



Dashwood Banbury Academy Newsletter

an Aspirations Academy

Friday 27th January 2017

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy start to Term 3 we have had already- we have not stopped! We are delighted to warmly invite you to the opening of our brand new Cherry class for our two year olds. Everyone is welcome to join us!



Dashwood Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

'A great place to learn.'

You are invited to:

The official opening of our new
2 Year Old Nursery - Cherry Class

on: Tuesday 7th February 2017 at 3.30pm

We are really excited to announce that we have a brand new classroom open for pupils aged 2-3 years old. On the 7th February the room will be officially opened by the Banbury Town Mayor. We hope to see you there!

RSVP: office@dashwood-aspirations.org by Friday 3rd February 2017

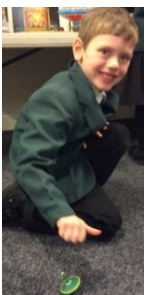
Bedtime Story

Children in Key Stage one were excited to return back to school in their pyjamas for bed time story evening. This year we all shared the story *Monkey Puzzle*, by Julia Donaldson. After listening to the story together, children then split into groups to complete some exciting activities based on the books. They made animal masks, painted butterflies and even had the chance to have their face painted! Children finished bedtime stories taking home a new reading book of their own to keep! All of the children that came made a great effort with their dressing gowns and special bed time toys, thanks once again for all of your support at home.



Year 1 Trip to Banbury Museum

Well what a day our Year One pupils had on Wednesday. They all took part in a variety of exciting activities including: a chance to explore all of the artefacts using games from the treasure box; dressing up in Victorian clothes, playing with Victorian toys and even making their very own Thaumatrope. They listened very respectfully to the museum staff and they all commented on how well behaved the children were. Well done Year 1!



Year 5 and 6 Sports Hall Athletics

Competing against 7 other North Oxfordshire primary schools, Dashwood pupils from year 5 and 6 enjoyed a morning of athletic events. Starting with a warm up led by Banbury Academy Young Leaders, the teams were raring to go! The first activity was a relay- both teams, blue and red, put in every ounce of energy they had and gave it their all. They then challenged themselves on the long jump, javelin, chest push, speed bounce and vertical jump.

The value of the day was 'passion' which was awarded to Muneebah and Milan for being positive and enjoying the activities, trying their best even when it was tough. Faith and Callum were also awarded our Star of the Day certificates for their positive mindsets during the competition – before the competition Faith said she couldn't understand why she was going to the event because she was 'not good' at athletics. On the way home she reflected how much she had enjoyed the morning and that she was better at things than she thought.

Our communication screens

You may have noticed our rather large screens in the large playground and down in the Reception outside area. Already the children have enjoyed participating in the physical activities and we hope you have started to see the messages that have been put on there. This will be updated regularly so keep looking to see what is going on in school and individual classes.



Peer Mentoring



We had our very first peer mentoring session last Friday where all of the mentors and mentees spent some time together in the hall. There was a real buzz in the air as the pupils sat, chatted and decorated a puzzle piece all about themselves- this will be displayed in school. Already there have been some really lovely moments where children have gone to find their mentors to ask a question or just for a catch up. Abbi, Millie, Daley and Aqsa in Year 6 said “It is really nice to get



to know other children in the school.” Evie in Year 3 stated that she really enjoyed working with Mia in Year 6, she talks to her when she needs a little help.” Mia commented that she feels they have a great bond and can learn from each other.” This is proving to be a real success so keep your eye out for more updates on these sessions.

Our Visit from Vanessa

Last Friday we had a very special visit from Vanessa from Chadsgrove Specialist Sports College to talk to Year 5 and 6 about how she 'beat the bullies' in her school. Vanessa, who has Cerebral Palsy and Autism delivered a presentation about her conditions and explained how she has not let her disability stop her meeting her goals and dreams. She talked about discrimination and equality and the children asked some really sensible questions.

Fitness Friday

With their love of Active Maths sessions, Year 6 pupils have requested a 'Fitness Friday' session. Last week, despite the falling snow, we went out to enjoy the **very fresh** air. The pupils are logging their bleep test stages to see how they improve, trying to achieve more high knees, star jumps, squat jumps and heel flicks in 20 second bursts: taking control of their own progress and next steps. Their enthusiasm has been outstanding – a very active bunch - having a great time together whilst being physically active.



Year 6 Safety Talks

It has been lovely to see our Year 6 leading a variety of safety talks to our younger children based on experiences from their latest Junior Citizens afternoon. Presentations included internet safety, safety in the home and stranger danger. Well done Year 6- what responsible citizens you are!



Young Voices Trip to Birmingham

We would like to wish all of the children that are going to Birmingham to take part in the Young Voices Singing Extravaganza lots of luck. You are going to have a super time- we look forward to hearing all about it!



We always value your comments and in order to raise the profile of the school, we would be really grateful if you could share your views with Ofsted and new, potential parents. Here is the link so you can register:
<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Ready Steady **Read**

EYFS- The Elephant and the Bad Baby by Elfreda Vipoint

KS1 - Dirty Bertie by D Roberts

Lower KS2- Give peas a chance by Morris Gleitzman

Upper KS2- Varjak Paw by SF Said

Health Lunch Box Ideas:

- **Tuna Pita Pockets:** 1 can chunk-style tuna, drained, 2 teaspoons lemon juice, 1/3 cup finely chopped celery, 1 teaspoon grated onion, 1/4 cup mayonnaise, 3 tablespoons chopped ripe, olives (optional), dash of pepper and 2 pita breads.
- **Spiced apple snacks-** sprinkle some apple slices with cinnamon and put in the oven for 45 minutes.

Active Challenge:

How many **Split legs** can you do in 20 seconds? What about 1 minute? When you are outside you could challenge yourself to see how many times you can skip/run/jump around the playground. Let your teacher know!

2016-17

Please find below the term dates for this academic year.

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

2017-18

Proposed dates

Term 1 Tuesday 5th 2017- Friday 20th October 2017

NB: Reception and Nursery will be given start dates separately.

INSET DAY: Monday 4th September 2017 – School closed to pupils

Term 2 Monday 30th October 2017 – Tuesday 19th December 2017

INSET DAY: Friday 17th November 2017 – School closed to pupils