



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

14th October 2022

From the Head Teacher

Be Bright Be Seen Day

If you are a motorist then you will know how difficult it is to sometimes see pedestrians wearing dark clothes at night or when visibility is poor. Last year, most road related accidents for children happened between 7-9am or 3-5pm on a weekday - the exact times pupils travel back and forth to school. Now the clocks are about to change and the nights are growing darker earlier, we want to raise awareness of this issue with the children. On Friday 4th November, we will be having a 'Be Bright Be Seen Day', raising awareness of the importance of being safe on the streets. We will be asking children to come to school NOT in uniform but dressed in bright clothes. We will be reminding them how important it is to wear bright clothes and fluorescent strips so that drivers can see them more easily.

Lone Travelling

If you would like your Year 6 or Year 5 child to walk home alone, then you need to fill in and return a lone walking form. We would also ask you to speak to them about keeping safe as they walk home and stranger danger.

Coats and Wellies

Please can I remind everyone that they need to have a coat with them every day and keep a pair of wellies in school. We do go out for play times and enjoy Forest Friday in all weathers and do not want children to miss out as they do not have the appropriate clothing. We had a number of children in school today without a coat or wellies.

Communication

Please can I encourage everyone to avoid catching staff at the school gate to seek an update about your child's progress. The teacher manning the gate needs to focus on the safety of the children arriving and other staff are preparing for the teaching day ahead. The best way to pass on a message is via the office or class email and this will allow us to deal with the issue appropriately. Thank you.

Inset Day

Don't forget that next Friday we have an INSET (In Service Training) day. Our focus will be our School Development Plan where we working through the details to our plan for the year. We are also looking at our SEN provision, including how to make a personalised 'offer' for all children, as well as establishing flexible approaches to teaching and learning. Finally, we will be looking at how we meet the needs of all pupils through appropriate challenge and high expectations.

Open Days

Please do spread the word regarding our amazing school by sharing the details of our open days on 17th October 2-3pm, 21st October 9:30-10:30am and 9th November 3:30-4:30pm. Please email or call the office to register. More details can be found [here](#).

Kind regards

Mrs France



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Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:



Hedgehog Class

It has been a super 'sciency' week in Hedgehog class! It was brains at the ready when faced with the challenge to get the seeds out of a giant pumpkin. We had to think about which tool would be best and work together to stop the giant pumpkin rolling around! We then made a cleaning station to prepare the pumpkin flesh for our secret task next week and separate the seeds which we enjoyed roasted and toasted on Friday! In our investigation area we have been using pipettes to add different mystery liquids to a potion. We noticed lots of changes and interesting things happening. The children read "It's OK to be Different" by Todd Parr and talked how our differences are what make us special and unique. We then made a class book of what makes us different by composing our own sentences. We had a fun game guessing the children from the baby photos and thinking about the ways we have changed over time some things we could see and others we couldn't. We are looking forward to next week when we will be learning about oral hygiene. Please could the children bring in their toothbrush and toothpaste in a named plastic bag on Thursday.



Squirrel Class

We have had a busy week in Squirrel class. In English we have been using the knowledge and understanding we have learned in our History lessons to draft and write an information text about seaside holidays in the past. In Maths we have completed our unit of work on place value and we are now starting work on addition and subtraction. Mrs Harriman enjoyed watching the imaginative games the children invented using the playground equipment at playtime on Thursday. We linked our RE unit of creation to our Forest Friday learning and looked at how we can help look after our brilliant world.



Fox Class

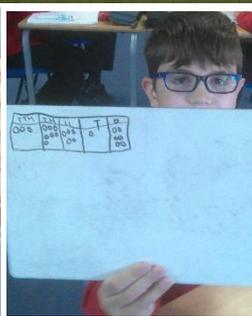
Children have been thoroughly gripped with our Anglo-Saxon tale of Beowulf this week It has enabled us to learn about fronted adverbials, the power of 3 and how effective powerful verbs can be. In addition, our music lesson was also based on Beowulf, and we focussed on how major and minor keys display emotion. In French, we discussed the many ways of saying goodbye in English which led us to learn how to say them in French. We played a fun game of Duck, Duck, Goose to learn them! Our science lesson this week tasked the class to make a musical instrument out of junk modelling with the focus on changing the pitch and volume. This culminated in us becoming an orchestra!



Owl Class

Amidst our preparations for our next Big Write in English, which will focus on Tenzing Norgays point of view of the climb to Everest, and working on our multiplication skills in Maths, we have also helped James Bonds Q branch by designing the best shoes for a spy to wear. We explored different surfaces and measured the amount of friction that they generated by dragging shoes across them. It was more scientific than it sounds! The children recorded their findings and will be writing up their results in bar graph form next week. In Forest Friday, Owl joined the rest KS2 to plant hazelnuts and acorns as part of the drive to grow more trees for the local area, this combined with the sycamore seeds planted last week, have really caught the children's imagination and got them thinking about our impact in nature.

Photo Diary of the Week



GRATITUDE

RESILIENCE

OUTREACH

WONDER

TRUST

HARMONY



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Whole School Topic: Autumn Term: Great Expectations

Values: Wonder

This week we have marvelled that we are God's creation. We reflected on how we were all designed and created by him. We are works of art! We are all unique.

'Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.' John 1:3

Climate Warriors Challenge

WHAT YOU DO MAKES A DIFFERENCE, and you have to decide what kind of a difference you want to make'

Dr Jane Goodall, world-renowned environmentalist particularly famous for her work amongst the chimpanzees of Tanzania.

Dr Jane Goodall exudes a quiet determination. She sat for months and months observing chimpanzees and getting them to trust her. As an avid conservationist, she spells out her four reasons for hope: the amazing human intellect; the resilience of nature; the power of young people; and the indomitable human spirit. What we each can do on a daily basis can make a difference.

Young Climate Warriors are challenged this week not to just 'stand-by' but to reduce 'vampire power' by switching off appliances left on standby. Young Climate Warriors is primarily about engaging and empowering children, but also provides a valuable opportunity for letting children's voices be heard. This week's challenge slide can be found [here](#).

Book Review Queen Victoria's Bathing Machine by Gloria Whelan

recommended by Millie, Year 2

Queen Victoria loved swimming but couldn't be seen in her swimming suit. So Prince Albert made an amazing colourful machine big enough to fit the queen and her lady-in-waiting in. They wheeled it into the sea. I didn't like the part when the Queen was sad but liked it when Prince Albert made something for her and her 40 grandchildren all liked it.



Happiness Calendar: Optimistic October

Actions to help you focus on what really matters. You can find this month's happiness calendar [here](#).

Housepoints

<i>House</i>	<i>This Week</i>	<i>Total</i>
Bethlehem	41	191
Eden	38	174
Galilee	42	189
Jerusalem	37	182

Emails and Letters Sent this Week

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Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning
11/10/2022	Email	Hedgehog Class	Mrs Olsen	Lunch Play
13/10/2022	Email	Year 6	School Office	Secondary School Applications

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

October	
w/c 17 th October	Structured Conversations for Children with SEN plans
Monday 17 th	Open Day 14:00-15:00
Friday 21 st	INSET day
Friday 21 st	Open Day 9:30-10:30
Mon 24 th – Fri 28 th	Half Term
November	
Wednesday 2 nd	Parents' Evening All Classes
Thursday 3 rd	Parents' Evening Squirrel, Fox and Owl Classes
Friday 4 th	Be Bright Be Seen Day
Wednesday 9 th	Open Day 15:30-16:30
Friday 18 th	Children in Need (spots and dots with your school uniform, donate £1)
December	
Monday 12 th	2:00 Hedgehog Nativity Dress
Wednesday 14 th	5:30 Hedgehog Nativity Performance
Monday 19 th	6:00 Christingle for Whole School in Church
Tuesday 20 th	1:30 Break up for Christmas

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)