

Newsletter | Issue 20 | 2025/2026



Learning for Life

MERIDIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Meridian Primary School
Spring Term Newsletter
9th - 13th February 2026

Message from Headteacher, Miss Becky Snelling

This week we have marked **Children's Mental Health Week**, with the theme "*This is My Place.*" The focus has been on the importance of belonging - helping children feel safe, valued and supported in their everyday environments. This is something we continually prioritise through our school value of *community* and our commitment to ensuring every child feels that they truly belong.

The week has provided a wonderful opportunity to take simple but meaningful steps to help children talk about their feelings and strengthen their sense of connection. Every class has spent additional time exploring these themes in age-appropriate ways.

Good mental health in childhood lays the foundation for wellbeing later in life, and we know that small, everyday actions can make a real difference.

Supporting Children at Home

Parents and carers can also take practical steps to support their children's emotional wellbeing:

- [Place2Be](#) has created free, easy-to-use activities and ideas for families, schools and community groups, available on their website.
- Keeping familiar routines – such as a steady bedtime, regular mealtimes, or calm moments after school – helps children feel secure and reduces stress.
- Predictable routines can be a simple but powerful way to support emotional wellbeing.
- Talking openly about feelings is important, and many children find it easier to talk when conversations are linked to a story rather than a direct question.

- [The Reading Agency](#) offers the *Reading Well for Children* collection – a carefully selected range of books chosen by experts and families to help children explore emotions in a gentle, age-appropriate way. The booklist covers worries, sadness, anger, confidence and life changes, with different reading levels available. These books can be especially helpful for starting conversations. You may wish to check your local library for availability.

Local Support in Cambridgeshire

If additional support is needed, there are excellent local services available:

- [YOUUnited](#) offers support to children and young people aged 5–17 with their emotional wellbeing and mental health.
- [Centre 33](#) provides free and confidential support for young people across Cambridgeshire – a safe and welcoming place to talk about worries, feeling overwhelmed, or anything else on their minds.
- [How Are You](#) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough (H.A.Y.) is an easy place to find positive local activities and support for families.

This week has reminded us that every child deserves to feel they belong. Small steps at home, support from school and community, and additional help when needed all work together to ensure children feel safe, supported and ready to thrive.

We wish you all a lovely half term break and we are looking forward to welcoming everyone back for Spring Term 2 - and, hopefully, some brighter weather!



Thank you!

New Interactive Boards for Years 1, 5 and 6

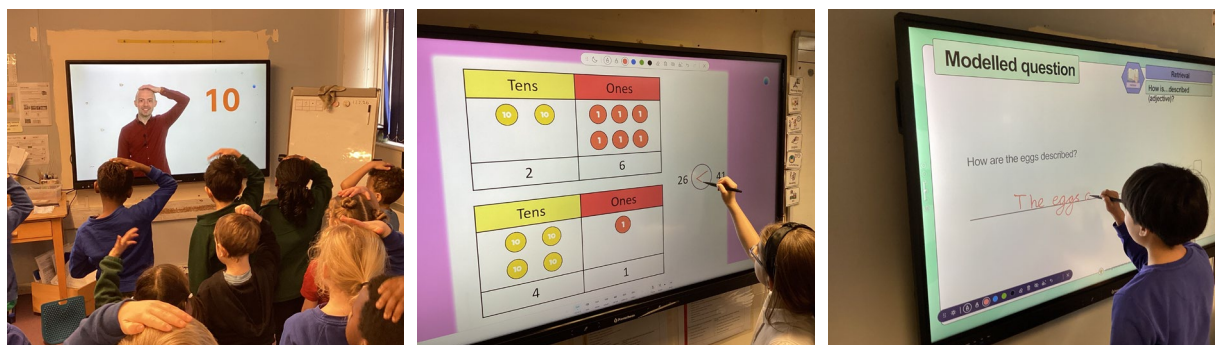
These classes are absolutely delighted with their brand-new interactive boards - and the teachers are breathing a huge sigh of relief!

These boards are essential tools for teaching and learning. They are used daily to display questions, share key learning points, show video clips and present images that support and enhance understanding across the curriculum - the list is endless.

Until now, these three classes had been managing with broken boards, or in one case, no board at all. This made teaching much more challenging. The difference these new interactive boards have already made in the classroom is incredible. Pupils are more engaged, lessons are more dynamic and learning is more accessible for everyone.

A huge thank you to our PTA (and to everyone who has supported PTA fundraising events) as well as to one very kind additional donor, for funding these fantastic new resources. Your generosity is truly appreciated and is making a real difference to our children's learning.

Photos below show the new boards in action! Please excuse the exposed walls in the pictures - touching up the paintwork is next on the to-do list!



Governor Update: Are you looking for a new challenge this year?

Help shape the future of our school – your skills can make a real difference.
Can you spare a few hours each month to become one of our School Governors?

We are looking for committed and enthusiastic individuals to join our Governing Body. School governors play a vital role in shaping the future of our school. Working as part of a supportive team, governors help set the school's vision, hold leaders to account, and ensure the best possible outcomes for our pupils.

What does the role involve?

- Attending governing body meetings (9 per year)
- Contributing to strategic decisions about the school's direction
- Supporting and challenging school leaders to improve outcomes
- Acting in the best interests of pupils at all times

Who can apply?

You do not need previous experience in education. We welcome people from all backgrounds. Skills and experience in areas such as finance, HR, safeguarding, education, or community engagement are particularly valuable, but most importantly, we are looking for individuals who:

- Care about children and education
- Are willing to learn and work as part of a team
- Can commit time and energy to the role

What we offer

- Full induction and ongoing training
 - The opportunity to develop new skills
 - The chance to make a real difference in your local community
 - A rewarding voluntary role with meaningful impact
- If you are interested in becoming a governor or would like to find out more, please contact the school office or Becky Richards, Chair of Governors, chair@meridian.cambs.sch.uk

Vacancy: Co-opted Governor

We are seeking skilled and committed individuals to join our Governing Body as Co-opted Governors.

Co-opted governors are appointed for the specific skills, expertise, and experience they bring to the governing body. This role is an opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to the strategic leadership of a primary school and to support positive outcomes for all pupils.

About the Role

As a co-opted governor, you will:

- Contribute to the strategic direction of the school
- Provide support and challenge to school leaders
- Monitor progress against school priorities
- Ensure the school meets its statutory responsibilities

Who We're Looking For

We are particularly interested in individuals with experience or skills in areas such as:

- Finance or budgeting
- Human resources
- Safeguarding or child protection
- Education, SEND, or inclusion
- Health and safety, estates, or premises
- Community or organisational leadership
- You do not need to have prior governance experience, as full induction and training will be provided. What matters most is a commitment to the role and a desire to make a positive difference.

Time Commitment

- Full governing body meetings: 9 meetings across the academic year, typically 1–2 per term
- Committee or link governor responsibilities as appropriate
- Visits and training as agreed

What We Offer

- Comprehensive induction and ongoing training
- The opportunity to develop governance and leadership skills
- A chance to positively influence children's education
- A rewarding voluntary role within a supportive team If you are interested in becoming a governor or would like to find out more, please contact the school office or Becky Richards, Chair of Governors, chair@meridian.cambs.sch.uk
- <https://www.meridianprimary.co.uk/governors/>

What has your child been learning this week?

Acorn Class

This week we have consolidated our understanding of number bonds to 10 and have been working hard to recall them confidently. We enjoyed getting creative by making Valentine's cards and bracelets, and we also made beautiful lanterns to celebrate Chinese New Year. In our topic work, we found out about the four seasons and discussed how the weather and environment change throughout the year. In PE, we rehearsed and performed short sequences which included travelling along a bench, completing a star jump, and finishing with a controlled final position. The children showed great focus and enthusiasm.

Wishing you all a very happy half term!

Apple Tree Class

In English, the children have written recounts and have practised forming capital letters correctly. They have learnt the importance of reading their sentences aloud after they have written them, to

check that they make sense. They have enjoyed listening to stories from the Big Bright Feelings range by Tom Percival. In maths, the children have been counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and learning to use this skill to help solve maths problems.

The children found out more about our local area by looking at photographs of Comberton in our geography lesson. In science, we investigated our senses and the children got very excited about guessing mystery smells, textures and sounds. This included smelling curry powder, feeling pasta and hearing a toilet flush! They used this scientific learning in our history lesson when considering what they would have seen, heard, smelt, tasted and touched in 1666, if they had been alive in London during the great fire. The models of the fire children have made for homework are very impressive!

Cherry Tree Class

This week in Cherry Tree class, we have looked at equivalent fractions in Maths. We found through investigation that one half is equal to two quarters. In English, we finalised our non-chronological reports on animals. In Science, we had fun cushioning eggs to find suitable materials for shock absorption. We also had our Dojo treat this week, the children enjoyed an end of half-term disco!

Birch Class

This week in Birch Class, we have been consolidating how we multiply by 10 and 100 and using the partitioning method to multiply a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number in Maths. In Literacy, we have been creating our own 'Wonderland' and characters and using descriptive vocabulary to describe them. In PSHE, we have been thinking about some of the needs of and showing how to care for the local environment. In Science, we have been looking at and comparing information on food labels. In Art, we have been creating our background designs, which we look forward to painting and then using thread and stitching to create textural marks over the top of next term. Birch Class have particularly enjoyed seeing the power points on different countries in Europe created and photos and videos of the European culinary adventures the children have been on, as part of their home learning, this term. We definitely have some master chefs in the making! Another great week of learning, well done Year 3.

Sycamore Class

This week in Year 4 has been full of creativity, performance and problem-solving.

In English, we brought our travel brochure unit to a brilliant conclusion with our very own Travel Expo. The children presented their destinations with confidence, using persuasive language and carefully chosen details to convince their audience. We voted fairly using agreed criteria and celebrated not only the winning holiday, but also fantastic use of description, grammar and presentation skills across the class.

In maths, we have been exploring statistics, focusing on pictograms, bar and line graphs. The children learned how to turn data into clear visual representations, choose sensible keys and interpret what the information shows. It was wonderful to see them collecting their own data, drawing neat pictograms and confidently explaining what their graphs revealed.

It has been a busy and productive half-term, and the children should be very proud of everything they've achieved. We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half-term break. I can't wait to see everyone back refreshed and ready for more learning next term!

Willow Class

Willow Class has had a busy and productive end to the half term. The pupils have made wonderful progress in maths, developing their understanding of how to compare decimals and fractions with growing confidence. In English, they have been completing their non-chronological reports on the layers of the rainforest, combining clear, informative writing with beautiful watercolour artwork to create some truly spectacular displays. In science, the class enjoyed taking their learning outdoors to investigate the temperatures at which different materials melt, with some fascinating results. Well done, Willow Class — enjoy a well-deserved rest over the break!

Oak Class

It has been another busy and productive week in Year 6! We have now finalised our non-chronological reports, which are proudly on display in our classroom. We are incredibly proud of the finished pieces and can't wait to welcome visitors to come and read them. Ms Chamberlain and Mrs Moore have been so impressed with the children's creativity, presentation and attention to detail.

In English, we have begun exploring dialogue and how it helps us to understand a character's personality while also moving the action forward in a narrative. The children have enjoyed experimenting with how speech can bring stories to life.

In Maths, we have started our new unit on percentages and how these link to fractions and decimals. We have tackled some tricky word problems, and the children have shown fantastic perseverance and determination when faced with these challenges.

In Computing, we have been learning how to create formulae in spreadsheets, as well as how to filter and sort large amounts of information to help us find specific answers efficiently. Meanwhile, in Science, we have continued our work on electricity by building circuits and investigating how insulators and conductors affect the flow of electricity.

We are all now looking forward to a well-deserved and restful half term!

PTA News


PTA Newsletter


PTA
**PRE-LOVED
Clothing Sale!**



£6 ENTRY!

*Includes a Glass of Prosecco
& Nibbles!*

13th FEBRUARY 2026
FROM 8PM

AT THE THREE HORSESHOES

Dates for the diary!

Friday 13th Feb
Pre-loved clothes sale

Collections for the adult, quality designer clothes can be arranged from the 7th of February
Message Laureenne - 07884549798 to discuss

Thursday 5th March
World Book Day Book Surprise
....details coming soon

Ideas Welcome,,,,

Thank you to Jess and Jessie for leading this event. If you have a great idea you'd like to try please let us know and we can work with you to make it happen..

Reasons to get involved

- The children benefit!
- The school benefits!
- Get to know others!
- Have fun!

Dates for your diary

February

16th-20th Half Term
24th Young Voices Concert (Some Year 5 & 6 children)

March

4th EYFS & KS1 Welcome Wednesday (08:45-9:05)
5th World Book Day
11th Mother's Day Afternoon Tea 14:30-15:30 (Details to Follow)
17th National Dental Epidemiology Programme - Acorn & Apple Tree Classes
18th KS2 Welcome Wednesday (08:45-9:05)
21st Community Clean-Up Day (09:00 -14:00) - All Welcome
24th Parent Consultations (14:00-17:00)
26th Parent Consultations (16:00-19:00)
27th iRock Spring Term Concert (iRocker families are invited 09:30)
27th Last day of Term
Easter Holidays 30th March - 10th April

April

13th Start of Summer Term



Resilience | Kindness | Community | Respect | Curiosity

Achievements

Values Award

Acorn- Edie A
Apple Tree- Chiara
Cherry Tree- Coen
Birch- Haydn
Sycamore- Isabella
Willow- Cillian
Oak-Robert

Star Writer / Maths Whizz

Acorn- Kasper
Apple Tree- Riley
Cherry Tree- Musa

Birch- Aysel
Sycamore- Jesse
Willow- Theo
Oak- Maya

House Points

Challenger- 1689
Discovery- 1653
Explorer- 1546
Voyager - 1536

Please visit our website - pupil section <https://www.meridianprimary.co.uk/topic/pupils> for full list of awardees.

Contact Us

Meridian Primary School

Harbour Avenue

Comberton

Cambridgeshire

CB23 7DD

01223 262423

Office@meridian.cambs.sch.uk

Visit us on the web at <https://www.meridianprimary.co.uk>

