



Dashwood Banbury Academy
an Aspirations Academy

Dashwood News

10th November 2023



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A note from the Principal...

Welcome back to term 2!

This week the pupils have taken part in a Remembrance assembly where they have discussed the following questions: **What does it mean to have courage?** and **what does it mean to volunteer?** They have talked about real life heroes including members of the NHS and the RAF. This weekend is a time for reflection for us all to remember the sacrifice both men and women have made, and continue to make, to ensure that we can live a peaceful and safe life in our country. Sadly, in parts of the world people are suffering and living in fear. Please take some time to reflect with your children this weekend - talk to them about why they may see people wearing poppies and taking part in Remembrance services and parades. The Head Pupils will be representing Dashwood, alongside Harriers on Sunday. We will parade through Banbury town, take part in a church service of remembrance and then lay a wreath at the cenotaph in People's Park.

We have also made some poppies which we have displayed at the top of the corridor- take a look when you walk past the window on the main playground.

As we enter into the winter, we focus on the condition for learning of: fun and excitement. There are many celebrations in lots of different religions at this time of the year, Christmas and Diwali to name a few. We have lots of exciting events coming up this term so please ensure you read the term dates letter so you do not miss anything.

Mrs Gordon-Weeks



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Our Poppy Display



Every pupil in school has had a part in creating a poppy for our beautiful display at the top of the main corridor as a symbol of remembrance and our hope at Dashwood for a peaceful future.

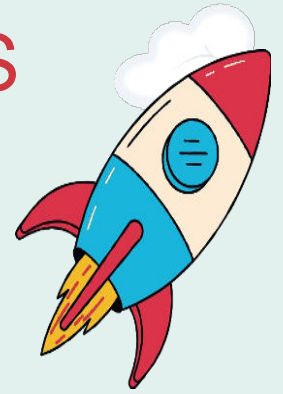


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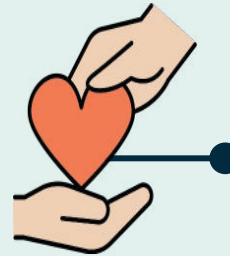


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CLEAR VISION UNDERPINNED BY A SET OF STRONG GUIDING PRINCIPLES



SELF-WORTH



BELONGING
HEROES
SENSE OF
ACCOMPLISHMENT



ENGAGEMENT



FUN & EXCITEMENT
CURIOSITY & CREATIVITY
SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE



PURPOSE



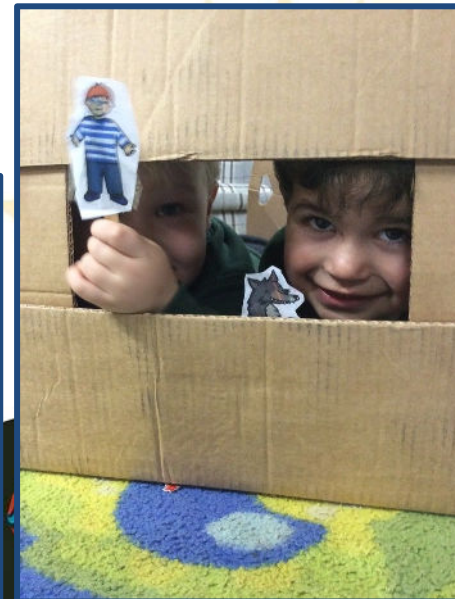
LEADERSHIP &
RESPONSIBILITY
CONFIDENCE TO TAKE
ACTION



EYFS - Nursery

Cherry class nursery have begun their topic about the weather. They have explored different types of weather and all of the colours in a rainbow. The children have also talked about firework celebrations.

Plum nursery pupils have been making their own puppets based on familiar story characters from class. They had fun using them to create puppet shows to retell stories or innovating their own story ideas using story language they had learnt.



EYFS - Reception

Reception children have been taking inspiration from Bonfire night to create some firework art and tasty treats! They have also learnt about how to keep themselves and others safe around fireworks, bonfires and sparklers.

The pupils have been exploring rhyming words and poetry, having fun creating rhyming strings and building up their vocabulary by using their sense to describe the different sounds fireworks make.

We have also began preparing for the upcoming celebration of Diwali.

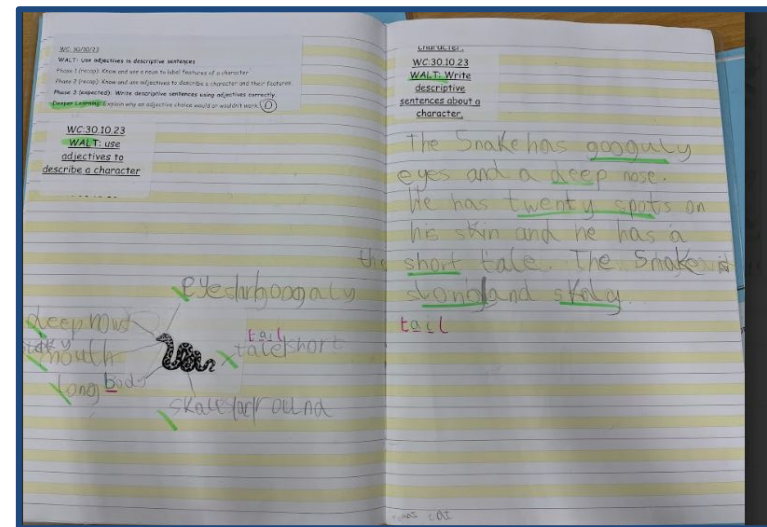
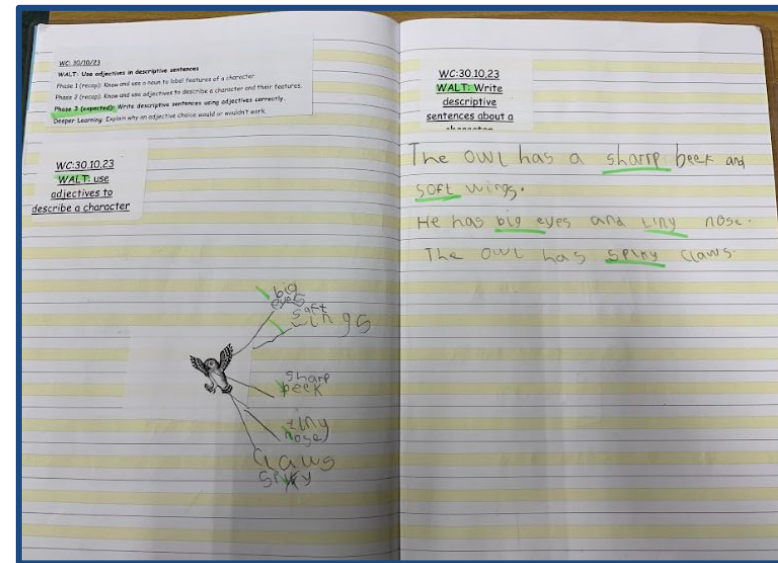


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Year 1

Year 1 have had an exciting start to Term 2.

In Literacy, we have been learning how to use adjectives to describe characters in our story The Gruffalo. This is an important skill that will help make our writing more exciting! In addition to this, we have also started to learn about The Great Fire of London. We have especially enjoyed learning the song London's Burning! So far, we have learnt how the fire started and the impact it had on different people.



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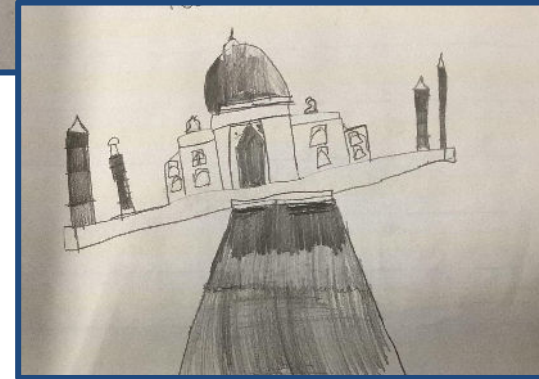
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Year 2

Year 2 have settled back in really well in Term 2.

In Literacy, we have been reading *Fantastic Mr Fox* by Roald Dahl. Children have been really engaged in the story and have used a range of adjectives and adverbs to describe him.

Our topic this term is India, as part of this we have been drawing the Taj Mahal focusing on shading; have a look at some of our amazing drawings! We have also learnt some Bollywood dancing!



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Year 3

Year 3 have really enjoyed finding out about King George VI this term. They have wowed us with the existing knowledge they acquired through their homework which they then added to in class. We have found out about what made him such a successful and popular king at the time, including how he led Britain through the war years as well as how he overcame his debilitating stutter to address the nation. The children looked at leadership qualities, their definitions and found out how they linked to King George VI. Once complete, the children considered the leadership qualities they have and how they're shown in school. A thoroughly engaging unit of learning about an inspiring role model from the past.

Inspiring	You motivate others to do something positive	He didn't think he would be King but he became a very popular King who was well loved by the nation.
Kind	When you are caring and considerate of other people	He wanted to help people during the war and reduce deaths.
Resilient	Keep going even if something is difficult	King George worked really hard to overcome his stutter.
Bravery	Do something even if you are scared.	He visited places which were damaged during WWII.
Hard working	You are not lazy at all.	He was a dutiful King who carried out lots of work throughout his whole reign.
Role model	You behave in a good way so that others do the right thing.	He was seen as a positive King. He was seen as ordinary, well behaved person and the nation loved him for it.



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Year 4

Year 4 have had an amazing start to the term. We have been analysing King John and whether he was a good or bad King and why. We have also looked at the Magna Carta which was introduced in medieval times. From this, we created our own Magna Carta's and wrote them on scrolls for display!

In Literacy, we have immersed ourselves in Haiku poetry. We have been writing poems with a range of themes including Remembrance.

Also this term we are continuing with our addition and subtraction unit, focusing on using column methods with more than one exchange.

Remembrance Haiku

Honour our soldiers war,
Remembrance of Sunday,
Respect poppy day.

Remembrance day,
Soldiers sacrificed their lives,
Poppy day Sunday.



Magna Carta

1. No Robbery.
2. If any murder occurs the when proven guilty they are to wait a year and then execution.
3. Always show respect to wildlife.
4. Try and invent disability drones.
5. No being discriminative.
6. Be nice to people around you.
7. Every single school in the world is for seven hours a day.
8. Littering is illegal.
9. Never abuse anyone.
10. Jobs pay more if someone does more work.



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Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic start to Term 2! We are really enjoying learning about Queen Victoria as part of our new topic on The Victorians and we are all looking forward to our upcoming trip to the Black Country Living Museum.

Our focus of poetry in literacy has seen the children be really creative with their writing ideas and explore figurative language. Multiplication and division is our new maths topic, the children are working hard on using their skills to problem solve and reason.

Throughout this term, all of the children will complete a sewing project. The first couple of groups have been enjoying creating a Christmas decoration to bring home at the end of term.



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Year 6

Year 6 have had a fantastic start to Term 2 and have particularly enjoyed the history unit where we have been learning all about Tudor monarchs, Sir Francis Drake and the Spanish Armada. As part of this unit we have written a formal letter in response to Elizabeth I detailing the voyage of Sir Francis Drake's circumnavigation of the world.

In maths, we have been working hard on fractions including simplifying, comparing and adding and subtracting. For fractions it is important to know all of our times tables and division facts so please continue practicing these at home.



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Hockey Festival



Two teams of Year 5 and 6 pupils attended a hockey festival this week to represent Dashwood and compete against other schools. The intent of the festival was to develop sport specific skills and to support individual development in sport.

The two Dashwood teams had lots of fun learning a new sport and did amazing, finishing third in their groups and tied with each other for fifth overall!



Four pupils received additional certificates for standing out during the event by showing the school games value of self-belief through not giving up and helping to motivate their teams.



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Knitting at the Ridings

Our Dashwood Knitting Club group visited The Ridings Care Home for a 'Knit and Natter' morning. It was such a lovely occasion to share together, with the residents and carers helping our pupils to knit more confidently. The residents and our pupils loved chatting together. Thank you to the The Ridings for inviting us and to Miss Mitchell for teaching the group to knit in her after school club!



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Winter Ball

It was great to see so many pupils at the Winter Ball on Friday. There was a lovely atmosphere throughout both discos; pupils, and adults, were singing and dancing to well known songs. Lots of pupils won prizes for the different games and of course their moves on the dance floor. We have arranged for another ball in the spring as everyone had such a nice time. Thank you for supporting our PTFA- all proceeds go back into the school for the pupils. Thank you to the PTFA and staff for running the event.



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Dashwood Action Committee

The Dashwood Action Committee is a group of parent/carers and Dashwood staff representatives who meet to discuss issues and how we can make positive change. Just a reminder of the actions from the last meeting and the things we will be running throughout the year: *internet safety parent sessions; SEN support groups and how to support child mental health issues.*

Dates for next years meetings:

Term 2: Friday 8th December 2024

Term 3: Friday 9th February 2024

Term 4: Thursday 28th March 2024

Term 5: Friday 24th May 2024

Term 6: Tuesday 16th July 2024



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Internet Safety - Parent Support

From our Dashwood Action Committee meetings last academic year, it was suggested that parent advice regarding how to keep your child safe on the internet would be welcomed. We have created an online page on our website with a wealth of information and guides to help support parents with knowing how to manage your child's online use and ways to keep them safe. The guides on this page are really useful for helping parents to stay one step ahead.

<https://www.dashwood-aspirations.org/parent-information/supporting-your-childs-safety-online/>

Kidscape is also a great resource for parents and carers:

<https://www.kidscape.org.uk/programmes/digital-safety-training-for-parents-and-carers/>



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Up and coming events and dates for your diary



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Banbury Vision 2050
Have your say on Banbury
Town Centre - Banbury2050.co.uk

Banbury Vision: 2050

Cherwell District Council are wanting to develop a vision for Banbury town centre to ensure it meets the needs of all the residents, businesses and visitors now and through to 2050.

Our [Banbury 2050 project](#) will help to identify actions that will support the town centre to flourish and become more accessible, welcoming, safer and an active place for all to live, work, study, shop and enjoy.

They understand that town centres are changing and must adapt, and this essential project will enable them to get prepared and set a direction of travel for Banbury in the coming years.

They need you to help them. This is your chance to have your say and shape the future of Banbury town centre by telling them what you think before the closing date of **Monday, 15 January 2024.**

The more voices they hear, the better informed they are to create a town centre vision that will unlock Banbury's immense potential through to 2050.

Here is the link the survey to have your say: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Banbury2050>



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Wear your odd socks...

On Monday 13th November pupils can wear **odd socks** to represent and celebrate their differences. The Anti-Bullying Ambassadors will be sharing their new video presentation about the difference between 'mean moments' and bullying and how pupils can get support if needed.



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Children in Need Day

This year the theme for Children in Need is 'Be Spotacular.' On Friday 17th November, pupils can wear spots galore- anything spotty goes! Please bring in cakes for our cake sale on the morning of Friday 17th November to your classes. We will be selling them for 50p each at break time.

Please do not bring any cakes that contain nuts.



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Does your child have Special Educational Needs?

Being a parent of a child with Special Educational Needs and/or a Disability can be challenging at times, but you are not alone and support is available.



We are holding a coffee morning, where Parents and Carers of children can join us for a drink and chat with Mrs Houlihan; members of the leadership team and other parents and carers, to share ideas, tips and offer advice in a friendly environment. We can also discuss what support you would like at these groups. We can invite guest speakers and signpost you to events and other support groups locally. We are looking into guest speakers who may be able to support at these sessions in the future about a variety of topics linked to SEN. Watch this space!

Our first coffee morning will be held on: **Friday 1st December 2023 at 9am**. Come and have a coffee/tea and a chat. Come through the office and we will take you through!

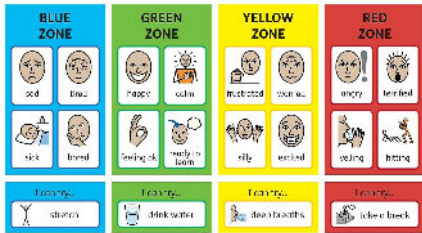


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The Zones of Regulation: Parent workshop



Thursday 7th December

We will be holding a workshop for parents and carers based on the Zones of Regulation which is what we use in school to support the pupils with understanding their emotions and helping them to self regulate. Come along and see what it is in more detail - you may pick up a few strategies to use at home.



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Is your child starting school September 2024?



Was your child born between **1st September 2019** and **31st August 2020**?

If so, you will need to apply for their reception school place from 1st November 2023 via the Oxfordshire County Council [website](#).

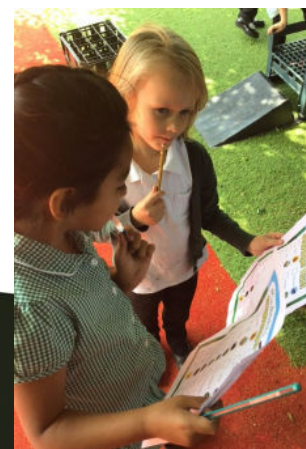
We are hosting some **open days/evenings** for prospective parents to find out more about Dashwood Academy and welcome all those interested to join us.

Thursday 19th October at 5pm

Tuesday 14th November at 9am & 5pm

Please register your interest at the school office.

office@dashwood-aspirations.org



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Does your child have an article for the DBA News pupil-led newspaper?

We love hearing from our pupils about talents, hobbies, interests or clubs they are involved in outside of school!

If they want to share a piece of artwork, poem, story or any other creative arts, we would be delighted to share it in the DBA News!

Maybe they would like to share an article about their pet or an event you have celebrated as a family - perhaps a religious or cultural event?

Please send stories to: office@dashwood-aspirations.org or hand to Miss Gooch or Amber Hardcastle (Year 6) DBA News Editor



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**Dashwood
Banbury
Academy**

2023 - 2024 Term dates:

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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