

MERESIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S CENTRE NEWSLETTER

Dates for your Diary

Harvest Festival Thurs 18th

October at 2.30pm in support of Street Life. Donations of dried food, tinned food, soap, toothpaste gratefully accepted

27th September – Author Dan Worsley in school and will be doing book signing

4th and 5th October – Bikeability for Year 6 pupils

11th October – Gazette photos for Reception children

w/c 15th October – Mystery Object Themed Week in classes

19th October – Break up usual time for Half Term

Welcome back

Well I have had a wonderful start to my role as Principal at Mereside Primary School and all the children have quickly settled back into school routine. It has been lovely to meet some of you at the various Meet the Teacher meetings and at the school gates that have been happening in school since we have been back. I was sorry I was not able to see you in our school assembly last Friday, but I am looking forward to meeting more of you over the coming weeks

This half term promises to be full of exciting activities and events and more information will be sent out with more details as these happen.

Mrs Bamber

Things to Remember

- We do not allow dogs onto the school premises even if they are being held as some children can get frightened of them
- Holidays in term time – see below
- The school newsletter will be sent out monthly and will be available on our school website too
- If you have a new mobile number, please don't forget to let us know!

Uniform

It has been a very good start to the year with uniforms and the children all look very smart and proud to be wearing our school uniform. A gentle reminder that all uniformed should be clearly named and children should be wearing a tie if they are in Year XX and above. PE kits and swimming kits need to be in school on the right days so the children can participate.



Holidays in term time

Please can we remind you that if you are thinking about taking your child away in school time you need to request to do so **before** you book your holiday as it is a legal requirement. Legislation only allows a Principal to authorise leave in exceptional circumstances, for example a family bereavement.

Children who have not had at least 96% attendance in the previous year will not be considered.

Assemblies

We will be holding our assemblies in the afternoon this year and we look forward to welcoming parents into these on Friday afternoons at 2.45pm



Lunches and Dinnertime

A copy of our current 3 week rolling menu can be seen on the website and in the main school reception area. School meals are provided for our children by Chartwells Catering Service and we work closely with them to ensure the children are offered a range of tasty, meals and healthy options at lunchtime.

Please be reminded that if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, they are entitled to a free school meal everyday which is provided by the Government. If your child is in Years 3,4,5 or 6 and is not currently eligible for Free School Meals, there is a charge of just £2 per day (£10 per week).

We hope that you r children enjoy trying our lunches as part of our themed meal days and the next one is on 4th October and is a Spooky Meal of scary sausage, monster mash and eyeball peas!! It would be wonderful to have **all** the children taking part



After School Club

Our After School is running again from 3.30pm – 5.30pm and costs just £5.50 per session per child.

Mr Todd and Mrs Griffin work really hard to make sure that the children have a range of activities to do during the club and even have a snack and a drink to keep them going!

If you are interested in your child attending the After School Club, please ask at the school office for the relevant documents to complete.

Meet the Teacher Meetings

A big thank you to all those that have attended our meet the teacher meetings. Please try to come to your child's meeting this week as we are sure you will find it worthwhile and a good opportunity to meet your child's teacher and find out what they will be learning about over this next year.

Parent Pay

We have had very positive feedback on how easy parent pay is to use from the parents that have registered to use it.

Please be reminded that cash into school will be limited this year and that parent pay will be the best option to make payments for lunches, after school club, nursery fees and school trips.

Please ask at the office if you need a copy of your activation details and thanks for your support

Homework

Homework will begin to come home over the coming weeks and we would appreciate your support in ensuring that this is completed on time along with their reading and spellings.

We are as always, very grateful for your support with this and it really does make a difference.

Nursery

We have spaces available for our Nursery for children aged 3 – 4yrs.

Funding is currently available for all children which means they can attend Nursery for 15hrs per week fully funded. In addition to this, if you are a working family and meet the criteria, there is additional funding available which enables your child to attend upto 30 hrs fully funded. Please ask at the school office for more information.

Children's Centre

A full schedule of activities and events being held in our Children's Centre over the coming weeks is available on our school website and includes events such as Baby Club, Bumbles, Dads and Families and access to so much more support for families.

Why not pop in and have a brew in our Café to find out more.

Year 6 Parents

Please remember that the deadline to apply for Secondary School takes place on Tuesday 31st October 2018. You can **only** apply online at <https://www.blackpool.gov.uk/Residents/Education-and-schools/School-admissions/Apply-for-a-secondary-school-place.aspx>

Open days for local schools are as follows:

- St Georges – 27/09/2018
- Armfield – 15/10/2018
- Highfield – 13/09/2018
- South Shore – 11/10/2018
- Aspire – 02/10/2018
- Unity – 06/10/2018
- Montgomery – 26/09/2018
- St Mary's – 01/10/2018

Attendance this month

1B	98.8%
1/2R	98.3%
2T	96.7%
3P	97.6%
3/4C	97.5%
4R	98.3%
5C	99.1%
5/6R	95.8%
6KL	98.6%
Whole School	97.9%

Team Points

	Total	Place
Amleside	839	1st
Keswick	768	2 nd
Windermere	727	3 rd
Grasmere	605	4 th