



Aston Rowant C+E Primary School
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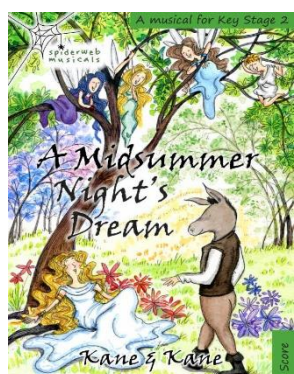
Headteacher: Mrs Helen France

10th May 2024

Message from the Head Teacher

SATs Week

Next week is SATs week for our Year 6 children. The children have worked exceptionally hard in school to prepare for them and we are already very proud of their work and growth. Please can we ask parents of these children to continue to support us and to ensure that the children are well rested and fully prepared for the week ahead. It is imperative that the children attend school on the day of their tests, unless they really are ill. If a child misses a test they are legally required to take it either at school at a time agreed with OCC or at another time and location that will be arranged.



This week our KS2 children have been able to look at scripts for our KS2 summer production – A Midsummer Night's Dream. This is Shakespeare's classic comedy, but in a fresh, lively version that's accessible and fun for primary aged children. Set in a forest outside Athens, it's a twisting tale of four confused and argumentative friends, a group of temperamental fairies, and a gang of rowdy workmen who are trying to rehearse their own play. Oberon, king of the Fairies, who sends his hare-brained servant, Puck, to enchant the Queen, Titania. While he's about it, he may as well enchant the Athenian couples, too. What could possibly go wrong?

Auditions will be held the week after SATs. Due to the numbers of KS2 children we aim to have an outdoor production in our beautiful grounds. We are just praying for two beautiful summer evenings...

Safeguarding Children and their Mental Health

I am aware that there have been some challenges for some of our children who use the game Fortnite's chat feature. I want to remind all parents that the game's online chat feature—especially in Battle Royale mode—could expose younger players to offensive language or mature content from random strangers and also give our own children the opportunity to speak and behave in wholly inappropriate ways. It is worth noting that Common Sense recommend Fortnite is for **teens 13 and up**, primarily because of the action and violence.

If your child has an account please be aware that adults can restrict some features on their child's account. You can manage permissions for friend requests, voice and text chat, content ratings, and filters for mature language. Parents and caregivers can also set up passwords for in-game spending. When you enable this option, the Parental Control PIN will be required for all purchases. Accounts for users under 18 also have privacy settings turned on by default. [Use this guide](#) to set up parental controls on your child's account. Please also ensure that you monitor your child's usage including monitoring the conversations on the group chat.



We also have children who talk about what they have seen on TikTok. Please note that TikTok itself requires that users be at least 13 years old to use the basic TikTok features, however, Common Sense recommends the app for age 15+ mainly due to the privacy issues and mature content.

It is vital that as parents, carers and educators we work together we can make sure it's safe for every child to go online. We're here to support parents with online safety advice, and we're here for children – to protect them and protect them from abuse and content that is not age appropriate. If you are at all unsure do check out trusted websites for their advice such as Common Sense [Common Sense Media: Age-Based Media Reviews for Families](#) | [Common Sense Media](#) and NSPCC [Keeping children safe online](#) | [NSPCC](#). Children will always want what others have, or they have seen advertised, these sites will help you make the right decision for **your** child – no matter what they want or ask for!

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



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Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:



Hedgehog Class

We have been thoroughly enjoying the sunshine in Hedgehog class this week, making the most of the opportunity by growing our vegetables outside and finding ways in our play to build a water system to irrigate our garden! In topic this week we have learnt about how we depend on plant life to survive. We watched the Eden projects "Plant takeaway" which demonstrated which everyday things came from plants. We used pastels to create some lovely drawings of the different fruits that grow in the Rainforest. We then learnt about how deforestation threatens plants and trees and the effects of this on the animals. In English we have been writing instructions on how to keep our teeth healthy and clean. In Maths we have been practicing our counting on skills and practiced telling addition stories using different animals. Lastly, in Music we have been enjoying learning the "Banana Rap" which demonstrates rhythm and beat. We are now very clever at telling the difference. We hope to demonstrate this in an assembly soon!



Squirrel Class

Another school week completed, and we have packed in lots of learning. In Maths Y1 have moved onto learning about multiplication and division. We looked at the language of sharing and equal groups and focused on our 2x, 5x and 10x tables. Y2 have been looking at problem solving using the four operations and practising how to explicitly show their working out or thinking. Y2 will be moving onto fractions next week. In English we have been reading our new story of Wind in the Willows and have very much enjoyed getting to know the main characters in the story (Mr Toad in particular!) and completing some writing in role. Our science lesson this week looked at why woodlouse choose to live in certain areas of our school grounds. We also read about some news this week that Orangutans have been observed by scientists appearing to treat a wound with medicine from a tropical plant. It's the latest example of how some animals attempt to soothe their own ills with remedies found in their habitats. Fascinating! Lastly, in art we created images of insects in collage style, attempting to add depth to our work using layering. The children did fantastically, and we hope to display all the pieces in one giant group collage.



Fox Class

Even though it has been a short week, it has not been short of learning! IN our Maths, Y3 have worked really hard understanding how to find fractions of amounts whilst Y4 have worked with both tenths and hundredths. In our English, we revisited subordinate clauses and used this to write sentences demonstrating where they can go. We also planned and wrote a diary using them. In our Science, we learnt about food chains and used the terms: producer, prey and predator appropriately. It was also lovely to see last week's learning come into class and how children could name the organs on the apron! See the picture for a clearer understanding! In our History, we learnt about the various attempts by the Romans to invade Britannia and the problems they incurred from the Celts and themselves! We put our understanding to good use by using timeline to show the events. In our Computing lesson, we used the iPads to program the MicroBits using Bluetooth(!). They were able to make it show a different number every time the MicroBit was shaken. In order for this to happen, we had to use an accelerometer command which is used in mobile phones and iPads. In RE we looked at what communion represents and had some bread and juice ourselves. In Art, children have now chosen their poem and have started illustrating it in conjunction with writing it to make their concertina book. A well-deserved weekend is needed by all!



Owl Class

Despite a shorter week than usual, we have been just as busy as usual in Owl Class: in English, the children used images from a variety of interpretations of A Midsummer Night's Dream to create a rich word-bank of adjectives, nouns, verbs and figurative language to help them craft some really fabulous 'star' sentences. We will be using these to aid our writing next week, so it was vital to put as much as we can into these resources to help ourselves write the best setting description we possibly can next week. I look forwards to reading them! In Science, we examined our own pulse rates, and planned out own investigations into how we could measure our resting and our active heart rates and compare after timed bouts of exercise. We worked scientifically, considering variables, making predictions and meticulous methods. In Art, we left our individual art books behind in favour of collaborative pattern-making as part of our Keith Haring inspired urban art project, as we created backdrops for our 'living graffiti wall' project. In Maths, Year 5 have been learning about classifying angles, and how to measure them accurately in degree using protractors, whilst Year 6 have been revising core concepts across the curriculum and working on problem solving and reasoning questions, ahead of next weeks SAT's. They have all worked so hard, and have kept their focus and attention on the subjects these last few terms, and made huge leaps and bounds. We are nearly there!

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Photo Diary of the Week



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

Values: Harmony

This week in Collective Worship we listened to a story about two sisters, Mary and Martha. Jesus loved Martha and Mary equally and both showed him kindness and friendship. But Jesus taught them that whilst it is important to work and be busy we also need to invest in spending time with people and also give time to our relationship with God.

'Mary has chosen wisely to use her time to be with me and listen to me whilst I am here with you. It is the best thing she could be doing.' Luke 10:38-42

Climate Warriors Challenge

Children are worrying about our climate crisis. A Place2Be survey for BBC Newsround (Feb 2024) says that 43% of children aged 8 – 16yrs have worried about climate change/the environment in the last three months. The outcome of last week's court case revealed that the UK doesn't have sufficient 'climate change' policies in place, not offering much reassurance. But, taking small positive changes can feel empowering.

Young Climate Warriors provides an opportunity for all children to engage with small, manageable, tangible weekly action, alongside families across the UK - 'starting today'. This week's challenge asks them to become 'washing wizards' – to reduce their carbon emissions whilst making the laundry pile disappear! [Microplastics: what they are, and how you can reduce them.](#) [Natural History Museum.](#)

Book Review: recommended by Owl Class 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty.



Jim Jarvis is a poor boy living in the tough Victorian times. His mother is really ill, and his sister are taken to go live with his mother's friend, but Jim is sadly left behind. He tried to look after his mum, but they both end up on the street, and then are sent to the Workhouse. The story that comes next is often sad, but always exciting, and it really makes you think about us being lucky with our lives today. Owl Class said: "We recommend it because it's just a thrilling book and even though it's sad, it's based on things that happened so we shouldn't ignore these things,"

Happiness Calendar: Meaningful May

This month, we're encouraging you to try find ways to be part of something bigger. You can find this month's happiness calendar [here](#).

Attendance – This week

School target 97%	97% - 100%	90% -97%	Below 90%
Hedgehog Class	73%	0%	27%
Squirrel Class	93%	0%	7%
Fox Class	83%	0%	17%
Owl Class	89%	0%	11%

Housepoints

House	This Week	Total
Bethlehem	29	319
Eden	41	303
Galilee	52	270
Jerusalem	52	285

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Fmails and letters Sent this Week

Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning
10.05.24	Email	Dance Club	Office	Dance Festival
08.05.24	Email	Owl	Office	Residential/medical forms
08.05.24	Email	Year 6	Office	SATs
07.05.24	Email	Hedgehog	Office	School vision screening
07.05.24	Email	Fox/Owl	Office	Chess Competition

May	
w/c 13 th	SATS Mon- SPaG Tue – Reading Wed Maths papers 1&2 Thu - Maths paper
Mon 13 th	Vision screening for Reception
Tue 21 st	Maths Day inc HSBC workshops for each class
Wed 22 nd	Stay and Play for new Reception Class
Friday 24 th	INSET day
W/C 27 th	Half Term
June	
w/c 3 rd	Owl Class Residential, Rock UK Summit Centre, Breacon Beacons / Year 4 multiplication check
Wed 5 th	Squirrel Class trip to The River and Rowing Museum
Fri 7 th	Fox Class and Eco Warriors '6 Inches of Soil'. at Lopemead Farm in Long Crendon. 8:45-11:00 2:30 No Celebration Assembly
Mon 10 th	Celebration 80 th Anniversary D-Day also British Values Day (wear red, white, blue)
w/c 10 th	Phonics Screening check
Wed 12 th	Garsington opera Workshop Owl Class
Fri 14th	2:15 extended Celebration Assembly with Residential Trip overview
W/C 17th	Arts Enrichment Week 2:15 extended Celebration Assembly with Music presentation
Wed 19 th	Dance Festival at Lord William's
Wed 19th	Stay and Play for new Reception Class
Wed 26th	Eco Day – wear green, donate £1 for Eco Warrior work, no wrappings packed lunches
Thur 27 th	RE Inspired Owl
July	
Wed 3 rd	Transition Day – all classes move up and new starters join us (Year 6 project work)
Thurs 4 th	Garsington opera performance at Womsley Owl Class
Mon 8 th	KS2 play dress rehearsal and first performance
Tues 9 th	KS2 play outdoor performance (weather depending, note reserve date Mon 15 th)
Mon 15 th	Reports out
w/c 15 th	PE Enrichment Week inc sport's day Wed 17 th

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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