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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**



**17<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

## *From the Headteacher*

As we reach the end of another wonderful school year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on some of the highlights, celebrate the achievements of our children, and thank those who have made such a positive difference to our school community.

## *Goodbye and Thank You*

This term we say a fond farewell to Mrs Healy, who leaves Aston Rowant after four fantastic years in Fox Class. During her time with us, she has made an enormous contribution to school life, not only as a class teacher but also in her roles as English Lead and PE Lead. Mrs Healy has inspired countless children through her passion, dedication and enthusiasm. Her legacy can be seen in so many areas of school life, from the outstanding Key Stage 2 productions she directed, to the success of our tag rugby and cross-country teams, and of course, the unforgettable costumes that have become something of a hallmark of every dress up day! We are also sad to say goodbye to Mrs Boddy as a teaching assistant, although she will continue to teach swimming. Her passion and dedication not only to the children in KS1 and EYFS but also to providing enriching opportunities beyond the classroom, have been appreciated by us all. We are incredibly grateful for everything they have both given to our school and they will be greatly missed.

## *The Spirit of Aston Rowant Award*

One of Mrs Healy's lasting legacies will be the introduction of the Spirit of Aston Rowant Award. This special trophy will recognise a child who truly embodies what it means to be an Aston Rowant pupil: someone who lives out our values every day, demonstrates kindness and integrity, and contributes positively to our school community. The award is voted for by staff, with pupil voice helping to inform the decision. I am delighted to announce that this year's recipient is Georgie. His kindness, thoughtfulness and willingness to help both children and adults alike make her a truly deserving winner.

## *The Miss Williams Art Award*

Another special legacy introduced last year is the Miss Williams' Art Award. This award celebrates not simply artistic talent, but the qualities that enable children to flourish creatively: dedication, perseverance, enthusiasm and a genuine passion for artistic expression. It recognises those who embrace challenges, work hard to develop their skills and approach art with curiosity and commitment. This year's winner is Bodie, whose creativity, commitment and enthusiasm for art have shone throughout the year.

## *A Fantastic Sports Week*

Our annual Sports Week has been another tremendous success, giving children the opportunity to try new activities, develop skills and, most importantly, enjoy being active together. The week began with cricket at Aston Rowant Cricket Club on Monday, followed by a fantastic Sports Day on Tuesday. The fun continued with fencing and archery on Wednesday and finally tennis, wrestling and zorb balls on Thursday, all providing experiences that many of our children will remember for years to come. A huge thank you to all the staff, volunteers and external providers who helped make the week such a success.

## *Young Enterprise and Courageous Advocacy*

During Sports Day, the child initiated Young Enterprise projects once again demonstrated impressive thoughtfulness and commitment by raising money for their chosen charities. I am incredibly proud of the thought, creativity and determination they have shown throughout the year. Their work is a wonderful example of courageous advocacy in action, as they continue to think beyond themselves and make a positive difference to others. Well done to everyone involved.

## *Goodbye to Year 6*

As always, one of the most emotional parts of the year is saying goodbye to our Year 6 pupils. This cohort is particularly special to me. The children who joined Aston Rowant in Reception began their journey here at exactly the same time as I did. They are therefore the first group of pupils I have had the privilege of seeing grow from their very first days at school right through to the end of their primary education. Alongside them are those children who joined our school family at different stages and have become such an important part of the group. It has been a joy to watch them develop into the confident, capable and caring young people they are today. We know that they leave us fully prepared for the next stage of their education and ready to embrace the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. While we are excited for everything that awaits them, it is always hard to say goodbye. They will be greatly missed, and we wish each and every one of them every success and happiness in the future.

## *Wishing You a Wonderful Summer*

Finally, I would like to thank all our families for your continued support throughout the year. I wish you all a happy, restful and enjoyable summer holiday, with plenty of opportunities to relax and spend time together. On a personal note, I am very much looking forward to sharing my special day with those of you who are able to join us. To those attending, I look forward to celebrating with you soon; to everyone else, I look forward to seeing you in September for another exciting year at Aston Rowant.

*Kind regards*

*Mrs France*

**GRATITUDE**

**RESILIENCE**

**OUTREACH**

**WONDER**

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**HARMONY**

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

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## *Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:*



### *Hedgehog Class*

What a wonderful final week we have had in Hedgehog Class! The children absolutely loved Sports Week and threw themselves into every activity with enthusiasm, determination, and fantastic teamwork. It has been a joy to watch them encourage one another and celebrate each other's achievements. We also spent some special time creating paintings of our Year 6 leavers, thinking carefully about what they mean to us as a school family and writing thoughtful goodbye messages to wish them well on their next adventure. In Art, we completed our beautiful seascapes by adding detail to the foreground using collage and pastels. The finished pieces are something the children should be incredibly proud of. We also worked hard together to sort and tidy our classroom, getting everything ready for the new Hedgehogs who will join us in September. The children thoughtfully reviewed our resources, discussing which ones provide the greatest learning opportunities for next year's class. It was wonderful to see them taking such pride in their classroom and thinking of others. As we reach the end of an unforgettable year, we want to say just how incredibly proud we are of every single child. Watching them grow in confidence, kindness, resilience, and independence has been a true privilege. They have filled our classroom with laughter, curiosity, and countless special memories that we will treasure. Although it is time for them to spread their wings and begin their Year 1 adventure, a little piece of each of them will always remain in Hedgehog Class. We will miss their smiling faces, their unique personalities, and the joy they bring each day more than words can say. Thank you for making this such a special year. We couldn't be prouder of everything you have achieved. Have a wonderful, fun-filled summer with your families, and good luck in Year 1. We know you will continue to shine and make us proud every step of the way.



### *Squirrel Class*

This week, Squirrel Class had an amazing time during Sports Week! On Monday, we visited Aston Rowant CC for a special cricket session, where expert coaches helped us develop our batting and bowling skills. On Tuesday, we enjoyed our whole-school Sports Day, with every child showing fantastic determination and resilience as they competed in their races and events, perfectly demonstrating this term's school value. Wednesday brought even more excitement with an archery session, where we practised our aiming skills while also using our maths knowledge and teamwork. In the afternoon, we had the opportunity to try fencing – a new and unique sport that everyone embraced with enthusiasm and perseverance. We also finished off our DT unit on Cooking and Nutrition with the class making healthy fruit and vegetable kebabs. They were a tasty and welcome snack after a busy day of sport. On Thursday, we rounded off the week with a brilliant tennis session led by a specialist coach, putting into practice all the skills we have been learning in PE. We also had lots of laughs and giggles during a special PE session using zorb balls and sumo wrestling suits, which created plenty of memorable moments! It has been a fantastic week and a wonderful way to end the academic year. Well done, Squirrel Class – have a fantastic summer, and we look forward to seeing you all again in September!



### *Fox Class*

It's been a super last week of term in Fox Class. I was so impressed with their measuring and cutting skills whilst making their boxes. They created them from scratch and chose to either make a cube, cuboid or square based pyramid. In order to give a purpose to these boxes we made scones in small groups. They worked well as a team and produced some delicious smelling (and I hope tasting) scones. Sports Day gave them the opportunity to perform in their chosen activity in addition to a sprint and I was so proud of the children who chose to run the 200m run – it's quite a challenge considering the distance and spectators watching! We spent some enjoyable time making parabolic curves and finding a range of ways of designing them. For oracy, children practised their poem and how to deliver it for our Church service on Friday. It was lovely to hear them be so amazed as to how much we have covered this year. As for the range of sports on offer this week, the whole class loved our session with Aston Rowant Cricket Club – it's so lovely that the local club were able to offer us this opportunity. Archery and fencing gave the class time to try something they may not have done before with fencing proving to be the favourite. It was hot though under the mask! Tennis was our last sport on offer and after an exciting two weeks of Wimbledon, the class were inspired to aim to be the next Fery! It's been an absolute pleasure teaching your children this year and thank you for all your kind messages. I wish you and your children a lovely and relaxing summer and I know they will continue to grow with their love for learning at Aston Rowant School. Mrs Healy signing off!



### *Owl Class*

As it was the last week of term, we decided to make it a busy one! We started a TaskMaster week: testing our STEM knowledge and skills. Using our brains, resources and ingenuity (and sometimes, just luck!) to complete a trio of tasks: building the highest paper tower, creating increasing or decreasing patterns with words, props, movement or numbers and creating a marble run that lasted for as close to 20 seconds as possible, using only what we could find in Taskmaster Central (Owl Class). Much fun was had, towers collapsed, patterns were memorised and decoded and marbles rolled under foot. The children were brilliant in these challenges as they revised their builds, timed the run, and worked in teams to achieve a common goal - true Aston Rowant spirit. As if that was not enough, Sports week exploded onto the scene with fabulous workshops arranged by Mrs Healy, such as tennis, archery or fencing - something many of the children had never had access to before, and a truly memorable Sports Day where the children modelled all of the values that make our children so, so special. Despite the heat, despite being tired after a long term, and despite having to say goodbye to our Year 6's this week has shown the very best of the children we have here. On the subject of my Year 6 children - what a privilege it has been to borrow these children and be involved in teaching them and helping them experience the world around us. They are absolutely my favourite bunch of all, and I will miss each and every one of them terribly. Good luck to all of you for next year and what lies beyond - you are going to be brilliant. Love, Mr M.

**GRATITUDE****RESILIENCE****OUTREACH****WONDER****TRUST****HARMONY**

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



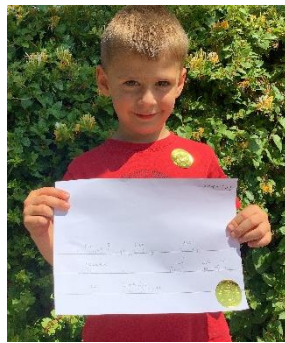
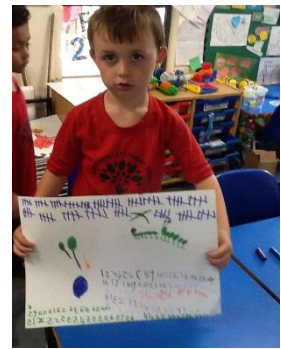
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## ***Photo Diary of the Week***



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## ***Pf** Enrichment Week*



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## ***Sports Day***



**GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY**  
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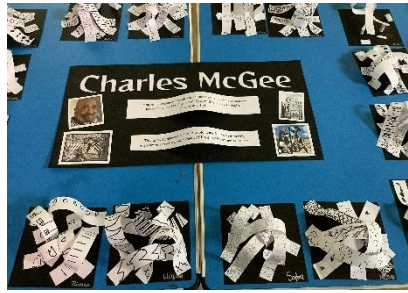
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## Art Gallery



**GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY**  
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## Young Enterprise

Our Young Enterprise project began with the children themselves, who wanted to raise money for charities that they felt passionately about. They chose the charities, developed the ideas for the stalls, and worked together to bring their plans to life. We celebrate each child who played a part in making the event such a success. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the parents and carers who helped with preparations and generously supported the event on the day. While we are delighted with the funds raised, the true success of the project goes far beyond the money collected. It has been about nurturing the spark in our children that believe they can make a difference in the world, and giving them the opportunity, encouragement and confidence to turn that belief into action. We are incredibly proud of their creativity, teamwork, determination and compassion.

|                       |           |                             |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| • Great Ormond Street | £120      | • Cancer Research           | £30 + £28 |
| • Meningitis          | £21       | • Guide Dogs                | £78       |
| • Sport Equipment     | £22       | • Help for Heroes           | £75       |
| • Homeless            | £47       | • Stroke Unit, Eastbourne   | £52       |
| • RSPCA               | £52 + £20 | • Stoke Mandeville Hospital | £15.50    |
| • Christian Aid       | £27 + £7  | • See Saw                   | £40       |



## Academic Year 2025-2026

We are incredibly proud to celebrate the remarkable attendance achievements of our pupils this year. An amazing **10** children have achieved **100%** attendance for the year, meaning they have been in school for every session available to them throughout the year. In addition, **18** children have achieved an impressive **99%** attendance, demonstrating outstanding commitment to their learning.

We recognise that there are occasions when children are genuinely unwell and should not be in school. Our celebration of attendance does not diminish the commitment of those who have missed school due to genuine illness or unavoidable circumstances. Rather, it is an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate a significant achievement by those pupils who have been present for every possible session. Achieving 100% attendance requires dedication, resilience, and support from families, and we would like to congratulate all of our pupils and parents who have worked so hard to make this possible.

100% attendance (Gold Award) – Millie, Harry, Sam, Max, Ted, Imogen, Caspar, Jemma, Fifi and Elizabeth and also George & Grace for 100% attendance during their time with us.

99% attendance – James, Bodie, Alfie, Reuben, Sloane, Digby, Barney, Annie, Arthur, Wilf, Arthur, William, Harrison, Sienna, Amelia, Rivaan, Charlie, Darcy, Olivia.



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## Leavers' Service



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## Whole School Topic - Summer Term: Window on the World

### Value: Resilience

Continuing looking at resilience and enjoying PE week we have reflected on what it means to *run the race of life* with perseverance and determination. In collective worship, we explored the words from Hebrews 12:1-2: "Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith." As the school year comes to an end, it has been wonderful to see our children demonstrate resilience in so many ways – whether tackling challenges in their learning, showing courage in competition, performing on stage, supporting one another through difficulties, or striving to improve and achieve their goals. Like runners in a race, we know there will be obstacles along the way, but we are proud of how our pupils have shown determination, faith and perseverance throughout the year. As they move on to new adventures, we hope they remember that resilience is not about never finding things difficult; it is about keeping going, learning from setbacks and believing that they can succeed.

### Climate Warriors' Challenge

Our Climate Warriors have been working hard this year to care for God's world, and we would love everyone to keep their environmental efforts going over the summer holidays. We challenge all children to complete as many of our Summer Climate Warrior Challenges as they can:

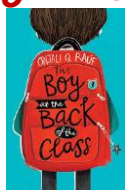
- Grow Something Green – plant a seed and see how much it grows by September.
- Walk, Scoot or Cycle Challenge – swap one car journey for an active journey each week.
- Wildlife Watch – spot and record five different birds, insects or animals in your garden or on a walk.
- Water Saver Mission – take a shorter shower or collect rainwater to water plants.
- Recycling Detective – help sort your recycling correctly and find one item that can be reused instead of thrown away.
- Litter Hero – with an adult, safely collect litter from a local area and help keep our community beautiful.
- Nature Explorer – read a book outdoors or spend 20 minutes a day enjoying nature without a screen.
- Eat Local Challenge – try some fruit or vegetables grown in Britain and find out where they come from.

We would love to hear about the challenges you complete over the holidays. Every small action can make a big difference, and by working together we can continue to be excellent stewards of the world around us. Have fun, enjoy the sunshine and see how many Climate Warrior points you can earn before September!

### Reading Missions Challenge July

Read to the Beat – discover how reading and music both ignite imagination and creativity.

### Book Review – *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q. Raúf recommended by Mrs France



If you are looking for a brilliant book to enjoy over the summer holidays, *The Boy at the Back of the Class* is a fantastic choice for children and adults alike. Funny, heart-warming and full of adventure, it tells the story of Ahmet, a refugee child who joins a new school, and the group of friends determined to make him feel welcome. The book is packed with humour, kindness and courage, while also reminding us of the importance of friendship and standing up for what is right. Once you start reading, you will not want to put it down! A perfect summer read that might even inspire a few acts of compassion of your own.

### Happiness Calendar: Jump Back Up July

This month, get the basics right: eat well, exercise and go to bed on time. Please view this month's calendar [here](#).

### Attendance – **This Year**

| School target 97% | 100% | 97% - 100% | 90% -97% | Below 90% |
|-------------------|------|------------|----------|-----------|
| Hedgehog Class    | 6%   | 59%        | 41%      | 0%        |
| Squirrel Class    | 10%  | 72%        | 18%      | 10%       |
| Fox Class         | 17%  | 70%        | 30%      | 0%        |
| Owl Class         | 16%  | 44%        | 40%      | 16%       |

### Housepoints

| House     | This Week | Total |
|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Bethlehem | 41        | 166   |
| Eden      | 43        | 162   |
| Galilee   | 39        | 167   |
| Jerusalem | 44        | 164   |

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## *Emails and Letters Sent this Week*

| Date     | Email/Letter | For      | From       | Concerning                                 |
|----------|--------------|----------|------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 17.07.26 | Letter       | All      | PTA        | PTA Thank You & Survey                     |
| 17.07.26 | Letter       | All      | FGB        | End of year letter from Chair of Governors |
| 13.07.26 | Email        | All      | Mrs King   | Action: Parent collection of medication    |
| 13.07.26 | Email        | All      | Mrs King   | Young Enterprise – toy request             |
| 13.07.26 | Letter       | Squirrel | Mrs Biggin | DT Fruit Kebabs                            |

| September                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tue 1 <sup>st</sup> Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup>     | INSET days                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Thu 3 <sup>rd</sup>                         | Children return. Whole School Book.                                                                                                                                                          |
| Fri 4 <sup>th</sup>                         | Storytelling workshops for KS1 and KS2 with writer Som Holliday                                                                                                                              |
| w/c 7 <sup>th</sup> September               | Meet the teacher meetings: Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Owl 2:45pm / Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> Fox 2:45pm / Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> 2:45pm Squirrel                                                            |
| Fri 11 <sup>th</sup>                        | 09:15 New Beginnings Service in Church – everyone welcome                                                                                                                                    |
| Mon 14 <sup>th</sup>                        | Flu Immunisations                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Fri 18 <sup>th</sup>                        | Jeans for Genes Day (wear your jeans with school sweatshirts and make a donation to this charity)<br>9:00 PTA meeting (School Hall)<br>14:30 First celebration worship in school for parents |
| Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> – Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> | Courageous Advocacy Week                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>                        | 14:30 Harvest in school celebration worship (donations for local food bank)                                                                                                                  |

## *Academic Year Calendar 2026-27*

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

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