



# Merry Hill Matters

Issue 51 - June 24th 2005

Dear Parents and Carers

## Sports Day and Picnic

Thank you to all the parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles who came along and joined in our Sports Day and Picnic fun. As ever, my thanks go to all the staff who worked so hard putting the event together, especially Mrs Perry and Mr Whitaker for organising all of the equipment. Thank you also to the Friends of Merry Hill for arranging the refreshments - and making a profit for your children of £230.

## Broken Glass

Unfortunately we came in to school on Monday morning to find that local youths had used the playground, field and gazebo for a weekend party. This would have been bad enough, considering the cigarette ends and graffiti they left behind, but sadly they also smashed several beer bottles as well. Mr Whitaker spent two hours clearing up a wheelbarrow full of glass and rubbish, and then all of the Teaching Assistants, plus Mrs Kamintzis and Mrs Jacques, then joined me for a final 'finger-tip search' of the area. All-in-all over four hours spent cleaning up. Please can I urge parents who see teenagers anywhere in the school grounds to call the police on our behalf - no one has permission to be in the grounds during the evenings or at weekends.

## Vacancies at Merry Hill Gym Club Tuesdays 3.15-4.00pm

Merry Hill Gym Club is an after-school club for Year 1 and Year 2 (girls and boys). The children are currently working on The BAGA Awards 7 and 6. Badges and certificates are awarded in achievement assemblies. The Gym sessions are £4.00 per week payable half termly. Should your child wish to try out this club there are still spaces available this half term.

If you think your child might enjoy gymnastics, please contact Meryl Charles on 0208 387 3046 or 07867 203 543.

## Tattoos and Nail Varnish

We have noticed that more and more children are starting to come to school wearing tattoos or nail varnish. Please could I ask parents to ensure that these are all removed before school each day?

## Ncfe Initial Training for Classroom Assistants

Oaklands College is running an information session for anyone who thinks they might be interested in training to become a Teaching Assistant. The information session is on Monday 27th June at 7.30pm in the West Block, Smallford Campus, St Albans. If you would like further information please telephone Beverley Seaborn on 01727 737000 extension 3512.

## Neighbourhood Statistics

I have recently discovered a fascinating website—[www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk). It is a site for anyone who wants local information about topics such as health, education, housing, employment or crime in any area (by postcode) in the country.

## Low Income?

If your family has a low income, Children, Schools and Families may be able to give you financial assistance while your children are learning. You can find out if you are eligible and apply online at [www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org) (use the 'Online services' link). Or you can telephone the Helpline on 01438 737370.

## Next Week

**All next week is Arts Week** - organised by Mrs Perry, and funded by FOMH, it is an opportunity for your children to express themselves through the arts.

Pauline Hannibal  
Headteacher