



Eynsham Community Primary School Newsletter - Friday 7th November 2025

Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the half-term break! I hope you all had a restful week and enjoyed the Halloween festivities. It has been wonderful to see the children return to school with such enthusiasm and energy for the new half term.

This week, the children have been learning about Remembrance Day and the different meanings behind the coloured poppies. We will be observing the two-minute silence in school, and I'd like to wish the very best of luck to all those taking part in Remembrance parades this weekend, I hope the weather is kind to all of our children, that belong to scouting and guiding associations, attending a service on Sunday.

Across the school, we have begun our autumn assessments, and I have been truly impressed with the children's positive attitude, focus, and determination. They are working incredibly hard and should feel proud of their efforts so far. This process will take place over the next few weeks in each year group and will enable teachers to see the progress that the children have made and areas that they may need further support with.

Next week marks Anti-Bullying Week, and we will be starting the week with Odd Socks Day on Monday to celebrate individuality and kindness. We encourage all children to take part.

A reminder that Parents' Information Evenings will take place next week on Tuesday and Wednesday. The teachers are looking forward to meeting with you to discuss your child's progress and achievements.

Yours sincerely

Ginny Bayliss and Nic Edwards

Executive Headteacher and Head of School

Meet the team!

This week we will be meeting The Year 2 Team!

Hello, I'm Miss Cook and I teach Flamingos class. I've spent the last three years at Eynsham teaching in year 5 and I'm really excited to be teaching Year 2 this year with the wonderful children in Flamingos! I'm also the Key Stage One Phase Lead and I am really enjoying working with the fabulous team we have in key stage one! I love history, visiting historical places and reading historical fiction which all help my role as history lead here at Eynsham too. In my spare time, I love spending time with my family and friends, taking the dog for long walks with my partner, running (but only when it's dry!) and knitting!

Hello, I'm Mrs Ledden-Fletcher and I am very happy to be teaching Toucan class again this year! My teaching journey has taken me to a few different places from three years in Brighton, four years in Bristol and now to my second year here at Eynsham. As well as teaching in Year 2, I am the Art and Design Technology lead and run Singing Squad. Outside

of work, I enjoy embroidery, singing and acting, binge watching Netflix and spending time with my amazing friends and family!

Hello, I'm Miss Laizans. I've been at Eynsham Primary School for a year now which has flown by! I'm a very busy mum of 3 girls who are 6, 7 and 9. In my very busy household, we have 3 dogs, Bonnie, Bear and Nova – all rottweilers! In our spare time, we love to walk the dogs in new (usually muddy) areas as well as doing lots of cooking which is usually Caribbean as my partner is St Lucian. I can't wait to see what the rest of the year brings!

Hello, my name is Mrs Lau, I've worked at Eynsham Primary for 20 years. I have two grown up children who also came to Eynsham Primary when they were young. I have always been creative, I love to draw, eat good food and most of all I enjoy helping children gain confidence in reading, writing and spelling. Outside of school I love spending time with my family, play badminton and cook delicious food.

Hi, I'm Mrs Eyre and I am having a great time in Year 2 supporting the children and getting to know their little personalities. I have worked in Eynsham Primary School since 2020 working in most classes. I was then known as Miss Hicks. I briefly left as I moved to Cheltenham and got married but I missed Eynsham Primary so much that I came back this year. When I am not working I look after our 2 grandchildren and see my 3 grown up children as much as possible as well as spending time with family and friends in Cheltenham and Oxford.



1 - Mrs Ledden-Fletcher, Mrs Lau, Mrs Eyre, Miss Cook, Mrs Laizans

Year 5 Residential to Youlbury

Year 5 had an amazing time on their residential trip to Youlbury! Over the few days, we took part in exciting activities such as team building, crate stacking, archery, backwards cooking, OAA, Jacob's Ladder, and the thrilling 3G swing. Everyone challenged themselves, stepped out of their comfort zones, and discovered new strengths. It was fantastic to see so much teamwork, encouragement, and laughter throughout the trip. We also made new friends and shared lots of unforgettable memories, a stand out one being the campfire songs — a brilliant experience for everyone!

Mrs Duan & Miss Freeman



















Eco Club

We've had an amazing first term of all things Eco as we work towards achieving the Eco Award for our school! Our fantastic Eco Warriors have been busy carrying out a whole-school eco audit, looking closely at areas such as biodiversity, energy saving, and global citizenship. Their next mission is to choose three key focus areas for us to develop even further this year.

Eco Club has also been a huge success! The children have loved creating crafts from natural and recycled materials; last term's favourite was definitely the leaf caterpillars!

We're always looking for new ways to inspire our pupils, so if you know anyone who could come in to speak about environmental issues or sustainability, or if you have any eco-friendly ideas to share, please get in touch – we'd love to hear from you!





Music Update

Music has been full of energy and creativity this term! Year 3 and Year 5 have been thoroughly enjoying their lessons with the Music Service, learning to play violins and brass instruments. Across Key Stage 2, pupils have also been thinking about the structure of music when composing, combining different instruments and rhythms to create layers of sound known as *texture*. In Key Stage 1, children have been exploring how to keep a steady pulse through music and movement, using instruments to represent different animals, copying rhythms, and creating fun call and response patterns. It's wonderful to see such enthusiasm and musical progress across the school!

Year 3 have been thoroughly enjoying their violin lessons! Last week, the children focused on developing their technique, learning how to hold the bow correctly, read musical notes, and recognise rest points in the music. This week, they have begun learning the songs they will perform in their upcoming concert. They are making fantastic progress and can't wait to showcase their new skills soon!

Application process for Reception entry to Infant & Primary School

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 2020** and **31 August 2021**, 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 2025**.

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: **0345 241 2487**

Deadline for applications is 15 January 2025

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

The application process for reception entry to infant and primary school, is open and parents and carers of children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 should prepare to apply for a school place.

If parents or carers have any questions, all the information you need plus a link to the online application form can be found here: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

The School Admissions Team can be contacted direct on 0345 241 2487 or at admissions.schools@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Applications for Reception can be submitted from 4 November; and the deadline for receipt of completed school applications for Reception is 15 January 2026.

Awards



Bronze Award:

Year 1 - Louis C, Peyton W

Year 2 -

Year 3 - Lyra,

Year 4 - Lola G

Year 5 -

Year 6 -

Silver Award:

Year 1 - Harry S, Freddie H, Bobby H, Finley L, Clara W, Kamari S, Oliver D, Nero W, Sofia N, Leona S, Isobel B, Miriam M, Hari P, Ivy E-T

Year 2 - Donald, Pearl, Angel

Year 3 - Casper, Sapphire, Antoni, Bradley, Shankey, Oliver, Edie

Year 4 - Abu, Rosa, Mav, Laila, Libby, Zakariyaa, Roman

Year 5 - Emi, Timi, Lucua, Phoebe

Year 6 - Eddie H, James A, James E, Muhammed-Abdullah

Gold Award:

Year 1 - William B-M,

Year 2 - Alexander, Marnie, Shuli

Year 3 - Iris, Annabelle, Nathan, Afonso

Year 4 - Peace, Henry, Owen

Year 5 - Annika

Year 6 -

Platinum Award (150 points):

Year 1 -

Year 2 -

Year 3 -

Year 4 - Samuel

Year 5 -

Year 6 -

Diamond Award (250 points)

Year 1 -

Year 2 -

Year 3 - Aston

Year 4 -

Year 5 -

Year 6 -

Sapphire Award (450 points)

Year 1 -

Year 2 -

Year 3 - Heidi

Year 4 -

Year 5 -

Year 6 -

Superstar Sports Award:

Year 1 -

Year 2 -

Year 3 -

Year 4 -

Year 5 - Lucia, India, Hazel, Alex, Kacy

Year 6 - Cece, Sonia

Maths Award:

Year 1 - Rupert M, Ivy E-T

Year 2 -

Year 3 -

Year 4 - Aston, Abu

Year 5 - Ben

Year 6 - Esme, Aryan

Reading Award:

Year 1 - Nancy J, Sofia N

Year 2 - Zelda

Year 3 -

Year 4 - Beau

Year 5 - Lucas

Year 6 -

Writing Award:

Year 1 - Solomon O,

Year 2 -

Year 3 - Nick

Year 4 - Nancy

Year 5 -

Year 6 - Danny

Headteacher Award:

Year 1 - Amiata S, Margo M

Year 2 - Sully, Angelina

Year 3 - Sara

Year 4 - Gabriel, Matthew

Year 5 - Amelie C, Will B

Year 6 - Mia, Rayan

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	Attendance
Robins	97.4%
Kingfishers	95.0%
Puffins	89.3%
Penguins	94.6%
Flamingos	95.0%
Toucans	98.0%
Hummingbirds	95.3%
Nightingales	92.8%
Jackdaws	93.1%
Woodpeckers	97.5%
Hawks	97.9%
Red Kites	98.4%
Kestrels	97.0%
Eagles	95.5%
Average: 95.2%	

Spotlight for behaviour



POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SPOTLIGHT



In this week's assembly, we explored the Power of Words — how words can be like magic! We talked about how what we say has the power to lift others up, spread happiness, and make people feel special. The children were set a special challenge: to use their words this week to make others feel valued and joyful.

Across the school, it's been wonderful to see so many children rising to this challenge!

Red Kites have had a fantastic week. They've been nominating each other for postcards every day whenever they've spotted someone showing the 3Rs or carrying out a kind act. Mrs Duan has loved hearing all the thoughtful and positive things they've said about one another — a true celebration of kindness!

Woodpeckers' behaviour spotlight shines on Artie, who has worked hard to make great choices in lessons and has shown excellent teamwork with his new partner.

Robins would like to celebrate Jesse, for always using kind words and showing care towards others, especially when someone is feeling sad or upset.

Toucans want to give a big shoutout to Marnie and Ronnie, whose beautiful manners never go unnoticed! They always remember their pleases and thank-yous, and all the adults in school appreciate their politeness — it really brightens our day!

Flamingos are recognising Nora, who showed wonderful kindness by helping her classmates with their sewing during DT. What a thoughtful teammate!

And finally, in Nightingales, Poppy has been spreading smiles with her kind and encouraging words, always looking out for those around her.

What a week of kindness, encouragement, and positivity — proving that words really do have power!

Parent Notices

Parents' Evening, Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th November.

These appointments are available for you to book through Arbor, under Guardian consultations until Sunday 9th November at 6pm.

Dates for your diary

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Non Uniform Day In Exchange For Tombola Items For The Christmas Fair

The tombola is always one of our most popular stalls, and we need your support to make it a success. In return for taking part in **Non-Uniform Day on Thursday 20th November**, we kindly ask for the following donations:

- **Early Years (Cygnet & Ducklings):** Chocolate
- **Foundation:** Sweets & Biscuits
- **Year 1:** Jolly Jars (please find attached more information about what a Jolly Jar is)
- **Years 2 & 3:** Crisps & Savoury Snacks
- **Years 4 & 5:** Cupboard Items (e.g. tins)
- **Year 6:** Cans & Bottles

Please drop off donations by the school office (on **Friday 14th only**, trolleys will be available), or send them in via your child's classroom.

Phonics Evening



Nursery Events



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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Witney

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