



## Message from the Head

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We've had such a wonderful final few weeks of the summer term. Although the calendar has been jam-packed, we are so fortunate to have wonderful opportunities and are grateful that so many of you have been able to join us for a range of events, including the trial of our outdoor celebration assembly. Despite the overcast weather, Sports Day and the Summer Fete was a great occasion to all come together. I had so many conversations with families about the fantastic sense of community and strong relationships the children have developed with one another. Special thanks to Mr Pearce for his enthusiasm on the day- the wet sponges alone raised over £40!

Yesterday we were kindly invited by Jane, at Oaksbrook Farm, for a picnic and treasure hunt. This was the first time walking the whole school through the village in the opposite direction, away from the church. We had such a fantastic (although rather hot and sticky) afternoon at the farm. Thank you for thinking of us Jane. Well done to Diamond house who won the treasure hunt and found their crystal by following the clues!

As some of you may already be aware, this academic year we have had 2 Messing staff weddings. Both myself and Miss Snodgrass got married and therefore there will be some name changes. We have taken our time with the change over as it can get very confusing for children (and staff). In September, Miss Snodgrass will become known as Mrs Evans and I will become Mrs Cornelius. Thank you for all of your well wishes.

I would like to say a huge well done to all of our Year 6 pupils. Teddy, Erin, Zach, Leea, Sophie, Leonie, Ettie, Shane, Gracie-Sue, Esme, Thomas, Bobby, Ethan and Courtney, it has been an absolute pleasure and we are all so proud of your progress and development. Best of luck as you move into secondary school. For families leaving us this year- thank you for all you have done! And please do update us on your child's achievements. We love to hear about how they are getting on.

Thank you parents for the ongoing support you give to the school. In our small community, you are invaluable. I hope you all have a wonderful and restful summer break, ready for another year of learning and exciting opportunities next year.

Very best wishes,  
Mrs Charlotte Brown (Cornelius)

## Sports Day and Summer Fete

Thank goodness that the weather held out for us on Friday! It was a fantastic turn out for Sports Day and then following onto the Summer Fete. The children were an absolute credit, taking part in all of the races and really trying their best. The support they gave to others to ensure all were included was fantastic to see. A big well done to Mrs Southgate and the House Captains for their organisation and set up on the day.

### The results were as follows:

- 1st: **Sapphire - 156**
- 2nd: **Diamond - 132**
- 3rd: **Emerald - 119**
- 4th: **Ruby - 116**

Well done and thank you to the dedicated team of parents who put so much time and effort in putting together a fantastic afternoon of events! Particular thanks to those on hand for electrical advice during the deflation of the bouncy castle!

Thanks to the generosity of the school community, we raised over £1800! This money will go towards the new outdoor wellbeing cabin for children to access at lunch and break times.



## Essex Council Childcare survey for parents

Each year Essex County Council conducts an Early Years and Childcare parents survey, in order to evaluate the effectiveness of services. If you are a parent or carer of children aged 0 - 19 years and live in Essex, you are invited to share your experiences in the parents survey. Your information is valued, and your participation will be treated in the strictest confidence. The results of the survey will help Early Years and Childcare teams understand the childcare arrangements of parents and carers in Essex.

The survey is open until Friday 26th July and can be accessed here: [2024 Early Years and Childcare Parents Survey](#)



## Online Safety

The concept of influencers is hardly a new one. We've long been accustomed to hearing informed opinion from, say, Martin Lewis on money or Nigella Lawson on food. How the digital revolution has changed the game, however, is by providing a plethora of platforms from which anyone can have their say. Online, you'll find millions of people on any number of topics: gaming, beauty, travel, fashion, fitness ... virtually anything you can think of. What qualifies them as 'experts', however? Is it safe for young people to consume the oceans of content that they generate?

This [parent guide](#) from National Online Safety highlights essential info on the influencer phenomenon.

## Pirates of the Curry Bean

This week we have been thoroughly spoilt by children in Owl class. I was so incredibly impressed by their ability to remember all of the lines, the confident delivery and acting, fabulous singing and the children's ability to improvise when things did not quite go to plan.

A huge well done to all of children!

My thanks must also go to all of the staff who have supported in some way, from moving their PE lessons out of the hall so children could practise, helping to set up the chairs and staying late. Always a team effort! Extra special well done to Mr Pearce for his fabulous encouragement and direction.



## Staff farewell

It is always sad when it comes to say goodbye to staff, especially in a small school. Miss Birch is leaving Messing to fulfill an HLTA role at a school closer to her home. We have been fortunate enough to have Miss Birch as part of our team for 6 years. In that time she has worked across all classes and supported so many children, as well as joined for trips (Young Voices being one of her favourites) and always involved herself in opportunities to dress up and take part!

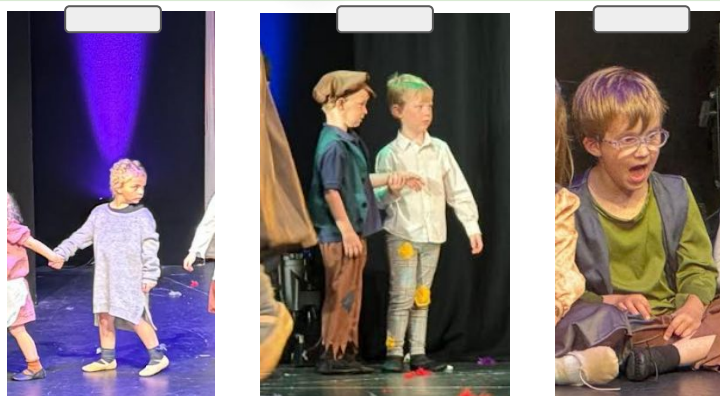
Thank you for all of your hard work Miss Birch. We wish you the very best as you move onto your next adventure.



We welcome to our team Mrs Todman. She is a familiar face at Messing as her two daughters are in Robins and Kingfishers class, as well as her voluntary role of librarian.

## Spotlight on Performance

Well done to the group of children in Wrens class who took part in a performance of Annie at the Mercury Theatre. We are so impressed that so many of the children (and some younger siblings) had the confidence to take to the stage! An excellent achievement. They did such a fantastic job performing over a weekend.



## Summer Term Diary Dates 24/25

**Mon 22nd Jul**- Leavers assembly (9.45am) at Messing Village Hall

**Tues 23rd Jul**- Final day of term

**Mon 4th - Tues 5th Sept**- Non-pupil days

**Weds 6th Sept**- Children Yr 1-6 return to school

**Thurs 7th Sept**- Reception children first half day

## School Development Plan

We have reached that time of year again for gathering the ideas of everybody to contribute to the school's next development plan. With our visit from Ofsted this year we have a clear focus on some key aspects. This year the cornerstone of the development plan was on children's mental health, along with Maths and Phonics subject development. As part of the governors strategic approach, they have considered ways we can raise the profile of writing across the school. If you have any suggestions please share these via email.