



Eynsham Community Primary School
Newsletter - Friday 5th December 2025

Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful start to the festive season we have had in school! Our Christmas Fair was a truly joyful event, filled with community spirit, excitement, and plenty of festive cheer. We will be sharing the grand total raised very soon, but for now I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our fantastic PTA for their hard work, dedication, and creativity in bringing the fair to life. Events like this simply wouldn't happen without them.

Last week we also hosted our Year 1 and Reception Phonics Cheese and Wine Evening. It was lovely to welcome so many of you into school to learn more about how phonics is taught and how you can support your children at home. We hope you found the session both useful and enjoyable. Thank you to Mrs Whitehouse who organised this event. Also, thank you to Mr Williams for facilitating the Spelling Stay and Learn which took place last week. It was great to see so many parents coming to gain an insight on how we teach spelling at our school and ways that they can support at home. Next term, there will be another Stay and Learn with a focus on RE.

Our Singing Squad have also been out and about, taking part in the Big Christmas Sing alongside schools from across Oxfordshire. They represented our school beautifully, singing with enthusiasm and confidence — we are very proud of them. A big thank you to Mrs Ledden-Fletcher for all her work in helping the children prepare for their performance.

Looking ahead, the next couple of weeks promise to be filled with even more festive performances. Our Key Stage 1 children are busy preparing for The Inn-Spectors, while our Early Years pupils are rehearsing their Christmas singing. You will have received a flyer with all of our December event dates — please do check it so you don't miss any of these special moments.

On Thursday 11th December, we will be taking part in the NSPCC Christmas jumper day, children are welcome to wear their Christmas jumpers to school for the day.

Staffing News:

At the end of this term we will be saying a sad farewell to Lucy Merry who will be leaving her role as our nursery admin. We thank Lucy for all her hard work, especially with all the PTA events.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Bayliss and Mrs Edwards

Meet the team!

[This week we will be meeting The Year 4 Team!](#)

Hi. I'm Miss Paterson and I have been a teacher since 2006, having spent the past 9 years working at Eynsham. I wanted to be a teacher from when I was a child and so once I completed my degree at university, I pursued a second degree in teaching. I now work four days a week as Jackdaws Class Teacher, with the additional roles of RE and Well-being Lead. Eynsham is a wonderful school to work at, that has the needs of children at its heart as well as a true sense of community. I have two children of my own, one aged 12 and the other aged 5. Recently, we have had a new addition to our family, a puppy called Rocco, who is just approaching 10 weeks old. I feel Christmas this year will be a little bit different for us! I love the outdoors, going for walks and exploring new places as well as spending time with my family and reading a good book.

My name is Miss Warrington and I have been working at Eynsham for 5 years. I began at Eynsham as a teaching assistant, before training to become a teacher and returning last year. It is an absolute pleasure to teach at Eynsham. I love learning new things and my favourite part of my job is nurturing each child's own love of learning and finding those lessons and subjects which make their faces light up. In any free time, you likely find me making or creating something as I love to make artwork. It has been fantastic to join as joint subject lead of Art and Dt this year to continue to share this art knowledge with everyone.

My name is Lizzie Kirby and I am a Year 4 Teaching Assistant. I have been with the school for 4 years now. I live in the village with my husband and 2 children. One is in Year 5 and the other in Year 8. We have a dog called Lyra and 2 cats. My favourite thing to do is read and I love to do anything crafty as well.

Hello, my name is Miss Thompson, and I have been a TA here at Eynsham Primary for almost a year now and I absolutely love it! From supporting the students, to playing tag at lunch, everyday I leave with a great sense of accomplishment. I am a mum to 2 girls aged 13 and 16 and the proud owner of a British Bulldog who loves to take ME for walks. In my spare time I like to go for walks around Witney town while sipping on a hot chocolate, and love popping on an expedition documentary or series in the evenings and relaxing on the sofa.

Hi! I'm Mrs Rhodes. I have worked at Eynsham Primary School for a little over three years. I am now a TA in Year 4. I have three children, who have left Eynsham to go to Bartholomew Secondary School. I enjoy watching films, football and going line-dancing.



Year 4 Viking Day

Year 4 had a fantastic Viking day this week and they all looked amazing in their Viking outfits. We started our day learning about how the Vikings invaded Britain and how they attacked the holy monastery at Lindisfarne. Then, we got ourselves ready for the invasion by making some Viking shields, equipped with 'iron' bosses to protect our hands during the battle. Year 4 used accurate colours, patterns and even runes to decorate their shields and they look amazing!

We acted out scenes of the Vikings attacking the innocent monks and discussed how the monks might have felt and why they didn't defend themselves.

To end the day, we learnt some Viking songs and even wrote some secret Viking messages using our ancient rune knowledge. Amazing work Year 4!



Year 3 Trip to Oxford Museum

Our adventure began with us becoming real-life *Rock Stars*! We dived into the fascinating world of rocks, discovering the unique features of igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks. We investigated how each type is formed and why rocks are so important in our everyday lives. The children were amazed as they explored sparkling minerals, examined fossils hidden within sedimentary rocks and uncovered the stories they tell about life long ago. The highlight of the morning was examining a meteorite—an actual rock from outer space that is older than Earth itself!

In the afternoon, we travelled back in time on an exciting journey from the Stone Age to the Bronze Age and finally into the Iron Age. The children became expert investigators, using clues, evidence and their brilliant historical knowledge to work out whether mysterious artefacts were Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age or Iron Age— and they got *every single one* correct!

Our visit ended with a thrilling scavenger hunt through the museum galleries. From bird traps and axe heads to ancient spear points, the children raced to track down a whole range of fascinating artefacts.

We had a truly fantastic day at the museum—full of curiosity, discovery and hands-on learning. The class absolutely loved exploring the fossils and artefacts, and we can't wait for our next adventure!











Year 4 Trip to Eynsham Baptist Church

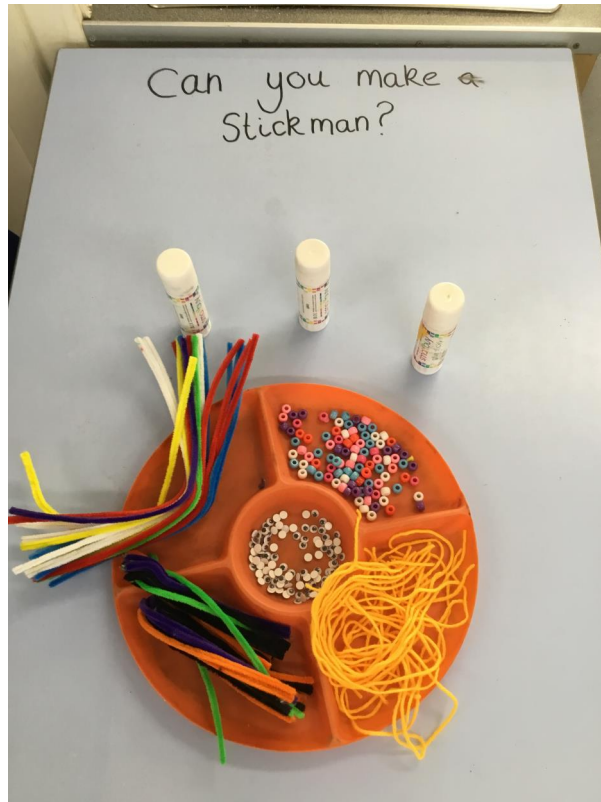
Year 4 visited the Baptist Church in Eynsham as part of the RE unit, 'What is the most significant part of the Nativity story for Christians today?' The children heard about the history of church, the different events that take place there and what baptism is. This was then followed by a discussion about the Nativity story and the different decorations within the church and what they represented. Finally, we discussed which parts of the story might be considered the most significant to Christians today due to their symbolism and what they tell Christians about God.



Foundation Stay and Play

We welcomed the parents and carers of Robins and Kingfishers to our Stay and Play session which was themed around our core text 'Stickman'. The children and adults had a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon learning together both indoors and outdoors. Some of our activities included: Crafting Stickmen, playing in our themed tuff trays, using playdough to make the Stick family, collaging a large stickman from natural materials and making a river outside to float sticks. We finished off the afternoon with a story time, reading Stickman together. Thank you to all those adults who joined us.





Humanities Curriculum Update

Humanities Curriculum Update

It has been a wonderfully busy and engaging term across the school as pupils have immersed themselves in a wide range of humanities topics.

Key Stage 1

Year 1 have been exploring local history through their topic on *The Lost Railway of Eynsham*. They enjoyed finding out about how the railway once connected the village to Oxford and Witney, and how transport has changed over time.

Year 2 have loved learning about the *Great Fire of London*. Their topic was brought vividly to life during a fantastic trip to the Tower of London, where they explored the history and stories linked to this famous event.

Lower Key Stage 2

Year 3 have been stepping back in time, discovering what life was like from the *Stone Age to the Iron Age*. Their visit to the Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford sparked lots of curiosity, and they thoroughly enjoyed creating their own Stone Age-inspired artwork as part of their art topic.

Year 4 have been fully immersed in their studies of the *Anglo-Saxons and Vikings*. Viking Day was a particular highlight, with pupils dressing up and taking part in activities that helped them understand the invasion of Lindisfarne. They also explored local history by walking around Eynsham to learn about the remains of Eynsham Abbey.

Upper Key Stage 2

Year 5 have delved into the *Second World War*, gaining a powerful insight into the past through their evacuee experience at Didcot Railway Station.

Year 6 have travelled even further back in time to explore the *Ancient Greek world*, learning about the origins of democracy and comparing the contrasting city-states of Sparta and Athens.

Across the school, pupils have shown fantastic enthusiasm, curiosity and creativity in their humanities learning. We look forward to seeing where their historical adventures take them next!

Wellbeing Award for Schools



WAS NATIONAL EDUCATION RESEARCH Wellbeing Award for Schools

Over the next few months, we are working towards the

WELLBEING

AWARD FOR SCHOOLS

This is a whole-school activity to help improve the emotional wellbeing and mental health of everyone.

To find out more or to get involved, contact your **Wellbeing Award Coordinator:**
Miss Paterson

OPTIMUS EDUCATION

Safeguarding

Domestic abuse is a national emergency. It defined by the government as any incident of controlling, coercive, or threatening behaviour, violence, or abuse between individuals aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender

or sexuality. This includes psychological, physical, sexual, financial, or emotional abuse. Controlling and coercive behaviours are often central to domestic abuse.☒ Controlling behaviour: Acts designed to make a person dependent by isolating them from support, exploiting their resources, depriving them of independence, and regulating their daily activities.☒ Coercive behaviour: Acts or patterns of assault, threats, humiliation, and intimidation used to harm, punish, or frighten the victim. Children and young people may experience domestic abuse in family relationships, use or experience abuse in their own intimate relationships, or exhibit abusive behaviours towards parents (child-on-parent violence).

For further advice and support, follow this link:

<https://a2dominion.co.uk/services/domestic-abuse-support-services>

PTA Announcement

Dear Parents and carers,

The PTA are thrilled to tell you that the Christmas fair was a resounding success. We made the grand total of £2608.51 which is fantastic! These funds will be put towards expanding the schools stock of Chrome Books which will enable more classes to have access to them during the school day.

We'd like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported the fair; your contributions, time, and enthusiasm made the event truly special.

The event would not have been possible without the incredible dedication of our volunteers and school staff who helped set up during the day, helped on the stalls and cleared up afterwards.

We also want to thank all the families and local businesses that generously donated items for the tombola and raffle.

A special thank you to Lucy Merry, the incredible creative director and coordinator of the fair. Her tireless enthusiasm and organisation is the reason the fair is such a success and we are so grateful for all her hard work.

With the autumn disco raising £660.80 and the Early Years autumn trail raising £450, the total funds raised by the PTA this term comes to £3719.31.

We are delighted that the money raised from our events can be spent on projects that will positively impact our children's school experience.

Once again, thank you for your support and participation. We wish you all a very happy Christmas and a wonderful new year.

Best wishes

The PTA





Awards



Silver Award:

Year 1 - Libby A, Silas S

Year 3 - Lara, Willow

Year 4 - Junior

Year 5 - Amelie, Ethan

Year 6 - Mason,

Gold Award:

Year 1 - Miriam M, Sebastian B-R

Year 2 - Sam H, Jakey, Darcey, Anna, Troy, Angelina, Mason, Paul, Sully, Xander

Year 3 - Casper, Oliver, Diana, Tayah, Yusuf, Orin, Taylor, Sara, Edie

Year 4 - Harry, Laila, Abu, Lola W, Lowen, Gabriel, Zakariyaa, Heidi

Year 5 - Jude, Nika, Kylie, Luke, Will, Logan, Amelie C,

Year 6 - Beau V, Weronika S

Platinum Award (150 points):

Year 1 - Amiata S, Juliet P,

Year 2 - Alexander

Year 3 - George F, Annabelle

Year 4 - Henry, Owen,Skyla, Ted, Tino, Peace, Mav, George T, Alexa

Year 5 - Millie, Amelie, Flynn, Amirah

Year 6 - Edie S, Laurence H, Aryan K

Diamond Award (250 points)

Year 6 - Delilah

Superstar Sports Award:

Year 5 - Amelie H

Maths Award:

Year 1 - Isobel B

Year 2 - Shuli

Year 3 -, Bradley, Edie

Year 4 - James

Year 6 - Eddie

Reading Award:

Year 1 - Elizabeth T, Idris W-W, Ava T, Gracie M, Kamari S, Charlie H

Year 2 - Elsie

Year 3 - Flo

Year 4 - Scarlett, Junior

Year 5 - Holly

Year 6 - Sherlock

Writing Award:

Year 1 - Millie H-W, Leona S

Year 2 - Sam D, Riley

Year 4 - Gabriel, Matthew

Year 5 - Hazel

Headteacher Award:

Year 1 - Juliet P, Tabitha H

Year 2 - Lea, Robyn

Year 3 -, Ayah, Finley

Year 4 - Sam, Peter

Year 5 - Leo, Luke, Kylie

Year 6 - Aranya, Mason, Edie, Bethany

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.

Class	2025/2026
Penguins	94.60%
Puffins	90.50%
Flamingos	95.00%
Toucans	98.00%
Hummingbirds	95.80%
Nightingales	92.80%
Jackdaws	93.10%
Woodpeckers	97.50%
Hawks	97.90%
Red Kites	98.10%
Kestrels	97.00%
Eagles	95.50%

Parent Notices

Dates for your diary

Embed://<iframe src="https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vSWDRjS7oJBBtkFWLwQ_v3CEjLTI8dfdSNqyuhlxj-rWCNkNe5nZlvHVvWdUw2eEA/pub?embedded=true"></iframe>

Nursery Events

EYNSHAM COMMUNITY
PRIMARY SCHOOL

STAY & PLAY



DUCKLINGS
Tuesday 16th December
2.00pm - 2.45pm

CYGNETS
Monday 15th December
2.00pm - 2.45pm

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](http://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**





Thursday 4th December:	Open Morning for prospective Parents (Foundation Stage) 9am
Monday 8th December:	XS1 Performance to the school: 1.15pm
Tuesday 9th December:	XS1 Performance: 1.15pm (Babies and toddlers welcome) XS1 Performance: 6pm (Adults only)
Wednesday 10th December:	XS1 Performance: 6pm (Adults only)
Thursday 11th December:	FS Christmas Singing (Robins and Kingfishers Parents invited @ 2pm) Parents open afternoon beginning at 2.45pm with mince pies and mulled wine. Christmas Jumper Day — All years
Friday 12th December :	Ducklings FS Christmas Singing @ 2pm
Monday 15th December :	Cygnets Stay and Play 2pm
Tuesday 16th December :	Ducklings Stay and Play 2pm Robins and Kingfishers Christmas Party
Wednesday 17th December	School Christmas Lunch — children can wear a Christmas accessory.
Thursday 18th December:	iRock Concert (2.30pm) Ducklings Christmas Party
Friday 19th December	Cygnets Christmas Party End of Term — 1.15pm finish

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/>

Christmas around the World



Sunday 14th December,
2 - 4.30 pm
St Leonard's Church Hall
Thames St, Eynsham
Witney OX29 4HF

*A free family-friendly event with crafts,
quizzes and food celebrating the diversity of
Eynsham. (Please bring some food from
another country to share, if you feel able)*



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

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



