



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

21st July 2023

From the Headteacher:

And so, another academic year comes to an end – and what a year this one has been. We have had many moments and achievements this year that we can be proud of. A huge thank you must go to the Aston Rowant staff team for their incredible dedication and commitment throughout this fun, albeit challenging, year. As Headteacher, I count it a privilege to work with and alongside such a strong team. Thank you to the children for demonstrating: Gratitude, Resilience, Outreach, Wonder, Trust, and Harmony in abundance throughout the year. As Ofsted said: 'It's easy to spot an Aston Rowant child!'

Parent Survey

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to complete the parental survey. The Governors will analyse the results and communicate our next steps based on your feedback.

Transition

On Wednesday this week we welcomed the new children for Reception Class for the start of their child's learning journey here at Aston Rowant and the rest of the year groups moved up to their new classes. It was a fabulous day, and we know that we have an exciting year ahead come September, although we will miss our Year 6 leavers.

Staffing Structure

We are delighted to confirm the staffing teams for this year:

- Hedgehog Class Mrs Olsen & Mrs Hall with Mrs Ansell
- Squirrel Class Mrs Biggin with Miss Williams and Mrs Boddy
- Fox Class Mrs Healy with Mrs Uhart and Mrs Marriot
- Owl Class Mr Manning with Mrs Surman and Mrs Pilley

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Uhart and Mrs Marriot, both experienced TAs, to the team and wish Miss Ceapa all the best in her new job based in Leeds.

Reports

The reports are based on the learning that has taken place throughout the year and are based on a range of formative and summative assessments. The children have worked hard and have continued to flourish and progress, I hope you enjoyed reading your child's report, there is a lot to celebrate!

Results

Congratulations to all our children for their recent SATs, phonics and assessment results. As expected, our children have done exceptionally well and even surpassed our own high expectations. Well done to the children and staff for their hard work and effort.

Attendance

You will have received the letter from the Governors regarding levels of attendance and also a concern around the reporting of absence. Our target for next year is to meet the school's and OCC's target of 97% attendance and reduce the volume of both unreported and unauthorised absence. We will be working hard to monitor the situation.

Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

We have been working with the children ahead of the summer break to remind them of the minimum age for account holders on social media sites, apps and games. As the children may have more time over the summer to spend on their devices, we thought that it would be useful to confirm the following **minimum** ages: Roblox is **7** years old; Fortnite is **12** years old, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, Reddit, Snapchat and TikTok is **13** years old. That means that primary aged children, Years 2 and above, should **only** be accessing Roblox.

Have a wonderful and safe summer.

Kind regards

Mrs France

GRATITUDE

RESILIENCE

OUTREACH

WONDER

TRUST

HARMONY



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Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:



Hedgehog Class

We can't believe our final week as Hedgehogs has already arrived. The year has gone too fast! We have had a great time this week thinking about the things we have enjoyed over the year and the things we are looking forward to as we become squirrel class. We celebrated our excellent teamwork with a water fight and ice-creams. The children had the best time making sure that Mrs Hall was completely drenched and taking part in 'the bucket challenge'. They then made us all very proud by singing beautifully to the year sixes in our leavers service. They finished the week by making a poster of information about themselves for their new teachers. Can we take this opportunity to say that we have loved every minute of teaching this outstanding class. They have come on such a long way from that first tentative day in September last year. We are so proud of each and every one of them and will miss them and you very much! The Hedgehog team would like to thank the parents for their very generous gifts, and we hope you have a great summer full of amazing memories.



Squirrel Class

So here it is, the last week of term! The children have been amazing this week, working hard right up to the end of term, and taking part in transition activities. We also had time for a bit of fun too! The children completed some character descriptions as part of our English learning for Caterpillar Shoes. We also wrote about our favourite memories from the past year. We had a great time reminiscing on all the fun we've had and the successes of the past few terms. In maths Yr1 finished off their learning on money, learning about denominations of coins and notes, and Yr2 completed some learning on statistics with a focus on tally charts and pictograms. The highlight of the week though was the sandwich making in DT and the zorbing and archery in PE – the children had a blast and enjoyed it immensely. Finally, a massive thank you and farewell for the summer break to you all! Enjoy and see you all in the Autumn term in September.



Fox Class

We've been working hard right up to the end! I am so proud of our class as they have embraced lots of new maths concepts this week and demonstrated a great understanding of shape in Yr3 and coordinates in Yr4. We took some of our maths skills into our geography where we created a bar chart to show where we located the most bees in the school environment after we carried out our survey a few weeks ago. The Zorb balls were an utter treat - everyone had great fun rolling around the field and a few managed to roll over and over quite a few times! We also worked on our writing skills this week as we created a spell that was personal to each of our Y6 children describing what skills each has. In addition, we wrote a Fox Class rap where we managed to write a rhyme about one particular aspect of the year they had enjoyed. It has been an utter joy teaching this class and I am proud of what each one has achieved this year. I will be sad to say goodbye to my Year 4 children, but I know they are more than ready for the challenges that Owl Class will offer. Equally it was lovely to meet my new children for September. I am already planning some exciting learning for them! Have a wonderful summer, relax, enjoy being with each other and please read! Read as much as you can about anything you want, and I will be delighted to hear about what books excited you. Why not try the Summer Reading Challenge I have set? See you in September 😊



Owl Class

Well, here we are! Another year already gone, as quick as a flash! We have squeezed so much into this last week, such as a summer picnic and a stunning opera performance at Garsington, creating a heartfelt tribute to our year Six leavers, or getting stuck upside down in Zorbs! It has been a real treat to spend this more informal time with the Owl Class children, and it has been a privilege to teach them and get to know them so well. I think that one of the benefits of a combined class is how much rapport we are able to build with the children over two academic years; this means that we really get to know them as the remarkable young people that they are. I'm so impressed by the Year Fives performance this year, and I'm also very pleased to have met the new children who will be joining Owl in September. I have to mention how much I will miss my Year Six children, and to also thank you, as parents, for letting me borrow them for this time here. You have an amazing bunch of young people, who are very ready for their next steps. They have been a true joy to teach, and they all have such bright futures ahead of them. Owls, please enjoy this long summer break, each and every single one of you have earned it! See you in September!

Photo Diary of the Week



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Whole School Topic: Summer Term: A Sense of Identity

Values: Resilience

This week we looked at how we can overcome fear. We discussed things that we might be afraid of but that we tackle anyway, and we reflected on the verse; 'Perfect love casts out all fear' from 1 John 4:18 and discussed what this might mean. As we say goodbye to our Year 6 children and as we begin the summer holidays, we shared a prayer for resilience:

Loving God, our adventurous creator, give us courage to choose the path before us and resilience to help us walk it, risking disappointment to find joy, risking failure to be creative, risking rejection so that we might love, risking stumbling so that we might climb, risking the journey for the sake of the homecoming. We ask this in the name of Jesus, who risked living and dying for love of us. Amen.

Climate Warriors Challenge

Patterns in nature are awe-inspiring, but we need to look for them - to find the 'sacred' amidst the 'common'. Spirals, hexagons, fractals, hearts, teardrops, tessellations, circles ... when you start looking they are everywhere! This summer holiday challenge relates primarily to getting outside and finding the 'sacred' in the 'common' - the awe-inspiring patterns in nature. It also links to all sorts of other patterns, and what they reveal.

[Patterns in Nature checklist](#)

[Creating patterns with natural objects - Andy Goldsworthy](#)

[20 beautiful works of art - Andy Goldsworthy](#)

[Ice core patterns - and what we can learn from them](#)

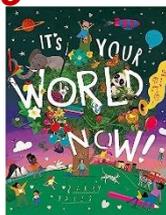
[Rainforest 'music' patterns](#) - and how they can help prevent deforestation

['Warming stripes' - revealing a pattern](#)

[Running out of time 'reaches Big Ben'](#) - sharing the 'stripes'

Please do share any photos of 'patterns in nature' that you find or create - we would love to share them in the autumn.

Book Review - It's Your World Now! by Barry Falls



It's the summer holidays - so go and play and live and learn. It's your world now, this is your turn...to think and ask and make and do. The world is magic... just like you! A beautiful and funny celebration of the world and the potential of each and every child. This is the perfect book to read out loud - helping children to appreciate the wonderful things that exist in the world, and the great things that they can do, as well as allowing them to understand some of the setbacks that may happen, that's why we need resilience! And whatever happens, the child is reassured that their parents will always love them.

Happiness Calander: Jump Back Up July

Let's find ways to bounce back. You can find this month's happiness calendar [here](#).

Housepoints

<i>House</i>	<i>This Week</i>	<i>Total</i>
Bethlehem	52	243
Eden	53	241
Galilee	54	229
Jerusalem	51	235

Congratulations to **Bethlehem** for winning the double – sport's day and housepoints!

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY



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Emails and Letters Sent this Week

Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning
21.07.23	Email	Everyone	Teachers	Summer Reading Challenge
17.07.23	Email	Everyone	Governors	Attendance
17.07.23	Letter	Everyone	Teachers	Reports and results

September	
Friday 1 st and Monday 4 th	INSET days
Tuesday 5 th	KS1 and KS2 children start NB 8:45-3:15
Wednesday 6 th	Reception children start. Week 1: 8:45-12, Week 2: 8:45-1, Week 3: 8:45-3:15
w/c 11 th September	Meet the teacher meetings. Mon 11 th Owl 2:45pm Tues 12 th Fox 2:45pm Wed 13 th 1:00pm Hedgehog 2:45pm Squirrel
Tuesday 12 th	School Photos
Friday 15 th	Newcomers Service in Church – everyone welcome
Friday 22 nd	Jeans for Genes Day (wear your jeans and make a donation to this charity) First celebration assembly in school for parents
Friday 29 th	Harvest in school celebration assembly
October	
Wednesday 4 th	School Trip Year 4/5/6
Wednesday 11 th	Open Morning at LWS for Year 7 intake 2024 (NB Taster Day Friday 5 th July 24)
Wednesday 18 th	Open Morning for Reception 2024
Friday 20 th	INSET Day
November	
Friday 3 rd	Open Morning for Reception 2024
Mon 6 th and Wed 8 th	Parents' Evenings
Mon 13 th – Fri 17 th	Anti Bullying Week
Friday 17 th	Children in Need (wear spots and dots and make a donation to this charity)
December	
Mon 11 th and Wed 13 th	EYFS Nativity
Tuesday 19 th	Christmas Lunch at The Lambert Arms (organised by PTA)
Tuesday 19 th	Christingle in church
Wednesday 20 th	Christmas Party School ends 1:30

Academic Year Calendar 2023-24

Autumn 23	
Tues 5 th Sept – Thurs 19 th Oct	Autumn Term (1)
Mon 23 rd – Fri 27 th October	HALF TERM
Mon 30 th Oct – Wed 20 th Dec	Autumn Term (2)
Spring 24	
Tue 9 th Jan – Fri 9 th Feb	Spring Term (1)
Monday 12 th – Fri 16 th February	HALF TERM
Mon 19 th Feb – Thurs 28 th March	Spring Term (2)
Summer 24	
Mon 15 th April - Thu 24 th May	Summer Term (1)
Mon 27 th May – Fri 31 st May	HALF TERM
Mon 3 rd June – Wed 24 th July	Summer Term (2)