



**Aston Rowant C+E Primary School**  
**School Lane, Aston Rowant, Oxon OX49 5SU**  
**01844 351671**

[office@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Helen France

*21<sup>st</sup> April 2023*

### *Message from the Head Teacher*

Welcome Back to the final term of 2022/23 - I can't believe how quickly the time has gone. This is often the busiest term of the year - with trips, the Coronation, sports day as well as the statutory assessments points, we say goodbye to Year 6 and hopefully all enjoy some days without rain! For those glorious summer days do not forget to send the children in with sunhats and water bottles and apply sunscreen each day before sending them in.

### *Coronation of King Charles III*

On Friday 5th May will be holding our own celebrations in school. For this the children can come in their own clothes – we ask that they are dressed smartly for a party or celebration but do ensure that your child will be warm enough! Parents, and our wider school family, will be welcome to come and celebrate with us from 2pm on the field. Each class will be performing a country dance and a maypole dance and the choir will also be performing. We will also have some traditional games for the children to play. As a Coronation legacy we would like to purchase at least one Author's Chair for the school. Each class is therefore completing a Young Enterprise Initiative and we will have a variety of items for you to purchase during the afternoon. We also look forward to unveiling our Coronation mural. Thank you for all of the fantastic entries that we have received – Mrs Hall and I were impressed and had a hard time judging!

The PTA is kindly selling traditional afternoon tea of tea and scones. I know that they would value some more help to make this happen. Please speak to one of our wonderful PTA team if you can help in any way. Funds from these sales will help purchase new iPads for the school.

### *Statutory Assessments*

There are five year groups who have some sort of statutory assessment during this term - these are assessments that all children in the country will be doing. These are nothing that the children should be concerned about and we endeavour to make it as normal as possible. The outcomes of these are reported in your child's end of term report at the end of term.

At the end of EYFS all the children are assessed against 17 judgments related to the Reception Early Learning Goals. In June, all children in Year 1 will take the phonics screening check which is an assessment of how well they have acquired and can use phonics. In Year 2, the children will sit a variety of English and Maths assessments w/c 15th May. In June, all children in Year 4 will take the multiplication screening check which is an assessment of how well the children know their times tables. In the week commencing 8th May, Year 6 will sit their SATs tests in Reading, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation and Mathematics.

### *Autism Oxford*

Autism Oxford are running webinars which are for parents as well as professionals. They have coming up:

- Autism and Eating Disorders 2nd May 15:00 £11:55
- Parenting Young People with Autism 15th May 18:00 £11:55
- Living With Sensory Sensitivity 30th June 10:00 £11:55
- Parenting an Autistic Young Person with PDA 12th June 10:00 £22.38

If you are interested in attending any of these do let us know and we will send you the link to book.

*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



**Aston Rowant C+E Primary School**  
**School Lane, Aston Rowant, Oxon OX49 5SU**  
**01844 351671**

**[office@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk)**

**Headteacher: Mrs Helen France**

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



### **Hedgehog Class:**

What a fantastic start to the term this week! We have really enjoyed kicking off our new topic "Down at the bottom of the garden" with a class trip to Tiggywinkles Wildlife Rescue Centre. The children were so well behaved and inquisitive. They asked lots of great questions and learnt a lot about animals and their habitats. We were especially privileged to meet a real-life hedgehog who was absolutely adorable. In other news the children made a wormery to explore how worms behave under the ground. In Maths we learnt about the properties of shape by writing clues to find hidden shapes around the classroom. This involved thinking carefully about the best information to help identify a shape. The children have also been given a challenge by Jack to help him work out the best conditions to grow his magic beans in. More on this next week!



### **Squirrel Class:**

A busy week back to start the summer term with a bang. Or should I say a 'sonic boom', as we have started our new topic of flight by reading a brilliant story called 'Violet the Pilot' by Steve Breen. The children have been super inspired by this text already and we have been busy designing our own aircraft and writing about the main character Violet. In history lessons we completed a timeline of the history of flight and how people would travel about during different periods of history. Science lessons are based on our new topic of plants, and we learnt about the parts of a plant and their jobs. We also discussed the meaning of evergreen and deciduous. In art we sketched airplanes with a focus on perspective and trying to give a three-dimensional feeling to a flat surface. Maths lessons saw us finishing off our learning on measuring, comparing and ordering lengths and heights, and moving on to mass, volume and temperature in the coming weeks.



### **Fox Class:**

Very much a history-based return to the classroom this week. We started to look at 'Street Child' and try to understand what life might have been like then. We used dictionaries to research words we would come across during this period and drew and annotated scenes from the story they had listened to. In History, children placed the Victorian period on a timeline and used some famous paintings from that period to understand this period for both the rich and poor. In our Science, we established what plants need to live and grow. We started by using a diamond 9 activity to decide which feature of plants were the most essential. In group, children planted marigold seeds but excluded one requirement. We will observe the seeds over the next few weeks to see which will be successful...if at all! In our DT lesson, we learnt about toys that Victorian children would have had and discussed how different they were to what children have now. They then made their very own peg person (a toy some Victorian children would have had) with hair and clothes!



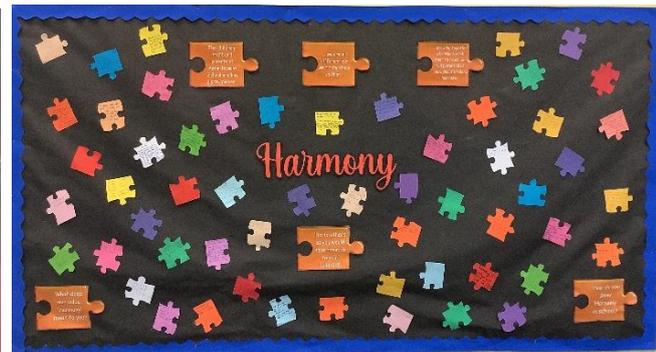
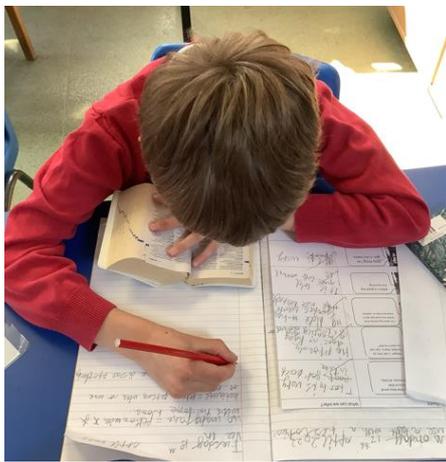
### **Owl Class:**

A very welcome return to the classroom this week, and we dove straight into our new topics: in English we started by reading the opening chapters of Benjamin Zephaniah's 'Windrush Child', looking at period news footage and the BBC's Coming to Britain pamphlet given to Jamaicans thinking of emigrating to the UK, and then creating a timeline of major historical events that shaped Jamaica and the main characters personal family history too: how did these events shape his identity? What affect would they have on a child? We also created a profile of Leonard, the protagonist, to get to know him, as best as we can before we write (as him) home to his grandma. In Science, we created our own classification systems for animals, and compared them with our work partners: we quickly found out that if we did not agree on how to sort the animals, things quickly got confusing! This will lead into next week's lesson all about how the universal classification system was created by Carl Linnaeus (which involves wine gums!) In art, we began to think how we might create art with a message behind it, and worked to create ideas that we were passionate about, slogans and fonts that catch a reader's eye, and thinking about what images we could use from magazines and newspapers to create a collage art spread about these themes. Geography found us exploring the Eastern parts of Europe as we spoke about how far we have travelled and what we know of these European countries that sit on the border of Asia. Year 5 also began cycling proficiency this Friday and will be cycling around the village roads as of next 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**

***Photo Diary of the Week***





**Aston Rowant C+E Primary School**  
**School Lane, Aston Rowant, Oxon OX49 5SU**  
**01844 351671**      [office@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk)  
 Headteacher: Mrs Helen France

***Whole School Topic: Summer Term: Harmony***

**Values:**

This week we looked at the words about 'Harmony' that were written by the apostle Paul over 200 years ago. Paul wanted to teach people that the best way to live in friendship is to encourage one another rather than being critical and negative. We learnt that building takes time, perseverance and commitment but destroying or tearing things down takes no time at all! We were all given the challenge to think about how we can invest in building up one another.

*'Encourage one another and build each other up.'* | Thessalonians 5:11

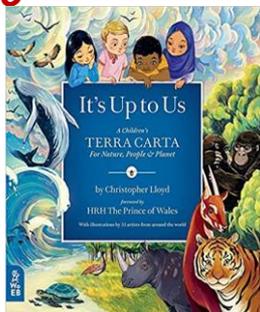
**Climate Warriors Challenge**

Living sustainably, and tackling climate change often requires us to be brave and adventurous, change the 'way we do things' and to 'mix it up'. Young Climate Warriors are challenged this week to 'mix it up' and choose 'simple snacks' instead of factory produced ones with throw-away packaging.

Ideally, we'd use less packaging, full stop. 'Soft plastics' can however now be recycled at over 4,000 UK supermarkets - you could use this link to find our nearest depot - [Recyclenow.com](http://Recyclenow.com).

We also support 'Fairtrade' - Climate Change is forcing farmers to change their 'way of doing things' - learn more through this 4 minute film about some Kenyan farmers - ['Weathering the storm with fairtrade'](#).

**Book Review: It's Up to Us: A Children's Terra Carta for Nature, People and Planet.**



'Children have a unique curiosity for Nature and for this amazing planet we call home.' Writes King Charles in his introduction to 'It's Up to Us: A Children's Terra Carta for Nature, People and Planet.' In this book His Royal Highness, author Christopher Lloyd and 33 amazing award-winning artists from around the world take us on a beautiful, lyrical and thought-provoking voyage through Nature, the threats we face and an action plan for the future. This book has been developed in partnership with The Prince's Foundation, a charity established by King Charles to demonstrate how living in harmony with nature can be put at the heart of human activities.

**Happiness Calendar: Active April**

This month, we're encouraging you to try something new! You can find this month's happiness calendar [here](#).

**Housepoints**

<i>House</i>	<i>This Week</i>	<i>Total</i>
Bethlehem	34	34
Eden	25	25
Galilee	25	25
Jerusalem	34	34

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



**Aston Rowant C+E Primary School**  
**School Lane, Aston Rowant, Oxon OX49 5SU**  
**01844 351671**

**[office@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk)**

**Headteacher: Mrs Helen France**

***Fmails and Letters Sent this Week***

<b>Date</b>	<b>Email/Letter</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Concerning</b>
20.04.23	Email	Fox	Mrs Healy	Victorian Day
21.04.23	Email	Everyone	Mrs France	Strike
21.04.23	Email	Everyone	Mrs France	Letter from Chair of Governors

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

<b>April</b>	
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Summer term begins
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Hedgehog Class trip to Tiggywinkles Wildlife Hospital
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Year 5 Cycling starts - also on 28 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> May, 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> - Test 22 <sup>nd</sup> May
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	School Closed - strike date
<b>May</b>	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Potential strike date
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Coronation afternoon tea and games for families of Aston Rowant School on school field
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Bank Holiday
Tue 9 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 12 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 SATs (Tue SPaG, Wed Reading, Thurs 2x Maths, Fri Maths)
w/c 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 2 SATs
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	INSET
<b>June</b>	
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Cycling starts - also on 16 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 30 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> July and 14 <sup>th</sup> – Test 17 <sup>th</sup> July
w/c 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 Multiplication Check Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Bags2School
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Garsington Opera Workshop on The Barber of Seville - Owl Class
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Dance Festival at Lord Williams's School - Fox and Squirrel Classes
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Science Day at Lord Williams's School
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	The Look Out Discovery Centre - Squirrel Class trip
<b>July</b>	
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	RE Inspired Year 6
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	PTA AGM – electing new Chair, Secretary and Finance Officer
w/c 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Enrichment Week including Sports Day Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	End of Year Reports
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Owl Class visit Wormsley Estate to watch 'The Barber of Seville' by Garsington Opera
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	End of Term 13:30

***Academic Year Calendar 2023-24***

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

**GRATITUDE    RESILIENCE    OUTREACH    WONDER    TRUST    HARMONY**

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