner!

Around the World

In terms 5 and 6, the children are learning about different countries around the world. Nursery and Reception are learning about hot and cold countries; Years 1 and 2 are learning about weather around the world; Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are learning about the USA and Central America. The teachers have been working really hard to plan lots of exciting learning opportunities over the next few weeks and you will have the opportunity to see their work, both in their books and on display, at our next Curriculum Open Afternoon on 17th July from 1.45pm.

Learning through children's books

The first two weeks back have been spent reading and learning through some amazing quality children's books and the work the children have produced is great. Nursery and Reception loved reading "Princess Scallywag and the brave, brave knight"; Years 1 and 2 have been reading "Cinderella"; Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 have enjoyed reading The Princess' Blankets.



Best wishes

Claire Westcott

Claire Westcott
(Head teacher)



TERM DATES

2017/2018

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

TERM DATES

2018/2019

Term 1

Monday 3rd September – Friday 19th October

INSET days Monday 3rd September and Tuesday 4th September – school closed for staff training.

Children back to school on Wednesday 5th September

October break

Monday 22nd – Friday 26th October

PLEASE NOTE NOT ALL INSET DAYS HAVE BEEN SET FOR 2018/2019

Important Dates

08.05 Parent Council – 9am

14.05 – 18.05 Year 6 SATs week

17.05 Parent Coffee Morning – 9am

18.05 PTFA Disco – R, 1, 2 – 4pm – 5pm

3, 4, 5, 6 – 5.30pm – 7pm

22.05 Nursery Sports morning – 10am

Nursery Sports afternoon – 2.30pm

23.05 R, 1, 2 Sports morning (timings to be confirmed)

24.05 3, 4, 5, 6 Sports morning (timings to be confirmed)

25.05 Year 5 Assembly to parents – 9am

04.06 INSET day – school closed for staff training

15.06 Year 4 Assembly to parents – 9am

22.06 Year 3 Assembly to parents – 9am

27.06 Year 6 Production to whole school and parents with babies and toddlers – 1.30pm

28.06 Year 6 Production to parents 6pm

29.06 Year 2 Assembly to parents – 9am

02.07 – 06.07 Year 6 residential trip to Isle of Wight

06.07 Year 1 Assembly to parents – 9am

09.07 – 13.07 Year 6 transition week

13.07 Reception Assembly to parents 9am

13.07 PTFA Summer Sizzler – 3.30pm – 6.30pm

17.07 Parent Open Afternoon – 1.45pm

Withdrawing your child from learning

As you may be aware, it is a government policy that headteachers cannot grant any time out of school to pupils during term time without “exceptional circumstances”. There are no government guidelines about what exceptional circumstances are and so any decisions made are based on the information provided by parents on the Withdrawal from Learning application. So it is really important that if you feel there are exceptional circumstances for your request, that you provide all the relevant details on your application to help me make an informed decision.

Whilst it is the headteacher’s discretion as to whether to authorise or unauthorise a withdrawal from learning request and whether or not a penalty notice is issued, **this discretion is limited by an expectation not to authorise any absence during term time**, which often results in penalty notices, particularly if the absence is 5 days or more. As stated on the East Sussex County Council application form: ***“The vast majority of headteachers do not authorise any absence in term time, in fact, many schools refused 100% of requests last year.”***

At Meridian, every application is considered on a case by case basis using the information provided by parents/carers but, as stated above, headteachers very rarely authorise any absence during term time. On the application form you are asked to sign to say that you understand “... that if the request is unauthorised the Education Support, Behaviour and Attendance Service will be notified of the absence taken and a legal intervention may be instigated in the form of a Penalty Notice or Simple Caution. If a Penalty Notice is issued it will be to each parent for each child taken out of school and that is a fine of £60 which increases to £120 if not paid within the first 21 days. I understand that if I do not pay this will result in legal action”. Please note that East Sussex County Council issue the fines and the school does not receive the money.

I hope this helps everyone to understand the process and expectations about absence during term time.

Parent Coffee Morning

Our next Parent Coffee Morning is on **17th May at 9am** in the Annexe. Everyone is welcome! Babies and toddlers are welcome too. This is an informal way to meet other parents at Meridian, speak with Mrs Sawyerr (our Learning Mentor) and find out more about what is going on at Meridian. So if you fancy a cup of coffee (or tea!) and a cake and a chat with other parents, please do come along. We look forward to seeing you there!



Forest School and PE days for term 5

Forest School Days

Monday – Year 1

Tuesday - Year 4 & RE (Miss East)

Wednesday – Year 2 & RH (Miss Haley)

Thursday – Year 3

PE

Monday – RE, 6R, 3H & 3B

Tuesday – 5M, RH, 2T & 4P

Thursday – 5P, 1B, 2H & 4R

Friday – 1EB, 6J, 1A & 3M

Please make sure your children have the correct PE kit in school so that they can take an active part in their physical education



After School Clubs

It has been great to see so many children enjoying our after school clubs offer. Jamie and his team have been great in organising and running all the different clubs and Jamie is keen to hear your feedback. I have invited him to come to our next Parent Council meeting so if you have any questions, please do get in touch with the Parent Council representatives.

To clarify, all the after school active and creative clubs run until 4.30pm. The extended times after 4.30pm are for if your children would like to spend time with their friends and they will be able to access different activities in school. So for example, after school gymnastics club is until 4.30pm after that the children get changed and do other supervised activities with the PlayPE team

If you have not received a message about your child's clubs, or you want to check availability for any of the sessions, or have any questions about the After School activities then please do not hesitate to contact Jamie (jamie@plaype.co.uk).

Contact details are also available on our website and on the door of the Annexe.

www.plaype.co.uk





Phoebe and Eva proudly brought in their trophies that they were awarded at their gymnastics club to show me. They managed to complete an aerial (no handed cartwheel!) off the springboard – wow! What an achievement – congratulations to them both!

School Nurse Drop in

Our next school nurse drop in is on Tuesday 15th May from 8.45am. If you have any concerns that you would like to speak to the school nurse team, please come along on the above date. If you come to the school's main office and ask to speak with the school nurse, the office team will support you with this.



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.




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.

Children were given certificates the first week back if they achieved excellent attendance (97% - 99%) or 100% attendance in term 4. Well done to all those children that got these certificates.

The class with the best attendance last term was:
1B (Flying Fish Class) with 95.8%

Well done to the following classes so far this term:
Week 1: RH (Seahorse Class) 99.6%
Week 2: 3B (Sand Tiger Class) 100% - AMAZING!

WHAT IS GOOD ATTENDANCE?					
190 days	180 days	178 days	163 days	161 days	143 days
100%	95%	94%	86%	85%	75%
Good		Worrying		Serious Concern	
					
Only 1-2 day missed per term		Between 3-8 days missed per term		More than 9 days missed per term	

If you feel you would like any support with attendance or punctuality, please do get in touch with Miss Maslen who will be able to help you speak to the right person.

The Meridian App

Did you know that you can sync the Meridian School calendar with your phone or tablet? This way your calendar will automatically update with all the events and goings on at our busy school.

To allow this to happen click on Settings.



Enable calendar subscription.

Then click on Enable calendar subscription. A Pop-Up box will ask you to confirm these changes. Following this your phones calendar will have all our events listed. To remove these setting simply repeat the process and click disable.