



Merry Hill Matters

Issue 24 - November 12th 2004

Dear Parents and Carers

Poppy Appeal

Thank you for your support with the Poppy Appeal. I will let parents know how much Merry Hill raised once the collection box is opened.

During the morning of the 11th both Year 2 classes walked down to the War Memorial at the end of School Lane and places poppies on the Memorial. Then the whole school came together in the hall for a short assembly entitled 'What are we remembering on Remembrance Day?' and a one minute silence at 11.00.

Social Evening Success

The social evening in the school hall was a great success. It was good to see some new faces - some of whom have now joined the FOMH Committee.

Christmas Fair Date Change

Please remember that the date of the Christmas Fair has changed from 27th November to **Saturday 4th December**.

Non-Uniform Day and Cake Sale For Children in Need

Please note that next Wednesday is a non-uniform day to raise money for the BBC Children in Need Appeal. We would ask for voluntary donations of £1 per child to wear non-uniform. After school, FOMH will be selling cakes and biscuits provided by Herts Catering.

Reception Parents

Unfortunately I have to postpone the Reception Coffee Session booked for Friday 19th November. Many apologies for any inconvenience this may cause. I have rescheduled the Coffee Session for 2.30pm on the following Friday, the 26th, to coincide with the Afternoon Nursery Coffee Session.

Art Club?

OR

Art **AND** Games Club?

Would you prefer a purely art club OR a combined art and games club? Please come along to the meeting on Tuesday the 23rd November at 2.30pm to let us have your views.

Christmas Productions

The Christmas Production (the whole school, including Nursery) this year will be presented to parents on:

Thursday 9th December at 2.00pm
and

Friday 10th December at 9.30am

As each performance can only accommodate 100 adults, each family will be allocated one ticket in the first instance. You can choose which day you come to watch.

Please ensure that you have made your first choice of performance by Friday 19th because after that spare tickets will be issued on a first come first served basis, up to an overall maximum of two per family.

If parents or grandparents (not babies or toddlers) would like to come to the dress rehearsal on Wednesday 8th December at 9.30am, please let us know.

A separate reply slip is attached.

Please note that we are unable to allow any babies or toddlers to any of the performances due to the disruption this may cause to your children who will have worked so hard to put this production together.

Working Parent? We Need You!

The Friends of Merry Hill are asking all working parents to enquire whether their employers can donate a gift for the school Christmas raffle. Nothing is too big or too small!

If your employer is able to donate something, please could you bring it in to school by Monday 22nd November?

Free Football Boots

Children grow out of football boots very quickly. Mrs Baxter (Morning Nursery) has a pair of second-hand size 11 football boots free for anyone who would like them for their child. Please see Mrs Baxter.

When your son or daughter outgrows their football boots (or kit) please consider donating it to the school so that we can pass it on to someone else.

Football Club

Coffee for Waiting Parents

Now that the afternoons are getting colder, Mrs McMahon has kindly offered to provide tea and coffee in the dining room for parents waiting whilst their children are at football club. I'm sure any offers of help would be gratefully received.

Free DK Illustrated Family Encyclopaedias

We are very fortunate to have a large quantity of Dorling Kindersley Encyclopaedias donated to the school and are pleased to be able to send one home per family.

Nursery Places

Was your child born between 1st Sept 2001 and 31st Aug 2002? If so, you should have received a copy of the 'Early Years' booklet giving information about applications for Nursery places. Applications are needed by 7th Jan 2005 please.

Christmas Holiday Children's Cooking Classes

Christmas holiday children's cooking classes are being run, for children aged 5-11, at Bushey Heath Primary School. For more information contact Karen on 07932 123163.

Working Parents

www.parentsatwork.org.uk is a national charity which aims to help children, working parents and their employers to find a better balance between home and work.

Lone Parents

The National Council for One Parents Families can be found at www.oneparentfamilies.org.uk

Under stress?

Parentline Plus is a charity which supports anyone parenting a child — www.parentlineplus.org.uk

Children's Hospital Services

If you would like to find out about proposed changes in children's hospital services in West Herts you can attend an 'Inquiry Day' on Wed 1st Dec from 10.00 to 3.00 (including lunch) at Manor House Sports and Social Club, Gallows Hill Lane, Abbots Langley. The meeting will be chaired by Patient and Public Involvement in Health Forum members and will be your opportunity to hear presentations and put questions to professionals involved in implementing the changes to services. To book a place contact Amanda Salt on 07795 216174.

Next week...

Mon 15th - Wed 17th Nov
Book Fair

Tuesday 16th Nov, 7.00pm
'New to Reception' Meeting

Wednesday 17th Nov, 3.30pm
'Children in Need'
Non-Uniform Day
and cake sale

Friday 19th Nov, 2.30pm
Year 1 to Bushey Museum

Future Events:

Tuesday 23rd Nov, 2.30pm
Art Club Parents' Meeting

Friday 26th Nov, 2.30pm
Drop In Coffee Session
Afternoon Nursery
and Reception

Tuesday 30th Nov,
Nursery Parent Consultations
for children joining the
Reception class in Jan 2005

Thursday 2nd Dec
Nursery Parent Consultations
for children joining the
Reception class in Jan 2005

Pauline Hannibal
Headteacher