



Eynsham Community Primary School
Newsletter - Friday 19th December
2025

Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move through this wonderfully festive time of year, it has been a real joy to see our school community come together to celebrate, perform and learn. Our KS1 performance of *The Inn-Spectors* was an absolute delight. The Year 1 and Year 2 children were simply fantastic – confident, expressive and full of enthusiasm. The singing was excellent, the acting was full of character, and the smiles on their faces said it all. It was clear just how much hard work had gone into preparing for the performance. My sincere thanks go to the whole team for their dedication, support and commitment in making the production such a success.

Last week also saw our Foundation Stage Christmas Singing, which was wonderfully festive and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. The children sang beautifully and brought plenty of Christmas cheer to the hall. Our School Christmas Lunch on Wednesday was a lovely occasion, with music and crackers adding to the festive atmosphere and making it a special experience for everyone.

We enjoyed the iRock Concert, where pupils impressed us with their musical skills, confidence and teamwork.

Finally, a big thank you to the parents who gave up their time to share festive stories from around the world. The children loved learning about how different cultures celebrate the holidays, and these sessions were a lovely reminder of the richness and diversity within our school community.

As we come to the end of term, I would like to wish all our families a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year. We hope you enjoy a restful and relaxing school holiday, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in the New Year.

Kind regards,

Mrs V Bayliss

Mrs N Edwards

Executive Headteacher

Head of School

Meet the team!

[This week we will be meeting The Year 5 Team!](#)

Hello, I'm Mrs Duan, the Red Kites class teacher in Year 5. This is my third year teaching Year 5 and my third year at Eynsham Community Primary School. I'm also the Geography Lead and have recently taken on the exciting role of Eco Lead, where I'm passionate about helping make our school a more eco-friendly place. I really enjoy teaching and I love making a difference. Outside of school, I love being outdoors and exploring new places, especially in

the countryside or by the coast. I enjoy going on walks, camping, swimming in the sea (even when it's chilly!), and spending time exploring with my niece and nephew.

Hi, I am Miss Freeman, the Year 5 Hawks teacher, having recently moved up from Year 2 Flamingos. I am also the school's PE Lead and for the second year I am running the West Oxfordshire football league, helping to promote teamwork, resilience and a love of sport. I love helping children to shine and feel proud of all that they achieve, no matter how small.

Outside of school, I love keeping active through running, swimming and yoga, as well as spending quality time with friends and family. With a passion for travelling, I love exploring new places and cultures whenever I can.

Hello, I'm Miss Thornley, the TA for both Year 5 classes. This is my first year at Eynsham Community Primary School after recently graduating from University. I am absolutely loving working with the children and am really enjoying being part of the school community. This term, I am running the Arts and Crafts after-school club, as I have a real passion for all things creative and artistic. Outside of school, I enjoy playing netball competitively and love spending my time visiting galleries and exploring new places.



1 - Miss Freeman, Mrs Duan, Mrs Billington & Miss Thornley

The Inn-spectors Nativity Play

Last week, Key Stage One performed their brilliant nativity, the Inn-spectors, to packed audiences. We were wowed by the children's confidence and were so proud of them as they told the Christmas story with a little twist. A big well done to everyone, whether you had a solo to sing, lines to say or a song to sing with you class, you all did brilliantly. Thank you to parents for all the help with costumes and line-learning too, we hope you enjoyed the show.

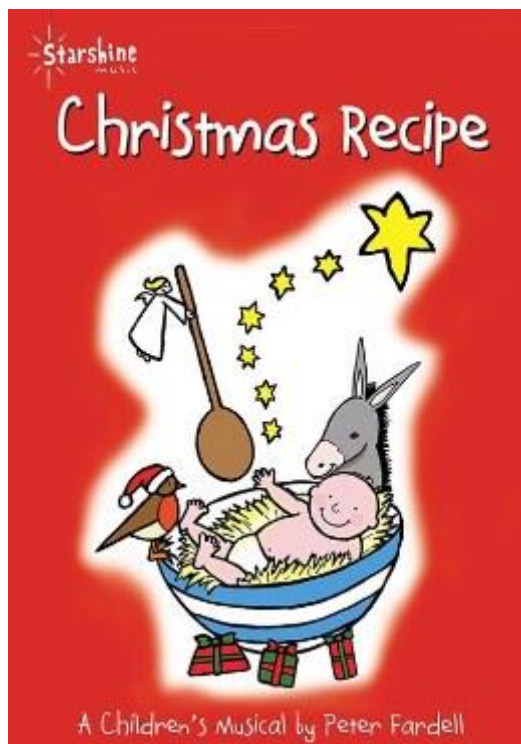
Miss H Cook





Foundation & Ducklings Christmas Singing

The children in Robins, Kingfishers and Ducklings performed a range of Christmas songs from the Children's musical 'A Christmas Recipe'. They delighted our audience of parents, grandparents and carers with their actions and beautiful singing on the stage. They had worked so hard to learn all the words and a huge thank you to the EYFS team for all their support - it was a really special performance.



Year 3 DT Project - Eating Seasonally

Year 3 had a fantastic time making their own seasonal tarts in DT as part of their learning about food and where it comes from. The children carefully chose three vegetables grown in the UK from a selection of carrots, potatoes, swede, leeks and brussel sprouts, thinking carefully about seasonality and freshness before preparing their tarts. The finished tarts looked amazing and, even better, they were absolutely delicious!







Festive Stories from around the world

This week, as part of our work towards the International Award, we welcomed parents and family members into school to share about festive traditions around the world. Each year group learnt about a different culture and we loved hearing festive stories and traditions from Italy, the Czech Republic, Portugal, Germany, Nigeria and Ukraine. A big thank you to all the volunteers who came in to share a Christmas story and traditions from their culture, we loved it!

Miss H Cook







Ducklings Stay & Play

This week the Ducklings held a stay and play session for their parents. The children loved sharing their Christmas activities with them and showing them all the things they have been doing in class. A great time was had by all. Thank you to all that came and joined us.

Mrs Neath











Cygnets Stay & Play

Monday afternoon was cygnets 'stay and play', giving parents the chance to spend time with their children in the setting. The afternoon was filled with a variety of Christmas activities, such as making reindeer food, arts and crafts and decorating biscuits. The water tray, with its frozen snowmen, was particularly popular and kept the children entertained for quite some time.



Humanities Curriculum Update

Design and Technology lessons across the school have been full of creativity, problem-solving and festive fun this term.

Key Stage 1 pupils developed their practical skills through hands-on projects. Year 1 constructed windmills, learning how simple mechanisms create movement, while Year 2 put

their sewing skills to the test by making their own wallets. The children practised using a running stitch with increasing confidence and accuracy.

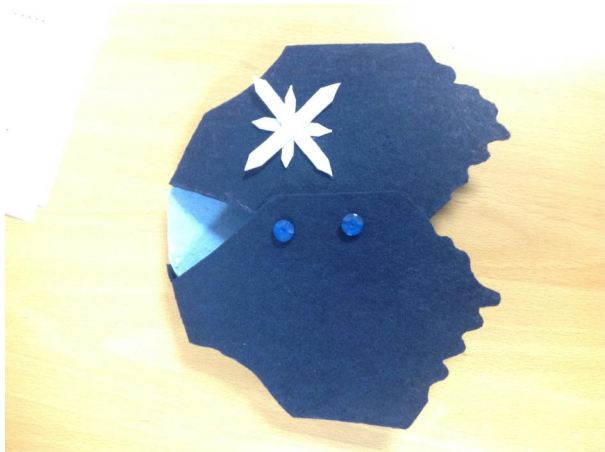
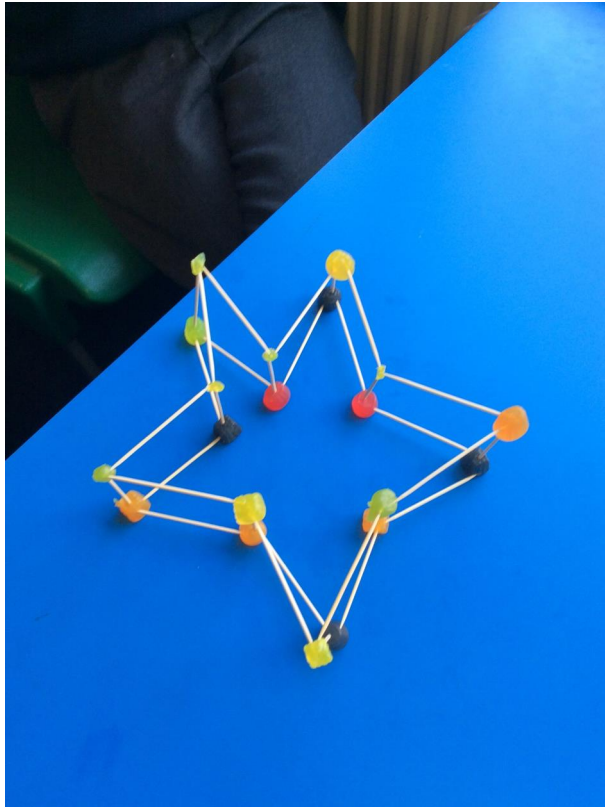
In **Lower Key Stage 2**, pupils explored food technology and construction. Year 3 baked seasonal tarts and evaluated their creations through a taste test, discussing flavor, texture and presentation. Year 4 received a letter from Santa, challenging them to design and build a Christmas grotto. Using lolly sticks and glue guns, the children worked collaboratively to create imaginative and sturdy structures.

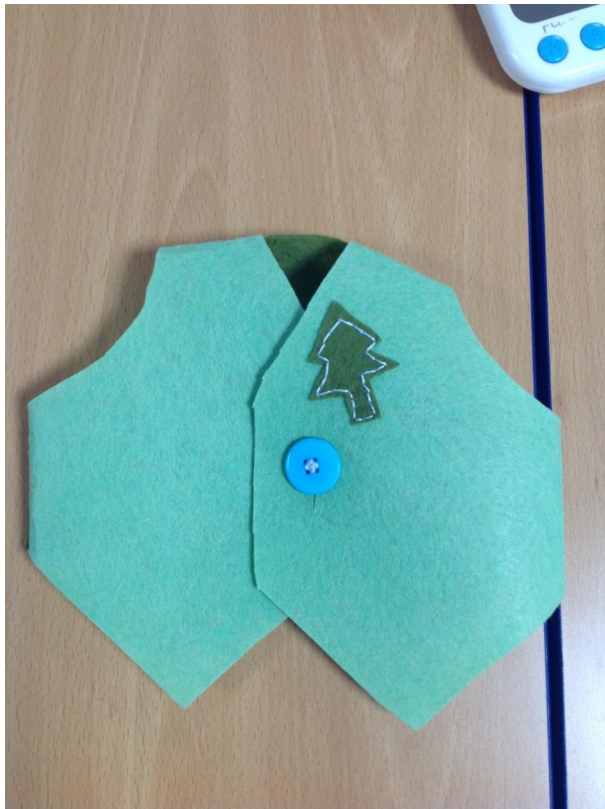
Upper Key Stage 2 pupils demonstrated impressive technical and creative skills. Year 5 enjoyed creating 'Doodlers' – mechanical devices connected to a motor and circuit that produced their own doodle artwork. In Year 6, pupils designed and sewed Christmas waistcoats for a teddy bear, showcasing careful planning and confident sewing techniques. It has been a fantastic term of learning, highlighting creativity, technical skills and teamwork across all key stages. Well done to everyone involved!

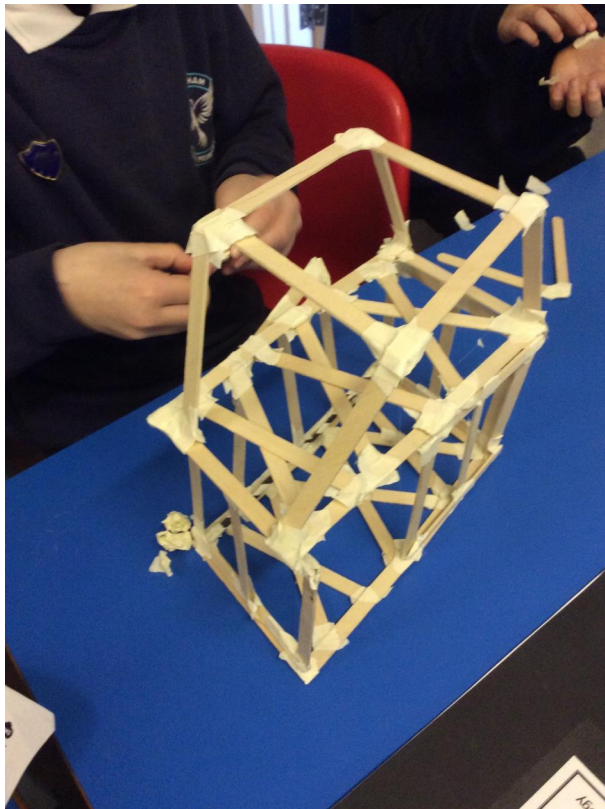














Father Christmas visits Eynsham Primary!

The Eynsham Rotary Club kindly brought Father Christmas into school for our Nursery and EYFS to meet and receive a gift! This is always a lovely festive experience that the children enjoy being a part of. A massive thank you from us to you.





Governors Update

Governors were delighted to be welcomed to our most recent meeting by the Head Girl and Head Boy, two fantastic ambassadors for Eynsham Primary School. They both eloquently articulated how the School Council is organised and the impact that it has on making changes in school. We were incredibly impressed by the dedication and commitment the Head Boy, Head Girl, and the School Council representatives have, and most importantly how much they care and feel their voices are heard and considered in School life.

It was wonderful to hear about the various pupil leadership roles the school has to offer and how pupils thrive in these roles. Early Years was also given a spotlight at our last meeting with a very positive presentation from Mrs Bowler on the developments and improvements which have taken place. Feedback from a follow up visit by an Early Years Consultant commented on strong relationships within the Early Years team and that the continuous provision was working well and was 'highly engaging' with children accessing their own learning both indoors and outdoors. Governors have been really impressed with the improvements in Early Years and have enjoyed visiting the outdoor area in particular.

We were also excited to hear about the school's work as part of The South Cluster: a collaboration of three schools within the EPA (Stanton, Standlake and Eynsham). Through

Mrs Bayliss' role as Executive Headteacher of Eynsham and Stanton she has been able to create a collaborative relationship between the three schools where they can share expertise, ideas, offer strategic support and where appropriate work on School Development priorities. We look forward to hearing more about this as the year progresses.

It's been an exciting time for governors seeing different areas of the school, it's also been a proud time for governors hearing about the school's excellence. Governors would also like to recognise the relentless work of our staff, so on behalf of the school community we'd like to thank them publicly and wish them and our students a restful and festive school holiday.

Wellbeing Award for Schools



Eynsham Primary School is currently working to achieve a school improvement award.

In order to evaluate our current provision, we need your input. Your views are important in helping us understand what we are doing well and how we can do even better.

All responses and suggestions will be carefully considered and used to plan a range of school improvements.

Evaluation submissions are valid between: 11/11/2025 - 19/12/2025. Your submission will not be accepted outside of these dates

<https://app.awardplace.co.uk/stakeholder-evaluations/user-survey/691343326d9f3>

Many thanks for your time, it is much appreciated,

Miss Patterson

Safeguarding

Christmas is often seen as the most magical, family-orientated time of the year. But with this focus on family, comes pressure – so much so that that same magic can be lost under the expectation of what Christmas SHOULD be. Whether it's the anxiety that comes with spending extended time around family members or not having a family to spend time with.

The Christmas period can be an anxiety-inducing one for both adults and children experiencing domestic abuse in all of its forms. It can quickly turn into a frightening time for the victim. In the UK, there is often a surge in reports of domestic violence from men, women, and children trapped with their abusers. This is usually after the core period, however, as Christmas time means there are fewer opportunities to report abuse. With many businesses and schools closed, accessing support can prove tricky for victims.

Here are some of the key issues faced:

Increased stress or family tensions

Christmas can bring added financial strain, family pressures, or emotional stress. This may exacerbate existing family tensions, leading to situations where children might be at risk of neglect, abuse, or harm.

Disruption of routine and isolation

School holidays can disrupt children's regular routine, leaving them with more unstructured or unsupervised time. This could lead to situations where they spend more time in potentially unsafe environments, including online, or with individuals who may pose a risk to their safety. Children can also feel cut off from their usual support network of trusted adults and friends. Neglected or abused children can experience extreme loneliness, anxiety, or depression.

Increased vulnerability

Some families might face difficulties during the holidays due to various factors such as financial and emotional strain, mental health issues, or substance abuse including excess alcohol. Children in these families might be more vulnerable to neglect or abuse during this time.

Reduced access to support services

During the holidays, some support services, including schools or community organisations, might be closed or operating at reduced capacity. This can limit the resources available to children who may need help or intervention.

Expense

Christmas places families under enormous pressure to spend money. Sadly, in the current cost of living crisis, many will be unable to absorb the financial commitments without going into debt.

If you are worried about a child:

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child, it is your duty to report this to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). The team can be reached on 0345 050 7666.

If you are worried about domestic abuse:

You can report this to the Police, either on 999 if someone is at immediate risk, or 101 if you are concerned.

Awards



Silver Award:

Year 2 - Chester

Year 5 - Lily, Eric

Gold Award:

Year 1 - Solomon O, Robyn S, Harry S, Idris W-W, Gracie M

Year 2 - Angel, Arlia, George, Casper, Isla, Edward, Isaac, Hunter

Year 3 - Lara, Robyn, Sienna, Willow, Drew, Sapphire, Eva

Year 4 - Issy, junior

Year 5 - Phoebe, Timi, Isabelle

Platinum Award (150 points):

Year 1 - Nancy J,

Year 2 - Edward, Casper, Isla, Lorraine, Marnie, Lea,

Year 3 - Ayah, Milo,

Year 4 - Matthew,

Year 5 - Michael, Kacy, Isaac, Holly C,

Diamond Award (250 points)

Year 2 - Chester

Year 3 - Aston, James, Tashvi, Jonathan, Iris

Year 4 - Samuel, Furqan, Emma, Seb, Eva

Year 5 - Eric, Lily,

Sapphire Award (450 points)

Year 3 - Heidi

Math's Award:

Year 3 - Heidi

Reading Award:

Year 3 - Xian

Headteacher Award:

Attendance

At the EPA Trust, we are committed to ensuring every child receives the best possible education. One of the most important factors in a child's success at school is their attendance. Regular attendance is key to academic achievement, personal development, and future opportunities.

Why attendance matters

Academic Success – Studies show that pupils with high attendance achieve better results and make faster progress.

Social and Emotional Development – Attending school consistently helps students build friendships, confidence, and resilience.

Future Prospects – Good attendance habits set the foundation for future education, training, and employment.

Our Attendance Goals

At the EPA Trust, we aim for at least 96% attendance across all our schools.

Every school in our Trust is dedicated to working with families to remove barriers to attendance and ensure every child reaches their full potential.

Registration form	%
Robins	94.0%
Kingfishers	92.7%
Penguins	94.8%
Puffins	93.4%
Flamingos	91.3%
Toucans	95.6%
Hummingbirds	96.4%
Nightingales	95.1%
Jackdaws	93.6%
Woodpeckers	96.6%
Hawks	97.8%
Red Kites	96.2%
Eagles	93.6%
Kestrels	95.1%

Parent Notices

Dates for your diary



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Is your child 3 or 4 years old?

Primary school place – you must apply now

If your child was born on or between **1 September 2021** and **31 August 2022**, you need to apply for a primary school place now.

You must still apply even if your child already attends a nursery attached to the school.

Deadline for applications is **15 January 2026**.

Apply online at

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

– it's quick, easy and secure.

You can get free access to the internet at many of our libraries and children's centres – ask for details at your local facility.



For help and information:

Web: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Email: admissions.schools@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Tel: **01865 519800 Option 2**

 OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL

After School Events

West Oxford Taekwon-Do Club

Founded in Botley in September 2011 and pride there selves in offering inclusive family friendly martial arts training.

They can offer: 1. Martial arts demonstrations for assemblies.2. Martial arts sessions as a part of enrichment or alternative curriculum days.3. One off anti-bullying and self-defence training (staff or students).

Chris Hall , Instructor, 07815899698, <http://www.wotkd.co.uk/>

www.osaacademy.co.uk

XMAS FOOTBALL CAMP

Our December Football Camp is open to all players aged 4-13 Years & will be Christmas Party themed with lots of festive fun, challenges and prizes throughout the day.

MONDAY 22ND DECEMBER
10am - 2.30pm

£25 (siblings discount available)
info@osaacademy.co.uk

Eynsham Sports Pavilion
Oxford Road
OX29 4HG

OSA Football will be running their clubs from Friday 9th January through to and including Friday 20th March 2026. Please use the link below to book your child on to their club.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1g_-LRtyl4MingLCq-PgDw6Ulltowz46SUsRsu7tF3ds/edit

Road Safety Reminder

Road Safety Reminder

As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping our children safe, we'd like to remind all parents and carers of a few important road safety points:

- No parking or dropping off on the yellow zig-zag lines outside school – these areas must be kept clear at all times to ensure visibility and safety for children crossing.
- Children riding bikes or scooters on pavements should always be supervised by an adult, please dismount in plenty of time before reaching the school gate.
- Please do not park across residents' driveways. We want to maintain good relationships with our neighbours and ensure everyone has access to their property.

Thank you for helping us keep the school community safe and considerate for everyone!

Contact

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

Eynsham Community Primary School

Beech Road

Eynsham

Witney

OX29 4LJ

01865 881294

office.2209@eynsham.oxon.sch.uk

Visit us on the web at www.eynsham.oxon.sch.uk

