



SUPPORTING
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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



15th November 2024

Message from the Head Teacher

Remembrance Day

On Monday KS2 had a short service at the War Memorial at church led by Rev Des. Year 6 read the roll of honour and laid a cross for each of the fallen. Mrs Smith played the 'Last Post', before our 2-minute silence and then played Reveille to end our time of remembrance.

Last year Matilda wrote an acrostic on remembrance. This year she wrote a value-based poem, which she read at the service.

Lest we forget the men and woman who have served, and still serve, our country – who have values like ours
Gratitude – which we show for their service and sacrifice
Resilience – showed by everyone who served or serves in any way
Outreach – for the freedom of now and future generations
Wonder – for the future they were fighting for
Trust – in you
Harmony – as the guns fell silent

Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who came in their spots or dots, or Children in Need merchandise, and donated towards Children in Need today. We have raised a total of **£94.25** for Children in Need.

Anti-Bullying Week

This week we have marked anti-bullying week with its theme 'Choose Respect'. We have emphasised the importance of fostering a culture of respect and support, where bullying is not tolerated, and every person is valued and respected. We strive to be the school which promotes kindness, empathy, and respect, and to offers a safe and inclusive environment for everyone. Being part of being an inclusive school is celebrating individuality and uniqueness. So, on Tuesday we all wore odd socks - joining together to show that it's okay to be different and to make a stand against discrimination.

Key Areas of Information about Aston Rowant School: How does the school deal with bullying?

We are delighted to participate in and focus on the National Anti-Bullying Week every year. However, anti-bullying at Aston Rowant School is not confined to a one-off week. It is threaded throughout our values, our curriculum and the way we engage with everything in our learning journey and everyone in our school community.

Anti-bullying is part of, although not limited to, our PSHE curriculum in every year group. We include learning about different types of bullying including: online bullying; physical bullying; verbal bullying; non-verbal abuse; exclusion; controlling or manipulative behaviour as well as the following types of bullying, which are now categorised as hate crimes, including: racial, sexual, transphobic or homophobic bullying and bullying someone because they have a disability. We discuss the impact of bullying, the responsibility of bystanders to report bullying and how and where to get help.

We have worked with the children looking at the UNCRC and also linked this to Anti Bullying Week: Article 2 - no discrimination Article 12 - respect for children's views Article 13 - sharing thoughts freely Article 14 - freedom of thought and religion Article 19 - protection from violence Article 23 - children with disabilities Article 30 - minority culture, language and religion.

Our Behaviour Policy and Anti-Bullying Policy are both based on The Church of England book 'Valuing all God's Children' which offers Church of England schools' guidance in challenging bullying and in how to 'offer a safe and welcoming place for all God's children' by ensuring that our schools are founded on: wisdom, knowledge and skills; hope and aspiration; community and living well together; and dignity and respect. Both of these documents are on our website.

Schools need to be made aware of bullying in order to deal with it effectively. We can only deal with what we know about and are made aware of. So, at Aston Rowant School we also encourage children to be upstanders and not bystanders - and report any kind of unkindness if they see it shown towards others. I am delighted that this was evident when we had our Ofsted inspection.

'Pupils say it does not matter if a person looks different to another. Pupils happily look out for each other. They affirm that bullying has no place here, and know that adults would sort out any issues right away.' Ofsted 24.05.22

Kind regards

Mrs France

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

Growing together, rooted in God, enjoying fullness of life. (Colossians 2:7)



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Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:



Hedgehog Class

We have had a great week in Hedgehog. Nativity rehearsals are well underway and the children have been fantastic at learning their lines and taking stage directions. We have sent out costume letters and have lots of spare so please do let us know if you have any problems sourcing one. In Maths this week the children have been looking at the concept of 1 more and 1 less, singing number songs to practice the number just before and the number just after. They have really enjoyed exploring this concept in their play by making stairs. We are really impressed with the children's phonics as they grow in confidence with blending and segmenting and this week the children have really begin to work independently which is a pleasure to witness. In topic we have been learning more about toys and how they work. If you have any old toys from your childhood that we could borrow to teach about the past please see Mrs Hall or Mrs Olsen. Thank you.



Squirrel Class

A wonderful week with some much-needed sunshine! And lots of positive, shining moments of learning and progress for the Squirrels this week. We learned about different sentence types and the children can now identify when and how to use the different punctuation marks (! . ?) required for each. We have also spent time creating our own class poem after marking the first 'Michael Rosen Day' on 12th November. In Maths we have worked on our mental maths and understanding of number, with Y1 consolidating number bonds to 10 using bar models and Y2 working on adding 3 1-digit numbers. In history we looked at our personal timelines and talked about memories from our past. We then added these events to our personal timelines, and discussed how people also remember and record significant world events on timelines too. I'd also like to mention how amazing Hedgehog and Squirrel class were when we marked the 2-minute silence on Monday morning for Remembrance Day. They were calm, respectful and made me very proud.



Fox Class

It's been lovely being able to talk to you this week about how well your children are doing. All of Fox Class are working their 'odd socks' off! We have also welcomed Miss Wyness to our class for the next month as a trainee teacher and she has enjoyed getting to know us all. On Tuesday, it was Michael Rosen day and we dedicated our English to his work. We wrote a class poem based on his poem 'Breakfast Time' then practised our oracy skills with 'A Little Boy Came Down for Breakfast'. It was very entertaining! We have also been working on using causal conjunctions to aid our explanations before planning to write an explanation about a Wallace and Gromit contraption! In Maths, we have worked on adding and subtracting 3 digits with 2 digits and multiplication with the 3 and times tables. In Geography, children learnt about how mountains are formed, the different types and where mountain ranges are found in the world and the link with tectonic plates. Science was alight on Tuesday as children got to grips with making circuits that lit a lightbulb. They were challenged with trying different suggestions and predicting if they would work or not before making them. Lots of great learning has happened this week!



Owl Class

After being able to share your children's progress with you on Parents Evening this week, I'm happy to be able to give you a bit more insight into this week's learning here in Owl Class. In English, we joined in Micheal Rosen Day to create our own personalised verses of 'Everyone is From Somewhere', which we also performed in the Collective Worship this afternoon, which we hope you enjoyed. The rest of the writing week was focused on crafting a formal letter home from a WWII soldier called David, as we closed our Remembrance unit. In Maths, Year 5 learnt how to convert improper fractions to mixed numbers, whilst Year 6 were comparing fractions by denominator and numerator, as well as both year groups solving a range of puzzles centred around fractions on Friday. In Geography, the children looked at what factors may contribute to increases in the birth rate worldwide, whilst in Science, they used our data loggers to record the light intensity as it passed through a range of materials and sorted them into a range of categories including transparent, translucent and opaque. In ICT, the children began to storyboard their short films, ready to film them next week: we will have a range of stop-motion Lego films, ASMR videos and more!

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

Growing together, rooted in God, enjoying fullness of life. (Colossians 2:7)



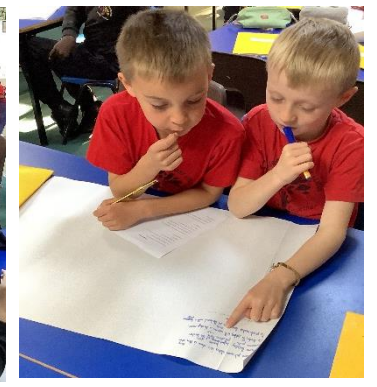
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Photo Diary of the Week



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Whole School Topic - Autumn Term: I Spy With My Little Eye

Values: Gratitude

Following on from our theme of remembrance last week, and linked to Armistice Day on Monday, in Collective Worship this week we have been looking at remembering to say thank you. KS2 visited the war memorial at church for a service at the 11th hour of the 11th day in the 11th month and stood in remembrance and gratitude for those who have fallen. Sometimes we can forget to say thank you for our daily blessings such as our food, or homes, or the little things that people do all of the time which make our lives better. We looked at St Paul's letter to the Ephesians where he says:

'Always give thanks for everything to God the Father.' Ephesians 5:20

Climate Warriors Challenge

Over 70,000 delegates are attending COP29 in Azerbaijan. Global events, such as the outcome of the US elections or the Azerbaijani president offering potential fossil-fuel deals to a pretend investor, can be seen as setbacks. These, however, must not stand in the way of our efforts to decarbonise – we have goals to accomplish. We need to consider our own role in environmental change. As individuals, we have a crucial part to play. Did you know that agriculture and food systems contribute 1/3 of global greenhouse gas emissions. As a school, with our families, we are challenged to eat as many plant-based meals as possible over the course of COP29, which finishes on 22nd November.

[BBC Climate Change Food Calculator](#) - Why not choose your favourite meal and see its environmental impact?

Book Review **Eyes that Kiss in the Corners by Joanna Ho recommended by Mrs France**



This is an exquisite book – an inspirational concept which is beautifully illustrated. A young girl notices that her eyes look different from her friends' eyes. Then she realises how special she is. Her eyes kiss in the corners and glow like warm tea. Her eyes find mountains that rise ahead and look up when others shut down. Her eyes crinkle into crescent moons and sparkle like the stars. They carry tales of the past and hope for the future. This is a dazzling, lyrical ode to appreciating ourselves and who we are and fits beautifully with the work on respect and anti-bullying we have done.

Happiness Calendar: New Ways November

This month, we're encouraging you to try something new! We are focusing on problem solving and having a growth mindset in school. Being adventurous and trying new things is important, as is remembering that it's okay not to get it right first time - turning "I can't do it", into "I can't do it...yet!". This month's happiness calendar [here](#) has lots of ideas and challenges.

Attendance – *Given out at individually at Parents' Evening* % **From September**

School target 97%	100%	97% - 100%	90% -97%	Below 90%
Hedgehog Class	54%	46%		
Squirrel Class	46%	54%		
Fox Class	56%	36%	8%	
Owl Class		65%	35%	

Well done to Hedgehog and Squirrel classes – keep it up! Fox and Owl can you do as well as the younger children?

Housepoints

<i>House</i>	<i>This Week</i>	<i>Total</i>
Bethlehem	75	162
Eden	71	136
Galilee	89	154
Jerusalem	78	162

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Emails and letters sent this Week

Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning
15/11/24	Email	Hedgehogs	Mrs Hall & Mrs Olsen	Christmas Nativity
11/11/24	Email	KSI & KS2	Mrs France	Cinema trip
11/11/24	Email	All	Office	Christmas Green Fayre

November	
Wednesday 20 th	Full Governing Body Meeting
Wednesday 27 th	Cinema trip KSI and KS2 Ozi – Voice of the Forest
Wednesday 27 th	Open Afternoon for Reception 2025 14:30 – 15:30
Sat 30 th – Sun 8 th	Chinnor Festival of Trees inc choir performance Sun 1 st
December	
Tuesday 3 rd	Oxford University visit to Fox class - rocks
Wednesday 4 th	Thame Festival of Music – Owl Class
Monday 9 th	Dress rehearsal EYFS Nativity to the whole school
Tue 10 th and Wed 11 th	EYFS Nativity
Wednesday 18 th	Christingle in church
Thursday 19 th	Christmas Parties
Friday 20 th	Pantomime in school: Dick Whittington School ends 13:30
January	
Monday 6 th	INSET day
Tuesday 7 th	Children return
February	
3 rd – 9 th	Children's Mental Health Week in Internet Safety Day on Tues
March	
Wed 5 th	World Book Day celebration
10 th – 14 th	National Science Week
April	
31 st – 4 th	RE Enrichment Week
4 th	Spring Service in Church

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)

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