



## Message from the Head

Dear Parents/ Carers,

It has been a brilliant week in school, with a lot going on. The children have taken part in lessons around Anti Bullying Week, Positive Noticing Day, Children in Need and today the festivities began as children worked in their House teams to design and decorate their Christmas trees for the church. In addition, we have also had a school trip and photographer visiting to take some updated photographs for the website.

Hopefully you have had the opportunity to see the [School Development Plan](#) for the year ahead that was shared via Classlist. There is a real focus around children's mental health and well-being. As part of this, we created a section on the [website](#) for both children and parents to access for support. As a school, we are fortunate to receive updates around a wide range of online safety issues. We know that the time children spend online also has a significant impact on their mental health. It is vitally important that we all work together to keep our children safe online, and keeping updated on technology is a huge part of this. With this in mind, there will be a new section coming soon to the parent section of the school website to gather the all of the advice in one central place.

As the weather begins to turn rather chilly, please remind your child to bring their coat to school everyday. Unless there is heavy rain (or snow), we aim to be outside at break and lunch time. Children are still able to bring in their outside shoes if they would like to use the field.

Very best wishes,  
Mrs Charlotte Brown



## Colchester Castle

An exciting week for children in Robin class who visited Colchester Castle on Thursday as part of their topic learning on castles. A huge thank you to all of the parents/ carers for dropping children off and picking them up, as well those who supported throughout the day.

By Jamie and Myla-Rose

First we got dropped off and then saw a real, big lion's head that was behind some glass. It's teeth looked very sharp! Next there was a little house and it had some dressing up clothes. There was a knight, queen and a jester. There was a big hole in the ground with water in and it had things over the top of it. It was a well to collect the water. We also saw an alive fairy. We climbed a lot of steps to the top of the castle and it was very high. We could see trees, lots of cars, people, shops and houses.

We went in some prisons and they were very scary. There were shadows and people doing some dances. We had our packed lunches and they were tasty. It was an amazing and fantastic day.

## House Update

As part of Children in Need, we have been getting active and taking part in the 'Bearpees' challenge this week. Children have worked in pairs to count and then been keeping a tally for each House.

I am excited to announce the results below:

**Ruby- 1486**  
**Sapphire- 1489**  
**Emerald- 1569**  
**Diamond- 1628**

Well done to all children on their participation!

## Online Safety

### Smart TVs

Smart TVs have become more affordable in recent years, making them readily available to most consumers. These more advanced systems offer numerous features beyond those of a normal television set – chiefly, the ability to access the internet and interface with popular streaming services without the need for a set-top box or other intermediary device.

This increased functionality, however, also brings additional threats to privacy, security and more – as you'd perhaps expect from any device capable of going online. As TV is such a cornerstone of our home lives, these dangers can be uniquely difficult to manage. Our #WakeUpWednesday guide breaks down the major risks, with tips on helping children to enjoy TV ... stress free.

You can access the guide by clicking on [this link](#).

## Word of the week

**bon vivant**- noun | bon-vee-vahnt

A bon vivant is a sociable person who has cultivated and refined tastes especially with respect to food and drink.





## Positive Noticing Day

What an amazing day of positivity!

Thank you to our Chair of Governors, Pip, for positively noticing all members of staff with a note.

We hope you were able to notice the power that positive noticing had on your child as they come home with their labels. Our Yr 6 House Captains did a truly wonderful job of writing notes for each member of their school house. It was great to work with them and hear how well they knew each child so well and had such kind things to say. The children were so keen to tell me all about the kind words that were written on their notes. Hopefully you had a blank label at home to continue spreading positive messages.

My thanks to the School Council for the way they positively noticed members in our community. Despite a very soggy afternoon, children delivered handwritten notes to houses around the village as a way to spread positivity. A lady in the village came out to tell us how much the note had made her smile, and that it was such a kind and thoughtful thing to do. This really put a smile on the faces on the children.

*"You can always, always give something, even if it is only kindness!"*  
**Anne Frank**



## Messing Travelling Crib

As there are so many young children in Messing, All Saints Church are bringing back the travelling crib which they hope will travel around to different homes every night. This is going to start with us in school on Friday 1st December where Rev. Anne Marie will be leading our school assembly.

If you would like to take part, further information will be shared by Classlist on how you can sign up.

There will be a list accompanying the crib set which will tell you where to take it on the next day. The idea is that each child can keep a sheep if they want to and then reunite it with the flock at Carols by Candlelight on Saturday December 16th at 4pm or on Christmas Morning at 9 am.

This is a wonderful Christmas tradition to be a part of.



## Autumn Term Diary Dates

**Mon 20th Nov**- Kingfisher class assembly 2:30pm (Yr 3/4 parents invited) & Wren class to Oaksbrook Farm

**Weds 22nd Nov**- Owl class assembly 2:30pm (Yr 5/6 parents invited)

**Fri 24th Nov**- Non-uniform chocolate donation (for the Christmas Tombola)

**Sun 26th Nov**- Tree lighting at All Saints Church, Messing and Santa at the Orchard

**Weds 29th Nov**- Whole school flu vaccine

**Thurs 30th Nov**- PTFA Film Night

**Tues 5th Dec**- Nativity dress rehearsal

**Weds 6th (2pm)/ Thurs 7th (6pm) Dec**- Nativity performance (parents invited)

**Fri 8th Dec**- Whole school visiting pantomime & Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day

**Tues 12th Dec**- Whole school Christingle service 9.45am at All Saints Church (parents invited)

**Weds 13th Dec**- Christmas lunch

**Thurs 14th Dec**- PTFA Christmas gift shop

**Fri 15th Dec**- Christmas Fair (all invited)

**Weds 20th Dec**- Last day of term

**Thurs 4th Jan**- Term starts