



# Dashwood Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

Growing together; succeeding together

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020

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## The Year of The Curriculum

### A note from the Principal

We are now over half way through the term and the pupils and staff continue to surprise and wow me with their positivity, hard work and learning spirits! I have loved watching the children settle back into life at school and throw themselves into their new topics. Seeing EYFS pupils happily enjoy Forest School, KS1 pupils tell stories and look at maps and KS2 pupils love their new maths catch up sessions has been a delight. I am looking forward to watching them continue to refresh the learning that took place last year, reactive their minds and run for new heights over this term. This year we all will: Refresh, Reactivate, Run!



Mrs Amy Rogers

### Enjoying Term 1 and being back every day



So far this term, pupils have enjoyed their Wow events for their topics. Every day starts with a calming activity and includes a mental wellbeing/safety session which is preparing the children for the world around them. Year 2 pupils went on a mini 'trip' within the school grounds where they worked out how to get to their classroom from the gates using positional and directional language and excellent map reading skills!

Year 6 have been lucky to be given a safe group trip to Broughton Farm to discover what it is like working as a farmer! Although not all groups have attended the trip yet, those that have were amazed by the variety and hard work the job entailed. Seeing the calves was definitely a highlight of the trip!



### Black History Month

At Dashwood, we are always celebrating how unique we all are as individuals and we believe in being an inclusive community. At our very core is our values and vision saying so! This month we will be learning about Black history through lessons and assemblies. In Monday's assembly (held virtually of course), Mrs Rogers will be sharing information about people in history who have shaped the world we live in now but also our local community. We recently read an article from the Banbury Guardian recently about John Brooks – a town mayor for Banbury who dedicated his life to supporting early education and ensuring children were safe and had good drug education. He raised over £40,000 for charities such as Save the Children and NSPCC. You can read more at: <https://www.banburyguardian.co.uk/news/people/john-brooks-former-businessman-and-banburys-first-black-town-mayor-has-died-1384991> Find out more about Black History Month at: <https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/>



### Health and Safeguarding

We know there has been so many changes recently and there is lots to remember so here is a synopsis of the main things so far this term!

- Please **do not park** on double yellow lines, the pavement or in residential private parking areas when dropping off/collecting children. This will help to keep us all safe.
- Please do not walk through the **car park entrance** as the gates close automatically and do not recognise if a person is walking through them. Please use the pedestrian gate.

- We are a **nut free** site – this includes no chocolate spread.
- We strongly encourage you to **walk, scooter or cycle** to school – it's amazing seeing so many of them in the bike shed!
- Please stick to your **time slots** for drop off and collection and only bring **one adult** per family.
- Please **do not hang around** the school site or near the school to chat to others as we need to keep the school moving and that you are **socially distancing** from those not in your household – this means you do not walk into or around school with other parents please. We are carefully looking out for the guidelines provided for schools to see if face coverings would be required for parents/carers whilst dropping off/picking up. We will keep you posted on this but please note that you may want to consider wearing a face covering as the number of cases in the country is rising.
- Please ensure that you keep up with the **latest guidelines** which include the new initiative of '**Hands, Face, Space**' and **not meeting more than 6 people**. We work so hard in school to ensure pupils and staff do not mix and that they have excellent hygiene and it is vital that you stick to these at home too. This includes using the **park** after school (children should not mix their bubbles please). Find out more at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/social-distancing/what-you-need-to-do/>
- **Test and trace** – please ensure you download the test and trace app if you can. Find out more at: <https://www.covid19.nhs.uk/pdf/parents-carers-over16s-factsheet.pdf>
- If your child displays potential **Covid-19 symptoms**, or anyone in your household does, it is vital that you all self-isolate and you get a test. We appreciate this can be very frustrating as tests can be difficult to get hold of but we do have a few in emergencies we are able to give out.
- Pupils in Reception to Year 6 can have her **flu vaccine** at the school. Please make sure you sign up for this at: <https://www.oxfordhealthimms.co.uk/forms/flu> You can read the letter from the school nurses about this on our website under news, letters to parents. Please note, we have spoken to the school nurse who have confirmed that occasionally some pupils may get a headache or a slight temperature after having the flu vaccine. This is different to the fever temperature (over 37.8) that is a Covid symptom.
- **At home**, do you talk to your child about which zone they are in and how they can manage their emotions? Remember, we use the four **zones of regulations** to support the pupils and help them self-regulate their emotions. When things are challenging at home, remember to use our 30 second script to help your child work things through. You can find out more about these in our behaviour policy: <https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2020/06/behaviour-policy-september-2019-20.pdf>



Thank you in advance for helping us all to stay safe and supporting us as a school.

### School photos – smile!

On the final Friday of this term, we will be welcoming the photographers in (safely and socially distanced) to take your child's individual photos. We are able to offer this in class bubbles but due to having to keep the year group 'double bubbles' separate, unfortunately we cannot offer sibling photos during this round of photos.



### Lily arrives!

On Tuesday this week, the pupils were introduced via a virtual assembly to Lily the dog. She stayed away from the pupils as she needs to get used to being in the building and feeling confident enough with the adults first. The pupils were so respectful and kind and learned all about how to ensure that Lily is a safe and friendly member of the Dashwood staff! Thank you Miss Williams for providing us all with this amazing experience.

### Communication

As you know, we usually hold **What's New and Different meetings** for you to find out the information you need for your child's year group. Due to the current restrictions in place linked to Covid-19, we are unable to hold these in the hall. We have produced these as online versions for you to watch and/or read at a time convenient for you. Please go to our website and the classes tab to find your child's year group

presentation. It is really important you listen to these as they give you all the vital information for your year group. (Please note that they are for Reception class to Year 6 only.)

As you know, we do our best to send regular **texts** with letters and updates. We are aware there are quite a few going out at the moment but please know we are doing our best not to overwhelm you but to keep you fully up to date. We thank you in advance for reading all the material we send out and keeping well informed with the latest news.

We are putting plans in place should we ever need to close a class/year group or school due to Covid-19. We are very prepared already! With this in mind, we would like to know what access you have at home to **IT** in order to support our plans. Please complete a short **survey** for us by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020: <https://forms.gle/gDwEGGKXmApkEoUR9>

As you know, we love to hear your views about the school each year to see what we are doing well and if we need to make any further improvements/changes. We normally gain these during parents evenings so this year, we have created the **survey** for you to access here: <https://forms.gle/No6NduECoS8Cofk17>  
Thank you in advance for answering our questions!

### **Hot Shots**

Pupils in Years 3-6 were surprised with a free taster session (socially distanced) from the Basketball club Hot Shots. Many pupils have since signed up to join the club which is great. Those who have, will hear from the club soon but we have worked with them to ensure that the children will be able to attend safely. This includes measures such as:

- Two separate sessions will run each week- one for Years 3 and 4 and one for 5 and 6. One session will run 3-3.45pm and one will run 7.45-8.30am on Wednesdays from next week.
- The pupils in different year groups will be separated the whole session and can only attend if they agree to stay in their double bubbles.
- The pupils will be dropped off/collected from different year group gates (we will text you these details when we know who has signed up).
- The staff leading the sessions will be consistent and groups of pupils will be consistent too.
- Staff from Hot Shots will socially distance where possible and ensure good hygiene is managed
- All sessions will be led outside.

If you signed your child up, Hot Shots will be writing to you to explain your child's session and costs etc.

### **Important Dates and reminders**

23<sup>rd</sup> October: Break up for the term

Class newsletters will be out

Individual school photos will take place

2<sup>nd</sup> November: ALL year groups return to school for term 2.

Uniform: Please ensure that your child has their tie and blazer on daily and that they wear black school shoes too. Green and white dresses can be worn for this term only and so cannot be worn from November to April.

Snacks and water bottles: don't forget to provide your child with a healthy snack and water in a bottle daily (not juice please)

### **Dates for 2020/2021**

#### **Term 1**

Wednesday 2 September – Friday 23 October 2020

**INSET DAY: Tuesday 1 September**

**INSET DAY: Wednesday 2 September** (no children in school)

*NB EYFS pupils will start later due to home visits - date to be confirmed*

### **Term 2**

Monday 2 November – Friday 18 December 2020

**INSET DAY: 20<sup>th</sup> November**- (no children in school)

**NB:** *there will be no After School Club on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December*

### **Term 3**

Monday 4 January – Friday 12 February 2021

*NB Nursery pupils will start later and be given their dates directly*

### **Term 4**

Tuesday 23 February – Thursday 1 April 2021

**INSET DAY: Monday 22 February** (no children in school)

**NB:** *there will be no After School Club on Thursday 1 April*

### **Term 5**

Monday 19 April – Friday 28 May 2021

*NB Nursery pupils will start later and be given their dates directly*

*Monday 3 May 2021: May Day Bank Holiday (School closed)*

### **Term 6**

Tuesday 8 June – Wednesday 21 July 2021

**INSET DAY: Monday 7 June** (no children in school)

**NB:** *there will be no After School Club on Wednesday 21 July and school will finish at 1.45pm this day.*

*Transition days will take place on Monday 19-Wednesday 21 July so please ensure your child attends school each day that week to help them settle into their new year groups.*

## **Dates for 2021/2022**

### **Term 1**

Monday 6 September – Friday 22 October 2021

**INSET DAY: Thursday 2 September**

**INSET DAY: Friday 3 September** (no children in school)

*NB EYFS pupils will start later due to home visits - date to be confirmed*

### **Term 2**

Monday 1 November – Friday 17 December 2021

**INSET DAY: A day in November**- (no children in school) **To be confirmed**

**NB:** *there will be no After School Club on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December*

### **Term 3**

Tuesday 4 January – Friday 18 February 2022

*NB Nursery pupils will start later and be given their dates directly*

### **Term 4**

Tuesday 1 March – Friday 8 April 2022

**INSET DAY: Monday 28 February** (no children in school)

**NB:** *there will be no After School Club on Friday 8 April*

### **Term 5**

Monday 25 April – Friday 27 May 2022

*NB Nursery pupils will start later and be given their dates directly*

*Monday 2 May 2022: May Day Bank Holiday (School closed)*

### **Term 6**

Monday 6 June – Friday 22 July 2022



INSET DAY: A day in June (no children in school) To be confirmed

**NB:** *there will be no After School Club on Friday 22 July and school will finish at 1.45pm this day.*

*Transition days will take place on Wednesday 20- Friday 22 July so please ensure your child attends school each day that week to help them settle into their new year groups.*