



Learning for life!

Meridian Update

Term 1

**Monday 3rd September to
Friday 19th October**

Term 2

**Monday 29th October to
Wednesday 19th December**

www.meridianschool.co.uk



Meridian Community Primary
School and Nursery



@MeridianCPS

**Wednesday
17th
October
2018**

Dear Parents and Carers

I can't believe it is the end of term one already – the weeks have flown by! The children have been working hard and have been particularly enjoying learning about dinosaurs. It has been lovely to see the work they have been producing. It has also been great to see how quickly our Reception children have settled into school – fantastic!

Parent Coffee Morning

It was lovely to see so many of you at the Parent Coffee morning recently. Our next is on 15th November at 9am in the Annexe. Each term there will be a key focus for the Parent Coffee morning and Mrs Sawyerr is busy organising for key people to come along to share their work in school and for you to ask any questions. More details about this in our next newsletter.

PTFA School Disco

On Friday we had two great PTFA school discos for the children organised and run by parents and teachers. A huge thank you to everyone that came along to support this fundraising event – the children had a great time!

Start of school

Please can I remind parents that children should not be left unattended at the school gates in the morning. We cannot guarantee their safety outside of the school grounds. We open the gates and doors at the same time to minimise queues and waiting. So please can I remind parents that children walking on their own to school should not be arriving at school before 8.35am.. Thank you for helping us keep your children safe.

Car Park

The school car park is for staff only and can only be accessed by parents in the case of an emergency e.g. to collect an unwell child. If you are dropping off a P.E. kit, lunchbox or you are running late, please can you park outside the school grounds and walk through the car park to access the main office. The children walk through the car park with Mr Legate and a Teaching Assistant to get to Forest School so we need keep the car park as free as possible from incoming vehicles. Thank you for your support with this.

I hope you all have a great half-term break and we look forward to seeing you back on Monday 29th October.

Best wishes

C. Westcott

Claire Westcott
(Headteacher)

strength

respect

responsibility

kindness

honesty



TERM DATES 2018/2019

Term 1

Monday 3rd September – Friday 19th October
**INSET days on Monday 3rd September and
Tuesday 4th September – school closed for staff
training.**

***Children back to school on Wednesday 5th
September***

**INSET days on Thursday 19th October and
Friday 20th October**

Autumn break

Monday 22nd October – Friday 26th October

Term 2

Monday 29th October – Wednesday 19th
December

Christmas break

Thursday 20th December to Wednesday 2nd
January

Term 3

Thursday 3rd January – Friday 15th February

February break

Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February

Term 4

Monday 25th February – Friday 5th April

Spring break

Monday 8th April – Monday 22nd April

Term 5

Tuesday 23rd April – Friday 24th May

May break

Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

Term 6

Monday 3rd June – Tuesday 23rd July

***Please note not all INSET days for 2018/2019
have been set***

Important Dates

19.10 INSET DAY – school closed for training

20.10 INSET DAY – school closed for training

October break

30.10 Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6.00pm

01.11 Parents Evening 4.30pm – 7.00pm

02.11 School Photographs

12.11 Anti-Bullying Week – Odd Socks Day

15.11 Parent Coffee Morning – **9am** in the
Annexe

06.12 Parent Open Afternoon **1.45pm**

07.12 PTFA Christmas Fair

10.12 Years 5 and 6 Christmas Performance to
parents – **9.15am** and **2.00pm**

12.12 Years 3 and 4 Christmas Performance to
parents – **9.15am** and **2.00pm**

14.12 Years 1 and 2 Christmas Performance to
parents – **9.15am** and **2.00pm**

17.12 Reception Performance to parents –
9.15am and **2.00pm**

Data Sheets

At the start of each new curriculum year, we ask that parents update any contact details that may have changed over the summer holidays. These may include new addresses, telephone/mobile telephone numbers as well as contacts that we would call if your child is unwell or needs collecting from School. **Please ensure that we have at details of at least two emergency contacts.** Please pass all changes, in writing, to the School Office.

Sickness and Diarrhoea

If your child has sickness and/or diarrhoea that has been caused by a **virus** – the advice is to keep your child off school for **48 hours** to avoid the virus spreading around school.

If your child has sickness or diarrhoea that has been brought on by **other reasons** and you feel that they are well enough to come to school and **not infectious**, you are welcome to send them in.

Thank you for your support with this

Healthy Snacks and Drinks

As part of us promoting healthy eating, it is great to see children bringing in fruit and vegetables for their snack.



Nursery provide their own snacks and Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 can have a free piece of fruit.

Just a reminder that children should bring in a water bottle to keep hydrated through the day – **water only please, no squash or juice!**



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 – Blue Tang class (1HS), Guppy Fish class (3M) and Narwhal class (4B) all **100%** - what a fantastic start!

Week 2 – Octopus Class (2T) **99.6%** - great!

Week 3 – Jellyfish Class (1A) **100%** - amazing!

Week 4 – Dogfish Class (3Mo) **100%** - amazing!

Week 5 – Dogfish Class (3Mo) **100%** - amazing!

Week 6 – Blue Tang Class (1HS) and Narwhal class (4B) **100%** - amazing!

Week 7 – Octopus Class (2T), Narwhal Class (4B) and Piranha Class (6J) **100%** - amazing!

The class with the best attendance all term was Blue Tang Class (1HS) – with an amazing 99.2%

Whole school attendance for Term 1 was 97.2% - this is such an amazing start to the school year!

Our whole school attendance really improved last year and we want to build on this success. Thank you to everyone for your continued support with attendance to make Meridian a fantastic school



Attendance Annie

To celebrate our whole school attendance being at 97% for Term 1, the children were visited by Attendance Annie in assembly.

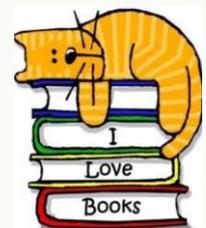
After playtime she spent some time in 1HS as they had the best combined class attendance . . . an astonishing 99.2%!

We are told Annie was ready to learn and loved being shown by the children how to correctly form her numbers.

Who will have the best class attendance in Term 2?



Reading



As you know, this year we are encouraging and challenging children to read as often as possible and it has been really great to hear that so many children are reading regularly at home with parents, siblings, grandparents and friends – as well as reading independently when they are ready.

It is so important that children are reading regularly both at home and at school - *It's been proven that children who read for pleasure are more likely to be successful and happy throughout their lives (OECD).*

Teachers are regularly checking children's reading diaries and giving out gold coins for children that are reading lots – so please encourage and support us in developing a love of reading with your child. Here are some examples of questions you might like to ask when reading with your child or supporting them with writing a response to their book in their reading diary.



<p>Understanding a book...</p> <p>What does ____ mean?</p> <p>What extra information did the picture add?</p> <p>What happened when ____?</p> <p>What did ____ do/ask?</p> <p>Which word told you that ____?</p> <p>What did you find out about ____?</p> <p>Can you summarise what happened in the last chapter/paragraph?</p> <p>What do you think might have happened if ____?</p>	<p>Inferring and interpreting...</p> <p>How did ____ feel when ____ happened? How do you know?</p> <p>What is the purpose of ____?</p> <p>Have we read something like this before?</p> <p>What does ____ feel/think? How can you tell?</p> <p>What do you think ____ might do now?</p> <p>How do you think this chapter might end?</p> <p>Which words tell you how ____ was feeling?</p>
<p>Identifying and commenting...</p> <p>What is the purpose of ____?</p> <p>Why is ____ in bold/italics?</p> <p>Why have they presented it this way?</p> <p>Why does the author use ____? (E.g. speech marks, interesting vocabulary, etc.)</p> <p>Why did the author change the story?</p> <p>Is this fiction or non-fiction?</p>	<p>Explaining...</p> <p>Find 3 words that tell you ____.</p> <p>What is the main idea of the story?</p> <p>Does the author like ____? How do you know?</p> <p>Did anything surprise you in the story?</p> <p>What did you like/dislike?</p> <p>Why do you think ____ said that?</p> <p>Explain why the story is both happy and sad.</p>