



Dashwood Banbury Academy
an Aspirations Academy

Dashwood News

Friday 20th December 2024

Part II



Aspirations Academies Trust
In association with Quaglia Institute

Sports Events

We took 12 year 5 & 6 pupils to take part in a team building and orienteering event at Wykham Park. Despite the snow and ice, it was brilliant to see them using their knowledge of power skills including collaboration and critical thinking & problem solving. A special mention to Harvey, Ritu and Chloe who came 1st place overall!



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Sports Events

We took some pupils in year 3 & 4 to a dodgeball festival at Wykham Park. It was fantastic to see their honesty and collaboration, it was a brilliant achievement winning 3 out of 4 of their matches!



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Sports Events

We took some pupils who previously qualified to attend a cross country event. They were up against the top runners from North Oxfordshire schools so even getting to these finals is an incredible achievement! We are so proud of how all the runners preserved and showed their true character! A special shout-out goes to Sofia in year 3 who came 11th in her category!



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NEW! Dashwood Aspire Award

We are delighted to inform you of a new initiative at Dashwood Banbury Academy that we hope will inspire creativity, leadership and responsibility in our pupils in Years 4 - 6!

The **Dashwood Aspire Award** encourages pupils to engage in interests and activities outside of school that we can celebrate the outcomes of with them in school. The Dashwood Aspire Award will recognise their achievements linked to our 3 Guiding Principles of **Self-Worth, Engagement and Purpose**.

This award and recognition initiative is open to all pupils in Year 4 - 6 to engage in should they so wish. It is designed to develop their **character, resilience, sense of leadership and responsibility** and broaden their interests. Although there are recognition awards in place (as above), the programme's intention is your child taking ownership of small learning or volunteering projects that will give them a sense of accomplishment and pride in themselves.

Research shows that feeling a sense of accomplishment is an important element in pupils developing a positive wellbeing over time. Research also shows that pupils with a strong sense of purpose, persistence and accomplishment perform better in their future lives.



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We are delighted that all of our pupils at Dashwood will be able to access the Dashwood Aspire Award as they enter Year 4 until they leave at the end of Year 6.

Parents in Year 4 - 6 can find out more about the Aspire Award at:
<https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2024/11/Aspire-Award-letter-1.pdf>

The list of possible activities under each of the 3 Guiding Principles: ***Self-Worth***, ***Engagement*** and ***Purpose*** can be found here:
<https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2024/11/Aspire-DBA-2024.2025-PDF-version.pdf>



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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.

Dates for this years meetings:

Friday 14th February 2025 at 9am

Wednesday 2nd April 2025 at 9.00am

Thursday 10th July 2025 at 9.00am

It was great to see people at the meeting on Tuesday. We discussed: Seesaw; the new Power Skills Recognition Cards and how we can ensure that our new families are equipped with logins and all the information they need to start at Dashwood. In the next meeting, Thursday 5th December, we will be discussing what is going well and any next steps for improvement...we are a solutions-based school!



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How have we been celebrating the festive period at Dashwood?



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Christmas Singing in the Community

Dashwood children took part in 2 events where they brought festive cheer for all to hear at The Ridings Care Home and Chamberlaine Court. Pupils sang a selection of songs and enjoyed spending time with the residents. They had some lovely comments about their performances! Well done to all involved!



Cards of kindness - thinking about others in the community

Cards to the Care Homes

Our Year 6 and Year 3 pupils have been busy making cards for two local care homes - Chamberlaine Court and The Ridings to brighten their festive period. Thank you to them all for their creativity and kindness!



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Pantomime comes to Dashwood!

Pupils in Year 1 - 6 were delighted that their day today started with a very special treat... the Panto that came to Dashwood!

Stage-Ed delivered two superb performances of the much-loved Aladdin that the children thoroughly enjoyed and they fully embraced the interactive parts! There was a lot of laughter and fun had by all!

We are grateful to our PTFA for providing this wonderful annual event so that every child at Dashwood could see 6 pantomimes during their primary school experience with us. We really appreciate all of the hard work that the PTFA put into raising money throughout the year to makes these experiences possible and to our pupils, parents and carers for supporting all of the fabulous events that they provide!



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Elves visit our Nursery and Reception classes

Two cheeky elves paid a wonderful visit to Cherry, Plum, Peach and Pear classes today! The children were so happy to meet the elves who left a little gift of festive crafts and treats for them to enjoy with their families.

Thank you to our PTFA who provided these gifts and sprinkle of festive joy into the Early Years!



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Delicious Christmas Lunch

As always, the Christmas lunch is always such a treat and the children LOVE it! A delicious traditional meal was enjoyed by so many within a lovely atmosphere of festive music, fun and laughter!

Thank you so much to Karen, Lyn and all the canteen staff for providing another delicious festive meal for our pupils to enjoy!



Cherry and Plum spread their Christmas joy!

Cherry Class pupils sang to their parents and carers at the Stay and Play session on Wednesday after an exciting visit from the elves.

Plum Class held a wonderful singing concert for their families too! The Cherry classroom felt so festive and cosy and the children sang so beautifully! It really got us all in the festive spirit!



Reception Nativity



Peach and Pear classes performed their nativity to parents and carers this week. For the majority of children, it was their first big performance to an audience and we were very proud of their achievements. There was a lot to remember including lines, song lyrics and stage directions, but they were all fantastic.



Year 3 and 4 Singing around the Christmas Tree

Year 3 and 4 had the exciting opportunity to sing around the Christmas tree for their carol concert earlier in the term. We sang a range of songs including *We wish you a Merry Christmas* and *Santa Claus is coming to town*. It was amazing to see so many parents and carers watching in the audience and we hope you enjoyed our performance!



Year 5 and 6 St Leonard's Church carol concert

Year 5 and 6 had an amazing time performing their carol concert at St Leonard's church. They sang all of the songs beautifully and our readers did a fantastic job delivering their lines on the nativity story. Well done to everyone involved and massive thank you to any parents and carers who came along and joined in with the singing!



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Getting in the festive spirit!

Christmas
window
decorating



Nursery
Cherry
Class

All the pupils at Dashwood have been getting into the festive spirit decorating their classroom windows and making Christmas crafts. It has been such a joy to see all the creativity which has brought a smile to all of our faces! Karen and Lyn, our lovely canteen ladies, judged the windows and decided on the following winners:

- Early Years - Peach and Pear Classes
- KS1 - Holly Class
- KS2 - Ash Class
- The Treehouse



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Nursery
Plum
Class



Reception
Peach and Pear
Class

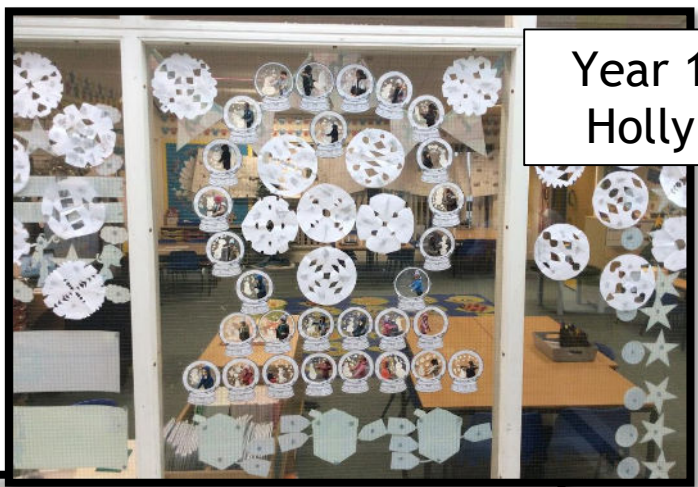


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Year 1
Holly



Year 2
Maple



Year 2
Redwood



Year 1
Hazel

Christmas
window
decorating



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Year 4 Rowan and Aspen



Year 3 Silver Birch



Year 3 Ash

The Treehouse





Year 5
Sycamore
and Beech



Year 6 Oak and Chestnut

