

Message from the Head

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I must start by apologising once again for the school closure last week. As you are aware, this was due to delivery issues with the gas. Thank you for the support and understanding.

Hopefully you have already seen the term dates for next academic year. These were shared via Classlist and families should have received paper copies, perfect for the fridge. I will aim to get the term dates for the academic year 2027/28 out a little earlier as I appreciate some families are waiting for these in order to book holidays.

We have had a rather exciting and jam-packed start to the half term with a school closure, an animal experience visit for children in Robins, Bikeability training for Year 5/6 and World Book Day. This adds to the ongoing excitement of the building works. Next week will be 'share and learn', where you are invited to join your child/ren in their classes to find out about some of their learning. This is from 2:30pm on Friday 13th March. Once you have finished in class, you are able to take your child home, however please do ensure you have informed your child's class teacher. The following week will be 'crazy hair day' for Comic Relief, as well as wearing odd socks to recognise World Down Syndrome Day. Both of these will be on Friday 20th March. Please make a donation to support both of these excellent causes.

There will be a new menu starting after Easter. Mrs Owens is always looking for different options to try with the children and katsu curry and fish cakes will be something new for the children to enjoy. The menu can be found on the [school website here](#). I will also share this via Classlist.

Finally, I am sad to share that Miss Andrews will be leaving us on Friday 13th March. She is moving out of education to try something new. Having worked at Messing for over 7 years, she will be greatly missed by staff, children and parents for her humour, energy and love. Although we still have a week before she leaves, I know that many parents (and the children too) will want to thank her for her support over the years. We are working to recruit a new LSA into the team.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Very best wishes,
Mrs Charlotte Cornelius

World Book Day 2026

Thank you to all of parents who supported children in organising the fabulous costumes for World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. I am sure you'll agree from seeing the parade, we had such a great variety of characters this year and the children looked great. Many of you spotted the staff theme among us all - we had lots of fun picking out our characters.

Mrs Owens cooked up a storm with our themed menu, 'cloudy with a chance of meatballs' served with spaghetti and Mr Jelly's jelly bar. Zachary in Robins told me "this World Book Day is better than last year because the pudding is the best!"

Our house team World Book Day quiz in the afternoon was a great opportunity for children to showcase their literary knowledge. With 5 rounds, there was something for everyone and the children worked brilliantly in teams across the year groups.

The scores were:

Ruby - 53
Sapphire - 52
Emeralds - 46
Diamonds - 27

Thank you for the kind donations of books for the book swap. It was a perfect opportunity for a sort out of books at home and in school, as well as supporting our mission in sustainability and modelling to children the reusability of items and how this can bring joy to others.



Bikeability

Last week a group of Year 5 and 6 children enjoyed getting into the saddle at park of Bikeability. They worked well over the 2 days to achieve their level 1 and 2 Bikeability award.

Recount by Alba and Felix

We started by practising in the car park where we did safety checks and had to practise looking both ways and using our arms to signal. When we were in the car park we also learnt to stop safely. We cycled in Messing village and on the second day, towards Tiptree. We got to learn about major and minor roads and who has the priority.

Animal Experience in Robins

After a slight diary readjustment, the children in Robins loved meeting a range of animals last Friday. We were joined by meerkats, a snake, a scorpion and a rat to name just a few.

Recount by Jake E and Teddy

We saw a snake and it felt scaly and skinny. I was afraid to touch it, but now I'm not. Snakes don't actually like the taste of people, but they just try to protect themselves.

We did see two meerkats, but they don't like to be touched by people. Did you know, you shouldn't stamp on the floor when animals are around? It sends vibrations to the floor and they don't like it.

Safety check ABCDS

- A- Air
- B- Brakes
- C- Chain
- D- Direction
- S- Saddle



Spring Term Diary Dates

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

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- Wear Odd Socks for Down Syndrome Awareness (Sat 21st Mar) & Red Nose Day (crazy hair day and make a donation)

Weds 25th March- Kingfisher class Egyptian Museum for parents at 2:30pm

Fri 27th Mar- SEN Cuppa and Chat 9am & End of half term

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

Online Safety- AI Generate Videos

AI can now generate realistic looking videos that are almost impossible to distinguish from genuine content. From hoax news to abusive deepfakes, these synthetic clips can mislead, manipulate and even harm. As AI tools become more advanced, and more accessible, young people are increasingly at risk of encountering fake but convincing footage online. [This parent guide](#) unpacks the dangers of AI-generated videos, from the emotional impact of fake distressing content to the potential for impersonation and bullying. With practical tips to help young users spot deepfakes and navigate online spaces with confidence, this guide is an essential read to help navigate this rapidly evolving digital landscape.

Message from the Governors

Governors met on Tuesday 3rd March where we welcomed our new community governor, Holly Wells.

Over the course of the meeting we received an update from Mrs Cornelius on the progress of the building work and how the school has made adaptations when needed, to ensure smooth running.

We also celebrated the school's positive attendance data and looked at differences in attendance between pupil groups, had an update on the children's progress and discussed the positive impact of the schools work with the Maths Hub.

In addition we agreed updates to a number of policies that will be replaced on the school website in the coming weeks. This includes; admissions; inclusion; catering; first aid and early years.

You can contact the governors through the school office if you would like to speak to us about any queries or concerns you may have.