



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

17th March 2023

Message from the Head Teacher

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' Matthew 24:45

This term we are focusing on our value of outreach. The idea is that as a school community we are loved and as a result we then reach out to others and make them aware of God's love for them. Within this we have opportunities to develop our children's moral sense of purpose and for them to become global neighbours and strong advocates for humankind.

There are many stories in the Bible about Jesus noticing the needs of others and showing compassion. In Collective Worship we have looked at The Good Samaritan who showed mercy to the man who was beaten and left for dead and Jesus showed compassion and reached out to all he met, no matter what their circumstance or background.

Our school prayer says that 'We pray that you would help us to grow to have...opportunities to reach out to others.' In our Collective Worship we have spent time reflecting on noticing people in need, understanding what compassion is, recognising what it is to be a good neighbour and having the courage to care.

Within our school community we use our values awards to recognise and praise both adults and children when we, or they, notice others being kind and supportive of one another.

We also work for our wider local community and so far this year we have already had fundraising opportunities for:

- Jeans for Genes
- Our local Sharing Life food bank
- Children in Need
- NSPCC



Today is Red Nose Day. As we have the whole of KS2 out on a school trip we will be celebrating the event next Friday, 24th March. Children can wear their red noses and donate to this fabulous cause. In addition, we will be holding a cake sale in the afternoon to coincide with the book look. We would greatly appreciate any donations of cakes on the day and also your generosity of treating yourself to a hot drink and cake as you come to enjoy your children's work.

For our wider world community we have recently established links with Maqoma Primary School which is in Fort Beaufort in the Eastern Cape of South Africa. We are looking forward to working with Maqoma School so that children in both schools acquire and apply knowledge and skills in ways that are meaningful to their own lives and local contexts, while being sensitive to global perspectives and differences.

Finally, I want to thank the PTA for all of the hard work that they do in supporting the school community and raising funds for a variety of purposes. Next week we have the film afternoon, on Friday 5th May we will have a special family afternoon tea in school to mark the King's coronation, on 3rd June we are supporting Sydenham Fayre and on Sport's Day the PTA will be running a BBQ. The team have many other exciting ideas to support and enrich the children's school experience and we are grateful to them for their support.



'Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds, and glorify your father in heaven.' Matthew 5:16

Kind regards
Mrs France

GRATITUDE

RESILIENCE

OUTREACH

WONDER

TRUST

HARMONY



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

Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:



Hedgehog Class:

It has been a monumentous week, the end to 21 days of waiting...Our chicks have finally hatched. We have spent weeks researching their development, writing to the Little Red Hen to keep her posted and making books on how to care for pets. We are so excited to welcome 10 baby chicks into the world. The children were very excited to observe their behaviour after hatching and consider how best to look after them. They spent Friday writing to the Little Red Hen to tell her the good news and ask her to come back from The Bahamas to collect them in a few weeks. We can't wait for cuddles next week!



Squirrel Class:

A short week but Squirrels have managed to squeeze in some exciting English lessons where the class are now creating an information text about the Great Fire of London. We have been learning about features of non-fiction writing, such as a contents page, sub-headings, and technical language. In maths we have been continuing our learning on multiplication and division, and Y1 have been practising the skill of counting in tens. In our Art lessons we are creating a silhouette style painting of the Great Fire of London too, using lots of bold colours and exploring textures to add the detail of the smoke. Lastly, in our music lessons we are now learning the Glockenspiel and discovering how to use the notes to play a tune.



Fox Class:

A short week but still learning to be had! In our Maths this week, both year groups have been getting to grips with fractions; from comparing and sorting to understanding mixed numbers. Lots of vocabulary that had been learnt in previous years had to be dusted off and brought back into working memory! In our English we focussed on using exciting verbs and a range of adverbials in our writing to give the reader a sense of where, how and when the action was happening. All good tools to enable them to craft a super story. Pets were the topic in our French lesson this week and children learnt the names of many common pets then had to challenge each other in a game of pet pictionary! They had to pick a card with the name of a pet (in French), draw it and the other players had to say what it was, again in French. On Friday, we had our first class trip together with Owl Class to Science Oxford. It was such an enjoyable day as they were able to investigate, experiment and enjoy lots of amazing activities in the Exploration Zone before attending a fascinating science show and workshop linked to our current topic of States of Matter.



Owl Class:

Despite a shorter week, Owl Class have still squeezed in plenty of learning: in English, the children planned their Big Writes on Monday, trialling new ways to structure their own plans: storyboards, mind-maps, as long as they contained our classroom requisites of opening sentences, connectives, star sentences from our previous work and a range of exciting punctuation choices (which is a real thing, I promise). The children really embraced this option of free choice, and used these tailored plans on Tuesday to craft their Big Writing, writing a newspaper report about the Lady of Shalott and her mysterious arrival by boat at King Arthur's court in Camelot. This is a challenging task: not many 9-11 year olds read tabloid or broadsheet newspapers, and they worked exceptionally hard to capture the tone and voice of a classic newspaper report. We also had the incredibly exciting visit to Science Oxford on Friday, which was a fantastic experience for the children and a chance for them to get up close to scientific activities and investigate, explore and use their natural curiosity to find out answers for themselves.

GRATITUDE

RESILIENCE

OUTREACH

WONDER

TRUST

HARMONY

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
Headteacher: Mrs Helen France

Whole School Topic: Spring Term: Once Upon a Time

Values: Outreach

In Collective Worship this week we continued to look at how we can outreach to others, and not just to the people we know. We looked at the story of a Samaritan man who showed kindness and compassion when he reached out to care for a Jewish man in need. As they came from very separate cultures they were not obviously neighbours, but the Samaritan showed that anyone who is in need is our neighbour whether a friend or not.

'A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.' John 13:34

Climate Warriors Challenge

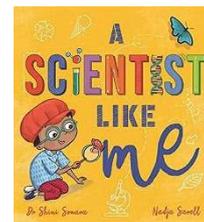
Swapping, patching, borrowing, altering, mending, re-designing, dyeing ... it's time to tackle fast fashion to help out climate change. A 1/3 of clothes in UK wardrobes haven't been worn in the last year! Do you wear all the clothes in your drawers, or do you just stick to your favourites? Dig deep, rummage around, and maybe you'll find some surprises!

This week's challenge is to try to think about your clothes in a new way – 'how do I repair it', not 'how do I get a new one'. It can be exciting to find clothes that you haven't worn for a while - if it still fits - you're ready for the summer! If there's a tear or a stain, can you remember how it got there? That's part of your story and makes your clothes into your own portable memory box! If you need to, can you mend it, patch it or even tie-dye it? If it is too small for you, can you pass it on to a friend/cousin/neighbour?

Book Review – A Scientist Like Me by Dr Shini Somara

Electrifying illustrations and an empowering story combine to introduce young readers to the world of science, observation and problem-solving.

There's NOTHING that Ruben doesn't find fascinating. Why do leaves change colour? What makes ice cream melt? On a trip to the beach with his mum, he discovers how the world works and the brilliant scientists who have helped us understand it. Maybe he can try out some awesome experiments and become a scientist too?



With pages encouraging kids to try out their very own science experiments such as germinating seeds and writing with invisible ink, this brilliant picture book written by scientist and TV presenter Dr Shini Somara unlocks a love of science and celebrates women in STEM.

Inter-House Cross Country Competition – Thursday 23rd March 2023

Next Thursday will be our first ever Inter House Cross Country competition. It is part of the National Curriculum that children engage in competitive activities, and this event enables them to participate in a supportive environment with all members of their House. Every child will take part as their position will go towards the points that their House achieve. The House with the lowest score will win.

Each child needs to come to school on Thursday in their PE kit wearing their House colour t-shirt and a water bottle. The event will take place in the afternoon with every class taking part separately. Each run will be timed so then we will have a route record for each year group. Hopefully we will be able to run the competition again in successive years and reward new record breakers accordingly! There will be medals for 1st, 2nd and 3rd winners in each class and a coveted trophy for the winning House.

Happiness Calendar: Mindful March

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

Housepoints

House	This Week	Total
Bethlehem	33	187
Eden	19	148
Galilee	19	130
Jerusalem	24	142

GRATITUDE

RESILIENCE

OUTREACH

WONDER

TRUST

HARMONY



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

Emails and Letters Sent this Week

Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning
13 th March	Email	All classes	Chinnor Rugby Club	Easter Camps
13 th March	Email	All classes	The Office	Strike Action
14 th March	Email	Owl Class	The Office	Cycle Training
14 th March	Email	All Classes	The Office	Parent Consultations reminder

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

March	
Tues 21 st / Wed 22 nd	Parents' evenings
Thursday 23 rd	Inter- house cross country
Friday 24 th	Red Nose Day celebration and cake sale 2:30 pm Children's work and books available for parents to look at with children.
Mon 27 th – Fri 31 st	RE Enrichment Week
Friday 31 st	9am Spring Service in church 10am Easter Egg Hunt in school 1:30pm School finishes for Easter break 1:30 PTA film night
April	
Monday 17 th	Summer term begins
Thursday 20 th	Hedgehog class trip to Tiggywinkles Wildlife Hospital
Friday 21 st	Year 5 Cycling starts (also on 28 th , 5 th , 10 th , 11 th , 12 th , 19 th - Test 22 nd)
May	
Friday 5 th	Coronation picnic and games for families of Aston Rowant School on school field
Tue 9 th – Fri 12 th	Year 6 SATs

Academic Year Calendar 2022-23

Autumn 22	
Tues 6 th Sept – Thurs 20 th Oct	Autumn Term (1)
Mon 24 th – Fri 28 th October	HALF TERM
Mon 31 st Oct – Tue 20 th Dec	Autumn Term (2)
Spring 23	
Wed 4 th Jan – Fri 10 th Feb	Spring Term (1)
Monday 13 th – Fri 17 th February	HALF TERM
Tues 21 st Feb - Fri 31 st Mar	Spring Term (2)
Summer 23	
Mon 17 th April - Thu 25 th May	Summer Term (1)
Mon 29 th May – Fri 2 nd June	HALF TERM
Mon 5 th June - Fri 21 st July	Summer Term (2)