



Dashwood Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

Growing together; succeeding together

Friday 22nd October 2021

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A note from the Principal

What a busy and exciting first term back! It has been action packed with trips to The Tower of London, fossil hunting in Warwick, exploring the local environment and running our very first, and by no means last, TT rock stars day. The pupils have come to the end of their first two units of learning and have produced some excellent outcomes. We are very excited to start our art projects next term; each year group will have a different focus, so watch out for photos on Facebook of their wonderful creations.

Next term our assemblies will focus around our core value of **motivation** which means we will be talking about how we can get that real 'get up and go' attitude. We will also look at Remembrance Day and the different ways families celebrate different religious and non-religious festivals.

We wanted to say a huge thank you for all of the food you have donated for harvest. We have taken it up to the food bank and we know it will be gratefully received by lots of families.

Excitingly, Ms Rocher will be starting her maternity leave from next term – we will miss her in school but we are overjoyed for her and wish her all the best!

Have a fun and restful half term and we look forward to seeing you back at school on Monday 1st November.

Mrs Rogers

Condition for learning and core value:

Term 2's focus will be **Fun and Excitement** with the core value **Motivation**.

Across the school in term 2, our units of learning are Art & Design related in Term 2 and certainly engage the children in fun.

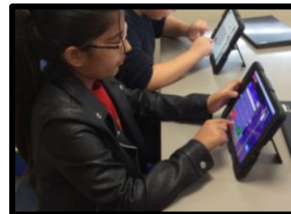
Language to discuss at home:



Talk to your child(ren) about **individual liberty** – it is a British value and enables us all to have a voice and a freedom to make our own choices. Remind them that with that right, they have the responsibility to use their voice for good and to spread positivity.

Learning at home tip

Listen to your child read for 10 minutes every day. A child who reads frequently has an enhanced vocabulary and finds writing composition much easier!



Learning through experiences

Year 2 have visited London as part of their unit of learning about the Tower of London. They had a full day of history and even got to see the Crown Jewels! All of the children behaved wonderfully and were a real credit to Dashwood – well done Year 2!

Year 3 have been lucky enough to visit a local quarry and become archaeologists digging for fossils. As part of the unit of learning around dinosaurs, this experience was a fantastic opportunity to help them answer their question: 'How can we, as palaeontologists, prove that a variety of different dinosaurs existed?'

Year 4 had a great day out orienteering at Wykham Park. They used their fantastic teamwork skills as well as problem solving to follow the clues. They had some great help from the Junior Leaders from Wykham Park- some of whom were former Dashwood students!

ROCK STARS DAY! WOW – it was amazing to see the children dressed up and so engaged in their learning of times tables and competing within year groups! Learning times tables is one of the most vital things for children as they are the foundations of maths learning.



Christmas box appeal

As term 1 comes to an end, we edge that bit closer to Christmas. This year, we will be supporting the **Foundation for Social Change and Inclusion's (FSCI) Christmas Box appeal**. A Christmas box is a unique present put together and donated via FSCI to a marginalised child, woman or man living in poverty in Southeast Europe. We are aiming to create **one box per class** here at Dashwood so we can come together and help improve the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves. Items such as a bar of soap, toothbrush and toothpaste, colouring books and pencils, socks and hats would be gratefully received but a list of suitable items to go in boxes can be found here:

<https://www.fscinet.org/what-we-do/christmas-box-appeal/how-to-pack-a-shoebox/>.

If you feel able to donate an item, we would be grateful if you could send it in with your child(ren) during the **week beginning Monday 1st November**. We really appreciate your family's support with this.

Wellbeing tip

Place2Be offer parenting support from child mental health experts. Their website contains many practical tips to support children's wellbeing and manage behaviour. Support is offered on a range of topics including bed times, routines, anxiety and safe social media for primary aged children. You can find the information here: <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk>



It can be difficult for parents to get time to practise self-care. Taking some time to **connect** with others really benefits adult mental health. Perhaps you could arrange to meet another parent on the walk to school or give someone you care about a call to catch up.

Health and Safety

- Please ensure that when you are walking/scooting/cycling in through the gates, you stay to the path and do not cross the school car park – it can get very busy with staff cars and deliveries and is not safe for pedestrians. It is also important that children are not riding their bikes and scooters through the school grounds.
- **Parking:** please ensure you are parking safely and legally outside of the school when dropping off your child. This includes not parking on the curb outside the school car park gates.
- **Trick or treat:** with **Halloween** coming up during half term, we would like to remind you of the safest way to allow your children to have fun during this time. This includes staying with an adult at all times, only visiting houses where they are happy to take visitors and you know who lives there. You can get many more tips at: <https://www.nsc.org/home-safety/tools-resources/seasonal-safety/autumn/halloween>
- **Bonfire night:** November the 5th is nearly upon us and many will be having fireworks at home or visiting displays. We would like to remind you of the key ways to keep yourself and your family safe during this time – please remind your children that they should never touch a firework or go near one that has been lit, stand well back from a bonfire and to wear gloves if holding a sparkler. As a tip for parents, it's helpful to have a bucket of water at the ready just in case the at-home fireworks don't go to plan!
- **Coats and warm clothes:** as the colder weather approaches, please ensure your child has a warm coat to bring to school every day and plain black joggers and jumper for P.E sessions.

Online safety and streaming services

It has recently come to our attention that many children are talking about the Netflix series **Squid game**. Although this series is based around children's games, it is actually a **15 rating** in the UK for sexual violence references and images, injury detail, crude humour, suicide, and violence.

To avoid your child(ren) accessing such content, it is important to set them up with **children's accounts on streaming services** or to **set up parental controls** on internet browsers.

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.
- **Flu vaccinations:** On Thursday 4th November, all children from years 1-6 have the opportunity to have a nasal flu vaccination. Please ensure you have returned your consent form prior to this.
- **Rock UK:** The Year 6's have the opportunity to spend 2 ½ days on residential between 8th-12th November.
- **Upcoming INSET day:** On Friday 26th November, the school will be **closed to all children** for an INSET day for school staff only.

Dates for 2021/2022

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.