



# Dashwood Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

Growing together; succeeding together

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

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## A note from the Principal

Welcome to the new school year! It has been a very successful start and we have welcomed so many new families to our Dashwood community! I absolutely loved seeing the children's smiley faces this week; excited to start the new school year. With restrictions lifted, we have seen things settle into new routines over the week and I am pleased to say that our procedures are working well overall.

As always, at the start of the year, I find it prudent to remind everyone of our communication policy so you know who to speak to when. I am around on the gates for a quick catch up but for any more in depth conversations, please see your child's class teacher in the first instant and the key stage leaders after.

I am looking forward to what this year holds – even if it does present challenges. We have so many exciting events and trips planned in. Let's see where it takes us and remember - we are all **'Growing together; succeeding together'** after all!

*Mrs Amy Rogers*

## Condition for learning and core value:

This term's focus is **Belonging** with the core value – **consideration**.

We are also looking at **Confidence to Take Action** as pupils are target setting for the year ahead.

## Language to discuss at home:

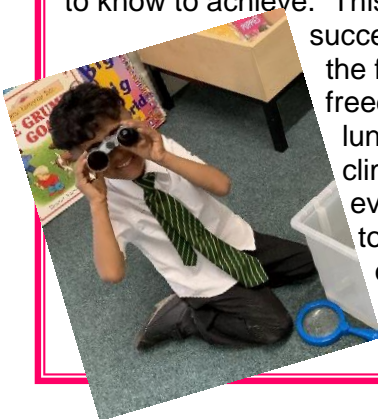
At home, discuss what **democracy** and **consideration** means to them. In assembly this week, we have explored the places we all belong to and linked this to our geography units of learning.

## Learning at home tip:

**Maths:** Years 2-6 will be given new logins to **Times table Rock stars!** This is an app/website we have purchased to support times table knowledge and is great fun for pupils and adults! (Year 1 will start it later in the year.)

## First week back!

So many smiles, laughter, engagement and excitement! All our units have begun looking at the driving question and what the outcome will be so pupils can consider what they already know and what they need to know to achieve. This week has been so successful – one highlight being the fact that pupils have more freedom at break and lunchtimes and the use of the climbing frame! Well done everyone for an amazing start to the term; we are so proud of how confident and engaged you are already – you are super stars!



A reminder of Accelerated Learner, PiXL and Lexia logins will be sent out soon so you can use these sites too.

## Wellbeing tip

### Self-care

Being a parent/carer is the best but hardest job in the world. Spend a bit of time on your own self-care daily if you can, doing something you love (e.g. taking a bath, reading a book etc).

## Online safety tips

This term we are reminding pupils of the basic online safety lessons they have learnt last year and how to ensure they are confident in reporting things they see online they are worried about.

Last year we sent you information on National Online Safety. This is a fantastic site for you to keep on top of latest news and they offer free training courses at:

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/training/search?search=parents&sort=new&cat=online-safety-courses&type=course>

## Health and Safety

- As always, your child(ren)'s safety inside and outside of school is paramount to us. With this in mind, it is important to remember that when dropping off and collecting, you are following all safety laws. We strongly encourage you to **park away** from school and walk/cycle/scoot in. The local police last year supported us in ensuring people park safely and this is something they will continue this year. You can find out more about the new parking scheme in Cherwell at: <https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2021/09/Glovebox-guide-CPE.pdf>
- Pupils should have **water** only in their bottles please to support good oral hygiene.
- Please remember we are a **nut free school** so no nuts should come on site at any time. We have pupils and staff with severe allergies.
- **Covid reminder:** if anyone in your household has symptoms of Covid, they must have a **PCR test** (not a lateral flow) and isolate. This means the person who has **symptoms should not enter the school site** at any time. We continue to recommend **face coverings** during drop off and collection times as these are crowded and very busy.

## Key information and reminders

- What's New and Different meetings: a pre-recorded meeting will be sent to you via text and placed on our website within the next week or two so you know what to expect in your child(ren)'s year group this year. This will include information about the curriculum, trips and any assessments taking place.
- Hot shots basketball club: pupils in years 3-6 will take part in hot shots basketball taster sessions this week and have the opportunity to sign up to attend the club (ran by the external club Hot Shots and paid directly to them).
- Clubs: within the next two weeks, you will be sent a link to sign your child up to one of our free after school clubs! We are so pleased to have these up and running again soon.
- Tuck shop: this will be available in the next few weeks and open to pupils in Years 2-6 during break times on Monday's, Wednesday's and Friday's. Pupils should be no more than £1 in to purchase up to 2 healthy snack items. Most items are between 30-50p each. We will let you know the exact start date for this.
- Parent's evenings: these will take place the week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> October and be conducted over the phone. Sign up texts will be sent out in a few weeks.
- Photo day: on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October, individual and sibling school photos will take place.
- Uniform: thank you so much to the majority of you for fully complying with our uniform policy and ensuring the children have returned looking so smart. Just a reminder to the few who were still sorting this that, all pupils in Years 1-6 must have a blazer in school daily, wear a tie with a school shirt (not a polo shirt) unless wearing a green and white dress and they must all wear black school shoes (not trainers). PE kits should now be in school and kept in school. These are all white and black – no other colours are permitted but the PE kit does not need to have our logo on it.
- Hair accessories: a reminder these should be discrete and in either school or natural colours. Long hair should be tied up.



## Community News

Banbury and Bicester College is delighted to announce the restart Junior Saturday Art Club in their professionally equipped creative workshops on Saturday 18 September. Junior Saturday Art Club is a five-week, creative Saturday course for 8–11 year olds, running from 10am–noon.

To enroll or for more information go to: <https://adult.activatelearning.ac.uk/find-a-course/detail/junior-saturday-art-club-for-8-11-year-olds-6/>

## **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 26<sup>th</sup> November** - (no children in school)

**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: Friday 24<sup>th</sup> 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.***

*Please note, there will be an additional day out of school linked to the additional bank holiday in June – this date will be confirmed by the end of September*