



Dashwood Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

Growing together; succeeding together

Friday 25th March 2022

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A note from the Principal

Wow, what a term we have had! It has been so exciting and filled with events leading up to our celebrations this week (read more about these further down).

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff, especially my small working party, for all their hard work in getting our event up and running. It took hours of work but was so worth it in the end. Thank you also to the parents/carers who have supported us by attending but also purchasing memorabilia/raffle tickets and most importantly to the pupils for their hard work in school and during the event. It has been the best week, full of positivity and excitement.

Mrs Rogers

Condition for learning and core value:

This term we are focusing on **Curiosity and Creativity** with the core value **Imagination**.

Discuss at home what it means to be curious and how asking questions helps us all to learn and acquire new knowledge.

Language to discuss at home:

Memorabilia: items that are kept or collected because of their association with memorable people/events.

Learning through experiences

Our 120 Year Anniversary was such a great event seeing over 400 people attend over the afternoon! We met ex head teachers, pupils and had great performances from our current pupils too. To mark the event, Banbury FM joined us and wrote this article: <https://banburyfm.com/news/day-of-celebrations-for-schools-120th-anniversary/> We had such a great time celebrating all the wonderful things Dashwood has achieved over time. Congratulations to Jessica, Charlotte, Ellie and Kasper who won our main raffle prizes!



Online safety

Snapchat and WhatsApp are not appropriate for pupils of primary age. Don't forget, you can get free information and workshops via the Online Safety portal which we sign up to at:

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

Change in start/end times

Following a positive trial when everyone finished at 1.45pm on 23rd March, from **after the Easter holidays**, we will be returning to all classes starting at **8.50am** (doors opening at **8.45am**). End times will be **2.55pm** for **EYFS** and **Year 1** and **3pm** for **all other years**.

Health and Safety

Please continue to be mindful of how you move around school and also park to help keep all our pupils safe. Covid is still very much around at school with many cases coming out daily. Please continue to stay off school if ill and get a Covid test. Positive cases should still isolate for at least 5 days, taking tests on day 5 and 6 to see if they are negative before returning.

Exciting events coming up

We have really cranked up the amount of experience we want the pupils to be part of now that things are starting to change and we are learning to live with Covid. As part of this, we are pleased to say that we will be:

- Running a **Times Tables Rock Stars competition** with one of our other Academy schools **this week!**
- Holding **Dashwood's Got Talent** for pupils in **Years 3-6!** They can enter via a slip at school. **Auditions** will take place on **Tuesday 5th April** and the final will be on Thursday 28th April.
- Holding an **Easter Egg competition** for anyone who wishes to enter. Pupils can decorate real, hard boiled/blown eggs or fake eggs in any style they wish and bring them in Wednesday **6th April**. All entries will receive a prize and there will be extra special prizes for the winners.
- Continuing to enter **sporting competitions** between other schools (we recently came 1st and 2nd in a football tournament with a girls and boys team and 3rd in an Athletics competition)
- Completing the **Easter Hat parades** in EYFS and a **Year 2 play** this term alongside **trips** (year 4 went to Cadbury's World earlier this month and Nursery are off to the farm this week!)

Exciting times ahead!

Key information, dates and reminders

- **Last day of term:** The last day of this term is **Friday 8th April 2022**.
- All pupils in **Reception – Year 6** return to school on **Monday 26th April 2022** (Nursery pupils return later due to home visits – please check with staff).
- **Dashwood's Got Talent auditions** for pupils in Years 3-6 – **Tuesday 5th April**. (Pupils apply for an audition slot internally on slips by Friday 1st April)
- **Easter Egg competition** – (see above for details) eggs due in **Wednesday 6th April**.
- **Phonics/reading parent workshops** – save the date. On **Thursday 7th April** we will hold a free workshop for parents at 9am for parents with pupils in EYFS and Year 1 and at 2pm for parents with pupils in years 2-6. Anyone attending will receive a free gift!
- **Staff update:** We are pleased to announce we have taken on a new caretaker called Jason who will start soon. We will be saying goodbye to Alex Pearson (Executive Principal) at the end of the academic year who is moving on in his role. We have appointed a new teacher to cover Mrs Hope's maternity leave starting in June 2022 (more information to follow). Finally, we are very happy to announce that Mrs Sarah Gordon-Weeks will take over as Acting Principal when Mrs Rogers goes off on maternity leave mid May and Miss Annelise Gooch will be Acting Vice Principal during that time.

Dates for 2021/2022

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.

Term Dates for 2022/2023

Term 1

INSET DAYS: Thursday 1 and Friday 2 September (no children in school)

Monday 5 September – Friday 21 October 2022

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

Term 2

Monday 31 October – Friday 16 December 2022

INSET DAY: To be confirmed - (no children in school)

NB: *there will be no After School Club on Friday 16 December*

Term 3

Wednesday 4 January – Friday 10 February 2023

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

Term 4

Tuesday 20 February – Friday 31 March 2023

INSET DAY: To be confirmed - (no children in school)

NB: *there will be no After School Club on Friday 31 March*

Term 5

Monday 17 April – Friday 26 May 2023

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

Monday 1 May 2022: May Day Bank Holiday (School closed)

Term 6

Monday 5 June – Friday 21 July 2023

INSET DAY: To be confirmed - (no children in school)

NB: *there will be no After School Club on Friday 21 July and school will finish at 1.45pm this day.*

Transition days will take place on Wednesday 19- Friday 21 July so please ensure your child attends school each day that week to help them settle into their new year groups.