



28th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to FoMH for the Mother's Day Creation Station!

A big thank you to our amazing FoMH for organising the Mother's Day Creation Station this week. It was extremely well organised, and the children thoroughly enjoyed making gifts for their loved ones. This is just one of the many fantastic events that FoMH arranges throughout the year. Their efforts are invaluable, and the funds raised help enrich our children's experiences at Merry Hill.

Without the dedication of FoMH, these events would not be possible. However, we are currently in need of more volunteers to help continue this great work throughout the year. If you are interested in getting involved with any future events, please do let them know at fomh@merryhill.herts.sch.uk or speak directly to one of our fabulous team!

Thank you again to everyone involved, your support makes such a difference!

Thank you for Joining our Coffee Afternoon with our Family Support Worker

Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us for our recent coffee afternoon. It was great to see those who attended and have the opportunity to chat informally.

We were pleased to welcome our Family Support Worker from the South West Herts Partnership, who was available to discuss any questions or concerns. The aim of the session was to provide a relaxed space where you could gain some practical ideas to take away.

Although it was a small group, we hope those who attended found the session useful. We enjoy hosting these coffee mornings and afternoons and would love to hear any suggestions for future sessions. If you have any ideas or topics you would find helpful, please speak to a member of staff or email us. We look forward to seeing you at the next one!

Promoting Inclusion and Respect at Merry Hill

At Merry Hill, we are committed to creating a school environment where all children feel valued, respected and safe. Our curriculum is carefully designed to celebrate diversity, encourage understanding, and promote kindness, ensuring that children grow up appreciating different perspectives and cultures.

How We Promote Inclusion and Tackle Discrimination:

Curriculum and Assemblies: We use our PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, and Economic) curriculum to teach children about respecting others, celebrating differences and understanding the importance of inclusion. Our assemblies often highlight key values such as empathy, kindness, and fairness, helping children develop a strong moral compass. As an example, this week's assembly focused on the idea of 'Filling Each Other's Buckets'. We talked about how our words and actions can either fill someone's bucket with kindness or dip from it by being unkind.

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The children learned that when we support and encourage each other, we create a positive environment for everyone.

Embedding British Values: We promote British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. These values are woven into our daily school life, helping children understand how to be responsible and respectful citizens. For example, our team point focus linked to our Golden Rules which we share with you and the children each week. If you would like to read more about how we embed British Values please click on the link below which will take you to the relevant section within our website: <https://merryhill.org.uk/our-learning-community/promoting-british-values/>

Prevent Duty and Safeguarding: Our staff are trained in the government's *Prevent* strategy, which equips us to identify and respond to any concerns that might indicate a child is at risk of being drawn into extremism. Safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do, and we are vigilant in promoting a safe and supportive environment.

Zero Tolerance for Discrimination: We have a zero-tolerance approach to any form of discrimination, racism, or hate crime. Our behaviour policy is clear, and we work closely with children to ensure that any incidents are addressed appropriately, with restorative conversations to build understanding.

A Therapeutic Approach to Behaviour: Through our therapeutic approach, we ensure that all children feel heard and supported. By focusing on emotional well-being and building strong relationships, we aim to create an environment where children feel confident to express themselves and learn from one another.

Monitoring and Accountability: Any incidents that may be perceived as discriminatory or concerning are taken seriously and recorded. These are reported to the governing board, who work with the school to ensure that appropriate action is taken and that our policies remain robust and effective.

We remain proactive in developing a culture where kindness and respect are at the heart of our school community. Thank you for your continued support in helping us nurture an environment where every child feels safe, included and valued.

'Ambitious Learners' – *how we act when we learn*


This Week's Focus: The Golden Rule – 'We are gentle'

Team Points Focus: Being respectful and considerate - 'Can I join in?'

At Merry Hill we have a carefully designed and structured behaviour curriculum to support our children's development. It is designed to help children understand and practice positive behaviour in a structured way. This is delivered continually through PSHE, stories and assemblies as well as through every interaction between children and adults within the school.

This week our stem sentence is, "Please can I join in?" which will support children during social interactions.

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| 24.3.25 | <p>Asking “Can I join in?” when you would like to play with some friends</p> <p>We are looking for children who ask before they join in at playtime.</p> <p>GR We are gentle</p> |  |
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‘Curious Learners’ – *what we learn*

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/>

‘Collaborative Learners’ – *our place in the world*

Parent Partnership

Research tells us that the most important learning opportunities occur through conversations and play between a child and others at home. As mentioned previously, we will continue to suggest some ideas and activities aimed at promoting language and literacy for you to use at home.



Minibeast Hunt



A Minibeasts hunt is a brilliant way for children to get up close to nature. It gets them active in the fresh air, encourages them to use their observation skills and it gives them a chance to get hands on with wildlife. Many Minibeasts like butterflies, bees and beetles are more active in spring and summer so it’s a great time of year to go hunting!

Where to find Minibeasts

Minibeasts live in all sorts of habitats. Many prefer dark, damp spots in gardens and woods, so this is a good place to start your hunt. Encourage children to use their best detective skills to track creatures down.

- Peek under large stones and logs to find woodlice and millipedes
- Peer into cracks in tree bark and deadwood to discover beetles and spiders
- Poke your nose into long grass to spot ants and grasshoppers
- Look closely at leaves to discover caterpillars and ladybirds
- Focus on flowers to see bees and butterflies feasting on nectar
- Keep your eyes peeled after rain – can you spot slugs, snails and worms?

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Take a closer look

Discovered an interesting creature? Help your children gently scoop it up, place it in a container and study it with a magnifying glass. Do they notice things they've never seen before? Discuss what you can see and help build your child's vocabulary by modelling the use of specific vocabulary such as antennae, body structure and intricate patterns and markings.

Remember to talk to your child about handling Minibeasts with care as well as the importance of returning the bugs to their home when you have finished investigating.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend. Happy hunting!

Sincerely,

Ms Melissa Adams
Headteacher

Discover Bucks Museum
Church Street
Aylesbury HP20 2QP
discoverbucksmuseum.org
01296 331441

Easter Holiday Activities

5 - 21 April 2025

Join us for a fantastic line-up of family fun Easter activities, including **The Sand Dragon: Puppet Show & Puppet Making Workshop**. Get hands-on with **egg-cellent Science** and step back in time with our **Anglo-Saxons workshops** for an unforgettable experience. With even more hands-on fun to discover, there's something for everyone to enjoy! Plus enjoy our **Easter Egg Trail** on every day of the holiday.

Discover more at discoverbucksmuseum.org or scan the QR code

Discover Bucks Museum
Aylesbury HP20 2QP
01296 331441 | discoverbucksmuseum.org

Monday 7 April & 14 April – Eggcellent Science
60 minute workshop. Timed slots available. Suitable for ages 5-11

Tuesday 8 April – Hatch A Dinosaur
10am – 3pm, drop in. Suitable for ages 4-11

Wednesday 9 April – Bucks Back In Time: Anglo-Saxons
10am – 3pm, drop in. Suitable for ages 4-11

Thursday 10 April – Make A Pinhole Camera
10am – 3pm, drop in. Suitable for ages 4 – 11

Friday 11 April – Matilda's Brilliant Bookbags
10am – 3pm, drop in. Suitable for ages 3 – 11

Tuesday 15 April – Get Inspired
10am – 3pm, drop in. Suitable for ages 3 – 11

Wednesday 16 April – The BFC's Dream Bottles
10am – 3pm, drop in. Suitable for ages 3 – 11

Thursday 17 April – The Sand Dragon: Puppet Show & Puppet Making Workshop. 90 minute workshop. Timed slots available. Suitable for ages 4-9

Friday 18 April – Eggcellent Egg-Hunters
Timed slots available. Suitable for ages 3-10

Sunday 20 April – Easter Biscuits
12pm - 2pm, drop in. Suitable for ages 3-11

Play, Discover, Learn!
this Easter holiday in the Roald Dahl Children's Gallery

For more event details, charges and to book please scan the QR code or visit discoverbucksmuseum.org

Enjoy our Easter Egg Trail on every day 5 - 21 April

Closes Monday 21 April!

Light Fantastic Hands-on Science Exhibits!
Experiment with lenses, lightning and luminosity and discover brilliant exhibits on colour and optics. Investigate how images merge into moving pictures and how your brain influences what you see. Also on display are the wonderful entries and competition winners in our Bucks Photography Exhibition.

Book Now

Discover Bucks Museum
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SAFE COUNCIL ENGLAND

SCAN ME

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per person

Held at
Ashfield Junior School
Dining Hall, School
Lane, WD23 1SR

Fundraising Event
Ashfield Junior School &
Merry Hill Infant School & Nursery
on Thursday 1st May 2025 - 7.00pm - 9.30pm

Book today at ashacommittee@gmail.com



All materials provided. No experience needed

@brushpartywithbea

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