



Eynsham Community Primary School  
Newsletter - Friday 29th September

## Welcome

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*Dear Parents and Carers*

*It was wonderful to see so many of you at our Science Stay & Learn today, I hope you all enjoyed having the chance to see your child's new classroom and how Science is taught in School.*

*Thank you so much for all the items brought in for Food Bank, as part of our harvest celebration. It will be collected on Monday, so if you still wish to bring items in, these would be greatly appreciated.*

*Thank you to all the parents and carers in Year 6 for helping their children to look so fabulous for their Greek Day on Wednesday. The children had a brilliant day - please see photos and report below.*

*Please check your Parentmail at the end of next week, when bookings for parents' evening will be available.*

*Yours sincerely*

*Ginny Bayliss*

*Executive Headteacher*

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## Head Boy & Head Girl

Congratulations to Iver Rundle and Matilda Clark who are our newly elected Head Boy and Head Girl. All applicants did a really good job in their interviews and well done for everybody's efforts. Matilda and Iver's first job will be presenting at the Foundation Stage Open Morning in October.



## School Council 2023-24

This year we have a new school council. They have been elected by their peers from class to make a difference to school life. Previous initiatives have included changing the school uniform, writing a new Anti-Bullying policy as well as last year introducing the 'Buddy Bench'.

Meetings will start to take place over the next few weeks where the plan for this year will be put into place. Later on in the year they will also be visiting the Houses of Parliament to see how actual laws are passed.



## Meet the team!

This week we are focusing on Ducklings:

My name is Emily Neath I am the Nursery Leader in Ducklings, I have worked in Early Years at Eynsham Primary School for 13 years. I enjoy providing children with tools and skills to develop their learning. Not only did I attend this school, so did my grown-up daughter. I enjoy walking my dog "Gus" in our beautiful village.

My name is Teresa Seeney, I am the Deputy Nursery Leader in Ducklings. I have worked in Early Years for many years starting in Eynsham Pre-School which is now Cygnets Class. I have two grown up daughters and many animals that keep me busy.

My name is Yasmin Denney, I am an Early Years practitioner, I have been working in Ducklings for the last two years. I have a daughter who attends this school. In my spare time I love to sew and be creative.

My name is Christina Laughton-Rust, I have worked in Early Years for a few years now. I am currently working towards an NVQ in childcare. I have two children who attend Eynsham Primary school.

My Name is Dhani Collis, I am an Early Years practitioner. I have been working in Early Years for over 3 years and love working in Ducklings, I have two children who have both attended this school.



## Harvest Festival

This week we had Reverend Zoltan Biro, from the Baptist Church, join us for the Harvest Assembly. He spoke to us about Harvest traditions and being thankful for what we have and receive. The children shared some things that they feel thankful for too.

Many thanks for your donations, which have been collected by the Food Bank today.





## Black History month

October is Black History Month here in the UK. We celebrate Black History Month (BHM) across the country, and particularly within our school community here at Eynsham, to not only challenge racism, but to further the cause of greater recognition of, and education on, the important historical events and people that are often overlooked in the history books. The UK's Black History Month was created in London in the 1980s to recognise the contributions that African and African-Caribbean people have made to Britain. Now, it's expanded to include the history of all black people. This year, we will be having a Black History Hero Day on Friday 20th October. On this day, each year group will be studying one Black History Hero, learning about their life, their impact, and their role in important historical events.

**Reception:** Mae Jemison, The first female, Africa-American woman in space.🌐

**Year 1:** Martin Luther-King Jr, led the movement to counter prejudice and end segregation in the United States through peaceful protest.🌐

**Year 2:** Nelson Mandela, Civil rights leader who fought for freedom and equality in South Africa.🌐

**Year 3:** Rosa Parks, activist in the civil rights movement best known for her pivotal role in the Montgomery bus boycott.🌐

**Year 4:** Maya Angelou, Poet, dancer, singer, activist, and scholar Maya Angelou was a world-famous author. She was best known for her unique and pioneering autobiographical writing style.

**Year 5:** Michelle Obama, as first lady, she used her platform for feminism and women's rights, and continues to inspire many with her powerful voice, and bestselling books.

**Year 6:** Marcus Rashford, known for being a professional footballer for Manchester United. He has led a successful campaign to end child food poverty in England and aims to educate people to end racism.

No matter our background or where we come from, it's important for all of us to have a better understanding of black history. Learning about black history can help us understand the roots of racism and why it exists today. Understanding where it came from can help us to break down barriers of racism and prejudice. Although labelled 'Black History', it's important to understand that black history isn't separate from the wider history of the UK or the world as a whole. In fact, it's fundamental to it. Black History Month aims to raise awareness of this fact, to create lasting change beyond this yearly celebration. It puts a spotlight not only on the negative and upsetting, but nonetheless important, aspects of black history, such as the slave trade, but all of the positive achievements and contributions of black men and women in shaping our shared history. I look forward to visiting all the classes to see their learning about their Black History Hero. Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

Mr Williams PSHE Lead. Year 2 Class Teacher

## Mr Wyatt's Vegetable plot

Many thanks to everyone who has helped us to grow vegetables at school this year. We are particularly grateful to Anna Rowlands and Nina Warburton for all of their advice, energy and expertise! Just before the summer holidays, and again just after, we harvested some of our crops (potatoes, pumpkins, carrots and courgettes) and sold them to parents at the front gate. The £125 raised will help us to buy new seeds, compost and equipment in the Spring.









## Writing in Year 6

Children in Year 6 have been impressing their teachers with some fantastic writing. As part of their Ancient Greek topic, they have been reading Theseus and the Minotaur before creating their own myth.

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023

L.O: I can write my own version of a Greek myth.

This story starts more than two millennia ago in Athens when it had been cursed for thirty-five long years. You see, every seven years they had to send seven girls and seven boys to the island of Crete as sacrifices for the evil King Minos. So what qualities do heroes have?

On one such year, seven boys and seven girls who were meant to be going as sacrifices that year were plotting an escape plan... After many conversations of escaping, they finally agreed to hide in a box. Meanwhile, Theseus (the prince of Athens) was talking to his father, King Aegeus. "I shall go and kill this idiotic Minotaur and save the day for the 1, 2, 3... millionth time!" Theseus declared. King Aegeus' face suddenly turned white with fear and he started mumbling something about the Minotaur being extremely dangerous. Theseus completely ignored his father. As he walked out of the room, Aegeus slumped quietly. Theseus' blonde hair gleamed around as he paraded around. His muscular body was shining brightly. At twelve pm that night, the <sup>sacrificed</sup> children snuck into the box and sealed it tightly.

HP A very solid start.

20.9.2023

A few days later, Theseus went searching for the children. He went out to do it early that morning, since he was setting off the next day. After hours of searching he eventually gave up looking for them altogether. The very next day he was blowing kisses to the (slowly but surely) growing crowd. As he wanted the time, the sun shone as brightly as a torch. Theseus set off sailing slowly across the Greek sea when he heard his father yell "Change your jags from black to white if you succeed!". Or something like that.

After a day of sailing, Theseus started frantically pacing up and down the ship, biting his nails nervously. The waves were starting to get especially enormous, they were as big as buildings! The boat was rocking up and down and up and down and up and down... Theseus was feeling very sick given how much the time was rocking. His face was as green

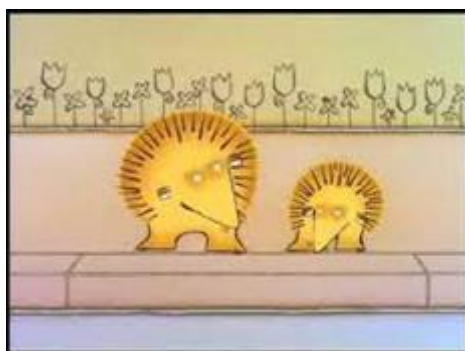
as broccoli. Suddenly, there was a huge wave and Theseus got hunked out of his own ship into the water. He was treading water while he watched his fire sink. He burst into loud tears and started swimming towards Crete. After an hour of swimming, Theseus noticed a pin behind him. He ducked under water and saw... A shark! He turned around and his arms spun around. Finally, he arrived at the castle. Theseus looked on at the beautifully patterned doors. They opened slowly, and there stood the prettiest king you did ever see. He was around your feet tall and he had a golden, jewel encrusted, fancy crown sitting on his big head. He had the best eyes in the history of eyes. Theseus eyes inspected his surroundings, most of the furniture was made of solid gold and red carpets were relaxing, laid out on the floor. Then he caught a glimpse of the most beautiful girl he had ever seen. She had long, wavy, thick and bushy ginger hair and gorgeous brown eyes. Her skin was as white as paper and her eyelashes were very long. She was wearing a long green dress but you could see her bare feet. "So, unlucky you eh?" King Minos said, walking slowly towards Theseus. "All on your own."

Clank! Theseus was thrown into the dungeons with chained hands. He fell into a light sleep. "Mum...?". "No it's not your mum," whispered the girl. She handed Theseus a ball of endless wool and said her name was Ariadne. The guard walked in at that moment, completely ignored Ariadne and went to open the door of the labyrinth. He pushed Theseus in and locked the door.

In the depths of the labyrinth, Theseus of Athens curiously entered the dreaded labyrinth, clutching the magical ball of wool tightly in his hand. The low burning lights glowed as he descended into the labyrinth. He had only just entered but there was already a dozen different directions and a damp chill hung in the cold air. Courageously, Theseus ventured further through the labyrinth as a deadly silence pre-announced him. Human skulls rolled towards him. Suddenly, he heard a grunt and hesitantly turned around and saw... The Minotaur! Theseus pulled out his sword and gashed the Minotaur's leg. It was horrendously ugly, its head was that of a bull but its body was that of a person. His horns were stuck

of his it's ugly head like blood stained daggers. It growled deeply. The Minotaur charged towards Theseus. He stabbed the Minotaur in the arm and then Theseus leaped onto the Minotaur's head.   
 Lo! I can edit my own version of a Greek myth.  
 The Minotaur threw Theseus' egg and then he banged his head onto a hard, sharp rock. Suddenly, Ariadne runs in with a dagger and she stabs the Minotaur in the back! The Minotaur yelled out in pain as she stabs, golden dagger cuts through his flesh! She dashes out of the labyrinth and jumps into the sea. As soon as she hits the surface, she transforms into a beautiful mermaid with a gorgeous teal tail and lives in the Aegean sea!  
 The End

## Safeguarding



As the clocks go back and the nights draw in, it is an overnight adjustment for all of us keeping children safe in the dark. The darker evenings can have a big impact on our daily routines such as picking up children from playdates, after school school clubs or evening clubs.

Remember that visibility is key. Talk to your children about being seen! Not just by motorists and cyclists, but by other pedestrians. School uniforms can be dark and children are safer if they are visible. You can easily add high-visibility reflective strips onto their clothing, school bags or bike helmets. It is vital to teach your children road safety basics from an early age.

Encourage older children to retain a sense of awareness. They should be discouraged from having headphones in their ears and should not be concentrating on their phones. Being pre-occupied and distracted will make them more vulnerable, particularly in the dark.

The darker conditions in Autumn and Winter mean it is even more important to be aware of where your children are and what they are wearing when walking around our village. The children will be talking more about this in school during Road Safety Week in November.

## Year 6 Greek Day

On Wednesday, the year 6 children took part in a very exciting and immersive Greek Day, led by the fabulous Lauren from Portals to the Past. The children began the day learning about the rivalries between City States and the gruesome and bloody battles against the Persians. Following this, the children completed a fun, quiz competition discovering their own facts all about Ancient Greece. After break, the children enjoyed trying to solve 'Archimedes' Stomachion', which is the oldest known mathematical puzzle. In pairs, the children also enjoyed playing the Greek strategy game, Petteia – make sure you ask your children who won. Following lunch, we explored Greek warrior artefacts and commenced battle. Everyone took part in a mini Olympic games, to conclude our fun filled and memorable day!







## Year 6 application for Secondary School

Below are the dates for open days/evenings for Bartholomew:

The applications for secondary schools are now open. The deadline is 31st October 2023. Click below to apply: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/year-7-applications>

Reception open morning

# Open Morning Eynsham Community Primary School Reception Starters - September 2024

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023 - 9:15am  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023 - 9:15am  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 - 9:15am



**Come and meet the team, see the environment and learning opportunities available within the community.**

**Find out about your local school which has Flagship status for Personal Social Health and Emotional education, where we encourage 'Everyone soaring to success' .**

Contact the school office to book your place, we can't wait to meet you

Tel: 01865 881294 Website: [www.eynsham.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.eynsham.oxon.sch.uk)

Email: [office.2209@eynsham.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.2209@eynsham.oxon.sch.uk) or [head.2209@eynsham.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:head.2209@eynsham.oxon.sch.uk)

## Awards

### **Headteacher Award:**

Year 1 - Tom, Iris

Year 3 - Millie, Lizzie

Year 4 - Lizzie

Year 6 - Lucius and Alfie

### **Reading Award:**

Year 3 - Jude

Year 4 - Felix

Year 6 - Lin, Oscar

### **Writing Award:**

Year 1 - Robyn, Taylor

Year 3 - Annika

Year 6 - Samuel, Rosa

### **Maths Award:**

Year 3 - Amelie

Year 4 - Bradley

Year 6 - Belle, Elvin

### **Bronze Award:**

Year 4 - Luke, Polly, Ella

Year 6 - Elvin, Rebecca, Cadence, Xavier, Theo, Zak, Samuel, Jacob, Bryn, Trystan, Imogen, Salma, Misha, Millie, Freddie, Evelyn, Ollie, Harry, Lin, Shymon, Zack

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 23-24

Date	Event	Additional Information
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October:	Yr 4 and Yr6 Cross Country at Bartholomew 3.30 – 4.45pm	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October and	Yr 1 & Y4 Science Oxford Workshops	Parentmail item
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Y3 & Y2 Science Oxford Workshops	
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Yr 6 boys football match (after school)	
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> October:	Reception trip to Cogges Farm	Parentmail item
Tuesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> October:	Year 6 girls football tournament – Bartholomew School 3.30 – 5.30pm	
Tuesday 10th October	World Mental Health day	
Wednesday 11th October- Thursday 12th October:	Y4 Hill End Trip	Parentmail Item
Wednesday 11th October	Open Morning for prospective Parents (Early Years)	
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	PTA AGM 9am in the school hall	
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 3 trip to Pitt Rivers and Natural History Museum, Oxford	
Monday 16th – Wednesday 18th October	Y5 Youlbury Trip	Parentmail item
Wednesday 18th October	Parents' Evening: 3:30-6:30pm	
Thursday 19th October:	Parents' Evening: 4:30-7:30pm	
Friday 20th October	Last day of half term	
Monday 30th October:	INSET Day 2	
Monday 30th October- Friday 3rd November	Year 6 Woodlands Trip	Parentmail item
Tuesday 31st October:	Term 1 (2nd half) commences	
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Boccia tournament at Bartholomew School 3.30-5.30pm	
Thursday 9th November:	Open Morning for prospective Parents (Early Years)	
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 6 – 1 <sup>st</sup> Transition Day to Bartholomew	
Monday 13th November:	Anti-Bullying week - Odd Socks Day	
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Yr 6 Athletics – Bartholomew Sports Hall 3.30-5.30pm	
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Y5 Evacuee experience at Didcot Railway Station	
Thursday 23rd November:	KS1 & KS2 Parents Stay and Learn Afternoon (History & Geography)	1.30pm
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas Fair 4pm – 6pm	
Monday 27th November – Tuesday 28th November	Year 6 Cycling Proficiency	
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Light Up Eynsham	
Wednesday 6th December	Morning for prospective Parents (EYFS)	
Monday 11th December:	KS1 Performance to the school: 1pm	
Tuesday 12th December:	KS1 Performance: 1pm (Babies and toddlers welcome)	
Tuesday 12th December:	KS1 Performance: 6pm (Adults only)	
Wednesday 13th December:	KS1 Performance: 6pm (Adults only)	
Thursday 14th December:	FS Christmas Singing (Parents invited @ 2:00pm)	
Thursday 14th December:	Parents open afternoon beginning at 2.45pm with mince pies and mulled wine.	
Wednesday 20th December:	End of Term (Finish at 1:15pm)	
Monday 8th January:	INSET Day 3	
Tuesday 9th January:	Term 2 (1st half) commences	
Wednesday 7th February:	Parents' Evening: 3:30-6:30pm	
Thursday 8th February:	Parents' Evening: 4:30-7:30pm	
Friday 9th February:	End of half term	
Monday 19th February:	Term 2 (2nd half) commences.	
Wednesday 28th February	KS1 & KS2 Parents Stay and Learn Afternoon (Geography)	1.30pm
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March:	Yr 6 Netball tournament at Bartholomew 3.45-5.30pm	
Thursday 7th March:	World Book Day	
Friday 17th March:	Red Nose Day	
Monday 18th March:	Year 4/5 Production to school: 1pm	
Tuesday 19th March:	Year 4/5 Production to parents: 1pm (Babies and toddlers welcome)	
	Year 4/5 Production to Parents: 6pm	
Wednesday 20th March:	Year 4/5 Production to Parents: 6pm	
Thursday 28th March:	End of Term (Finish at 1:15pm)	
Monday 15th April	INSET DAY 4	
Tuesday 16th April:	Term 3 (1st half) begins	
Thursday 2nd May	Mayday parade	
Monday 6th May:	May Bank Holiday	School Closed
Monday 13th May	KS2 Sats	
-Friday 17th May		
Friday 24th May	Summer Fete with Dance performances 2:00pm	
Friday 24th May	Last day of half term	
Monday 3rd June	Term 3 (2nd half) commences.	
Sunday 9th June	Run Wytham Woods	
Thursday 4th July	EYFS Sports Afternoon	
Friday 5th July	Sports Day	
Friday 12th July	Back up sports day in case of bad weather	
Friday 12th July	Reports out	
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 production- dress rehearsal to school (no parents)	
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 production – afternoon performance to parents	
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 production – evening performance to parents	
Monday 22nd July:	Morning - Year 6 leavers celebration to the school	
Monday 22nd July:	Year 6 leavers celebration to parent – 1:15	
Tuesday 23rd July	End of Term (Finish at 1:15pm)	

## Contact

If you would like to get in touch with a member of staff here at school, please see the contact details below

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