



Dashwood Banbury Academy Newsletter

an Aspirations Academy

Monday 5th September 2016

Telephone: 01295 263240 Email: office@dashwood-aspirations.org Website: www.dashwood-aspirations.org

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to welcome all of our pupils, staff, parents/carers, families and friends to the new academic year at Dashwood Banbury Academy. Dashwood has developed into a brilliant school over the past few years, which the staff and pupils are rightly very proud of. Our aim is continue the excellent work that has got us to this position and to now raise our expectations even higher so we ensure we are providing a fantastic education and experience for all of our pupils.



Over the past two years the school has developed and delivered a new curriculum to meet the higher demands of the new national curriculum. This achieved strong attainment and progress across the school last year and, in particular, Key Stage 1 and 2 data, which is comfortably above the national average. We will continue to build on these achievements this year and ensure our pupils have plenty of fun and excitement along the way!

You may have already noticed our biggest new addition this year; our new Cherry Nursery, which will extend our provision to two year olds. We look forward to opening its doors later in the academic year. Please contact the school office if you would like more information on places for 2 year olds.

On a personal level, I am very excited to be starting my new role as Executive Principal of the academy. I have worked closely with the school for the past two and a half years and I therefore know I am very fortunate to be inheriting an outstanding school with polite, enthusiastic pupils and dedicated, skilled staff.

My time will be split across both of Aspirations Academy Trust's primary academies in Banbury, Dashwood and Harriers Banbury Academy. I will therefore be ably supported in the leadership of Dashwood by Mrs Gordon-Weeks and Mrs Rogers, in their new Associate Principal roles. We look forward to working with you all throughout the year.

We wish everyone associated with the school an enjoyable and successful year.

Yours faithfully

Alex Pearson
Executive Principal

Term 1: Belonging

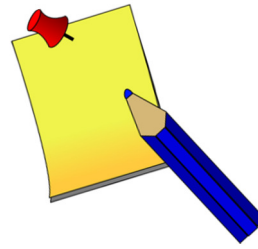
It has been lovely to walk around today to see that the children have settled so well into the new term already. They have come back to school eager to learn and all look refreshed and very smart in their uniform. They have also enjoyed catching up with their friends and sharing summer holiday stories.

Our first term of the year focuses on our condition for learning of **BELONGING** and what this means to belong to a group and community; the key characteristic we are focussing on is **CONSIDERATION** and what it means to be a considerate member of society and show consideration towards others. To build on all of the values the children developed last year, we have decided to introduce them to the word - **INTEGRITY** - best described by C.S. Lewis as "*doing the right thing, even when no one is watching.*" We will spend both class and assembly time discussing this term, with the aim that they understand its meaning and the importance of being honest, fair, trustworthy and sincere in order to positively contribute to both school and community life.

Parents Essential Meetings

We are looking forward to seeing you at our **Parent's Essential Meetings** for Reception to Year 6 in the **main hall**. This is a great opportunity for you to meet your child's teacher and be given specific information that relates to each year group, including a curriculum map and trips overview for the year. Dates for these are as follows:

Year 4	Wednesday 7 th September	2.40pm
Year 3	Thursday 8 th September	2.40pm
Year 1	Friday 9 th September	9.00am
Year 2	Friday 9 th September	2.40pm
Year 6	Monday 12 th September	2.40pm
Year 5	Tuesday 13 th September	2.40pm
Reception	Thursday 22 nd September	9.00am



If your child's meeting is at the end of the day, the children need to be collected from their classrooms as normal.

Head Pupils

We are delighted to introduce you to our new Head Pupils for this academic year. Muneebah and Mujtaba are our Head Pupils and Daniel and Anastazja are our new Deputy Head Pupils. They are all extremely excited and we are looking forward to working with them.



Homework Projects

Homework projects are due in for all children on **Friday 23rd September**. We look forward to seeing and celebrating them all in our classes and assemblies.

Parents Evenings

We look forward to seeing you all at Parents' Evening on either **Tuesday 27th September 3-5pm** or **Thursday 29th September 3-6pm**. You will receive in due course a text enabling you to log onto our system and book appointment times with your child/ren's teacher.

School newsletters will be published on the school website. If you would like a paper copy you will need to sign up in the school office. The first class newsletters will be published online on Friday.

We have lots of exciting events and opportunities planned for the children again this year and we look forward to sharing these with you.

Mr Pearson, Mrs Rogers and Mrs Gordon-Weeks

2016-17

Please find below the term dates for the next academic year. These are confirmed now and unlikely to change.

INSET DAYS Thursday 1 & Friday 2 September 2016 – School closed to pupils

Term 1 Monday 5 September 2016 – Friday 21 October 2016

INSET DAY: Monday 3 October 2016 – School closed to pupils

Term 2 Monday 31 October 2016 – Friday 16 December 2016

INSET DAY: Friday 18 November 2016 – School closed to pupils*

Term 3 Tuesday 3 January 2017 – Friday 10 February 2017

Term 4 Tuesday 21 February 2017 – Friday 7 April 2017

INSET DAY: Monday 20 February 2017 – School closed to pupils

Term 5 Monday 24 April 2016 – Friday 26 May 2017

BANK HOLIDAY: Monday 1 May 2017 – School closed to pupils

Term 6 Monday 5 June 2017 – Friday 21 July 2017

INSET DAY: Monday 26 June 2017 – School closed to pupils

**Change of dates from previously published.*