Aston Rowant C†E Primary School
School Lane, Aston Rowant, Oxon OX49 5SU
01844 351671 office@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs Helen Hart

7th September 2026

Important Information

Dear Parents,

We would like to begin by congratulating the new reception children on making such a fantastic start. They have come in to school independently and settled so quickly. We are so proud of them (and you – we know that starting school is such a milestone for both them and yourselves!)

Please find below some important information regarding our daily routines;

Dates for your diary:

On Wednesday 16th of September there will be a brief presentation on 'early reading skills' at 2:30pm, You may then take your child home. If you are unable to attend, a PowerPoint of the presentation will be made available.

On Wednesday 7th October the children will be having their individual and sibling photos taken in the morning. Please ensure they are in full school uniform.

Healthy Snacks and water bottles

The children have access to free fruit all day but are very welcome to bring in their own named snack pots containing a healthy snack for example a cereal bar or crackers (please no chocolate, sweets or crisps). Please do not provide your child with anything containing nuts as there are allergies in school. These will be put in the tray in the morning and the pots returned. Your child must have a named water bottle in school every day. They will be encouraged to drink throughout the day. They will receive a sticker each time they finish their bottle. The children like to collect these!

Book Bags and Reading

From the second week children will need to bring in their book bags. These will need to then come in everyday so that we can read with your child and send home letters etc. They will receive a set of sound cards for you to support with at home. Reading books will be sent home in their book bags on a Monday and collected back in the following week.

Please **do not** bring in additional rucksacks as we are teaching the children to be as independent as possible and the pegs can get easily overloaded which causes problems with safety. Spare clothes can be kept in a **named** carrier bag on their pegs if necessary. We are in need of socks and pants donations if you have any spare as well as grey trousers, skirts and dresses. Thank you!

PE Kits

PE will take place on a Tuesday and Thursday morning. Sessions will begin during the children's first full week from the 14th of September. The children have access to physical development activities throughout the week in addition to scheduled adult led sessions.

Biscuit money

On a Friday the children will need to bring in 10p for biscuits at break time. Parents often tape the coin to their water bottle to make it easier to find but a named purse in their book bag is also fine. Please **no loose coins.** If they forget they may take a plain biscuit so they don't miss out. The money contributes over the year to enrichment activities for the children.

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Wellies and warm coats

The children will need to have a named pair of wellies kept in school every day as we like to make the most of the amazing outdoor space in all weathers and seasons. As the weather cools, please do remember to send children in with named warm, and preferably waterproof, coats. Once the children are settled, they will participate in 'Forest Friday' sessions. They will need to make sure they have coats that day as we go outside in all weathers. In the winter months please ensure they also have named gloves and hats.

Communication

If you need to pass on a quick message i.e.: your child is a bit tired or feeling unwell, please do feel free to catch us at the school gate in the morning but be aware that this is our busiest time settling the children. If it is a longer message or you wish to speak to the teachers about your child you will need to email the office and if necessary, book an appointment. If your child will be picked up by someone else, please let the office know. Most importantly please do not let worries and concerns build up but speak to us as your first action as often these things are best dealt with early. Please be assured we also want the best for your child.

Parent Helpers

As our outdoor environment grows and develops, we would love any parent helpers who could help with the upkeep including gardening, mowing and DIY jobs. If you are interested in running a regular gardening club, or can offer sporadic help, please do let one of the EYFS team know. Thank you!

Rewards and behaviour

We have high expectations of children's behaviour. We adopt a positive approach to behaviour management and will always use specific praise as our first tool. In addition, your child may receive stickers or house points. To encourage class collaboration the children will earn marbles for working together, showing good friendship skills keeping our class rules etc. Once every so often the children will reach their target of 50 marbles and choose a class reward together. On rare occasions children may continue with wrong choices and be given reflection time. This will be a short time away from their peers to think about their choice and reflect on how to make changes. They will speak to a member of staff who will guide them towards better choices. If this becomes a consistent issue then we will of course speak to you early on and decide the best way forward together.

Rodney, our class reading bug, will come home with a child each Friday. We like to choose a child who has worked particularly hard at something that week. They may then bring in a favourite book from home, to share with the class on Monday.

Curriculum overview

You should have all by now received a copy of our curriculum plans and early learning goals. This is also on the website should you need it. Each term the children will be learning through topic-based activities. These are linked to the school values and ensure coverage of the key objectives in Foundation Stage. This term our topic is "Superheroes", a literacy-based topic which includes a settling in period of getting to know the children and introducing them to rules and routines. Please do ask if you have any further questions or concerns. We hope you enjoy your first term at Aston-Rowant!

Kind regards

Mrs Olsen and Mrs Hall