



Message from the Head

Dear Parents/ Carers,

What a wonderful few weeks we have had building up towards Christmas. We kick started early in December with the children working in their house teams to create decorations for the church Christmas Tree event. There was an excellent turnout at All Saints Church. Thank you if you were able to join. On 5th December the children were mesmerised by the travelling panto's performance of Beauty and the Beast, particularly by the spectacular singing.

Very well done to children in Wrens and Robins for their fantastic performances in the nativity, *Lights, Camel, Action!* There were many laughs in the audience as children confidently delivered their lines and some truly fabulous dance moves! Special thanks to Mrs Evans for choreographing so many dances and rehearsing with the children. There is always so much work that goes into putting the shows together, so a big well done to all of the staff involved.

I have been made aware by some parents that there are some challenges regarding school correspondence, diary dates and key messages. These are not always getting through in a timely manner, and some priority notices are being lost among more general information. The school will be reviewing the use of Classlist and the way it is used in the new year. As a way to streamline dates and key notices, I will create a weekly bulletin that will go out each Friday. This will contain diary dates and teacher notes for the following week. I hope that this will help to ensure that parents have all of the information in one place.

Our sports provider, FITC will continue to run clubs next term. There are some changes to the activities on offer and the House Captains have been involved in putting together the options. Clubs will begin on Monday 13th January, and you will be able to sign your child/ren up on Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th January. The updated clubs can be found on the [school website linked here](#). Clubs will continue next week.

I hope that you all have a very Merry Christmas and time to spend with your families. I look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Very best wishes,
Mrs Charlotte Cornelius



Spotlight on Sport

Congratulations to Terry on achieving his red belt in karate. This was during his grading on Sunday 1st December and is certainly something to feel proud of.

Well done!



Safeguarding

Safeguarding Awareness for Parents & Carers - England Football Learning

Safeguarding is about creating safe environments and preventing children from experiencing harm or abuse. Its core mission is comprised of the measures institutions take to protect young people and children. Football is by far the most popular sport in the country, particularly among teenagers and children. England Football's learning faculty has designed a short safeguarding course for parents. The course is designed to help parents make an informed choice, about the footballing infrastructure in which children are enrolled. The course explains the vital role of safeguarding within the sporting sphere, and is well worth a look.

Please follow [this link](#).

Governors

In the past few weeks we have had our first governor monitoring day and our second LGB meeting of the academic year. The monitoring day is a wonderful opportunity for governors to come into school and not only develop our understanding of the curriculum and its implementation, but also to spend time with the children, who were, as they always are, polite, engaged and very welcoming.

The second LGB meeting of the year took place on 5th December. At this we discussed finances for the coming year, ratified a number of policies, and received a written report from our governor who is responsible for health and safety. We discussed current data and the curriculum, and had an in depth discussion about SEND provision and the demands and many successes of this at Messing. We also discussed training for governors and identified areas for development of over the next year.

With only one week left of the term, we have thoroughly enjoyed the KS1 nativity and Christmas Fayre, and look forward to more festive fun planned for the children next week. We would like to take this opportunity to wish all the children, families and staff a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Best wishes,
Pip Parmenter



Christmas Fayre



Thank you to everybody who was involved in the Christmas Fayre on Friday 6th December! From the set-up team, stall holders and to those spending the money- all had a huge part to play. It was a wonderful occasion to come together as a community and raise additional funds for the school.

This year we were able to open to some external stalls, and I am sure you will agree that the delightful bakes and beautiful handmade gifts were a real additional treat. The smell of the mulled wine wafting through the playground and the hot chocolate in the cabin were certainly both mouth watering treats. I heard great excitement from the children who were covered in snow and those who had won chocolate tombolo prizes. Some children, however, were a little unsure of their visit from The Grinch. One child told me that it must have been Mr Pearce's brother as they had the same watch... What a mystery!

My thanks must go to the dedicated PTFA team who worked tirelessly behind the scenes, as well as all those who joined to help set up for the event. It takes a lot of time and energy to put on something so magical for the children and families, and I am very grateful for the support we have as a school.

The money from the Fayre last year went towards paying for the travelling pantomime company who performed Beauty and Beast earlier in December. Experiences like these are made possible thanks to all of the fundraising efforts.



Swimming



My thanks go out to New Hall School swimming staff who have supported children in Owl class this term. There has been fantastic progress and today the children enjoyed a final fun swim, with the large floats and relay races.

Next term, children in Kingfisher class will be swimming and this will go through until Easter. Please ensure your child has a suitable costume or swim shorts, hat, goggles and towel.

These will all need to be clearly labelled in a separate swimming bag. The first lesson will be on Friday 10th January.

Diary Dates

Mon 16th Dec- Christingle Service at All Saints Church (9.45am)

Tues 17th Dec- Cosy Christmas book exchange (children to bring their PJs into school)

Weds 18th Dec- Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

Fri 20th Dec- Car Park Carols at drop-off and end of term

Mon 6th Jan- Return to school

Tues 7th/ Weds 8th Jan- Sign up for sports clubs (am/pm- hall)

Fri 10th Jan- Kingfisher class swimming

Mon 13th Jan- Clubs and music lessons to begin

Thurs 23rd Jan- School Choir to Young Voices, O2

Mon 27th Jan- Yr 6 SATs talk for parents 3.20-4pm

PHONICS:

Ensure Twinkl Phonics is used as the basis for adaptive phonics lessons that are engaging for learners and promote good pupil outcomes.



EYFS:

Continue developing EYFS practice, planning, environment and pedagogy that is rooted with a deep understanding of children's development and play at the core.



CURRICULUM:

Review and implement an effective assessment framework for foundation subjects, identifying the knowledge and skills that children need to be able to successfully access the curriculum the following year.



SEND:

Engage with Partnerships for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) project in order to shape provision and develop awareness in effectively supporting all learners.



BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES:

Build on existing approaches to support the wellbeing of the school community through the continued development of the approaches used in Trauma Perceptive Practice (TPP- *Compassion | Kindness | Hope | Connection | Belonging*).

