



SUPPORT
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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



14th November 2025

From the Headteacher:

What a busy week it has been!

Parents' Evening: Working Together for Every Child

Our Parents' Evenings this week have been a valuable opportunity for teachers and families to come together and celebrate each child's progress. These meetings help strengthen the partnership between home and school, allowing parents to gain insight into their child's learning journey and teachers to better understand each pupil's individual needs. Most importantly, children benefit from knowing that the adults in their lives, at school and home, are working together to support and encourage them. Thank you to all families for your time, engagement, and continued support.

Remembrance Service at Aston Rowant War Memorial

On Tuesday 11th November at 11am, KS2 walked together to the war memorial at Aston Rowant Church to hold our own special Remembrance service. During the service, the children respectfully lay wreaths and crosses, read aloud the names from the Roll of Honour, and observed two minutes silence. Mrs Smith played The Last Post and Reveille and led us singing The National Anthem. It was a moving and meaningful moment for our pupils, giving them the chance to reflect on the sacrifices made by individuals both within our local community and beyond. They all showed their respect in a thoughtful and age-appropriate way, demonstrating empathy and understanding.

Anti-Bullying Week 2025: United Against Bullying

This week we have been taking part in Anti-Bullying Week 2025, with the theme 'United Against Bullying.' Throughout the week, children have engaged in activities and discussions that promote kindness, respect, and inclusion. We explored how small actions can make a big difference, and encouraged pupils to speak up, support one another, and celebrate what makes us all unique. Together, we are building a school community where everyone feels safe, valued, and heard.

Supporting Children in Need 2025

Today we have been proudly supporting BBC Children in Need 2025. This year's theme encourages everyone to come together to help make a difference in the lives of children across the UK. The children have been taking part in fun activities and learning about the importance of kindness, empathy, and giving back. Thank you for sending your children in wearing spots and dots and for all the donations received, every small act helps to help children thrive and feel safe, supported, and empowered.

Health and Safety Audit Success

Today we had our annual Health and Safety audit—an in-depth review of all our policies, procedures, and practices across the school. This thorough inspection ensures that our environment remains safe, compliant, and supportive for both pupils and staff. We are pleased to share that the audit went exceptionally well, with positive feedback highlighting our strong systems, attention to detail, and commitment to continuous improvement. Thank you to all staff for their hard work in maintaining such high standards.

Finally...Reading & Writing Workshop – Do Join Us!

Don't forget that next Tuesday evening all parents and carers are invited to attend our Reading and Writing Workshop, designed to give insight into how we teach phonics, reading, and writing across the school. This session will explain our approach, demonstrate key strategies, and offer practical tips on how you can support your child's learning at home. Whether your child is just starting out or building confidence, this workshop is a great way to strengthen the home-school partnership and help every child thrive in literacy. We hope to see you there!

Kind regards

Mrs France

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

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



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Teaching and Learning in the Classrooms this week:



Hedgehog Class

This week, Hedgehog Class has been busy exploring the wonderful autumn weather! We enjoyed a sensory walk to experience the sights, sounds, and smells of the season and even made our own rain gauges to investigate how much rain falls. Using our class stage and iPads, the children became budding meteorologists, creating and recording their very own autumn weather reports. Inspired by Andy Goldsworthy, we looked closely at autumn leaves and created our own beautiful pieces of natural art using the treasures we found outdoors. In Maths, we have been practising our subitising to 4 and exploring the properties of 2D shapes. The children used circles, triangles, and rectangles to make striking Kandinsky-style artwork, discovering how shapes can be represented in different ways. As part of our learning about Remembrance, we talked about its meaning and worked together to make a beautiful poppy wreath for our classroom door. Next week, we will be learning about celebrations across the year. Please could each child bring in a named photo from their last birthday celebration to share with the class. Thank you for your continued support!



Squirrel Class

This week we have started a new book titled 'Flo of the Somme' which is about a mercy dog in WWI, who carried medical kit over the battlefields to the wounded, worked tirelessly with soldiers in the Medical Corps. This book helped the younger children understand Remembrance Day and why it is important that we mark it each year. The children have been writing in role as some of the main characters in the book and produced some beautiful sentences. In Maths the Y1 children have started a unit on subtraction and have practised at taking away (with counters) and crossing out (with pictures). The Y2 children have continued with addition and looked at adding to a near ten and also across a ten. In R.E. we looked at why prayer is important for Jewish people and learned about a Mezuzah. In Science we learned about life cycles of different animals and discussed why some offspring look different to their parents. In Geography we learned about the U.K. and the four countries that make up the union and for DT we learned about different puppets, in preparation for making our own puppets in class later this term. Lots to be proud of and lots to look forward to.



Fox Class

What a busy week we have had this week – packed full of learning and growing! We also welcomed Miss Shinn, a trainee teacher, to our class for the next 4 weeks. In our Maths, Year 3 have continued working on their addition and subtraction column method and also working out complements to 100 – a very usual skill. In Year 4, we have started the first of 2 units about multiplication and division. Please help support your child in learning their times tables. Our English this week has been focussing on writing from a different perspective and then note taking in order to create an information leaflet about how neolithic people lived day to day. In our History lesson, we looked at how neolithic people lived and used Skara Brae in the Orkney at our resource. Children enjoyed looking at the 3D version online and we spent time understanding what parts of the house we know for certain are and what are possibilities. We then looked at the Stone Age artefacts in class and children enjoyed observing, touching and sketching flint arrow heads and a replica fishing spear. In Science, children investigated the physical properties of rocks by carrying out 3 experiments: testing hardness, absorbency and the effect of acid rain. They worked well in groups and were fascinated by their results. In Computing, children used iMotion to capture stills of a stickman using the onion skin feature to aid lining their image up. In French, children continued to practise some colours, working on saying 2 colours adding the word 'and'. In Music, children used the glockenspiels ensuring they knew the pulse and played their notes in time. These foxes certainly know how to work hard!



Owl Class

Full steam ahead this week as Owl Class cram their week full of learning, growing and experiences. Ms Turner, a trainee teacher, joined our class this week for the next four weeks and has already become a valuable part of the classroom as we looked at how to convert mixed numbers into improper fractions, and improper fractions back into mixed numbers, before exploring the rules of how to find common denominators to effectively compare fractions. All together now: What ever you do to the bottom, you also do to the top! Ask your Owl for context. In English, the children created flashback narratives based on our main characters' war-time experiences from the Piano short film; they worked to describe the character in the present, before switching tenses as the characters memories flashed back, into the past. The children had to work in examples of past progressive tense, linking to our SPaG topic from earlier in the week, and I enjoyed reading their Big Writes that combined their earlier work with descriptions of the action in WWII and the toll it took on our protagonist. It was a timely link to Remembrance Day, and Owl class led the memorial service beautifully and placed the wreath with care and respect. In Science, the children studied and researched the similarities differences in the life cycles of various mammals; through birth, infancy, juvenile, adolescent and adult stages, before beginning the cycle again. They also included as much information and they could about each stage: for examples did you know a Joey is only as big as a jellybean when it is born? Neither did I!

GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY

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Photo Diary of the Week



GRATITUDE

RESILIENCE

OUTREACH

WONDER

TRUST

HARMONY

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Whole School Topic - Autumn Term: What Makes Me Me?

Values: Gratitude

Our theme has been remembrance this week, and linked to Armistice Day on Monday. In Collective Worship we have been looking at remembering to say thank you. KS2 visited the war memorial at church for a service at the 11th hour of the 11th day in the 11th month and stood in remembrance and gratitude for those who have fallen. Sometimes we can forget to say thank you for our daily blessings such as our food, or homes, or the little things that people do all of the time which make our lives better. We looked at St Paul's letter to the Ephesians where he says:

'Always give thanks for everything to God the Father.' Ephesians 5:20

We thought of how we can say thank you to unknown generations that have gone before us for the freedom we have today.

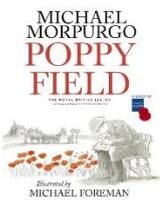
Climate Warriors Challenge

As world leaders gather in Brazil this week and next for **COP30**, the global climate summit, we're encouraging our pupils to think about how they can make a difference right here at school and at home. COP30 is all about protecting our planet for future generations—and you can help!

Challenge: This week, we invite every child to complete one *Planet Protector Action*—this could be turning off unused lights, walking or cycling instead of driving, reducing plastic use, or planting something green. Write down what you did and how it helps the planet and bring it in to share during class or Collective Worship. Let's show the world that even small hands can make a big impact!



Book Review Poppy Field by Michael Morpurgo recommended by Mrs France



This is a beautifully illustrated story celebrating the poppy's history. In Flanders' fields, young Martens knows his family's story, for it is as precious as the faded poem hanging in their home. From a poor girl comforting a grieving soldier, to an unexpected meeting of strangers, to a father's tragic death many decades after treaties were signed, war has shaped Martens's family in profound ways - it is their history as much as any nation's. They remember. They grieve. They honour the past. This book also includes a full-colour, illustrated afterword that explains the history that inspired the story. This is a poignant and engaging book. It doesn't take long to read, but has a lot to say and has a big impact.

Happiness Calendar: New Ways November

This month, we're encouraging you to try something new! We are focusing on problem solving and having a growth mindset in school. Being adventurous and trying new things is important, as is remembering that it's okay not to get it right first time - turning "I can't do it", into "I can't do it...yet!". This month's happiness calendar [here](#) has lots of ideas and challenges.

Attendance - This week

School target 97%	97% - 100%	90% -97%	Below 90%
Hedgehog Class	100%	0%	0%
Squirrel Class	89%	4%	7%
Fox Class	90%	3%	7%
Owl Class	88%	4%	8%

Housepoints

House	This Week	Total
Bethlehem	67	112
Eden	57	106
Galilee	63	107
Jerusalem	45	100

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Emails and Letters Sent this Week

Date	Email/Letter	For	From	Concerning
14.11.25	Email	All	Office	Primary Newsletter

November	
Tuesday 18 th	Reading and Writing Workshop for parents
Wednesday 19 th	Full Governing Body Meeting
December	
Friday 5 th Dec	Fox: Pre-Historic Workshop with British Museum
Friday 5 th Dec	PTA: Wreath making workshop
Friday 5 th Dec	Christmas jumper day (with uniform) – please bring a hamper donation for the PTA
Tue 9 th 14:00 & Wed 10 th 17:30	EYFS Nativity in school hall
Friday 12th Dec	Christmas lunch – order with The Kids Lunch Company: Order here
Wednesday 17 th	09:30 Panto in school – donations welcome and supported by PTA
Wednesday 17 th	18:00 Christingle in church
Friday 19 th	Christmas Party - am School ends 13:30
Friday 19 th	PTA: Film/craft afternoon 13:30 – 15:15

Academic Year Calendar 2025-26

Autumn 25	
Mon 1 st Sept – Fri 24 th Oct	Autumn Term (1) INSET 1 st and 2 nd Sept
Mon 27 th – Fri 31 st Oct	HALF TERM
Mon 3 rd Nov – Fri 19 th Dec	Autumn Term (2)
Spring 26	
Mon 5 th Jan – Fri 13 ^h Feb	Spring Term (1) INSET Mon 5 th Jan
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 – Fri 22 nd May	Summer Term (1) INSET Fri 22 nd May
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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