10th July 2026

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we head into the final week of the school year, it is a wonderful time to reflect on just how much the children have achieved. We are incredibly proud of every single one of them.

This year has been filled with so many successes. We celebrated one of our highest-ever pass rates in the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check, our Year 2 children performed brilliantly in their end-of-year assessments, and our Reception children have made fantastic progress towards achieving a Good Level of Development (GLD). These achievements are testament to the hard work of our children, the dedication of our staff and the invaluable support of our families.

Beyond these milestones, what has been most rewarding is watching every child grow as an individual. Throughout the year, they have developed confidence, resilience, independence and kindness, embracing new challenges with enthusiasm and determination. They should all feel immensely proud of everything they have accomplished.

The final week of the school year is always one of the most exciting, as we celebrate the many talents and achievements of our children. This week alone, we have enjoyed a fantastic Street Dance performance and a wonderful Rocksteady concert, both of which showcased the children's confidence, enthusiasm and hard work.

Next week promises to be just as special. We are looking forward to the much-anticipated Year 2 Leavers' Show, and we are excited to welcome parents and carers into school on Tuesday afternoon for our Open Afternoon. This is always a wonderful opportunity for the children to share their learning and celebrate everything they have achieved this year. We hope to see as many families as possible.

Transition

On Monday, we held our annual Moving Up Day. The children spent time in their new classrooms, becoming familiar with their new learning environments and getting to know the teachers who will be welcoming them in September. Our Year 2 children also spent time at Ashfield in their new classes, giving them another opportunity to become familiar with their new surroundings and prepare for the next stage of their education. It was lovely to see so much excitement and confidence as each child explored what next year will bring.

On Tuesday afternoon, we welcomed parents and carers to our ‘Welcome to..’ meetings. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend. We hope everyone found the sessions informative and reassuring as we look ahead to the new academic year. For those who were unable to attend our 'Welcome to…' meetings, the presentation slides are now available on our website.

Enrichment

Our Reception children enjoyed a visit to Tring Natural History Museum, where they explored an incredible collection of animals and discovered more about the natural world. From enormous

mammals to tiny insects, the children were fascinated by the variety of exhibits. Thank you to the staff and helpers who helped make this trip possible.

Governors

On Thursday, we welcomed our governors into Merry Hill to see learning in action across the school.

They were treated to some wonderful examples of the children's work. Year 2 proudly shared their descriptive superhero writing, Reception children excitedly recounted everything they had learned on their visit to Tring Natural History Museum, and Year 1 showcased their imaginative creature creations, inventing brand-new animals by combining features from two different creatures and enthusiastically explaining their ideas.

Our governors always enjoy seeing the school in action, and it is a valuable opportunity for them to witness first-hand the fantastic learning taking place every day. I couldn't resist sharing a lovely comment from one of our governors, Mr Dokelman, who said:

"The school looks fantastic. I love the attention to detail and the lengths the teachers go to, to ensure every child is supported and given the very best opportunities."

Mr Barrell also had another important role during his visit. Together with Mr Johnson, our Site Manager, he carried out a health and safety walk around the school. Regular checks such as these help us ensure Merry Hill continues to provide a safe, secure and welcoming environment for everyone.

A huge thank you to all of our governors for their continued support and commitment to our school community.

Finally, I wanted to share a brief personal update. Although I am still unable to return to school in person, I remain in daily contact with the team, attending online meetings and supporting the school from home as much as I can. My recovery continues to progress well, and I am missing everyone very much.

I am really looking forward to joining our children remotely for their end-of-year performances and celebration assembly, and I can't wait to see everything they have achieved. Thank you, as always, for your continued kindness and support during my recovery. It has meant a great deal to me.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Ms Adams
Headteacher

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