



Dashwood Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

Growing together; succeeding together

Friday 5th March 2021

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The Year of 'The Curriculum'

A note from the Principal

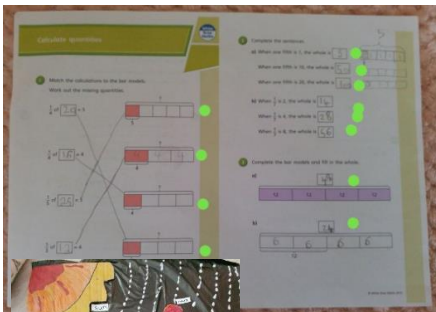
It feels like we are writing at the end of one term and about to start a new one but one we are so excited to be going into. I would just like to reiterate how proud I am of all the children and you as parents/carers as well as the staff for all your hard work. There will be anxieties, worries but also excitement on Monday and we have planned in activities to support all this. I have a little extra welcome planned for you on the gates to celebrate the return to school and cannot wait to see you all.

Thank you in advance for your continued support moving forward and following all our guidelines. I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Amy Rogers

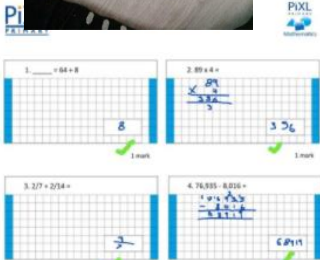
The end of home learning

Well done everyone for the work you have completed. We have loved seeing what you have been doing in and out of school and we really hope this is the last time there is an extended period of time for home learning. As you know, we are pausing normal homework this term to give everyone a breather and just celebrate the great work completed so far. It has been wonderful holding our celebration assemblies this week and being



able to offer these as live sessions so parents could hear certificates being read out (we are planning on keeping this going whilst we cannot offer full assemblies in school).

Well done to everyone who has earned Lexia leadership board results, been given a celebration certificate, earned star of the day/week, earned the peace prize and more!

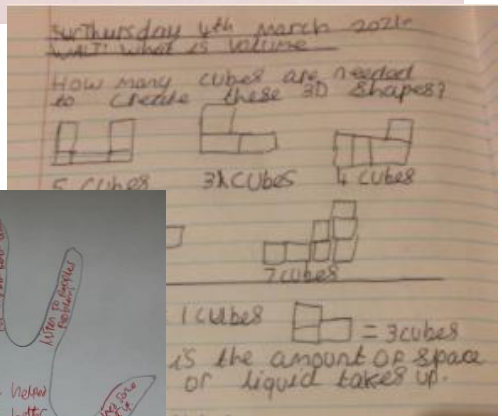
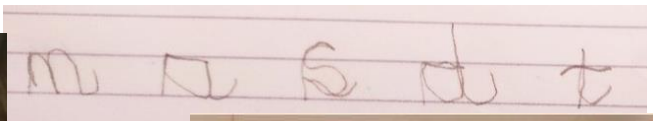
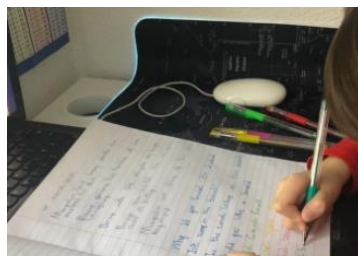


Beech Lexia Leaderboard

So far this week...	
Yahkoub	161 minutes
Sergej	134 minutes
Dylan	109 minutes
Wiktorja	73 minutes
Erin	67 minutes

Sycamore Lexia Leaderboard

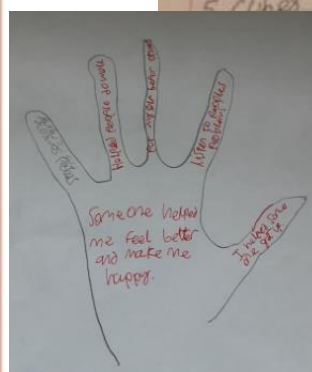
So far this week...	
Ricardo	293 minutes
Armani	230 minutes
Sulayman	137 minutes
Lily-Mae	111 minutes
Connor W	109 minutes



Anamaria - for sharing her favourite books with me.

Ano - for a lovely book review.

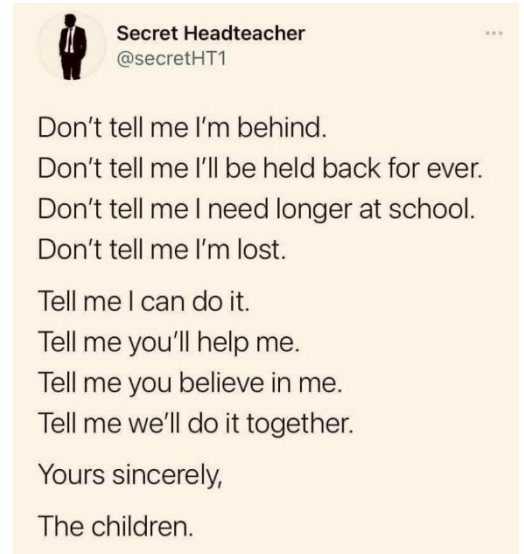
Connor W, Dante and Kit - for consistently great fractions work in Maths this term. It is a tricky topic but you have smashed it! You can help others when you're back at school. :)



Catch up funding

So far we have used catch up funding to provide new chrome books for home learning, 50 new chrome books for use in school, 130 headphones, 20 new iPads and Lexia licences for every child in Years 1-6! This has been an amazing pot of money which we were very grateful to receive and by spending this wisely, we have ensured that we get the best possible value for the money which all pupils can access for years to come. We are expecting to receive a small further amount (specifically for the most vulnerable pupils) which we are looking into providing active sessions with resources to support these. We are also looking at setting our clubs up again soon which pupils can access. These will be focused on extra curricular activities which we know the pupils have missed out on. Academic interventions will be covered in school time. Views shared in the recent parent survey have been taken into account and passed on to teachers too so thank you for taking the time to complete it.

Whilst we have been given extra funding for 'catch up,' we are taking a very positive view and feel that telling pupils they have to 'catch up' can actually be very damaging to their confidence and wellbeing. The whole country has had to adapt and change and so everyone is in a similar situation. Instead, we are using this quote (to the right) as the basis for our return. The pupils have been amazing and so have you at home.



Covid-19 and Lockdown Updates

- We hope you have found our letters and assemblies useful in understanding the latest guidelines and plans in preparing our full return. You can re-read the letters which include how to support your child at home, at: <https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2021/02/Opening-to-all-year-groups-on-8th-March-2021.pdf> and <https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2021/03/Return-to-school-letter-with-tips-home-school-agreement.pdf>
- The latest guidance for parents/carers can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-covid-19>

Health and Safeguarding

- **Guidelines on face coverings for primary settings:** Children in primary schools do not need to wear a face covering and they should not be asked to wear one. Dr Susan Hopkins, the Chief Medical Adviser for NHS Test and Trace, has said that “the consensus among educationalists, public health and clinical specialists is that it is not advisable for primary school children to wear face coverings. That is why Public Health England has not recommended to the Department for Education that they should be worn by primary pupils in the classroom. Children need to see facial expressions to develop their communication and language skills and practically, they can have difficulties keeping them on all day.”
- **Travelling to school:** please try your best to walk/scoot or cycle to school. This helps reduce the transmission of Covid but also ensures there are fewer cars around and so parking isn't a problem. If you have to drive, make sure it is only those in your household/support bubble in the car and that you park a few streets away and walk to school. If you need to get public transport, please remember to follow the hands, space, face rule.
- **Asymptomatic testing information for parents and adults in households with children at school or college** - You are entitled to undertake regular, rapid coronavirus tests to help reduce the transmission and we thoroughly support this.
- Tests are fast, easy and completely free. Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.
- There are [different ways](#) for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests
- by ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most.

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm. (Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test.)

- Further guidance for parents/carers can be found at:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online?utm_source=25%20February%202021%20C19&utm_medium=Daily%20Email%20C19&utm_campaign=DfE%20C19

Important Dates and reminders

- **Snacks and water bottles:** don't forget to provide your child with a healthy **snack** (not crisps or chocolate biscuits) and **water** in a bottle daily (not juice please) if they are in school
- **Uniform:** Please do your best to make sure your child is wearing **full uniform** when they return. We are aware however that there are so many shops closed and it may be hard to get some items so if there is something you cannot get, please try to substitute it temporarily with items that are at least in the school colours (e.g. if you cannot get black school shoes, they could wear black trainers). **We know that you are doing your best so please do not worry!** We hope that all shops will be open again by Term 5 so all pupils can wear all items required.

Dates for 2020/2021

Term 4

Monday 22 February – Thursday 1 April 2021

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 hopefully 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 17th 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.