



## The Weekly Word

No. 34 June 30 2017

### A note from the Principal

Thank you to those parents and friends of Banbury Aspirations Campus who have already put forward their names for a mailing list of those who are willing to support the campus in a voluntary capacity. The more community support we can get the greater the number of opportunities your children can be provided with. The success of events that we have put on over the last year has proved this.



Can I take this opportunity to also thank all of you for supporting us in our drive to make this a better place for every child who learns with us. We are so proud of the massive improvements we have made in so many areas of the school, particularly in much higher attendance and reducing persistent absence. We have only been able to achieve this with your support. This was one of the key issues from the Ofsted we had last year and I am happy to report that when we are inspected again this will no longer be something they can be concerned about. We are not complacent though. We know that to be considered an outstanding school we need to ensure that all of our pupils attend at least 95% of the time. We will achieve this next year with your help.

Look out for next week's WW with pictures of our prom which happens tonight.

### A big Banbury Academy welcome to our new Year 7

**Next week we will be welcoming our new Year 7 (currently Year 6) students who will join us for 2 days, Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July. They will be spending time experiencing lessons and activities throughout both days here at Banbury Academy so please make sure you give them a warm welcome and make their time here enjoyable.**

## Duke of Edinburgh

Last Saturday 29 pupils returned to school after two days of walking and one night of camping, successfully completing their D of E practice expedition.

Callum received the star camper award for being super organised and even assisting other groups when taking down their tents.

The entire team showed great determination and skill and we are very proud of them.



### One week to go until The Wizard of Oz!

Tickets available at [ticketsource.co.uk/banburyacademy](http://ticketsource.co.uk/banburyacademy) or from Banbury Academy reception.  
[Ticket prices, dates and times.](#)

## Principal joins students on a trip down the Yellow Brick Road!

After the success of previous productions including *We Will Rock You*, *The Lion King*, *Through the Looking Glass* and *Billy Elliot*, students at Banbury Academy are once again hard at work rehearsing for their annual summer musical. This year, the school is taking a trip down the yellow brick road as they perform the timeless classic – *The Wizard of Oz*!

Thirty talented students ranging from Year 7 to Year 13 make up the musical's cast and team. They have been working hard over the last four months, taking part in rehearsals consisting of acting, singing and dancing. This year, the cast has a few extra surprises in store as they are joined on stage not only by a real dog as Toto, but also by the school's Principal, Sylvia Thomas, who will be playing the role of the Wizard himself!

Ben Coleman, the school's Drama teacher, is once again directing the production, whilst Head of Music, Lynda Webb, takes charge of the vocals and the live orchestra. "After the success of last year's production of *Through the Looking Glass*, we were excited to give the students an exciting new challenge," said Mr Coleman. "We are so thrilled to have the Principal of Banbury Academy, Sylvia Thomas, joining the cast on stage. She has attended rehearsals with the cast and has been actively involved throughout the entire process. At Banbury Academy we ask our students to try something new, and what better way to lead by example than by having the Principal join us in our production. Having her on stage shows the school's commitment and dedication to the arts and the theatre! I don't think there are many head teachers out there who would do it!" The production team is also made up of students, with Year 13 pupils Amelia Haverson choreographing the production, and Owen Vint operating the sound. "The team have worked incredibly hard to create another exciting musical," said Mr Coleman. "With talented performers, a live band, student technicians and student set designers, the pupils involved are a true testament to the talent on offer at Banbury Academy."

The *Wizard of Oz* follows Dorothy as she is whisked away from Kansas to the magical world of Oz! Whilst avoiding the Wicked Witch of the West, Dorothy must travel down the yellow brick road to beg the Wonderful Wizard of Oz to get her home. With the help of The Scarecrow, The Tin Man and The Cowardly Lion, Dorothy must brave a number of obstacles if she is ever to return home to her beloved Aunt Em.

The production takes place at Wykham Theatre, Banbury Academy and runs from Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017 until Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 7.30pm, with a 2.30pm matinee on the Saturday. Tickets are available to purchase online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/banburyacademy](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/banburyacademy) or from the Banbury Academy Reception. £10 for adults, £8 for concessions, £30 Family Ticket.



Banbury Academy Principal, Sylvia Thomas, poses with her four legged co-star, Dora

Dorothy (Phoebe), The Scarecrow (Nimah), The Tin Man (Georgia) and The Cowardly Lion (Jonathan) are off to see *The Wizard*





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an Academies Academy

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Play Our Lottery and you could Win a Family Membership of your choice to:

ENGLISH HERITAGE National Trust NATIONAL TRUST for SCOTLAND Cadw

A GUARANTEED cash prize to one of our supporters every week!  
Match all 6 numbers and win £15,000!  
Tickets only cost £1 per week!  
40% of all tickets sales goes to OUR school!

Winning away 2 Family memberships  
on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2017!

To start supporting, visit:  
[www.yourschoollottery.co.uk](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk)  
and search for: Banbury

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older

Don't forget to do the lottery! A ticket costs £1 per week and all funds go directly to our school.

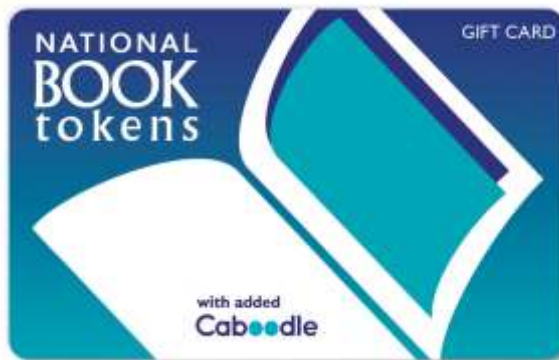
[Join the lottery here](http://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk)

Our school needs you! Please help us to win £5,000 of National Book Tokens for the school library - enough to buy hundreds of new books. You'll also have a chance to win £100 of National Book Tokens to spend on yourself!

Accepted in thousands of bookshops and online, National Book Tokens are the perfect way to reward, encourage literacy and inspire a love of books.

Just enter the competition online; it only takes a minute. [Enter the National Book Tokens Competition](#) here.

The more votes we get, the better chance we have to win!



## Welcome to the Sixth Form



The Sixth Form transition day was a great success. Students met their new mentors, attended a talk about Oxford Brookes University and completed an 'employability project.' This was followed by scones, tea and cakes, and rounded off with sack races, 3 legged races, egg and spoon races and dodgeball!



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