

#### **Dear Parents and Carers**

Welcome back! I hope you had a restful half-term holiday. It was lovely to see the children back in school on Monday ready to enjoy all the learning planned for this busy term in the lead up to Christmas.

# **School Photographs**

Don't forget that it is school photographs next Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> November. These are individual and sibling photographs for children that attend the school. Please make sure that your child is wearing their school uniform for these photographs. Once we receive the proofs, you will be able to purchase copies.

# **Christmas Performances**

We are still planning to hold our Christmas performances in the school hall for parents/carers to enjoy. We are putting on 3 performances for each year group with limited numbers so that we can spread out and keep safe. With positive cases on the rise, both nationally and locally, we may have to make the decision to ask everyone attending to wear a face covering but we will inform you of this nearer the time. If positive cases are extremely high locally and within the school community, we may have to cancel performances – but obviously this will be the last resort. We want to keep everyone as safe as possible. Timings of these performances are in the key dates section.

## **Christmas Lunch**

A letter went out earlier this week with information about Christmas lunch on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December. Don't forget to let the office know if you would like your child to have a Christmas lunch by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November.

# Congratulations!

Congratulations to Mrs. Reffell who had a baby boy on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November. His name is Ezra and both he and Mrs. Reffell are doing well.

Best wishes

C. Westcott

Claire Westcott (Headteacher)



# **TERM DATES 2021/2022**

#### Term 2

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November – Friday 17<sup>th</sup>
December

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December – school closed for staff training INSET

#### Term 3

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February

#### Term 4

Monday 21st February - Friday 1st April

#### Term 5

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May

## Term 6

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July

# \*\*PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE END OF TERM 6\*\*

THIS IS DUE TO SCHOOLS HAVING AN EXTRA BANK HOLIDAY FOR THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

PLEASE NOTE NOT ALL INSET DAYS HAVE
BEEN ALLOCATED YET

# **IMPORTANT DATES**

- **01.11** Term 2 begins
- **12.11** School photographer for individual photos
- **16.11** Flu Vaccination
- 03.12 PTFA Christmas Fair
- **06.12** School closed for children for staff training
- 09.12 Parent Council Meeting 9.15am
- **13.12** Reception Christmas Performances (9.15am, 10.45am and 1.45pm)
- **14.12** Years 1 and 2 Christmas Performances (9.15am, 10.45am and 1.45pm)
- **15.12** Years 3 and 4 Christmas Performances (9.15am, 10.45am and 1.45pm)
- **16.12** Years 5 and 6 Christmas Performances (9.15am, 10.45am and 1.45pm)
- 17.12 End of term 2

# Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns or are worried about a child, please contact one of our safeguarding leads.

Miss Laura Miles: Designated

Safeguarding Lead

Mr Matt Doody: Deputy Designated

Safeguarding Lead

Ms Claire Westcott: Deputy Designated

Safeguarding Lead

#### **PARENT COUNCIL**

Our Parent Council is an important part of how the school hears parents' and carers' views. We currently have four parents on our Parent Council and we would love for more parents to join us. We aim to meet 6 times a year (once a term) so that the parent councillors can share your views, thoughts and suggestions as well as the school sharing information, such as key school policies and plans for the future.

# Our current membership is:

Claire Westcott (Headteacher), Louise Clarkson (representing Year 1 and Year 5), Lisa Wheeler (representing Year 3 and Year 5), Sam Barnes (representing Year 5), Anna Roberts (representing Reception and Year 4) and Ed Dunn (Parent Governor).

We would love more parents/carers to join our Parent Council. If you want to find out more, please visit the school website, speak to one of the members or email me via <a href="mailto:office@meridian.e-sussex.sch.uk">office@meridian.e-sussex.sch.uk</a> Our next meeting is planned for 9th December at 9am. Hopefully we will be able to meet in person for the first time in a while!

# **Loose Parts**

We really need so more loose parts for our OPAL playtimes! So if you are having a clear out please do see if there is anything we could have for the children to enjoy. All donations will be

safety checked by the staff to ensure suitability for the children to use.

Here are suggestions of what we will be asking for: Cardboard boxes

**Cuddly Toys** 

Fabrics - all shapes and sizes

Metal pots, pans, trays etc. Especially catering sizes

Old clothes, jackets, overalls, hats, bags

Old household appliances, hoovers, fax machines,

**Phones** 

Wheels

Sofa and chair cushions

Suitcases - all sizes

Tubes of all kinds

Carpet samples

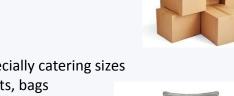
Carpet squares

Guttering

Hoses

Brief cases

Buggies, push chairs











So if you are having a clear out, please think of us! The donation area is just the playground – please put your items in there ready for our safety inspection.

If you want to find out more about OPAL, please visit their website <a href="http://outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk/">http://outdoorplayandlearning.org.uk/</a>



# Thank you for your support with our wonderful playtimes!

# **Coats**

As the weather is starting to get much colder, please can you ensure all children are bringing a coat to school. They are outside in all weathers as much as possible to ensure they are getting some fresh air. This includes a 20 minute play time in the morning and 1 hour at lunchtime.



# **School Uniform**

Please can I remind everyone that **black leggings** are not part of our school uniform. <u>Grey trousers</u> can be worn or <u>black/grey tights</u> underneath skirts/pinafores. I have noticed a few girls starting to wear black leggings either under skirts or instead of trousers.

Please can all parents/ carers send children into school in the correct school uniform.

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	J78 days	163 days	6   days	J43 days		
100%	95%	94%	86%	85%	75%		
Go	Good		Worrying		Serious Concern		
	<b>~</b>		=				
	Only 1-2 day missed per term		Between 3-8 days missed per term		More than <b>9</b> days missed per term		

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

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:**

The class with the best attendance this term is: RT – well done!

Attendance so far in term 1				
RW - 75.0%	3B – 96.3%	6RS - 97.6%		
RT – 100%	4PS – 93.9%	6H - 95.1%		
1HS - 97.7%	4Y – 95.7%			
1E - 98.1%	5B - 94.8%			
2M - 96.5%	5P – 99.6%			
2P - 99.2%	5M - 97.9%			
3Z - 97.7%				

Whole school attendance since we returned to school on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September is currently 95.8% - which is just below our target of 96%

Thank you to everyone for your support with attendance

