



Dashwood Banbury Academy

an Aspirations Academy

Growing together; succeeding together

Thursday 12th October 2017

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We all belong to Dashwood

A note from the Principal

On Tuesday it was Mental Health Awareness Day. In my assemblies we have been discussing how important it is to look after your mind as well as your physical health. As part of this, we have set a new challenge to all the pupils – to show kindness in everything they do. Each class has been given green leaves in which to record times they see or show kindness. These will be displayed on the trees in our new Grove area to create 'Trees of Kindness'. At the end of each big term, we will award a pupil with our new Kindness Cup. At home, why not discuss how pupils can show kindness to others in the community.

Mrs Amy Rogers

Cultural Day



Wow! What an amazing day we have had on Thursday 12th October celebrating the various cultures and diversity within the Dashwood community. Pupils came dressed up in amazing clothes from their heritage and brought food to share with their peers. As we have been focusing on belonging and geography in lesson time, this exciting event opened up discussions around families and where they come from. Pupils in Year 2 said: "I am British but I am Polish too" recognising that for many of us we have a background in many different cultures. We have discussed that this is what makes us unique and how we need to be tolerant, supportive and inclusive to all.



Library Bus

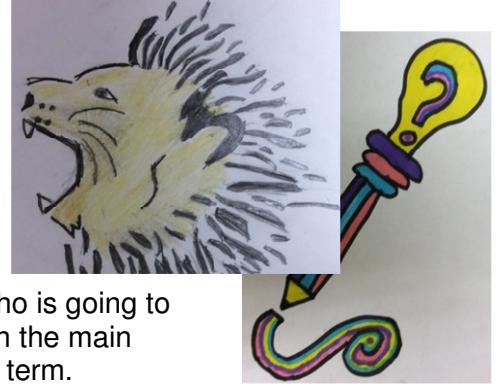
You may have noticed that the foundations are now in place for our new Library Bus. The bus will be arriving on the 26th October during the school holidays so when we return for Term 2 it will be in place! Over the year, the PTFA will be holding events to raise money for an outdoor reading and sensory area linked to the Library Bus.

Year of Creativity

As we are focusing on being creative and thinking in different ways this year, we are having holding a whole school event next week where every class will look at what the world will be like in **2031**. This is the year that our current Reception pupils will leave full time education! As part of this, the pupils will receive a letter from the future and they will be watching clips from the original Back to the Future. To help facilitate this week, we are asking for **donations of any junk modelling** e.g. cardboard boxes, milk cartons etc. to be brought into school.

Art project

During Term 2 we will be teaching lots of art and design technology lessons. Following the sad news of the death of our governor Jo Hobbs last year, her family have raised over £3000 which was donated to the school for art work. We are going to start the term with a whole school project using the funds raised to celebrate the support we received from Jo whilst she was with us. Each class has already designed a picture linked to our 8 conditions for learning and a winner has been chosen by our new environmental leads in Year 6. On Monday 30th October, we will be working with an artist called Christy who is going to help us turn their designs into a large mosaic which will be displayed on the main playground. We will be announcing the grand opening of this later next term.



Trips

Pupils have been very busy already this term attending a number of trips. Year 5/6 have continued to go on their STEM project with Banbury Academy where they are developing scientific skills in experimentation. Year 5 pupils have also been to Greatworth Hall where they supported farming activities including finding the largest parsnip ever! Year 4 go swimming every week and we have already started to see great improvements in their skills. Year 3 pupils learnt about the difference between towns and villages by comparing Banbury with Horley on a local visit. Year 1 pupils visited a local park and Reception enjoyed their trip to Banbury library. Year 6 pupils are very excited about their forthcoming residential trip to Rock UK next week – we know they will love the challenges they will face and have so much fun!



Healthy Living

Our 3 year project with Oxfordshire County Council to support walking/cycling/scootering to school named 'WOW' has begun. Pupils are recording how they get to school every day now. Many pupils in Year 6 have started Bikeability this term. They will learn how to stay safe when cycling which is vital skill.



Junior Leaders

On Tuesday 3rd October, Year 6 Junior Leaders trained up our new Year 5 pupils to take on this lovely role. The Year 5s learnt how to lead games and support pupils during lunchtime by teaching them new social skills. They have now been timetabled to go outside during lunchtimes with KS1 and are already enjoying the responsibility that they have been given. With the Junior Leader, lunchtime monitor and peer mentor roles, the Year 5s are becoming excellent heroes!

Keeping safe

It has been brought to our attention about a number of issues relating to anti-social behaviour that have occurred outside of school involving pupils from in our school as well as others. We strongly recommend that pupils **only play out with adult supervision** as when they are out independently they are at their most vulnerable. Years 4-6 attended an assembly led by our local PCSO to discuss these issues and remind them of their criminal responsibility. Pupils are representing Dashwood at all times even when they are not wearing their uniform and so we expect them to behave as they would in school. We are continuing to discuss how to stay safe online in our weekly e-safety lessons.

Sporting events

A number of Year 3 and 4 pupils attended a football festival on Thursday 12th October. The pupils were really well behaved and showed excellent team spirit. They were definitely ambassadors for the school. After working hard in school, it was so lovely to see all the pupils using skills they learnt in school during the matches they played. Out of the three teams, a team player award was given to Rhys, Cairo and Paulina. Paulina's team came third overall too! Well done to all those involved for a great morning of sports.

Important Dates

Newsletters - whole school newsletters Term 2 will be available online on: Friday 10th November, Friday 24th November and Friday 8th December. **Class Newsletters** and the text they will learn will be available on **Thursday 19th October**.

Class photos – Individual class photos will be taken on **Friday 3rd November**. These will include sibling photos.

Flu immunisations (nasal spray) – These will take place for those who have signed their child(ren) up on Tuesday 7th November.

PTFA events – The **PTFA** are hosting a **Winter Bazar** on **7th December** and a film night on **Thursday 14th December**. More information will be available next term about these events.

Dates for the Year

Term 1

Tuesday 5 September - Friday 20 October 2017

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 2018

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

Term 4

Tuesday 20 February – Thursday 29 March 2018

INSET DAY: Monday 19 February – School closed to pupils

INSET DAY: Monday 26th March – School closed to pupils

Term 5

Monday 16 April – Friday 25 May 2018

Monday 7 May – May Day Bank Holiday – School 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 2018

INSET DAY: Monday 4 June – School closed to pupils

INSET DAY: Friday 29 June – School closed to pupils