



Merry Hill

Infant School and Nursery

Headteacher: Ms. Melissa Adams MA, NPQH

21st November 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

The snowflakes on Tuesday brought a lovely touch of winter magic to the week. Not ideal for driving, but certainly a moment of excitement for the children and staff too. As always, it has been a busy and purposeful week at Merry Hill.

A Happy Face

At Merry Hill, we believe that children learn best when they feel happy, safe and respected. That is why our behaviour curriculum, *The Merry Hill Way*, is central to everything we do.

This Autumn, our focus is on instilling the *core rules*: **Ready, Respectful, Safe**. They underpin all of our behaviour expectations and are carefully taught through assemblies, PSHE lessons and daily routines.

This week we have focused on the rule **Ready**:

- **EYFS** – *We work together to problem solve one step at a time.*
- **KS1** – *We learn from attempting challenges in different ways.*

A Learning Place

Early Reading Focus

Last week, we welcomed Kyla, an ELS (Essential Letters and Sounds) trainer, into school. She spent time observing our phonics lessons and delivering further training to staff—and we could not be prouder of the feedback she gave. Kyla commented on how calm our classrooms felt, how confidently the children worked, and how strong our learning routines are.

She also praised our amazing team for their enthusiasm and commitment to giving children the very best start in reading. We know that early reading is the gateway to learning, and it was wonderful to hear how well our approach is supporting every child.

We are really proud of our children and staff for all their hard work!

Learning and Professional Development at Our School

Each week, our staff take part in a wide range of professional learning opportunities, both to strengthen our own practice and to share expertise across the wider community.

A Happy Face, A Learning Place, A Growing Space

- Members of our office team have recently taken part in SIMS training to support the smooth running of our school systems.
- Mrs Summers, our AHT and SENDCo represented the school at the DSPL9 panel, contributing to important discussions around local SEND provision.
- Mrs Ineson, our AHT and Maths Mastery Lead, delivered maths training for teaching assistants from other schools, helping to build confidence and skills across the local network.
- Miss Finch, our Swans teacher, is currently completing reading-fluency training and has already begun sharing her learning with staff to enhance classroom practice.

A huge thank you to all staff for continually striving to develop their skills and for the generosity they show in supporting educators beyond our own school. Their commitment ensures we are providing the very best education and care for our pupils.

A Growing Space

A Message Regarding Vehicle Idling at Pick-Up Times

We have recently been contacted by a local resident who expressed concerns about cars idling outside the school before and during pick-up times. Parents are regularly sitting in their vehicles with engines running for extended periods. Vehicle idling produces unnecessary air pollution, which is particularly concerning in an area where children and families gather. It also affects our neighbours, who experience increased noise and fumes at these times. We understand that many parents may simply be unaware of the impact they are having.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to turn off engines when parked outside the school, even for short periods. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe, healthy and considerate environment for our pupils and community.

Christmas Trees

We are excited to share that Merry Hill School has kindly been donated a beautiful Christmas tree by **Pines and Needles**. As part of their gift, they are also offering parents **10% off Christmas trees** from their London pop-up stores and online shop.

 **Discount Code: SCHOOL10**

Follow **@pinesandneedles** for festive activities at local stores, and visit www.pineandneedles.com for full details and all store locations across London and the surrounding areas.

Before I sign off, we are delighted to share that our school Instagram page is now live. It offers small snapshots of life at Merry Hill from classroom moments to whole-school celebrations. We would love for families to follow and share it so we can reach as many of our community as possible. Find us at **@merryhillinfants**

Have a restful weekend, everyone.

Ms Melissa Adams
Headteacher

A Happy Face, A Learning Place, A Growing Space



6th December
11am to 2pm



Winter Fair

fun for the
whole family



SANTAS GROTTO ☆ SNOWBALL TOSS ☆ GLITTER
TATTOOS ☆ FACE PAINTING ☆ REINDEER FOOD
☆ RAFFLE ☆ CHOC AND BOTTLE TOMBOLA ☆
GINGERBREAD DECORATING ☆ MULLED WINE ☆
AND LOTS MORE!



MERRY HILL INFANTS SCHOOL AND NURSERY
School Lane, Bushey WD23 1ST

With thanks to...



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