



1<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for the warm welcome back this week. It's been truly uplifting to reconnect with our Merry Hill family, especially seeing the children's happy faces has been incredibly invigorating. I've had the pleasure of catching up with many of our families, and for those I haven't seen yet, I trust you had a delightful half term break. Welcome back to the second part of our spring term to everyone.

On Monday, the Nursery children were fascinated by the arrival of the egg incubator, sparking lively discussions about the anticipated hatching time and the appearance of the new chicks. During my visit to Nursery on Thursday morning, the children were mesmerised by the arrival of our first chick! As the chicks grew ready to explore beyond the confines of the incubator, our young children carefully handled them, introducing them to the outside environment. It was wonderful to see how caring and inquisitive our ambitious learners are.



*A Happy Face, A Learning Place, A Growing Space*

## World Book Day – Thursday March 7<sup>th</sup>

A reminder that World Book Day is fast approaching. I was so saddened to read in the press recently that, increasingly, children are not having bedtime stories. To celebrate World Book Day at Merry Hill this year, we are encouraging the children to come to school wearing their pyjamas and to bring their favourite book. It is so important for children to have a story; not only for their reading, but also their listening, attention and, of course, their imagination. We want to inspire families to read more at home and keep bedtime stories going as long as we can! Thank you for the wonderfully varied and extremely imaginative photos of the children reading in unusual settings, we have thoroughly enjoyed sharing these in class.

## Roofing Update

The builders have now begun the second phase of the project which involved putting scaffolding within the interior of the school. As a result, the inside of the school looks a little different. To prepare the children for this change, the team shared a PowerPoint with the children on Monday morning.

## '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*

### St David's Day

This week the children in Key Stage 1 had an assembly about St David's Day, which is celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> March. They learnt that St David is the patron saint of Wales and was famous for performing miracles such as causing the ground to rise up beneath him so that everyone could see and hear him. The children watched a video in which a young Welsh girl called Sian shared her St David's Day celebrations. We found out about the dragon parades that take place along the streets, the "Cawl" making (a soup made from leeks), the traditional dress and the traditional dancing which often takes place in many towns and villages around Wales. Happy St David's Day to any of our families who are celebrating.



## PARENTING COURSE CALENDAR

South West Herts Partnership has collated a list of parenting events happening online from our parent organisations. They can be found at:

<https://www.southwesthertspartnership.org.uk/parenting-courses>

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### 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.

#### Watford Fire Museum

**What:** The Fire Museum is based in a purpose built building at Watford Fire Station on Lower High Street. There is a substantial collection of various items of fire service equipment, uniform and documents (old and new), with a large and varied photographic display of fire appliances, fire/incident scenes and local fire history. Contact the museum for further details of opening hours: [museum@watford.gov.uk](mailto:museum@watford.gov.uk)

**Where:** 194 High Street, Watford WD17 2DT



I hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,

Ms Melissa Adams  
Headteacher

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# Creation Station

FoMH are holding Craft Sessions for children to create a unique gift for the amazing women in their lives.



Donation via Scopay  
£3

8th  
March  
2024



## HAPPY Mother's Day

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