



Merryhills Primary School

Newsletter



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Value of the half term: Kindness



"Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward" **Princess Diana**



A Message from Mr Hudson

Welcome back, the first two weeks back at school have flown by! A huge welcome to Mrs Ford, who has joined the Merryhills Team and will be teaching Elm Class until the end of the school year. Elm families were able to have Learning Conversations with both Mrs Ramsay and Mrs Ford, thank you to them for taking the time to attend these important meetings.

Coming up in December, on Tuesday 2nd and Thursday 4th December, the rest of the school will have their Learning Conversations. Bookings for these meetings opened up this week. If you have any difficulties booking a slot, please speak to the school office.

To enhance our Learning Conversations, we will once again host Classroom Visits, in which you are welcomed into class to have a look at your child's books and their learning environment. These visits begin from Monday 24th November and full details can be found [here](#).

Remembrance Day fell during this week, Key Stage 2 observed a two minutes silence on the playground which was impeccable. It was lovely to see how respectful our children were.

Please keep an eye on the school calendar to find out what is happening each day this term. Please ensure Friday 28th November and Monday 1st December are in your calendar, as the school will be closed to all pupils on these days.



Attendance

This week's whole school attendance was **96.4%**. Well done to **Year 5** for the highest attendance of **97.6 %**.



Half Term House Points

- 1st** - Ruby - 823 points
- 2nd** - Topaz - 810 points
- 3rd** - Sapphire - 798 points
- 4th** - Emerald - 790 points



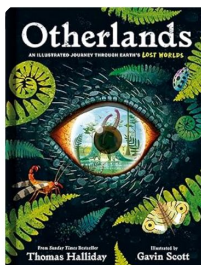
Football Vs Oakthorpe

On Monday 10th November, Mr de la Fuente took a team of Year 5 and 6 children to play against Oakthorpe Primary School on a very wet and windy afternoon! Children played with such resilience and hard work, they loved the opportunity to represent Merryhills Football Team. Well played everyone, it was great to see you showing all of our values!



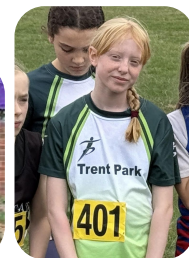
Author Visit

Last week, we were very fortunate to have a parent, Dr Thomas Halliday, visit school and share his experiences of becoming an author. He introduced the children to his fascinating book *Otherlands: An illustrated journey through Earth's lost worlds*.



Cross Country

On Saturday 8th November, Niamh and Georgia represented Enfield at the London Youth Games Cross Country Event. Both children were selected as they finished in the top 6 of all girls in the recent Enfield Cross Country Competition. Georgia and Niamh competed against children from across the 32 London Boroughs and we are very proud to have had Merryhills representing Enfield at this event! Well done girls, we are all very proud of you!



Write2Speak Poetry

Year 6 children took part in a poetry workshop where they all wrote poems. 12 of our children were lucky enough to have their poems chosen to be published in an anthology. We look forward to sharing the publication of the Write2Speak Anthology with you all.



Anti Bullying Week

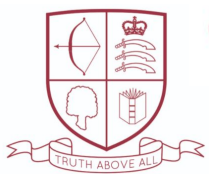
This week it has been Anti Bullying Week - as part of this week - we have been celebrating this half terms value of Kindness across our school. We have been handing out Kindness Tokens when adults spot any acts of kindness and adding them to our House Point totals. In addition to this, we have been encouraging children to spot kindness during their break times and lunch times. Each class has been discussing what they have seen when they have been coming back into class. Examples of what they have seen are: helping each other with their zips, taking friends to medical, checking people are feeling better after absence, encouraging other people to play and showing good manners.

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Coming Up

- 17th November:** Sycamore + Chestnut Synagogue visit
- 17th November:** Choir Performance
- 17th November:** Year 4 Swimming Begins
- 19th November:** Chestnut Class Assembly
- 20th November:** Year 4 Forest School
- 21st November:** Winter Festival
- 24th November:** Oak Synagogue visit
- 24th November:** Classroom visits begin
- 24th November:** Cedar Class Violin Concert
- 25th November:** Flu Vaccination Team @ Merryhills
- 25th November:** Lime Class Violin Concert
- 26th November:** Y6 Globe Theatre Trip
- 27th November:** Rowan Class Violin Concert





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Autumn: Issue 5

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Value of the half term: Resilience



Year 5 Swimming

The Pop Up Pool is back at Merryhills! After half term, Year 5 began their swimming lessons with Stef! The lessons have been brilliant and the staff have seen the children make so much progress from their daily lessons. The children in year 5 have adapted really well to their new timetable and are managing changing themselves quickly and sensibly! Well done to Year 5!

In the next two weeks, lessons will move to Year 4. This will enable Year 4 children to have a taster week before the full programme in the coming years.

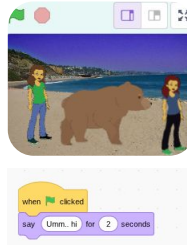
This was hugely successful for the current year 5's who have certainly benefited from these lessons last year.



Computing in Year 5

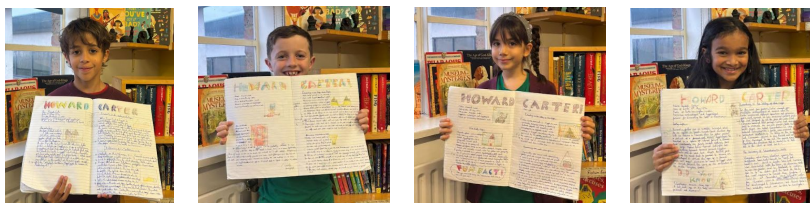
Year 5 has had an extremely busy couple of weeks. Whilst Year 5 parents may have noticed their volume of washing increasing over the past two weeks due to our busy pool schedule, away from swimming, children have also been extremely busy with a Computing Project. Children have programmed 'sprites' to move, follow commands and have a conversation. They have even used storyboarding to create their own moving animations.

Thank you to everyone who has worked and supported Year 5 over the past couple of weeks. It is safe to say that the Year 5 team think they have all learnt something new!



Year 4 Fact Files

As part of Year 4's topic on the Ancient Egyptians, the children have produced some spectacular pieces of writing based on Howard Carter. Their knowledge on Howard's discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb paired with their fantastic presentation created extremely detailed fact files showcasing all that they have learnt!



Please [click here](#) for the upcoming dates information and linked letters. We hope you find this helpful!



Winter Festival

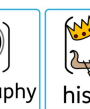
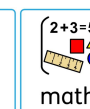
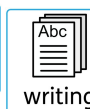
We are delighted to remind you that our PA have organised our Winter Festival for Friday 21st November after school. The guide for this event can be found [here](#). Please can I ask for families support to make this event a successful one. As I often say, many hands make light work at these events. Please sign up [here](#) for a timeslot. In addition to this, can I ask for any volunteers to support cleaning away. We expect this to take less than an hour as long as we have enough volunteers.



SEND Spotlight - Visual Timetables

At Merryhills, we are always looking for ways to make learning accessible and supportive for every pupil. Each class has a visual timetable — a simple but powerful tool that helps many of our students feel calm, organised, and ready to learn.

A visual timetable uses pictures, symbols, or words to show what will happen throughout the school day. For children who find changes or transitions challenging, having a clear visual guide can make a huge difference.



Poppies

Thank you to our Prime Minister Christina and her MPs for successfully selling poppies last week. It was lovely to see so many of our children wearing their Scout Association uniforms and poppies proudly on Tuesday. Once the money has been sent to the Royal British Legion I will share with you all the total we raised as a school.



Art in Year 1

This week, the children in Year 1 experimented with using a range of drawing materials such as: HB (average between hard and soft) 4B (soft) pencils, graphite sticks (like the middle of a soft pencil), chalk, pens, coloured pencils, crayons and charcoal to create a forest floor drawing. The children used their observational skills to draw Forest debris - such as leaves, twigs, conkers, acorns, pine cones etc. We then put our drawings on the floor to create a woodland floor scene.



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