



Merry Hill Matters

Issue 169 - 3rd July 2008

Dear Parents

Forthcoming Marriage

I would like to start this newsletter by wishing Miss Scott the very best in her preparations for her forthcoming marriage in the summer holiday. Miss Scott has an exciting wedding planned in Italy and will return to school in September as Mrs Riley. I am sure you would like to join me in wishing Miss Scott and her husband-to-be Simon the very best for the future.

Open Evening

Our Open Evening this week was a wonderful showcase of your children's work. I'm sure you'll agree that it illustrated the high standards that have become a tradition at Merry Hill. Not only did the displays demonstrate the calibre of the work your children produce, they also demonstrated the enormous amount of hard work that the children and the staff had put into making the Open Evening so enjoyable. The children were quite rightly very proud and excited to be showing you around.

I must take this opportunity to thank all of the teachers and teaching assistants who gave up so much of their time to organise the displays and to stay for the evening. I'm sure you'll appreciate that these events do not 'just happen' - a great deal of very hard work goes into making them such a success, so thank you to all the staff.

End of Year Reports

Please collect your child's End of Year Report from their class teacher on Thursday 10th July. If you would like another adult to collect your child's Report on your behalf you must notify us in writing. We hope that you enjoy reading your child's Report and that you find it gives a well rounded picture of them. In the Report we have aimed to give you good quality information about your child's attainments, strengths and areas for development. Please sign and return the 'Comments' sheet by the following Friday (18th July).

Optional Parents' Evening

There shouldn't be too many surprises in the Report - it should really be a confirmation of the points which you have already discussed with the class teacher at Parents' Evenings and any other meetings held during the year. However, if you feel you would like to discuss the Report with your child's teacher please arrange to see them on Tuesday 15th July.

Dealing With Change

Some parents have asked how best to help their child understand and cope with the impending end of this academic year and the move to their next class/school after the summer holiday.

Most changes involve some feelings of sadness, and also worry and wariness. The first tip therefore is to let your child know that it is normal to worry about change. Give them as much information as you can. Answer their questions honestly and don't be worried about not being able to give all the answers. Encourage them to talk about their thoughts and feelings, and be prepared to listen. Help them to deal with the change by reminding them of times when they have dealt with difficult changes in the past or think about a time when they didn't want change but were glad later that the change happened. Encourage them to say a proper, 'Goodbye' to their class teacher on the last day.

Talk about the move to their next class/school being an exciting time, full of new opportunities and challenges to look forward to. Above all, help to keep your child's confidence levels high - be positive.

Web Publisher Job Vacancy

Hertfordshire Development Centre are looking for a new person to join the Web Team providing training and support to Hertfordshire Local Authority schools, extended schools and children's centres in the use of Dreamweaver for building, developing and maintaining their web sites.

Web Publisher

£27,594 - £29,728 pa incl

Hertfordshire Development Centre, Stevenage

This is a worthwhile challenge for a clear communicator who has extensive practical experience of Dreamweaver. As a Web Publisher, you'll use your interpersonal skills to provide valuable Dreamweaver training and support to enable schools and children's centres throughout Hertfordshire to build, maintain and develop their own websites.

Expect involvement in a wide variety of activities - from onsite training visits to schools and children's centres and providing assistance by telephone and email, to helping to deliver Dreamweaver and learning platform training courses and day to day publishing on the Hertfordshire Grid for Learning web site. The ability to prioritise a busy workload and communicate in a clear, helpful and friendly way will be important as well as a high level of technical expertise.

For an informal discussion, please contact Sandra Baker, Web Development Project Manager on 01438 844814.

Telephone for an application pack on 0845 6014834 at anytime quoting ref: S0116162. Or apply online at www.hertsdirect.org/jobs. Closing date Friday 11th July 2008.

Dr Seuss at the Pump House

The Pump House Children and Youth Theatre's next show is **Seussical** which is a musical based on the stories of Dr Seuss. This is an upbeat, bright and very fun musical for all ages and it is shaping up to be one of their best musicals ever.

It is on from Tuesday 1st July to Saturday 5th July 7:30pm (and finishing about 9:30pm).

You can book online at <http://www.pumphouse.info/cyt> or call 07903 411150.

Lost Property

If you are missing any items of uniform please look through lost property as soon as possible. At 3.30pm on the last day anything remaining will be disposed of.

Pauline Hannibal
Headteacher

