

Learning for life!

Meridian Newsletter

Term 2

**Monday 30th October –
Friday 15th December**

Term 3

**Tuesday 2nd January –
Friday 9th February**

www.meridianschool.co.uk



Meridian Community Primary
School and Nursery



@MeridianCPS

**Friday
3rd**

**November
2023**

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful half-term break – it was lovely to see all the children back this week ready to start the new term's learning.

Thank you to everyone for showing such resilience by bringing your children into school on Thursday after those awful storms and extremely high winds. I do hope you all managed to keep safe when the weather hit.

Wellies and Coats

Thank you for ensuring that your children are ready for our Winter playtimes. Nearly everyone had warm coats and wellies this week so that we can go outside in all weathers (unless it's absolutely tipping it down!) We will be sending out reminder letters for children who do not have wellies in school and we are looking at providing spares for children if they don't have them or have left them at home. If you have any wellies at home that your children have grown out of, please do consider donating them to us so that we can support everyone to be "Winter Ready!"

Christmas Lunch

A letter will be coming out next week for you to book your child a Christmas lunch if you wish. Please do ensure you book this by the deadline of Friday 24th November so that the kitchen can order the right amount of food.

Bikes and Scooters

In order to keep everyone safe, please can you ensure that your children do not ride their bikes and scooters on the playground before and after school. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Dogs

Dogs are not permitted on the school site – please leave your dogs outside of the school grounds if bringing them at drop off or pick up. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Take care and best wishes

C. Westcott

Claire Westcott
Headteacher

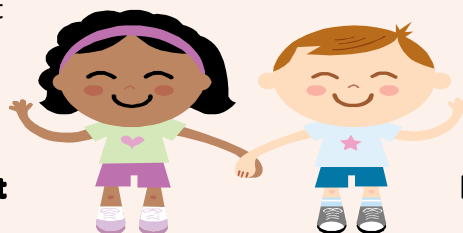
strength

respect

responsibility

kindness

honesty



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

TERM DATES 2023/2024

Term 2

Monday 30th October – Friday 15th December

Term 3

Tuesday 2nd January – Friday 9th February

**Tuesday 2nd January – school closed to children
for staff training**

Wednesday 3rd January – children back to school

**Tuesday 6th February – school closed to children
for staff training**

Term 4

Monday 19th February – Thursday 28th March

Term 5

Monday 15th April – Friday 24th May

Term 6

Monday 3rd June to Tuesday 23rd July

All INSET days are now in place

KEY DATES

TERM 2

- 07.11** New Reception 2024 parents Open Day – 9.30am and 1.30pm
- 09.11** Christmas card final order date
- 17.11** PTFA School Disco
- 29.11** Flu vaccination
- 01.12** Christmas Fair
- 08.12** Christmas Lunch – letter to follow soon
Parent Forum 2pm in Annexe Music Room
- 11.12** Reception Christmas Performance to parents – 9.15 and 1.20
- 12.12** Years 1 and 2 Christmas Performance to parents – 9.15, 10.45, 1.20
Nursery Christmas Performance 2.20pm
- 13.12** Years 3 and 4 Christmas Performance to parents – 9.15, 10.45, 1.20
Nursery Christmas Performance 2.20pm
- 14.12** Years 5 and 6 Christmas Performance to parents – 9.15, 10.45, 1.20

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

Safeguarding at Meridian

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child that attends Meridian, please do contact one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads:

Mrs. Lucy Newth

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Ms. Claire Westcott

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mr. Matt Doody

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Miss. Laura Miles

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

During the school holidays, please contact:

Single Point of Advice (SPOA) on 01323 464222

If you have an immediate or emergency concern about a child's safety, please call 999. The NSPCC has advice about this on their website [here](#).

NHS
East Sussex
School Health Service



Aged 11 to 19?

Or parent/carer of a child or young person aged 5 to 19 years old?

Speak to a school nurse in person.

Tuesdays and Thursdays
10am to 3 pm
and 6 to 9pm

Click <https://nhs.uk/east-sussex-school-health>
or text
07507 332473 anytime.

**East Sussex
School Health**

Service provided by Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust

**Confidential, private
and here for you.**

MERIDIAN NOTICEBOARD

PARENT COFFEE MORNING

ANXIETY

Come and find out ways to support your child with feelings of anxiety

Our wonderful Pastoral Team, Mrs. Kirton and Mrs. Harmer organise termly informal coffee mornings to discuss all things parenting!

Our next meeting is on **Friday 1st December at 9am** in the Annexe Music Room and is being led by our **Mental Health Support Team**, Katy Tutton and Liz Hiles

This is also an opportunity to meet other parents and carers in a supportive and welcoming environment.

We look forward to seeing you there!



PTFA Disco!

Don't forget our PTFA Disco is taking place on Friday 17th November.

For more information, see further down in this newsletter!



Your child's progress

We hope you found your parents' evening sessions informative and supportive. Thank you to everyone who attended and thank you to the teachers for all their hard work producing the mini progress reports to share with you. Next parents' evenings will be in February!

PARENT FORUM

Our next meeting will be Friday 8th December at 2pm in the Annexe/Music Room.

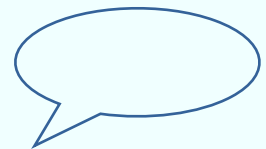
The theme of this next Parent Forum is how we teach maths at Meridian.

This session will be led by our fantastic Maths Leader, Mr. Barcock.

So if you would like to learn about how you can help support your child with maths at home, please do come along!

parents
forum

Mr. Barcock will also be showing you how to use Numbots and Times Tables Rock Stars



We look forward to seeing you there!

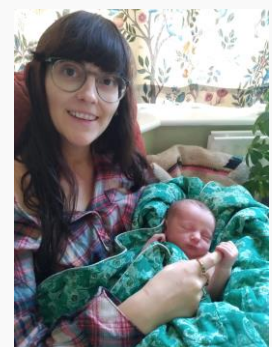
Baby News!

Congratulations to Mrs. Yates-Malone and her husband on the birth of their new baby son.

Rowan Yates-Malone arrived early this week on Tuesday 31st October, weighing 7lbs 2.

I know you will join me in sending Mrs. Yates-Malone all our best wishes.

I know we are all looking forward to meeting baby Rowan very soon! 😊



MERIDIAN NOTICEBOARD

Drinking Water in school

Thank you to everyone for sending your children into school every day with their water bottle. Children can access these water bottles during lesson times, including P.E., Forest School and Music lessons. Our teachers are brilliant at managing this to ensure that the children can have a drink but also ensuring that teaching and learning is not interrupted!

At breaks times, the children can access drinking water from the water fountains situated in the cloakrooms. In the lunch hall, children are provided with beakers and jugs of water to ensure they have a drink.

Please ensure that you are sending your child into school with water – no fruit juices or squashes please 😊



Children in Need “Be Spotacular”

It's Children in Need day on Friday 17th November!

To support this wonderful charity, children do not need to wear their uniform on this day – they can wear all things spotty!

If your child would like to take part in this fundraising event, they can wear a spotty outfit for a donation of £1. The spottier the better!

We will also have Pudsey badges on sale from Monday 13th November.

If your child finds dressing up days tricky, they are obviously very welcome to wear their usual school uniform 😊



LEARNING AT MERIDIAN

The Battle of Hastings at Meridian!

The children in Year 1 and Year 2 had a wonderful learning experience this week in their History Workshop all about the Saxons and Normans and in particular The Battle of Hastings. This really brought their learning to life and they had fun learning about the battle! They also learnt about life during this time and played some Anglo Saxon games. Thank you to Mrs. Mackay for organising such a fantastic learning opportunity for our Key Stage One children!



LEARNING AT MERIDIAN

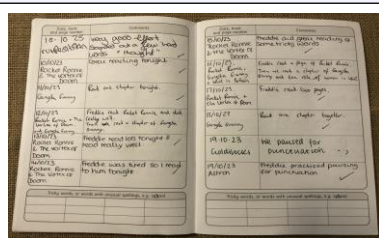
Reading Homework

At Meridian, our **only homework** expectation is that children are **reading** regularly, ideally every day. Children who read every day, make such **great progress** in school, not just in reading, but in all subjects. We know that if home and school are working together to support children to read, children's **confidence** grows, and often their writing improves too because they are learning lots of new and exciting words!

If you would like to know more about how to support your child with reading at home, do visit our website that has a useful document called ["Helping your child with reading."](#)

Congratulations to Freddie in Year 2 who has read **EVERY SINGLE DAY!** Such an amazing achievement 😊

Don't forget it is free to join **Peacehaven Library** so that your children can enjoy reading without it costing anything!



Freddie's amazing reading diary!

Did you know?
Studies have shown that reading can actually reduce stress? So reading independently or having a story read to you is a great way to de-stress!

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AT MERIDIAN

Harvest Festival

At the end of last term, our local vicar, Jez, came and lead a wonderful assembly all about Harvest and why this festival is so important.

The children were amazing during the assembly and Jez was really impressed with the children's singing as they had learnt some Harvest songs with Mr. Mole in our singing assemblies 😊

A huge thank you to everyone for your wonderful donations of food for our Harvest Festival - we have donated the items to Peacehaven Food Bank SCDA.



PLAY AT MERIDIAN

WELLIES AND COATS

Now that the winter weather is starting to arrive, please can you make sure that your children always **wear a coat to school and have a pair of wellies** to change into for break times. Unless it is absolutely pouring down, we will be going outside in all weathers, including the rain! The children love being outside and it is so good for their physical and mental health to run off their energy and get lots of fresh air.

Thank you for your support with our wonderful playtimes!



PLATINUM AWARD

In our whole school assembly today, Kurti from OPAL came in to present us with our Platinum Award. He told the children that this award means that **Meridian is one of the best schools in the country for our playtimes** – which is absolutely amazing!

We also had lots of schools visit us today to find out more about OPAL and they were so impressed with the wonderful play that they saw! 😊

Our Play Leaders accepting our award



ATTENDANCE AT MERIDIAN

Good attendance at school is so important so that children do not miss out on their learning. Did you know that when teachers plan their lessons, each lesson builds on the previous one? So if a child misses 1 or 2 lessons a week, they will find the work much harder as they will be developing gaps in their knowledge.

If you are worried about your child's attendance or would like some support with this, please do make an appointment with one of our Pastoral Team, Mrs. Kirton or Mrs. Harmer.

Whole School Attendance
94.3% (our target is 96%)

Best Attendance this term
Week 1: 5H – 98.3% 😊





Parenikind
Member Association



Friends of Meridian School & Nursery

Tickets on sale online now!!

KS1 (Rec, 1 & 2) 4:15 – 5:15

KS2 (3,4,5 & 6) 5:45 – 7:00

**The School office have no involvement in ticket sales,
please contact the PTA for any queries**

**Name lists will be at the door, please make sure you
sign your child in before they enter the disco**

Children must be collected by an adult

**Mobile phones aren't allowed inside – please leave at
home, or we can store safely.**

**Children should not wear Heelys as it's too busy
inside**



Parentkind
Member Association

Meridian Community School & Nursery



Christmas Fair

Friday 1st December 4-6pm

**Christmas Stalls, Handmade Childrens Items, Raffle,
Tombolas, Santas Grotto, Hotdogs, Hot Chocolate,
Mulled Cider, Ice Cream & Choir Performances**

Parentkind

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Friends of Meridian Community School & Nursery

We need **you!**



Help us make our Christmas Fair the best yet!

We're always looking for more volunteers to help us reach our goal. If you're interested in volunteering with us, please email: Meridianptfa@gmail.com

or message our FB page

Parentkind