



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

23rd February 2024

From the Headteacher

Sponsored Walk

Thank you to everyone who supported our sponsored walk – your generosity means that we have raised an amazing £1,178.10. We are hoping to have this match funded which will mean that we can donate approximately £2,300.00 to Sobell House Hospice. Everyone did an incredible job raising money and we are grateful for every pound that was donated. Special mention goes to: Micaela, Jos, Florence Y, Alexander and Rory for their fundraising efforts.



Ox Trail Ox Design



Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to create a design for our ox. There was a huge variety in the ideas and concepts and judging the competition was really tough. Congratulations to Aurora in Year 4 for the final winning design. One of the elements of this design that we loved is that every child and member of staff will have their own section to paint. We collect the ox next week and will then start our artistic endeavors.

Virtual Reality Headsets

On Wednesday this week each class had the opportunity to enjoy an immersive learning experience in different virtual environments using virtual reality headsets. Hedgehog Class and Squirrel Class both went into space, Fox Class got up close and personal with a variety of animals and Owl Class hung out with the Ancient Egyptians. We are grateful to the PTA for funding this incredible opportunity.



World Book Day

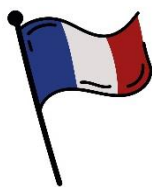


We will be celebrating World Book Day on Wednesday 6th March and our theme this year is poetry. We would like the children to come to school dressed as their favourite poem. This will be an opportunity for them to discover the wonderful world of rhyme. Could they come dressed as an owl or a pussycat? A cat in a hat? Maybe a snail and a whale? Or a daffodil? How about The Sound Collector, The Highwayman, Hiawatha, Macavity, The Tiger or even The Jabberwocky! If you struggle for inspiration, then we have a whole host of poetry books at school that may fire the children's imagination.

On the Wednesday, teachers will be filling the day with activities based on poetry that children will thoroughly enjoy. It will be a day of vertical learning where the children work together across the years in their House groups - which always makes the day extra special. In addition, during this half term we will be encouraging classes to learn some poems off by heart and perform them to the whole school.



Modern Foreign Languages



Some of our children are currently attending an online French club taught by Stephanie, a native French speaker. It is open to children in Years 3 to 7 on Wednesday afternoons from 5.00pm to 5.30pm. The children have fun hearing and speaking French, singing songs, solving puzzles, taking part in online games and completing drawings in French. They are currently offering a free taster session – please see the flyer sent out by the school office. Those who then sign up receive a songbook with soundtracks and internet access to many engaging activities on their website.

Staff Change

Sadly, personal circumstances have meant that Mrs Uhart has not been able to return to work after the half term break. We are currently advertising for a new Teaching Assistant and will keep you posted. We are grateful to Mrs Uhart for all that she did during her time with us.



Kind regards

Mrs France

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

'Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him.' Colossians 2:7



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

We have had a great first week back getting stuck into our space topic with an exciting start. We really enjoyed our VR experience exploring space and then we found out that a spaceship had crashed in our playground. We looked for hidden clues as to what had happened. We found some strange goop and weird alien words hidden in glow-in-the-dark writing, so we decided to find out more. We made posters to see if anyone else had seen an alien, writing clear descriptions to help people identify them. We also made a camera to try and catch any alien activity. The next day when we checked the footage an alien had indeed visited us. We had lots of questions, so we wrote them down. He answered our questions and asked us how to get back to his planet so next week we are going to draw him a map of space and help him to fix his spaceship! We are also making rockets of our own so would be very grateful for cardboard tubes and a few very large boxes. Thank you!



Squirrel Class

The first week back of term has been a busy one (as usual!) We started off the week with some creative writing, imagining we are aliens from the moon! The class have been using plans that they created in pairs to then produce some independent writing with further details added. In Maths lessons this week we have continued our learning on addition in Y1, with a focus on doubles and near doubles. Dominoes would be a fun way to consolidate this learning at home. In Y2 this week we looked closely at multiplication, recognising arrays and drawing maths pictures for multiplication sentences. Ask your Y2 child to draw you a maths picture for 3×6 😊 Our topic learning this week we learned about the moon landing, and we will study Neil Armstrong as a significant individual in history and science. The class also really enjoyed the VR experience on Space and learned lots of brilliant facts about the solar system. Lastly, our new art topic is print making, and we used wax crayons to make rubbings of items found in and around the school to explore texture. We are also continuing to practise our play, so please can all scripts be brought to school each day in book bags. Thank you!



Fox Class

It's an exciting start to a new half term. The class are thrilled with our new topics and thrown themselves wholeheartedly into them. In our Geography, we are growing our knowledge about rainforests but prior to this we learnt about the different biomes on our planet. Children spent time labelling these on a world map and ensuring they knew their continents too in order to understand where the biomes were. Our Science this week, was focussed on bones and the skeleton. Children learnt about how many bones are in an adult body and why a child has more before naming bones. We then made our own skeleton with straws which they really enjoyed. We are looking at non-chronological reports in our English and we spent time looking at the features needed before creating our own animal based in the rainforest that they will write about. In our Maths, both year group have spent time with perimeter, either measuring or finding missing measurements. Our DT this half term is based on bread, and we will have a bread bake-off by the end of this half term. This week we spent time evaluating different types of bread assessing the appearance, texture, taste and smell. This will help us when designing our own bread product in the following weeks. A highlight of the week was the Virtual Reality session enabling our class to see different types of vertebrates close up. I for one, was entranced by the detail of each animal and how real it was! Thank you again to the PTA for funding this fabulous opportunity.



Owl Class

It's a new term, we are all rested and ready to begin our new learning journey together! Our new topics have really caught the children's imagination, and we have dived straight in to get started: in English, we looked at how to make toast! No really, we did! As part of our instruction writing topic, the children had to first explain how toast is made, then organise their instructions in step by step sentences. In History, we looked at the dynasties of ancient Egypt, and Narmer and Cleopatra VII, the first and last Pharaohs and the three ages of kingdoms between their rules. We also had the incredible VR workshop provided by the PTA, which enabled us to enrich our History this week by taking a 3D tour around the Great Pyramids, the Valley of the Kings, and even a whistle stop tour of Duat, the Egyptian land of the dead! Luckily, we returned safe and sound for our Science, where we are looking at Evolution and Inheritance. We examined the physical characteristics that we have inherited from our grownups, and also the ways we are different from our siblings: we then imagined what it would be like if the Mr Men and Little Miss characters had offspring! What would they look like? What physical characteristics would be passed down? What variation might there be between siblings? It was a fascinating and fun lesson, which the children approached with a great scientific attitude.

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

'Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him.' Colossians 2:7

Photo Diary of the Week



GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

'Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him.' Colossians 2:7



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: Home is Where the Heart is.

Values: Outreach

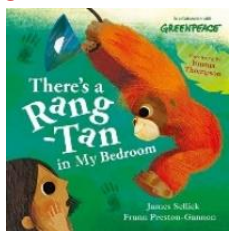
We have a new value for this term which is Outreach. In Collective Worship this week we looked at the word compassion, which is a combination of two words, 'com' which means *with* and 'passion' which can mean *suffering*. Compassion therefore means being with someone who is suffering or sad, trying to understand how they might be feeling and showing that you care about them.

'Clothe yourself with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.' Colossians 3:12

Climate Warriors Challenge

UK households throw away 6.6m tonnes of EDIBLE food each year – that's equivalent to cramming over 95 Albert Hall's full of food waste!!! – and that doesn't include the INEDIBLE waste. Dana Gunders, author of 'Waste-free Kitchen' says imagine walking out of the supermarket with four bags of shopping, dropping one in the car park, and just not bothering to pick it up. It's time to do some detective work, ascertain which foods are being 'binned', and try out some new recipes #lovefoodhatewaste.

Book Review *There's a Rang-Tan in My Bedroom*, by James Sellick.



This wonderful book was brought in by Amelia, EYFS, for her 'Show and Tell'. The story highlights the importance of conservation to young children in an easy and accessible way. Here are Amelia's thought on the book:

"It's a bit of a sad book because they chop the trees down to make toothpaste and stuff. It makes you think about the Orangutans being sad because they lose their homes."

Happiness Calendar: Friendly February

This month let's focus on reaching out to connect with others and doing our best to be a good friend. Our acts of kindness and connection ripple out and impact so many more people than we realise. In stressful times people around us may be feeling the strain, so let's try to keep calm, take time to listen and show compassion. You can find this month's happiness calendar [here](#).

Attendance - This Week

School target 97%	97% - 100%	90% -97%	Below 90%
Hedgehog Class	93%	0%	7%
Squirrel Class	86%	0%	14%
Fox Class	74%	4%	22%
Owl Class	93%	0%	7%

Housepoints

House	This Week	Total
Bethlehem	65	65
Eden	70	70
Galilee	57	57
Jerusalem	43	43

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

'Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him.' Colossians 2:7



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
23-03-24	Email	All	Office	Lunch orders
23-03-24	Email	KS2	Office	Online French Classes
19-02-24	Email	All	Office	Measles
19-02-24	Email	Hedgehog	Mrs Hall	Dress up day
19-02-24	Email	KS1/KS2	Office	Dance club

February	
March	
Tue 5 th	Cross Country Run event
Wed 6 th	World Book Day (not Thursday to avoid PE) Bags2school
11 th – 15 th March	National Science Week
Fri 15 th	Red Nose Day 2:30pm Last Celebration Assembly (stage up after – volunteers welcomed)
Mon 18 th	Poetry Workshop
Tues 19 th Wed 20 th	Parents' Evenings
Wed 20 th	Tag Rugby event
Fri 22 nd	Year 5 cycling starts. (future dates April 19 th , 26 th . May 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th . June 14 th , 21 st , 28 th (test day) 2:30pm Book look with cake sale for Save the Children
Mon 25 th Tues 26 th	KS1 Performance 'A Big Green Adventure'
Wed 27 th	Full Governing Body Meeting
Thu 28 th	9:15am Spring Service in church Term finishes at 1:30pm
April	
Mon 15 th	Summer Term starts
Fri 19 th	9am PTA meeting – school hall Year 5 cycling (future dates April, 26 th . May 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th . June 14 th , 21 st , 28 th (test day)

Academic Year Calendar 2023-24/2024-25

Summer 24	
Mon 15 th April - Thu 24 th May	Summer Term (1)
Mon 27 th May – Fri 31 st May	HALF TERM
Mon 3 rd June – Wed 24 th July	Summer Term (2)
Autumn 24	
Weds 4 th Sept – Thurs 24 th Oct	Autumn Term (1)
Mon 28 th – Fri 1 st Nov	HALF TERM
Mon 4 th Nov – Fri 20 th Dec	Autumn Term (2)
Spring 25	
Tue 7 th Jan – Fri 14 th Feb	Spring Term (1)
Monday 17 th – Fri 21 st Feb	HALF TERM
Mon 24 th Feb – Fri 4 th Apr	Spring Term (2)
Summer 25	
Tue 22 nd April – Thu 22 nd May	Summer Term (1)
Mon 26 th May – Fri 30 th May	HALF TERM
Mon 2 nd June – Tue 22 nd July	Summer Term (2)

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY
'Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him.' Colossians 2:7