

## *From the Head Teacher*

### *Remembrance*

This week, the children have been learning about why we commemorate Remembrance Day. We have looked at the sacrifices made by brave young people, who risked and sometimes gave their lives in war, and we have linked it to our value of gratitude, saying thank you for the sacrifices people made for the freedoms that we enjoy today. We linked our commemorations to our English and artwork as well as our acts of Collective Worship. Hedgehog Class talked about remembering and on the way to Fiveways walked past the war memorial. Children from Year 1 and 2 focused on the poppy as a symbol of remembrance and have created a wreath on the classroom window with their own poppies. In KS2 Fox Class made their own poppies which they wore to the memorial and Owl Class created their own poppies which we planted in the school garden. Today, Remembrance Day, KS2 walked to the War Memorial at church. We had a short service led by Rev Des where Owl Class read the roll of honour laying a cross for each of the fallen, we listened to the 'Last Post', had a 2-minute silence before Reveille ended our time of remembrance.



Thank you to everyone who supported our Poppy Appeal to raise funds for essential welfare work for our Service men and women, veterans, and their families. Thank you also to Year 6 for selling the merchandise each day. We will let you know how much was raised soon!

### *Children in Need*

Next week is Children in Need. The children can come in their spots or dots, or Children in Need merchandise, and make a donation towards Children in Need to help support local charities and projects which are providing essential frontline help to children and young people in communities throughout the UK.



### *Fidget Toys*



Just to remind everyone that toys, including fidget toys, should not be brought into school. They can cause a distraction to both the owner and other children and we cannot guarantee their safety. There are some children who are permitted to use fidget toys, but this will be on the recommendation of the teacher or SENCo and will be communicated to the parents.

### *Welcome to the Team*

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Val Coates (Office Administrator) and Mrs Eva French (Finance Officer) to the team. Mrs Coates will be running the school office and dealing with all of the day-to-day administrative tasks and works Monday to Friday, 8:30 – 3:30. Mrs French will manage the school finances and works on Thursdays and Fridays. We know that they will both be a real asset to the Aston Rowant family.



*Kind regards*

*Mrs France*



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Headteacher: Mrs Helen France

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



### *Hedgehog Class:*

We have been exploring more of our Autumn topic this week. Thinking about the different signs we might see in this season and the events that we celebrate. The children have contributed to the first part of an information book about the annual calendar, which we will add to, over the different seasons which will be a lovely way of seeing their writing progress over the year. We enjoyed a fantastic Autumn walk on Thursday looking for seasonal changes as well as learning how to read maps and symbols. Thank you so much to all the parents who came to support us, it was a lovely time! We also talked about the significance of poppies and what Remembrance Day means to us. We made some beautiful poppy paintings and collaborated to make a collage wreath. Nativity songs are sounding good and we have given out some words to practice at home with a warning that they **will** get in your head!



### *Squirrel Class:*

This week in Squirrel we learnt about the different colour poppies that may be seen around Remembrance before making and painting our own which is displayed in our window. We had such a fun practical science lesson. We tested different materials to find out which one would make the best raincoat for Teddy. We thought about fair-testing and Mrs Harriman was so impressed with their explanations. In English we were continuing with the text The Storm Whale and the children were drafting their stories using a story map. The children were challenged to make adventurous vocabulary choices and to demonstrate a range of punctuation, including questions, commas and exclamation marks. In RE we looked at the Chinese New Year. It's been such a fun week.



### *Fox Class:*

The class demonstrated great resilience this week when sewing their poppies. With Reduce, Recycle, Reuse in mind, we used an old school sweatshirt to cut out our poppies then sewed a button in the middle. So many skills required but they all were focussed and made a fabulous poppy. I was so proud of them. We have now started our explanation text based on A Street Beneath my Feet – as you can see from the picture children have really thought about how to engage with the reader in their introduction. The picture shows some example sentences that we will build in class. We learnt about how to be safe with electricity this week both inside and outside the home – they were able to spot errors and suggest how we must stay safe. In our Geography lesson we started learning about volcanoes and even made one in the playground. The children 'erupted' in delight!



### *Owl Class:*

This week Owl Class cast a thoughtful view over Remembrance Week and led the school in a service at the St Peter & St Paul's church war memorial. The children participated in the service and read the names of the fallen with dignity and respect, as we have come to expect from our Aston Rowant children. They have shared their own ideas about service and sacrifice in a series of light, and engaging discussions with the RE Inspired team on Thursday. In class they made beautiful paper poppies, and the lunchtime Art Club have provided a series of stunning artworks. In other topics, we began our fractions topic, diving deep into skills we have already learnt to refresh our memories, and in English we have begun to plan our first Narnia-themed Big Write, which I really look forwards to reading as ever.

**GRATITUDE**

**RESILIENCE**

**OUTREACH**

**WONDER**

**TRUST**

**HARMONY**

***Photo Diary of the Week***



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## Whole School Topic: Autumn Term: Great Expectations

### Values: Gratitude

In this week of remembrance we have spent time in our acts of collective worship helping the children understand the importance of remembering, and of how our memories shape us as individuals. We have also looked at the importance of saying thank you, linking it to our value of Gratitude. We reflected on how poppies help us to remember important things that have happened to other people, those who have served and died in wars around the world and reflected on why we have different coloured poppies. We reflected on the World Wars, the Falklands, the Gulf, and other recent conflicts, including the war in Ukraine. We have remembered people who have helped us in the past, those we knew and those we didn't know. We also took time to think of some special people: soldiers, sailors, pilots, the police, fire-fighters and ambulance drivers - and all who risk their lives today for our safety. Together, in different ways, we said thank you.

### Climate Warriors Challenge

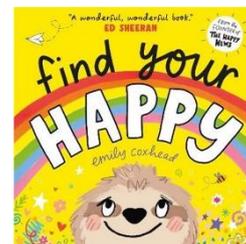
How much have you heard about COP27 over this last week? Probably much less than COP26? However as time ticks on, our climate crisis is worsening. Action is becoming increasingly urgent and the health of our planet can't be put on the back burner – not if we all 'every single day, need to be doing everything we possibly can'.

This week Young Climate Warriors are challenged to give our WORLD COP more airtime than the WORLD CUP – taking time to engage with others in a 'climate change' game... with Africa as a focus. There are options for 'egg box Mancala', football with a 'homemade ball', and trying their luck at Climate Change snakes and ladders.

### Book Review –

How To Find Your Happy by Emily Coxhead Recommended by Ruby, Year 4

This is a wonderful book. It tells you how to feel happy every day even if you are angry, worried, sad, bored, afraid or left out. Whatever you are feeling you will always find your happy. That is really important. That is why I think that it is truly the best book ever.



### Christmas Craft and Produce Fair

There is a Christmas Craft and Produce Fair at Tetsworth Memorial Hall on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November from 10am to 3.30pm, handmade and unique Christmas gifts, Free Santa's Grotto and delicious refreshments, breakfast rolls and bakes.

### Happiness Calander: New Ways November

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	79	105
Eden	81	107
Galilee	81	106
Jerusalem	75	98

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### *Emails and Letters Sent this Week*

Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning

### *Diary Dates Autumn Term 2022* (New or revised dates in bold)

November	
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Service of remembrance at war memorial
w/c 14 <sup>th</sup>	Anti- Bullying Week
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Full Governing Body meeting
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>PTA Meeting in Hall. Do come – there will be brownies!</b>
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Children in Need (spots and dots with your school uniform, donate £1)
December	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Festival of Trees at Chinnor Parish Church</b>
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7pm Festival of Music Owl Class at Thame Leisure Centre Tickets £5 (one per family) available from the office.</b>
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	2:00 Hedgehog Nativity dress rehearsal
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5:30 Hedgehog Nativity performance</b>
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 Hedgehog Nativity performance
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 Christingle for whole school in church
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas party 1:30 Break up for Christmas

### *Academic Year Calendar 2022-23*

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