Dashwood Banbury Academy
an Aspirations Academy
Sarah Gordon-Weeks – Principal

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of all of the events we have running in Term 1. I have attached links to letters for more information. Sometimes impromptu events come up within a term but we will try to give you as much notice as possible. *A paper copy can be available from the office if you would like one.*

Term 1 up and coming events:

Date	Year group	Term 1 Dates
Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September	**INSET days: School closed for all pupils**	
Thursday 3rd September	**New term starts for Pupils in Years 1-6 at 8.40am. Tick Tock will be here to greet you! EYFS will be given their separate start dates.**	
Thursday 3rd September	**Laurel Class**	**Meet the Teacher and Team - 2.45pm.** The gates will be open from 2.40pm and we will take you to your child's classroom to meet their teacher.
Thursday 3rd September	**Year 2 and 4**	**Year 2 and 4 Meet the Teacher - 2.45pm.** The gates will be open from 2.40pm and we will take you to your child's classroom to meet their new teacher.
Friday 4th September	**Years 1,3 and 5**	**Year 1, 3 and 5 Meet the Teacher - 2.45pm.** The gates will be open from 2.40pm and we will take you to your child's classroom to meet their new teacher.
Monday 7th September	**Cherry Nursery**	**Cherry pupils return to school** Pupils new to Cherry class will have been given their individual start date separately.
Tuesday 8th September	**Plum Nursery**	**Plum pupils return to school** Pupils new to Plum class will have been given their individual start date separately.
Wednesday 9th September	**Reception**	**All pupils in Peach and Pear class start school**
Wednesday 9th September	**Reception**	**PTFA Reception Classes Welcome Event:** Our wonderful PTFA will be outside the reception classrooms to give our new families a welcome gift.

Friday 11th September		**PTFA meeting from 9am - come to the office :** *We welcome new members to attend the PTFA meeting to plan events for the year. We do not expect parents/carers to commit to all events, there are always ways you can support events. Come and long and see what it is all about!*
Monday 14th September	**Reception to Year 6**	**Sign Up opens on Arbor for PTFA disco for Reception to Year 6**
Thursday 17th September	**Year 3**	**Year 3 National History Museum Trip** Year 3 will venture to Oxford to participate in Skeleton Crew and Dinosaur Detective sessions led by the museum. Here is the link to the letter for more information: https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2026/07/Natural-History-Museum-Year-3-2026.pdf
Tuesday 22nd September	**Year 1**	Rescheduled Cotswold Wildlife Trip from Term 6.
Thursday 24th September	**All parents/carers welcome for all year groups**	**Brand NEW Dashwood Parent Pod 9-10am**: These will replace our Dashwood Action Committee meetings. They will be more regular and easier to drop into- you don't have to stay the whole time- you may just want to pick up some information on the session we are running. **Managing Big Feelings: Practical Tools from the Zones of Regulation** Helping our children manage their emotions is one of the trickiest parts of parenting. If you've been looking for simple, positive ways to support your child when they are feeling overwhelmed, angry, or anxious, this session is for you. We will be exploring the **Zones of Regulation**—a simple, color-coded system that helps kids understand how they are feeling and how to get back to "calm." We will share practical tips, hand out ready-to-use resources for you to take home, and open up the floor to swap ideas and experiences. We're all in this together, so come and join the conversation! *As always, this is your space. There will be plenty of time to share your thoughts, ask questions, and highlight any areas where we can work together to make things even better for our children*
Tuesday 29th September	**Reception Parents**	**Reception Phonics Session in the hall at 9am:** Come and watch Steph teach phonics. It is a great opportunity for you to see phonics in action and learn how to support them to learn their sounds at home.
Thursday 1st October	**Year 1 Parents**	**Year 1 Phonics Session in the hall at 9am:** Come and watch Miss Cavendar teach phonics. It is a great opportunity for you to see phonics in action and learn how to support them to learn their sounds at home.
Friday 2nd October	**Whole School**	**Whole Cultural Day**: All pupils and staff can come to school dressed in clothes that represent their religion, culture and/or

		heritage. We will be having a huge celebration about our similarities and differences and what makes us unique and special. *Please can you bring a donation for our foodbank. Dried foods: pasta, cereal, tinned produce etc*
Tuesday 6th October	**Parents of Years 3-6**	**Year 3-6 Spelling Workshop 9-9.40am:** Come and see a group of children being taught using our Sounds and Syllables spelling programme. See it live…don't miss it! This will give you a great insight to how we teach spelling so you can help at home!
Thursday 8th October	**All pupils**	**School Photos -** individual and siblings will be taken
Friday 9th October	**Invitation only**	**SEN Coffee Morning: TBC**
Friday 9th October	**Reception to Year 6**	**PTFA School Disco: Tickets will be available on Arbor for £3.50 from Monday 14th September** . **Please sign up by 4pm on Tuesday 6th October 2025.** Please note, parent pay will close at 4pm on this day as we need to ensure we have time to organise the event with the correct numbers. We will not accept any more ticket purchases after this time. We will run two sessions: **EYFS and KS1 (Year 1 & 2): 3.15 - 4.15pm** Children can bring a party outfit to wear in a named bag and we will take them down to the hall. You do not need to collect them at 3.15pm. **Key Stage 2 (Years 3 - 6): 4.30 - 5.30**- Children will need to be collected from school at 3.15pm as normal and brought back to school for 4.30pm. They will come through the office; a table will be there for them to be signed in. **Please note that Year 6 pupils must be collected from this event by an adult on the contact list.**
Tuesday 13th October	**All parents from all year groups welcome**	**Dashwood Parent Pod 9-10am**: **Smartphones & Safe Steps: A Parent's Guide to First Phones** Deciding when and how to give your child their first mobile phone is a huge dilemma for almost every parent today. If you find yourself constantly weighing up the pros and cons, you are definitely not alone! Come along to our parent session to share your thoughts, hear how other families are navigating this, and take away some practical research and ideas to help support you and your child. *As always, this is your space. There will be plenty of time to share your thoughts, ask questions, and highlight any areas where we can work together to make things even better for our children.*
Friday 16th October	**All pupils**	INSET Day - School closed to all pupils
Monday 19th October to	**Year 6 Chestnut**	Chestnut Rock UK Trip

Wednesday 21st October		
Wednesday 21st to Friday 23rd October	**Year 6** **Oak**	Oak Rock UK Trip
Friday 23rd October	**All Pupils**	End of Term 1
Monday 2nd November	**All Pupils**	Start of Term 2
Term 2		
Tuesday 10th November	**Plum Nursery to Year 6**	Parents Evening
Thursday 12th November	**Plum Nursery to Year 6**	Parents Evening
Friday 27th November and Monday 30th November	**All Pupils**	INSET days - school closed to all pupils
Thursday 12th November	**All parents from all year groups welcome**	Dashwood Parent Pod 9-10am drop in **Raising little Readers**
Friday 4th December	**All parents from all year groups welcome**	Dashwood Parent Pod 9-10am drop in **Beyond Roblox: A Parent's guide to gaming and group chats**
Monday 14th December		**REMINDER:** No After School Activity Clubs this week but After School club will run Monday-Thursday.
Friday 18th December	**All Pupils**	Last day of term 2 - School closes at 1.30pm. There will be no After School Club on this day