

Message from the Headteacher

There are many times that we have cause to celebrate the incredible achievements of the children at Aston Rowant School. Day by day we see the collective hard work and achievements of each and every one of our pupils. Their resilience and determination to succeed continues outside of school. We know that many of our children are doing exceptionally well in various uniformed organisations, sports clubs and musical groups and we are proud of all that they are accomplishing. We also have some individual achievements that we wanted to celebrate.



Connie has passed her Grade 4 ABRSM on the cornet with a merit. She has won a place in Amersham Youth Band being the youngest member of the band. Connie took part in the National Youth Brass Band competition in Stockport over Easter. Her band finished 3rd out of 15 and won a silver award. Bucks bands played at The Royal Albert Hall with Connie playing with Amersham Brass Band. Last Saturday Connie and Amersham Youth Band took part in a concert with Hasle Youth Band from Oslo, Norway.

Joanie's has had a talent and passion for tennis since she was five, but she struggled to toss and serve the ball when playing the sport. Now she has a new prosthetics which has been named after Joanie by the company who designed it following Joanie's input and guidance. Joanie has just taken part in her first tennis tournament at the Halton Tennis Club in Buckinghamshire, where she won the doubles. Joanie has been interviewed by ITV Meridian, BBC Breakfast live and BBC Radio Oxford to discuss this development and has been on the ITV news website and in the Bucks Free Press. Last year Joanie was one of the first people to trial a prosthetic arm for surfing and she also has one for playing the guitar.



Emmeline has recently achieved some great results at tennis, and every weekend she is busy with tournaments. Last Sunday she came runner up at The National Tennis Centre in Surbiton, (where all the British players stay and train) She received a medal for her achievements. The goal this season, is to better her ranking for the season next year, and to make her serve unbeatable!

Laila-Beth has been working really hard in her dance classes and at home. This has been reflected in her achievements at recent competitions. So far this year she has qualified for 2 championships finals, one of which means she will be dancing at Winter Gardens, in Blackpool, in November this year.



Max was acknowledged by his football coach for his contribution in getting his team (Chinnor Youth under 8's) to the final at a recent tournament in Didcot. The team award was handed to Captain Max to keep; who during the tournament made some outstanding saves at important moments and also saved two penalties in the semi-final shootout.



Jessica is part of Wycombe swim club and in her recent gala. Jessica came 3rd in her swim heat of butterfly and 8/25 overall in her age bracket. she even knocked 7 secs off her PB! Chloe is another mermaid and has been asked to attend a trial for Wycombe swim club in a weeks' time. But she is most proud of her football where she was recently awarded a medal and scored the only goal in a match.



We are delighted with all that these individuals have achieved. We are equally proud of the little successes that we are privileged to see each day at school that sit alongside these other achievements. We work with a group of talented and inspirational children. *'Growing together we inspire each other to achieve our full potential as courageous lifelong learners.'*

Kind regards
Mrs France

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

'Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him.' Colossians 2:7

Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:



Hedgehog Class:

In Hedgehog we have had a creative week. The children have been writing fantasy stories based on an Island setting. We explored lots of adjectives and wow words to make our writing more exciting. We then used a paint program to design and make their front cover using their own words to make a title for their books. They really have worked hard and the stories are fantastic. In Art we have learnt to do a watercolour wash to create a background for our seascapes which uses blended colours. We are looking forward to adding the details next week. Finally in Maths we have explored the differences between equilateral and right-angled triangles and rotated them to make new shapes. We then tried to say 'Parallelogram' which was very funny!



Squirrel Class:

As I sit down to write this week's newsletter, I am overcome with such a feeling of pride. We had our much-anticipated school trip this week and the children were absolutely amazing. Their sense of wonder, curiosity, knowledge, behaviour, enthusiasm; it all shone through, and they were an absolute credit to the school. Well done Squirrels! We also managed to squeeze in some learning in maths on alphanumeric grids and position and direction. The class have also been making strides in English lessons with their own Percy stories and they should all be published and finished by next week. Lastly, our DT lessons have also caused much excitement, with the children finalising their healthy sandwich designs... Watch this space grown-ups for a letter regarding ingredients!



Fox Class:

Due to the amazing weather this week, lots of our learning has been focussed outside. On Monday, we took the glockenspiels outside and had a go at following some notes to make a simple tune. I'm sure the birds appreciated the gorgeous sounds made! In our Science, we went on a minibeast hunt and documented what we had found in order to compile a Fox Class booklet of minibeasts in our local area. We have now finished Time in our Maths and moved onto working with direction and angles and the children were spot on with their types of turns and direction today making me very proud! In our Geography, again we were outside, in order to see how many bees, we could find in the different habitats in the school grounds. Once we had established what types of bees we had spotted, we came back into class and made bee bombs out of clay which we then had great fun throwing around the school grounds with the intention of the seeds inside the clay germinating and going into flowers that will encourage more bees to our school area. You could say we've been as busy as bees!



Owl Class:

It's been a really exciting and adventurous week as Owl Class went off timetable and undertook our activity week for 2023! We began with a challenging STEM engineering day, as the children scratch built and customised their own catapults out of lollipop sticks and rubber bands that capable of launching a ping pong ball some distance. We assembled our fleet of catapults on the MUGA in the afternoon to test their effectiveness, and then when back to the drawing board to re-engineer the mechanisms to see if we could improve the builds. On Tuesday, we created huge scale paper planes, such as the Nakamura Lock or Head-hunter designs, and saw how far they could fly (really quite far!), and then in the afternoon created our dough for stick bread (or Damper), and toasted marshmallows around a firepit. On Wednesday, we put on our walking boots and thinking caps, and explored Aston Rowant and the surrounding area for series of cryptic clues that revealed letter to an anagram, that had to be solved to earn an extra ice-cold prize to enjoy in the afternoon sun. Thursday found us at Mop End Field Centre where the children spent a busy day learning bushcraft and survival skills, before building dens to take shelter in from a sudden watering can based 'rainstorm'! The levels of team-work and companionship displayed were excellent. It was a pleasure to watch the personalities of the children mingle and work together so well. Friday found the children confronted with a pile of recycling and craft materials, and the brief to create a fashion show for the afternoon's assembly! I would like to take a quick moment as Science Lead to praise, not just Owl Class, but all of the children who were invited to attend the Science Event at Lord Williams Upper school on Monday. I have had several pieces of feedback that speak highly of the questions asked, the attitude to learning, and the behaviour of the children as ambassadors of our school.

Photo Diary of the Week



GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY
 'Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him.' Colossians 2:7

Whole School Topic: Summer Term: A Sense of Identity

Values: Resilience

This week we picked up the story of Moses and looked at the people entering the promised land. We looked at four main characters who demonstrated great bravery: Joshua; Benjamin; Jacob and Rahab who all showed great courage when facing great danger. We reflected on those we know who have also demonstrated resilience and bravery and thought about how we could do the same.

'Be strong and courageous, do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.' Joshua 1:9

Climate Warriors Challenge

Palm oil is a ubiquitous, yet almost invisible ingredient in many processed foods and household products. The consequence of the unsustainable management of palm oil plantations is devastating for climate change and biodiversity. This week's challenge encourages Young Climate Warriors to learn about palm oil, and 'sustainable palm oil', and to make and enjoy some home-made biscuits instead of factory-manufactured ones. Taking a leaf out of Nelson Mandela's book – making small daily changes can help make our world a better place.

This week's challenge on making homemade recipes avoiding 'factory-made' ones - here are [3 simple, delicious recipes](#). Here are a few great palm oil links:

[WWF – can palm oil help jungles?](#)

[WWF – which everyday product contain palm oil](#)

[CBBC – how palm oil is threatening orangutans](#)

Book Review **Resilience - Facing challenges by Fabiano Rodrigues**



It would be great if we could have control of every situation we go through. But this is impossible. There are things that happen and we cannot change them. We must accept them and move on. This book is designed for parents, teachers and children to look at the relationships between what we think, what we feel and the way we behave. Those who know their own emotions and thoughts are better prepared to make good choices and to relate appropriately to others in an increasingly complex and dynamic world. This is an emotional skills program that will teach your child about socioemotional domains such as self-knowledge, self-control, empathy, determination, and resilience, helping him or her to make more responsible decisions and develop social skills.

P.F. Enrichment Week – w/c 10th July 2023

We are really excited about this week as every day children will have the opportunity to try a new type of activity. In addition, Wednesday 12th will be our annual Sports Day and we invite parents and carers to attend from 12:00pm for a BBQ/ picnic lunch prior to the races in the afternoon. Each day, children will need to come to school in their PE kit (for Sports Day wear the House colour t-shirt please).

Here are the activities planned:

Monday: Circus skills

Tuesday: Zorb balls and Sumo suits!

Wednesday: Sports Day

Thursday: Yoga

Friday: Skip2BFit

After the sipping workshop on the Friday, there will be an opportunity to buy skipping ropes used during the day.

Happiness Calendar: Joyful June

This month, we're encouraging you to look for what is good. You can find this month's happiness calendar [here](#).

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Housepoints

<i>House</i>	<i>This Week</i>	<i>Total</i>
Bethlehem	33	151
Eden	26	137
Galilee	20	133
Jerusalem	23	122

Emails and Letters Sent this Week.

Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning
30.06.23	Email	Everyone	PTA	Elections and BBQ
30.06.23	Email	Everyone	PTA	Cake raffle
30.06.23	Email	Everyone	Governors	Parent Survey with link and QR code

We welcome feedback from our parental body and each year like to conduct a parental survey to enable us to capture your views and feedback. Please find attached links to our latest parental survey. We would be grateful if you could take the time to complete it.



[Parent Survey](#)

Diary Dates Summer Term 2023 (New or revised dates in bold)

July	
Wednesday 5 th	Strike Day – School Closed
Thursday 6 th	RE Inspired Year 6
Friday 7 th	Year 6 taster day Lord William's
Friday 7 th	Strike Day – School Closed
w/c 10 th July	Sports Enrichment Week including Sports Day Wednesday 12 th
Mon 10 ^h and Tues 11 th	Year 6 transition days Icknield
Thursday 13 th	Year 6 RSE
Monday 17 th	End of Year Reports
Tuesday 18 th	Owl Class visit Wormsley Estate to watch 'The Barber of Seville' by Garsington Opera
Wednesday 19 th	Transition Day Years R-5
Friday 21 st	9:15 End of Year and Leavers' Service in church End of Term 13:30

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)

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