



2nd October 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a wonderful week it has been at Merry Hill!

It has certainly been a week of dressing up! From celebrating National Poetry Day by coming to school dressed as a word inspired by *wonder*, to arriving today looking their very best for our school photographs, our children have embraced every opportunity to be creative, curious and confident.

Alongside the fun, it has been a busy week of learning and growing. Our Reception children enjoyed their first visit to Bushey Library, our staff have continued to strengthen our safeguarding knowledge and practice, and across the school we have been celebrating children who are demonstrating [The Merry Hill Way](#) in their learning and behaviour.

It has been wonderful to see so many examples of our school vision in action, [A Happy Face](#), [A Learning Place](#), [A Growing Space](#), and we are incredibly proud of our children and the enthusiasm they bring to school each day.

National Poetry Day

This week, we joined schools across the country in celebrating **National Poetry Day**. Poetry is such a special part of children's learning, giving them opportunities to play with language, express their feelings, and let their imaginations soar.

Throughout the week, children have listened to and shared a range of poems, discovering different voices, styles and rhythms. Hearing poetry read aloud is one of the most powerful ways to bring it to life, helping children to connect with words in a meaningful way.

It was also wonderful to see so many children arriving at school dressed as 'words linked to wonder.' From rainbows and shooting stars to butterflies, volcanoes and explorers, their creativity was incredible. These costumes led to some lovely conversations throughout the day about the things that inspire awe, curiosity and excitement in our world.

"See it and live it. Look at it, touch it, smell it, listen to it, turn yourself into it. When you do this, the words look after themselves, like magic."

Ted Hughes

Reception Visit to Bushey Library

On Tuesday, our Reception children enjoyed a visit to Bushey Library. The visit provided a fantastic opportunity for the children to explore books, learn more about how libraries work and nurture their growing love of reading. The children were especially excited to receive their very own library cards, and we hope this marks the beginning of a lifelong love of books and reading. Thank you to the Bushey library staff for making us feel so welcome and helping to create such a positive experience for our youngest learners.

Safeguarding at Merry Hill

Keeping children safe is the most important thing we do.

A Happy Face, A Learning Place, A Growing Space

On Tuesday evening, our team took part in safeguarding training led by Hertfordshire County Council. The session was a valuable opportunity to reflect on and strengthen the robust safeguarding culture we are proud to have at Merry Hill.

On Wednesday, staff also completed Allergy & Anaphylaxis training. As an allergy-aware school, regular training is essential and helps ensure we can respond quickly and confidently to children's medical needs.

A Happy Face

The Merry Hill Way

The Merry Hill Way remains at the heart of our school community and it has been lovely to see children consistently demonstrating our expectations in all areas of school life. We continue to teach our behaviour curriculum to ensure every child understands our expectations and is ready to learn.

This week's Team Points focus:

EYFS: *We sit still and face the speaker during adult led sessions.*

KS1: *We are prepared with the things we need for each lesson.*

Thank you to all of our children for continuing to demonstrate these expectations so positively.

A Learning Place

Year Group Blogs

Each week our class teachers post blogs, which give you an opportunity to find out more about what your child has been learning in school. They also provide ideas and information to help you reinforce and celebrate learning at home.

Please click on the link below to find out more:

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

A Growing Space

Sustainability

Helping children understand how to care for our world starts with small actions. This week, why not challenge your family to think about ways to save water at home? Turning off the tap whilst brushing teeth, taking shorter showers and using a watering can instead of a hose are all simple changes that can make a positive difference. Together, we can help our children learn that even the smallest actions can have a big impact.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. Whether it is encouraging your child to read at home, talking to them about their learning, supporting our school expectations or simply sharing in their excitement about what they have done at school, your support makes such a difference.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Ms Melissa Adams
Headteacher

A Happy Face, A Learning Place, A Growing Space