



Aston Rowant C+E Primary School
School Lane, Aston Rowant, Oxon OX49 5SU
01844 351671

office@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Helen France

6th September 2024

From the Headteacher:

Welcome back! I hope that you all managed to have a fabulous summer and a relaxing break. It has been wonderful to have the children back and there has been a real buzz of excitement and anticipation about the year ahead. It is also lovely to be able to welcome our new starters, they are already settling into the Aston Rowant family extremely well.

Meet the Teacher Meetings

We will once again be holding our 'Meet the Teacher' meetings this year. It is a chance to meet your child's teacher in person, meet other families who will be in class with your child, preview the curriculum and ask any questions that you may have. It will also allow you to spend some time in your child's classroom. Please see the calendar at the end of the newsletter for dates and times.

Attendance and Punctuality

We will continue to monitor and tackle attendance levels. Our target for next year is to meet the school's and OCC's target of 97% attendance and reduce the volume of both unreported and unauthorised absence. Please note that we will be working closely with OCC not only looking at the whole school levels but also implementing family support plans for those with unacceptable levels of attendance. County are now ensuring that fines for holidays are implemented consistently. These will be charged per day, per child and payable per parent.

Please also note that the children need to be in school ready to line up at 8:45, therefore, school gates will close at **8:40** each morning. We ask that **all** children are in school by this time as entering via the school office takes valuable personnel time to sign them in and walk the children across to their classrooms. Our school registers close at 9:00am and so any child arriving after this time will be marked as late.

Uniform

It was great to see the children looking so smart in their school uniforms this week. Our uniform policy remains unchanged from last year and is available on the website for guidance. Please note children should **only** be wearing sweatshirts and cardigans with the school logo on. Footwear should be black school shoes (no trainers) worn with black, grey or white socks (no trainer socks) or black, red or grey tights. Only **small** red or neutral hair accessories should be worn.

We have noticed a few of items of clothing that have not yet been named as well as having a number of identical water bottles, none of which are named. Please can we ask that all items brought in to school are clearly labelled to avoid them being lost or children being confused about what belongs to them.

Equipment

Please can we remind everyone that they need to have a coat with them every day and keep a pair of wellies in school. We do go out for play times and enjoy Forest Friday in all weathers and do not want children to miss out as they do not have the appropriate clothing. Please note that all children should also have their PE kit in school Monday to Friday each week. All children in KS1 and KS2 also need to bring a fully stocked pencil case with them to school each day, including glue sticks.

Collective Worship

We are delighted to continue to welcome parents to join us for our Celebration Assemblies at 2:30pm each Friday, starting on Friday 20th September in school. Please enter and exit via the hall door. We will be holding a 'New Year' service in church on Friday 13th September at 9:15am to mark the start of the school year and welcome our new starters.

Eco-Schools Green Flag Award

I am proud to say that Aston Rowant School has another accreditation to its name! In addition to our Primary Science Gilt Award and Music Mark we now also hold the Eco-Schools Green Flag. Well done to the whole team for their hard work – but especially Mrs Biggin and also the Eco Warriors for their incredible achievement. Here are just some of the comments from the awarding body:

'It is evident that young people in your school are aware of environmental issues and passionate about protecting our planet!'

'Your Environmental Review and Action Plan are packed with ideas, actions and comments, and this is exactly what our team enjoys seeing.'

'Thank you so much for submitting such a terrific application. We have loved reading about your journey and are incredibly impressed by all you have achieved. We have no hesitation in awarding you an Eco-Schools Green Flag with Merit, congratulations!'

Kind regards

Mrs France

GRATITUDE

RESILIENCE

OUTREACH

WONDER

TRUST

HARMONY

Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:

This week all classes have all been looking at the book 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers. It is a simple, life-affirming picture book which gives both an overview of Earth itself and a guide to living well on it. It explores concepts of kindness, tolerance and environmental responsibility. It looks at planet Earth - full of wonderful creatures, breath-taking landscapes and inspiring nature. Then there are people, who are similar but who act, look and sound different to one another. There are lots of different animals, too, and finally there's work for us all to do to look after our incredible world. Spoiler alert - the book ends by reminding us that the most important thing for children to know about life on Earth is that they are loved.



We have used these first few days back at school to allow all of the children the time and space to settle and share their own unique experiences, thoughts, feelings, reflections and questions. The children have engaged in an incredible range of activities to help them make sense of their experiences, their relationships with each other, the school community and the wider world around them.

Do ask your children about what they have learnt and enjoyed this week. Normal timetables start next week!





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Fmails and Letters Sent this Week

Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning
06-09-24	Email	All	Office	Smartphone Free Childhood Meeting

September	
w/c 9 th September	Meet the teacher meetings. Mon 9 th Owl 2:45pm Tues 10 th Fox 2:45pm Wed 11 th 1:00pm Hedgehog 2:45pm Squirrel
Friday 13 th	New Year Service in Church – everyone welcome
Friday 20 th	Jeans for Genes Day (wear your jeans and make a donation to this charity) 09:00 PTA meeting in Hall 02:30 First celebration assembly in school for parents
Wednesday 25 th	Smartphone Free Childhood Meeting
Thursday 26 th	Individual School Photos
Friday 27 th	02:30 Harvest in school celebration assembly
October	
Tuesday 1 st / Wednesday 9 th	Open Evening / Morning at LWS for Year 7 intake 2025
Wednesday 18 th	Open Morning for Reception 2025
Friday 25 th	INSET Day
November	
Wednesday 6 th	Open Morning for Reception 2025
Tue 12 th and Wed 13 th	Parents' Evenings
Mon 11 th – Fri 15 th	Anti-Bullying Week – Choose Respect
Friday 15 th	Children in Need (wear spots and dots and make a donation to this charity)
December	
Tue 10 th and Wed 11 th	EYFS Nativity
Wednesday 18 th	Christingle in church
Friday 20 th	Christmas Party School ends 13:30

Academic Year Calendar 2024-25

Autumn 24	
Weds 4 th Sept – Thurs 24 th Oct	Autumn Term (1)
Mon 28 th – Fri 1 st Nov	HALF TERM
Mon 4 th Nov – Fri 20 th Dec	Autumn Term (2)
Spring 25	
Tue 7 th Jan – Fri 14 th Feb	Spring Term (1)
Mon 17 th – Fri 21 st Feb	HALF TERM
Mon 24 th Feb – Fri 4 th Apr	Spring Term (2)
Summer 25	
Tue 22 nd April – Thu 22 nd May	Summer Term (1)
Mon 26 th May – Fri 30 th May	HALF TERM
Mon 2 nd June – Tue 22 nd July	Summer Term (2)