



Dashwood Banbury Academy
an Aspirations Academy

Dashwood News

Friday 3rd May 2024



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A note from the Principal...

It was great to talk to parents and carers at our Mobile Phone Safety for parents session today. It is clear that we are all facing the same problems when it comes to screen time, inappropriate apps and negativity that sometimes arises from their use. Unfortunately, we all face pressure from our children about having a phone. It is important that we think really carefully before purchasing one, especially if they are under the age of 10 (Year 6).

*If they do have one, it is important to set boundaries and the parental controls in order to keep them safe. Another question to reflect on is: **What is the phone culture like in your house? As parents, are we on them too much too?** Being a positive role model to our children is imperative. Please see the next page for more information and research articles.*

As always, we are very busy at Dashwood. We had a visit from Doas for Good; Year 2 took part on a sporting event at WPA; Year 4 visited Cadbury's World and I know that many children have brought new books from the book fayre to enjoy at home.

Have a great bank holiday weekend and we will see you all on Tuesday.

Mrs Gordon-Weeks
Banbury Academy



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Parent Session: Safe use of mobile phones

It was really good to see parents/carers at the parent workshop today. It is important to know that we all face these worries and concerns and it is difficult to manage. Here is the link to the presentation we did today. If you need any further support, please do not hesitate to come and see us.

Link: <https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2024/05/Mobile-Phone-Parent-Workshop-2024.pdf>



Nursery

Cherry class are learning about minibeasts this term. They have been finding out what different insects look like and then hunting for them outside in the garden. They have also been talking about how to be careful and gentle with wildlife. The class have been reading the Eric Carle book 'The Very Busy Spider' and imitating the noises the different animals make in the story.

Plum class have been learning about different dinosaurs this term and exploring dinosaur habitats using props and their imaginations. In maths, they have been focusing on shape, looking at shape properties, words to describe shapes, ways of sorting shapes and naming simple shapes. A favourite has been playing an interaction shape monster game. The pre-school children have been practising to write their names ready for moving into Reception in September.



Reception

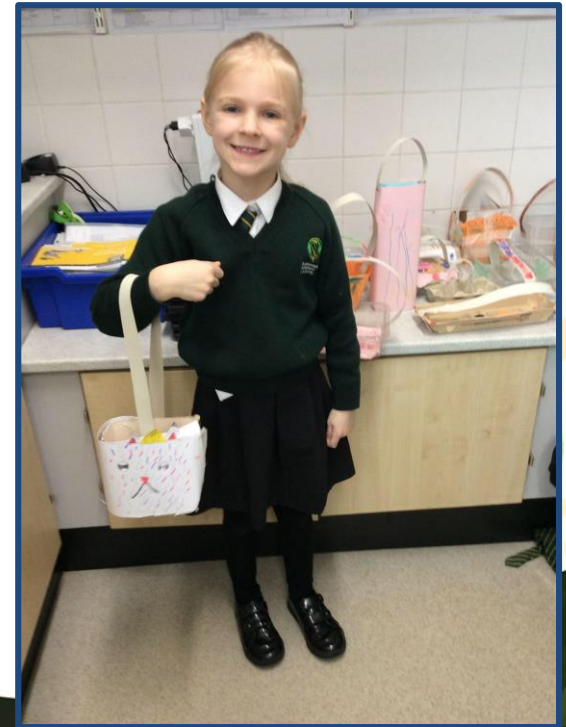
Peach and Pear classes have been reading stories about pirates and discussing whether they think pirates typically make good or bad choices. They have created pirate-themed props such as telescopes, maps and their own pirate wanted posters. This has linked to their work on prepositions, directions, descriptive language and instructions. A recent circle time discussion posed the question of what type of treasure the children would like to find, or whether what we really treasure in life is not usually found in a treasure chest.



Year 1

Year 1, have had a great start to Term 5 and have fully embraced their topics for the term. In science, we are learning about different types of animals and what categories they fit into. The children have also been thoroughly enjoying exploring Forest School and going on a minibeast hunt.

Additionally, we are learning the story of Little Red Riding Hood and the children have relished in several activities such as decorating biscuits to take to Grandma and creating a basket to carry them in.



Year 2

Year 2 have had a great start to term 5.

In PE, we are looking at different types of jumps, it has been fantastic to see Year 2 challenging themselves with how far they can jump.

We also really enjoyed our multi-skills day at Wykham Park where we joined in with lots of sporting activities including cat and mouse, relays, penalty shoot out, golf and sun and frost. This also helped to develop teamwork and determination.

In DT, we are looking at our topic of puppets. We have designed what we would like our puppet to look like and thought about which materials are best for it. We have started learning how to thread needles and sew using running stitch.



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Year 3

Year 3 have been super scientists this term and have been planning and conducting experiments to understand how light can be reflected and how shadows are formed. They took turns in teams to work out which materials would reflect most to add to their design of a book bag. Shadow puppets have also made the stage, when pupils have enjoyed creating and presenting their shadow puppets to the rest of their class and using torches to add drama to their Puppet Show.

In addition, Year 3 had some exciting and very generous visitors from Keter to celebrate Earth Day and discussed why recycling correctly is so important. We also considered job and employability requirements and how children could develop their skills, communication and time keeping. We were all delighted and said a big thank you to Keter for donating their time, lunch boxes and a reusable bags.



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Year 4

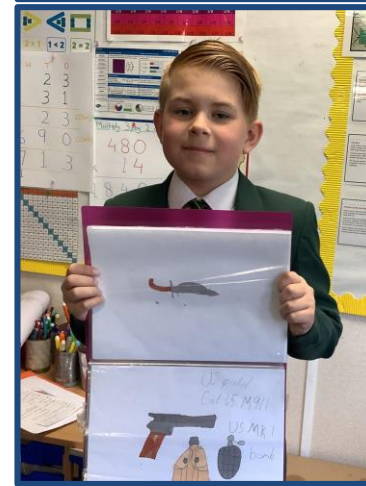
What an amazing start to the term! The highlight has definitely been our trip to Cadbury World. Everyone who went had a wonderful time learning about the chocolate making process. This linked brilliantly to our Literacy unit, where we have authored persuasive adverts selling chocolate bars of our own design.

Whilst at Cadbury World, we also engaged with chocolatiers to brainstorm ideas for our upcoming design and technology unit, where we will conduct market research to design and create our own brands of chocolate!



Year 5

Year 5 have been very engaged in our new topic of WW1 - so far we have learnt why the war started and put the key events into a timeline. Alongside this, we have been working on our DT project - creating a WW1 style wheeled field gun. So far the children have measured out and cut their wood and drilled the holes. They all enjoyed using hacksaws and hand drills to complete this - we have been very impressed with how sensibly and skilfully they tackled this. Our literacy topic has also been linked to WW1. We have read the book 'War Game' by Michael Foreman, discussing the experiences of the boys signing up for war at that time. We are now writing diary entries in role as the soldiers in the story and we have been really impressed by the figurative language ideas the children are coming up with. Swimming has continued to be a success, with lots of children getting certificates already! We are also really enjoying our weekly cricket session with Chance to Shine. So far we have completed lots of challenges that have really tested our throwing, catching and batting skills - the children did not give up with this and pushed themselves to complete a real challenge for them. Maths has seen us return to fraction work, focusing on multiplication and division. The children's prior learning has really shone through in this topic. The children's maths skills are also being tested in our science topic this term, where the focus is planning and carrying out a fair test.



Year 5 - Greatworth Farm Trip

Sycamore Class



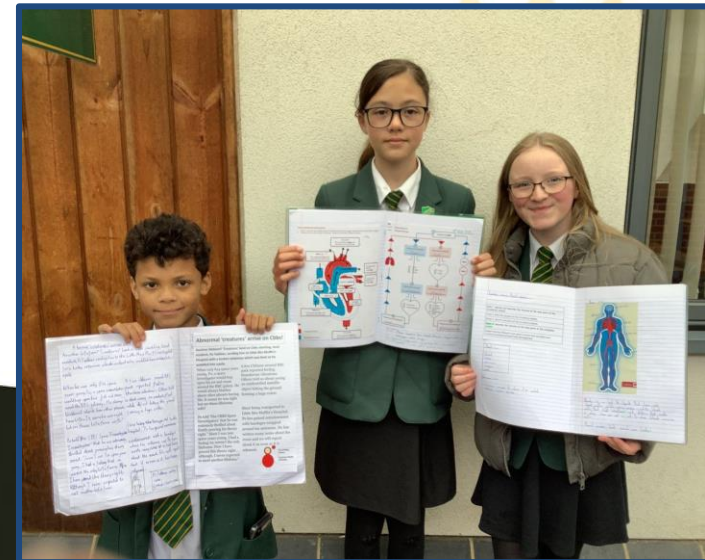
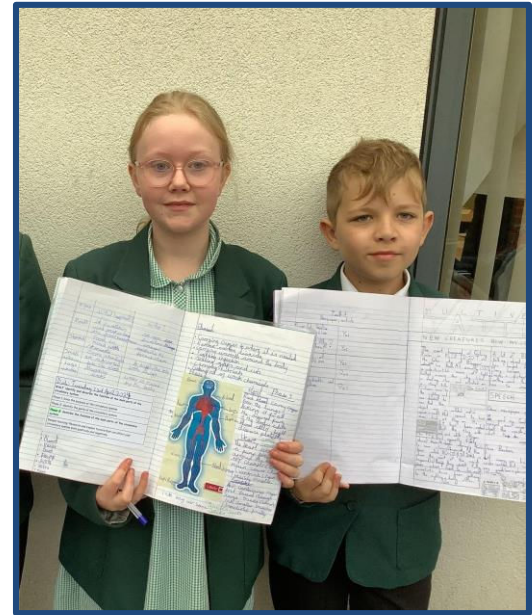
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Year 6

Year 6 have had a fantastic start to Term 5 and have been learning all about the human body in science. They have been looking at how the body works in detail including the musculoskeletal system, digestive system and circulatory system. They have also written a newspaper report from the perspective of an alien species where humans have landed on their planet. To go with this they have created an explanation text to use their scientific knowledge to explain how the human body works. In maths, they have been working hard on using algebraic equations and solving problems using statistics. During PE sessions they have been working hard on developing their cricket skills with the Chance to Shine coach and athletics in order to practice their skills for sports day next term.



Dogs For Good visit Dashwood!

This week, we have been incredibly fortunate to be joined by volunteers from Dogs For Good in our Year 3/4 and our Year 5/6 assemblies.

They came to share with us how they support people with a range of disabilities and to talk to the pupils about the difference dogs can make to their lives and for the people that they support, dogs can actually make life possible. The dogs help with everyday tasks such as opening doors, taking the washing from the machine and picking things up on the floor. Our Dashwood pupils were so pleased to meet Joli and Arthur - puppies who are going to be trained very soon. You can find out more about how these dogs support some many at: <https://www.dogsforgood.org/>



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The Ridings - Care for Care Homes - Intergenerational Relationships

We were delighted to have some of the residents from The Ridings' Care Home joined us for an afternoon of creativity and afternoon tea!

Residents and staff were invited to join some of our Year 6 pupils at Dashwood for an afternoon of scones and tea whilst collaborating on some lovely art pieces together. There was canvas painting, colouring and biscuit decorating as well as lots of chatter and laughter. It was so lovely to see the different generations talking and sharing some creative time together. The residents were delighted to take their painted canvas back to their home to hang on their wall! We look forward to their next visit and our planned visits to the Ridings very soon!



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Travelling Book Fair

Thank you for supporting the travelling book fair at Dashwood. It was great to see so many families stocking up on books and taking advantage of the 3 for 2 offer. We raised £308 to buy new books for the library.



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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 suggest how we can make positive change.

As a result of the group, we have run a behaviour workshop for parents; added slips in the office to request food items; revamped the boat and developed our internet safety page on the website.

In the last meeting we talked about how we teach maths in school, especially our early maths. With this in mind, we will be running two maths sessions, one for EYFS and one for KS1 in the first instance.

Dates for next years meetings:

Term 5: Thursday 23rd May
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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Parent conduct onsite

I would like to take this opportunity to direct your attention to the unacceptable conduct policy.

<https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2023/01/Dashwood-Unacceptable-Behaviour-Protocol-023-01-17-1.pdf>

Dashwood is, and always will be, a safe place, free from intimidation or fear for all its pupils and parents that attend. I will not tolerate any form of aggressive behaviour on site towards staff or between parents. If this does occur, I will not hesitate to withdraw permission for people to be onsite. If issues arise outside of school, the police have advised that you contact them for support.



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Up and coming events and dates for your diary



Term 5 Dates:

[https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org
/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2024/03/Term-5-
Dates-2024.pdf](https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2024/03/Term-5-Dates-2024.pdf)



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PTFA

The next meetings will be on:

Wednesday 8th May at 2.15pm.

Wednesday 5th June at 2.15pm

Please come along ; it is great to have your support!
Remember that you do not have to attend every
event, any help is appreciated!



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Dashwoods Got Talent Auditions

If pupils would like to audition for our very own Dashwood's Got Talent, they can get a slip from their class teacher to write down their talent. Audition slips need to be in by **Tuesday 7th May**. Auditions will be held on **Friday 17th May**. They will be informed if they have got through to the final by .

Parents and carers of the finalists only will be invited to watch on **Friday 24th May**:

9.15- 10.15am - Years 1 - 3

1.45-2.45pm - Years 4 - 6



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Sports Days

Monday 17th June Year 1 - 9.15am and Year 4 - 2pm

Tuesday 18th June Year 5 - 9.15am and Year 6 - 2pm

Wednesday 19th June Year 3 - 9.15am and Year 2 -
2pm

Thursday 20th June Reception - 9.15am Plum am
pupils - 11.00am Plum pm pupils - 2.30pm



P.E kit reminder

Physical Education

The school P.E. Kit is compulsory. For indoor P.E., all children require a pair of **black pumps**, a pair of sensible **black shorts** and a **white tee-shirt plain** or inscribed with the academy logo. The P.E. Kit is to be kept at school in a bag (drawstring if possible) during the week. For outdoor P.E. a pair of training shoes, **black tracksuit/jogging bottoms** and a black sweatshirt is essential.

Reminder: Children are not allowed to wear coloured jumpers/t shirts or clothing with large logos on.



Parent support - child wellbeing

The School In-Reach team is holding several webinars for parents over the coming year. These awareness sessions contain useful information about how to support your child with some of the commonly seen emotional and mental health concerns.

Please visit: <https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/camhs/oxon/sir/webinars/> for a list of webinars that may be of use and how to sign up to them. Here are some key ones that are coming up:

Attention and movement differences in children and young people

- Date: Thursday 23 May 2024
- Time: 6.00 - 7.30pm

Understanding childhood anxiety

- Date: Thursday 27 June 2024
- Time: 6.00 - 7.30pm



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Safeguarding - What to do if you have a concern about a child

If you have a concern about any child at any time you can, as a member of the community, make a referral. For more information on how to do this follow:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/keeping-children-and-young-people-safe/report-child-abuse>



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? Or tell us what you have been up to in the Easter break!

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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Girls only street
cricket sessions:



CHANCE TO SHINE
STREET

IT'S
FREE!



- **TAPE BALL CRICKET**
- **FREE COACHING**
- **NO EQUIPMENT NEEDED**
- **WEAR WHAT YOU WANT**
- **ALL WELCOME**

GIRLS ONLY STREET CRICKET SESSIONS
AGE 8 - 14 | EVERY TUESDAY | 18:30 - 19:30
St Leonards Primary



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**TO FIND OUT MORE CONTACT NICK HOLROYD -
NHOLROYD@OXONCB.COM**

2023 - 2024 Term dates:

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

Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May

Term 6: Monday 3rd June to Wednesday 24th July - School finishes at 1.45 pm

Inset day on Friday 28th June

2024 - 2025 Term Dates:

Term 1 2024: Wednesday 4th September to Friday 25th October 2024

Term 2 2024: Monday 4th November to Friday 20th December 2024

Term 3 2024: Tuesday 7th January 2025 to Friday 14th February 2025



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