



22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Year 2 pupils had a remarkable visitor in on Thursday - none other than the infamous King Henry VIII himself! It was an extraordinary experience that brought history to life in the most captivating way imaginable.

The children were absolutely delighted to meet Henry VIII, who regaled them with tales from the past, transporting them back to the fascinating world of Tudor England. With his majestic presence and lively storytelling, Henry VIII made history come alive right before their eyes.

The visit was not only educational but also incredibly entertaining. Henry VIII had a wonderful sense of humour, and the children were in fits of giggles as they listened to his amusing anecdotes and witty remarks. The children even tried their hand at dancing to Tudor music as Henry treated the children to live Tudor tunes! It was a truly unforgettable experience that left us all smiling from ear to ear.

For those who may not be familiar with King Henry VIII, here are a few fascinating facts about him:

- Henry VIII was the second Tudor monarch and ruled England from 1509 until his death in 1547.
- He is perhaps best known for his six marriages, which famously led to the English Reformation.
- Henry VIII is also remembered for his larger-than-life personality, his love of music and sports, and his significant contributions to English history.

Overall, the visit from Henry VIII was a fantastic opportunity for our Year 2 students to engage with history in a fun and interactive way. We are incredibly grateful to Henry VIII for taking the time to visit us and inspire our Year 2 pupils with his captivating tales from the past. Who knows what other historical figures might visit our school in the future?



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

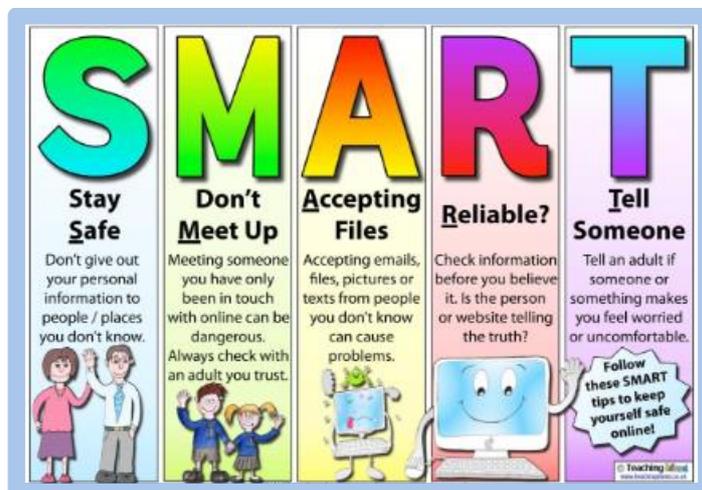
Our Reception children travelled even further back in time to the land of the dinosaurs this week when dinosaurs came to Merry Hill to hatch their eggs! Reception used pipettes to drop vinegar and bicarbonate of soda onto the eggs to dissolve them and slowly reveal the dinosaur. As the body parts appeared they discussed what dinosaur it could be. Then the baby dinosaurs went back to their mummies! Next the children learnt that archaeologists dig for bones and then put them together like the pieces of a jigsaw to see the bigger picture. The children dug for jigsaw pieces in the sand and put the pieces together as a team to reveal the species of dinosaur!



**'Healthy Learners' – how we ensure we are ready to learn**

**Online Safety**

When the children are at school, the devices being used and apps accessed are connected to our filtered and secure network. When your child/ren are at home using devices and apps they will be using your network and filtering settings. Please be aware of this and ensure you are appropriately filtering and monitoring what your child has access to. It is important that we continue to work together to keep the children happy and safe online.



**'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/>

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### **Easter Assembly – Father Burton**

On Monday we welcomed Father Andrew Burton from the St. Peter's Church in Bushey Heath. He read the children in KS1 a three part Easter story, beginning with Good Friday. He discussed why Christians call the day "Good Friday" when it was the day that Jesus died on the cross. Christians believe that Jesus died so that everyone could be forgiven for the things they had done wrong; it was the "forgiveness" that was good. The story concluded with Jesus rising from the cross on Easter Sunday and bringing hope for the future. Father Burton commented on how curious our pupils are, with lots of them sharing their thoughts and asking great questions throughout the assembly.



### **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.



I hope you all have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely

Ms Melissa Adams  
Headteacher

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