



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



Message from the Head Teacher

At Midsummer Night's Dream

What a privilege and joy it was this week to be transported to Athens and watch the KS2 production of A Midsummer Night's Dream. Not only did I thoroughly enjoy the phenomenal performance but I am enormously proud of each and every one for the part they played in making the dream a reality. Thank you for your adaptability as we have had to change timings of the play due to the inclement weather. A huge thank you goes to Mrs Healy and the KS2 team for their vision, determination and hard work in bringing the play to life. What an opportunity they have provided the children for GROWTH.

Gratitude – the feedback we have received from children and adults alike highlights the fantastic experience this has presented and the magical memories created

Resilience – learning lines, remembering directions, and speaking in front of their peers and parents has enabled the children to develop their self-confidence and resilience, which is great practise not only for education but eventually the workplace too.

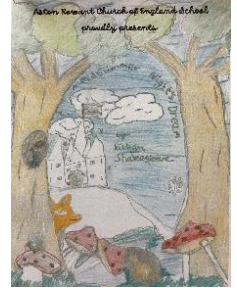
Outreach – acting enables children to improve their communication skills in a context that is fun and exciting and develops excellent interpersonal skills between the performers and the audience.

Wonder – performing in role requires the children to imagine what it is like to be that person and it also enhances their ability to empathise with different characters and situations.

Trust – giving and receiving the parts is based on mutual trust, as is stage direction, choreography and musical cues.

Harmony – any performance gives children and adults the opportunity to work together in new and exciting ways as they learn their lines, choreograph where to stand on stage, design the set and work as a team to pull off a good performance.

The performances will stay in the hearts and minds of the children and adults alike for many years to come.



Sports Enrichment Week



We are looking forward to our Sports Enrichment week next week. We will be enjoying karate on Monday, Zorbs and Sumo wrestling on Tuesday, Urban Strides dance group on Thursday and cheerleading on Friday. Our sports day is on Wednesday 17th July. The children will compete in their house teams with a carousel of activities in the morning and races in the afternoon. Families are very welcome to join us for the PTA BBQ from 12 noon and stay for the afternoon races. Please make sure children wear their PE kit to school, have a water bottle and sun hat and have had sun cream applied before school. It is helpful if children can wear a t-shirt in the colour of their house.

TikTok

It has come to our attention some children have access to TikTok. Children must be 13+ years and older to have an account on TikTok as they can easily come across inappropriate or upsetting content. The platform also allows users to privately message each other which can put children at risk of being contacted by someone they don't know. Therefore, we consider it a safeguarding concern if any children have access to TikTok. For more information from the NSPCC, [click here](#).



Parking



We have had a number of issues with people parking in Plowden Drive and blocking driveways or making it tricky for local residents to get in and out. This has been particularly challenging when parents have parked for an hour or so on a Friday. Also, parking in front of the black barns on the Stert Road near the Moors Path in Kingston Blount is preventing residents from exiting their property safely. Please could we ask that you all park considerately when dropping off and collecting from school. Thank you.

It's Coming Home

If England **WIN** the football Euro 2024 final, children can come in on Monday wearing football kits or other sporting attire!

Kind regards
Mrs France

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY
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Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:



Hedgehog Class

The children have had another tremendous week. They have been practicing creative writing with some story starts. They are getting very good at independently checking their work and writing longer texts. Our writing stamina has significantly improved since the beginning of term! In Maths they have been practicing our counting skills to 20, checking carefully and using strategies to count irregular arrangements both when objects can be moved and when they cannot. We have also learnt the big tens numbers in order to count to 100 ready for year 1. In our topic we have been finishing our beautiful seascapes by creating a final watercolour wash and then making well thought out creative decisions as to which media would work best to match our designs. In circle times we have been honing our skills of cooperation. This week we tried to work together to do some very tricky tasks, we discovered that good communication was key! Our play has also been super productive, exploring 'boats that float' and choreographing sea shanty dances! What a fun week!



Squirrel Class

This week we have been very busy with our English creative writing. The children worked in mixed age pairs to plan an adventure story using the characters from our leading text 'Dear Greenpeace' and these stories are just coming to fruition. I'm very excited to read the finished pieces next week! In maths we have continued to learn about position and direction with lots of fun, practical learning outdoors. Their positional language and vocabulary is brilliant and they can give precise instructions to move around a grid. In our topic lesson we continued to learn more about our chosen explorers and have created a poster about some of their achievements. In science we learned about the work of French chemist Louis Pasteur and how his research on how germs travel changed our behaviours and hygiene practises. The class made posters encouraging people to wash their hands and I have popped a few around the building to remind the children. Have a great weekend and enjoy the football final on Sunday!



Fox Class

What a week! I have oozed with pride this week with how the class adjusted to changed timetables, weather and performing in front of parents. They were fabulous! We have squeezed in learning too this week! In English, children learnt about the present perfect tense and how it shows something that happened in the past and may still be happening. Maths involved Year 3 understanding about the various properties of polygons and how to draw them accurately whilst Year 4 worked on symmetrical figures with two mirror lines. In Geography, we learnt about the key geographical features of Italy and labelled a map with the seas, lakes, rivers and mountains located there. In Science, Isambard Kingdom Brunel was our inventor/engineer studied. After learning about his life, in groups, children were tasked to make their own bridges once we had agreed a class set of criteria. In our DT, children began designing their own pneumatic toy. Finally, we had a visit from a 44-tonne articulated lorry on Friday to help us understand road safety. We couldn't believe that Mrs France couldn't hear us shouting when she was in the cab or see us when we were in a blind spot. It has definitely made us think! Enjoy the weekend and COME ON ENGLAND!



Owl Class

It's been a really action-packed week, as the children have dodged the rainstorms and staged two fabulous, high-end productions of A Midsummer Night's Dream. Well done to all of them for such hard work and being so entertaining. Amidst all the 'drama', we have found time so study Stephen Hawking, his life and his work on Black Holes: we even had a go at creating our own imploding star, with the high-tech assistance of tinfoil, a balloon, and a pin. The children really impressed me with their knowledge of space, and their enthusiasm led to some excellent questions: what would happen if you stepped inside a Super-Massive Black Hole? What would observers see? What if two black holes appear next to one another? We researched the answers! In RE, we looked at how and why people become canonised as saints, whilst in English Owl Class have been studying the suspense-filled short film Alma, and are beginning to explore how to generate tension as they write. The visit from the DHL articulated lorry on Friday was exciting yet educational about blind spots, stopping distances and road safety. Well done on a great week Owls. Enjoy your weekend and of course; it's coming home!

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Photo Diary of the Week



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A Midsummer Night's Dream



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Whole School Topic - Summer Term: All Over the World.

Values: Resilience

When Jesus went to heaven to be with his Father, the disciples were left to continue to tell others about the Good News of God's love, the work that Jesus had begun. One of the disciples was called Barnabas. The name Barnabas means 'Son of Encouragement' and that is exactly what Barnabas was, an encourager! He saw the good in people and was never slow in offering help and practical assistance to those in need. We looked at how we can be challenged to do the same.

'Therefore encourage one another and build each other up.' 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Climate Warriors Challenge

Food systems are responsible for a whopping 40% of global emissions, transitioning to 'alternative' proteins can substantially reduce this. This week Young Climate Warriors are encouraged to be adventurous with pulses. If we want change to happen it might need courage, just a little grit and possibly some determination. Be adventurous – can you make a meal out of pulses – or check out a new pulse recipe? Getting daily protein requirements from eating more pulses and wholegrain can help reduce our impact on climate change. How adventurous are you... would you try these if you were offered them – mealworm cookies, red any chutney, roasted crickets?

Links of potential interest:

[Pulses website - explanation and recipes](#)

[Should we be eating more insects? \(...trying bug biscuits\). BBC Newsround](#)

[Cicadas on the menu in New Orleans. BBC News](#)

[The Bug Farm and Grub Kitchen, Pembrokeshire](#)

Book Review – A Midsummer Night's Dream by Jeanette Vigon



If you loved our production this week then try this wonderful book retelling the tale in a child friendly way. Step back into a world where the veil between reality and dreams is thin, and where fairy enchantments illuminate the wonders of love, the follies of desire, and magic is inherent in making amends. Children of all ages will enjoy this captivating adventure and be able to unlock the magical realm where every spell woven, every misunderstanding, and every heartfelt reconciliation teaches us about the delicate interplay of human emotions and the enduring magic of love and forgiveness.

Happiness Calendar: Jump Back Up July

Let's find ways to bounce back. You can find this month's happiness calendar [here](#).

Attendance – This week

School target 97%	97% - 100%	90% - 97%	Below 90%
Hedgehog Class	100%	0%	0%
Squirrel Class	93%	3.5%	3.5%
Fox Class	82%	9%	9%
Owl Class	85%	0%	15%

Housepoints

House	This Week	Total
Bethlehem	24	260
Eden	32	273
Galilee	12	178
Jerusalem	15	202

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Emails and letters Sent this Week

Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning
12.07.24	Email	Hedgehogs	Mrs Hall	Main gate
09.07.24	Email	KS2	Office	Play now on Wednesday 10th
09.07.24	Email	KS2	Mr Manning/Mrs Healy	Film permission
08.07.24	Email	All	Mrs France	Newsletter
08.07.24	Email	KS2	Office	Play is on!

July	
Mon 15 th	Reports out
w/c 15 th	PE Enrichment Week inc sport's day Wed 17 th
Sat 20 th	PTA camping and games night at Kingston Blount Village Hall
Mon 22 nd /Tue 23 rd	Art Enrichment Week inc Art Exhibition Wed 24 th
Wed 24 th	9:15 Leavers Service in Church

Academic Year Calendar 2024-25

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)
Mon 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)

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