



Merryhills Primary School



News from Mrs Motley

The Daily Mile

As you will be aware from recent news, the Government is encouraging children to keep fit and healthy, particularly in Primary Schools. As part of this initiative, the Government introduced the Daily Mile.



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The Enfield PE department has invited schools within the borough to take part. As this is an area of focus on our school improvement plan and something we feel passionate about, we are about to embark on this programme.

Thank you to our Year 4 pupils who all sent me letters of persuasion, asking me to take part in the Daily Mile. They pupils expressed in their writing that this was a worthy cause and that they wanted Merryhills to be involved in this initiative. Their reasons and style of writing was so persuasive, using the appropriate vocabulary and language, that we decided to go ahead! This is an example of making writing real at Merryhills!

When is the Daily Mile happening?

We are excited to announce that the daily Mile will be starting from Tuesday 20 November.

A coach from Tottenham Hotspur FC will be launching our daily mile from tomorrow and will be here until Thursday 22 November.

This is a social and physical activity, with children running, jogging or walking, at their own pace, in the fresh air with friends. We will encourage children to walk and talk as this will be good for their own emotional wellbeing too. Staff are looking forward to joining in too.

How will the Daily Mile work at Merryhills?

The aim will be for all children to complete the daily mile on their non PE days. For most children, this will happen three times per week. This will be initially timetabled for classes. However, we do hope for the future that children will do it at lunchtimes or even before school.

Where is the Daily Mile taking place?

Thanks to the Parents Association we now have a red line marked out on our green playground, part of the pathway and on our silver playground. To ensure that a mile is covered children and adults would need to complete 5.5 laps around the red line.

The Parents Association are looking to host an event in the Spring Term which will encourage families to get more active together using the Daily Mile.

Below are some facts that have been published by the Daily Mile campaign and initiative.

The Daily Mile Works!

-  It takes place in 15 minutes, with most children averaging a mile, or more, each day.
-  Children run outside in the fresh air – and the weather is a benefit, not a barrier.
-  There's no set up, tidy up, or equipment required.

Mid November 2018

Reminders



As the weather is now changing, and we head towards the colder winter months, please ensure your child is wearing a warm waterproof coat to school. Thank you

**Non Uniform day
Friday 23 November**

On Friday we are having a non uniform day to support the PA Christmas Bazaar.

Children can bring donations to school ie biscuits, crackers, toiletries, chocolates etc to be sold at the Tombola.

All money raised from the Bazaar benefits every single child at Merryhill's.

Thank you for your support.

Excellence

Equality

Determination

Creativity

Confidence

Cooperation

Friendship

Happiness

Honesty

Independence

Respect

Self Belief

- ✔ No staff training is needed and there is no extra workload for teachers.
- ✔ Children run in their uniforms so no kit or changing time is needed.
- ✔ It's social, non-competitive and fun.
- ✔ The children return to class ready to learn.
- ✔ It helps to improve fitness and achieve a healthy weight.
- ✔ It encourages children to be aware of their health.
- ✔ It's fully inclusive; every child, whatever their circumstances, age or ability, succeeds at The Daily Mile.

As you can see, Children do not need to have any additional equipment, change of clothes or trainers. Just come to school every day as you would normally!

The Parent Association are working extremely hard at the moment looking to raise further funds for our school at the Christmas Bazaar, which will take place on the 30 November. If you have any time spare time please let them know as they would greatly welcome any help. We need the Parents Association now more than ever in times of budget crisis in schools. Thank you in advance for supporting our school.

Staffing

We are pleased to announce that we have appointed an Office Manager, Alexandra Farrimond who has joined the Admin Team.

We have also appointed an Administrative Assistant, Marisa Rossi who will be working with the team in the School Office.

A big welcome to Alexandra and Marisa, they have written a brief introduction bio.....

Alexandra Farrimond

Now in my fourth week, I am very excited to be joining Merryhills as the new Office Manager. Growing up in a family of teachers, I have a keen interest in education. With a strong background as an Office Manager, I have mostly worked in Central London for Corporate Companies, but having spent my school career in the Borough of Enfield I decided to come back into the schools system in Enfield hoping to make a difference for future generations. Please do say hello if you are around the school office.

Marisa Rossi

I have worked in child care settings for nine years as a Nursery Nurse. I am looking forward to changing my career and working more closely with parents. I look forward to meeting you all.

Merryhills Parliament

I would like to congratulate all our MPs who for stood for the Prime Minister role in our school.

I was so impressed by their speeches, as were all the staff. It made me feel so proud that these children put themselves forward for the sake of helping others and more importantly, because they, as individuals, love our school.

As part of Parliament Week, the children all took part in a vote on Friday where they entered the Polling Station and had to put a cross by the person they wished to be Prime Minister and then placed them in the Ballot Box.

The MPS standing for post did their canvassing during assembly time where they shared their ideas and vision for the job.

This is year, the children of Merryhills had their vote and selected **Adrian** in Oak class as the Schools' Prime Minister. Well done to Adrian who won the votes. I look forward to working with him in the future.

Thank you to Tori, Luca, Ella and Parnia for their commitment and for being so supportive of Adrian in gaining the role.

Parent Workshops

Many thanks to all the Reception parents who attended our workshop on Thursday 8 November 2018. We were so pleased to see so many of you attend and really appreciate your feedback.

87% of parents found the meeting to be highly informative and 100% found it to be informative!

We are always keen to take on feedback and are keen to put actions into place. As a result of parents' evaluations, we have actioned the following points:

- The PowerPoint, along with any resources has been put on the website.

We are pleased to offer three future sessions, outlined below. Further information will follow closer to the time:

- KS2 Mathematics: the four operations (21/11/18)
- KS 1 Mathematics Workshop (6/2/19)
- KS2 Spelling and Grammar workshop (20/3/19)

The above sessions will have a focus on: helping at home, how we teach methods and how to use practical activities.

On the school website, you'll find videos of how to pronounce each sound the children learn in reception. Please follow: Curriculum tab → Letters and Sounds