



Message from the Head

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope that you were able to have a rest over the half term break ahead of the excitement of this half term. We know that the run up to Christmas is wonderful, but rather busy, and there's often an increase in the amount of coughs and colds. The NHS have produced some guidance for parents, [Linked here: Is my child too ill for school?](#) This is a useful document when thinking about your child attending school if they are under the weather.

We have been working in school to collect the final user agreements regarding children's use of online materials. This is one per family and the teachers sent out final named letters to ensure we have these back from everybody. This forms an essential part of our online safety curriculum. Thank you for your support with this.

It is a full week at Messing as we look ahead, with Remembrance assembly on Monday, Positive Noticing Day on Wednesday and Children in Need on Friday. There is additional information on all of these events in the newsletter. The School Council and House Captains will be busy preparing their notes for the school and village community in preparation for Wednesday, where we aim to spread positivity through kind words. With this in mind, I am also looking forward to an assembly later in the term being planned by a small group of children in Kingfisher class. They have chosen to do this as one of their Agents of Change projects.

Lights, Camel Action! Mrs Evans and Miss Imrie are already well into the nativity preparation with the children in Wrens and Robins classes. I have had the pleasure of hearing some of the singing and seeing the choreography coming together. Information regarding costumes has been shared via Classlist and the dates for performances can be found on the newsletter.

Very best wishes,
Mrs Charlotte Cornelius

Children in Need

Children in Need is nearly upon us, and at Messing we try to raise money for a range of charities, including this important cause.

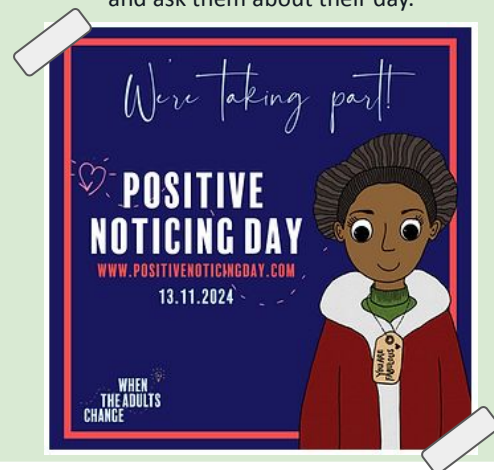
The national campaign has focussed on Paddy McGuinness' 300 mile ride across three nations. We thought we would create our very own 'How will you roll?' sessions. We are inviting children to bring in their own set of wheels, such as a bike, scooter, roller skates or a skateboard, to navigate a track around the playground. (No bikes please as we do not have the storage space.) Children can bring these in on Friday 15th November, and should bring their helmets too. The aim is to get children active, as well as raise funds for Children in Need.



We have a limited number of wheels at school which children will be able to borrow. They can bring in a cash donation for Children in Need which the class teachers will collect.

Positive Noticing Day

Some of you may remember that last year we celebrated [Positive Noticing Day](#) as part of our Agents of Change project. This was an opportunity for all children to be recognised in a range of different ways, focussing on the power of positive. This year, Positive Noticing Day will be on Wednesday 13th November. Please do look out for the notes your child brings home and ask them about their day.



Safeguarding

Thank you for your patience this week as we have been working out the logistics of the newly installed coded locks on the gates. As part of our ongoing review of the site, we have implemented the codes as an additional safeguarding measure. Please note, this is not in response to an incident. There are coded locks on the side gate (leading to the parent car park), front gate and staff car park gate. Parents should not park in the staff car park at any point.

The front gate will be unlocked for dropping off in the morning between 8-9am. After this point, you will need to ring the school office in order to gain access to the school site. The front gate will also be unlocked at 3.10-3.30pm for school pick-up.



Online Safety

Lego Fortnite

Fortnite is a game well-known for its popularity with younger players, as well as its many different modes and expansions intended to keep the experience fresh for long-time fans. One such addition has been LEGO Fortnite – a kind of “survival mode” where players take control of LEGO characters, craft tools, and build structures in a manner similar to the toy set of the same name.

While the content of LEGO Fortnite has been rated as suitable for children of 7 and older in the UK, it – like any online game – carries inherent safety concerns. For this reason, parents and educators should consider keeping themselves apprised of any potential dangers posed to children who enjoy this title. This [parent guide](#) offers plenty of insight into the most prominent risks associated with this title, and lets you know how to ensure children can safely enjoy their time with this expansion.

Wellbeing Cabin

Thank you to all of you who were able to join us before half term for the official opening of the Wellbeing Cabin for the children. Thanks to PTFA fundraising and a kind donation from a wider member of the community, we have created a beautiful and calming space that the children will be able to access at lunch time.

A big well done to Neve, our Chair of the School Council, for the speech, full of gratitude (and a few rules too- shoes off). We are passionate about supporting children and developing strategies to promote positive mental health.



Remembrance

Owl Class will lead an assembly for the school on Monday 11th November at 11am. The children have created lanterns that will be on display in the windows of the school hall.



Library

We are very grateful for our parent volunteer who is going to be back this half term, meaning we are able to offer library sessions to all children. Mrs Evans has shared this information through Classlist. Library sessions will happen on a Tuesday afternoon, starting with KS2 and then EY and KS1 the following week (19th November).

If you are interested in volunteering your time and are available on a Tuesday afternoon then all support in the library is very welcome. We are very grateful as a school to have the support of the parent and wider community.



Author of the Month

September: Jacqueline Wilson

Autumn Term Diary Dates

You can find dates for the year ahead on the school planner- [linked here](#).

- Mon 11th Nov-** Remembrance assembly for children// Anti-bullying week // Reception & Year 6 height and weight check
- Weds 13th Nov-** Agents of Change Positive Noticing Day // KS2 Cross Country Event
- Fri 15th Nov-** Children in Need fundraising // PTFA Free Hot Chocolate in the playground after school
- Mon 18th Nov-** Governor monitoring visit day
- Fri 22nd Nov-** Free Write Friday
- Tues 26th Nov-** Yr 5/6 Thurstable secondary transition session
- Thurs 28th Nov-** PTFA Film Night
- Sun 1st Dec-** Messing Church Christmas Tree Event
- Thurs 5th Dec-** Travelling Panto at School
- Fri 6th Dec-** PTFA Christmas Fair (3-5pm)
- Weds 11th/ Thurs 12th Dec-** Nativity performances