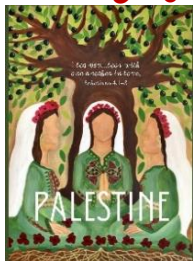


From the Headteacher

World Day of Prayer



Today is the World Day of Prayer. This is an international, inter-church initiative, led by women, which enables us to hear the thoughts of those women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns, and prayers. It was back in 2017 when the women of Palestine were invited to write the service for 2024. As we are aware, today Palestine and Gaza are very different to how they were in 2017, although there were still tensions and struggles then. This year the Christian Women of Palestine are calling us to connect with the land from where Jesus came; where he was born, ministered and died – and from where our faith began and is rooted. The theme that they have given is 'I beg you, bear with one another in love,' based on Ephesians 4:2 where we are also encouraged to be completely humble, gentle and patient.

As a school we have been looking at Palestine. We learnt some Arabic: marhaba (hello), assalamu alaykum (peace be upon you) and wa alaykum assalam (and peace be upon you too). We learnt some facts: nearly half of Palestine's land is dedicated to olive production; olives are planted in Tree Season which starts on Tree Day (15th Jan) and ends on Land Day (30th March); one of the oldest olive trees is in Al-Walaja, near Bethlehem, and is thought to be 5,500 years old!



The churches in Chinnor are uniting to mark the World Day of Prayer with services at the Methodist Church. The schools have all joined in making a display there by writing prayers for: our future; Palestine; the world.

World Book Day



We are all looking forward to our World Book Day next Wednesday. Do use our poetry books at school if you need inspiration for a poem to dress as. Like last year, we would love children to bring in a book (or books) they have outgrown or have read enough times to swap in our Book Swap which will take place towards the end of the school day. All of the children will be able to choose a new book to take home for free. If you have more than one book to donate then please do! Any left-over will be open to donations at the end of the school day. Thank you in advance for supporting this.

It will be a day of vertical learning where the children work together across the years in their House groups doing a mix of performing, illustrating and writing their own poetry.

Healthy Snacks

As a school, we have a responsibility to help children learn how to eat healthily. Research undertaken by the School Food Trust affirms that eating healthily can positively affect children's behaviour in the classroom. As such we want to ensure that what the children eat at break times, in particular, is a healthy snack, and to discourage the consumption of snacks high in fat and sugar. Children may have: fresh fruit; dried fruit; vegetable sticks; breadsticks; cereal bars or crackers. Children should not have: crisps; chocolate bars; biscuits or cake.



Cross Country



On Tuesday we are having our now annual Cross Country event. It is being run, if you will pardon the pun, by the fabulous Mrs Healy. Each year group will be challenged to run their own distance and they will be cheered on by their respective house teams.

Family Advice, Communication, Education

FACE (Family Advice, Communication, Education) are offering a number of workshops to support parents. These are:

- Thursday 21 March 19:00 - 21:00 FREE Understanding Addictive Behaviour - Screens, gaming, drugs and more.
- Tuesday 19 March 19:00 -20:00 £24 What is ACT? An introduction to Acceptance and Commitment Therapy
- Thursday 21 March 19:00 - 21:00 £24 Supporting children with ADHD: challenging stereotypes and practical advice

For more information please see: facefamilyadvice.co.uk. or email them at info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

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:



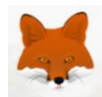
Hedgehog Class

What another fun week we've had. On Monday we built towers and developed our use of the language taller, shorter, tallest and shortest. We have also had great fun developing our understanding of time. We discovered lots of things that we can achieve in 1 minute and learnt about things that take a bit longer. We sequenced some instructions and then carefully chose the right time words to instruct our partners to make a jam sandwich. In Topic we have begun making our space rockets, making plans for what we wanted them to look like and what we would need. Thank you for all the donations of boxes and cardboard tubes. Please do keep them coming! On Wednesday our alien left us a secret message saying that he needed help to rebuild his rocket so that he can get back to planet Vox! He also asked us to make him a map of space so that he didn't get lost. We learnt how to write really clear labels so that he could follow our plans easily to get home. Watch this space!



Squirrel Class

The Squirrels (and all the adults in our class) have been super busy this week preparing for our performance at the end of the term. This week's homework will be the last for the term and I ask that children concentrate on learning their lines and the songs instead. In English lessons we started our creative writing for the new text of 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jeffers and the class used their prediction skills to guess how the boy would return home to planet earth. We also used feeling words to describe the emotions of the characters in the text. Y2 began learning about division and we used dienes blocks to share amounts equally. We also talked about the importance of learning our times tables and practising on TTRS! Y1 have been continuing their learning on subtraction and we have looked at subtraction by counting back or finding the difference. Lastly, in our topic learning we explored significant individuals, and we focused on finding similarities between Christopher Columbus and Neil Armstrong. We agreed on the fact that both men explored unknown places and achieved something notable for the human race.



Fox Class

This week we have immersed ourselves in rainforests! In our English we have been working on our non-chronological report writing skills. Thank you for supporting your children in their orangutan research for homework – it has really helped them when writing in class. They have shown how to lay out the reports and group facts together in the appropriate section. We even managed to squeeze in the king of the swingers' clip from The Jungle Book! In our Geography, we located rainforests using atlases then carried out research on the iPads on our chosen country. In our Science, we continued looking at our bones and carried out a choice of investigations regarding the length of our arms and legs. The class worked independently and were able to show their scientific thinking by understanding about the variables that would change and what would stay the same. I was so proud of their teamwork and thinking. Our maths has entered the world of fractions, and the class are now used to Mrs Healy's denominator voice (!) and the swimming woggles to aid understanding. We now know what unit and non-unit fractions are. I am looking forward in helping their knowledge grow as we progress deeper. In our DT we worked on our kneading and plaiting skills using salt dough – all good practise for our forthcoming bread bake off in a couple of weeks! Could I also mention how caring our class have been this week – noticing need when it arises. Aren't they great!



Owl Class

This week has seen Owl Class getting fully involved in the mechanics of our English writing unit: what are those writing devices that make a clear and compelling piece of information writing? We looked at how we can use colons, semi-colons and hyphens to avoid ambiguity, and clarify our clauses. We also used these new, refined skills to rewrite the rulebooks for a range of crazy competitions from Freestyle Moustache Growing, Baby Racing to Toe Wrestling. In History the children used our new class iPads to independently research and compare at least two ancient Egyptian Pharaohs and consider if their legacy has been more beneficial for the Egypt of their time, or for us as historians now (think Tutankhamun's incredible treasure trove and how important a find this was for modern day archaeology). In Science, we looked at the ways that natural variation in animal and plant offspring can lead to adaptation, whilst in PE the children worked on football skills including ball control and precise, controlled passes. Another busy week, Owls!

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

Our Collective Worship this week has been linked to the World Day of Prayer and the verse the women of Pakistan chose from Ephesians 4. In Ephesians we are encouraged to live lives worthy of the calling that we have received and this links to our value of outreach. In verses 2 and 3 we are called to live with gentleness and patience. Being gentle and patient are both part of the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:23) and important in the life of every believer. These traits are part of how we demonstrate love and compassion as we seek to reach out to others.

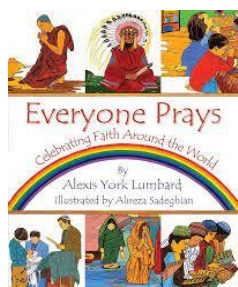
'With all lowliness and gentleness, bearing with one another in love, endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.'
 Ephesians 4:2-3.

Climate Warriors Challenge

Harnessing solar energy can play a substantial role in reducing our global carbon emissions. Solar provides an accessible alternative to fossil fuels which can be deployed almost anywhere in the world.

This week's Young Climate Warriors challenge encourages children to 'zap the lights' at home whilst also investigating projects that harness 'our giant ball of hydrogen'. Alongside our human 'power to invent', solar energy can enable us to make great strides in tackling climate change.

Book Review Everyone Prays: Celebrating Faith Around the World by Alexis York Lumbard



A great book to look at on the World Day of Prayer. Christians, Jews, and Muslims all pray. So do Hindus and Buddhists. Many others pray too. This book celebrates the diverse ways that people pray. It is a vibrant yet accessible book where young readers are transported on a visual tour across the globe. They will discover the Native American sun dance ceremony, visit the sacred sites in Jerusalem, behold the Shinto shrines in Japan, watch Maasai dances in Kenya, see pilgrimages to the river Ganges in India, and much more. There is also an appendix to help answer questions children might have. Everyone Prays offers children a chance to learn that although people from other places and cultures may seem different, we all share the diverse world of faith and prayer. And what a bright and beautiful world it is!

Happiness Calendar: Mindful March

This month let's pause, breathe and really take in what's all around us. 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	93%	0%	7%
Fox Class	87%	0%	13%
Owl Class	85%	4%	11%

Housepoints

House	This Week	Total
Bethlehem	84	149
Eden	52	122
Galilee	63	120
Jerusalem	59	102

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
01.03.24	Email	Owl	Office	Residential trip - payments
01.03.24	Email	All	Office	Reminder – lunch orders
27.02.24	Email	Squirrel	Mrs Biggin	Tickets for 'A Big Green Adventure'

March	
Tue 5 th	Cross Country Run event 1.15pm
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	KSI 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)
Mon 29 th	Fox Class trip to Verulamium in St Albans

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