



**Dashwood Banbury Academy**  
an Aspirations Academy

# Dashwood News: 23rd June 2023



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# A note from the Principal...

Welcome to the first Dashwood News of term 6! We started off with a bang and had a visit from Ofsted. The Dashwood team were very proud to show off our school; pupils spoke confidently to the inspector - we look forward to the official report in the very near future.

This term we have focused on being an effective leader and the responsibilities that go with these important roles. Assemblies have focussed on how we can develop leadership skills within the classroom and around the school- we look forward to developing our new student leadership team, our current year 4 and 5 pupils will receive more information about this next week. Our Anti Bullying Ambassadors have just received their RESPECT badges from the Diana Award because of the work they have done on their whole school campaigns and the website.

Our assemblies this term will focus on the importance of the The Equality Act that become law in 2010. It covers everyone in Britain and protects people from discrimination. harassment and victimisation- everyone in Britain is protected. The Equality Act protects people against discrimination because of the protected characteristic that we all have. Under the Equality Act, there are nine Protected Characteristics these being: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation. It is extremely important that all of our pupils and community we live in understand the importance of being kind to each other and respect differences between us. We encourage them to ask questions to ensure they learn about the world they live in.

We look forward to a very busy and exciting end to the term. Look out for information involving new classes and transition which will come out soon.

Mrs Gordon-Weeks



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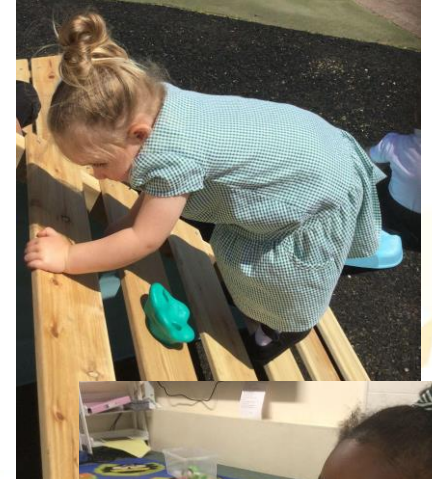


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# EYFS - Nursery

This term **Cherry** class have based their topic on the story and song 'Walking Through the Jungle'. The pupils have been moving like different animals from the story to develop their gross motor skills. They have been climbing like monkeys, slithering like snakes and pouncing like tigers! Grrr!

To support with their growing topic, **Plum** class were very excited to receive a delivery of some caterpillars, eagerly watching them grow and turn into chrysalides. They have also been growing beanstalks in the hope that they may be able to climb them and search for friendly giants.



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# EYFS - Reception

Peach and Pear classes have also been studying growth and change this term. They have learnt about how to look plants, written weekly updates in their caterpillar diaries, been on bug hunts, and drawn observational pictures. The pupils planted some mystery seeds sent from the Dashwood fairies. They have been looking for clues as they grow to try and identify what plants they will be.



During the warmer weather, the classes have also spent time problem solving outside, cooperating as a team to create a giant marble run using the stands and guttering. This was even more fun when water was added to the activity!



# Year 1

Year 1 have had such an exciting few weeks, since coming back after half term from showing off their impressive sports skills at sports days to dressing up as Kings and Queens in their dress up day.

The dress up day consisted of a range of activities, including creating their own shields and coat of arms. They now can't wait to show off their new knowledge of castles during their trip to Broughton castle next week!



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# Year 2

Year 2 have absolutely loved our English unit the last few weeks about pirates. During this topic, the children got to learn about pirate speak, learn and perform a pirate poem, go on a treasure hunt and show off their wonderful writing skills in recipes to make a pirate and a pirate narrative. Ahoy, me hearties!

Additionally, Year 2 have taken part in our KS1 sports day where they demonstrated a range of athletic skills. They all showed so much determination and commitment, despite the heat and they should be incredibly proud of how well they all did!



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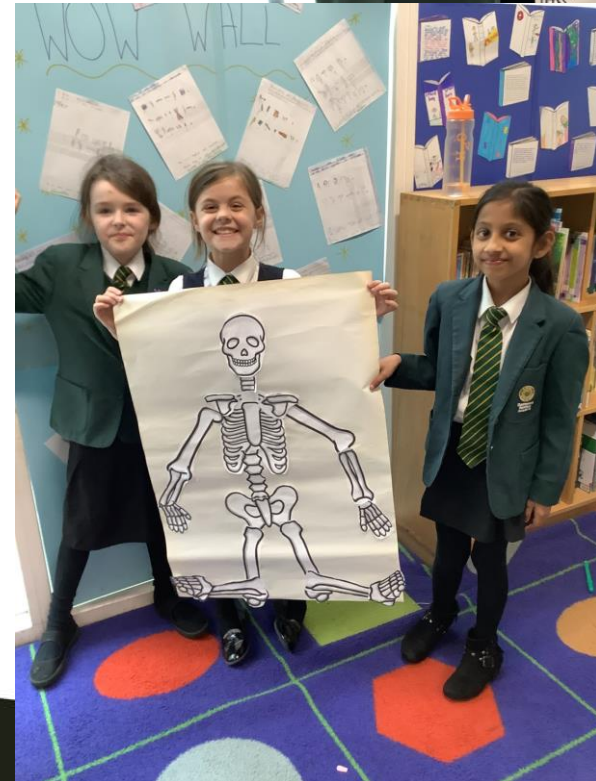
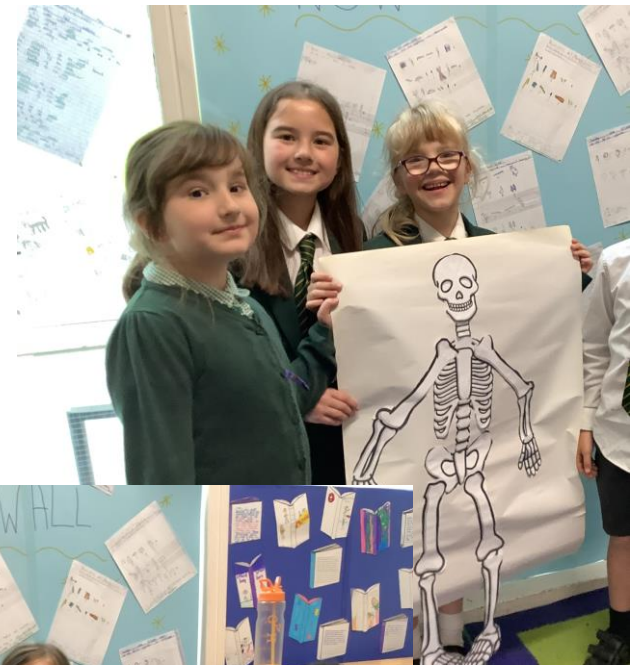
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# Year 3

Year 3 have been learning about the skeletal system. They have learnt about muscles and how they work. They have also been learning about healthy eating and designed plates of healthy food, thinking about the different food groups.

They have also been applying their knowledge of magnets but designing and making a game for the enterprise event.



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# Year 4 Camp Night Fun

Camp night was such a huge success with two days packed full with fun activities organised and run by the year 4 team! Year 4 pupils enjoyed orienteering, an egg drop, a treasure hunt, a tallest newspaper tower competition, a drain pipe run, a centipede walk and even songs around the campfire!

Camping out in tents with their friends was such a great experience and there was lots of happy faces and laughter. The excitement meant less sleep than normal (!) but the children stayed motivated and full of energy throughout!



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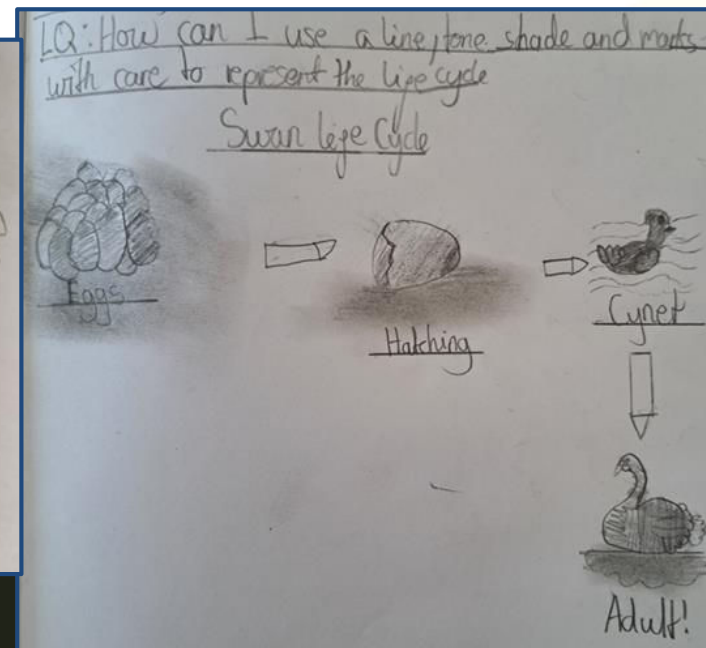
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# Year 5

In Term 6, Year 5 have been learning all about plant and animal life cycles. They have been busy applying their learning in a creative way with botanical drawings of the different processes.

Creativity has definitely been a theme in Year 5 this term with the children using their imaginations and writing their own quest story.



# Year 6

Year 6's have enjoyed a busy start to Term 6. They loved the experience of going on a train to Oxford to join in with the junior citizens day and have already got stuck into play rehearsals.

In Literacy we have been using Shaun Tan's graphic novel, 'The Arrival', as our stimulus and the pupils have had some fantastic, mature conversations on refugees.

It has been great to see the pupils really engaged in their learning, especially as we know the last term is always full of excitement, tinged with slight apprehension around secondary school. We are so proud of how the Year 6s are tackling these new challenges and changes!



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# A trip to Oxford: Junior Citizens

Year 6 pupils loved their visit to Junior Citizens in Oxford at the start of term. They were put through their paces in several emergency scenarios and even got to make a practice 999 call (to a pretend line). It provided the pupils with lots to consider about their lives and decisions they make. One of the leaders in the room commented on a group of pupils from Dashwood being the best group she had ever had. Children loved the experience, including a train ride! Well done to our Year 6 pupils!



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# Year 6 Transitions



We know this is an exciting time for Year 6s as they think about moving to their new schools. All of the information around transition days should have been sent to you but here are the dates we have:

**Wykham Park Academy:** 3rd & 4th July

**North Oxfordshire Academy:** 3rd & 4th July

**Blessed George Napier:** 3rd - 6th July

**The Warriner:** Monday 10th July & Tuesday 11th July



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# Year 6 Transition support

We know it can be an emotional time for our pupils and parents, please know that there is always support for our pupils here if they reach out. We will be looking at managing the transition in some of our lessons and homework this term.

You might find resources on BBC bitesize useful too:

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/zh4wy9q/starting-secondary-school/1?dm\\_i=3YNL,1KBAH,5MJ8I4,5UP4K,1](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/zh4wy9q/starting-secondary-school/1?dm_i=3YNL,1KBAH,5MJ8I4,5UP4K,1)



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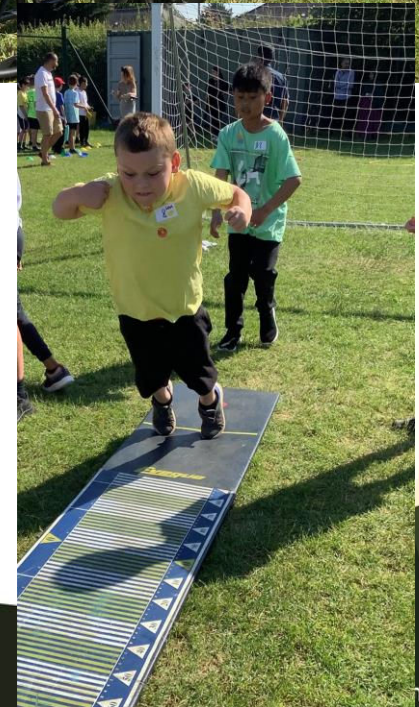


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# Sports' Days

We were so lucky with the weather on our Sports' Days and all the pupils loved competing! There were a range of activities to test their agility balance and co-ordination: from running races to throwing and target activities; speed bounce to skipping! It was great to see everyone trying to beat their personal best and earn Aspiration Points for their aspiration family. It was lovely to see so many parents and carers come along to support! Thank you! And a huge well done to all the pupils!



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# Planting in People's Park

The gardening club had a fantastic time planting in People's Park. The theme was 'The Coronation' so we decided to make a huge swan as we learnt that the King actually owns them all! The children worked together to plant loads of plants to make our patch look amazing!



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Dashwood had a very special visitor on Thursday 22nd of June. The Mayor of Banbury visited to deliver the awards the pupils had won for their planting in the park efforts. A Silver award and a high commendation! Well done to all pupils and staff. Be sure to look at the final result in People's Park!



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# Internet Legends Assembly

## Dashwood are Internet Legends!

Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupils received a very special assembly on Friday 9th June 2023 learning how to... Be Internet Legends! Delivered by Jez and Paulette from Google and ParentZone, our pupils learned the key messages of being:

- **Sharp** - Think Before You Share
- **Alert** - Check It's For Real
- **Secure** - Protect Your Stuff
- **Kind** - Respect Each Other
- **Brave** - When In Doubt Discuss



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The assembly focused on how to keep safe online and we were visited by a very special guest - our local MP Victoria Prentis who spent time talking to pupils and answering their very well-thought-out questions. Our pupils asked about Free School Meals and local housing issues and high rents which were very insightful and topical. As always, our pupils did us very proud! And we weren't the only ones to feel this way:

Jez and Paulette (the presenters of the assembly) said: 'It was a pleasure to meet such a lovely group of children. Thank you so much for letting us into your wonderful school to deliver a Be Internet Legends assembly. We wanted to say a HUGE thank-you to all the pupils and staff for making the experience so memorable!



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# Boys Football News...

Our boys football team are through to the the final of their competition. They won their match 1 - 0 against Hill View school. They showed courage, motivation and teamwork. Good luck for the final against Hanwell Fields on Monday!



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# Girls Football News...

Our girls football team are also through to the final of their competition. They won their match 2 - 1 against Hill View school. Well done girls! They play in the final against William Morris on Monday! Good Luck Team Dashwood!



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# Quad Kids Athletics

Pupils from Year 4 and 6 took part in a 'Quad Kids Athletics' tournament where they had to complete: a sprint race, a long distance run, standing long jump and a vortex throw. The intent of the event was to support individual development in sport and to focus on the school games value of determination. All children from Dashwood showed fantastic resilience in their events.



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# Dashwood Action Committee Meeting

Date of the next meeting: Friday 7th July 2023  
9-10am

## Agenda:

1. Updates from actions from the last meeting
2. Reflection of the year
3. Events you would like see next academic year
4. PTFA update

Tea, coffee and biscuits provided.



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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 with a shirt not a polo shirt.**

Please ensure that they are labelled -  
Sharpies/permanent markers are the best!

Can I just take this opportunity to remind you that **trainers (even black ones) are not to be worn** as part of our school uniform.

We do not want our expectations of uniform to slip. When the correct uniform is worn, the pupils look extremely smart. We regularly get comments from the public about how smart they look when we are out and about. We had a very successful discussion about how we can support with uniform and the rising costs. Please see the next page for an overview of what we discussed in the Dashwood Action Committee.

Ties are available to buy from the school office. Please come in and purchase one if needed.



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# P.E Uniform

It is really important that all pupils also have the correct P.E kit in school too. As you can see from the pictures they are wearing:

- Black shorts/joggers
- White polo shirt or round neck
- Black plimsolls or trainers
- Black jumper

These can be purchased cheaply in Tesco's, Sainsbury's and other stores and do not need to have a logo.

If you need any support with uniform, please do not hesitate to contact us.



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# Save The Date!

Castle Quay, Banbury are hosting a **School Swap Shop** on Saturday 29th July where everybody can come together to swap/exchange items of unwanted school clothing.

Time to be confirmed...when we know more we will let you know!



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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.

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

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 sauces.



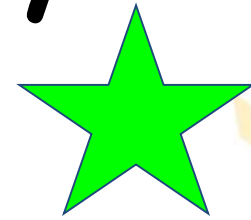
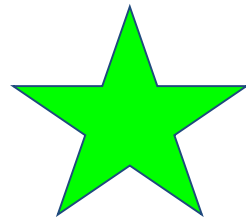
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Up and coming events  
and dates for your  
diary



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# Reception Trip to Cotswold Animal Park

## Thursday 29th June

Please ensure that the children are  
prepared for the weather e.g sun  
cream/raincoats/comfy

All children will need a packed lunch.



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# Year 1 trip to Broughton Castle

Holly Class: Tuesday 27th June

Hazel Class: Friday 30th June

Please ensure they are wearing  
suncream/raincoat depending on weather.



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# Year 3-6 Enterprise Event



We run this event on Friday 30th June where the children in years 3-6 design, make and market a product to sell. On this day the children in years 1-6 can come to the event and purchase a product. They will need up to £1 in loose change if possible. Money raised will go towards books for the library.



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# Transition Days

In order for the children to feel confident, excited and less anxious about the new school year, we have our transition days in the last two days of term. They will spend these two days:

**Thursday 20th July and Friday 21st July** with their **new teacher in their new classrooms**. You will receive a letter stating which teacher they will be having and where their new classroom will be later on in the term. On these two days they take part in lots of 'getting to know you' activities, set new class rules, give out jobs for the new term and vote for the new Aspiration Councillors. So it is essential that they attend these days so they do not miss out.



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# Dates for Term 6

Here is the link to Term 6s list of events:

<https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2023/05/Term-6-Dates.pdf>



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**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 will also be given their start date separately as we undertake home visits in September.*

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

**Term 2 Monday 30th October 2023 to Wednesday 20th December 2023**

**Inset day** on Friday 24th November

**Term 3: Tuesday 9th January to Friday 9th February 2024**

**Inset day** on Monday 8th January

**Term 4: Monday 19th February to Friday 29th March**

**Term 5: Monday 15th April to Friday 24th May**

**Term 6: Monday 3rd June to Wednesday 24th July**

**Inset day** on Friday 28th June



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