



# Merry Hill Matters

Issue 36 - February 25th 2005

Dear Parents and Carers

## Welcome back!

I do hope that you had a restful and healthy half-term break. I don't know how many parents have already worked it out, but there are now only four weeks to go until we break up for Easter!

## Telephone Tree

Thank you to all those parents who volunteered their telephone numbers for the 'telephone tree' - by giving your permission for your number to be included it will mean that if the school has to be closed for any reason you will know in plenty of time and won't have a wasted journey to school. Working parents will also have more time to make childcare arrangements.

If you were not on the playground when the class representatives were asking for telephone numbers you can still be included - just pass me your telephone number and I will advise the person ahead of you on the telephone tree to add it to their copy.

## Sudan 1 Dye

Herts Catering have checked the products that they use and none of their foods are affected by the Sudan 1 dye. They will of course access the list on the Food Standard Agency's website regularly in case further products are added.

## Disabled Bay

We have received a complaint that parents from Merry Hill are parking in the disabled bay in School Lane. On Tuesday this meant that a disabled driver was unable to park in the bay. Please be considerate to disabled drivers. If you don't have a disabled badge, please don't park in disabled bays.

## Two New Midday Supervisory Assistants

We are delighted to announce that two new Midday Supervisory Assistants have joined our team: Mrs Crowther will replace Mrs Chang in 2G. Mrs Brooks will work with Mrs Lang in Reception.

## Travel Plan Committee

The Travel Plan Committee are in the process of applying for a grant from County for a 'Capital Project' which will provide an on-site facility which will encourage safe walking to school. This grant is likely to be about £4000 and the Committee would like to obtain ideas about what to use this money for. A suggestion has been made to build a shelter in the playground to provide protection from the weather, with a bench to allow children to change out of their wellies and wet weather clothing.

Please complete the attached slip to indicate whether you are in agreement with this proposal or if you have any further suggestions as to how we could use this grant. Remember, it has to be an on-site facility which will encourage walking to school. Please return the slip to school by Tuesday 1st March.

## Poster Competition Winners

Thank you to all those children who entered, we had some real masterpieces! The overall winner will have their poster used when publicising the Travel Plan, and will be displayed around the school shortly. The winner and runners up will all receive an Artbox, and the other entrants will have their poster laminated and presented to them. All the posters will be on display in the hall at Parent Consultations.

Overall Winner -  
George Kavanagh 1S

Runner up, Reception -  
Georgina Collings RP

Runner up, Year 1 -  
Daniel Saffer 1S

Runner up, Year 2 -  
Amy Lang 2G

### **Sweatshirts, Hats and Gloves**

It's warm in the car...  
But it's cold on the playground.

Please make sure that your child has gloves and a hat on these cold days. It's surprising how many children come to school without them - and without even a sweatshirt on some occasions!

### **Click on the Door!**

If you have mislaid your copy of 'Curriculum Information for Parents' and want to know what your child is learning at school, you can now go to our website ([www.merryhill.org.uk](http://www.merryhill.org.uk)), click on your child's classroom door, and find a copy of the information.

### **Hertsmere Community Festival**

There will be a one-day Community Festival at Allum Hall in Borehamwood, between 11.30am and 5.30pm on Sunday 13th March. The event will be attended by both the Mayor of Hertsmere and the Mayor of Borehamwood, and admission is free. There will be dance, music and singing performances throughout the day, workshops in bead-making, card-making, glass painting etc, health and beauty sessions and a range of children's activities including drama, music, puppets and T-shirt design. For more details contact Chel Revens on 07742 577259

### **Meet the Gruffalo**

Children's favourite 'The Gruffalo' will be making appearances throughout the day tomorrow from 11am to 4pm at Waterstone's in Watford, with Gruffalo fun and face painting.

### **Next Week...**

**Mother's Day 'Secrets' Room** - The Friends of Merry Hill are organising this at 2.00pm on Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd March. The Morning Nursery will have an opportunity to buy their 'secret' on Wednesday 2nd March at the end of their session.

### **Parent Consultations**

Don't forget that Parent Consultations are next week:

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March,**

6.00-8.00pm

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March,**

3.30-5.30pm

(Reception, Yr 1 and Yr 2)

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 9.00-11.30 and 12.45-2.55**

(Nursery children who started in January)

Parent consultations are limited to ten minutes, but if you feel that you would like longer, or if a suitable time is not available, please see your child's teacher to make an alternative arrangement. If you would also like to see me on the same evening, please arrange a convenient time through Mrs Eells.

Pauline Hannibal  
Headteacher