

Headteacher: Ms. Melissa Adams MA, NPQH

24th October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

On Tuesday we hosted our 'Welcome to Merry Hill' tour for prospective parents. Thank you to those who shared information about our event; word of mouth is such an important part of welcoming new families to our community. I always enjoy taking people on a tour of our school and highlighting all that makes Merry Hill such a special place and Tuesday was no exception. Please give us a follow on Instagram.

Fire Drill

We carried out a fire drill this week. Whilst we did not tell the children exactly when it would happen, they did know we were going to have a practice. They all remained calm and sensible, and evacuated the building promptly and safely. Regular drills are so important to help children understand how to stay safe in an emergency, and we were very impressed with their focus and maturity.

😉 A Happy Face

This week, team points were awarded for all the behaviours we have been celebrating over the duration of the half term. It is always fantastic to see children demonstrating our core expectations consistently and supporting each other to be Ready, Respectful, and Safe. Well done to all the children who earned points this week!

A Learning Place

Diwali Dance Sessions

On Wednesday, we were delighted to welcome Mrs Khanderia for Diwali dance sessions with Years 1 and 2 in the hall. Mrs Khanderia led the sessions brilliantly, and the children thoroughly enjoyed moving to the rhythms and exploring the traditional dances. Thank you to Mrs Khanderia for such a fabulous session!

A Growing Space

Year Group Blogs

Each week the class teachers post blogs, which enable you to find out more about our education offer and reinforce learning at home. Please click on the link below to find out more:

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

Phonics and Reading Meeting

On Wednesday, we welcomed parents and carers for our KS1 Phonics and Reading meeting. Mrs Ineson and Mrs Summers began with a presentation in the hall, followed by Miss Honnor leading a session with the children whose parents and carers were in attendance. It was wonderful to share how phonics and early reading are taught at Merry Hill and to explore ways to support learning at home.

Staff Learning

Our staff continuously engage in professional development to ensure we provide the best education and support for our children. This week, several members of our team took part in training opportunities:

- Miss Finch attended an English Fluency course (one of six modules taking place throughout the year) which builds on our pupils' secure phonics foundations and supports them in becoming confident, competent readers who comprehend and enjoy what they read.
- Mrs Rogerson participated in SEND Support training at Colnbrook, focusing on strategies to meet diverse learning needs and promote inclusion.
- As a new member of our team, Miss Malin completed further safeguarding training.

We are always proud of the dedication and commitment of our team to continue learning for the benefit of all our pupils.

Polite Parking Reminder

I have recently been contacted by a local neighbour who was unable to access their driveway due to a car blocking it during school pickup. They also shared that the interaction when raising this was not a positive one. As a school at the heart of the community, we pride ourselves on our strong relationships with our neighbours. Please may I kindly remind all families to park considerately and speak respectfully at all times. Your support helps us maintain a safe, welcoming and kind environment for everyone.

I hope you all have a wonderful half term! We have included some information below about events taking place over half term, and more details about our Winter Fair. We look forward to welcoming you back to Merry Hill on Monday 3rd November.

Sincerely,

Ms Melissa Adams Headteacher







Looking for a free activity to enjoy together this half term? Visit your local library and take part in My First Library Adventure, by bringing the special bookmark (which came home from school) with you. If you have lost yours don't worry. Just ask at the library for a new one.

Choose from hundreds of picture books, fact books and beginning to read stories to share at home.

Complete the Adventure to enter the special prize draw. Fifty lucky Hertfordshire Reception pupils will win a personalised, signed book from author/illustrator Ged Adamson with two overall winners enjoying an author visit with their whole class. Find out more here: https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives/news-and-campaigns/startingreception

