



Dashwood Banbury Academy Newsletter

an Aspirations Academy

Friday 3rd March 2017

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to term 5 - we hope you all had a nice Easter break! This term our condition for learning is Spirit of Adventure; this is where we encourage and give the children opportunities to take risks and push themselves out of their comfort zones. In order for the children to do this, we discuss in our assemblies and lessons about being brave, confident and challenging themselves. The children are really excited about our end of term reflection for this term as they get the chance to challenge themselves on our obstacle course – look out for photos at the end of this term.

Attendance for Term 4

Well done to all of those children who received their 100% attendance awards. A special well done to goes to Marcell in Silver Birch who won the overall attendance prize.

WOWs for term 5



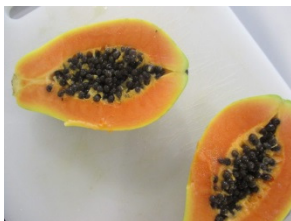
For the 'WOW' in Reception they had a pirate dressing up day. It was a great introduction to their new 'Pirates' topic. The children loved dressing up as pirates and made their own treasure maps.

In Nursery the children read through the Hungry Caterpillar story and tried some of the fruit from the story. They had apples, pears, plums, strawberries, oranges and mango. All the children tried all of the fruit and they talked about which fruit they liked the best.



Year 1 received a letter from Little Red Riding Hood asking them to make some cakes for Grandma; they made some for themselves and left some for her to take. In the morning they were gone! Year 2 have investigated different styles of puppets and looked at what makes a good puppet. The children had a great time exploring different ways to use the puppets by putting on a show for the class.

Year 3 went for a bracing walk along a stretch of the Banbury Canal to start their 'Water Safety' topic. They stopped to look at the possible risks around the canal and looked out for things to keep them safe by the water.



Year 4 have been 'tasting' the rainforest; they have been brave and tried lots of different fruits: mango, pomegranate, papaya, avocado and fig. They loved some of them, and others they won't be having again!

For Year 5s opener they were challenged to design and make a rocket out of everyday materials which they launched in the playground - some flew brilliantly! Finally, Year 6 have kick-started their 'Properties of Materials' topic by investigating the effect different materials have on one another and what happens when you mix them. They certainly created some loud bangs!



Gallery morning Gooseberry Planet Internet Safety Workshop

It was great to see so many parents and carers in school for our gallery morning; the children enjoyed sharing their art work and discussing what they had done in their topic. We were also delighted with how many parents and



carers stayed on for our internet safety workshop delivered by Gooseberry Planet. As we all know, it is crucial that we educate ourselves with ways to protect our children when using the internet. **Please see our home page notice board for the presentation about how to change the privacy settings on your devices** or go to: <http://www.dashwood-aspirations.org/202/notice-board/noticeboard/98/noticeboard> . If you were

unable to attend the workshop and would like to listen to the presentation then you can see it on the **Gooseberry Planet Facebook page**.

If something has happened online that has made you feel worried or you think is unsafe then please use this link and follow the advice given: <https://ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>



Year 1 Multi-skills

All of our Year 1 pupils went to Banbury Academy this week to take part in a multi-skills sporting event. The children worked in small groups along with sports leaders from Banbury Academy to complete different activities. Some of these included: throwing and catching with a bean bag, archery, running races, skipping and ball skills. The children really enjoyed the morning and their resilience was fantastic to see. Some children took natural leadership roles by helping other

class members with the activities. Well done year 1!

Animals in Hand

Year 4 had such a fantastic time meeting some of the rainforest animals that the keeper from the company 'Animals in Hand' brought in to show them. They saw a Giant Madagascar Millipede and a Chile Rose Tarantula that live on the floor of the rainforest as well as a stunning Chameleon and its prey - the stick insects. From the canopy of the forest, they met a White's Tree Frog and a Mexican Milk Snake - called Milkshake. The children learnt that all of the animals were perfectly adapted to survive in their environment and began to understand a little more about how they can do their bit to protect them in the wild.



Elevate Dance Company



It was really nice to have a touring Christian dance group in school this week. Key Stage 2 watched the group perform two stories through movement and then the Reception classes, Year 3 and 6, enjoyed a dance workshop where they performed a class sequence. They all really enjoyed trying to make different shapes with their bodies both individually and in a group. The group are now off to Germany to continue their tour of other schools. How lucky we were to have this experience!

Uniform

We know that if the children feel smart in their uniform they feel more confident and ready to learn. When out in the community, it is noted how smart the children look and how proud they are of their uniform. Please can you ensure that your child is wearing the correct, full school uniform everyday unless otherwise stated. Please note that patterned tights and coloured socks are not part of our school uniform and should not be worn. Ties, in Years 3-6 are compulsory so should be worn every day. Thank you for supporting us in raising the children's aspirations and maintaining our high expectations.

★ 2 Year old Nursery Places for September ★

We are pleased to announce that Cherry Class (our 2 year old nursery) will be opening for morning and afternoon sessions from September. We offer places for those who are eligible for the free 15 hours as well as paid places. If you are not sure whether your child is eligible for a free place, come and fill in an application form and we can check.

Safety in the community

As the nights are now lighter it is lovely to see so many children playing outside in the park. However, there have been an increasing amount of incidents occurring in the park in the evening so we advise that the children are supervised by a responsible adult for their own safety.

Good luck

We would like to take this opportunity to say the best of luck to Annamarie (our Nursery teaching assistant) as she leaves to go on maternity leave to have her baby. We look forward to seeing her and her new arrival soon.

Homework projects

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support with your child's learning. Homework projects were due in today but if you are still working on them then please bring it in on Monday to share and celebrate with their peers

Have a good weekend.

Mr Pearson, Mrs Rogers and Mrs Gordon-Weeks

2016-17

Please find below the term dates for this academic year.

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 5 September - Friday 20 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 30 October – Tuesday 19 December 2017

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

Term 3

Thursday 4 January – Friday 9 February

NB Nursery children will have a staggered start and be given their dates directly.

Term 4

Tuesday 20 February – Thursday 29 March

Monday 19 February INSET Day - (Closed to pupils)

Term 5

Monday 16 April – Friday 25 May

Monday 7 May – May Day Bank Holiday (Closed to pupils)

NB Nursery children will have a staggered start and be given their dates directly.

Term 6

Tuesday 5 June – Wednesday 25 July

Monday 4 June INSET Day – (Closed to pupils)

Friday 29 June INSET Day – (Closed to pupils)