



Dashwood Banbury Academy
an Aspirations Academy

Dashwood News

Friday 13th February 2026



Aspirations Academies Trust
In association with Quaglia Institute

A note from the Principal...

As we come to the end of another amazing term, I would like to thank pupils, staff, parents and our wider school community for making it such a success.

Highlights have included the wonderful Year 4 Rowan Class Ukulele performance for parents, the ever-popular PTFA school disco, and a range of exciting trips and experiences. Year 4 enjoyed an inspiring visit to Chedworth Roman Villa, while Year 2 were thrilled by their trip to the National Space Centre in Leicester. Laurel Class had a fantastic bowls experience, and our pupils have shown great enthusiasm and collaboration across a number of sporting events, including Sportshall Athletics. It has truly been a term full of learning, new experiences and achievement.

This week, we have been proud to take part in **Mental Health Awareness Week**, focusing on the theme of **Standing in the Gap**. Inspired by the charity of the same name, we encourage our pupils to think about how they can support others, show kindness, and be there when someone might be struggling. Through activities, discussions, and moments of reflection, we aim to create a school community where everyone feels valued, heard, and cared for.

Wishing you a wonderful half-term. We look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 23rd February.

Mrs Gordon-Weeks



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Parking

We would like to remind all families of the importance of parking **safely** and **legally** around the school, particularly during drop-off and pick-up times.

Recently, we have observed an increase in vehicles parking illegally or stopping in unsafe locations outside the school grounds. This includes parking on yellow lines, blocking driveways, stopping/parking in the school gates entrance, or double parking that blocks the roads. These actions create serious safety risks for our pupils, families, and staff, especially for children who may be difficult to see when exiting vehicles or crossing the road.

Our primary concern is the safety of the children. Illegal or inconsiderate parking can obstruct visibility, limit access for emergency vehicles, and increase the likelihood of accidents. Even brief stops can pose a danger during busy school times.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to:

- Park only in designated, legal parking areas away from Merton Street
- Avoid stopping on yellow lines or near the gated entrance to school
- Be considerate of local residents and other road users
- Allow extra time so parking safely is not rushed. We advise parking on streets in the nearby vicinity that do not have parking restrictions.

By working together and setting a positive example, we can help ensure that the school environment remains safe for everyone.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support in keeping our Dashwood school community safe.



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Keeping our Dashwood children safe is everyone's responsibility. What can we all do?

Any member of our community can report an illegally parked vehicle. All you need is the car registration plate and a photograph of the car clearly showing that it illegally parked e.g: on double yellow lines etc.

As a school, we report illegally parked cars but if we all report, it will make a difference. Follow this link to report:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-travel/parking/illegal-parking>





**Dashwood
Banbury
Academy**

Parent Forum: Dashwood Action Committee

Your voice is really important to us. We will hold two meetings times to try to try to support lots of parents to attend.

Date: Wednesday 18th March

Time: 9-10am and 5-6pm

Agenda:

1. Aspirations Framework
2. What is our behaviour system in school?
3. Attendance
4. Question and Answer session



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We have set the Term dates for 2026-2027

Term 1 2026: Thursday 3rd September - Friday 23rd October

INSET DAYS: Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September - School closed for pupils

INSET DAY: Friday 16th October

Term 2 2026: Monday 2nd November - Friday 18th December

INSET DAYS: Friday 27th and Monday 30th November - School closed for pupils

Last day - Friday 18th December - school closes at 1.30 pm

Term 3 2027: Tuesday 5th January 2027 - Friday 12th February

INSET DAY: Monday 4th January - School closed for pupils

Term 4 2027: Monday 22nd February - Thursday 25th March

Term 5 2027: Monday 12th April to Thursday 27th May

Bank Holiday: Monday 3rd May - School Closed

INSET DAY: Friday 28th May - school closed for pupils

Term 6 2027: Monday 7th June - Wednesday 21st July

Last day of term - Wednesday 21st July - school closes at 1.30 pm

Please add
them to your
diaries



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Laurel Class

Laurel Class have had a fantastic term. They have been learning all about space and the moon landings. They have written newspaper reports, hosted a news report with an interview with Neil Armstrong and even built their own rockets. Away from space, Laurel Class got the opportunity to try their hand at bowls, they were brilliant and loved every second of it!



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The Treehouse

Lots of lovely learning has taken place in the Treehouse this week. All the pupils have decorated biscuits and been practicing their mark marking.



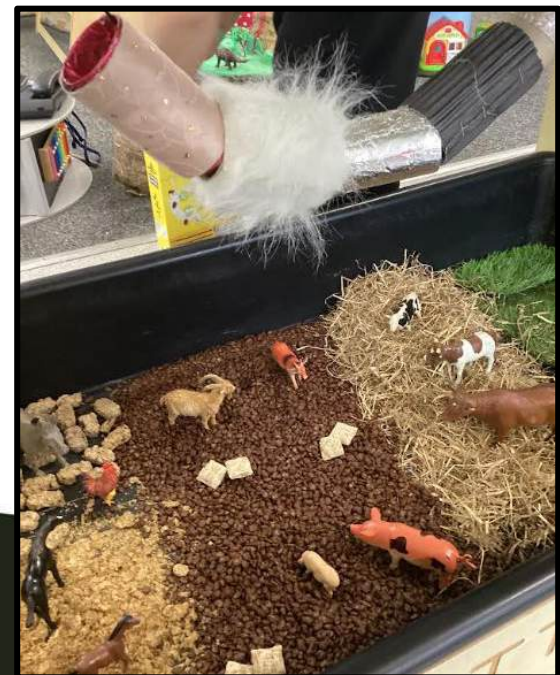
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Cherry Nursery

Cherry class have been using their senses to explore and discover new textures. They have been touching, squeezing, rubbing, and comparing different materials, noticing how they feel in their hands and how they look. The children are using rich descriptive language and showing lots of curiosity as they learn through hands on sensory play.



Plum Nursery

Plum Class are coming to the end of their topic *People Who Help Us*, which the children have really enjoyed. They have learned all about the different people in our community who support us, and loved acting out roles such as dentists and shopkeepers during role play.

The children also created story maps for the *Zoo Vet* story and practised retelling it in their own words. Outdoors, they have been building their physical skills by balancing and exploring different ways to move across planks and crates.



Reception

Peach and Pear classes have been learning all about space. The children became aerospace engineers as they designed, built and tested their own rockets to help some stranded aliens get home. They also enjoyed acting out space adventures, using facts they had learned about the planets and life on the International Space Station, and even wrote packing lists for a space journey.

More recently, the classes have begun learning about the upcoming Lunar New Year celebrations.



Year 1

Year 1 have impressed us so much this term! They have shown great character and communication skills whilst making their Florence Nightingale lamps in creative curriculum.

They have also shown great collaboration and critical thinking during Discovery Time, working together to build amazing constructions from Number blocks to hospitals with ambulances.

In their writing, Year 1 have produced lovely thank you cards for the Jolly Postman to send and a good friend award to give to someone in the class. This was linked to learning about Florence Nightingale and how she received a cross from the Queen for her hard work.



Year 2

This term year 2 have really been enjoying our space topic, including our trip to the Space Centre in Leicester!

They have enjoyed building model rockets, space buggies and space stations using junk modelling.

We have learnt lots about how to train to become an astronaut, the equipment they use and the jobs they do.

We have enjoyed listening to the story of famous astronauts Neil Armstrong and Chris Hadfield. We have even been writing some brilliant descriptive stories about overcoming our own fears!



Space Centre in Leicester

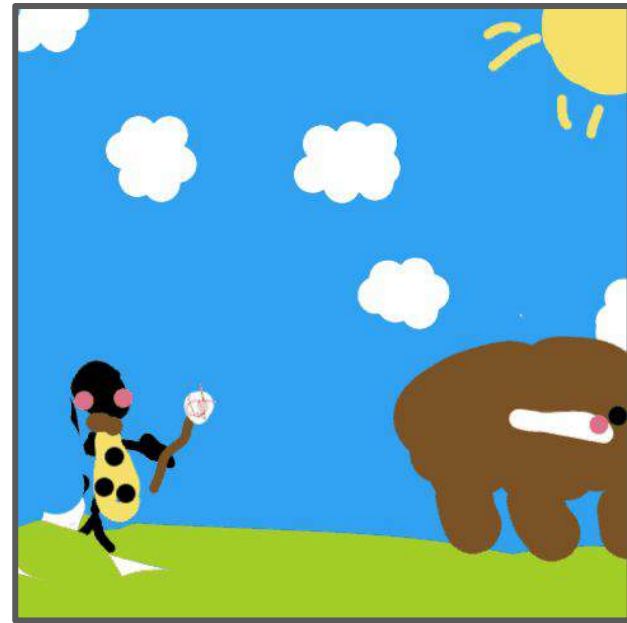
This term year 2 were fortunate to get to go to the Space Centre Museum in Leicester. They got to explore what the inside of a spacecraft looks like, explore lots of astronaut's suits as well as the equipment used in space throughout history!

The children loved exploring and getting to learn more about space and watching astronauts train in the planetarium show. There were so many opportunities for children to ask questions and get hands on with lots to experiment with.



Year 3

We are incredibly proud of the resilience our children have shown during their PIXL tests in recent weeks. This term, we have focused on animation as part of one of our diverse literacy outcomes, and creativity has truly flourished. The children loved designing and building Stone Age settlements using clay, carefully shaping every detail before bringing their creations to life through stop-motion videos. It has been wonderful to see their imagination, teamwork and collaboration skills shine. In Science, our exploration of different types of rocks sparked great curiosity. Investigating the permeability of rocks through hands-on experiments absolutely blew our socks off and deepened our understanding through real scientific enquiry. We are now looking ahead to Term 4 in Year 3 with great enthusiasm, excited for the new learning adventures that await!



Year 4

What an amazing end to the term we have had! Romans has definitely been one of our favourite topics so far this year! For the past couple of weeks, we have been developing our sewing skills by designing and creating Roman inspired purses. We looked at a range of Roman people that could have used our purses including merchants, craftsmen and soldiers, and considered our designs to suit these Roman individuals. Using a range of stitch styles, we sewed our two pieces of fabric together, attached a button and used a fastening loop to ensure the purse was secure. We all showed character throughout this unit and Mrs O'Neill and Miss Hempstock were so proud of our purses!



Chedworth Roman Villa

Year 4 had an amazing trip to Chedworth Roman Villa! We explored what life was like for a rich Roman family. Our first activity of the day was taking a guided tour of the Roman Villa site. Our tour started at the replica model, where our guide explained all about the history of the villa. Our first stop on the tour took us to the outdoor bathhouses, kitchen and Nymphaeum water shrine. We then entered the Roman Villa, where we had the opportunity to see a fully functioning hypocaust, dining room and indoor bathhouse, all with mosaic floors. After our tour, we were able to step back in time and recreate key Roman inventions including mosaics, the hypocaust system and arches and temples. We had an amazing day and Mrs O'Neill and Miss Hempstock were so proud of us all!



Rowan Ukulele Performance

Rowan Class showcased their talents in a performance to their parents and carers, which included a range of songs from Hound Dog by Elvis to Just the Way You Are by Bruno Mars. The children were confident in performing in front of an audience and have progressed significantly in three terms! Miss Hempstock was very proud of Rowan Class!



Year 5

Year 5 have had a very creative and exciting end to Term 3.

In Science, we have found out about different ways to separate materials before practically using sieving, decanting, filtering and evaporation to separate out lots of mixed up materials.

As part of our Vikings unit of learning, the children have used charcoals to sketch the Sutton Hoo helmet. In Design Technology, they have used our new Makedo tools to create a viking helmet. These tools are fantastic for scoring, cutting and joining cardboard safely. The children worked collaborative in their pairs and have great fun learning these new skills.



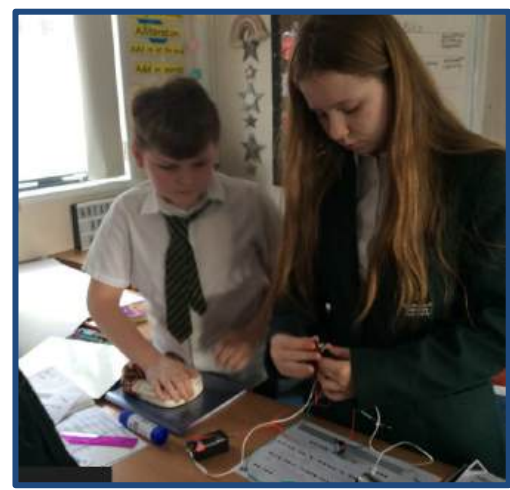
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Year 6

Year 6 have had a fantastic end to Term 3. They have been enjoying closing up their history unit on WWII by creating group presentations all about how the war impacted children on both sides of the conflict. Linked to this, they have been designing their own circuits and for sending messages using Morse Code during science sessions. During literacy, they have been working hard on using figurative language in their descriptive writing all about The Blitz to create atmosphere and build tension.

Maths has been focused on ratio and solving problems using ratio and proportion before beginning to look at shape, area and perimeter. On top of all of this, they have still found time for mentoring younger pupils, an inter-house family competition in hockey and some sketching of spitfires.



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An Evening to Remember: PTFA Disco Delights at Dashwood!

What a fantastic evening it was at Dashwood Banbury Academy as our PTFA Disco brought the school community together with music, laughter, and dancing feet! From the moment the doors opened, the excitement in school was buzzing, and it was clear this was going to be another event to remember.

Thanks to DJ Tony and our fabulous PTFA and their decorations, the hall was transformed into a colourful disco wonderland, complete with flashing lights, brilliant tunes, and a dancefloor that stayed busy all evening. Pupils arrived dressed to impress, showing off their best dance moves and biggest smiles. It was a joy to see children from across the school having fun together, laughing with friends, and enjoying the chance to let loose in such a happy, safe environment. Some of the teachers could even be spotted showing off their impressive moves to some classics that even they knew!

A huge thank you must go to Niamh, Lauren and our amazing PTFA volunteers, whose hard work and dedication made the evening such a success. From planning and decorating to running the refreshments and keeping everything running smoothly, their efforts were truly appreciated. Events like this simply wouldn't be possible without their time, energy, and enthusiasm.



The disco wasn't just about fun (although there was plenty of that!)—it also helped raise valuable funds to support additional resources and opportunities for all of our Dashwood pupils to experience and enjoy. Every ticket sold contributes directly to enriching school life, making a real difference for our Dashwood pupils.

We'd also like to thank parents and carers for their continued support, whether by helping out on the evening, encouraging attendance, or dressing their child to impress for the event. The strong sense of community was on full display, and it's something we can all be proud of.

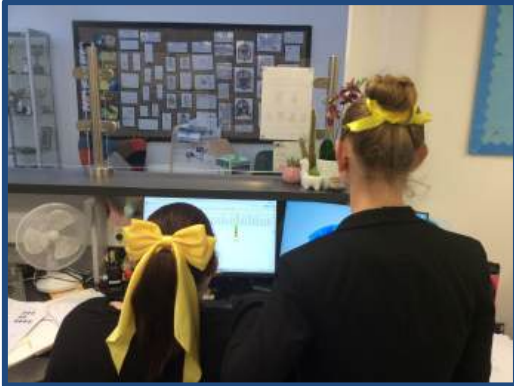
Once again, thank you to everyone who took part and helped make the PTFA Disco such a shining success. We're already looking forward to the next event—if this one was anything to go by, it's sure to be another hit!



Wear Yellow for Mental Health Awareness Standing in the Gap



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We have marked Mental Health Awareness Week at Dashwood by wearing yellow in support of local charity ***Standing In The Gap***. All monies raised will go to the charity to support the amazing work that they do in the local community.

Our pupils have been learning all about the importance of belonging and the strategies that they can use if they need support with their own mental health.



Competition Time

Calling all Years 1–6!

We are inviting pupils who are passionate about **art, wildlife and making a difference**



to design ideas for improving the **Dashwood pond area**.

Please encourage children to **research suitable plants** and include in their designs **their reasons** (e.g. colour, wildlife attraction). **Prizes to be won!**

Deadline: 6th March — entries to be handed in to me.

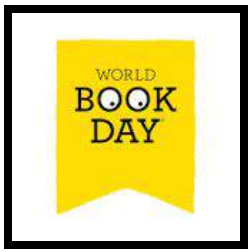
Posters will be displayed in classrooms — please show your classes and display in windows.



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World Book Day 2026

We ask that on World Book Day (Thursday 5th March 2026), your child/ren come to school dressed as their favourite character. There will be prizes for the best dressed on the day! Remember - you don't have to spend out on a costume, why not make your own at home? Check out 'World Book Day' official website for some ideas!

<https://www.worldbookday.com/resources/dressing-up-ideas-for-parents-and-carers/>

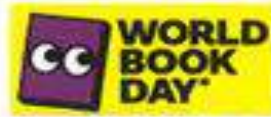


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WORLD BOOK DAY!



Thursday 5th March 2026

Dress Up as Your Favourite Book Character!

★ Prizes for Most Creative Costume! ★★



Decorate a Cake Competition! ★

Prizes: £5 Vouchers for Travelling Book Fair! ★★



Cakes Sold After School - 50p Each!

★ Come and Buy a Tasty Treat!
All proceeds from the cake sale will go to new books for school!



World Book Day

Cake Sale Competition

We invite all pupils to make or decorate cakes / biscuits in the style of their favourite story or characters. The competition will run across the school and there will be winners from EYFS, KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2. All pupils who enter will receive a certificate for their entry and the cakes will be sold after they have been judged, at the end of the school day for 50p.

Please send entries into classes on the morning of Thursday 5th March, labelled, remembering we are a nut free school.

Link to letter with all the information:

<https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2026/02/World-Book-Day-2026.pdf>



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World Book Day

After school on World Book Day we will be selling beautifully hand-crocheted bookmarks. Starting from as little as 50p, you can buy one of these to mark the page in your favourite book.

All monies raised will support PTFA initiatives that benefit each pupil at Dashwood.



Thank you to one of our wonderful parents - for dedicating so much time to making these beautiful bookmarks!



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PTFA bookmark sale!

Thursday 5th March (after school)



Beautiful handmade bookmarks for sale
50p - £1

Ideal for a gift or perfect for a
thoughtful 'thank you'.

Correct change please



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Eco-Warriors on an Eco-Mission!

Dashwood's Eco-Warriors expertly lead by Mrs Beaumont-Allen have been on an Eco-Mission! Pupils have been supporting our submission for the Eco-School Green Flag Award as well as The Big Schools Birdwatch Challenge where pupils gathered data over lunchtimes about which birds they could see. There was also a competition for pupils to enter to make a bird feeder! Well done to all those who entered!



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The Big Birdwatch Challenge results!

Well done for all of you who entered our competition! WOW! It was absolutely amazing to see such wonderful, creative and resourceful bird feeders and houses fly in with such style!! We are proud to present our winners!



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A Lidl

something from us



Your child has taken part in a **Lidl Foodies workshop** at school, so here's a little something towards buying more of the fresh fruit they've been exploring. This coupon is for your use only, can't be shared, and is valid for one-time use only. Once it's gone, it's gone - so don't miss out!



Scanning the code will take you to the coupon sign up form.
Enter your email to receive your code for use in the Lidl Plus app.

Subject to availability: 7,000 coupons available.
Coupons can be redeemed in the Lidl Plus app 02/02/2026 - 01/05/2026. Coupons valid for 14 days after being entered into the app. 1 coupon per account. Full coupon T&Cs apply, see 'Coupons for You' in the Lidl Plus app for more information. 18+, GB residents, Lidl app required. Full T&Cs apply: <https://www.lidl.co.uk/c/lidl-plus-terms-of-use/s10025414?hidebanner=true>

Lidl Foodies



www.nationalschoolspartnership.com/initiatives/lidl-foodies/

Uniform

Please see attached letter sent out this week regarding expectations for uniform:

<https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2025/10/Uniform-letter-full-2025.2026-to-parents.pdf>

At Dashwood we have high expectations for uniform as we know that when pupils *look smart*, they *think smart* and that it helps them feel a sense of belonging to our Dashwood community. So many of our pupils looks smart in their full school uniform each and every day. Thank you to those parents and carers who support us in this important aspect of our daily school life!



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Blazers

If you have any old blazers at home that are no longer needed, we would love to find them a new home in school!

Please bring to the school office - any blazers will be very much appreciated!



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We now have some new ties available to purchase from the school office for £5.50.



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Parents/Carers.....



Can you help us with any of the following?



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We are looking to update our school football team kits ...

Can you, or do you know of anyone/a business, that would sponsor a new kit for our girls and boys football teams?

Also, do you know of any T-shirt printing business?

Any support or information would be greatly appreciated. Please email Miss Gooch at:
office@dashwood-aspirations.org



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Bringing history to life at Dashwood!

Do you have historical items tucked away at home?
We're looking for **artifacts, documents, photographs, and memorabilia** that tell the story of our past.

We're interested in:

- Any objects connected to local people who served or contributed during the wars
- Military uniforms, medals, and badges
- Letters, diaries, and photographs of soldiers or civilians
- Posters, ration books, and wartime household items
- Commemorative coins, stamps, or medals
- Photographs, letters, or personal stories related to royal events
- Souvenirs from royal visits, jubilees, or celebrations
- Objects connected to your family's encounters or experiences with the monarchy
- Toys from your childhood or your family's past



Do you have **photographs, documents, or objects** connected to our town's past? We're looking for items that tell the story of our community!



We're interested in:

- Old photographs of streets, buildings, and events
- Letters, diaries, and personal documents
- Household items, tools, or clothing from earlier times
- Memorabilia from local schools and businesses

We warmly welcome any donations of historical items, for us to keep in school, to help support and enrich the teaching of our history curriculum.

Please bring any donations to the school office - we greatly appreciate your support!

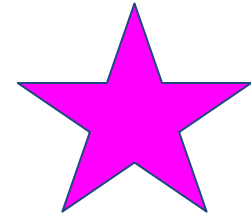
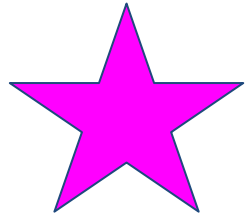
If we're unable to keep the items, we would still love for you to bring them in and share their stories with the children.



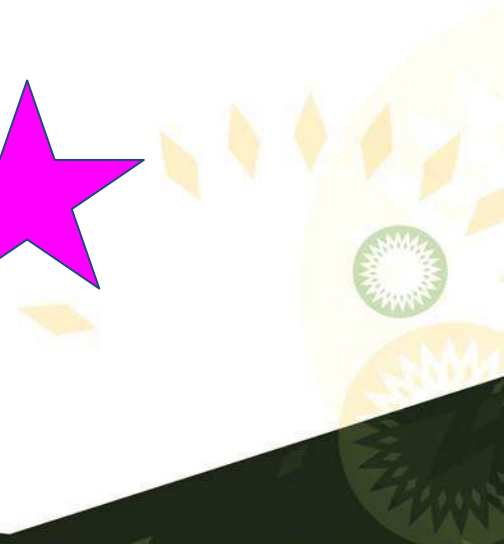
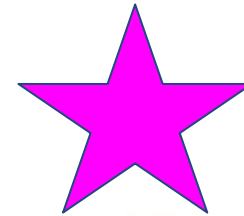
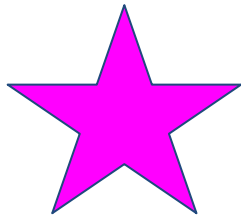
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Whole School Reminders



Whole School Reminders

Healthy snacks at breaktime

Reminder that all breaktime snacks **must** be fresh fruit or vegetables. These can be whole or cut up pieces of fruit, a pot of grapes, raspberries, strawberries, blueberries etc, raisins, vegetable sticks - carrots, cucumber etc. No fruit substitutes such as fruit stars or wipers are allowed. Please ensure your child has these separate from their lunchbox each morning so they can eat them at break time.

Healthy lunchboxes

At Dashwood, we encourage all pupils to have a healthy lunch. Please ensure that this is a nut-free lunch (including NO chocolate spread) and is a balanced mix of foods with **one** treat only. There are some ideas on the next page.

Drinks

To support dental hygiene, please ensure that your child has **water only** in bottles in class. They can bring fruit juice/squash to have with their lunch. If they bring squash into class they will be asked to save it for their lunch and can access water from class instead.



The NHS recommends that a healthier lunchbox should include:

Starchy carbohydrates that keep your child feeling fuller for longer (wholemeal bread, pasta, potatoes, rice). **Top Tip:** If your child does not like wholemeal bread, try making a sandwich from one slice of white and one slice of wholegrain to get them used to it. Please ensure sandwich filling are also low sugar - no chocolate spread please.

Make healthy swaps to cut down on crisps, chocolate and fruit bars that are high in refined sugar. Find out more about healthier snack swaps at <https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/food-facts/healthier-snacks/>

Only **ONE** small treat should be included in lunchboxes if absolutely necessary. No 'grab bag' crisps or extra-large sized chocolate should be included. A portion of fruit or a low-sugar yoghurt are much healthier choices. Calories should be under 100 calories.

Include at least one portion of vegetables or salad: cherry tomatoes, cucumber, celery sticks and sliced peppers all count towards your child's '5 a day'. You could add a small pot of cream cheese for your child to dip their vegetables in.



At Dashwood Banbury Academy, we believe that school meals are a great choice for your child, but if you choose to make a packed lunch for them instead, here are some tips for providing a healthier lunchbox. Please help your child to live a healthy life.



Include fresh fruit that is in season: chopped apple, raspberries, strawberries, blackberries, blueberries and melon, all make great snacks too. **Top Tip:** add a squeeze of lemon juice to chopped fruit to stop it from going brown.

Include a source of protein such as beans and pulses; eggs; meat; cheese; and fish.



REMEMBER: We are a NUT-FREE school.

Please **NO** peanut butter, chocolate spread or nuts as snacks as some of our children and staff members have severe allergies.



Find healthy lunchbox choices and ideas from the NHS at Change4Life and <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well/food-guidelines-and-food-labels/the-eatwell-guide/>



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Whole School Reminders

Uniform - earrings and jewellery

We remind all pupils that a **single** stud earring in each ear only can be worn as per our uniform policy. **No hoop earring are permitted in any year group.** If your child has their ear(s) pierced, please ensure that these are removed on PE/swimming days or that your child can remove the earring(s) themselves or that they are taped over.

As per our uniform policy, no jewellery should be worn to school. If your child wears this to school, they will be asked to remove it.





Up and coming events and dates for your diary



<https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2026/02/Term-4-dates-2026.pdf>



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Parent and Carer Support Section



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Banbury United Football Club Opportunities

Banbury United currently run weekly sessions at two local venues:

- Chandos Playzone
- North Oxfordshire Academy

Sessions are open to the local community and aim to provide accessible, supportive, and engaging activities for children and families.

The booking Link for all our sessions including February Half term: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/33875487049?aff=ebdsshios>

We also have a WhatsApp community which parents and carers are welcome to join. This is where we share the most up-to-date information about all our sessions, events, and holiday activities.

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/FPDMMCtFYWu1DgQ8Zyfipf>




**FOOTBALL
SCHOOL**
AT CHANDOS PLAYZONE
TUESDAY | AGES 6 - 11
5PM - 6PM | £3

VISIT BANBURY UNITED ON EVENTBRITE




**NEURODIVERSE
FOOTBALL**
AT NORTH OXFORDSHIRE
ACCADEMY ASTRO
MONDAY | AGES 6 - 13
5PM - 6PM | £2.50

VISIT BANBURY UNITED ON EVENTBRITE



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DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

AT NORTH OXFORDSHIRE
ACCADEMY ASTRO

TUESDAY | AGES 6 - 11
5PM - 6PM | £5



BANBURY UNITED ON EVENTBRITE

Orchard Fields
Primary School



BANBURY UNITED MATCHDAY READY FOOTBALL CAMPS

February 16th, 17th & 18th

9:00 AM - 3:00PM
**£18 EACH SESSION
OR ALL 3 SESSIONS
FOR £50**



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THE BANBURY LARDER

WE'RE COMING TO GRIMSBURY

GRAND OPENING!

Grimsbury
Community
Centre, Banbury,
OX16 3WT



Opening Friday 9th January, 2026
3PM - 5.30PM

Register from Monday, January 5th 2026 at www.sofea.uk.com

thebanburylarder@gmail.com | 07862779494



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In association with Quaglia Institute

Family Round Robin Nature Event February Half Term 2026



Wednesday
18 February 2026,
9am-12:30pm
Cropredy Wharf,
Banbury OX17 1PQ

What to expect

A round robin event where you can try family crafting using foraged items such as sticks, leaves and feathers, I Spy activity, wildlife survey and learn basic navigation.

Everyone welcome - bring a friend!



YOU MOVE



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Free healthy lifestyle programmes for families.

<https://oxf.maximusuk.co.uk/beeze-families/>



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Community Fundraising

Lunchbox Project and Prabhu, together with Tugo and Lee, and Banbury Car & Bike Meet's Rowan, have joined forces once more to support our community.

Look at the link if you would like to support this community fundraising project.

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/tugo?utm_medium=CF&utm_source=CL



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

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

[Report child abuse | Oxfordshire County Council](#)

[Report abuse to the NSPCC](#)

If a child is at immediate risk of harm, call 999.



Parent Support Workshops from Camhs

<https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/camhs/oxon/sir/webinars/>



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PARENT WEBINAR

Parents are the most important part of young people's lives and hold the key to helping them. Let us help you, to help them.

CAMHS
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS SESSIONS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

SUBJECTS INCLUDE

- TEEN ANXIETY
- SELF HARM
- LOW MOOD
- HOW TO TALK TO YOUR DISTRESSED CHILD

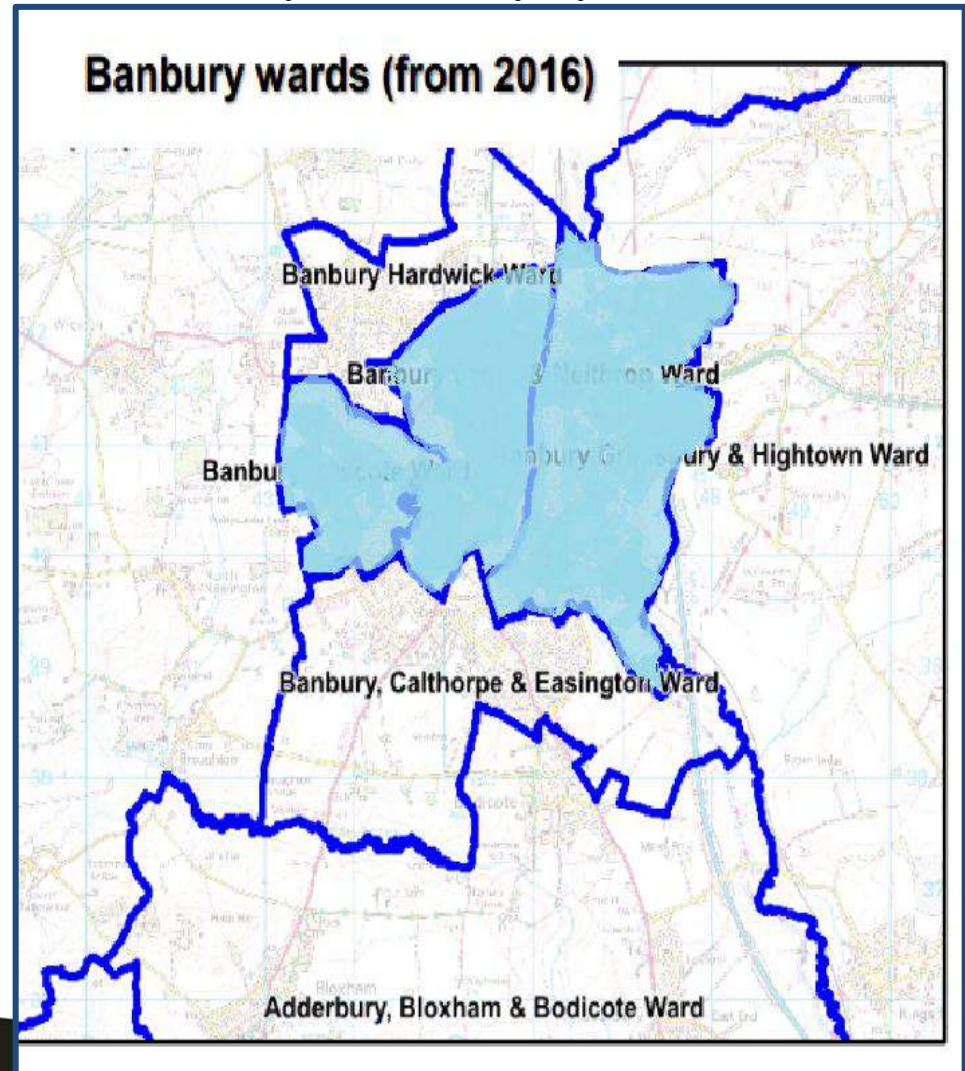
[WWW.OXFORDHEALTH.NHS.UK/CAMHS/OXON/SIR/WEBINARS](https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/camhs/oxon/sir/webinars/)



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Standing in the Gap-support for parents

Standing in the Gap are delivering **FREE** Managing Anger and Managing Anxiety workshops to **any families** living in the Ruscote, Neithrop, Grimsbury and Hightown wards of Banbury. See the picture below. The wards we are supporting with **FREE** workshops are in light blue.



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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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Free online parenting support

Online Parenting Courses - Family Lives

Family Lives has produced a series of online parenting courses that are free to access. I have sampled the teens one and found it very accessible.

<https://www.familylives.org.uk/how-we-can-help/online-parenting-courses>

Family Lives offers a confidential and free* helpline service for families in England and Wales (previously known as Parentline). They can be contacted on **0808 800 2222** for emotional support, information, advice and guidance on any aspect of parenting and family life. Their website is also a rich source of useful support and advice.



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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? 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 the school office.



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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.



FREE

BANBURY YOUNG SINGERS

For all children in years
3-6 who love singing!

Thursdays
during term time
3:45 - 4:45 pm
St Mary's Primary
School, Banbury
Entrance and car park
on Bluecoats Close

- Join weekly practice sessions
- Sing a wide range of songs
- Take part in concerts
- Develop singing and musical skills
- Make new friends

Banbury Young Singers

Sign up online by scanning the QR code OR fill in this form and bring it your first session

This form MUST be filled in by a parent or carer



Name	
School	
Year group	

Do you give permission for your child to walk home on their own?
IF CHILD IS IN YEAR 5 OR OLDER

YES NO

Please list any other adults who can collect your child
Name and relationship to child

--

Parent / carer name	
Parent / carer email PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY	
Emergency contact phone number(s)	

Medical or SEND information about your child

--



pudding Pie
COOKERY SCHOOL

A WEEK

COOKERY CLASSES



10-17-24-31
January 2026

11am - 1pm



Grimsbury
Community
Centre

FREE

Parent & Child classes

- ✓ Cook simple, healthy, one-pot family meals
- ✓ Learn new skills with confidence
- ✓ Weekly recipes, quizzes, and take-home food
- ✓ Special focus on budget-friendly cooking
- ✓ All ingredients included!
- ✓ Healthy dessert sessions included 🍏🍰



pudding Pie
COOKERY SCHOOL



Cherwell

DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

To Book: **email: grimsburycommunity5@gmail.com**

Subject line: Pudding Pie

Or come in to collect a booking form, open to 10 parent and child (1 adults and 1 child)



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2025 - 2026 Term Dates

Term 4 2026: Monday 23rd February - Friday 27th March

Term 5 2026: Monday 13th April - Thursday 21st May

Bank Holiday: Monday 4th May - School Closed

INSET Day: Friday 22nd May - School closed for pupils

Term 6 2026: Monday 1st June - Friday 17th July

INSET Day: Friday 26th June - School closed for pupils

INSET Day: Monday 20th July - School closed for pupils

Last day of term - Friday 17th July - school will close 1.30 pm on this day.

There will be no After School Club



Update: Early finish

Please note that, in the next academic year 2025 - 2026, to align with the Aspirations Trust Schools in Banbury, we will be finishing at **1.30 pm on Friday 17th July 2026**



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Term dates for 2026-2027

Term 1 2026: Thursday 3rd September - Friday 23rd October

INSET DAYS: Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September - School closed for pupils

INSET DAY: Friday 16th October

Term 2 2026: Monday 2nd November - Friday 18th December

INSET DAYS: Friday 27th and Monday 30th November - School closed for pupils

Last day - Friday 18th December - school closes at 1.30 pm

Term 3 2027: Tuesday 5th January 2027 - Friday 12th February

INSET DAY: Monday 4th January - School closed for pupils

Term 4 2027: Monday 22nd February - Thursday 25th March

Term 5 2027: Monday 12th April to Thursday 27th May

Bank Holiday: Monday 3rd May - School Closed

INSET DAY: Friday 28th May - school closed for pupils

Term 6 2027: Monday 7th June - Wednesday 21st July

Last day of term - Wednesday 21st July - school closes at 1.30 pm



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