

Learning for life!

Meridian Update

Term 6
Monday 3rd June to Tuesday
23rd July

www.meridianschool.co.uk



**Meridian Community Primary
School & Nursery**



@MeridianCPS

Friday
21st
June
2019

Dear Parents/Carers

We have had such a great few weeks at school as our Year Group Assemblies have started – the children love performing to their families and friends and it is a great way to celebrate lots of the things they have learnt this year. It is always such a lovely atmosphere – thank you to all the teachers for their hard work putting these performances together and thank you to all the parents, carers and families that are able to come along and celebrate with the children!

Keeping children safe

We have noticed an increasing number of children have got smart phones so it is really important that they understand how to keep safe online and we regularly remind them about this in school. If you would like support in how to talk to your child about keeping safe when they are using the internet, accessing social media sites or playing online games, the NSPCC and Parent Zone have got some really useful resources to help you with this. Go to www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-your-child-staying-safe-online/ or <https://parentzone.org.uk/advice/parent-guides>

Forest School, Thrive and Learning Mentor

Unfortunately Mr Legate, Mrs Ebeling and Mrs Sawyerr are currently off from school. This means that Forest School, Thrive and Learning Mentor support is unavailable at the moment. We wish them all a speedy recovery and thank you for your patience and understanding.

Parent Council

Our next Parent Council meeting is on Thursday 11th July at 9am. If you have any questions or suggestions that you would like us to discuss, please do contact one of our Parent Councillors. If you are interested in joining our Parent Council – you are very welcome to come along to find out more. We would love some more parents to join us!

Have a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing you next week!

Best wishes

Claire Westcott

Claire Westcott
(Headteacher)



**TERM DATES
2018/2019**

Term 6

Monday 3rd June – Tuesday 23rd July
Monday 8th July – school closed for staff
training INSET day

**TERM DATES
2019/2020**

Term 1

Monday 9th September – Friday 25th October
School closed for staff training on Wednesday
4th, Thursday 5th and Friday 6th September
**Children back to school on Monday 9th
September**

October break

Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November

Term 2

Monday 4th November – Friday 20th December

Christmas break

Monday 23rd December – Friday 3rd January

Term 3

Monday 6th January – Friday 14th February

February break

Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February

Term 4

Monday 24th February – Friday 3rd April

Easter break

Monday 6th April – Friday 17th April

Term 5

Monday 20th April – Friday 22nd May

May break

Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May

Term 6

Monday 1st June – Wednesday 22nd July

**PLEASE NOTE NOT ALL INSET DAYS HAVE BEEN
ALLOCATED YET**

IMPORTANT DATES

- 21.06** Year 3 Assembly to Parents 9am in the hall
- 27.06** **Year 6 Production to Parents**
9.15am to whole school and parents with babies/toddlers
6pm to parents only
- 28.06** **OPAL Play Morning – CANCELLED**
- 04.07** New Reception Parents Meet the teacher sessions
- 05.07** Year 2 Assembly to Parents 9am in the hall
- 08.07** **SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING**
- 12.07** Year 1 Assembly to Parents 9am in the hall
PTFA Summer Sizzler 3pm onwards
- 16.07** **Open Afternoon for Parents to visit children's classrooms and see books and work from 1.45pm**
- 19.07** Reception Assembly to Parents 9am in the hall
- 23.07** End of term 6 – Summer holidays!!

Water Bottles

It is really important that everyone stays hydrated throughout the day, so we encourage parents to send children into school with a named water bottle. They can have access to these in class.

Water fountains are available at play times and lunch times, as well as drinking water given out in the lunch hall.



Please make sure that all water bottles are filled with water only.

No fruit squashes please.




Lost Property

Our lost property pile is getting very big at the moment. Please can you make sure you name all children's belongings, including all school uniform, coats, wellies, PE kit and Forest School clothes so that we can return them to the children if they get lost. Thank you.

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.

Each week we celebrate the class with the best attendance

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	

Don't forget – if your child is off school you need to send in a written note on the day they return so that we can consider changing the registration code to an authorised absence. Please note a reason of "ill" or "unwell" is not acceptable.

For more information about our attendance policy and procedures, please visit our website <http://www.meridianschool.co.uk/about-us/policies>

Best Attendance this term:

Week 1 – 1A – 99.3% - SUPER!

Week 2 – 3Mo – 99.1% - AMAZING!

Week 3 – 3Mo – 100% - FANTASTIC!

The class with the best attendance so far this term is: 3Mo – well done to everyone

Attendance in Term 6		
RR – 95.7%	3M – 93.9%	6R – 95.4%
RE – 89.8%	3Mo – 98.2%	6J – 95.1%
1HS – 96.3%	4H – 93.3%	
1A – 97.1%	4M – 91.8%	
2T – 96.2%	4P – 95.9%	
2D – 90.8%	5Y – 91.7%	
2M – 95.2%	5P – 96.8%	

Whole school attendance this academic year so far is 95.6% - which is just below our target of 96% - which is fantastic. Please remember there is still lots of learning going on until the end of term, including getting ready for moving up to the next year group. So please try to ensure your child is in school every day!

Thank you to everyone for your support with attendance



Parking

Please can I remind all parents that there is plenty of parking available around the school and when coming to school events to leave enough time to park and walk.

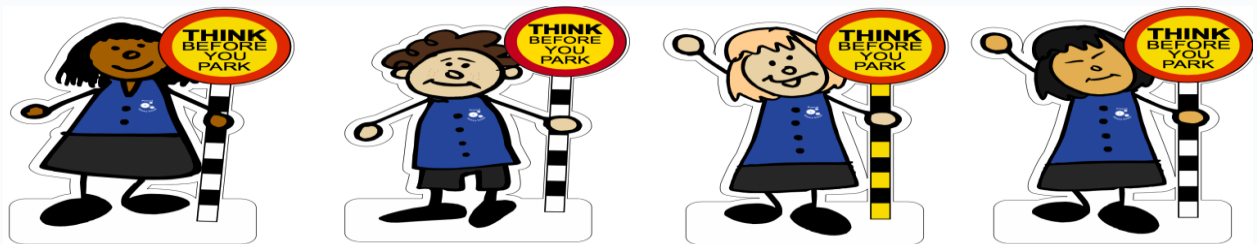
Can I also remind parents that the entrance to the school before the barrier is not available for parking – any cars parked here restrict access for emergency vehicles and deliveries to get to the school.

If you see any illegal parking please do report it to Lewes Parking

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/parking/shops/lewes-parking-shop/>

If you see any anti-social driving please contact Operation Crackdown

<http://www.operationcrackdown.org/>



SUMMER SIZZLER

Don't forget our Summer Sizzler this year is on **Friday 12th July from 3.10pm – 5.30pm**

If you would like a stall or are able to help on the day, please do get in touch with Nicky Packham (PTFA Chair) or Louise Clarkson (PTFA Vice Chair).

Your PTFA needs you!



Non-School Uniform Day

On **Friday 12th July** children are able to come into school in their own clothes if they bring a donation in to support the **Summer Sizzler**. We need the following year groups to bring in the following items:

- Nursery (we know you don't wear school uniform but we didn't want to miss you out!), Reception: **Cakes** for the cake stall
- Years 1, 2, 3: **Gifts and sweets** (no chocolate please!)
- Years 4, 5, 6: **Bottles** for our tombola

Thank you for all your support with this!



OPAL

Keep those donations coming in for our OPAL playtimes!

All donations will be safety checked by the staff to ensure suitability for the children to use.



Here are suggestions of what we need:

cardboard boxes, cuddly toys, fabrics - all shapes and sizes, metal pots, pans, trays etc. (especially catering sizes, old clothes (e.g jackets, overalls, hats, bags), old household appliances (e.g. hoovers, fax machines, microwaves etc), phones, small children's bike wheels, wheels, sofa and chair cushions, suitcases - all sizes, tubes of all kinds, carpet samples, carpet squares, guttering, hoses, brief cases, buggies, push chairs

Unfortunately, we have had to cancel our next OPAL Play morning on 28th June as Mr Legate is currently off sick. We wish him a speedy recovery and we will re-arrange this event in the new academic year.

Mr Legate's absence has meant that our sandpit has not yet been completed. As soon as he is able to, we will get this up and running ready for September.

Thank you for your support with our amazing playtimes!

Governing Body Update

A message from the Chair of Governors

The summer term has arrived and members of the Governing Board have continued to support the school in a number of ways.

In term 5 we were busy ensuring that the budget is set and supports the education of the children at Meridian in the best way possible. In the current climate of cuts this is never going to be easy but the school senior leadership team have worked very hard to ensure best use of the money available.

All governors continue to monitor (ensure things we are told are happening are happening) areas of the curriculum, teaching, learning, safeguarding, special needs and finance. This is done as a part of the reports we receive at our meetings but also with specific targeted visits to school to meet with staff in order to question and look.

I have had the pleasure of joining the senior leadership team for the interview and appointment of the assistant head and know that Ms Miles will be an asset to the senior leadership team.

A further pleasure was to spend an afternoon at the Houses of Parliament with our brilliant clerk Barbara at the National School Governance Awards – as you saw in the end of term 5 newsletter.

Term 6 for governors is a time for reflecting on the year and supporting plans for the new school year. We are lucky to have a newly co opted Governor joining us this term – welcome to Samantha MacManus who brings a wealth of experience in education services to schools and we hear she loves to read and review policies.



Janet Anthony
Chair of Governors

Sun Safety

As the weather seems to be finally warming up, it is always a good idea to send your child into school with a sunhat. Our playgrounds do not have much shade so when the children are playing outside at play time and lunch time they are exposed to the sun – so a sunhat will really help keep them safe. Please make sure you put their name in their hat so that we can return any that are lost to their rightful owner.

If you wish to send your child into school with sun cream you are welcome to. Please ensure that it has your child's name on it and practise with them at home to apply it independently – adults in school are not able to apply any sun cream directly but they can support by making sure it is all rubbed in and no areas have been missed! (Please note, in our Nursery adults are able to apply sun cream with parents' permission)

Parent Views

Your views are very important to the school. There are different ways in which you can give us your views, for example via the Parent Council, Parent View (online questionnaire) and through our yearly Parent Questionnaire. I will be sending out the Parent Questionnaire next week and look forward to hearing your views. The more we get back, the better picture we will get about what you think our strengths are and what you would to see improve.

We look forward to hearing from and thank you for taking the time to complete your questionnaire.