



THE **A**STON **R**OWANT



BRILLIANT **B**LOG



Christmas 2023

1st edition

Welcome to our school blog!

Welcome to the Aston Rowant Brilliant Blog. This is our first edition and we are really looking forward to releasing more editions throughout the year. If anyone has anything they would like to put forward to go in the blog, just ask me Bodie, Oliver or Joanie. Our blogs will include a lot of things, such as jokes, comic strips, world news and more. We hope you enjoy!

Harry G.

“Lest we forget” Remembrance Sunday

Who?

We started Remembrance Sunday to remember the soldiers who died in the 1st world war. We now do it to remember everyone who have died in all wars since.

What and Where?

To remember them we wear a red poppy. We went to the war memorial and put down a poppy wreath and a child read out a name of a fallen soldier.

Why?

We remember them because they sacrificed their lives for ours. We wear a red poppy because on the battle fields where the soldiers fought, afterwards bright red poppies grew. The poppy is a fitting symbol because it is very delicate, just like peace, but it always manages a way.

When?

The first Remembrance Sunday was held 1 year after the First World War in 1919. However, we now hold Remembrance Day in order to remember everyone that fought in all wars since.

What did we do as a school?

Firstly we raised funds The Poppy Appeal by selling poppy themed items. We managed to raise the total of £243.16! Well done everyone!

Owl and Fox Classes went to the war memorial and took part in the Remembrance Service. Owl Class read out the role of honour whilst other class members lay small poppies into the ground. We remained silent for 2 minutes. It was a very special time for us all to remember those who had given their lives. **Joanie**



World News

What's happening in the world right now?

A lot is going on outside the UK that we might not know about. At the ARBB, along with everything else we are writing about, we will bring you this news.

This year was the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference or Conference of the Parties (COP28), and it was hosted by the United Arab Emirates from 30th November to 12th December. This conference is all about discussing pressing climate change matters. The rapid warming of the past century has been caused by humans, mainly by the use of oil, gas and coal. To make sure we can help our planet, try thinking about how often you turn on your heating, or anything that uses fossil fuels, and decide if you would be fine using them less frequently.

A war between Ukraine and Russia started in February of 2022 and has been going on for nearly 2 years now. Thousands of people have died and we feel that we need to tell you about it.

As well as that war, another one started in October of this year between Israel and Hamas. This is the Palestinian political and military organisation who govern the Gaza Strip (a piece of land next to Israel).

Both wars are as terrible as each other, though the Ukraine - Russia war has not been mentioned as much recently, most likely because the Israel - Hamas war started much closer in time. The UK has committed over £1 billion to Ukraine in military assistance and over £20 million in humanitarian aid to Israel.

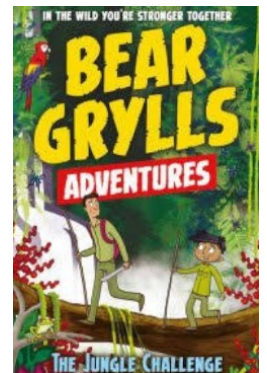
There is a cost of living crisis in Britain because of things that have happened or are happening around the world. One of the causes is the strong global demand for consumer goods as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and other lockdowns associated with the pandemic. Energy and fuel prices are soaring particularly due to Russia's Invasion of Ukraine - Russia is the third largest producer of oil worldwide and makes a lot of money from countries buying their oil. For the UK to stop buying as much oil from Russia in an effort to assist Ukraine has made it more expensive here.

We hope you are more informed now.



BOOK REVIEW—Oliver

This is a really exiting book and perfect for adventurous young people. It is called Bear Grylls: The Jungle Challenge and is the fourth book in the series but is the first book of his that I have read. It is a fantastic adventure from Chief Scout Bear Grylls, with excellent illustrations by Emma McCann. This book tells the tale of a young man called Omar who competes in a race. He gets caught up in an attempt to break a record but his team are too slow. As a reader I was keen to know if Omar could take it steady and learn the jungle law. I found this story easy to read and interesting because of all the survival facts I learnt!





Interview with Miss Williams

By Bodie Stewart



We know you love nature. Why is that?

My father was an environmental scientist and we were lucky enough to live surrounded by wildlife and the countryside. It sparked a life long fascination for the natural world.

Can you tell us about where you live?

I live on a farm near Sydenham, have a love of sheep, often bringing orphan lambs into the house to rear them. I am very lucky.

What was your first job?

My very first job was in an art gallery in Clacton-on-Sea. I lived in an old ambulance at the seaside at this point! I have lived in some unusual homes – vans, boats and caravans!

What are your hobbies?

My hobbies are art and nature – I love both equally.

Quick-fire questions!

Pasta or Pizza?

Pasta

Rabbit or fox?

Fox

Poppies or roses?

Roses

Marmite or jam on toast?

Jam (although Marmite is the very best!)

What is your favourite food?

Summer salads

Are there any animals you don't like?

That's impossible to answer! There are very few animals I dislike (apart from silverfish)

What was your best holiday ever?

My best holiday ever was camping in a field near Brighton, next to a freshwater stream with no one else around!

Spotlight on...Connie Barakat in Owl Class

I am a grade 5 cornet player and I started playing in Year 2 when I was 6 years old.

Earlier this year, Amersham Youth Band (I am a member), competed in the Youth Brass Championships. We came 3rd out of 15 brass bands! In 2024 we will go to Cheltenham to take part in the same competition. Previously in 2022, we received the Silver award and 3rd place.

I am also a member of the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain's Children Band. I am the youngest member! The band is made up of the best brass players and percussionists in Great Britain. We meet for a week once a year followed by a performance.

I will be performing at the school's Christingle this year playing 'Walking in the air'.



Christmas fun!



Have a go at these Christmas based anagram! The answers are at the bottom!

Christmas anagrams

1. ganle
2. dreniree
3. elaublb
4. kercarc
5. keyrut
6. anger bridge
7. men is epic
8. shismcahrt

Christmas cracker jokes!

What do you call a reindeer with no eyes?

No idea!

What did Santa say to the smoker?

Please don't smoke it's bad for my elf!

What's black and white and red all over.

A sun-burnt penguin!

What is the wettest animal in the North Pole?

A reindeer!

What do you call a tired Santa?

A Santa Snores!

We hope you have enjoyed reading our first ever blog.

If you have any ideas of what else we can include please let the editors know. If you would like to become a journalist for the ARBB, then please have a chat with Mrs Healy.

Happy Christmas and a very Happy New Year to you all!

Answers

1. angel 2. reindeer 3. bauble 4. cracker 5. turkey 6. gingerbread