



Dashwood Banbury Academy
an Aspirations Academy

Dashwood News: 21st October 2022



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A note from the Acting Principal...

We have come to the end of a very productive and busy term 1. This term has seen sporting events, trips around the local area, physical fitness on the new equipment, many extracurricular clubs and even the new Dashwood Newspaper has been published and sold this week. So many exciting things have happened and I know we are looking forward to what term 2 brings.

It is not just academic achievements that we focus on at Dashwood. We want to develop the pupils characters and ensure that they are well rounded, thoughtful, considerate and active members of their community. We have talked a lot this term in our assemblies about taking responsibility for our own actions and showing empathy for others. We are all very proud of the pupils that attend Dashwood and I thank you for all of your support.

Mrs Gordon-Weeks

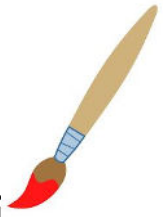


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Fun and Excitement:



Our condition for learning for Term 2 is '**Fun and Excitement**' which focuses heavily on developing our art skills across the school. This links nicely with our value of **motivation**. The curriculum is designed to build on the skills each year so the pupils have the chance to become confident artists. Each year group learns about the life and contributions of an artist to our society; most link to their units of learning. There is a range of mediums developed including: sculpture, textiles, sketching, digital print and printing. This term we are developing the use of the pupils sketchbooks to ensure they practise lots of skills before they do their final piece of art. We will also be making poppies for Remembrance and taking part in festive crafts.



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ROCK UK 2022

The Year 6 Dashwood Crew landed at Rock UK this week! As well as behaving impeccably, they have challenged themselves by firstly making their own bed; shooting down a zipwire, playing games in a canoe and building a raft. They all came home a little muddy and tired but with memories that will last a lifetime. Well done everyone!



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The school newspaper

We are delighted to be able to share with you the first edition of our brand new school newspaper. It features up to date news about events that have happened both in and outside of school. It is all written by our newly appointed newspaper team! If you didn't get your copy, ask at the office - only 30p! All proceeds go back into the newspaper.



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Term 1: The World around us

This term all the pupils have taken part in lots of geography focused unit of learning. Some classes have been on geography field trips where they have explored the local area and visited a nearby village. In order to be confident geographers, the pupils need to be able to identify different human and physical features in the UK, Europe and North/South America; develop their map skills and take part in some fieldwork. As they go through the school, the pupils build on the knowledge that they have been taught in the previous year group so their skill base develops year on year. In the early year, we focus on the classroom environment and in Key stage 1 pupils look at their local environment. As they progress to year 3, pupils start to compare Banbury to the village of Horley. In year 4, they research different European countries and year 5 and 6 move on to studying both South and North America. Let's see what they have been doing....



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EYFS

This term all of the children have spent time settling into their new classes and becoming familiar with their class routines. We have had a big focus on personal, social and emotional development as well as building relationships with peers and adults.

The **Cherry class** pupils have been busy with their transport topic, riding on wheeled equipment and creating tyre track artwork. **Plum class** pupils have enjoyed learning the Goldilocks and the Three Bears story and tasting porridge like the characters in the book. **Reception** pupils have been working hard in groups to build some new houses for the Three Little Pigs, ensuring they were strong enough to withstand being blown down by the Big Bad Wolf!



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Donations

In EYFS we are always on the hunt for new and innovative ideas to aid in the children's learning and development. Many people throw things away that we can in fact reuse as imaginative and fun learning resources, e.g. in the mud kitchen, for art, to build dens.

We would love to receive donations of objects that you no longer need, but are still in a safe, clean and usable condition. As a guide, we have compiled a list of items.

Fabric sheets (e.g., drapes, table clothes, curtains, fat quarters)

Pots, pans, wooden spoons & other cooking equipment

Baskets

Crates, tyres, pipes, planks

Seeds, soil, plants and other gardening resources and equipment

Household items to use in our home corner for role play

Religious and cultural decorations or artifacts

Junk modelling items (e.g., plastic bottles & lids, cardboard boxes, containers, gift wrap)

Screws, bolts & washers

Cotton reels/spools, curtain rings

Buttons, pegs, beads

Ribbon & wool

Collections of natural items (e.g., conkers, pinecones, shells, stones)

Art Supplies

Logs, chippings & wood cuts/slices

Bikes, scooters



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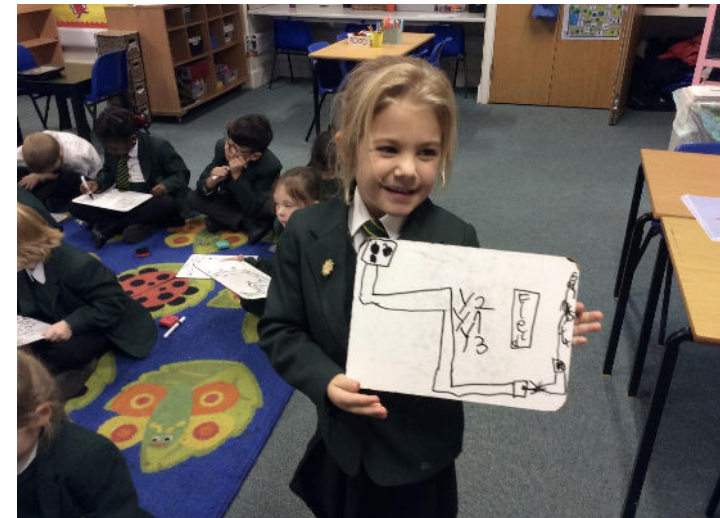
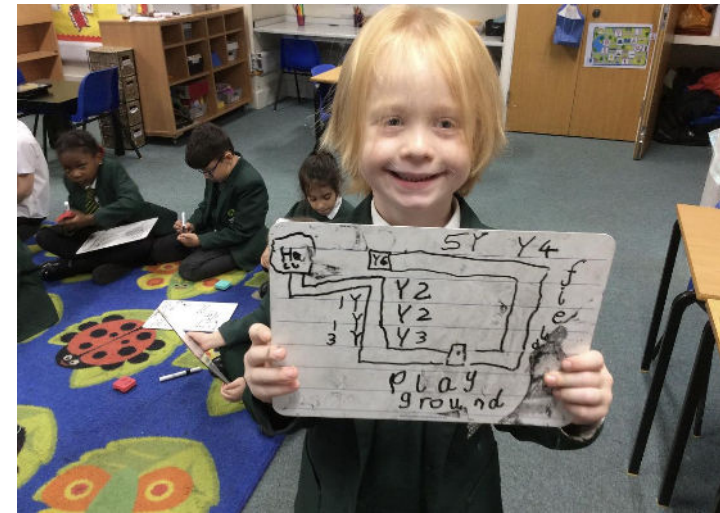


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Year 1

Year 1 have thoroughly enjoyed starting mastering number this term. They have been working on increasing their fluency to give a secure understanding of numbers and how they are made.

In geography, Year 1 have experienced a walk around our local area where they could recognise features of our town. They have then used their understanding of maps to create their own of the school and use them to direct their partner to a specific location.



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Year 2

Year 2 started off the term with their science topic of Minibeasts and the theme of Friendships. In forest school, all the children created a microhabitat fit for a ladybird. Alongside this, the children all wrote thoughtful apology letter in character from our book *'The bad - tempered ladybird'*.

The children have also had chance to reflect on the role of Queen ELizabeth II in history, as well as her special friend Paddington, who inspired us to write various sets of instructions this term.



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Year 3

This term Year 3 have been considering how to make our towns and villages sustainable. They have researched all the different ways that we can become more sustainable and, with a visit to Horley, they have compared life in a village with that of Banbury.

In Literacy they have explored the book *The Tunnel* by Anthony Browne. They have been inspired to write portal stories and thought about how we all belong to different places.



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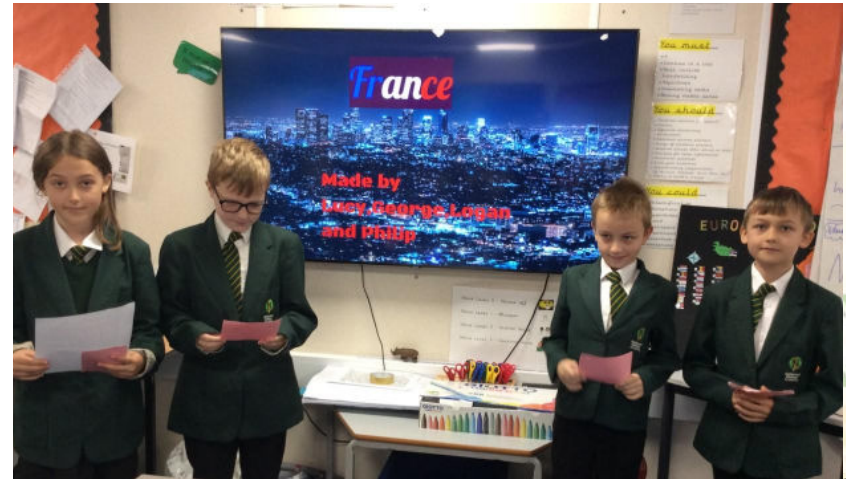
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Year 4

This terms science in Year 4 has been exploring sound. The children have made musical instruments and then learnt about pitch and volume and how sound travels through the air.

In geography they have explored the countries of Europe. Using their teamwork skills, geographical, computing and literacy knowledge they have created a presentation to successfully show how they could, as tour guides, promote a trip to a European destination.

In addition they have learnt and performed the poem *Please Mrs Butler* by Allan Ahlberg.



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Year 5



Year 5 have been focused this term on answering the question: How can we save Lake Titicaca from the negative impacts of tourism to ensure a sustainable future?

The children have used map skills to learn all about South America and investigated its climate. They have researched the Uros people and the human and physical features of the area and developed an understanding of how tourism can be made sustainable. To showcase their knowledge they have all put together a newsround style presentation to show how to save Lake Titicaca using the green screen.



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Year 6

This term in geography Chestnut and Oak class have been working towards answering their driving question:

‘The biomes of the Americas are diverse. In what ways does this impact its inhabitants?’.

They have worked hard learning about different climates and biomes around the world and also considered different times zones and how this all links together. Finally they discovered what ‘tourism’ meant and linked this all together in their final classroom project. Pupils were given a ‘business scenario’, for example ‘a new business wanted to set up a new surfing school’ or ‘a new farming company needs land for their animals and crops’. From this, they had to consider the best country or state or North or South America for their new business to set up. They had to consider the climate of the country, the biome, the current inhabitants and current tourist attraction and then they had to design a persuasive pitch to encourage a business to relocate to your country/state/city. Children really threw themselves into their tasks and this could be seen in the confidence they had whilst they then presented their final pitches. Well done to all pupils in Year 6 for showing resilience and bravery this term in their geography learning. It’s been wonderful to see how focussed the pupils have been.



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Eco Warrior update

This week everyone voted for their favourite emblem to represent our eco warrior group. A special thank you to Noah in Year 5 who spent time on his weekend designing these. These will be put around the school e.g by the light switch to remind everyone to turn them off or recycle their rubbish.



We are going
to have a
democratic
vote.



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The winning emblem was...



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Raise a Reader Campaign

On **Monday 31st October**, after school, the Raise a Reader campervan will be coming to Dashwood. It's mission is to excite children to read widely and for fun! Books and goody bags to be given away.



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Christmas Box Appeal

This year, Dashwood will again be supporting the Foundation for Social Change and Inclusion's Christmas boxes for Romania appeal. If you would like to contribute, please send in any items that would be suitable for both children or adults by **Wednesday 9th November**.

Items could include:

- Pre loved toys (in nice condition)
- Soaps/toothbrush/toothpaste
- Hats/gloves
- Stationary:notebooks/pens/pencil crayons
- Hair bows/clips



If you would like to make a small donation, then please put your item in the box in the office. We will then put the boxes together with the pupils. If you would like to make your own box, then more information can be found www.fscinet.org. We would be happy to send off your completed and labelled box as long as we have it by Friday 11th November.



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Poppies for Remembrance

All of the Remembrance memorabilia has arrived for the pupils to purchase from the first day back. Poppies will also be available for some loose change.



Suggested prices for the memorabilia are as follows:

Reflective Poppies 50p

Slap Band Rulers £1.50

Wrist bands 50p

Zip pulls 50p



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Trick or Treating

This week in assembly we talked about safety in our community. This included safety by the railway; stranger danger; the canal; the park and on the internet. We also talked about events that happen at this time of year especially Halloween. We shared the simple rules on the next page to ensure that everyone is safe at Halloween.



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Trick or treating dos and don'ts:



- Young children should have proper adult supervision. Make sure everyone is wearing clothing appropriate for [pedestrian safety](#) in the dark and [crossing the road safely](#).
- Approaching only the neighbours that you know will help to keep Halloween super safe. If not, knocking on houses decorated with a pumpkin in the window would be the next best thing.
- Make sure your 'tricks' are harmless.
- Remember your manners!
- Remember our school rules of respectful and safe.



Attendance matters!

There are positive benefits to be gained from regular attendance; this includes not only coming in every day, but also being in school on time.

Benefits include the following:

- Good habits - instilling in our young children the idea that getting up and going to a setting is simply what you do - a great life habit
- Children who attend every day develop a feel for the rhythm of the week and gain a sense of security and strong sense of belonging to their class and their school
- Secure relationships - Young children find it easier to build and sustain a range of social relationships when they regularly attend their school setting
- Regular attendance helps to develop secure attachments with their peers and supportive adults
- Self-esteem - Children who rarely miss sessions at an early years setting and come on time are more likely to feel good about themselves. This is because they know what goes on and what to expect, feel more confident with the adults and the other children and have more opportunities to be valued and praised for their own special contribution
- Children who regularly miss sessions or are generally late, can frequently experience a sense of having to try a little bit harder just to understand what is going on and what other children are talking about or doing. Regular attendance, on time, helps many young children to separate from their parents or carers at the start of the day and settle more readily into daily life of Dashwood
- Learning and Development - our staff carefully plan every session for each child in their care and want to take every opportunity to help them thrive. Experiences gained in one session are often developed further in the next session, whether or not these are consecutive days. Being in school everyday ensures that they do not miss anything!



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The *Attendance Clock* is coming to Dashwood!



Punctuality, and being on-time to school, is so important!

Regular school attendance brings enormous benefits to individual pupils, their families, schools and the community as a whole. Without regular attendance, levels of attainment suffer and opportunities are missed to obtain maximum benefit from education.

Persistent absence and lateness will affect a child's achievement and progress in school. Comprehensive research shows that there is a direct link between a child's level of school attendance and their level of school attainment.

As a parent it is your legal responsibility to ensure your child receives a suitable full time education. It is your responsibility that your child attends school each day and is on time.

It is important to set the expectation of good attendance right from the beginning of school so children grow up with 'good habits'.

In the first week back after half-term, the Attendance Clock will be visiting Dashwood each day! School starts at 8.45am, so make sure you are there on time to meet the clock and receive an attendance award sticker!



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The class with the highest attendance this term is....

Chestnut - 97.0%

Well done to Chestnut class pupils
for excellent attendance!



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Parking



If you drive your child/children to school each day, please ensure that you park with care and respect the people living within our community, in particular Edward Street and Merton Street.

Please ensure that you do not block driveways. There are people living with disabilities in the community for whom it is essential that their driveway is accessible 24 hours a day.

Additionally, parking on double yellow lines outside of our school on Merton Street, endangers our pupils' lives. Schools' entrances are designed to be left clear of vehicles to ensure that pupils can cross roads as safely as possible. Please follow the law by only parking in permitted places.



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Additional messages:



- **Safeguarding:** As always, safeguarding is of the utmost importance to us all at Dashwood. In order to keep all of our school community safe, I am asking that **you do not use your mobile phone when you are onsite at anytime.** Please leave them in your pocket or bag when you are onsite at all times. I would like to thank you for your cooperation about this as we ensure that all of our families at Dashwood remain protected and safe.
- **Holidays in term time:** There has been an increase in the amount of families going on holiday in term time. Holidays will not be authorised and will incur a penalty notice from Oxfordshire County Council. It is really important that the pupil are at school everyday to ensure that they do not miss essential learning and exciting trips that we arrange.



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Key information, dates and reminders

Term 2:

Friday 4th November: Year 5 trip to The Black Country Museum

Tuesday 8th November: Reception Opening Evening for pupils starting Reception in September 2023. Come to see the Dashwood Reception unit to see if you would like to join us for your child's learning journey.

Friday 11th November: PTFA Winter Ball. More Information to follow

Friday 25th November: INSET DAY - school closed to all pupils

Friday 2nd December: Festive Dress up day and bring a tombola prize for the Winter Fayre

Wednesday 7th December: PTFA Winter Fayre - 3.30-4.30pm in the hall.

Monday 12th December: Flu Vaccinations - more information to follow

Tuesday 3rd January: Term 3 starts

Please see this link to access a full itinerary of events for term 2.

<https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2022/10/Term-2-dates.docx.pdf>

Winter ball



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Term 2 Monday 31 October – Friday 16 December 2022

INSET DAY: Friday 25th November 2022 (no children in school)

NB: *there will be no After School Club on Friday 16 December. There will also be no activity clubs in the week beginning 12th December 2022*

Term 3 Tuesday 3rd January – Friday 10 February 2023

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

Term 4 Tuesday 21 February – Friday 31 March 2023

INSET DAY: Monday 20th February 2023 - (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 2023: May Day Bank Holiday (School closed)

Term 6 Monday 5th June to Friday 21 July 2023

School will close at 1.45pm on Friday 21st July 2023. **INSET DAY:** Friday 23rd June 2023- (no children in school)
There will be no after school club on this day.



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