## Photo Highlights









A big thank you on behalf of the children and staff to our fantastic PTFA who paid for the visiting pantomime. We were treated to amazing singing and performing from actors who recreated the story of Beauty and the Beast in the school hall last week. The children were so enthusiastic after watching the story being brought to life and gave it glowing reviews.

# Nativity

Well done to children in Wrens and Robins! We have been blown away by the singing and dancing as well as confidence in reciting lines during their performance of 'Prickly Hay'. Although it has been a challenge with some sickness across Early Years and Key Stage 1, the children and staff put on 3 mesmerising (and eventful) performances for the rest of the school and parents. Owls class have described the performance in 3 words:

> Impressive Adorable Funny

# Message from the Head

Dear Parents/ Carers,

As we rapidly approach the holiday, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for all of your support with the numerous events and charity fundraising throughout the term. With your help, we have been able to support a range of causes. It has been such a pleasure getting to know the children, celebrating their achievements, singing together as a school community during assemblies and hearing about their favourite parts of the curriculum. This week we sadly said goodbye to Mrs Saddinton, who has retired and leaves Messing to look after her grandchildren. A big thank you to her for all of her hard work, patience and care. She will be missed by all. Next week we will set up the postbox for children who wish to send cards to one another. Please ensure that children write the child's name, as well as class, as we have multiple children with the same name. There has been a lot of news coverage recently about illnesses and I have included some information below about Scarlet Fever and Group A Streptococcus for your information. Regular hand washing and 'catch it, kill it, bin it' routines are the best ways to prevent the spread of illnesses. If you have any concerns, please speak to Ms

A polite reminder that no parents should be parking in the staff car park, we have had staff who have been sat waiting in the mornings as some parents have been blocking the entrance. We have ample space in the parent car park which we are very lucky to have.

And finally a huge thank you from me for being so welcoming and supportive. It's a real privilege to join the Messing School community.

Have a wonderful break and a Happy New Year.

Best wishes, Ms Charlotte Brown

#### What is scarlet fever/ group A streptococcus?

Scarlet fever is a common childhood infection caused by Streptococcus pyogenes, or group A streptococcus (GAS). The symptoms are non-specific in early illness and may include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours the characteristic red, generalised pinhead rash develops, typically first appearing on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture. On more darkly pigmented skin, the scarlet rash may be harder to spot, although the 'sandpaper' feel should be present. Patients typically have flushed cheeks and pallor around the mouth. This may be accompanied by a 'strawberry tongue'

## Reminder for the start of next term

We would really appreciate your support with correct school and PE uniform please. Children are expected to wear their tie everyday, and should have a jumper or cardigan as the weather is cold. On PE days, we expect the correct uniform which is listed below.

It is very important that ALL ITEMS OF UNIFORM ARE CLEARLY LABELLED. Please talk to us in confidence if you would like any support with the PE or any other items of uniform.

#### The PE uniform is:

Red polo shirt Black shorts or Black joggers (winter) White socks Black trainers

Children will also need a black sweatshirt or fleece in this cold weather

Thank you for keeping Messing a smart school.

### Colchester Castle

We were delighted to have the opportunity to take children in Kingfishers to Colchester Castle to bring their learning about the Romans to life. A very kind donation was made by a member of our school community which meant that we were able to cover much of the transport costs.

#### Written by Rosie and Leo

On Wednesday 30th of November, we visited Colchester castle. First, are tour guide Lois asked us if we could complete a worksheet up stairs. Next, we made a model Roman villa and roundhouse out of plastic and wood. Then, we looked at some old artefacts and a Roman mosaic. After that, we had lunch and we saw Lois again. Then, Lois took us to look at the roman vaults. Next, we came up the stairs to the ground floor. And had a quick look. Finally, we said goodbye to the castle and Lois and went home.



# Key dates

KS2 Christingle Service- 13th December Christmas Dinner- 14th December Community Carols- 16th December Last Day of Term- 20th December