

# Learning for life!



## Meridian Newsletter

**Term 6**  
**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June – Friday**  
**21<sup>st</sup> July**

[www.meridianschool.co.uk](http://www.meridianschool.co.uk)

 Meridian Community Primary  
School and Nursery

 @MeridianCPS

**Wednesday**  
**7<sup>th</sup>**  
**June**  
**2023**

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you had a wonderful half-term break and enjoyed the lovely weather. It was great to see the children back in school yesterday ready for the last term of the academic year! It's a busy term with new Reception children visits, Summer Sizzler, musical performances and children meeting their new teachers – do look out for important dates and information over the next few weeks.

### Miss. Laura Miles

Miss. Miles has decided to step down from her role as Assistant Headteacher, leading on inclusion, safeguarding and attendance at the end of this academic year. She has been a fantastic Assistant Headteacher and has made such a significant difference to the children at Meridian in this role. I know there are lots of us that will miss working with her and I would like to thank her for her hard work and commitment to supporting all of the children and families over the last five years. The good news, however, is that Miss. Miles will not be leaving Meridian but instead will be taking on a new role as the teacher for our SEND Facility that will be opening in September.

### New Assistant Headteacher

In other good news, we have successfully recruited for a new Assistant Headteacher to lead on inclusion, safeguarding and attendance. Mrs. Lucy Newth will be joining us in September – she will be visiting us over the next few weeks to start to get to know everyone at Meridian. I know she is very excited about taking on this new role and I look forward to introducing her properly in September!

### School Uniform

We are starting to notice some non-school uniform items creeping back into school . . . Please can I remind you that leggings are not part of our school uniform – grey trousers, shorts, skirts and pinafores only please. Summer dresses are blue and white gingham please. Also, footwear is plain black shoes or trainers – we are seeing trainers with logos and white soles which are not school uniform. If your child is wearing sandals in the hot weather, please make sure they are wearing socks to protect their feet too! Thank for supporting the school's uniform policy. 😊

We are looking forward to enjoying the next few weeks until the summer holidays!

Take care and best wishes

*C. Westcott*

Claire Westcott  
Headteacher

**strength**

**kindness**

**respect**

**honesty**

**responsibility**



## TERM DATES 2022/2023

### Term 6

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July  
**05.06 – School closed for staff training day  
(INSET day)**

## TERM DATES 2023/2024

### Term 1

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October  
**01.09 and 04.09 – school closed for staff training**

### Term 2

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December

### Term 3

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February

### Term 4

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

### Term 5

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May

### Term 6

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June to Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

**Please note that not all INSET days have been  
set for 2023/2024**

## IMPORTANT DATES

- 05.06 School Closed for Staff Training
- 05.06 Year 4 Multiplication Times table  
Check Week
- 06.06 Children back to school
- 09.06 New Reception Parents meeting  
9.30am in the school hall
- 12.06 Phonics Screening Week
- 26.06 Year 6 go to PGL
- 28.06 New Reception meet the teacher  
sessions
- 29.06 Parent Forum
- 30.06 New Reception meet the teacher  
sessions  
Year 6 return from PGL
- 07.07 PTFA Summer Sizzler
- 10.07 Start of Transition Week  
Reports to parents
- 11.07 Reception Musical Performance to  
Parents – 9am in the hall
- 12.07 Year 1 Musical Performance to  
Parents – 9am in the hall
- 13.07 Year 2 Musical Performance to  
Parents – 9am in the hall
- 17.07 Year 4 Musical Performance to  
Parents – 9am in the hall
- 18.07 Year 3 Musical Performance to  
Parents – 9am in the hall
- 19.07 Year 5 Musical Performance to  
Parents – 9am in the hall
- 20.07 Year 6 Musical Performance to  
Parents – 9am in the hall
- 21.07 End of term 6**

## Safeguarding at Meridian

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

**Miss. Laura Miles**

Designated Safeguarding Lead

**Ms. Claire Westcott**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

**Mr. Matt Doody**

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

You can also call 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](https://www.nspcc.org.uk).



**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**

Confidential, private  
and here for you.

Service provided by Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust

## Sun Safety

As the weather is warming up, please do make sure that your child has a sunhat in school for break times and lunchtimes. We have limited shade outside so it is important to keep children safe by making sure they have a hat. Please put your child's name inside so that we can return it should it get lost!

It is always a good idea to put sun cream on your children before they come to school too. If you want your child to bring sun cream into school, please name the bottle and ensure that they can apply this themselves.



Thank you!

## Outdoor Play and Learning

### WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP WITH LOOSE PARTS!!

**We are running really low on loose parts for our OPAL playtimes.**

We are desperate for the following items as these are really popular with the children:

- Pots, pans, trays etc. Especially catering sizes for our mud kitchen
- Old clothes, jackets, overalls, hats, bags for dressing up
- Old household appliances, hoovers, fax machines, microwaves etc for role play and our mud kitchen
- Wheels
- Suitcases - all sizes – the children LOVE wheeled suitcases
- Tubes of all kinds
- Guttering
- Hoses
- Buggies, push chairs – the children LOVE these wheeled items too!
- Buckets and sand equipment
- Fabric/tarpaulin for making dens

The children love getting creative with pipes, pallets, tyres, scaffolding boards and other large items.

So if you are having a clear out, please think of us! The donation areas are by the entrances to the school gates – please put your items in there ready for our safety inspection.

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



# Good Attendance means...

Being in school at least 97% of the time or 184 to 190 days

## Remember

Your education is important - don't miss out!

### Did you know?

A two week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance a child can achieve is 94.7%



Well done

I'm concerned

Seriously worried

A good attendance gives you the best chance for success

A poor attendance gives you less chance of success

Very poor attendance has a serious impact and reduces life chances

There are 365 days in a calendar year

175 days are not spent at school\*

\*So there's plenty of time for shopping, holidays and appointments!

### Did you know?

When pupils attend school they:

- ✓ Can achieve their full potential
- ✓ Have better career prospects
- ✓ Learn how to look after themselves and be healthy
- ✓ Grow in confidence
- ✓ Keep up with work and homework
- ✓ Make new friends

Well done to 2M for having the highest attendance last term at 98.7% - **AMAZING!**

Please help us to ensure that your child has good attendance by ensuring they are in school as much as possible!

## Sports Days!

Sports Day was amazing and we were so lucky with the weather! The children had a wonderful time running, jumping and throwing in their teams. And it was great to see so many families coming along to cheer and enjoy the day. A huge thank you to Mr. Strange for organising and running these successful events – we even had a treat with him singing along to the Sports Day sound track! And huge thanks to Kaitlin and her Nursery team for organising such a fun Nursery event too!



## OUR PTFA NEEDS YOU!

We have a wonderful but small PTFA team that work so hard to put on the events that we all enjoy and look forward to – school discos, Christmas Fair and Summer Sizzler.

These amazing fundraising events have supported the school financially in the following ways:

- Contributing towards the **cost of travel** for the Year 6 residential trip to keep the price down for parents
- Purchasing the **new PA system** that we can use for school events, such as our recent Sports Days
- Supporting teachers to purchase new items for **reading areas** in all classrooms to promote a love of reading
- Purchasing **autograph books** for Year 6 children as a leaving gift
- Buying a **new fish tank and fish** for all the children, staff and visitors to enjoy (coming soon!)

And much more . . .

However, it looks like we might have to **disband our PTFA from September** as most of the current members are either leaving as their children move on to secondary school or want to step down.

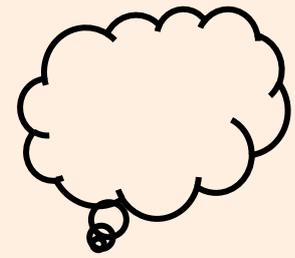
If we don't manage to get some more people on board to lead and support the planning of these events, we won't be able to do these fundraising activities next academic year.

So if you would like to ensure that the PTFA continues for the good of Meridian children, then please do contact the PTFA via their [Facebook](#) page. You will also find a Zoom link to our next planning meeting for the Summer Sizzler which is happening tomorrow evening. It would be lovely to see some new faces and perhaps start to plan for the future of our PTFA!





# parents forum



Unfortunately, Mrs. Ebeling is currently unwell and is unlikely to return before the end of term. This means that our planned Parent Forum to share how we support children's mental health and well-being will not be able to go ahead.

Our next Parent Forum will now be on **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 2pm** in the Annexe/Music room where Mr. Doody will be talking about Online Safety, including information to support you at home too.

**Please note, our Parent Forum is for current parents and carers only. We will continue to have Parent Forums in the new academic year for new parents and carers to come along to.**

**Look forward to seeing you there!**



## Transition

At Meridian, we recognise how important it is to support children with change, and transition in the summer term is particularly important.

**New Reception parents** will be supported through a meeting this week and then the opportunity to take new children to meet their teacher and visit their new classrooms and learning environment.

**Our Year 6 children** will be supported through visits to their new secondary schools and opportunities to talk about managing change.

**For the rest of the school**, our transition week will be the week beginning **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July**. During this week, children will get the opportunity to meet their new teacher, visit their new classroom and find out about the exciting things they will be learning about next year. For some children who find transition and change particularly challenging, we will be providing additional opportunities wherever possible. We will also upload our transition booklets on to our website to support your conversations at home. The current teachers will also provide opportunities to talk about change and how exciting it can be to find out about their new teachers. We will be reminding children **"Don't forget, we all get nervous and worried about change – these are normal human emotions. The best way to sort out any worries, is to talk about them!"**

This year we will be trying a new transition opportunity where children can show parents their new classrooms and introduce you to their new teacher. The school will be open from 3.15pm to 4pm for this informal opportunity to meet your child's new teacher (wherever possible) and see their new classrooms and ensure you know where their new entrance into school is. The dates are as follows:

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July** – children moving to Year 1 and Year 2 in September (current Reception and Year 1)

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July** – children moving to Year 3 and Year 4 in September (current Year 2 and Year 3)

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July** – children moving to Year 5 and Year 6 in September (current Year 4 and Year 5)

**More information to follow soon!**