



## **Merrow Schools Federation Bulletin - Autumn 2022**

16th December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

What a wonderfully festive couple of weeks we have had!

I would like to start by commenting on the amazing productions. I was privileged to be able to be at all three this year! The Reception Nativity was such a special occasion - lovely memories for them and their families and particularly fantastic singing - to have learnt all those words was incredible! Next up was the KS1 'party'. Great singing, dancing and clear voices - a great job all round. Finally the KS2 'Stable Manners', what a way to end! The choreography was superb (Mrs Friend-Smith's jazz hands were in there!!), singing and acting just brilliant! The birth scene will definitely go down in school play history! A huge thank you to every child in both schools for their contributions (and bravely performing in front of an audience), to all the staff who gave up so much time to ensure the end product was so polished (and for having to listen to the songs so many times!!), with a particular thanks to Mrs Newth and Mrs Friend-Smith. Their time and efforts are so appreciated.



This week we had the Carol Services at St John's (Merrow) and the Methodist Church (Bushy). These are always a delight, a time to pause in the madness of the Christmas preparations, to reflect on what Christmas means to us and to celebrate the Christian festival. A huge thank you to the children for showing respectful conduct and participating so well. Thank you to Mrs Boxer and

Hannah leading our service at Merrow and the staff at the Methodist Church for welcoming us so warmly and arranging a wonderful occasion. Thank you to Mrs Guffogg for playing the piano for the Bushy choir.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the PTA who have supported the schools at so many events this term, raising much needed/appreciated funds whilst organising fun events for our children. Thank you also to Mr Sutton for restoring the notice boards at Merrow!

### **Christmas Lunch**

One word ..... delicious! Thank you to the kitchen teams at both schools for the festive feast! All the staff helped to serve and we showed our appreciation for the lunchtime teams who support the children everyday to make sure they are fed and cared for.



### Time to Celebrate!



A huge congratulations to our Head Teacher Award winners for this half term. They should be so proud of the way in which they have followed our Golden Rules and shown a positive mindset in their learning.

**Hedgehogs - Ezra Deutsch-Leach**

**Rabbits - Alma Bernal Baxter**

**Badgers - Mudra Kyaw**

**Owls - Jayden Lewis**

**Squirrels - Adam Bevan**

**Foxes - Sacha Jermolova**

**3DY - Alissa Sleeman**

**3H - Felicity Tweed**

**4K - Ethan Haldene**

**4SL - Tiana Fan**

**5F - Nathan Lusale**

**5J - Hattie West**

**6SB - Hanan Atbi**

**6F - Ethan Choi and Isla Spyvee**

**Congratulations to Maple House for being awarded the most house points this half term!  
They enjoyed a tasty treat at Breaktime today.**

**Well done to Abby 4SL for winning the Elf on the Shelf naming competition - 'Snowy' the Elf is in charge this year!**

**M:Teach Gold Disc awards go to Amelia Hienkens-Lewis and Ronan Kennerley!**

### Maths Challenges

**Well done to the following children for achieving their awards.**

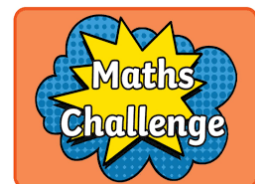
**Star Challenge: Ella Shum (Bronze), Charlotte Yiu (Silver) and Annabel Ashby (Gold)**

**Owl Challenge:**

**Bronze: Cherie Liu, Clara Bevan, Matthew Donaldson and Ethan Choi**

**Silver: Stan-Lee Jackson and Ethan Askew**

**Gold: Harry Thomson and Dylan Maiden**



## Books

Please have a look at home to see if you have any library books/ book band books at home that need to be returned.

Also if you have any good quality books at home that are no longer needed these could be given to the school either for the library or for the swap shop bookshelf.

Swap shop book shelf has some amazing new books on it - some of them look hardly used so please feel free to take them home.

Also books make amazing Christmas presents!!!!



## Governor Updates

Congratulations to Chris Sciberras and Phil Rossiter on their appointment as Parent Governors. We are also looking for an independent 'Partnership' governor who does not have parental responsibilities for a child at either school. If you are a parent at Bushy Hill and would like to nominate someone, please email: [chair@bushyhilljs.net](mailto:chair@bushyhilljs.net).

## PTA news (please see attached for Merrow PTA newsletter)

Having taken over as Bushy Hill PTA chair this term I have been blown away by what the PTA Committee have managed to pull together since September, we've had discos, bazaars, and hampers, refreshments at school events, and the children's artwork being sent off to become tea towels mugs and cards, and then there was the extraordinary fireworks night.

Next term we are planning a parents' event, egg decorating, more discos, and a uniform sale, and possibly a gardening day, as well as other events for the children.

These events pull together the school in celebration and community, and raise welcome funds to enhance the children's learning experiences. There is a but, it takes work, and so we turn to you and ask, can you help?

We are due to meet again (virtually, so no babysitter required) on the 11th January and we'd love it if you could join us, no commitment is required, but it's an opportunity to see if there's something you can offer, be it an idea or suggestion, a skill or a bit of time in the term. Samantha Richmond

## Staffing news

As mentioned in last week's letter, it is with great sadness that we say goodbye to 4 members of staff today. Mrs Nixon and Mrs Owen from Merrow have supported the children at Merrow for many years and we thank them for all they have contributed.

Mrs Mison has been an incredible support at Bushy and her kindness and expertise will be sadly missed.

Mrs Buckland has been a fantastic SENCo at both schools and will be sorely missed. We wish her well as she starts her new role in a Nursery after Christmas.

Unfortunately, we have been unable to recruit a new SENCo for after Christmas, so Mrs Aldridge will be the main point of contact at Bushy and Mrs Hooper at Merrow, both with support from myself. Please be mindful of this as we go through next term.

Many congratulations to Mrs Warren-Simpson who is expecting her second baby in June!

## Travel update

Please find the press release from Surrey County Council's Leader Tim Oliver

[Further engagement period announced for London Road works | Surrey News \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#)

## Volunteers

We are always on the lookout for volunteers to help out at lunch, with readers etc. We would also like 2 parent helpers in the library at Merrow. Please let us know if you are able to help - any time would be really appreciated.

### Safeguarding, Child Protection and Wellbeing

[Tik Tok Now](#)

[Safeguarding risks of social networking apps](#)

[Twitch](#)

- Childline: 0800 1111
- Mindworks Surrey: [www.mindworks-surrey.org](http://www.mindworks-surrey.org) / 0800 915 4644
- Surrey Children's Services: 0300 470 9100 and their out-of-hours number 01483 517898
- 999 in case of emergencies

### Community News

#### Free Family Fun Day - Guildford Cathedral

<https://www.guildford-cathedral.org/events/families-whats-on>

[Help for Households](#)



<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries/news-and-events/digital-activities#mini>



Free workshops for families: [www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning)

On behalf of all the staff, thank you for all the Christmas gifts and wishes. We hope you all have a wonderful holiday season, enjoy a rest and time together.

See you in the new year!

*Dorner*

Mrs L. Dormer  
Executive Head Teacher

