



**Dashwood Banbury Academy**  
an Aspirations Academy

# Dashwood News: 21st July 2023

## End of the Year celebration



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# A note from the Principal...

Welcome to the final newsletter of this academic year. We have had an amazing year; so much to celebrate! As a school we have worked hard to take part, compete and represent Dashwood at many community events - I feel that we are well and truly at the heart of our community and I thank you for all of your support. Without our families, Dashwood would not be the place it is today- your support to your child's learning and participation at events is very much appreciated.

Our three Guiding Principles are: **Self Worth, Engagement and Purpose**. These principles are at the heart of everything we do in school. We know that if our children believe in themselves; are enjoying and engaged in their learning and are learning about purposeful things, then we know that they will achieve beyond expectations. Next year we will involve our parents and carers in the development of the guiding principles so that these filter out into our community - these are not only things the pupils can develop but us as adults too. We will also be telling you more about these the NEW and DIFFERENT meetings that you will be invited to in the new term.

I am delighted and proud to be able to share our Ofsted report with you. The report is a really true reflection of the culture we have all created here. The pupils shone and the inspector was so impressed with their conduct and how eloquently they spoke about the school- our head boy even shook the inspectors hand! I would personally like to thank the Dashwood staff team - our pupils really are lucky to have such a dedicated team around them, putting them at the heart of everything they do. We will not rest on our laurels - it is onwards and upwards into the next year where there is lots more fun to be had and learning to be done. Here is our report:

<https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2023/07/Ofsted-Report-June-2023.pdf>

I wish you all a very happy summer break. I look forward to seeing you all after the holidays - please keep safe and I look forward to seeing you back in September in your smart uniforms ready for a new year.

Have lots of fun - see you in September! Mrs Gordon-Weeks



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# EYFS - Nursery

**Cherry class** have been growing their own produce this term, including tomatoes, courgettes, peppers and strawberries. They have also been comparing the height of their sunflowers to themselves and learning about what plants need to grow.

This term, **Plum class** have been continuing with the story The Hungry Caterpillar and discussing healthy and unhealthy food choices. They have also enjoyed measuring out special ingredients to mix up some magical potions.



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# EYFS - Reception

What a wonderful end to the year we have had in Reception. The children have blown us away by the progress they have made this year. Learning to read and write is an incredible accomplishment! To celebrate their achievements we have held a teddy bears picnic during forest school; a water and splash party as a class reward, and a graduation ceremony to mark the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The pupils are more than ready for their next milestone of moving into key stage 1.



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# Cotswold Animal Park

Reception classes enjoyed their first big trip out of school to Cotswold Wildlife Park this term.

They were very excited to travel on a coach/minibus and even more excited to meet the different animals. When asked, their favourites included, the penguins, meerkats and lions.

Although many pupils reported that the picnic lunch and ice lolly was the best part of the day!



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# Year 1

Year 1 have thoroughly enjoyed their last term in Year 1 with some fabulous outcomes. We kicked off the term with a glorious dress up day, where every child looked like Royalty. This enthusiasm only continued with our castle topic this term.

In Literacy, we have been exploring the story Jack and the beanstalk. We have discussed how brave Jack had to be to defeat the giant as well as creating our own version of the story.



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# Broughton Castle Trip

Both Year 1 classes had a wonderful time on their Broughton Castle Trip. It was amazing to bring our topic of Castles to life where we identified features of a castle that we had discussed in class. We really enjoyed being able to experience what it would be like to live in a castle too!



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# Year 2

Year 2 have thoroughly enjoyed their final term in Key Stage 1. In Literacy, we showcased our performance skills by performing our own retelling of a poem 'pirate fred'. We also have had chance to demonstrate all the writing skills we have learnt throughout the year to produce a lost and found story.

In the afternoons, we began the term by comparing life at Dashwood in the victorian times to life at Dashwood now. Then we drew on our knowledge from the beginning of the year about seas and the UK to help us locate Bournemouth. We have investigated the human and physical features of both Banbury and Bournemouth. We used this to then discuss where we would prefer to live and why.

A final highlight had to be creating our own clay leaves as part of the History of Dashwood art week, which are now proudly on display down Learning Lane!



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# Year 3

Our enterprise event went really well and everyone enjoyed playing the magnetic games especially the hook a duck, car racers, magnetic monopoly and fishing. The children showed collaboration and demonstrated their entrepreneurial skills.

We have also been looking at how to keep healthy by creating a healthy living booklet and making healthy pizzas.



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# Year 4

We thoroughly enjoyed our Y4 camp night earlier this term - an incredibly memorable event. The children participated in team games and fun activities, really getting stuck into all the challenges admirably. Not much sleep was had by many children but it was all part of the camping experience!



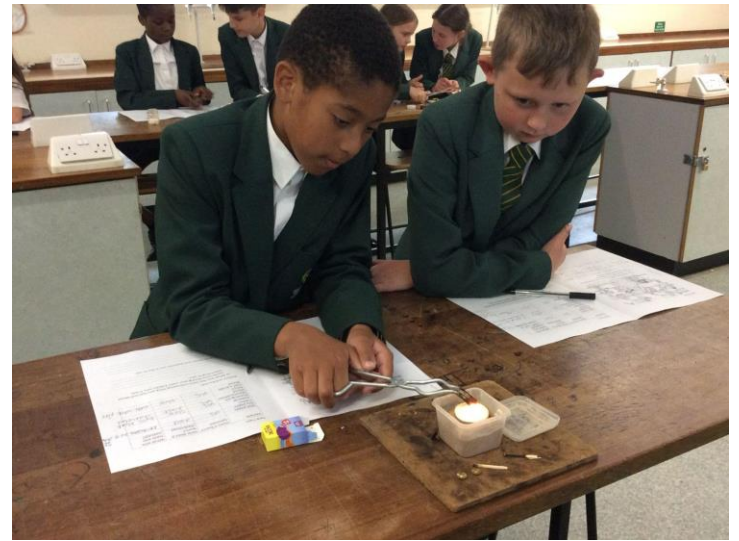
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# Year 5

Year 5 have been lucky enough to be invited to Wykham Park to take part in a science lesson. They learnt about the factors needed for combustion and then experimented to find which materials made the best fuel.



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# Goodbye Year 6 2023!



The start of Year 6 leavers celebrations happened on Friday 7th July! Bowling. Pizza. Sweets, Games and a lot of glitter (we apologise!). The Year 6s had such a lovely time celebrating and spending time with friends. We hope we helped create some core memories! A special thank you to the Year 6s who soaked up the atmosphere and to a lovely donation that enabled this day to happen.



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# The Year 6 Performance



Year 6 wowed us with their professional performance of Buggy Malone. We watch solos; well choreographed dances; group singing and were amazed by their American accents. All the pupils put their heart and soul into the performance and did themselves proud. Well done everyone!



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# History of Dashwood Art Week

Dashwood certainly do a whole school art event very well. Following on from our 120 Year event last year, the children have looked at what life at Dashwood was like 120 years ago as well as what education is like today. The corridor display looks fabulous.



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# Wonderful Art club outcomes

Miss shaw and her sewing club have certainly been busy this term. They have designed and made some beautiful flowers! Well done to all of the pupils who have taken part- what a self accomplishment!



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# Trip to Trinity College, Oxford



Year 5 pupils visited Trinity College as part of their careers development and our wider curriculum opportunities to find out what university life is like; how to apply; what courses are available and career prospects post graduation. They had an amazing time looking around the university and completing a hands-on lesson at the Natural History Museum. They were truly inspired with many setting their aspirations high, aiming for a place at Oxford University!



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# A huge thank you to the PTFA

We would like to say a huge thank you to the PTFA members who have worked really hard to put on some amazing events for our pupils. All of these extra experiences contribute their personal development and we thank you for giving up your precious time.

If you feel like you could give up a couple of hours when we have an event on, then please let us know.

Money raised this year will go towards a pantomime at Christmas time 2023 for all the pupils to enjoy!

Every year they buy a gift for the Year 6 leavers. This year they have brought T shirts which the pupils love signing at the end of the year as a keepsake of their time at Dashwood.



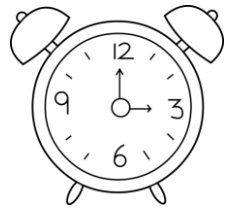
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# New and Different meetings



These meetings will happen at the beginning of of the new year. These meetings will discuss expectations and any changes that may happen in the new year group.

## Meetings:

*Wednesday 6th September: Year 1 at 9am in the hall*

*Thursday 7th September: Year 3 at 9am in the hall*

*Friday 8th September: Year 2 at 9am in the hall*

*Tuesday 12th September: Year 4 at 9am in the hall*

*Thursday 14th September: Year 5 at 9am in the hall*



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# Dashwood Action Committee

Thank you to the parents that came to the last Dashwood Action Committee of the year. We love having these meetings as it gives you as parents/carers a chance to have your say. Next year we are going to focus on:

- Parent Workshops: *Behaviour, Phonics, maths and Internet Safety*
- Specific guidance and support for children with SEND needs
- How to support your children's mental health needs. This may be supporting with anxiety, stress and friendships.

## Dates for next years meetings:

Term 1: Friday 6th October 2024

Term 2: Friday 8th December 2024

Term 3: Friday 9th February 2024

Term 4: Friday 29th March 2024

Term 5: Friday 24th May 2024

Term 6: Friday 19th July 2024



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# Summer has arrived...take care in the sun with these helpful NHS tips

## Sun safety tips

Spend time in the shade when the sun is strongest. In the UK, this is between 11am and 3pm from March to October.

Make sure you:

- spend time in the shade between 11am and 3pm
- never burn
- cover up with suitable clothing and sunglasses
- take extra care with children
- use at least factor 30 sunscreen

## What factor sunscreen (SPF) should I use?

Do not rely on sunscreen alone to protect yourself from the sun. Wear suitable clothing and spend time in the shade when the sun's at its hottest.

When buying sunscreen, the label should have:

- a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 30 to protect against UVB
- at least 4-star UVA protection

UVA protection can also be indicated by the letters "UVA" in a circle, which indicates that it meets the EU standard.



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# Oxfordshire Libraries Reading Challenge

From Saturday 8 July, children can sign up to the challenge for free at their nearest [Oxfordshire Library](#). They will be given a Ready, Set, Read! folder to keep track of their reading.

As children read brilliant library books, they will receive stickers and other special incentives. Add the stickers to the collector's folder to discover how the Ready, Set, Read! friends work together and use their skills to complete a fictional obstacle course.

When children complete the challenge, they win a certificate and medal.

Sign up here:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/leisure-and-culture/libraries/summer-reading-challenge>



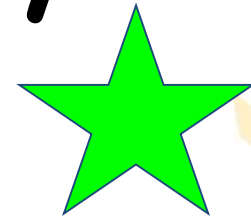
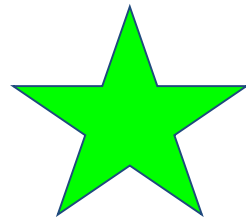
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# Up and coming events and dates for your diary



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# Dates for Term 1

Here is the link to Term 1s list of events:

<https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2023/07/Term-1-Dates-2023.pdf>



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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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# 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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