

Headteacher: Ms. Melissa Adams MA, NPQH

3rd October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is hard to believe we are already four weeks into the new school year, and we have managed to pack in so much learning and joy together once again.

Our Reception writing space has quickly become the most popular area in the classroom over the last couple of weeks, thanks to Mrs Barnes and the Watford Football Club. We were gifted some WFC themed stationery which has captured the imagination of so many of our young learners. Children have been busy writing letters to players, designing their own kits and even recording fixtures.

We are also delighted to welcome Mr Johnson as our new caretaker. He has already become a valued part of our school community, and we are grateful to everyone who has taken the time to make him feel at home. If you have not yet had the chance to introduce yourself, please do look out for him around school.

A Happy Face

At Merry Hill, we believe that children learn best when they feel happy, safe and respected. That is why our behaviour curriculum, *The Merry Hill Way*, is central to everything we do.

This Autumn, our focus is on instilling the *core rules*: **Ready**, **Respectful**, **Safe**. They underpin all of our behaviour expectations and are carefully taught through assemblies, PSHE lessons and daily routines.

This week we have focused on the rule **Ready**:

- EYFS We sit still and face the speaker during adult-led sessions
- **KS1** We are prepared with the things we need for each lesson

The children are already showing pride in these routines, and we are delighted to see them taking responsibility for their learning.

A Learning Place

Harvest Assembly

On Wednesday the children had a visit from the Red Trust in Bushey who told them about some of the wonderful work they do in the community. We learnt that the Red Trust provides food support for anyone in the local community who may be struggling.

Did you know they are open twice a week at the Phoenix Centre, and offer parcels without the need for a voucher or referral? This can be a lifeline for families facing challenging times, while also

A Happy Face, A Learning Place, A Growing Space

providing a welcoming place for people to connect and support each other. Even when life may look comfortable, many households are struggling, so please do check out their website for more information.

This year our Harvest collection will be donated to the Red Trust. For any families able to donate, we are collecting non-perishable food or toiletries. Items can be brought into school, and we will ensure they are delivered to Red Trust Bushey.

Thank you for supporting our local community.



A Growing Space

Our Early Career Teacher (ECT) Mentors have been attending training this week, reflecting our commitment to supporting the next generation of teachers. We want our ECTs to feel confident, inspired, and well supported, and they have been working closely with their induction tutors to set meaningful targets for the coming weeks.

Please remember that school will be closed to pupils on Monday 6th October for this training, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 7th October.

On Monday, all staff will take part in training focused on adaptations to the curriculum, why they matter and how we can embed them throughout learning so that every child can fully access the curriculum and continue to flourish in our caring, creative environment

Have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,

Ms Melissa Adams Headteacher

OCTOBER HALF-TERM SPORTS COURSES

This October half term Game On have FOOTBALL, MULTI SPORTS & STREET DANCE courses for children in Years 1 to 6 to enjoy



- Aylesbury St Mary's School Multi Sports Mon 27th & Tues 28th Oct
- Berkhamsted Victoria School Multi Sports Mon 27th & Tues 28th Oct
- Borehamwood Meryfield School Multi Sports Mon 27th & Tues 28th Oct
- Bushey Bushey Manor School Football Thurs 30th & Fri 31st Oct
- Bushey Bushey Manor School Street Dance Thurs 30th & Fri 31st Oct
- Chartridge Chartridge School Multi Sports Wed 29th & Thurs 30th Oct
- Hemel Holtsmere End Jnr School Football Tues 28th & Wed 29th Oct
- Hemel Holtsmere End Jnr School Street Dance Tues 28th & Wed 29th Oct
- Tring Bishop Wood School Football Thurs 30th & Fri 31st Oct
- Tring Bishop Wood School Street Dance Thurs 30th & Fri 31st Oct
- Watford Coates Way School Football Mon 27th & Tues 28th Oct



COURSE DETAILS

- 9 am 3 pm
- £25 for 1-day, £47 for 2-days
- All courses offer early drop off
 8.30am 9am (£5 per day) & late
 pick up 3pm-4.15pm (£8 per day)
- Indoor facilities available in the event of bad weather
- Multi sports camps will include Basketball, Football, Archery & Dodgeball
- Children who attend two or more days will receive a Puma Waterbottle

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