



Englefield CE Primary School | Newsletter

ISSUE 5 | JANUARY 2026

A note from the Headteacher

Happy New Year to you all! I was thrilled to join the amazing team here at Englefield this term and I want to share my thanks for the incredibly warm welcome I have received from each of you. It has been great to start to get to know you all and I am very much looking forward to continue to work with you all to further improve our wonderful school. Please do bare with me as I find my feet, learn names and match parents faces to their childrens! My door is always open to you, so please do come and speak to me if you have any concerns, suggestions or would like to volunteer to help in any way.

Miss Galvin



The children in **Early Years** have been having a wonderful time learning about the Epiphany and the Three Kings from the Nativity story. They thought carefully about what gifts they would give to baby Jesus, and I am sure he would be thrilled to receive the rattles, cuddly toys and other gifts they wrote about!

They have also welcomed in the new year with a spot of wassailing! They made their wassailing sticks from toilet rolls, filled them with stones and went out to tap the trees while singing a song to wake them in hope of good fortune for the coming year.



Years 1 & 2 made the letters of their name using wool and put them all together to create this eye-catching display. Theo said "We got wool and wrapped it around. I've never done it before but I loved it and I wish I could do it again!"

For **KS1**, Woodland learning is back in full swing. The little ones are making the most of our beautiful wintery Englefield to learn about how and why the trees lose their leaves before the first greenery of spring starts to reappear, and as the spring slowly creeps in, they might even be lucky enough find some shed antlers!



'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.' **Matthew 13: 31-32**

Dates for the Diary...

February

3rd February: Year 3/4 Class Assembly (3pm)
5th February: SEND chat (3pm)
6th February: Second hand uniform sale (8.30-9.30am)
13th February: Celebration Assembly (3pm)
24th February: Parent Meetings (3.30-6pm)
26th February: Parent Meetings (6-8.30pm)

March

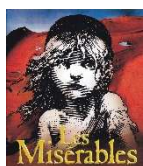
5th March: Poetry Finals (9am)
5th March: SEND Chat (3pm)
6th March: Book Week Dress-up Day
6th March: Celebration Assembly (9am)
7th March: Pangbourne Art Exhibition
10th March: Small Schools Cross Country (1-3pm)
11th March: Year 2 Class Assembly (9am)
11th March: FS2 Star and Play (2.30pm)
14th March: TLC morning (9am-12pm)



In **Year 3/4** they are reading 'Toms Midnight Garden'. It's about a boy who goes to his Auntie's house because his brothers have the measles. While there he finds a magical garden where he gets to all sorts of adventures. Louis said *'I like the book because it is very interesting'*. Ben said "It has lots of interesting things and lots of problems for Tom to solve, like the inside of the house keeps moving around."



This term **Year 5/6** had a fabulous morning at Pangbourne College learning about forensic science. During their morning they went in to a science lab where they had to solve the mystery of 'The Missing goldfish'. There were some suspects – Matron, Mr McCleod the History Teacher, The Bursar and his dog Teddy. Our children worked in teams to get to the bottom of it and after all their hard work they were rewarded with cookies. Yum!



This week, the children in **Year 5/6** visited Theale Green, where they were treated to a spectacular performance of Les Miserables put on by the secondary school children. It was a fantastic production and the children were blown away by the singing and scenery. They also loved spotting familiar faces on the stage! The school staff that accompanied them were highly impressed with their behaviour as they represented the school values brilliantly.



In class they are currently learning about Ernest Shackleton and his explorations, creating beautiful journals as if they were journeying with him on his famous ship 'Endurance.' Alice said "I was Pearce Blackborrow, he was a stowaway! We love the story because it's so adventurous!"

We will be trialling a **second-hand uniform sale** on the first Friday of each month between 8.30-9.30am, starting Friday 7th February, to be held outside the **PTA** shed. All money raised will go directly to the PTA, and card payments will be accepted. Donations of good quality uniforms would be welcome in the box in reception. Also to note that, very excitingly, the Englefield Tea Room will also be trialling opening from 9am on Fridays from the 7th Feb onwards for any parents who fancy a hot drink, cake or breakfast afterwards.

"Do everything in love." 1 Corinthians 16:14



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