



23rd June 2022

Dear Parents & Carers,

After such a long time of reduced interactions with our families, we were delighted to have such a great turn out for our Summer Fair. I would like to thank the FoMH for organising this wonderful day; the BBQ was delicious, the stalls were varied, entertaining and most importantly everyone was relaxed and enjoying the day. It really was a superb event! Thanks to all of the families who donated and came out on the day to support.

This term has been exceptionally busy for my staff so I have written this week's newsletter in a different format to give you a deeper insight into the wonderful work my amazing team have been carrying out to ensure our standards remain high and we continue to provide the best educational experience for our children.

Herts for Learning Advisor Visits

On Tuesday, we had a visit from one of our Hertfordshire Improvement Partners. The aim of this visit was to review our provision for children whose attainment falls within the lowest 20%, including children with SEND. During the visit, the advisor met with the Senior Leadership Team, observed lessons and spoke with the children. He was impressed with the provision we have in place and that inclusion is a strength of our school, to which we are very proud of.

Next week we will have another Hertfordshire County Council review where an external advisor will come in to explore our use of Pupil Premium funding and its impact on pupil attainment and progress. We will provide further information about the outcome of this review.

These external reviews are an important part of our evaluation process; however, they do require a lot of effort from my staff. A big thank you to all staff for compiling evidence, pupils for sharing their work and talking to the advisors and to the governors who come in to support .

Phonic Screening

We are delighted to announce that 91% of our Year 1 children passed the Phonics Screening Check! The Year 2 children, who have retaken the Phonic Screening Check, have also demonstrated the progress they have made and we are proud of our Ambitious Learners! My team have all undergone rigorous training to ensure we are implementing our new phonics programme – Essential Letters and Sounds – with fidelity, purpose and passion and the hard work from both staff and children has paid off! All of the children have been working hard and making great progress with their phonics.

A Happy Face, A Learning Place, A Growing Space

Blogs

Please have a look at your child/children's class blogs so you can find out more about our education offer and reinforce the learning at home.

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

Assessment and Reports

Hertfordshire County External Moderation

This week our Year 2 teachers worked alongside an external Hertfordshire Moderator to engage in professional dialogue regarding our end of key stage assessments. Each Year 2 class moderated a sample of 10% in reading, writing and maths and we are pleased to say that our judgements were accurate and the feedback from the moderator was very positive. This is an extremely useful process to ensure our judgements are correct and we were very proud to show off the wide range of learning and accomplishments from our children. Thank you to Miss Honnor and Miss Stringer for their extremely professional representation of our school and for the additional work put in to compile evidence for the moderation.

End of Year Reports

All of our teachers have been busy writing the children's end of year reports which will be coming home on Friday 8th July. Summer term assessments have now been moderated and we will share with you whether your child is working; below age related expectations, at age related expectations or above age related expectations. Within the reports, you will also receive information about your child's personal, social and emotional achievements, which will give you an overview of your child/children's time in the classroom. Thank you to the team for working so diligently to compile this information; it has certainly been a busy term!

Sports Day

This annual event takes time and organisation but is always a great success, enjoyed by children and families alike. The children have been grouped, the course prepared, resources organised and practices have taken place; thank you to the team for their hard work and dedication. *A copy of the layout of the field for Sports Day tomorrow is attached for your information.*



This year we are very fortunate to be welcoming Reece Earle, son of Mrs Earle an LSA in Year 1, who is competing in the English Schools Competitions and who holds the title for the 100m sprint for Middlesex County and is training for the Olympics. From primary school, Reece loved running and he has won the 100m and 60m sprints in the U13s and U15s. Last year Reece faced a hamstring injury which meant he was unable to train or compete until his physio was complete, but he stayed determined and showed huge resilience when he came back faster than ever. He is now 17 and running in the U20s competitions nationally. Reece has ADHD and Autism and some aspects of school life were very difficult for him growing up. He found his passion and release through sport. His dream now is to inspire young children to believe in themselves to keep going when things get tough and to follow their dreams. The children have been told about Reece and his achievements in an assembly and we all look forward to meeting him on Sports Day. You may see Reece handing out awards, cheering on the children or even sprinting down the track himself! Blink at the wrong time and you might miss him!

I look forward to seeing you all tomorrow - make sure you have your running shoes on for the parent races!

Melissa Adams
Headteacher

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FIELD		
Hockey	Year 2	Egg and spoon
Obstacle course		Bean Bag throw
Water Stop		Football target
Hockey	Year 1	Egg and spoon
Obstacle course		Bean Bag throw
Water Stop		Football target
Hockey	Reception/ Nursery	Egg and spoon
Obstacle course		Bean Bag throw
Water Stop		Football target
Play ground		

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