



Eynsham Community Primary School
Newsletter - Friday 3rd October

Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another fun fortnight has passed at Eynsham Community Primary School, filled with exciting learning experiences and community connections. Our Year 6 Junior Citizen trip and Year 6 Greek Day have been particularly memorable moments for our pupils. Please see below for reports.

It was wonderful to see so many parents at our recent SEND coffee morning. I'd like to extend my thanks to Miss Davis and Mrs Thomas for their hard work in organising this valuable event, which helps us support our pupils and families.

Science has been a key focus for us recently. Mr Wyatt has prepared a comprehensive report about our ongoing scientific work, which you'll find in this newsletter. Additionally, we're thrilled to share reports from various year groups who participated in the Science Oxford workshops. A big thank you to Mr Wyatt for coordinating these enriching educational experiences.

These activities demonstrate our commitment to providing diverse and engaging learning opportunities for our pupils. From immersive historical experiences like the Year 6 Greek Day, to hands-on scientific workshops, we're continually striving to make learning exciting and meaningful.

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend ahead, enjoying quality time with your families.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Ginny Bayliss and Mrs Nicola Edwards

Executive Headteacher and Head of School

Safeguarding

Keeping children safe, when having to have a conversation about 'body safety', can feel uncomfortable — but it's one of the most powerful ways to protect children. Children who understand their bodies, boundaries and rights are more confident and better equipped to speak up if something feels wrong. You don't need a big formal talk; short, everyday chats work best.

Here are some simple conversation starters you can use:

- “Do you know what parts of your body are private?”
- “If someone made you feel uncomfortable, who would you tell?”
- “Has anyone ever asked you to keep a secret that made you feel funny or unsure?”
- “You’re allowed to say ‘no’ to hugs or kisses, even to family – how do you feel about that?”
- “What would you do if someone touched you in a way you didn’t like?”

Use natural moments (e.g. bath time, getting dressed, bedtime stories, a walk in the park) to bring up the topic gently. Keep your tone calm and reassuring. The goal is to help children feel safe, heard and empowered. Reassure them: “You can always talk to me about anything – I’ll always listen and help”. Don’t forget the online world too. Even at primary age, many children play games or watch content online. Therefore, It’s important that they know that body safety rules apply online as well. Teach them never to share photos of their body, especially private parts. Make sure they know:

- If anyone asks them to do something that feels odd, secret or confusing online, they should tell you straight away.
- Talk about how some people online might pretend to be children when they’re not.
- Use privacy settings and supervise young children during screen time.
- Remind them: “If something online makes you feel uncomfortable or unsure, it’s never your fault. Just come and tell me. ”



Meet the team!

[This week is the Ducklings Team](#)

Hello, I’m Mrs Neath, and I lead our lovely Ducklings Nursery. I’ve worked at Eynsham Primary for 15 years now, but the school has always been a special place for me as I actually came here as a child too!

I live in the village, so you might spot me out and about walking my dog, Gus. I have a grown-up daughter, and when I’m not at school, I love getting outside for walks and

exploring new places. I also enjoy relaxing with a good film – action, adventure, and anything Marvel are my favourites – or getting stuck into a mystery book.

Hello, I'm Miss Denney, and I work in the Ducklings class. This is my fourth year working in Ducklings. Like Mrs Neath, I came here as a child. I'm a proud mum to a wonderful daughter and live in the village. I've always loved being creative, whether it's sewing, crafting, or crocheting something new. In my free time, you'll usually find me watching a comedy series or anything that brings a good laugh—because I believe life is always better with a smile.

Hello, my name is Mrs. Laughton-Rust. I live in the village and have two boys in Years 4 and 5 at the school. I've been part of Ducklings for three years, and before that, I worked at the pre-school. I love being creative through crafting and knitting, and when I have quiet time, I enjoy listening to podcasts—especially true crime!

My name is Mrs. Seeney. I live in the village and have two grown-up daughters. At home, I share my days with a variety of animals, including a rabbit, dog, a budgie, and some chickens. I love being outdoors, whether it's gardening, growing lots of different things, or simply enjoying fresh air. I also enjoy being creative, especially making things out of wood. I've worked in Early Years for a long time, starting at the playgroup before moving to the school, and I really enjoy being part of the children's early learning journey.

My name is Viviana and I work as an Early Years Practitioner mainly in Cygnets, but work in Ducklings in the afternoons. Before joining Eynsham Primary School, I worked in London and Witney in a private nursery for over 7 years. Outside of school, I am a mother of two girls, who keep me busy and active. I enjoy swimming, gardening, doing physical activities, and spending time with my family. I also enjoy the company of my cat, two turtles, and three chickens.



1 - Viviana, Miss Denney, Mrs Neath, Mrs Laughton-Rust

Positive Behaviour Spotlight



POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SPOTLIGHT

At Eynsham, our values of being **Ready, Respectful and Responsible** guide everything we do. We want every child to understand what these look like in action—whether in lessons, moving around the school, or enjoying break and lunchtime. Each newsletter, we will celebrate those children who go above and beyond, showing themselves to be true role models of our school community.

Year 3 Highlights
We are so proud of the brilliant examples being set in Year 3.

- Tashvi has been an incredibly helpful and thoughtful member of the class. Whether offering a kind hand, sharing her ideas, or supporting friends when they are stuck, she shows kindness and positivity every day. Her caring attitude makes a real difference to everyone around her.
- Milo has shown fantastic teamwork and kindness. He has been especially supportive when working with his partner, showing patience and helping him stay organised. Milo's thoughtful and encouraging nature sets a brilliant example for others.

Year 5 (Red Kites)
Mrs Duan has been especially impressed with how her class are going above and beyond to be responsible learners. The children are taking great pride in their work, creating a classroom that is fun, safe, and welcoming for everyone. Their teamwork and respect for each other make Red Kites a joy to teach.

This week, we'd like to celebrate Jasmine in Year 6 for consistently showing kindness and support to her classmates. Whether it's helping someone understand a tricky question or offering encouraging words, Jasmine is always ready to lend a hand. Her thoughtful actions make our classroom a more caring and positive place for everyone. Well done, Jasmine! It is inspiring to see children across the school living out our values every single day. Well done to you all!

Harvest Festival

This week, we were delighted to welcome Mrs Cox and Mr Thiele from the Baptist Church in Eynsham to lead a special assembly about Harvest.

During the assembly, we discussed how autumn is traditionally the season when many people celebrate Harvest. We explored the significance of Harvest Festivals and how they are often held in churches, schools, and local organisations to give thanks for the food and crops gathered during this time.

Mr. Thiele also spoke about the important work of the Eynsham Food Bank and how the Baptist Church supports families within our community. We are incredibly grateful for the generous food donations received from our school families. The donations were loaded into the car by our Head Boy and Head Girl.

A huge thank you to Mrs Cox and Mr Thiele for giving their time to visit us. They were full of praise for the impeccable behaviour of our pupils — something we are always proud to hear!





Year 6 Junior Citizen trip

Pupils in Year 6 recently took part in the Junior Citizen Programme at the fire station on Rewley Road, Oxford. During the two hour visit, our children experienced eight different safety scenarios, including stranger danger, internet safety, cycle safety, railway safety, water rescue, house fires, accident and emergency in the home, and electrical safety.

Each child was given the opportunity to practise making a 999 telephone call - which, despite being nervous about it, they managed brilliantly! All of the sessions are designed to be interactive, where children are taught a variety of life skills which focus upon how to keep themselves safe, whilst potentially helping others who may be in difficulty or distress.

Based on the controlled learning experiences provided, children are encouraged to make decisions which they may face during a real life emergency.

Following attendance, each of our Year 6 children has received a free workbook to allow the learning experience to continue back at school or at home.







Science Newsletter

[Overview for this year](#)

In recent years, we have worked really hard at Eynsham Community Primary School in developing our science curriculum. In this newsletter, we aim to share with you some of the exciting activities and shows (provided through our partnership with Science Oxford) that many of our children have been involved in so far this year. This newsletter also gives us the opportunity to give you a little bit of an insight into our science curriculum, and to let you know what a typical lesson might look like.

As pupils progress from Year 1 to Year 6, they will complete 36 units of science, with some topics being repeated in different year groups (for example, 'Living Things And Their Habitats' is a unit of science in Years 2, 4, 5 and 6), whilst others are taught just once (for example, 'Evolution And Inheritance' in Year 6). In each of these year groups, one term is dedicated to scientific enquiry, with pupils taking part in the Science Oxford Big Science Event and the EPA Big Science Event. This event sees groups of children develop their enquiry skills as they undertake an investigation/experiment and present their findings.

Wherever possible, though, teachers will be looking for opportunities to ensure that learning in science is facilitated through the children being given opportunities to experiment and investigate.

Alongside this, discussion and deeper thinking are also key components of our science curriculum. Lessons will often begin with an opportunity for pupils and their partner to discuss a key concept or idea. This might be through an activity known as 'Positive, Negative, Interesting', where the children discuss a key question (e.g. 'What If Electricity Were Only Available For Two Hours Per Day?'), giving consideration to the good, the bad and the scientifically 'interesting' thoughts they have relating to the question.

The children also enjoy taking part in 'Odd One Out' warm-up activities, where they discuss (again with their partner) three photographs or objectives and justify why any one of them could be deemed to be the odd one out (e.g. The Sun, Mars, The Earth).

Each week, our students are encouraged to record in their science books, in relation to their two key learning objectives for that lesson. One will be a knowledge objective, the other will be a key scientific skill. This focused recording provides the children with ample opportunity to also spend valuable time taking part in practical activities, conducting those investigations, and experiencing a 'hands on' approach to learning about science.

All that you have read above ties in to principles that the school has developed over many years, linking to the idea that children can learn so much about science by 'thinking it', 'doing it' and 'talking about it'.

Over a decade ago, Mr Wyatt (science lead at our school, and EPA strategic lead for primary science) was involved in the trialing and development of an approach known as 'Thinking, Doing, Talking Science' at Oxford Brookes University (in conjunction with Science Oxford and the University of York).

Last academic year, Miss Cook took part in this training programme, and over the course of this year, Mr Wyatt will be attending this training once again. Miss Freeman and Mrs Howell will also be visiting Science Oxford to take part in training courses tailored to the science in their year groups.

Science in our school can be summed up by saying, that where at all possible, the children are encouraged to take part in practical activities in order to broaden their knowledge, develop their skills, create a sense of awe and wonder, and, ultimately to inspire them to become the scientists of the future.

Science Oxford Workshops

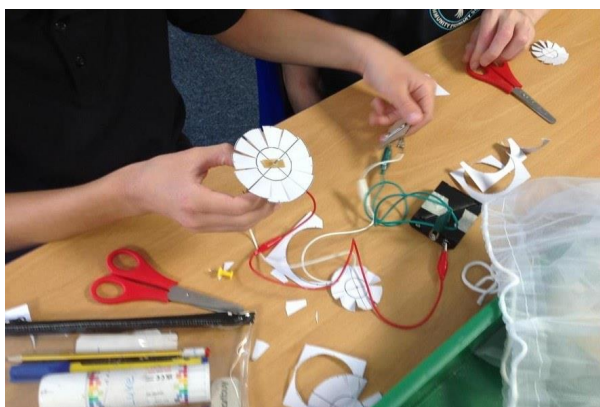


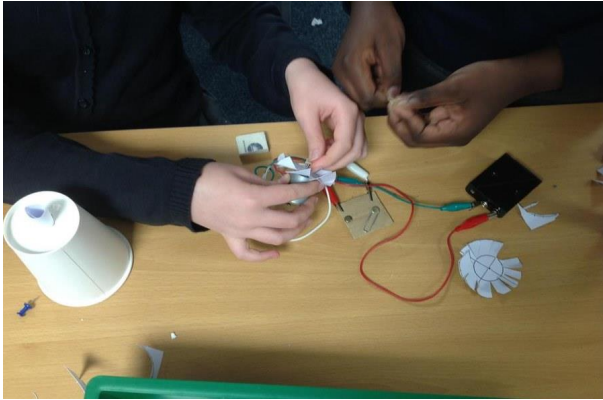
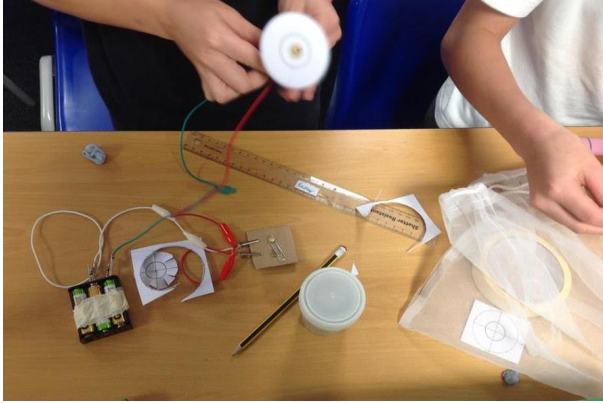
Year 6

Last Friday, the children in Year 6 had a fantastic time taking part in an exciting engineering challenge, run by Science Oxford. Pupils from both classes became electrical engineers for this session, designing, making and testing suitable equipment to create a cleaning device to suck up all of the confetti mess after an imaginary class party!

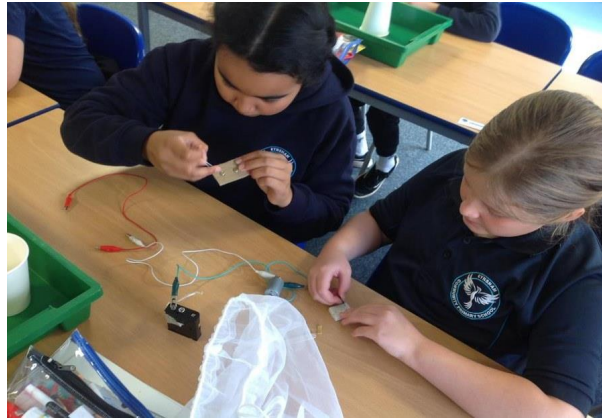
We made motors work, designed and created switches and then created and tested a variety of fan blades. Everyone managed to make their motor, switch and fan work, and some people even made a blowing and sucking device, which was fantastic!

The idea of these experiences is for the children to have lots of fun, to learn about the real-life application of what they are learning in science, and hopefully, to become inspired enough to want to be a scientist or engineer in the future!









Year 4

On Friday 26th September, Year 4 were thrilled to welcome a visit from Science Oxford. During the session, the students took part in an engaging and interactive sound workshop, where they explored how sound is made, travels, and is detected. They were fascinated by a variety of exciting experiments and demonstrations, which included some fantastic visual representations of sound waves and vibrations. The workshop not only supported their current science learning but also sparked curiosity and enthusiasm for the subject. It was a fun and educational experience that the pupils thoroughly enjoyed.

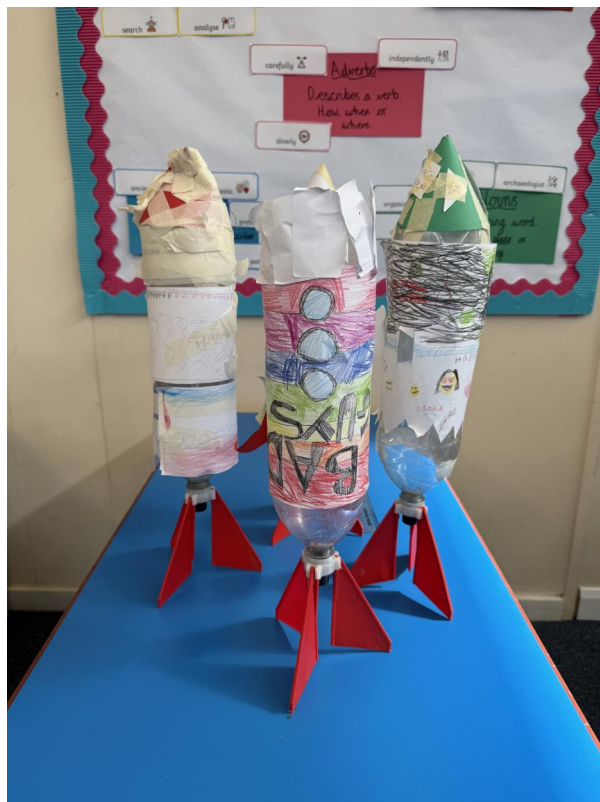


Year 3

On Tuesday 23rd September, Year 3 children blasted off into science and had to use their creativity in a session led by **Science Oxford**! They explored air power by designing and decorating plastic bottle rockets, which they then safely launched using water and compressed air.

Working in pairs or small groups, they practised key scientific skills - asking questions, observing, and drawing conclusions, while experimenting with nose cones, fins, and streamers. They tested whether a water rocket would soar higher with less or more water inside. They concluded that if the rocket had less water, the higher it flew into the air.

The workshop combined teamwork, creativity, and real-world science fun. The children had a blast!







Year 2

Year 2 had an amazing workshop all about fire with a scientist from Science Oxford. The workshop was linked to the story of The Great Fire of London which has really helped to bring our humanities learning to life, as well as science.







Pupil Leadership

House Captains



We are excited to announce that our new House Captains have been chosen! After thoughtful class votes, pupils from across the school have elected representatives for each house colour.

These students have already shown great leadership, teamwork, and school spirit, and we are confident they will represent their houses with pride and enthusiasm throughout the year.

Congratulations to our new House Captains – we look forward to seeing the fantastic things you will achieve as role models and leaders in our school community!

Parent Notices

Update On Our Playground Project

We have now instructed Bluestone Planning to act on our behalf with the submission of the planning application to the County Council and Sport England for a change of use of a section of our playing field.

A realistic timeline for the whole process will be 8 months, which will lead us into mid-May 2026.

As soon as we hear back from the council, and assuming all has gone well, we can start building our new playground!

Lisa Podbery

School Manager

Lost Property

Each week, we have a large number of unnamed jumpers and cardigans left around the school. To help manage this, we have purchased two new boxes, which will be kept in the school foyer for all unnamed items that are found.

Please ensure that all of your child's clothing is clearly labelled, as this makes it much easier for us to return lost items to their rightful owner.

If your child has misplaced a jumper, cardigan, or any other item, please check the lost property boxes in the foyer. You may find it there.



Reception Open Morning



IS YOUR CHILD STARTING RECEPTION IN SEPTEMBER 2026?

COME ALONG TO OUR OPEN MORNINGS TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR SCHOOL.

OPEN MORNING DATES:
Wednesday 22nd October 2025
Thursday 4th December 2025
Please arrive at 9am

"Eynsham Community Primary School is a place where pupils truly thrive"
OFSTED 2025

Eynsham Community Primary School
Eynsham
Wiltshire
SN25 4NP

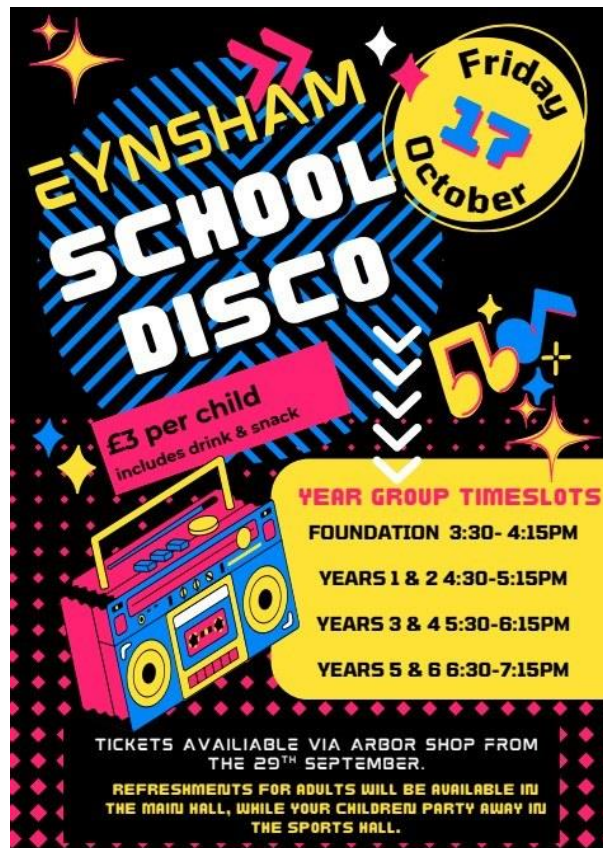
Please contact the main school office for more information 01865 881254

PTA School Disco

We hope all of your children have their dancing shoes ready, because we'd like to invite them to an Autumn disco on Friday 17th October. Tickets cost £3.00 and include a drink and snack for every child. To make sure everyone has fun, we have allocated time slots to different year groups:

- Foundation - 3.30pm - 4.15pm to include musical games
- Years 1 / 2 - 4.30pm - 5.15pm to include musical games
- Years 3 / 4 - 5.30pm - 6.15pm
- Years 5 / 6 - 6.30pm - 7.15pm

Refreshments for adults will be available in the main hall, while your children party away in the sports hall. Tickets are available via the shop in your child's Arbor account, or can be purchased on the night.



PTA Annual General Meeting

The PTA are pleased to invite you to the Annual General Meeting on Friday 24th of October, 9am till 10am in the school hall. Tea and coffee will be provided.

We will be reviewing the past year's fundraising achievements and presenting plans for the coming year. We will then be electing the committee members who will lead the PTA for the upcoming academic year.

If you are interested in putting yourself forward for a committee role in the PTA, or are interested in being more involved, please email eynshamprimarypta@outlook.com before the AGM.

All are welcome and we look forward to seeing you there!

Community News



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Got a local event, club, childcare, or business to share?

Send your advert or poster to:

office.2209@eynsham.oxon.sh.uk

We'll include it in our school newsletter!

Please note: the school cannot verify these listings. Parents/carers should do their own checks before attending or paying.

EYNSHAM COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL HIRE

COMMUNITY EVENTS

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

CLUBS

CONTACT

schoolmanager@eynsham.oxon.sch.uk

01865 881294



West Oxfordshire

Hand me on - Families

LEADING LIBRARY

GOT OUTGROWN SCHOOL SHOES OR UNUSED LUNCH BOXES? HAND THEM ON OR FIND WHAT YOU NEED. STAY LOCAL

Join our community of families to re-use items needed for children or households. Everything is free, just hand on again for another family to use later.

Family Group
www.facebook.com/groups/handmeonwestoxon
Community Page
www.facebook.com/handmeonwestoxon

The hand me on community group is for families of all backgrounds within West Oxfordshire. Our aim is to reduce our carbon footprint while helping families.

LITTLE RED HEN STAY AND PLAY

Hosted by Eynsham Community Primary School

Friday 14th November '25
1:30pm - 2:30pm

For families with children aged 0-4 years
£3 per family

Book a place by emailing
office.2209@eynsham.oxon.sch.uk

Dates For Your Diary

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

Awards

Headteacher Award:

Year 6- Bradley

Year 5- Phoebe, Lorianne

Year 4- Georgie, Xian

Year 3- Henry, Tom, Louie

Year 2- Alexander, Willow

Year 1- Albie, Miriam, Ivy, Freddie

Reading Award:

Year 6 - Sherick

Year 5-

Year 4- Henry

Year 3- Antoni, Shankey, Nathan

Year 2- Julia

Year 1- Isabel, Tabitha, Isobel, Tory

Writing Award:

Year 6 -

Year 5- Jacob

Year 4- Skyla, Aston, George

Year 3- Casper, Oliver, Milo

Year 2-

Year 1- Harry, Rosie, Sam

Maths Award:

Year 6 - Esme

Year 5-

Year 4- Amy

Year 3- Lyra, Taylor

Year 2- Xander

Year 1- Freddie, Ava, Benji, Albie

Well done Award:

Year 5- Eric

Bronze Award:

Year 6 - Felix, Reggie, Priscillia, Esme, Bradley, Mia, Sonia, Maggie, Yashfa

Year 5- Kylie, Nika, Lorianne, Jude, Will, Amirah, Jase, Arthur, Holly, Kacy, Myla, Brandon, Michael, Ethan, Timi, Amelie, Emi, Oliver, Stefan, Maya, Susanna, Lily, Phoebe, Harrison, Rachel, Jaedon, Jafan, Ben, Amelie, Eric, Lucia, Arthur, Betsy, Eleanor, Leo

Year 4- Gabriel, Jude, Amna, Artie, Lowen, Mark, Lillie-Rose, Wilfred, Roman, Scarlett, Libby, Isabelle, Abu, Issy, Iris, Furqan, Rosa, Georgie, Mav, Junior, Laila, Lola, Seb, Miri

Year 3- Flo, Abel, Antoni, Drew, Percy, Casper, Immy, Finley, Taylor, Eva, Shankey, Sienna, Lara, Oliver, Diana, Poppy, Yusuf, Tom, Sara, Edie, Louie, Henry, Eleanor

Year 2- Ronnie, Xander, Sully, Jack, Noah, Maxim, Isaac, Amelia, Paul

Year 1- Elise, Albie, Freddie, Solomon, Finley, Charlie, Laurence, Clara, Seb, Hari, Isobel, Oliver, Tabitha, Sam, Sofia, Ivy, Miriam, Kamari, Nero, Eleanor, Tommy, Gracie, Idris, Elizabeth, Robyn, Millie, Freddie, Henry, Tory, Isabel, Alexander

Silver Award:

Year 6

Year 5- Kacy, Stefan, Jacob, Antonia, Lucas, Annika, Lorianne, Sammy, Isaac, Millie, Amelie, Amirah, India, Flynn, Alex, Hazel, Katia, Arthur, Holly

Year 4- Bleu, George, Zach, Xian, George, Beau, Sam, Tino, Isabella, Ted, Henry, Peace

Year 3- Jonathan, Tashvi, James, Henry, Afonso, Yusuf, Robyn, Tayah

Year 2- Toby, Zelda, Minnie, Shuli, Ned, Samuel, Alexander, Edward, Emmeline, Lea, Marnie

Year 1- Nancy, Isla, Daisy, Juliet, Amiata, Teddy, William

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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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

