



Message from the Head

Dear Parents/ Carers,

It has been a very exciting week for children in Owl class who have been on their school residential trip to Overstrand, Norfolk. Thankfully the brilliant weather over the course of the week allowed them to access all of the activities on offer including climbing, caving, archery, laser tag and high equilibrium, to name just a few. In the next newsletter I will share photos and their highlights. A huge thank you to Mr Pearce, Mrs Lewis and Mrs Hart for accompanying the children. Hopefully a restful weekend ahead for all involved! If you would like to see any photos, please follow the school's Twitter/ X account @MessingPrimary, or take a look at the [class pages](#) section on the school website.

This week we also welcomed Mrs Canham who will be covering in Robin class while Mrs Evans is on maternity leave. We are fortunate to have both Mrs Evans and Mrs Canham working side by side to ensure a smooth handover for the children. Both teachers will also be carrying out parent's evening together. Mrs Evans final day at Messing will be on Friday 17th October.

Coming up this half term will be parent's evening. Next week (on Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th) you will be able to sign up for an appointment to meet with your child's class teacher. Please remember that if your child has a One Plan then you will have a meeting at a different point and therefore will not need to sign up. Ahead of parent's evening you are invited to join your child in class for 'Stay and Play' in Wrens and 'Share and Learn' in the other classes. This is a brilliant opportunity to spend some time in class and get a sense of the learning your child has done so far this term. This will be from 2:30pm on Friday 10th October.

Attached to the newsletter are the school priorities for this year. When developing this, information from a range of sources is used including our most recent Ofsted report, pupil progress meetings, lesson observations, performance management reviews, data analysis, governors' meetings and discussions with School Council.

There will be a change in the lunch menu after half term. I am busy finalising this with Mrs Owens and Ms Gooday to ensure we offer a broad range of foods across the cycle. This will come out via Classlist, be shared on the school website and displayed on the gate.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Very best wishes,
Mrs Charlotte Cornelius

Car Park Notices

Essential information for the safe use of the car park:

- **The Drop off zone** is the only space to allow children out of the car is by Miss Andrews close to the gate. DO NOT drop off at any point before this or get out of the car yourself, this slows down the system.
- **Reverse** into parking spaces only.
- **Do not park on the grass** area as this restricts the view for pedestrians.
- **Please be patient** and wait for a space at pick-up (you may have to drive around a second time at the busiest times).

House Captains

Congratulations to the following children who were voted in by the children in their house team:

Emerald- Ella
Ruby- Tavis
Sapphire- Pippa
Diamond- Olivia

The first house event will be our annual Christmas tree decorating for All Saints Church. These will be displayed on Sunday 30th November.

School Council

Congratulations to the following children who were voted by their classmates.

Year 1- Hudson
Year 2- Cruz
Year 3- Harriet
Year 4- Agatha
Year 5- Caroline
Year 6- Arlo
Secretary- Olivia
Vice Chair- Tavis
Chair- Margot

We are yet to have our first meeting as our Year 5 and 6 children have been away on their school residential trip. However, the badges have arrived to school and will be given out next week during assembly. I look forward to working with all of the children to continue ensuring they have voice, choice and ownership over their own learning and school experience.





Harvest Festival Arrangements

You are invited to join us for the school's Harvest Festival service next week. If you are joining the service and your child is not staying for an after school club, you are welcome to take them straight home after the service. Children will take their belongings with them to avoid you coming back to school. If you are not able to join us, we will walk children back to school and you are able to collect as normal.

Thursday 9th October | All Saints Church at 1:45pm
Please be aware that often the church is very full and tends to have standing room only at the back.

We are collecting for Colchester Food bank and welcome any of the following items into school to support families in need:
soup, tinned vegetables, pasta, personal care items, coffee, tea, sauces, rice, tinned fish, cleaning supplies, cereal etc.



Online Safety

Snapchat

With over 900 million monthly users, Snapchat continues to be a favourite among children and young people; however, with its ever-evolving features, the risks have evolved too. From AI-generated filters and chatbots, to disappearing messages and the Snap Map location-sharing tool, it's easy for children to stumble into unsafe territory. [This parent guide](#) breaks down the latest updates, including the Lens+ subscription service, and web browser access.

Hello Yellow

Hello Yellow is an initiative by Young Minds to raise awareness for Mental Health. You can find out more information about how money raised can support vital causes by visiting their [website here](#).

In order to raise awareness of the importance of positive mental health at Messing, the Mental Health Ambassadors have worked together and come up with ideas for workshops that the children will be taking part in. These include creating mindful jars and medication.

We are looking for donations of small plastic bottles with lids that the children can use to create their mindful jars. Donations of glitter are also very welcome.

On **Friday 10th October** children are invited to wear an item of yellow along with their school uniform (e.g. socks, hair band, t-shirt, jumper, scarf).

Our Mental Health Ambassadors are:

Year 5- Harriet, Felix, Lily, Alfie

Year 6- Arlo, Margot, Jess, Agatha, Tommy

PTFA Events

Hopefully you will have already seen some communication from the PTFA team. All parents are welcome to join for the PTFA AGM on Friday 10th October at 9am. This is to elect the key roles and set the fundraising aims for the year ahead, as well as review all of the support given to the school over the previous year.

Dates below for upcoming events:

Mon 20th Oct- Halloween bake sale after school (please support with the donation of baked items, including cakes and biscuits. A reminder that these **must** have a list of ingredients supplied under Natasha's Law)

Mon 20th Oct- Halloween design competition sent home with children
Fri 7th Nov- Bag-2-School Collection (please add any clothing items into the clothing bin in the car park- they must be waterproofed in plastic bags)

Fri 14th Nov- PJ Party Movie Night & Picnic (PJs and film for KS2 and picnic and games for KS1/ EY)

Fri 28th Nov- Non-uniform in exchange for chocolate for the Christmas Fair

Mon 1st Dec- Christmas Gift Shop

Fri 5th Dec- Christmas Fair

You can find out detailed information about all of the events above via the PTFA newsletter.

As a small community, any support you can give at school events is very welcomed, you can be involved in as little or as much as you'd like. The money raised by the PTFA supports with so many different school initiatives including all children new to the school receiving a free tie and water bottle, supplementing transport costs for large trips and providing wonderful opportunities for all children.

Autumn Term Diary Dates

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

Mon 6th/ Tues 7th Oct- Parents evening sign ups in the hall before and after school

Thurs 9th Oct- School led Harvest Festival at All Saints Church 1.45pm (all welcome and parents are able to collect children from the church after the service)

Fri 10th Oct- PTFA AGM in the school hall 9am (all welcome)

Fri 10th Oct- Hello Yellow (wear something yellow for Mental Health awareness) and raise money

Fri 10th Oct- Stay and Play & Share and Learn- parents invited into classes from 2.30 pm

Tues 14th/ Thurs 16th Oct- Parents evening

Fri 17th Oct- Mrs Evans final day

Mon 20th Oct- PTFA Halloween bake sale after school

Fri 24th Oct- Last day of term

Mon 3rd Nov- Non-pupil day

Tues 4th Nov- Children back in school



BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES:



To continue to use 'No Outsiders' as a tool to promote and develop diversity and equality within the curriculum through high quality assembly themes that allow children opportunities to become outward looking and understand the viewpoint of others.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT:



To develop the outside provision and curriculum, including the reintroduction of Forest School to improve the engagement and wellbeing of all children.

To develop the school's mental health offering through the established role of Mental Health Ambassadors who support other children across the school.



QUALITY OF EDUCATION:

To engage with the Maths Hub to ensure consistently high quality teaching to improve the number of children achieving the expected standard in KS2 in line with national expectations.



To ensure consistent high expectations lead to an improvement in the quality of writing outcomes across all areas of the curriculum.



LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT:

To ensure the school's revised foundation curriculum is embedded and monitored and the impact is evidenced.



To create effective lines of communication between the school, governors and trustees, ensuring that the impact of the school is known.

