

Learning for life!

Meridian Newsletter

Term 1

**Wednesday 3rd September –
Friday 24th October**

Term 2

**Monday 3rd November –
Friday 19th December**

www.meridianschool.co.uk



Meridian Community Primary
School and Nursery



@MeridianCPS

**Friday
26th**

**September
2025**

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been great to get some lovely feedback about our recent Meet the Teacher sessions – thank you to everyone who was able to attend. We will be updating the school website in the next couple of weeks to include the key information shared for your children's year groups.

Individual Photographs

The school photographer will be visiting us on Friday 21st November for children's individual and sibling photographs. Once these have been taken, you will receive information about how to purchase these in lots of different formats. The school receives some commission from all the purchases made and this goes towards additional resource in school – including recently some new fish for our very popular fish tank!

Harvest Assembly

We are very lucky that every year the local vicar, Jez Lowries, comes into school to lead our Harvest Festival Assembly. A separate letter will be sent out about donations for this assembly which is taking place on Monday 13th October. All food donations will be given to Peacehaven Food Bank. Look out for the letter on our school jotter.

OPAL open afternoon

On Friday 24th October, we will be inviting parents of children in Years 1 and 2 to come and spend some time with them enjoying our wonderful play opportunities. All that we ask is either a donation towards our loose parts play equipment or a money donation towards the upkeep of our grounds. A letter will be sent out very soon with more information about this event. Other year groups will have this opportunity at different points in the year.

I hope you have a lovely weekend!
Take care and best wishes

C. Westcott

Claire Westcott
Headteacher

strength

respect



kindness

honesty

responsibility

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

TERM DATES

2025/2026

Term 1

Wednesday 3rd September – Friday 24th October

INSET DAY – Wednesday 3rd September

INSET DAY – Thursday 4th September

Children back to school on Friday 5th September

Term 2

INSET DAY – Monday 3rd November

Monday 3rd November – Friday 19th December

Term 3

Monday 5th January – Friday 13th February

INSET DAY – Monday 5th January

Children back to school on Tuesday 6th January

Term 4

Monday 23rd February – Friday 27th March

Term 5

Tuesday 13th April – Friday 22nd May

Term 6

Monday 1st June – Wednesday 22nd July

INSET DAY – Wednesday 22nd July

**Please note all INSET days have been set for
2025/2026**

KEY DATES

26.09 Flu vaccination in school

14.10 Parents Evening (3.30pm – 6.00pm)

16.10 Parents Evening (4.00pm – 7.00pm)

24.10 **Year 1 and Year 2 OPAL open
afternoon
End of term 1**

03.11 School closed for INSET for staff

06.11 New Reception 2025 Open Day –
9.30am and 1.30pm

21.11 **Individual Photographs**

15.12 Reception Christmas Performance –
9.15am and 1.30pm

16.12 Years 1 and 2 Christmas Performance
– 9.15am, 10.45am and 1.30pm

17.12 Years 3 and 4 Christmas Performance
– 9.15am, 10.45am and 1.30pm

18.12 Years 5 and 6 Christmas Performance
– 10.00am and 1.45pm at Ascension
Church in Peacehaven.

19.12 **End of term 2**

05.01 School closed for INSET for staff

06.01 Children back to school

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:

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs. Lucy Newth

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads

Ms. Claire Westcott, Mrs. Helen Mapp,
Mr. Jon Barcock, Miss. Ciara Smiles, Miss. Nadia
Pentland, Miss. Laura Miles

**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

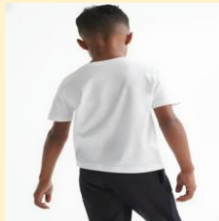
**Confidential, private
and here for you.**

MERIDIAN NOTICEBOARD

P.E. Kit

Thank you to everyone for sending your children in for P.E. this term wearing the correct kit – we really appreciate it.

Just to remind everyone, our current expectations are that children come to school wearing plain dark tracksuit bottoms (navy, grey, or black), a white round-neck t-shirt, **their school jumper** (no hoodies please), and trainers (not plimsolls, please).



They will need their royal blue P.E. shorts in their bags to change into if Mr. Strange decides this is the most appropriate for the lesson.

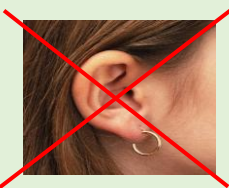
Please remember that leggings and cycling shorts are not part of our P.E. kit.

If you want to know when your child is having P.E. this term, please visit our school website [here](#).

Earrings in school

Please can we remind parents that children should only wear stud earrings to school.

Hoop earrings are not appropriate for school as they may get caught when playing or changing, which could cause an injury.



Thank you for your support with this matter.

Parent Consultations Meetings

Please make sure you have put the Parents' Evenings and Nursery Parents' Consultation meetings in your diaries so that you can make an appointment to find out about the progress your children have made since September. This is such an important opportunity for you to hear about how your child has settled in and what they are doing really well at. Teachers can also offer advice about how you can help at home! Appointment bookings will be made available **next week!**

Fundraising at Meridian

The PTFA and school are trying to re-launch our PTFA to encourage more members from the parent community to help us raise much needed funds for the school. In the past, the PTFA have supported the school to buy the OPAL shed in the playground, the fish tank (which the children LOVE!), contribute towards the cost of the coach travel for the Year 6 residential (to keep the cost for parents down as much as possible), a wonderful Science workshop as part of Science week . . . and much, much more. We will be having a meeting on Thursday 9th October at school (time to be confirmed) for anyone interested in helping us with different events, in particular planning for a Christmas Fair (which we were not able to do last year). We do hope lots of you will be able to attend! More details about the time to follow next week!

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AT MERIDIAN

Meridian Learning Powers!

At Meridian we recognise that children benefit from learning strategies to become effective learners. Every other week, in our Friday celebration assemblies, we celebrate children who are demonstrating these learning powers:

For more
information visit
our school
website

[Learning
powers](#)

Be Inspired

Making links

Communicating effectively

Plan for success

Persevere



LEARNING AT MERIDIAN

Our curriculum theme and topics for the Autumn terms

Following everyone's author study at the beginning of the autumn terms, the children are now starting their new learning topics.

Our theme for the next few months is "**Leadership and Community**" and all the teachers have been working hard to plan exciting learning journeys for the following topics:

Nursery and Reception: **Superheroes!** Children will be learning about people who help us in school and the local community. They will also be learning about families, friends and what makes them special.

Year 1 and Year 2: **Kings and Queens!** Children will be learning about different Kings and Queens in history, with a key focus of a local famous historical event: The Battle of Hastings.

Year 3 and Year 4: **Ancient Egyptians!** Children will be learning about leadership and community in an ancient civilization. They will be visiting Brighton Museum to learn about the life in Ancient Egyptian and the practice of mummification!

Year 5 and Year 6: **Leaders and Pioneers!** Children will be learning about the important role leaders and pioneers have played in shaping history, locally, nationally and globally. Also thinking about what kind of leader or pioneer they might like to be.

PLAY AT MERIDIAN

OPAL playtimes

As the weather is starting to change, we will soon be asking children to change into their wellies and wear coats at all break times.

Please can you ensure that your children have named wellies in school that can stay in school for them to change into.

Children will also need a warm (and ideally waterproof) coat that they can wear in all weathers – we try wherever possible to go outside to play, even if it is raining!

These wellies can also be changed into for Forest School lessons.

Did you know . . . ?

Every other week we have an OPAL assembly where we celebrate positive play times, sharing photos of the children sharing and playing together. They love seeing photos of each other having lots of fun!!



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 Mrs. Newth or our EWO (Education Welfare Officer), Victoria Sutherland.

Whole School Attendance
95.5% (our target is 96%)

Best Attendance this term

Week 1: 2T, 4SPS and 5S 99% 😊

Week 2: 3R 99% 😊

Week 3: 5S 99% 😊

