



Dashwood Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

Growing together; succeeding together

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Dear Parents and Carers

In Term 2, the Dashwood Action Committee (DAC) met with the Senior Leadership Team to discuss homework and parent workshops. The meeting was very positive with parents from a range of year groups/key stages in attendance.

After discussion, it was agreed that the following tweaks to homework be made:

Homework

In **EYFS** all homework will be phonics based and related to the learning taking place in class. Those pupils who are ready in Reception will also get a reading book weekly.

In **Year 1** homework will take the form of:

- Weekly spelling and reading of their reading book
- Alternate maths and literacy eg: one week maths and one week literacy

In **Years 2 - 5** homework will take the form of:

- Weekly spelling, Timetables Rock Stars, Lexia and reading of their reading book
- Alternate maths and literacy eg: one week maths and one week literacy

In **Year 6:**

- Each week a reading and a grammar activity and a choice of either 15 minutes daily on Timetables Rock Stars, Lexia or arithmetic practise

Each term there will be a '**homework-free week**'. This will be set as the same week across the school to ensure that siblings have the same homework-free week. As requested by some parents in attendance at the DAC meeting, we will provide a mindfulness activity in the homework-free week such as observation or art activities ie: *when out on a walk try to spot*, etc. that support physical and mental well-being and do not rely on a screen.

Parent Workshops

We also discussed the parental workshops that are planned throughout the year. As it was stated that some parent workshops are difficult to attend due to work commitments, it was agreed that we would record the session via Loom to allow more parents to access it and refer back to it in their own time as they will be available on the Dashwood website.



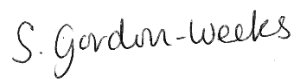
Talk for Writing



This term we have a **phonics parent information session** on **Tuesday 17th January 2023 from 9.00 – 10.00am in the hall**. This presentation will show you how we teach phonics and early reading. It will also share some ideas that you can use at home. We also have a further reading information session on **Thursday 19th January 2023 from 9.00 - 10.00am in the hall**. Again this will share information about how you can support your child to read at home. Both of these sessions will be recorded and shared on the website with the link being sent out shortly after.

If you wish attend the next meeting of the Dashwood Action Committee, please contact the school office for more information. The DAC exists to bring parents, carers and community members together with members of Dashwood Banbury Academy's leadership team to discuss ways to make positive steps to keep our school moving forward. **The next DAC meeting is scheduled for 28th February 2023 9.00 – 10.00am**. Please come along and join us – tea and biscuits will be provided.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Gordon-Weeks". The script is cursive and fluid.

Sarah Gordon-Weeks
Acting Principal