



Harriers Banbury Academy
an Aspirations Academy

Our Vision: to cultivate high quality education in a supportive environment, enabling our pupils to become kind, happy, confident individuals, ready to take on the world

Harriers Newsletter

Monday, 18th December 2023

Message from Mrs Coley



Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, here we are at the end of the first full term of the school year and September feels like it was a long time ago! This Autumn term has been packed with learning from the Romans to the Second World War; educational visits and visitors and of course all of our wonderful Christmas themed activities. We say goodbye this term to Miss Rooney and thank her for all her hard work at her time at Harriers. We wish her all the very best for the future.

Let us work together, to make 2024 a healthy one for our children. We know and appreciate that all children like a treat, however, please remember that we encourage children to bring in items in their lunchboxes that support a healthy, balanced diet. That means no chocolate or sweets for break and lunchtimes. Please come and see us if you need any support with this.

That just leaves it for me to wish you all a very happy Christmas from the Harriers Academy Team. I hope you all enjoy this special time with family and friends and we look forward to welcoming you all back in 2024!

Kind regards, Stephanie Coley

Attendance Matters!

w/c 11th December



Ducklings	78.2%
Robins	96.5%
Wrens	90.4%

Whole school attendance this week: 91.8%
Whole school attendance for year to date: 93.7%

National Average year to date: 94.5%

It's all of our responsibilities to ensure your children are in school when they are well.
It is parents responsibility to call the office each day if your child is absent and reason given.

Well done to Robin class for getting 96.5% attendance over the last week. If pupils are in school, then they are able to learn!! A special well done to Pelican class too.
A class piece goes to your whole class reward.

Swifts	92.8%
Swallows	88.9%
Woodpeckers	92.9%
Doves	90.1%
Toucans	89.7%
Kingfishers	90.3%

Parrots	92.3%
Red Kites	92.7%
Pelicans	95.9%
Flamingoes	92%
Eagles	89.7%
Owls	90.7%

Celebration Assembly 4th December 2023



Celebrating successes
outside school

High Flyers

Aspiration Award winners for Heroes



Aspirations Assembly 18th December 2023



Celebrating achievements out of school.

A Big Thank You from Us!!

The pupils and staff of Harriers would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and hope you all have a restful break.

Thank you for all your support with the P.T.F.A events; the "New to You Sale;" washing uniform; donating gifts and food to support our families; volunteering on trips; reading with our children and attending the H.A.C.



Upcoming Dates



- Tuesday 19th December EYU Nativity at 9am
- Wednesday 20th December Party Day and non-uniform END OF TERM - 1.30PM !!
- Monday, 8th January INSET DAY - no pupils
- Tuesday, 9th January school starts - pupils in
- Friday, 12th January Year 4 to Banbury Museum
- Monday, 15th January Y5 trip to WPA to see Matilda
- Tuesday, 16th January Y5 Science Oxford
- Tuesday, 23rd January SEN coffee & a chat 9-10am
- Thursday, 25th January EY vision screening
- Friday, 26th January Y2 Sealife Centre
- Monday, 29th January EY trip to Morrisons
- Thursday, 1st February EY Stargazing evening
- W/C 5th February Children's Mental Health Week
- Tuesday, 6th February EY & Y6 height & weight measures
- Thursday, 8th February parent behaviour workshop 9-9.30am
- Thursday, 8th February Y3 & 4 sports hall athletics
- Term 3 ends Friday, 9th February

Nursery

Nursery enjoyed their performing their Christmas show for all their families. They all looked amazing in their costumes. It was lovely to have so many parents stay for a hot chocolate and mince pie too.



Early Years

This week we have been making lots of Christmas decorations and we went to the canteen to make our own gingerbread men!

We have also spent a lot of time practising our Christmas Play - the children are very good at singing the songs!



Year 1

We enjoyed a kings and queens banquet day today to finish off our topic work.

We dressed up, drew brilliant pictures of Buckingham Palace and decorated biscuits.

The staff in Year 1 are also very proud of all of the children for putting on such a brilliant show for our nativity. Well done Year 1!



Year 2

We are incredibly proud of year 2 after their amazing Nativity performance. They all worked so hard on learning their lines and singing the songs.



Year 3

Things in year 3 have got particularly glittery, twinkly and festive this week! We are in full Christmas mode and have loved getting creative in class!

We loved the visit from Aaron Williams - particularly being blasted with loo roll!



PIC•COLLAGE

Year 4

Year 4 have enjoyed learning all about the Ancient Greeks!

The pupils have planned, recorded and edited videos all about the Ancient Greeks and their impact on our lives today.

They had so much fun on our Ancient Greek day, trying out some Olympic sports and designing Ancient Greek vases!

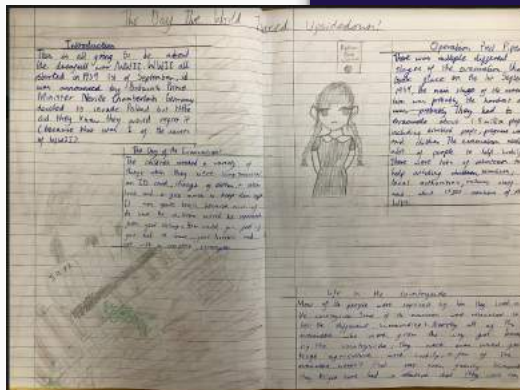
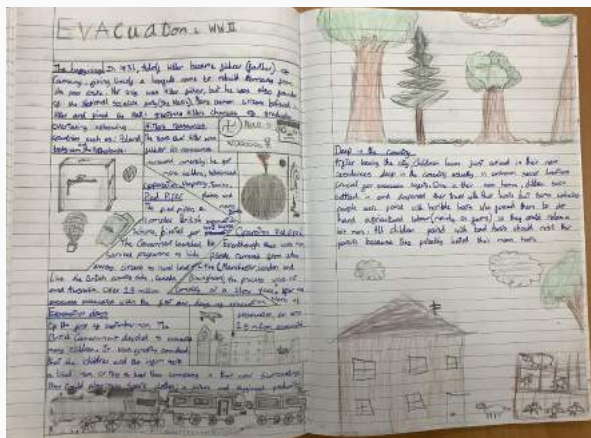


Year 5

This term, Year 5 have loved learning the ukulele in music. They have listened to and learnt a range of songs.

In DT, the children have enjoyed learning how to use their constructing skills to make truss bridges.

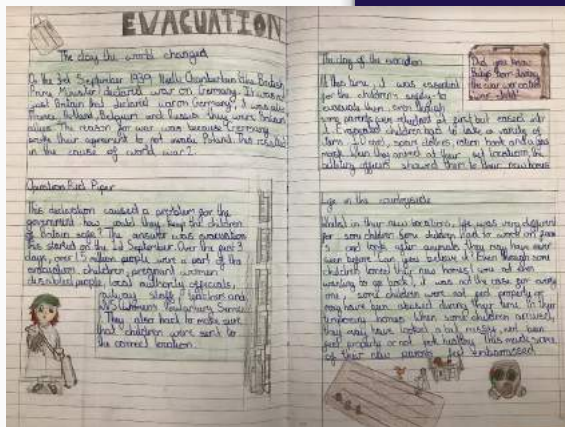
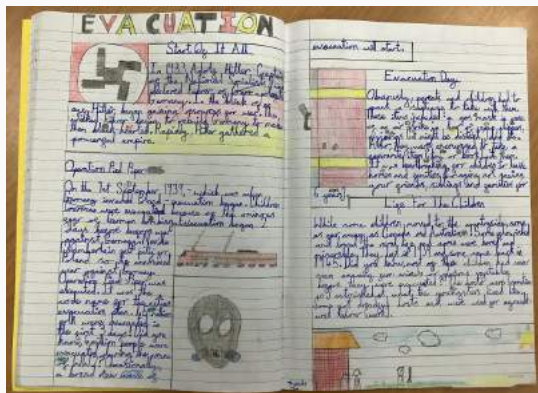




Year 6

Year 6 have spent this term learning about World War 2. This topic has really caught their interest and ignited their imaginations.

Pictured are a few examples of our Non-chronological report on evacuation (Operation Pied Piper).



Did you know that dogs were not allowed in air raid shelters? The National Air Raid Precautions Animal Committee recommended that people sent their pets away to the countryside.

KS2 Carol Concert

KS2 were absolutely brilliant in our Christmas Carol Concert at St Mary's Church this year!

The Junior Principals spoke fantastically and even included some fun Christmas jokes for us!

Well done everybody!





SEN and Inclusion

For some, the holidays may be a more stressful time, especially if your child has SEN. 'Senploy' has lots of tips to help you and your child manage the holidays.

[Senploy - The Holiday Survival Guide for SEN Parents](#)

Coffee and Chat

Support group for parents and carers of children with SEN at Harriers School

*
Join Mrs Jones, Mrs Chester and other families for a tea or coffee and an informal chat in a safe space, where we can share ideas and strategies.

January 23rd 2024 9—10am
Harriers Banbury Academy school hall

We cannot discuss individual or specific children. This group is about connecting with other families, in similar situations, and sharing experiences, ideas and strategies.

Keeping our children safe online

Here is some advice for creating a healthy balance between time on-screen and off-screen these holidays.

This information has also been pinged as a PDF, along with Disney + advice, so that you can read it more clearly.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's online use CEOP have advice for families:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

Common Sense Media (whose materials we use in our online safety lessons) also have advice for parents and reviews of films, games, TV etc to help you choose appropriate things for your children to watch or play:

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/articles>



12 Top Tips for Children and Young People to Enjoy a TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

The Christmas holidays are a time made for families to enjoy relaxed quality time in each other's company – but with all the online and mobile phone distractions, the fun of games can be lost. Being 'tech-free' isn't always the easiest thing to do, but it's worth trying. It's about staying off our phones, laptops and tablets, however, can really help us to appreciate the things that genuinely matter at this special time of year. To be our 12 top tips for a tech-free festive season – Yule be glad you did 'Merry Christmas'!

- CHRISTMAS CRAFTING**
Get out the paper, glue and scissors and have a go at making cards or gifts. You could also create your own decorations to add a really personal touch to the Christmas tree.
- NATURE QUEST**
Try to encourage them to be 'green' at your local park. Challenge yourself and your family to find natural resources that are symbols of this time of year – like holly or mistletoe, for example.
- CAROL KARAOKE**
Sing your hearts out with a Christmas carol and sing right. Pick out your favourite tunes and enjoy a musical celebration with family and friends.
- WANDER DOWN MEMORY LANE**
Have about making a scrapbook filled with your favourite memories from Christmas. You could also make a 'memory lane' by taking photos of your family and friends during the festive season.
- TRY REFLECTIVE JOURNALING**
Ask them to write down their thoughts, feelings and reflections on the holiday. It could be a notebook or diary – you could also take photos of your kids doing the new year.
- WRAP IT UP**
Take time to get involved with some festive gift wrapping. Break out the wrapping paper, ribbons and bows to make something for those presents that are really special.
- WALK IN A WINTER WONDERLAND**
Delight in the great outdoors with some time in the snow. The family can all wrap up warm in their winter coats and hats and enjoy the crisp winter air together.
- BE A SEASONAL CHEF**
Use the season to inspire your cooking. Try to make a festive meal that is healthy and delicious. You could also try to make a festive meal that is healthy and delicious.
- ENJOY A CHRISTMAS STORY**
Christmas is a perfect time for spending stories. Get your family to read a Christmas story to each other. You could also make a Christmas story book together.
- SNOWY SCULPTURES**
If you have snow, use it to get creative. You could make a snowman or a snow sculpture. You could also make a snow sculpture of a family member or a friend.
- GAMES NIGHT GALA**
Give them some old-school board games to play. You could also make a board game together. You could also make a board game together.
- GOODWILL TO ALL**
You and your family could spend a day volunteering. You could also make a donation to a charity. You could also make a donation to a charity.

Meet Our Expert
The National Online Safety (NOS) is a charity that provides advice and support to help children and young people stay safe online. You can find out more about NOS on our website: www.nationalonlinesafety.org

The National College **NOS National Online Safety** **WakeUpWednesday**

[@nationalonlinesafety](https://twitter.com/nationalonlinesafety) [/NationalOnlineSafety](https://www.facebook.com/nationalonlinesafety) [@nationalonlinesafety](https://www.instagram.com/nationalonlinesafety) [@national_online_safety](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn0tional_online_safety)

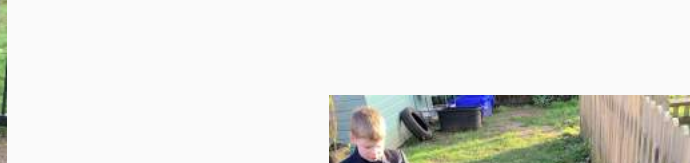
Users of this guide are advised to check the date of release. The date of release is 13.12.2022.



Storytelling Garden!

Year 3 and Year 1 planting silver birches and rowan trees, and the second willow portal in Forest School!

Three cheers for trees!



Banbury Vision 2050

**We
need
you!**

Banbury
Vision
2050



Take our survey by
January 15th visit
www.banbury2050.co.uk

Have your say on Banbury Town Centre:

Help us to develop a new
vision to unlock Banbury's
potential taking us to 2050.

Make Banbury a better place
for everyone.



HemingwayDesign

NEW masterplanning

Cherwell District Council are developing a community led Vision for the future of Banbury town centre and can't do it without you! We all need our town centres, not just as places to shop but places to work, live, study, access essential services and just relax, meet people and have fun. The best town centres respond to the needs of the people who use them, so we need to know what you think about Banbury town centre. Why you like it, and how you use it, or why you don't. And most importantly how you think it could be better. We promise that the future strategy for Banbury will respond to what you tell us, and the more you can tell us the more targeted that strategy will be. So please take the time to share your views and encourage everyone you know to do the same. Hard copies of the survey are in the Community Hub in Castle Quay Shopping Centre and translations can also be provided upon request, please e-mail banbury2050@cherwell-dc.gov.uk Use the QR code above or visit www.banbury2050.co.uk to have your say.

Support for families this Christmas

Did you know?.... We have our own food, uniform, gift and hygiene banks in school. If you are in need this festive period please speak to a member of staff who will be able to help you (confidentially) with resources in school.

If you have any surplus gifts, hygiene products or non-perishable food that you can donate then these would be gratefully received by the office or a member of staff.

Christmas Hamper appeal

Prabhu Natarajan from the **The Lunchbox Project Banbury** and **Mr Rowan Ridley** founder of **Banbury Car and Bike Meet** have joined hands this year and decided to make **500 Christmas Hampers** for the very well-deserving families in need. They have also created a fundraising page and it would be really helpful if you share within the families/organizations to help us raise funds so that we can extend our help.

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/Christmas-food-parcels?fbclid=IwAR0IxSw7fzpnal1hM2-TOqYqCUnbyyWFeryRqBPIIN-KsnEMoSkr8omhgMM4>

Is your child 3 or 4 years old?

Primary school place – you must apply now

If your child was born on or between **1 September 2019** and **31 August 2020**, you need to apply for a primary school place now.

You must still apply even if your child already attends a nursery attached to the school.

Deadline for applications is **15 January 2024**.

Apply online at

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

– it's quick, easy and secure.

You can get free access to the internet at many of our libraries and children's centres – ask for details at your local facility.

For help and information:

Web: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Email: admissions.schools@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Tel: **0345 241 2487**



Support Groups



ParentLine 5-11 years

New School Health Nursing messaging service for parents and carers of children 5-11 years attending a state school in Oxfordshire

Text **07312 263227**
to message a school health nurse




Or scan QR code here to start a chat



We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate message back to confirm we have received your text. Texts will only be sent between 9am and 5pm, Monday-Friday excluding bank holidays. If you need help before and after school, then contact your GP, contact with the police or dial 111. Our text service does not replace advice from NHS or other services. Your messages are stored and can be used for other health care that isn't linked to your confidential records. We support messaging from 111 mobile numbers only which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some 'number missing' mobile apps. We accept photos that contain personal data if we have discussed your safety but we would usually speak to you first. In private the health professionals that send messages to you, text to you by number. Messages are charged at your usual rates.






NHS

9 out of 10

unvaccinated children
can catch measles
if someone in their
class has it

Check your child is up
to date with their
MMR vaccinations



NHS

102,000 children
starting school in
England are at risk
of catching measles

Check your child is up
to date with their
MMR vaccinations

Please see here for the latest Primary School Health Newsletter
<https://sway.office.com/dGH85FJFkQhEeCTV?ref=email>

Music Lessons at Harriers

LEARN AN INSTRUMENT

with Oxfordshire County Music Service

From
£6.40
per lesson
(dependent on
group size)

Families on certain benefits can apply for free music lessons by completing the 'help with payment' section of the sign-up form.

Currently available at Harriers

FLUTE
STRINGS
violin / viola / cello
GUITAR

Or choose another instrument and join our waiting list

Sign up or find more information at
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/musicinterest



Supported using public funding by
Department for Education
ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



We offer a variety of
music lessons at Harriers!
Some children can have
music lessons **free of
charge** with the
Oxfordshire Music
Service! If your child is
interested in learning a
musical instrument, please
go to the following website
and complete the form!

[www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/m
usicinterest](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/musicinterest)



with Oxfordshire
County Music Service

Singing lessons in your school

From
£6.40
per lesson
(dependent on
group size)

Sign up or find more information at
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/musicinterest
Families on certain benefits can apply for free music lessons by
completing the 'help with payment' section of the sign-up form

Thursdays
during term time
4 - 5 pm
St Mary's Primary
School, Banbury
Entrance and car park
on Bluecoats Close

**Banbury Young Singers
FREE**

For ALL children in years 3-6
who love singing!

Come along for a taster session

Email the Banbury Young Singers leaders for more information:
katie.harris@oxfordshire.gov.uk
christopher.murphy@oxfordshire.gov.uk



Supported using public funding by
Department for Education
ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



Activities outside Harriers



Wykham Park Academy Banbury
an Aspirations Academy



FUTURES
INSTITUTE
BANBURY



2024 PRODUCTION OF

ROALD DAHL'S
Matilda
THE MUSICAL JR.

TUESDAY 16th JANUARY
WEDNESDAY 17th JANUARY
THURSDAY 18th JANUARY

7PM
WYKHAM THEATRE



TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
TICKETSOURCE/WYKHAMTHEATRE
OR
SCAN THE QR CODE

Book by
DENNIS KELLY

Music & Lyrics by
TIM MINCHIN

Roald Dahl's *Matilda The Musical JR.* is presented through special arrangement with and all authorised materials are supplied by
Music Theatre International, New York
(212) 541-4684 mtishows.com

Holiday Workshops



The North Wall
Arts Centre

NW Inventors:
Christmas Carol
Workshops
Friday 22 Dec
10am - 4.30pm

YouthLab:
Christmas Carol
Workshops
Friday 22 Dec
10am - 4.30pm

Join us for A Christmas Carol themed drama workshop and trip to see Creation Theatre's A Christmas Carol.

For ages 8-11
Tickets: £30

For ages 12-17
Tickets: £30

Full bursary places available, email Able at watona@thenorthwall to find out more.

December

Book online
www.thenorthwall.com

Activities outside Harriers



'We play loads of fun games, do activities and challenges and sometimes get badges'

Matilda

Rainbows
firstgrimsburyrainbows@outlook.com

Girls play, learn and have tons of fun
for ages 4 to 7

At Rainbows, we welcome all girls to play, learn and have fun in a creative, safe space for all abilities.


Registered charity number: excepted from registration

Join a local Rainbows group girlguiding.org.uk/joinus



'I had never climbed before. I was scared of heights. But I climbed and rang the bell all by myself and felt really proud of myself'

Poonam

Brownies
firstgrimsburybrownies@outlook.com

Girls have nonstop fun, learning and adventure
for ages 7 to 10

At Brownies, we welcome all girls to explore their creative side, get out into the great outdoors and start to learn to look after themselves, others and the world we live in.


Registered charity number: excepted from registration

Join a local Brownies group girlguiding.org.uk/joinus