

Christmas Tree Festival 2023

In 2023, Aston Rowant School was proud to once again take part in the Christmas Tree Festival, contributing a tree inspired by the festival's theme of pantomimes and musicals. After careful thought, we chose *Peter Pan* as the inspiration for our tree, linking beautifully to our school values and vision.

Our Theme: *Peter Pan – Happy Thoughts*

In *Peter Pan*, the characters are able to fly when they think a happy thought. This powerful idea strongly reflects our belief that children should be encouraged to grow, flourish and thrive during their time at Aston Rowant School.

Building on this message, we invited every child in the school to reflect on their own *happy thought* - something that inspires them, gives them confidence or helps them feel positive and motivated.

Pupil Voice and Creativity

Each child recorded their happy thought on a star decoration, which was then used to decorate the tree. Together, these stars created a vibrant and meaningful display, celebrating individuality, positivity and aspiration.

This activity gave pupils the opportunity to:

- Reflect on what inspires and motivates them
- Express their thoughts in a creative and personal way
- Feel a sense of belonging and shared purpose
- See their ideas valued and displayed within the community



Personal Development and Values

The project supported pupils' personal development by encouraging self-reflection, emotional awareness and optimism. It reinforced the message that positive thinking, encouragement and aspiration play an important role in learning and personal growth.

By linking a well-known story to our school values, pupils were able to understand these ideas in a meaningful and memorable way.

A Tree Full of Meaning

Our *Peter Pan* tree, decorated with stars of happy thoughts, was a joyful and uplifting contribution to the festival. It celebrated imagination, hope and growth, while showcasing the voices of our children.

We were incredibly proud of how thoughtfully pupils engaged with this project and how beautifully their ideas came together to form a tree that truly reflected the spirit of our school.

