



Dashwood Banbury Academy Newsletter

an Aspirations Academy

Friday 23rd September 2016

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been so busy already this term! The homework projects that have already been brought into school look amazing and we can't wait to share them in our Key Stage assemblies next week.

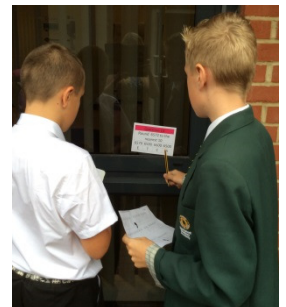
We would like to say a huge thank you to all of our new parent volunteers; we really appreciate the time you are giving to help support the children. We would also like to thank Richard O Smith, a comedy author from Radio 2, who has kindly donated £50 to our school library. He had heard about our 'Book for Breakfast' reading club and was so impressed, he wanted to make a contribution to support reading in school. Thank you Richard!

Geography and maths



Our focus for this term is geography and all of the children are enjoying learning more about the town, county, country and world they live in. Each class has introduced their topic with a 'WOW' event to excite the children about their forthcoming learning. Nursery have tasted some porridge; Reception tried a variety of breads; Year 1 followed treasure maps to locate all of the different parts of their reward chart; Year 2 went on a scavenger hunt to identify different parts of the school from pictures; Year 3 have been climbing trees in Horley; Year 4 have taken part in a country investigation and Year 5 spent the afternoon learning about all of the different nationalities in their class.

This year we are using a new active maths resource called 'Maths of the Day' which gets the children up and out of their seats. Year 6 have been in the hall and outside participating in exciting and challenging activities to test their mathematical abilities. *"It is not boring, we are active and not sitting in the classroom; its teamwork as well as maths."* Anastazja *"We are doing P.E and maths at the same time. Our brains are having fun time!"* Abbi



As part of our first condition for learning – **Belonging** - all of the children will take part in our first Level 1 Inter Family sporting competition of the year. A variety of sporting games have been organised where they will earn points for: teamwork, respect for each other and determination. Points from each class will be added to a final total where the winning family will be announced.

Aspirations Councillors

We are delighted to introduce you to our new Aspiration Councillors. Each class has two councillors to represent their pupil voice. Their first meeting will be on Monday to start thinking about the projects they would like to lead in school.



Cross Country Event: Saturday 24th September

We would like to wish all of our children who are going to Banbury Academy tomorrow to take part in the first Cross Country event of the year, the very best of luck- run as fast as you can and, most importantly - enjoy it!



Parents Evenings: NEW Online survey

We are really looking forward to seeing you at our first Parents Evening of the year next Tuesday (or Wednesday for some of Redwood Class) and Thursday to discuss how your child is settling into the new term. As you know we really like to hear your views to ensure we are always providing the very best experiences for our children. This year we are going to use a new online survey to gather your views; two of our governors/staff will be in the main entrance with a number of iPads on all evenings for you to access. If you do complete a survey you will be given a raffle ticket and will be entered into a draw to win a **£30 TESCO VOUCHER**.



Parent Workshop: Reception- Year 6

We would like to invite you into school on **Wednesday 5 October from 9-9.30** to watch a phonics/spelling, punctuation and grammar model lesson in your child's class. If you have a child in more than one class, then please feel free to spend time in each of their classes; members of staff will be around to help you find the classrooms. We would then love you to join us for a **workshop from 9.30-10am** in the hall. In the workshop you will be given a booklet containing useful information about the expectations for spelling, punctuation and grammar in their year group and a range of ideas to support them at home.

New Reception Opening Mornings

If you have a child currently in our nursery or who turns 4 this year, you will need to apply for a Reception place for September 2017 (as you know, unfortunately, if you are already in our nursery it **does not** guarantee you a place in our Reception class). If you are interested in applying for a place in Reception we have opening mornings available for you to come and visit us: **Thursday 13th October at 9am and Thursday 24th November at 9am**. You will only need to attend one of these.



We are once again collecting produce for Banbury Foodbank to help those less fortunate than ourselves. If you have any tins, jars or produce to donate then please bring it into school on **Tuesday 4 October**. We will pass this onto the Banbury Foodbank after our **Harvest Festival Celebration** assembly.



Safety Notice

Being a healthy school we encourage our children to walk and cycle to school and we are delighted that lots of our children do. Please can you ensure that the children are using the footpaths provided and ensure they are safe riding their bikes, including wearing their helmets, to and from school especially as we start to experience darker mornings and evenings.

Reminders and Dates

- There is an **Inset Day on Monday 3rd October** therefore the school will be closed to all pupils.
- **PTFA Film Night Thursday 13 October**
EYFS – Lilo and Stitch
Key Stage 1 – Ice Age: Collision Course
Key Stage 2 – Paddington – Please be aware this is a PG film
All film sessions £1.50 please sign up at the office.
- **Halloween Disco Thursday 3 November** (parents to drop off and pick up)
EYFS and Key Stage 1 – 4.30 – 5.30
Key Stage 2 5.45 – 7.00
Disco tickets £2.00 please sign up at the office.



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