



Dashwood Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

Growing together; succeeding together

Amy Rogers – Principal

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R.E. 120 Years Anniversary

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to update you on our plans and activities relating to our 120 years anniversary. We have been completing many exciting activities over the last few weeks in preparation for our celebrations and the children are all buzzing! Over the last month or so, we have:



- Worked with an artist to create a huge sculpture of a tree! Every pupil in the school has had an input in creating the main structure and then creating the leaves which will be attached.
- Created individual pieces of artwork which developed a range of artistic skills to be displayed at the event like in an art gallery.
- Met an ex head teacher (Vicki McLean) who was in charge in 2008-2010 virtually and asked her lots of interesting questions.
- Met an ex head teacher (Fred Riches) who was in charge in 1981-1996 in person/virtually and heard stories about how the school has changed and what he did when he was in charge.
- Dressed up in Victorian clothing and had lessons taught in the style of teaching from 1902! (Please see our



Facebook page for many more photos but also a short video clip of one of our lessons).

- Completed lessons and assemblies on the history of the school including accounts from pupils going back to 1905!
- Met an ex pupil who is now a famous rapper (Bushrod) and found out about his experiences as a pupil but also heard his stories about how he developed his dreams over time so supporting many of our values and the Aspirations Conditions for Learning.
- The pupils have drawn pictures of themselves to help create a commemorative tea towel which will have every child's face on it and be available to buy at the event.
- The choir and a group of dancers have been practising their performances for the event.

In the coming weeks, we will continue to develop the sculpture project, complete a Dashwood Big Clean to show off our school in the best light and prepare for the big, main event on the 23rd March. The pupils have got so much knowledge about how the school has changed and developed over time which is hugely appropriate and relevant to them now. It has been an exciting few weeks and we cannot wait for the next few weeks to come.

The main event planning is coming on nicely. If you have requested tickets, these will be given out next week along with a map of the school 'museum' and a list of the items you will be able to purchase such as raffle and tombola tickets, tea towels, commemorative mugs and stationary. We will also be holding a second hand uniform sale on the day too with prices starting as low as £1. Any money taken on the day will go towards resources for the school such as new reading books, lunchtime game items, gardening equipment and forest school items. (We will be working in cash for the event just so you are aware.)

To help with preparations and keep you informed, I thought it best to write to update you with our next steps which we are **asking for your support with**. They include:

- Asking for **donations by Friday 18th March** for **prizes** to be used at the tombola. Please bring in any non-perishable items you could donate (like tins, sweets, chocolates, wine, teddies etc).



- Make sure you have signed up for **free tickets** if you want to attend at:
<https://forms.gle/77Zqd1DKzu7Rffoz9>
- Remember to pick your child(ren) up on time at **1.45pm on the 23rd March** so we can start the first visitors at 2pm.

We are having so much fun reminiscing and would like to thank you and all the staff and children for already making this year fun and exciting. With many more events in the pipeline (such as Easter Hat Parades, PTFA events, Dashwood's Got Talent, plays, trips etc), this year is sure to help us all feel a real sense of community, unity and sense of accomplishment.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "AERogers". The signature is written in a cursive style, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Mrs Amy Rogers
Principal