

19th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to the Summer Term 2024, I trust you had a fantastic break filled with unforgettable moments and rejuvenating experiences. It was lovely welcoming the children back and seeing them all looking so refreshed and happy. Witnessing their return, filled with energy and joy, fills our school with an undeniable sense of excitement and anticipation for the term ahead.

As we begin the summer journey together, let us embrace the endless possibilities and opportunities that the summer term brings. From the excitement of Sports Day, where pupils, parents and carers alike, showcase their athletic prowess and team spirit, to the exciting transition arrangements as we prepare to welcome pupils to their new classes and schools.

We are also looking forward to our upcoming Sponsored Slide event, where pupils will have fun while raising funds for important school initiatives. Remember to mark your calendars for our much-anticipated Summer Fair (15 June 2024 at Merry Hill School), a fun-filled day for the whole family with games, delicious treats, and entertainment galore!

Amidst all the excitement, I have to personally say it was truly amazing to come back to our cherry blossom tree in full bloom - a breath taking sight that reminds us of the beauty and renewal that the season brings.

FoMH

I would like to take a moment to express our deepest appreciation to the Friends of Merry Hill, our extraordinary Parent-Teacher Association, for their commitment and tireless dedication to our school.

Your hard work and determination have truly made a difference in the lives of our children, and we are immensely grateful for everything you do. On page 4, you will find an impressive list detailing the remarkable achievements and contributions made by the FoMH. From organising memorable events to making essential purchases for our school, your efforts have had a profound impact on the educational journey of our pupils.

On behalf of the entire Merry Hill community, I extend my sincerest thanks to each and every member of the FoMH and to all the families who have generously contributed to our children's journey.

A Happy Face, A Learning Place, A Growing Space

Purple Up Day - April 26th



Our service children attended Forces Club on Tuesday and created some posters to remind us of our upcoming Purple up Day event on Friday April 26th. April is the month of the military child and during this month we love taking the time to celebrate our military children here at Merry Hill. Please can all children come to school wearing a purple accessory on this day such as a hair ribbon, socks, cardigan or t-shirt. **Purple** is a colour used to represent all military services and shows unity with each other. This day is to celebrate the wonderful contribution our military children make to our community, bringing experiences from all around the world! We celebrate our military children and thank them for their service.

'Curious Learners' – *what we learn*

Please click on the link below to have a peek at some of the wonderful learning that has taken place in your child's classroom this week:

<https://merryhill.org.uk/our-learning-community/year-group-blogs/>

'Collaborative Learners' – *our place in the world*

Cost of Living

Every week, we aim to feature a suggestion for a free (or inexpensive) family activity that you can enjoy together. If anyone has any tips or ideas of free or inexpensive activities you would like to share with our community, please let the office know. I hope you find these activities enjoyable and valuable for quality time together.

SAVE THE DATE 15th June 2024 FoMH & ASHA ✨ **Summer Fair** ✨

We are excited about the summer fair and would like your help! If you own a local business or know someone who does, we would appreciate prize donations for our raffle.

Email fomh@merryhill.herts.sch.uk or ashacommittee@gmail.com with details if you are able to help. Thank you in advance.

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Bluebells at Ashridge Estate

What's so special about bluebells?

The presence of bluebells is a sign that a woodland is ancient and has been present in the landscape for at least 400 years. Bluebells, and other woodland flowers, don't spread to new areas easily or quickly, so it is vital to protect them.

Woodland flowers like bluebells come out in spring. This means that they are able to make the most of the available light before the leaves appear on the trees and start to cast too much shade. Bluebells are also an important source of pollen and nectar for butterflies, bees, and hoverflies at the start of the season.

Ashridge Estate sees large areas of bluebells flowering each year and they usually flower from late March to early May, but it does vary from year to year. The Ashfield website will keep you up-to-date with the flowering. There is a small fee during the peak viewing season, for further information please click on the link below.

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/essex-bedfordshire-hertfordshire/ashridge-estate/bluebells-at-ashridge-estate>



I hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely

Ms Melissa Adams
Headteacher

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Chair's Note

As the new Chair of the FOMH, I wish to formally say hello and thank everyone who has generously volunteered their time and money this year. The FOMH are a non-profit, volunteer association run by parents to benefit the children at Merry Hill Infant School and Nursery. Our role is to enhance the experience and wellbeing of our children, and we do this by providing much needed resources and fun activities. This year, the FOMH used some of the funds raised to purchase a screen for the school hall, which we were able to enjoy at our recent Movie Night. We have many more exciting events on the agenda for the remainder of the school year and hope you will get involved and support all of the things we do to raise funds for our school. Thank you so much!

Amber (Ophelia and Imogen (Minnie's) Mum).



Upcoming Events

Sponsored Slide: 25th April
 Movie Night: 26th April
 Father's Day Activity: 14th June
 Summer Fair: 15th June

The Committee

Secretary
 Maddie
 (Ada's MUM)

Treasurer
 Sonia
 (Dylan's MUM)

Comms
 Aneesa
 (Ruhi & Dhyaan's MUM)

Thank You to all Our Volunteers and General Members

Ada (Kari's MUM), Claire (Ellie and Henry's MUM), Fatema (Husayn's MUM), Jignasa (Joshua's MUM), Labiba (Samir's MUM), Mike (Alice's DAD), Nashina (Kayla and Kiana's MUM), Aisha (Idrees and Jannah's MUM), Camilla (Edward's MUM), Chet (Amelia's DAD), Hansa (Clark and Mason's MUM), Kate (Esmee's MUM), Katie (Evelyn's MUM), Lauren (Tristan & Emily's MUM), Merijn (Thomas' MUM), Nat (Isla's MUM), Queen (Emmanuel's MUM), Rachel (Maxwell, Sebastian & Hadrian's MUM), Stephanie (Rory's MUM), Cherrell (Zeanna's MUM), Reeha (Abhay's MUM).

Contact Email
FOMH@merryhill.herts.sch.uk
 SPFIN5 ISSUE 2021

RAISED

Quiz Night	£115.05
Winter Fair	£1767
Christmas Market	£544
Christmas cards	£80.73
Santa Creation Station	£275.17
Movie Night	£189.91
Mother's Day Creation Station	£348

PURCHASES

Screen	£3825
Christmas tree	£134.98
Christmas books (Nursery) & lollies	£60.30
Diwali Crafts	£68.95

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