



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

7th October 2022

From the Chair of Governors:

A year in the life of a school governor:

I don't know where the spark came from that initiated my interest and ability to learn, but what I do know, is that I had a very happy and rewarding start in life at a rural primary school not unlike Aston Rowant.

Being a governor has provided me with the opportunity to pursue my lifelong interest in learning and hopefully put something back into a system that has provided me with so much.

I joined the school as a governor in November 2018 and took up the role of chair in October 2019 at the same time as our then new Headteacher joined the school.

So, what does an Aston Rowant School Governor do?

The school year starts with updating our strategy for the year and identifying priorities and responsibilities. We need to fill all our classes so that we can do more and continue to improve. Our Ofsted Inspection highlighted why Aston Rowant School should be the school of choice commenting on the fact that 'Every child is known and believed in' and that 'It is easy to spot an Aston Rowant pupil. The way they convey themselves is impressive.'

We now plan to build on our successful Ofsted inspection and continue to raise the profile of the school within the local community. Secondly, we are going to develop and implement a long-term improvement plan for the school buildings and infrastructure.

In parallel to this, we have established a schedule of governing board business that identifies the work to be done during each school term. Activities include mapping out the governor monitoring plan for the year, reviewing pupil progress and attainment, monitoring the budget and ensuring statutory compliance.

Our governors all bring different experiences and expertise to the board and the school. Governors need not have previous experience of teaching or governance as there are numerous training courses available to suit the needs of the school. In addition, governors have advice and guidance from our Local Authority as and when we may need it.

The Board meet six times a year. In addition, there is an expectation that each governor visits the school to monitor specific areas of school improvement. There may also be additional responsibilities for managing a project or to support one of the board's sub committees.

If you would like to join our incredible team or want further information about the work of a governor, please contact me via: chair@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk

Kind regards

Dr Steve Taylor

Open Days

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



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Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:



Hedgehog Class

This week we have been practicing for the harvest festival. We read the story of 'Olivers' Vegetables' by Vivian French and talked about our favourite vegetables. We then prepared them in different ways. We were very brave and tasted them to see which one we liked best and then we made a pictogram to show our answers. In our play we explored lots of new star challenges including making a puppet show all about healthy eating, vegetable painting and making good and bad choices in the healthy eating café! In Maths we have been practicing our cardinal counting skills using lots of different objects. We can count objects as well as sounds and actions. We can even count ideas!



Squirrel Class

Squirrel class enjoyed learning more about Victorian beach holidays; strange bathing costumes and evening explaining just how those bathing machines worked! We've moved on to harder letter shapes in handwriting, done some exceptionally fun mud, twig and stone painting in Forest Friday and lots of sporty exercises to keep us in shape in PE.



Fox Class

This week in Fox Class we have finished writing our first-person adventure stories and after spending time editing them, we have written them up in our neatest handwriting and made mini books. We have ended the week starting to read our new Anglo-Saxon story - Beowulf! This tied in nicely with our History where we looked at Anglo-Saxon gods. After last week's lesson in understanding how sound travels, this week we have been learning how certain materials absorb sound. We made a sound studio and then discussed which materials would absorb sound best. Using Mrs Healy's phone as a decibel measure, we could see which was best however we also had to be extremely quiet, or the test wouldn't work! Children are really enjoying their tag rugby and handball sessions in our PE lessons too – they always have rosy cheeks at the end of every lesson!



Owl Class

Owl Class this week have getting stuck into a range of practical maths activities to explore the principles and details of multiplication and division. In English, the children tackled their first Big Write about Ed Hillary's journey to the Buddhist monastery of Tengboche, at the base of Mt. Everest. Writing as Hillary, they imagined what he would be feeling about the coming climb, and what private details or worries he might confess to a diary. This was a challenging write, using all of the skills they have developed so far this term, and they more than rose to the occasion. Well done Owls!

GRATITUDE

RESILIENCE

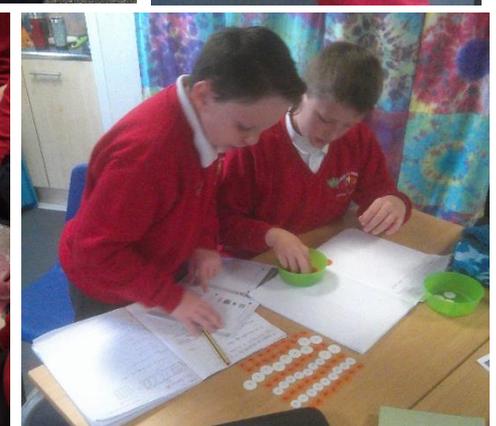
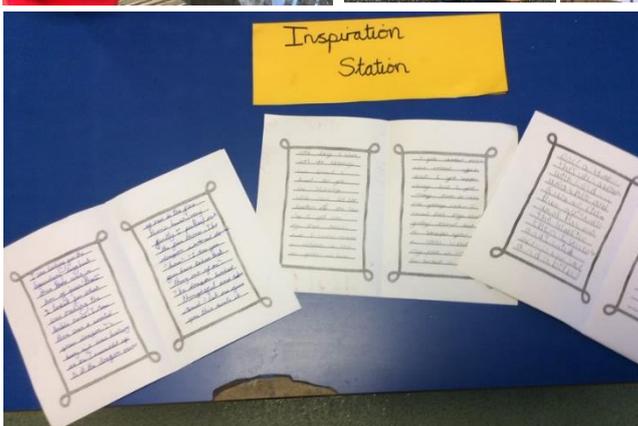
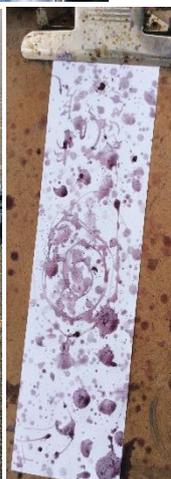
OUTREACH

WONDER

TRUST

HARMONY

Photo Diary of the Week





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Art Ambassadors



Mrs Olsen would like to introduce our new Art Ambassadors from Year 5 and 6. This year we have: Daisy, Olivia, Jessica, Tobias, Tegan, Lily S, Connie and Emmeline. Look out for them with their nice new shiny badges! Our Art Ambassadors are already planning an art competition for later in the year and will be helping to run a KS2 art club. They are also looking forward to helping plan our Art Enrichment Week in the summer term.

Whole School Topic: Autumn Term: Great Expectations

Values: Wonder

This week we have celebrated our Harvest festival. We have thanked God for our food, for the rain, the soil, the sun and the farmers who grow our crops. We spent time on reflecting on the importance of saying thank you. We also looked at the needs of others around the world from our local food bank to those in need in other countries.

'This most generous God who gives seed to the farmer that becomes bread for your meals is more than extravagant with you. He gives you something you can then give away, which grows into full-formed lives, robust in God, wealthy in every way, so that you can be generous in every way, producing with us great praise to God.' 2 Corinthians 9:10-11

Climate Warriors Challenge

'We are running out of time'

Message from young people to decision makers at COP27. The baton is being relayed the 7,767km from Glasgow to Sharm El-Sheikh.

With just over a month until COP27 (UN Climate Change 27th Conference of the Parties), over 350,000 young people are carrying the 'running out of time' baton for climate action across 18 countries from the UK to Egypt. The baton is made of 18 fragile elements – representing the countries en route, and bound by four strong metal spirals – representing the areas of climate change impact – international, national, community and local. All of these facets are crucial to tackling climate change. Whilst Young Climate Warriors focuses on encouraging individual engagement, we hope you'll have noticed that it also supports children to get involved with these wider strands via a breadth of weekly challenge topics.

This week Young Climate Warriors are challenged to join the relay 'in spirit' and walk and talk more. Cutting carbon emissions by walking and avoiding the car, and talking to others about what they know, feel and think about Climate Change. Climate Change is one of the greatest challenges humanity has ever faced – yet many people never talk about it. This week's challenge slide can be found [here](#).

Book Review - After the fall by Dan Santat

After the fall continues the story of Humpty Dumpty. After his famous fall, Humpty is never quite the same but he still longs to climb that dreaded wall. This is a story of perseverance and conquering fears as we see Humpty face his challenge. I have always enjoyed reading this book to children as it offers a beautiful ending to what is sometimes a sad nursery rhyme.

Recommended by Mrs Healy



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	34	150
Eden	38	136
Galilee	36	147
Jerusalem	38	145

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY



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emails and letters sent this week

Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning
3/10/2022	Email	Parents/Carers	School Office	Photographs and Parent Consultations
6/10/22	Email	Parents/Carers	PTA	PTA AGM minutes
7/10/22	Email	Fox Class	Mrs Healy	Our next science investigation!

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

October	
Friday 7 th	Harvest Service in school for local food bank
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
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)