



# Merry Hill Matters

Issue 23 - November 5th 2004

Dear Parents and Carers

## Newsletters by email

Did you know that you can receive copies of 'Merry Hill Matters' by email? Just go to the website [www.merryhill.org.uk](http://www.merryhill.org.uk), click on the 'Newsletters' button and click where it says 'click here.'

## Poppy Appeal

The Royal British Legion is the UK's leading charity providing financial, social and emotional support to millions who have served and are currently serving in the Armed Forces, and their dependants. If you wish to express your support for the Legion's work we will be selling poppies to the children from Monday 8th November onwards.

## Junction of School Lane and Merry Hill Road

Our open meeting with residents and our work on the School Travel Plan regarding road safety around the school has already reaped rewards. Extra money is going to be pumped into the road safety budget this year, meaning that visibility improvements at the junction of School Lane and Merry Hill Road can go ahead.

Work has already begun on assessing the junction and there will be consultation with the residents who will be affected by the proposals in the New Year. In the meantime, if any parents would like to make their views known, please write to the School Travel Plan Committee at the school who will pass your letters on to Hertfordshire County Council.

## Mad Hair Day

Mad Hair Day before half term was a great success, with everyone entering into the spirit of things - my only problem was the strange looks I got when I went down to the bank at lunchtime. But I did take my Headteacher badge off!

## 8.00pm Tuesday 9th November - Social Evening

Some parents have mentioned that, due to other commitments, they have been unable to come to the informal coffee sessions. I would therefore like to invite all parents to a social evening in the school hall to meet with me and to meet with the Friends of Merry Hill. Refreshments will be provided. We are looking for a full house, so please do come along if you possible can. So that we can cater for this event please return the attached reply slip on Monday.

## Christmas Dinner Menu - Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec

We would like to invite all children to join us in a special Christmas dinner on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December.

If you haven't already done so please send a cheque for £1.40 to the office by **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November** to enable orders to be placed with Herts Catering.

## FOMH Spending Update

Funds raised by the Friends of Merry Hill have recently bought a wide variety of resources for your children. Some items have arrived, including a large box of playtime equipment for each class (assorted balls, quoits, stilts, skittles, hoola hoops etc), role-play equipment (a 'house' and a dressing up mirror), a large parachute for PE lessons, a puppet stand and puppets, some painting easels and six playground benches. We are awaiting delivery of football goal posts and quotes for a new base and shed for the reception outdoor area.

Thank you to the FOMH and to all the parents who supported their various fundraising events.

As the FOMH buy the children other items I will keep you updated on where your money has been spent.

### **BBC Children in Need Appeal**

We are joining with Herts Catering to raise money for the BBC Children in Need Appeal. After school on Wednesday 17th November FOMH will be selling cakes and biscuits provided by Herts Catering. Further details to follow.

### **Arts Club Meeting**

Sara Younger from Hertsmere Community Services has now got back to me with details of their proposed Art Club - which in fact will also include indoor games and sports.

The club, which will start in January, will be divided into two parts - one half of the group will take part in an art based activity, whilst the other half of the group will take part in dance, ball skills and team games. Then the two groups will swap over.

I have arranged a meeting for parents for Tuesday the 23rd November at 2.30pm where Sara Younger will give more details about the activities. It is likely that the club will run from 3.30-5.00 and will cost £5.50 per week, paid termly in advance.

### **Hand Hugger Pencils**

Hand Hugger pencils, with a triangular barrel for better grip, are now on sale from 3.15pm on Wednesdays at the School Café.

### **Wanted in our Kitchen by Herts Catering**

General Catering Assistant  
No experience necessary  
Would consider job share  
Twelve and a half hours  
(11.00-1.30pm) per week  
£5.67 per hour  
Uniform provided

### **Fast Food Friday**

We had a tremendous response to our offer for children to eat school dinners on a Friday - 51 extra children will be joining our 'regulars' for a hot meal on Fridays, starting next week.

### **Parent Governor**

A separate letter is going out today inviting you to vote for a parent to join our governing body. Please do take a moment to read the details and to vote for the parent of your choice.

### **Free booklets**

Two free booklets 'From breakfast to bedtime' and 'Over the top behaviour in the under tens' are available from the National Family and Parenting Institute on 020 7424 3460 or from their website [www.e-parents.org](http://www.e-parents.org)

### **Lost**

Please can you check in your child's PE bag in case they have accidentally put a pair of brand new boys velcro Clarks shoes in there. If you do find them please give them to your child's class teacher, drop them in to the office or put them into lost property. Thank you.

Pauline Hannibal  
Headteacher

### **Next week...**

**Thursday onwards** - the start of the Book Fair. The books will be on sale after school in the hall until the following Wednesday.

**Friday** - if you are a Year 1 parent there is a Coffee Session from 2.30pm in the dining room.

### **Future Events:**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November, 8.00pm**  
FOMH Social in the school hall

**Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> - Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Nov**  
Book Fair

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> Nov, 3.30pm**  
Children in Need cake sale

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2.30pm**  
Drop In Coffee Session - Yr 1

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> Nov, 7.00pm**  
'New to Reception' Meeting

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2.30pm**  
Drop In Coffee Session -  
Reception Parents

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov, 2.30pm**  
Arts Club Parents' Meeting

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2.30pm**  
Drop In Coffee Session -  
Afternoon Nursery Parents

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> Nov,**  
Nursery Parent Consultations for  
children joining the Reception  
class in January 2005

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec**  
Nursery Parent Consultations  
for children joining the  
Reception class in January 2005