



Monday 19th July 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers

What a year we've all had! We've got through these most challenging times because we are such a supportive whole school community who genuinely care about each other. As we come to the end of another school year living with covid, we can't thank you enough for your trust in us, your support and your kindness.

Looking forward there is hope for getting back to a sense of normality and leading our lives with less worry and restrictions. Along with that, the guidance for schools from September has been changed.

What has changed?

- 'Bubbles' of children can mix and there is no requirement to keep equipment and resources separate for each bubble.
- We can have assemblies, visits and visitors in to school for events -within the controls of our risk assessment.
- From 16th August there will be no requirement for children under 18 to isolate following contact with someone who tests positive; instead of isolation children who are contacts should have a PCR and then only isolate if this is positive (Further information attached about contact tracing and requirements and more to follow in September).

The school will continue to have an outbreak management plan in place and there will continue to be a requirement for enhanced hygiene, regular handwashing and cleaning and good ventilation.

What will we be keeping?

The car park drop-off and pick up arrangement has resulted in less anxiety about availability of spaces and uncongested roads outside the school; feedback is that continuing this in a similar form would be preferable. We understand that the drawback is that there is less time for a catch up with friends in the morning or after school or indeed meeting new people for those new to the school. We will look at possible ways of offering some regular social time, perhaps straight after drop off, with the help of the PTFA.

Please see the attached arrangements which we can trial for the Autumn term.

Wearing PE clothes in to school for PE days.

This seems to be popular with parents as there is less uniform needed and fewer disappearing items of clothing. For the school it has given us much needed space in the corridors and room on pegs for children to hang their coats and book bags. They will also have more PE time especially in the younger years where changing can be a challenge.

What will we be changing?

- Playtimes and lunchtimes will see children able to mix but also retain some time just with their own class. We will re-introduce our playground ambassadors whereby the older children support the younger children in the dinner hall and with their play.



- Children will no longer have to sit in rows facing front and will be able to work as groups too if this is decided as the best option.
- We will be having our daily whole school assemblies and we can sing together again!
- Our calendar of yearly events, visits and visitors will be planned for resuming.
- School council will be having their regular meetings and will be sharing their ideas for school improvement.

School organisation

- The Reception children will move back into the EYFS classroom and the hall will be used as before for assemblies, sport if wet weather, performances and class assemblies, smiley club and as an additional learning space.
- Year 5/6 will be moving into the middle classroom and Year 3 /4 into the classroom nearer the front entrance. This is to support the different learning needs of the cohorts.
- We are re-naming our classes so that there is less room for confusion between Year 1 and class 1 etc. We have chosen British birds to reflect our love of nature and the school setting.

Front entrance	Kingfishers	Owls	Robins	Mrs Lewis (Reception) Miss Imrie	Playing Field
	(Year 3/4)	(Year 5/6)	(Year 1/2)		
	Mrs Southgate/Mrs Birch	Mrs Eagland/Miss Robertson	Miss Snodgrass/Miss Andrews		
	1:1 Mrs O Loughlin Mrs Metcalf/New LSA		1:1Mrs Metcalf/Mrs Birch		

Celebration time

It has been so lovely to see you all at our various events this term. It felt very special having you in school with the children once again. I'd like to say a huge well done to them for their class assemblies, their fantastic sporting attitudes at sports day and the outstanding talent of the Year 5/6 shown in their end of year production. It was pure joy to watch.

Congratulations to the winner of the beach hut competition.

Esca was overall winner with a runner up from each class Chloe, Thomas L, Esme and Lara. Thank you very much for this generous donation and well done to everyone who took part.

School photos

I'd like to extend a huge thank you to our photographer who I know spent a long time editing and sorting the photos before we sent them out to you. Thank you too to Miss Snodgrass who sent them out. Thank you if you have already made your contribution of £5 per child. All contributions gratefully received please.



PTFA

We have another thank you to Charlie Hicks our esteemed chair of the PTFA who has worked so hard supporting with numerous Christmas fairs, Summer fairs, discos, book fairs and coffee mornings, competitions and much more. She is now stepping down from this role having stayed on for an extra couple of years for us to ensure continuity of support. Thank you very much, Charlie, for all you have done raising funds for the school and giving the children such fun times.

Thank you also to all the PTFA who have supported with our school events and attended meetings. We look forward to planning some fun events for the coming year.

Please talk to me if this is a role you would be interested in helping with. I have had a couple of expressions of interest and will follow up in September on finding a willing ~~victim~~ volunteer!

Good bye and thank you to Mrs Dowsett

Mrs Dowsett, our highly valued LSA, colleague and friend based in class 3 with year 5/6 is leaving us at the end of this academic year to follow her hobbies and have some well -deserved rest and relaxation. I'd like to thank her for her dedication to the school and the support she has shown the children though these very difficult times.

Thank you Messing staff team

I feel honoured to work with such a brilliant team of people. The staff are an amazingly supportive group of people who have shown such kindness, support and dedication. They have put aside their own worries and concerns for their families at every step of the pandemic, and ensured that the children at Messing Primary School come first. Thank you.

I will keep you updated if there are changes to the government guidance ready for our return in September.

Finally, I'd like to thank you again for your support and on behalf of the staff and governors wish you all a safe and happy Summer.

Kindest regards

Mrs Jackie Halliday
Headteacher