



A Message from Mr Hudson

At the end of another busy two weeks here at Merryhills, I thank families for engaging in our classroom visits this week. So many families took the time to come into classrooms to celebrate their children's work. December is always a busy time for school with many events taking place - please keep an eye out for diary dates so you don't miss a thing!

Please can I urge all motorists to take care when driving on the roads surrounding Merryhills, Highlands and Grange Park. It is a very busy area, with many children and families using these roads. We must all ensure this is as safe a place as possible for our children to use.

As Year 6 families will know, the deadline for secondary school applications has now passed. Enfield Grammar are looking to engage with current Year 5 families. They are offering some free tickets to their Christmas Concert on Friday 12th December. Please see this [flyer](#) for details.

During class assemblies, I have taken the opportunity to speak to parents about the importance of Online Safety and being aware of what children are doing online. As always there is lots of support and guidance available from the Local Authority, please see here for some helpful information about [keeping your child safe online](#).



Year 6 Synagogue Visit

Over the past two weeks, Year 6 visited the Southgate Progressive Synagogue as part of their RE curriculum on places of worship. During their visit, the children were able to see one of the original Czech Torah scrolls, the Sefer Torah number 365, which is one of the 1,564 Czech Memorial Sifrei Torah that had been saved in Prague during the Nazi occupation of 1939-45. They also found out about Shabbat, tasting grape juice and Challah bread to understand the Jewish day of rest and worship.



Violin Concerts

During music lessons this term with Mrs Croton, Year 4 have learnt to play the violin. This new skill was then showcased in the hall this week where parents were able to watch their children play the violin in a class concert. A huge well done to all children and a big thanks to Mrs Croton and Ms Bhattacharya for supporting the children and making an event like this possible. We hope all parents enjoyed this wonderful opportunity to gain an insight into the different areas of the curriculum on offer here at Merryhills.



Attendance

This week's whole school attendance was **93.8%**. Well done to **Year 3** for the highest attendance of **95.3%**.



Half Term House Points

- 1st** - Topaz- 755 points
- 2nd** - Ruby - 743 points
- 3rd** - Sapphire - 719 points
- 4th** - Emerald - 708 points



Choir Performance

On Monday 17th November, our school choir participated in the Enfield Choir Festival at the Dugdale Centre. Here the children performed the songs they have been rehearsing with Elena. It was a fantastic opportunity for our children to sing and perform in partnership with other local schools. The choir loved their performance and Mrs Croton was very proud of how well they represented the school. She was proud of how they were showing our Merryhills Values whilst representing the school.



Winter Festival

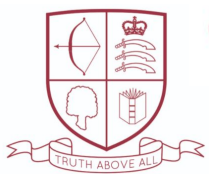
On Friday 21st November, the Merryhills PA organised and hosted our Winter Festival. The entire event was a huge success and much needed and valued funds were raised for the school. Thank you to the families who supported the event. It was lovely to see Merryhills children of all ages enjoying the fun fair rides, the delicious food on offer as well as the other token fuelled games and stalls. A huge thank you to the PA for organising this as well as all of the families who volunteered their time to enable this event to be such a huge success. The Christmas raffle is still live so please purchase tickets. Please continue to support our PA events as they prove vital in supporting our children to have the very best provision which they all deserve.

Coming Up



- 2nd December:** Learning Conversations
- 3rd December:** Year 6 Forest School
- 4th December:** Learning Conversations
- 5th December:** Reception walk in the local area
- 5th December:** Choir Concert 3.45pm
- 8th December:** Orange Class Production
- 9th December:** Year 4 Egyptian Workshop
- 9th December:** Year 2 Chicken Shed Trip
- 10th December:** Hawthorn Class Production
- 11th December:** Christmas Jumper Day
- 11th December:** Holly Class Production
- 12th December:** Year 1 Music Workshops





Merryhills Primary School Newsletter

Autumn: Issue 6

 Find us on twitter @Merryhillssch

Value of the half term: Kindness



Geese

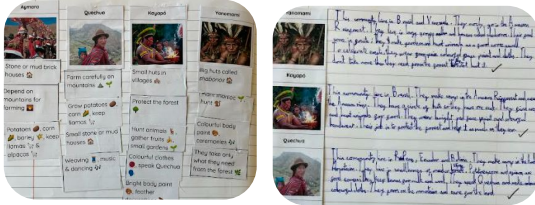
Over the last week geese have descended onto the grounds of Merryhills - clearly they know Merryhills is a lovely place to be! Although it is lovely to see wildlife so close up, we are aware that geese can become very territorial, hissing, chasing and biting people if they approach them. With this in mind, children will be reminded to keep at a distance from them and staff will endeavor to shoo them away. Can I use this opportunity to remind all families to be mindful of them when collecting and dropping off, and to always stay a safe distance from them.



Learning in Year 5

This half term, Year 5 has been exploring the human geography of South America. The children have been investigating population patterns across the continent and developing their map-reading skills by using a range of different map types. They have also been learning about the Indigenous communities, comparing similarities and differences in culture, traditions, and ways of life.

Next, they will be studying the economic activity across the region, including key exports and how these shape life in different South American countries. It's been a fascinating journey of global discovery!



Cars Idling/driving carefully

It has come to our attention that drivers have been idling outside the school on the zig zags. This is putting the safety of our children at risk. Please only use the zig zags during the permitted hours and be mindful of driving carefully on the roads around our school.



Special Guardian

If you are a Kinship Carer, Special Guardian or adoptive parent, the local authority can provide support and advice. We have Attached a link to the poster please [click here](#).



Learning in Year 3

In Year 3 we have been working on our 'printing' unit in Art. Last week we practiced the skill of drawing over carbon paper to create patterns on a coloured piece of paper laid underneath. We were inspired by the architectural features of Forty Hall, which we have been learning about in History.



Cross Country

We are delighted to announce that Bethan Arnel in Year 6 also represented Merryhills and Enfield in the London Youth Games Cross Country Event earlier this month. A phenomenal effort was put in by Bethan and the other girls from Merryhills. It is always wonderful to hear of successes both in and out of school. Well done Bethan, we are very proud of you!



Year 6 at the Globe Theatre

On Wednesday, Year 6 visited Shakespeare's Globe Theatre for a guided tour and a workshop on the play 'Romeo and Juliet'. The children were amazed as they got to sit inside The Globe and watch part of a rehearsal for a play being performed there. They also enjoyed learning all about the history of The Globe and what theatre was like during the Tudor times. After the tour of the theatre, children went to the teaching studios and participated in a workshop based on the play 'Romeo and Juliet'. The children were able to ask questions about the play and understand all of the events in the tragedy. They even had the chance to practise and perform a scene with Tybalt. The acting and improvisation skills were phenomenal and the teacher's are already excited for what promises to be an excellent Year 6 production.

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



Learning in Year Reception

This week we had a very exciting visit from a firefighter! She showed the children her uniform and equipment and explained that she has to get dressed in under 60 seconds when there is an emergency. Mrs Nicolaou and Mrs Monero took on the challenge to see who could put the uniform on the fastest. After a very close race, Mrs Nicolaou won by a couple of seconds! We were also lucky enough to have visits from a structural engineer, a vet and a police officer. The children asked lots of questions and loved finding out about how each person helps our community in different ways.



"We inspire children and foster curiosity; together we create a better future, with values at the heart of everything we do"

