



Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year. We are looking forward to working with you and your children to ensure that 2015-16 is a happy and successful one.

INSET Day:

Monday 2nd November will be an INSET day for staff – school will be closed for pupils. School will be open to pupils after half term from Tuesday 3rd November 2015.

School Staff

We are pleased to welcome a new member of staff to the school. Miss Lovatt has joined our team and will be teaching in Year 4 until October half term. I'm sure you will join me in offering her a very warm welcome.

Attendance and Punctuality

Can I remind you of the importance of children attending school every day unless they are unwell. If your child is ill, please telephone the school office to inform them on the first day of absence.

Our attendance policy states that we are unable to authorise any absence for family holiday, trips or visits. If you wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see Mr Lane.

Can I remind you that children can come straight into the school building between 8.40am and 8.50am where they will be supervised by school staff. From 8.50am, children must enter school through the main office at the front of the building and they will be classed as late.

All children must be collected from school at 3.15pm unless they have permission to walk home alone. I appreciate your support in this.

Patterns of poor attendance and punctuality will be followed-up by the school's educational welfare officer to look at ways of reducing these instances. If you require any support with these areas, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Parking restrictions

Please can I remind you that the school car park is for staff use only. Please park outside of school where it is safe and legal to do so. Please can I also ask that you respect our school neighbours by not parking in front of drop-down kerbs.

Jewellery Policy

The only items that are considered appropriate for school, for health and safety reasons, are one pair of small stud or sleeper earrings and watches.

The school does not approve of other jewellery or cosmetics unless for cultural reasons. Any items that are worn must be removed or covered with a sweat band/plaster for PE and all items are the responsibility of the pupil. Please note that staff are not allowed to remove or look after jewellery for children.

Meet the Teacher

Meet the teacher is an opportunity for parents and carers to meet their child's new teacher and talk briefly about any issues or concerns for the coming year.

Consultations will take place on:

Monday 5th October 3.30pm - 5pm:

Reception and Key Stage 1 Meet The Teacher

Tuesday 6th October 3.30pm - 5pm: Key Stage 2 Meet The Teacher

Wednesday 7th October 6pm-8pm: Whole school Meet The Teacher

Further details to follow.

After School Clubs

After school clubs commence week beginning Monday 21st September. There will be no after school clubs in the last week of term, the week beginning 14th December. You will be notified if your child HAS NOT been allocated a place in their chosen club.

Contact Details

It is vital that the school office has up to date, correct contact details for all parents and carers in the event of an emergency. A contact sheet and medical form will shortly be sent out to all families. This is an opportunity to amend and correct your details where necessary. Please ensure that all information about your child is included on this form, including their home language, medical needs and whether or not they are a vegetarian or have any special dietary requirements. Forms must be returned to school as soon as possible.

Newsletter

Summer Term Prize Winners



Well done to the pupils who won their class attainment and achievement prize last term. We are all very proud of their hard work and progress.

Milk Money

Milk money for the Autumn term will be £11 if your child is not entitled to free school milk. Please note that children in Year 1 and Year 2 are not entitled to free school milk unless parents have applied for this (it is not included in the Universal Infant free School Meal entitlement). Please send milk money into school no later than 25th September.

Dinner Money

Dinner money is £2.20 per day (£11.00 per week). Please can dinner money be sent into school at the start of each week in a named, sealed envelope. Some parents and carers in receipt of income support and Working Family Tax Credits are entitled to free or subsidised school meals and milk. Please ask at the school office for more information. All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are eligible to receive a free school meal everyday under the Universal Infant Free School Meals funding.

School Communications

We appreciate that you will be receiving lots of letters and information at the start of the new school year. Can I remind you that you can also receive e-mail updates by registering your e-mail address with us. Please send an e-mail to office@merridaleprimary.co.uk to register.

Term Dates

Monday 7th September: School re-opens to pupils

Tuesday 15th September 5pm: Year 6 parent and carer information meeting.

WB Monday 21st September: After school clubs start this week

WB Monday 21st September: Healthy Living week

Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th

September: Year 2 Residential Visit to Kingswood

Friday 25th September 1.30pm: Merridale Marathon – parents, carers and families welcome to join us for this.

Tuesday 29th September: Eid celebration afternoon in school

Friday 2nd October: Food bank Friday collection

Monday 5th October 3.30-5pm: Reception and Key stage 1 Meet the teacher appointments

Tuesday 6th October 3.30-5pm: Key stage 2 Meet the teacher appointments

Wednesday 7th October 6-8pm: Whole school meet the teacher appointments

WB 12th October: Healthy Eating Week

Friday 23rd October 3.15pm: Pupils break up for half term

Monday 26th – Friday 30th October: Half term

Monday 2nd November: School closed to pupils for INSET

Tuesday 3rd November: School re-opens to pupils

Monday 9th November 6pm: Key stage 2 Diwali performance

Tuesday 10th November 6pm: Key stage 2 Diwali performance

WB 16th November: Anti-Bullying week

Monday 23rd November – Thursday 26th November – Book Fair in school

Tuesday 8th December 2pm: Reception and Key Stage 1 Christmas Play performance

Wednesday 9th December 2pm: Reception and Key Stage 1 Christmas Play performance

Tuesday 15th December 10am: Christingle service at St Chad and St Mark's church

Thursday 17th December: Christmas disco

Friday 18th December 3.15pm: School closes for the Christmas holidays