



Dashwood Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

Growing together; succeeding together

Thursday 1st April 2021

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The Year of 'The Curriculum'

A note from the Principal

This term has been a tale of two halves but I was so pleased that the last few weeks have seen us welcome everyone back to school. The children have returned with some trepidation but mainly excitement and with a love for learning new things. Children have completed science experiments, raised money for charity, read new books and been discovering outdoor adventures. My assemblies have been focused on celebrating work and religious festivals as well as discussing our three core school rules – Ready, Respectful, Safe. It has been wonderful seeing everyone in their uniforms smiling back at me from their classrooms!

I would like to say a huge thank you to the staff for developing and adapting things at the last minute but always with care, dedication and putting the children at the centre. The children deserve a shout out for their resilience and hard work and parents – you deserve a thank you for supporting our policies and procedures.

I think everyone deserves a very relaxing break so please enjoy the holidays and I look forward to seeing Reception – Year 6 on Monday 19th April and Nursery on Tuesday 20th April. Have a wonderful break everyone.

Mrs Amy Rogers



Fun in our learning!

This week has seen the pupils completing their outcome projects to answer the driving questions for their topic. Year 5's question was: 'How do national disasters impact human and physical geography?' In order to help answer this question, the pupils created

volcanoes! This was very relevant with the recent news from Iceland! Pupils' engagement was so high and they really showed curiosity and creativity. You can find out your child's driving question on their class newsletter online.

In Reception, pupils have discovered an Easter trail! They read special clues wearing their handmade hats. This slight adaptation to our normal Easter bonnet parade worked so well and meant the children had a wonderful time learning about Easter as part of our RE curriculum.



Red Nose Day

Thank you to everyone for donating to this worthy cause a few weeks ago. Our story made it in the papers!

https://www.banburyguardian.co.uk/news/people/heres-how-children-celebrated-red-nose-day-for-comic-relief-in-the-banbury-area-3172695?fbclid=IwAR2goYoZmnYvbv5sBK9GrAT_4hKa_ypfrpjLqKRwTua1F_8iLXYxY14kEzQ

Expectations after the holidays

We would like to thank you for trying to support your child to wear the correct uniform despite the shops being closed. As shops are likely opening on the 12th April, we hope to see everyone in their full uniform looking smart and ready to learn from Term 5.

We will be resuming homework as usual from Term 5 to support the learning that takes place in class. As before, homework will be set on Seesaw/Tapestry on a Friday and will be due in on Thursdays. Please continue to support their reading over the holidays using books and/or Lexia.

Covid-19 and Lockdown Updates

- **Shielding** is now paused! Clinically extremely vulnerable pupils and staff who are given the go ahead by their consultants can return to school. We can't wait to welcome you back in school!
- **Step one** of the lockdown lifting information can be found at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/974017/COVID-19_Roadmap_Posters_Step1_web.pdf
- **Step two** is due to start on the **12th April** (if announced they can go ahead). You can find out what this means at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-spring-2021/covid-19-response-spring-2021-summary>
- 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>
- We will be **continuing** with all our usual safety measures for pupils and staff in school and hope to start lifting some restrictions soon (e.g. introducing some clubs, swimming and day trips). After school club must continue under the guidelines of 15 pupils only at this stage but we are monitoring this carefully and will let you know if we hear we can increase the numbers.

COVID-19: Restrictions in England From 29 March				STEP 1
MEETING OTHERS You should not mix indoors except with your household or support bubble. You can meet outdoors, including in gardens, in groups of 6 people or 2 households.	OVERNIGHT STAYS You should not stay overnight away from home. Limited exemptions apply e.g. to stay with your support bubble.	EDUCATION Early years settings, schools and colleges are open for all students. Students on practical university courses can return. Students and staff will be regularly tested. Other Higher Education students should continue to learn remotely.	WORK AND BUSINESS Everyone should work from home if they can.	
RETAIL Essential shops remain open. Non-essential retail must stay closed and can only run click-and-collect and delivery.	BARS, PUBS AND RESTAURANTS Hospitality closed aside from takeaway, click-and-collect, drive-through or delivery. Alcohol cannot be purchased through takeaway or click-and-collect from hospitality venues.	ACCOMMODATION Closed, with limited exemptions.	PERSONAL CARE Closed.	
LEISURE AND SPORTING FACILITIES Outdoor sports facilities can open, like tennis or basketball courts and open air swimming pools. Parent and child groups can take place outdoors in public spaces.	EXERCISE You may exercise outdoors in a group of 6 or with another household. Larger groups can also take part in formally organised outdoor sports.	ENTERTAINMENT Closed.	RESIDENTIAL CARE People who live in a care home in England will be allowed 1 named visitor.	
TRAVELLING You should minimise travel as much as possible. Avoid the busiest times and routes.	HOLIDAYS You should not go on holiday in the UK or abroad. You could be fined £5,000 for travelling abroad without a reasonable excuse.	PLACES OF WORSHIP Places of worship can remain open and communal worship is permitted, but you must not mix with anyone outside your household or support bubble.	WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS Funerals of up to 30 people permitted. Weddings up to 6 people permitted. Wakes and other linked commemorative events of up to 6 permitted.	

Holiday Childcare

If you need childcare this holiday, we have found a few schemes you may be able to use:

<https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2021/03/Easter-Junior-Tennis-Lessons.pdf>

<https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2021/03/Jump-Camps-Easter-holiday-camp.pdf>

<http://eaststreetearlyyears.uk/holiday-playscheme/>

Health and Safeguarding

- Please remember to follow the **latest government guidelines** for Covid safety.
- We are getting increasingly worried about the number of incidents occurring with **pupils online** (including the use of WhatsApp). It is often hard for parents to keep up with the latest information so we highly recommend you download this App to support you in ensuring your child is safe online: <https://info.nationalonlinesafety.com/mobile-app> Please remember, pupils should not be playing games that are for older ages and all online activity should be carefully monitored by parents.
- This last lockdown has put stresses on us all and it has been especially hard for families with young children with nowhere to take them. We are so pleased things are starting to open up again now. If you are finding your **child's behaviour** a little challenging right now (perhaps they are more clingy then usual or getting angry quickly), please know this is to be expected and is very common for children across the country. If you would like any support or advice, you can always talk to one of the staff or ask for a slot to speak to our Place2Be worker Jonathon. He can offer a 1-1 telephone session to offer advice and support. We use our Zones of Regulation and 30 second script to help support pupils in school



1. Ask how they are feeling
2. Acknowledge the feelings
3. Find out why
4. Ask how they can resolve it

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Which zone are you in?			
Blue	Green	Yellow	Red
REST AREA ↑	GO	SLOW	STOP
sad tired sick bored	calm ready to learn happy okay	silly/wiggly frustrated hyper worried	mad out of control angry yelling/hitting

and see all behaviour as a communication. We have found a few great websites which help support conversations you may have during these tough times which you might also find useful as often children struggle with the choice in language in order to describe how they are really feeling:

<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/parent-support/> and

<https://www.positiveparentingsolutions.com/parenting/10-tips-to-curb-foul-language>

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 as we hope all shops will be open by then.
- Homework: Will return as normal after the holidays. Homework projects will be sent out over the holidays.
- School photos will hopefully take place on 25th May.

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: Friday 26th November - (no children in school)

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: Friday 24th June (no children in school)

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.