



Dashwood Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

Growing together; succeeding together

Monday 27th September 2021

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A note from the Principal

The term is in full swing and it has been wonderful to plan many exciting trips, events and start to get clubs, Youth Club and tuck shop ready to go!

Over the last week, pupils in Year 6 bravely applied for roles as leaders in the school and were amazing in an interview with me! They confidently talked about their abilities and performed better than adults sometimes do in interviews! Watch out for announcements on the Year 6 page to see what leadership roles have been allocated but all who applied were fantastic and blew me away.

I would like to thank you for your support this term in helping the pupils to settle back into some form of normal school life. When pupils have their full uniforms on, arrive on time and are ready to learn, it ensures they are in the green zone and feeling comfortable and happy to start their learning. Thank you for making this happen.

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 **equality** and **racism** means. In assembly this week, we have discussed Black History Month and how lucky we are to live in a country which values equality.

Learning at home tip:

Reading: spend 15 minutes a day reading to your child as well as them reading to you. Sharing a novel or picture book before bed helps support language development.

Learning through experiences

Already this term we have seen:

Year 3 pupils exploring Horley and completing field skills in their geography unit of work. They were respectful and showed amazing curiosity.

Year 6 pupils have been creating art work whilst learning about Black History Month and have started their IMPS visits where they have learned about basic first aid skills. They were so intrigued and showed great engagement.



Year 4 pupils have explored our new

Creator Space. They were imaginative and worked together to create sculptures they have displayed for all to see.

It is so wonderful to see the pupils having so much fun in their learning already!



Wellbeing tip

Listening

Pupils have so many emotions in a day (as do we adults). Showing that you are actively listening to them by asking how they feel, why they feel that way and what they can do to resolve any uncomfortable feelings they have goes a long way.

Online safety tips

Language online: when pupils play online games, they often forget that the same rules should apply as in real life. Please ensure that you always monitor what they are doing online and that they never speak to someone they do not know in real life.

Health and Safety

- We have had a number of **cases of Covid** within our school community so would like to remind you to continue to ensure that if you or your child has any potential symptoms of Covid, they should stay at home and get a PCR test. If we have a number of cases within the same class or quite a lot over the school, we will put our Outbreak management plan into action which we hope will not be needed but is ready to go. Whilst we are not at this stage yet by any means, it is worth noting that we would seek Public Health England's advice who may request us to set bubbles up again and potentially close classes, however this would always be a last resort. In the meantime, please continue to do the lateral flow tests yourself at home (as adults) and use the PCR testing service for anyone with symptoms. Thank you for your continued support with this and remember that we do recommend adults wear face coverings on site when dropping off/collecting to reduce the spread.
- 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. Thank you.

Key information, dates and reminders

- **Additional bank holiday:** as you will know, there is an additional bank holiday set for the country in the May half term. As this falls within the half term, schools have been asked to choose a day which gives the pupils and staff the time off too. We have chosen to take **Friday 27th May 2022**. This means school will be closed that day to everyone.
- **Clubs:** clubs are open to be signed up for until Wednesday this week for Years 1-6. You can find out more information at: <https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2021/09/Club-letter-23-September-2021.pdf> To sign your child up, please complete the survey at: <https://forms.gle/dNaYTddswWNbRhsS7>
- **Tuck shop:** this will be available from Wednesday and open to pupils in Years 2-6 during break times on Monday's, Wednesday's and Friday's. Pupils can bring no more than £1 in to purchase up to 2 healthy snack items. Most items are between 30-50p each.
- **Parent's evenings:** these will take place the week beginning 4th October and be conducted over the phone. Please book a slot when you get a message to do so.
- **Photo day:** on Thursday 21st October, individual and sibling school photos will take place.
- **Uniform:** Pupils are arriving really smartly to school which is fantastic. Please ensure all uniform is clearly named (including ties) to ensure that if it goes missing, we can get it back to you.
- **Jewellery:** a reminder that jewellery is not allowed in school other than one pair of stud earrings which must be removed for PE lessons.
- **Start of the day:** all classes, other than Plum class, **close at 8.55am** in the morning so please ensure that your child has arrived by this time. (Please note, this means that arriving any time after 8.55am, children in Reception to Year 6 are then late for their lessons and are missing learning already.) Thank you for ensuring your child arrives on time and ready to learn.

Community News

You can find out about local holiday clubs for half term at: <https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/3/leisure-and-culture/795/holiday-hubs>

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 – **Thursday 26 May 2022**

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

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

Friday 27 May 2022: Additional 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.

Please note, there will be an additional day out of school linked to the additional bank holiday in June – this has been confirmed as Friday 27th May 2022.