



Dashwood Banbury Academy
an Aspirations Academy

Dashwood News: 10th February Happy Half Term



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A note from the Principal...

What a great term we have had delving into the past! The pupils have certainly developed their enquiry skills and made links between periods of history they have already studied. When walking around school, I have seen some amazing learning outcomes including: Florence Nightingale lamps in DT, recreating Roman formations on the playground and using the chromatic scale to compose WW2 sirens.

This term we have focused on the characteristics of a hero and who we look up to and admire. We have looked at what makes a hero; it is not about always being the best at something but someone who may not give up when things are challenging or that they are always there with some good advice when you need it.

I challenge you to have a think over the half term holidays about who your hero is and why. How could you let them know that they are your hero?



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EYFS - Nursery

Cherry class children have been focusing on developing their social skills and being heroes to each other in role play. They have begun to talk about their dreams and aspirations while making dream catchers.

Plum class children have been continuing their topic of people who help us. They have particularly enjoyed exploring the role of builders in the construction area. They have also spent time outside looking at seasonal changes and preparing the garden for spring.



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EYFS - Reception



Last week, we became aerospace engineers and built rockets to help some stranded aliens get back home. We researched features of rockets and counted down to lift off when testing them.

We have been thinking about familiar heroes in our own lives and how we can show our appreciation to others. We have added wishes to our wishing tree and created a list of different words we can use to show others kindness.



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Year 1

Year 1 have had such an exciting term looking at everyday heroes such as fireman and nurses. We have even had the opportunity of meeting some Firemen and asking them questions about the important job they do.

We have been inspired when investigating Florence Nightingale as a significant figure. We have learnt about all the changes she made to hospitals and how poorly people are cared for. As our outcome, we made our own lamps just like Florence Nightingale.



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Year 2: Space Centre

Wow!

What an incredible day Year 2 had at Space Centre this week.

When we arrived we had chance to watch a show in The Planetarium, which showed us all the dangers that astronauts faced and what it was like to be an astronaut floating in space.

In addition to this, we were able to climb a rocket tower to see a rocket up close; have a go at radio control and experience what it's like inside a rocket!



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Year 2

Year 2 have blown us away with their engagement and enthusiasm in our explorer topic this term. We have specifically focussed on missions completed by Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus.

Their enjoyment of this topic have been prevalent through the amazing writing outcomes they have created this term including Non - chronological reports, poetry and a diary entry.

In addition to this, they have also created their very own explorer vehicles.



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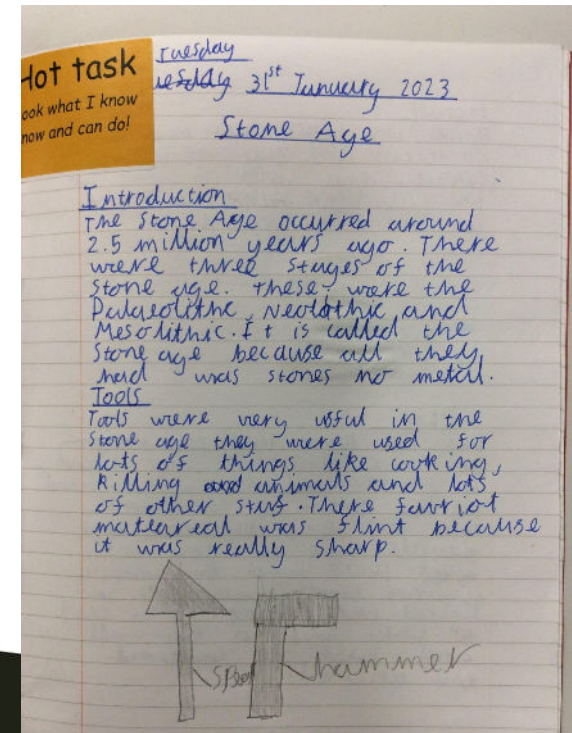


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Year 3

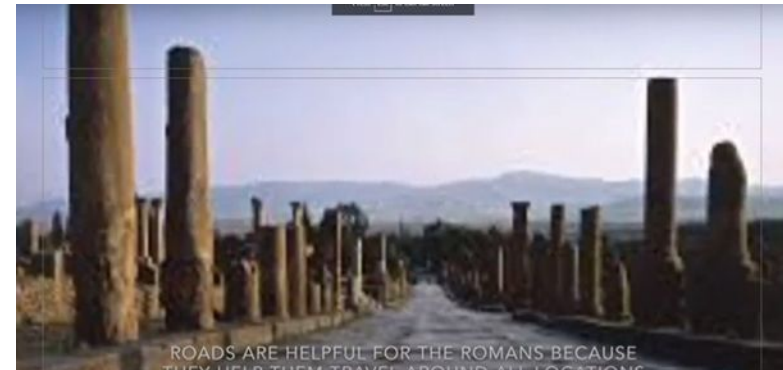
Year 3 have been practising a few different notes and learnt a song on the recorder this term. They hope to be able to share with parents at the beginning of next term.

They have also pulled together their knowledge of the Stone Age in a Non-chronological report.



Year 4

Year 4 have made some fantastic iMovies to explain the impact that Roman inventions had on the world today. This included looking at Roman underfloor heating, aqueducts and roads.




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Year 5

Year 5 have loved continuing to learn about The Vikings. Pupils have been really engaged in developing their knowledge and have enjoyed completing some of the learning outcomes including: making Viking shields, a Viking battle outside on the field and answering their driving question - 'Were the Vikings the criminals of Europe?'.




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Year 6

Year 6 have had a busy term. They have still enjoyed learning about WW2 and have been using the book, *Rose Blanche*, as a stimulus for some incredible diary writing! Children really took the time to edit these pieces, concentrating on their spelling and grammar. They used emotive language and wrote in role as Rose as she navigates her time during the war, discovering the horrors of the concentration camps. Children have shown great tolerance respect and maturity when looking at these issues. We hope they have come home and prompted conversations with you too! Have a look at the next slide for some examples of their writing.

They have completed a round of mock tests in the lead up to their assessments in May **(please note these will now be taking place 9th - 12th May in light of the extra bank holiday this year on Monday 8th May)**

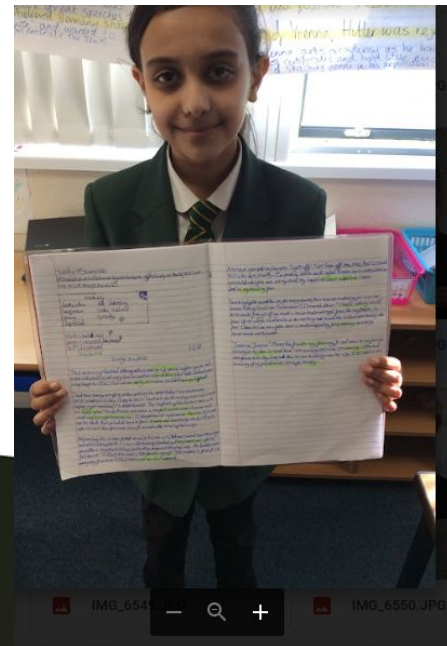
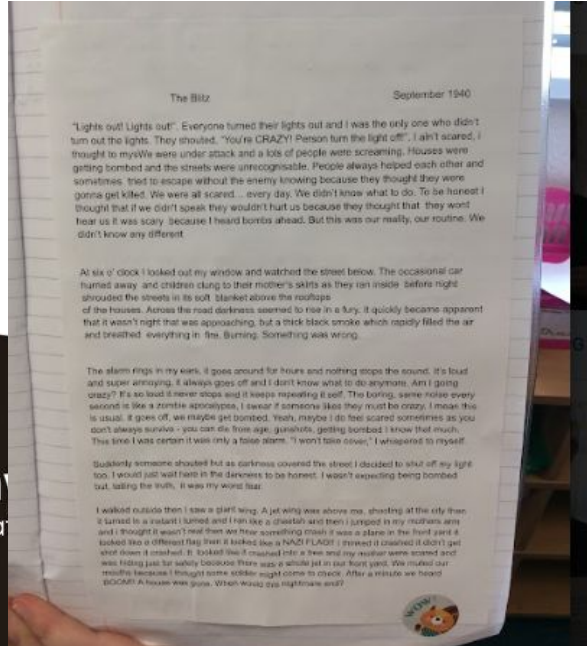
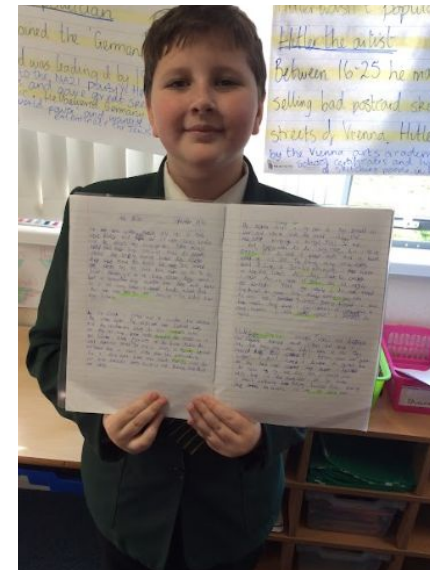
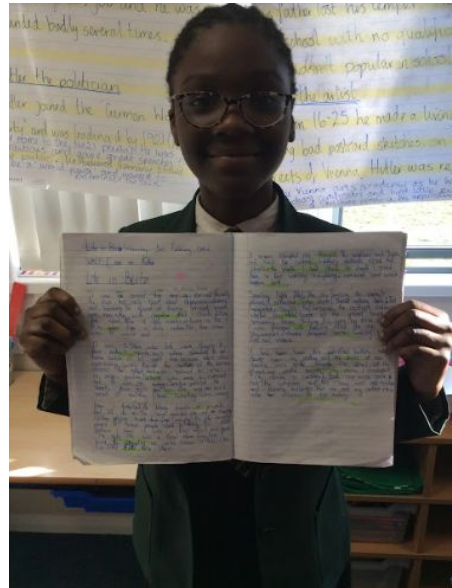
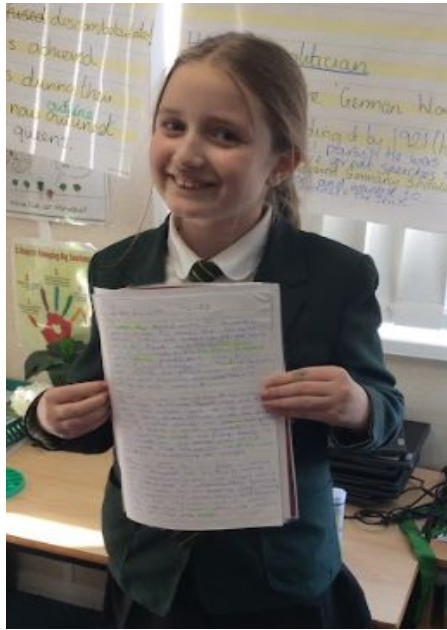


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Year 6 celebration of writing!

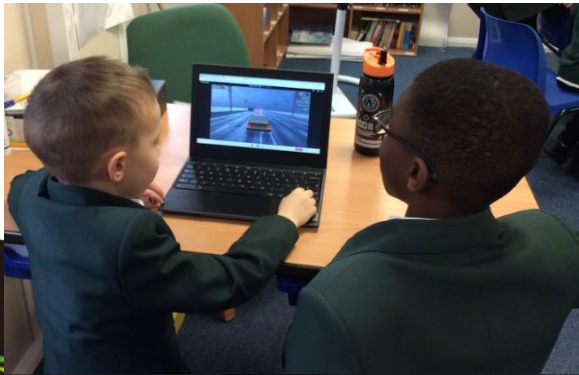


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Year 6 - Mentoring

Year 6 pupils have enjoyed starting their mentoring sessions with pupils from around the school. They have started their first round of mentoring which has meant that they have been part of a technology session, a creative session or an outside sessions. Pupils will rotate through these activities in their next sessions. It was great seeing the Year 6s take a leading role in supporting a younger pupil at the school. Well done Year 6!



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500 new books

We are so excited to share with you a sneak peak of our new reading area at Dashwood. We are lucky to be participating in 'Raise a reader' campaign, linked with Oxford University Press and The National Literacy trust - and as part of the project we have been donated 500 brand new books and a Yoto player for our new library. There was a real buzz in the school when they all arrived this week!



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Bedtime Story Nights

EYFS had a great time at our bedtime story event where many children returned to school in pyjamas. The theme was dinosaurs and we read the story 'Saturday Night at the Dinosaur Stomp' all about a dinosaur party!

Children then took part in a range of activities around the story such as face-painting, biscuit decorating, mask making and dancing.



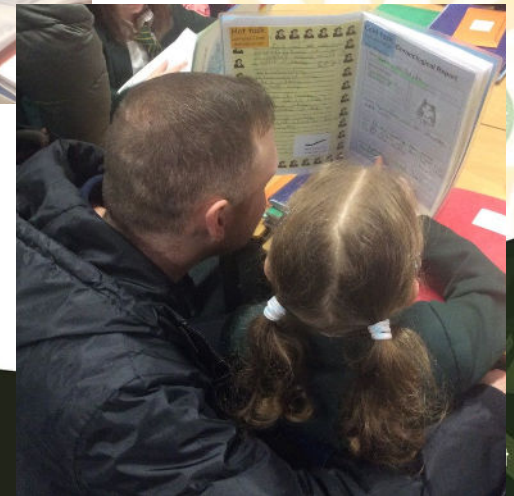
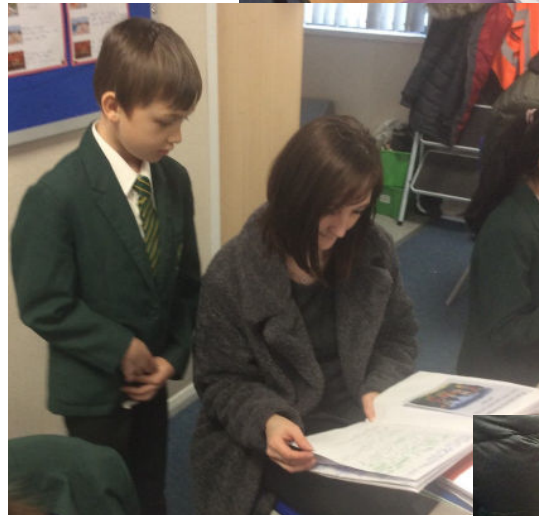
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Open Classrooms

It has been wonderful seeing so many parents and carers in school over the last two weeks. We hope that you enjoyed having the time to look through their learning. Year 6 enjoyed looking at the younger years learning too.



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Year 3 and 4 Sports

This week, selected pupils from Years 3 and 4 went to Wykham Park Academy to represent Dashwood in a sports hall athletics competition. The intent of the competition was *to develop sport specific skills and support individual development in sport*. The logistics of the competition saw girls and boys competing separately in track and field events, but their results were combined to generate a total team score at the end of the event.



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Uniform:

It is really important that all pupils have the correct uniform as stated in our policy. All pupils from year 1 should be wearing a tie. Please ensure that they are labelled - sharpies are the best!

We appreciate that everything is costing more at the moment. Therefore we want to ensure that we can work together to ensure that all children have access to the correct uniform. We will be discussing how we can support with uniform in our next Dashwood Action Committee meeting which is on **Tuesday 28th February 9-10am.** Please join us!



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Dashwood's Food Bank

Come and visit the food bank. We have a variety of essential items to add to your cupboards.

If you would like to donate to our food bank, please add to the box in the office. Items we would like are: UHT milk, soup and pasta sources.

We have cereal, tinned foods, pasta, coffee/tea, rice, biscuits, toiletries, cleaning products and much much more. Come and have a look!



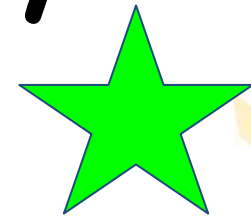
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Up and coming events
and dates for your
diary



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Dashwood Action Committee

The date of the next DAC meeting is

Tuesday 28th February 2023

9-10am

There will be hot drinks and biscuits provided.

To discuss: Parking, Second hand school uniform and the food bank.



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World Book Day: Thursday 2nd March

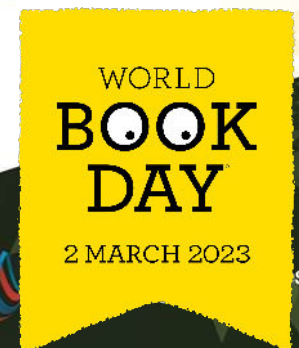
On this day we will be:

- **running a book sale** at school to raise funds for our Library. Books will be sold at break times and after school and **will be sold for 20p each**. We hope you can use this as a great opportunity to stock up book collections you have at home.
- **running a competition** where we are asking children to recommend a book to others in the school. This can be **presented however you like** but we will print off some templates should they wish to complete them this way. There will be **multiple winners** from across the school and an array of **prizes too**, such as stickers, book marks and brand new books! We will use these designs to set up a new reading display on our library. **All children who enter the competition will earn themselves a certificate.**

Please ensure your child/ren **return their recommendation cards** back to their class teachers by **Thursday 2nd March**



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s Trust

Parents Evening - change of date

We have had to reschedule the Parent's Evening in term 4.
The new dates are:

**Tuesday 21st March 3.30-5pm and Thursday 23rd March
3.30-5.50pm**

You will be sent a link to book the parents evenings after
half term.



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Parking: Thank you very much to all the parents and carers who are working together to keep all of our children and community safe. A few reminders:



- it is illegal to park on double yellow lines;
- it is an offence to drive on the pavement even for a short distance;
- please do not block local residents driveways; we have had some complaints from people living on Alma Road.

I appreciate that there is limited parking around the school grounds however, it is imperative that we do not park opposite the school gate, on the double yellow lines when dropping and collecting children from school. It gets very busy by the gate, with lots of cars so if you could park further away from the school and walk, that would be preferable and reduce the traffic by the school. I appreciate your cooperation to ensure that we prevent a serious accident from occurring.



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Dates for Term 4

INSET Day: Monday 20th February

Please see the attached link for a list of all of the events we have planned for Term 4.

<https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2023/02/Term-4-Dates.pdf>



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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)

Monday 8th May 2023: Extra Bank Holiday for the Coronation of Charles III

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 Friday 21st July.

2023 - 2024 Term dates:

Term 1 Tuesday 5th September to Friday 20th October 2023

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

Next academic terms INSET days: 1st and 4th September, Friday 24th November, 8th January and 28th June 2024



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