



The Weekly Word

No. 59 Friday 27 April 2018

A note from the Principal

This week I finished my series of assemblies with all year groups looking at the various actions we are going to take this term and updating them on progress with the rebranding of the school. It has been a pleasure to address all of the students as I do at the start of each term because they are now so involved with what we are doing and have every opportunity to have a true voice in what happens here if they choose to engage.



I wanted to make you aware of the key change to the behaviour policy that will come into force after the May half term break. As you are aware we have been clamping down on any behaviours which disrupt the learning of other students as well as dealing with inappropriate behaviours during unstructured time. From Monday 5th June we will be tightening up further on the consequences section of the policy for low level disruption during lessons. I have explained all of this to the students in detail. From this date onwards they will now only get one warning about their behaviours in a lesson before being parked. This will allow students who can demonstrate excellent learning behaviours and a drive to learn, to get on with their lessons without fear of others interrupting their teachers and the smooth flow of the session. I also wanted to remind you that we will be having a visit from the police with the knife arch and drugs dogs following further concerns about issues out and about with young people in our community. Some children have already been to see me to say that they are very worried because they live near to people who openly use drugs. I have tried to reassure them that they will not be in trouble with the police or us in anyway as they cannot be held responsible for other people's actions. If you want to know anything further about these two issues please email me on sthomas@banbury-aspirations.org. We will be showing our students they have nothing to fear from the other children they come to school with.

[Link to calendar](#)

With regards to the school uniform, after much debate and research we have decided to continue with black trousers for both boys and girls. There are two reasons for this. Firstly, there are no grey trousers in our local stores for girls which we would accept as being appropriate for school. One of our staff went on a shopping mission to check what large stores stock and came back with nothing appropriate. Secondly, when we looked at grey trousers for boys there are three different shades and we do not want to make life difficult for parents when they are shopping in the summer holidays for trousers. Our trouser policy will be tightened up for boys and girls in September and therefore fashion trousers, which some shops advertise as being suitable for school, will not be accepted on campus. We will be sharing an updated policy after half term and will happily answer any questions about what to buy then.



Fun, laughter and irresistible music performed by students and staff from Banbury Academy.

[Book tickets here](#)

Reminder!

[Link to GCSE examinations summer 2018 timetable](#)

[Link to Sixth Form examinations summer 2018 timetable](#)

Duke of Edinburgh

On Saturday 34 pupils returned to school after two days of walking and one night of camping, successfully completing their Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition. All students showed great determination and skill; well done to everyone who took part!

Qasim, Collette, Megan, Kiya, Chloe, Samad, Izzy, Thomas, James, Emma, Angela, Nyle, Mitchell, Harry, Chris, Kyran, Iris, Libby, Grace, Amy, Aaron, George, Ben, Lillie, Hayley, Louis, Darragh, Tatiana, Cory, Arin, Stacey and Samantha.

Cory (Year 9) received the star camper award for being super organised and taking the lead role whilst navigating his group. Thank you also to Mr Hayden, teacher of PE, for all his hard work in organising the D of E.

Upcoming expeditions:

Bronze expedition 22nd – 23rd June around Deddington

Silver expedition 16th – 18th July Vale of White Horse.



[More information](#)



Ballroom dancing



On Sunday 15th April Banbury Academy hosted a National Ballroom Dance competition; the Oxfordshire Titles, organised by History teacher Mr Bird; a former British Dance Champion.

Over 150 competitors attended, some from as far afield as Bournemouth and Doncaster as well as many local dancers from Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire. The Oxfordshire Junior Latin title went to Leon & Anna from London (pictured with their trophies) whilst the Junior Ballroom title went to Bournemouth dancers Gleb & Jenna. Congratulations also go to Banbury Academy students Iga (Year 10) who placed 6th in the Junior Starters Cha Cha in what was her first competition, and Ben (Year 9) achieving 4th place in the Under 15 solo Rumba and 6th in the Under 16 solo Waltz & Quickstep.

Apprenticeship opportunities

Magna, the biggest employer in Banbury, will be working with Space Studio Banbury to develop engineering skills with the aim of employing some of our students on their apprenticeship scheme. The company is a global automotive supplier with manufacturing operations in many countries.

Mrs Sterland and Mr Hayden visited the company for the launch of Magna's brand new frontage and reception. Magna presented Mr Hayden with a bag and coat for his forthcoming sponsored trip up Kilimanjaro too!



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