



Message from the Head

Dear Parents/ Carers,

The excitement has been building this week as children have been seeing the changes to the site. The School Council helped to make an important decision on Monday morning- where to relocate the train to ensure that it can still be used and enjoyed by everyone. Children in Wrens were particularly excited to see the delivery of wood and other materials over the fence by crane and many children are keen to inside our new temporary office space.

Special thanks to Ms Gooday and Mrs Chalkley for their efforts in packing up, moving and organising the new space. After half term, they will be based in the portacabin rather than the main building and the only access to the school will be through the main car park gate. If you need to drop off medicine, complete any forms or speak to the school office, you will be able to access them by using the main front staircase to the window hatch. The current small front gate will be consumed within the building site over half term. You will need to ring to come into school if you are arriving after the gate has closed, or picking up/ dropping off within the school day.

My thanks to the local residents in Messing who are supporting with staff parking for the remainder of the school year. This is to ensure plenty of spaces remain free for parents at peak times. There will be some additional vehicles, but we will try to keep this to a minimum. Please avoid parking on the grass and be patient in waiting for a space to become free. Please also be considerate of your speed when using the school car park as the priority is keeping everyone safe. Thank you.

We say goodbye to Mrs Canham today. I am so grateful for her energy, care, humour and the fantastic way she has brought learning to life for the children in Robins class. The children in class created their own talent show to share all of their amazing skills, a wonderful send off. Thank you on behalf of us all and we wish you the very best in your next school. After half term Mrs Lewis will be teaching 3 days in Robins and I am delighted that we have managed to secure Mrs Tolhurst for the remaining 2 days.

I am finalising the term dates for 2026/27 with the governors and these will be shared in the first week back after half term. I know these are important for families when booking holidays. Thank you for your continued support in attendance, we are currently at 96.1% which remains about the national and local average.

Finally, I hope that you have an enjoyable half term, whatever your plans.

Very best wishes,
Mrs Charlotte Cornelius

Spring Term Diary Dates

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

Mon 23rd Feb- Return to school

Tues 24th Feb- Animal experience in Robins

Thurs 26th/ Fri 27th Feb- Yr 5/6 Bikeability

Mon 2nd Mar- Rec and Year 5 Road Safety Awareness talk

Thurs 5th Mar- World Book Day (costume parade 8.50am and book swap 3.15pm)

Fri 6th Mar- PTFA Science event after school

Mon 9th Mar- British Science Week

Tues 10th Mar- Bags-2-Schools Collection

Tues 10th/ Weds 11th Mar- Parents eve sign-ups

Fri 13th Mar- Share and Learn/ Stay and Play

Tues 17th/ Thurs 19th Mar- Parents evening

Fri 20th Mar- Odd socks day for Down Syndrome

Fri 27th Mar- End of half term

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Mon 13th Apr- Return to school

Mon 4th May- Bank Holiday

W/B Mon 11th May- KS2 SATs week

Fri 22nd May- End of Half term

Mon 1st June- Non-pupil day

W/B Mon 1st June- Yr 4 MTC

W/B Mon 8th June- Yr 1 Phonics Screening

Mon 15th June- Whole School photographs

Tues 16th June- KS2 Consortium sports event

Tues 23rd June- EYFS Consortium sports event

W/B Mon 29th June- Children's arts week

Welcome to Mrs Tolhurst

I am very pleased to share that Mrs Tolhurst will be joining our team at Messing. She will be working with Mrs Lewis in Robins after the February half term.

Mrs Lewis: Monday-Wednesday

Mrs Tolhurst: Thursday- Friday.

She is a very experienced teacher and has been working in one of the schools within the Tiptree and Stanway Consortium. Mrs Tolhurst has a keen interest in the outdoors and is also working towards becoming a Play Therapist.





News from Wrens...

This half term Wrens have loved finding out about different traditional tales and creating their own stories. One story we have particularly enjoyed is The Three Little Pigs. Retelling the story using props, listening to alternative versions (especially the Big Bad Pig!) and creating new homes for the pigs. The children spent a long time discussing what materials they would need, adapting their plans and not being afraid to have a go.



We have also enjoyed our 'Forest Friday' sessions. Exploring the forest, searching for bugs, creating homes for animals, litter picking and much more. It is an ideal opportunity to build confidence, work as a team and learn about the world around us. We are very lucky to have this space within our school grounds.

News from Kingfishers...

In DT we are all designing and making some castles. We had to identify features like turrets, towers, battlements, drawbridges and many more. All of the castles are getting better by one box at a time. The small windows are so that people inside could shoot and others would find it hard to aim in.

Currently Kingfishers are looking at different types of rock in science. These include sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic. We have been sorting rocks into the correct groups and we had things such as marble, chalk, sandstone, obsidians and many more. We have also learnt about volcanoes and the earth's crust and the many layers below. The inner core is the hottest part of earth.

In History we have been learning about how Howard Carter discovered Tutankhamun's tomb and that there were so many artefacts. We have also been looking at mummification. I think we are all loving this topic.

We have been learning about length in Maths and went around the school and took lots of measurements like. We have been using measurements like m, cm, mm and km and also ordering them from smallest to largest and solving word problems.

Currently we have been learning about compassion and how many people help others such as The Salvation Army, food banks and in history, Mother Teresa. Don't forget about Nelson Mandela as well.

By Toby and Bonita

News from Robins...

Learning Objective: to write a sentence using 'because' to explain how the dinosaurs became extinct.

Dinosaurs became extinct because a huge meteor hit the earth but no won (one) knows where the meteor came from and how it was made. I do know that the meteor hit and made volcanoes and extincted half of the dinosaurs. The volcanoes smoke (smoke) was blocking the sun so the plants couldn't grow and the herbivores had no food. Some other dinosaurs died because of a tsunami (tsunami). Dinosaurs became extinct for very different reasons (reasons) like the meteor and tsunami. If you want to know about the tsunami I'll tell you about it. The meteor hit the earth, then water exploded out. The dinosaurs died (died). The end.

Rain- Year 2

Dinosaurs became extinct because a huge meteor hit the earth- boom! Most dinosaurs died, but some survived (some survived), maybe because they (they) were flying dinosaurs.

James- Year 2



News from Owls...

As we reach the halfway point of the year, Owl Class have been continuing to make memories they won't forget in a hurry. The students have informed us that there have been so many phenomenal experiences this term that they were really unsure where to begin.

However, one of the most memorable moments of this half-term would have to be Young Voices at the O2. This all-singing, all-dancing extravaganza was many pupils' half-term highlight. The scholars of both Owls & Kingfishers would like to thank Mrs Lewis for a brilliant day -and night- out.

Another half term highlight was on Tuesday 2nd February when we experimented with solutions & whether salt, sugar, sand & soil were soluble or not. Turns out that both salt and sugar are soluble until they reach their saturation point. Sand and soil... insoluble. Who knew? We also managed to reverse the effect, via a process of evaporation, to return the salt and sugar to their original form.

In art, we've researched, designed and made masks influenced by traditional African tribal designs and are in the process of completing our clay versions.

Finally, the majority of the students have said that their personal highlight of the half term were the dance lessons using Dance by Chance & more recently- Rock 'n' Roll where we boogied our bottoms off!

Compiled & reported by Agatha

