



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



6th June 2025

Message from the Head Teacher

Family Learning Online Workshops

Oxford Adult Learning are currently offering Family Learning Online Workshops this month. Firstly, they are offering workshops to help parents feel empowered at managing tricky situations knowing you are doing the best for your child and yourself. They offer insights into how to strengthen your family's self-esteem and resilience; and practise strategies to encourage positive behaviour. Different workshops include: Emotional Regulation; Developing Resilience; Positive Discipline; Setting Expectations and Routines. They also run workshops for Year 5 and 6 Maths explaining the current teaching methods used to help parents feel more confident in supporting your children. The different workshops are: Multiples and Factors; Long Multiplication; Long Division and Division with remainders expressed as a fraction or a decimal. Please visit www.abingdon-witney.ac.uk for more information or see the attached flyer.

Free Music Lessons

We are delighted to announce that from this week every child in Owl Class will receive free cornet lessons each Friday afternoon as part of our Music provision. It will form part of the curriculum as a timetabled lesson rather than something that parents sign up for and will continue every year for all children in years 5 and 6. The lessons will be with Mrs Ali Andrews, an experienced brass player, who leads the brass ensemble for the carol singing in the playground at Christmas. The cost of both the lessons and cornets is being covered by the school.

Aston Rowant Cricket Club

We have been asked to remind everyone that children **should not** be playing/leaning/climbing on the net covers at the cricket club in **any way**. Please could the children play at the other end of the field away from the nets, unless using them to play cricket? It has been observed that parents are watching children play on the equipment – perhaps unaware of the damage it may be causing. We ask that all parents are vigilant and supervise their children and avoid the nets for general playing. The Cricket Club have asked us to note that they have now installed CCTV cameras to help manage the situation.

Key Areas of Information about Aston Rowant School: Special Educational Needs

At Aston Rowant School we are proud of the support that we offer to each and every child in our care, and in particular those children with Special Educational Needs. Ofsted said:

'Communication between the school and families to support pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) is excellent. Efficient systems are in place to quickly pick up a child's learning needs. Leaders involve parents from the start. It is a partnership. The child's views are well considered. In lessons, teachers ensure that pupils with SEND learn the same content as other pupils. Where needed, teachers adapt work successfully.'

So, how do we do this? Well, those receiving additional support represents 32% of our school population – so it is no small task. To ensure that no pupil is at risk of under achieving, all pupils, including those on the SEN register, are closely monitored by their class teacher/s. The staff team have a rigorous process for monitoring teaching and learning across the school. The Headteacher and Assessment Co-ordinator regularly track progress using both formative and summative assessments. We have termly GROWTH meetings with all teachers and then feed this back to the Governor T&L (Teaching and Learning) panel each term.

We support our SEN children in a variety of ways through a combination of universal, targeted, and specialist support. This includes modifying learning materials, providing extra adult support, and using interventions like communication skills groups. Miss Bedwin is our Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) and she oversees these different levels of support and ensures that all children with SEN are included in all school activities and have access to the necessary resources.

- Universal Support: All children with SEN receive this basic level of support, often including differentiated teaching and learning materials.
- Targeted Support: This level of support is more focused and may involve specialist resources like nurture groups and targeted interventions detailed on the termly support plans.
- Specialist Support: Children with more complex needs receive specialist support, which may include one-to-one assistance, specialised equipment, external support or differentiated curriculum.

But if I had to summarise our SEN provision, I would actually quote Ofsted again: *'Every child is known and believed in at Aston Rowant.'* Every child has different strengths and abilities - our job is to know each child, to believe in them and to give them every opportunity to grow and enjoy fullness of life.

Kind regards

Mrs France

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

Growing together, rooted in God, enjoying fullness of life. (Colossians 2:1-7)



Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:



Hedgehog Class

This week we have been exploring “Under the Sea” as we begin our topic for this term. Lots of enthusiasm has been generated through play and the children decided to build a submarine after watching Octonauts! We looked at photos of submarines and learnt about the different components including propellers, periscopes and viewing windows. The children applied their joining skills to make parts to put together. It was a big success. We then looked at the different oceans on a globe and learnt the names and some of the wildlife in hot and cold seas. We used our creative skills to make some sea boxes which we will develop over the term as we learn more about our planets oceans. It has been a great busy week and we can’t wait to get stuck in to more next week.



Squirrel Class

We have started this last half term of the academic year in the same vein as we have each time– with gusto! The class have been busy learning a new story in English lessons about a girl called Emma Jane and her aeroplane. It’s a beautiful book and we will be writing a diary entry next week in role as the main character. In Maths, we continue our work on fractions, with the Y1 children focusing on halves in shapes and objects, whilst the Y2 children have looked at quarters and thirds of shapes and numbers. Our new History topic based around the history of flight has really enthused the children, and we looked at how humans have tried to fly over the last few centuries. We enjoyed the fact that the first hot air balloon flight was manned by a sheep, a duck and a cockerel! In Science this week we observed an automated animal race online and recorded the results accurately in a table. We also started our new DT topic of cooking and nutrition by learning about the colour food wheel and food groups, identifying how to build a healthy plate of food.



Fox Class

We have hit the ground running this week in Fox Class. In our English we focussed on using standard and non-standard English. We discussed how shoes tell us a lot about a person and the occasion they are worn so it may affect how they speak from trainers (casual) to shiny shoes (formal). We also started our new text ‘Fox’ and the children wrote super descriptions of what fire would feel like linked to their senses, then made group poems which they performed. In our Maths, we started the week by problem solving with straws looking at shapes but linked to division and remainders. During the week, both groups are focussing on time be it days/months/years to duration of events. Could I ask again that children really work on their telling the time skills and also include month orders and number of days. I have taught them the knuckle method – please ask them! In our Geography, we looked at the lines of longitude and latitude and using these coordinates located countries in the world using atlases. In our Science, children looked at classifying animals by using their characteristics using Carroll diagrams and Venn diagrams. In our DT, linked to our Geography, we understood what food is produced where and what the climate zone they are located within. In addition to all of this, we have squeezed in some rehearsing for the play! Please support your child learning their words and the child before who says them, as well as the songs. Thank you!



Owl Class

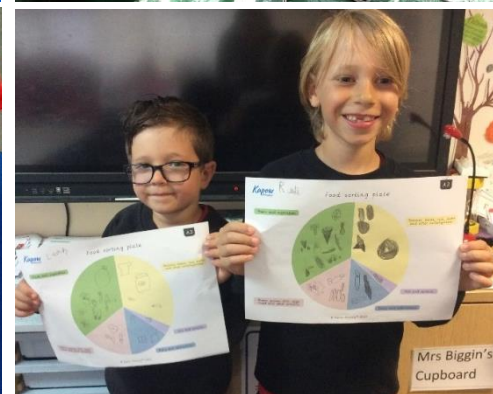
Welcome back to the second half of Summer Term! The children have started their new topics with a sense of purpose and are refreshed and raring to go; English finds us reading Benjamin Zephaniah’s excellent, and sometimes hard-hitting, novel Windrush Child as we prepare to write narratives with dialogue as the protagonist Leonard as he settles into the strange environment of 1960’s Britain. In Maths, Year 5 are getting to grips with interior angles of different sorts of triangles and blending this with their algebra understanding to label missing angles X, or a, b or c, then solve for the missing amount. Year 6, now post SAT’s, are investigating a range of problem-solving activities that draw on their understanding of everything they have learnt so far. In Geography, the children have begun to think about the local area, how it has changed, or what it needs, and how they could launch their own investigative field-work activity; stay tuned for what ideas and activities we generate. In RE, we began to look at how faith inspires people to live, with the aim of wrapping our ‘Courageous Advocacy’ project into this unit; this is a passion project for the children and I believe they will really get something out of this that they will take with them forever. Despite the rain, we bought PE (and archery!) into the classroom. Amazingly, no teachers were harmed in the making of this lesson. We have also begun rehearsals for the play in earnest, so please do support the children in learning their lines and knowing the song lyrics



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Photo Diary of the Week



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Whole School Topic - Autumn Term: Signs & Symbols

Values: Resilience

This week we turned to our final value of the academic year – resilience. Year 6 children are ready for their final term with us before they start on the next chapter in their lives. Each of our children are preparing to move on to the next academic year. We know that there will be many joys ahead as well as some disappointments and setbacks. But our courage and determination, and trust in God, will strengthen us and grow us into the people we were created to be. We looked at what courage means:

- Carrying on when things are difficult
- Overcoming fear
- Understanding and facing a challenge
- Risking being out of our comfort zone
- Always believing God's promises
- Going for a goal
- Empowered by encouragement

Climate Warriors' Challenge

It's **Great Big Green Week** – join in with the big swap #swap together. Swap old magazine scraps for a 'fabulous funky birthday card', or your old jam jar for a 'happy jar full of jokes'. Can we move away from our 'throwaway' culture, that is fuelling climate change, live within the limits of our finite resources and turn our waste into something useful or creative? How about creating a 'happy jar' - full of jokes, dares, riddles ... or maybe even a Father's Day jar of promises? **Find out what else is going on in your community** – and have fun getting involved!

And a focus on Repair Cafes:

[Where is your nearest repair cafe?](#)

[People fixing the world](#)

[The most beautiful rubbish you'll ever see](#)

Book Review Dragon Riders of Roar, by Jenny McLachlan. Reviewed by Max, Owl Class



I like this book because it is funny and it's also so, so readable. My favourite character is Win (or Winninja for his full name, as he's a wizard *and* a ninja). He's also really funny, messing about and making his friends laugh on their adventures, even though some dangerous stuff is happening. I would recommend this series to children about Year Four age and up to about fifteen, because it is such a good story!

Happiness Calendar: Joyful June

This month, we're encouraging you to look for what is good. You can find this month's happiness calendar [here](#).

Attendance – This week

School target 97%	97% - 100%	90% -97%	Below 90%
Hedgehog Class	77%	8%	15%
Squirrel Class	97%	0%	3%
Fox Class	89%	0%	11%
Owl Class	85%	0%	15%

Housepoints

House	This Week	Total
Bethlehem	22	22
Eden	42	42
Galilee	27	27
Jerusalem	21	21

Congratulations to **Eden** for winning last half term's housepoint challenge - they have chosen a craft and games afternoon as their treat.

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March | 2024 - 2025GREEN TREE SCHOOL
Bronze Award

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Growing Together

Emails and letters sent this week

Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning
06.06.25	Email	Hedgehog	Mrs Hall	Teddy Bear's Picnic
06.06.25	Letter	Hedgehog	Mrs Hall	Tring Natural History Museum trip
03.06.25	Email	All	Office	Aston Rowant Cricket Club reminder
02.06.25	Letter	Dance Club	Mrs Healy	Dance Festival
02.06.25	Email	Owl	Mrs France	Cornet lessons

June

Mon 9 th – Fri 13 th	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
Wed 11 th	PC Ben visit KS1
Fri 13 th	Fireflies visit to Hedgehog Class with teddy bear's picnic.
Mon 16 th – Fri 20 th	Arts Week
Wed 18 th	Dance Festival @ Lord William's Dance Studio 17:00 & 18:30 (11:30 day rehearsal at LWS)
Wed 18 th /25 th /2 nd	Icknield Buddy System
Sat 21 st	PTA Camp night
Wed 25 th	Opera First workshop in school for Owl Class Stay and Play #2 for EYFS Sept 25 15:30-16:30
Fri 27 th	Writing workshop at St Andrews – by invitation Bee Keeper visit and workshop Fox Class
Sun 29 th	Sponsored Walk and Patronal Festival (with provision for children)

July

Tue 1 st / Wed 2 nd	KS2 Open Air Performance Wind in the Willows – all welcome (evening performances)
Fri 4 th	Lord William's taster day
Tue 8 th	Opera First performance @ Garsington Opera for Owl Class
Tue 8 th / Wed 9 th	Icknield Transfer Day
Wed 9 th	School move up day, Stay and Play #3 13:00-15:00 with presentation for parents at 14:30 and uniform sale
w/c 14 th July	Sports Enrichment Week inc Sports Day Wed 16 th

Academic Year Calendar

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)

Autumn 25

Mon 1 st Sept – Fri 24 th Oct	Autumn Term (1) (INSET 1 st and 2 nd)
Mon 27 th – Fri 31 st Oct	HALF TERM
Mon 3 rd Nov – Fri 19 th Dec	Autumn Term (2)

Spring 26

Tue 6 th Jan – Fri 13 ^h Feb	Spring Term (1)
Mon 16 th – Fri 20 th Feb	HALF TERM
Mon 23 rd Feb – Fri 27 th Mar	Spring Term (2)

Summer 26

Mon 13 th April – Thu 21 st May	Summer Term (1) (INSET Fri 22 nd)
Mon 25 th May – Fri 29 th May	HALF TERM
Mon 1 st June – Fri 17 th July	Summer Term (2) (INSET Mon 20 th July)

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