

I wonder how you feel when you watch the news and see local, national and international events unfolding? I wonder if you feel powerless to make a difference or inspired to try?

As a Church of England school we are encouraged to think about 'courageous advocacy' - putting others needs first, even when it might be dangerous or difficult. Many Christians believe that God asks us to offer our skills, talents and abilities in the face of adversity, and that He will use that courageousness to achieve great things.

The word 'courage' comes from the Latin word 'cor' = heart. At Aston Rowant CofE Primary School we encourage and champion our pupils to become courageous advocates, to have a heart for everyone, not just locally, but nationally and globally. It is important for our children to appreciate their role as part of a community; to take responsibility, to be able to look after themselves and to foster an understanding of their importance, impact and influence in the world.

We use our values to teach and encourage one another to be courageous advocates through:

- Gratitude- we advocate for others as we are grateful for the blessings we have received from God
- Resilience - knowing that it is not always easy to see wrongs righted but being determined to try
- Outreach - we advocate for others both in school and also by reaching out to our wider communities
- Wonder – our right to speak freely and to care for others is a wonder that we don't take for granted
- Trust - we trust our understanding of right and wrong to see injustice where it exists
- Harmony - by our advocacy we bring hope to others which is inter woven in our school culture

Each year we carry out a range of different fund raising to support many good causes, some of which include:

- Charities of significance to our children (Sobell House Hospice, Tearfund, Christian Aid, Save the Children)
- Wycombe Homeless Connection and The Night Shelter
- Jeans for Genes
- Our local food bank (Sharing Life)
- The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.
- Children in Need
- Comic Relief
- Reacting to wars and national disasters (Tonga, Ukraine and Palestine)
- We are linked to a school in South Africa

Our children have a good understanding the meaning of belonging to a local and global community and the sense of responsibility that comes with belonging. Together we consider the beauty and fragility of our environment, the actions we take, and the impact these actions may have on the well-being of everyone.

We know that the world present may challenges, but it also presents many opportunities and at Aston Rowant School we hope to inspire future generations to be the change they want to see in the world.

Mrs Helen France  
Headteacher