



SUPPORT
CONNECT
INFLUENCE



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 March 2026

From the Headteacher

World Day of Prayer

To mark this year's Women's World Day of Prayer, written by the women of Nigeria, we were delighted to welcome a special guest to Collective Worship: Mrs Liz Crozier. Having lived in Nigeria for many years as a missionary, Mrs Crozier shared captivating stories of her work translating the Bible into local languages and how this has strengthened communities across generations.

Dressed in beautiful traditional Nigerian clothing, she painted a vivid picture of everyday life - its colourful fashions, delicious food, lively church services, warm climate, and even the unforgettable experience of travelling on Nigerian roads! Her enthusiasm brought Nigeria's vibrant culture to life, filling the hall with excitement and curiosity.

Our pupils were fully engaged, listening closely and asking thoughtful questions that showed a genuine interest in life beyond their own experiences. It was a joyful and enriching session that broadened their global awareness and celebrated cultural diversity.

World Book Day

This year's World Book Day theme, 'What's Your Passion?', invited our children to go all in and explore how reading can connect with what they love most. Whether their interests lie in sport, animals, space, art, cooking, nature, or even dreams for future careers, the day was designed to help every child discover books that reflect and celebrate their passions.

The excitement was clear from the moment the children arrived in their wonderful outfits - each one linked to a fiction or non-fiction book. From animal explorers to football heroes, astronauts to artists, the costumes captured the creativity and enthusiasm that make this day such a highlight of the school year.

Throughout the day, children worked in their house teams, taking part in a carousel of four engaging activities. Each session was inspired by a teacher's personal passion and a carefully chosen book, encouraging the children to explore stories in imaginative and meaningful ways.

'I See a Song' by Eric Carle – Music and Art

The children explored how colours, shapes and music can work together to tell a story. This vibrant, wordless book encouraged expressive artwork and musical interpretation, allowing children to create their own visual melodies.

'Me on the Map' by Joan Sweeney – Geography and Story Mapping

The children learned about their place in the world and how maps help us make sense of our surroundings. Each house created a 3D story map of a different fairy tale, bringing landscapes, pathways and settings to life through thoughtful construction and design.

Grimm's Fairy Tales - Fairy-Tale Dance & Drama

Inspired by Grimm's Fairy Tales the children created silent, story-based dances and mime sequences. These well-known stories, rich in imagery and action, were perfect for interpreting through movement. The children worked collaboratively to retell familiar narratives without words, showing wonderful expression, teamwork and imagination.

'George's Marvellous Medicine' by Roald Dahl - Science and Creativity

Inspired by this much-loved story, the children designed and mixed their own marvellous medicines, experimenting with colour, texture and imaginative ingredients. This session was a joyful blend of creativity and was loved by all.

It was a truly fantastic day, filled with joy, creativity and a shared love of reading. A huge thank you to all our teachers for their inspirational ideas and thoughtful planning (including Mrs Healy – can you spot her on the photo page?). And an equally big thank you to our children, whose enthusiasm, teamwork and passion made this World Book Day one to remember.

Finally... Quiz Night

A huge shoutout to Mr and Mrs Havenhand-Beal for an absolutely fantastic quiz night on Friday! From the brilliantly bonkers 'Footballer or Fashion Designer?' round to music, maths and everything in between, the evening was a perfect mix of hilariously tricky, surprisingly revealing, and downright fun. A big thank you, too, to everyone who set up, packed down, poured drinks, sold raffle tickets, or helped in any way. What a brilliant night - full of laughter, friendly competition, and wonderful community spirit. We can't wait to find out the final fundraising total in the coming weeks!

Kind regards

Mrs France

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

Growing together, rooted in God, enjoying fullness of life. (Colossians 2:1-7)

SUPPORT
CONNECT
INFLUENCE

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



Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:



Hedgehog Class

This week has been a very egg-citing one for us — the eggs have finally arrived! The children were thrilled, and we are all looking forward to watching the chicks grow and develop over the next 21 days. We have been learning about the life cycle of chicks and thinking about what they will need as they begin to hatch. In Literacy, the children read “Egg to Chicken” by Jodie Shepard and created their own information books about chicks, carefully thinking about how to make them clear, interesting, and exciting for others to read. We have also been applying our phonics learning, particularly focusing on using the “ch” sound in our writing. We had a wonderful World Book Day, and everyone looked fantastic in their costumes. It was lovely to celebrate our love of books together. Outside, we have been busy preparing the garden, getting it ready for all the plants that are beginning to grow with our care and attention. In Maths, we have been exploring and building with 3D shapes, while in PHSE we began discussing friendships and resilience — learning how to get along with others and how to deal with conflicts when they arise. The children practise these important skills during their exploring time. It has been a great, sunny week, full of learning, creativity, and excitement!



Squirrel Class

This week we have had lots of fantastic learning across the curriculum! In Maths, our Year 1 children have been learning how to make numbers up to 50 using tens and ones, while Year 2 have been practising division and multiplying by 2, as well as exploring doubling and halving. In English, we have been sequencing the story *Lost and Found* by Oliver Jeffers and are getting ready to retell the story next week. In Geography, the children created maps of our classroom and used directional language to describe where things are. In RE, we explored what happens in a church, what people do there, and discussed what the children enjoy most when they meet in church. We also celebrated World Book Day, and the children loved dressing up as their favourite characters, taking part in different book-themed activities, and enjoying a book swap. In DT, we investigated stable structures and the children had great fun building towers using a variety of materials including wooden blocks, Lego and magna-tiles. It has been a busy and exciting week of learning!



Fox Class

It has been another full, fun week of learning in Fox class. The children have written their own versions of non-chronological reports based on the new creature they have “discovered” in the Amazon rainforest. Most of the new animals were quite blood thirsty carnivores that people would want to stay away from, but a few creatures were based on gentler animals and sounded quite pleasant! I was impressed by the children’s attention to detail and eagerness to engage in this activity. In Maths, we have been continuing our work on fractions. The year 3s have been working hard on finding equivalent fractions on a number line or bar model, whilst the year 4’s have been learning to convert between mixed numbers and improper fractions. On Tuesday, the children worked with Miss Hand to learn about the different types of teeth in humans and how they are important to start the first stage of digestion. They used salt dough to made models of teeth and placed them in their model jaws. In Geography the children have been learning about the different layers of plants in the rainforest. They used what they had learnt to create their own rainforests, showing excellent understanding of what plants and animals might be found at each layer.



Owl Class

Such a busy week for Owl Class, as we began a new English text called ‘The Island’, which uses charcoal images and prose to tell a story of a strange visitor washed up on an unfriendly island: using only the front cover, the children had to make predictions about the content and the possible story, before reading on and developing conversations that the huddled villagers may have said about their strange new islander. It is already raising questions about bigger ideas like who belongs in a place, and how people who seek shelter can be treated. In Science, we developed the classification system of last week’s learning and explored one particular strand - the vertebrates. The children sorted the vertebrates into mammals, reptiles, and birds and explored the links between the habitats each live in-what was similar, what was different? In Maths, the children are getting to grips with using formula to find the area of triangles, and then using this knowledge to solve a range of problems such as ‘how much paint would I need to cover one side of a shed, and how much would it cost?’ RE found us looking at how the belief in the resurrection of Jesus develops the world view of a Christian, whilst ICT found us developing a paper-based data-file; next week we will transport this data online for a far more effective way of retaining data.

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

Growing together, rooted in God, enjoying fullness of life. (Colossians 2:1-7)



SUPPORT
CONNECT
INFLUENCE



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



Photo Diary of the Week



GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

Growing together, rooted in God, enjoying fullness of life. (Colossians 2:1-7)



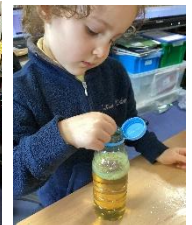
SUPPORT
CONNECT
INFLUENCE



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



World Book Day



GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

Growing together, rooted in God, enjoying fullness of life. (Colossians 2:1-7)



SUPPORT
CONNECT
INFLUENCE



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



Whole School Topic - Spring Term: A Sense of Belonging

Value: Outreach

In Collective Worship we looked at moments in the Bible where Jesus notices the struggles of the people around him and responds with deep compassion. On one occasion, he travelled by boat hoping to find a quiet place where he and his disciples could rest. But when he arrived on the opposite shore, another crowd was already waiting - people longing for his help and healing. Instead of turning away, Jesus welcomed them. He allowed their needs to move his heart, and he showed his love through his kindness and care. We reflected on how we, too, can follow his example and show compassion to those around us.

“When Jesus saw the large crowd, he felt compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began to teach them many things.” Mark 6:34

Climate Warriors' Challenge

Electric light plays a huge part in our daily lives, and we owe a great deal to Edison's determination and creativity. But it also prompts us to ask an important question: could we be using it more thoughtfully? This week's challenge invites us to “zap the lights” at home—see if you can make the most of natural daylight when you wake up, switch off lights you don't really need, and help cut down on the carbon emissions linked to electricity use.

Solar energy offers incredible potential in reducing global emissions. As we make small changes in our own homes this week, we're also encouraged to explore how solar power is transforming lives around the world. Every 1.5 millionths of a second, the sun releases more energy than humans use in an entire year—a powerful reminder of the possibilities still waiting to be tapped.

Reading Missions Challenge

March Mammoth: Reading a book with: EYFS 10 or more pages, KS1 50 pages, LKS2 200 pages, UKS2 500+ pages

Book Review – Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers reviewed by Mrs Biggin and Squirrel Class



Squirrel Class have spent this week reading this heart-warming children's picture book about a boy who finds a penguin and journeys to the South Pole to return him, only to discover they are better together. It explores the themes of belonging, family and friendship in simple terms alongside minimalist illustrations. The class have really enjoyed predicting what will happen in the story and discussing the emotions and feelings experienced by the characters. The author and illustrator has created some beautiful other stories which we will read this term, including The Way Back Home and Here We Are.

Happiness Calendar: Mindful March

This month let's pause, breathe and really take in what's all around us. You can find this month's happiness calendar [here](#).

Attendance – This week

School target 97%	97% - 100%	90% -97%	Below 90%
Hedgehog Class	82%	0%	18%
Squirrel Class	85%	4%	11%
Fox Class	93%	0%	7%
Owl Class	85%	0%	15%

Housepoints

House	This Week	Total
Bethlehem	13	72
Eden	32	68
Galilee	38	58
Jerusalem	22	46

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

Growing together, rooted in God, enjoying fullness of life. (Colossians 2:1-7)

SUPPORT
CONNECT
INFLUENCE

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



Emails and Letters Sent this Week

Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning
06.03.26	Letter	Owls	Mrs France	Netball fixture
06.03.26	Letter	Selection	Mrs France	Poetry Slam Final
06.03.26	Email	All	Office	Primary School Health Nursing Newsletter
04.03.26	Email	Year 5	Office	Reminder – Cycle training permissions
02.03.26	Letter	Owls	Office	Garsington Opera letters
02.03.26	Email	All	Office	Reminder – World Book Day

March	
Mon 9 th	Tennis Roadshow
9 th – 13 th	National Science Week – ‘Space’
Wed 11 th	Tag Rugby
Fri 13 th	Spring Colour Day – bring prizes for PTA Spring raffle
Wed 18 th	Poetry Slam Competition Oxfordshire Cricket Club Day Hedgehog trip – Discovery Lookout Centre
Thu 19 th	Y5/6 Netball fixture at Barley Hill School
Fri 20 th	Year 5 Cycle training starts (bikes and helmets in school) Red Nose Day – wear your jumper or cardigans back to front for a donation to Comic Relief Spring raffle at the end of Collective Worship
Wed 25 th	FGB
Mon 23 rd – 27 th	RE Enrichment Week ‘Journeys of Hope’
Fri 27 th	9:15 Spring Service in Church 1:30 End of Term 1:30-3:15 PTA event
April	
Wed 22 nd	14:30 Rock Steady Concert

Academic Year Calendar 2025-26

Spring 26	
Mon 23 rd Feb – Fri 27 th Mar	Spring Term (2)
Summer 26	
Mon 13 th April – Fri 22 nd May	Summer Term (1) INSET Fri 22 nd May
Mon 25 th May – Fri 29 th May	HALF TERM
Mon 1 st June – Fri 17 th July	Summer Term (2) INSET Mon 20 th July

Academic Year Calendar 2026-27

Autumn 26	
Tue 1 st Sept – Fri 23 rd Oct	Autumn Term (1) INSET DAYS: Tue 1 st Sep, Wed 2 nd Sept and Fri 23 rd Oct
Mon 26 th Oct – Fri 30 th Oct	HALF TERM
Mon 2 nd Nov – Fri 18 th Dec	Autumn Term (2)
Spring 27	
Mon 4 th Jan – Fri 12 th Feb	Spring Term (1) INSET Mon 4 th Jan
Mon 15 th – Fri 19 th Feb	HALF TERM
Mon 22 nd Feb – Thu 25 th Mar	Spring Term (2)
Summer 27	
Mon 12 th April – Fri 28 th May	Summer Term (1)
Mon 31 st May – Fri 4 th Jun	HALF TERM
Mon 7 th June – Wed 21 st July	Summer Term (2) INSET Mon 7 th Jun

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

Growing together, rooted in God, enjoying fullness of life. (Colossians 2:1-7)