

# Great Oaks Weekly

## Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017



### ARTS WEEK AT THE MOVIES

Last week was film week at Great Oaks with lots of movie related learning. Each class made their own film and the week culminated with a special showing of all of these films with Oscars awarded in lots of different categories. The best picture award went to a Silent Comedy made by 7O called 'The lift'. All the films can be viewed on <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/oBxvuzJnQ2GzSWloazZqYogkSFE?usp=sharing> But please don't share these outside of the Great Oaks community. Thank you to all the staff involved especially Roger and Simon.



### GOODBYE TO STAFF

We are saying goodbye to 4 colleagues who are sadly leaving us at the end of term. Lewis is off to University in September, Lucy to move back up north. After nine years at the school Rashminder is going into teacher training, she will make a great teacher. Gary is retiring after 15 years as Design Technology teacher, Key Stage Manager and most recently running our vocational programmes. We wish him a happy retirement.



### END OF YEAR REVIEW AND PUPILS OF THE YEAR

On Friday we had our End of Year Assembly with a quiz looking back at the highlights of our year.

Back in September we launched a competition to design a mascot for the school with the slogan 'Yes I can' (our theme for the year).

The winner was an Owl designed by 8S, the finished product made a special appearance at the Assembly.

We also awarded our pupils of the year who were:

Year 7 - Richard Runham, Ferhan Hussain

Year 8 - Elisha Clements, Sarah Coates  
Pathway 2 KS3 - Kornel Jakutowicz, Elisha Clements

Year 9 Kye Sharpes, Josh Thorpe  
Key Stage 3 - Harry Cramer, Grace Sherin-Jones

Year 10 - Connor Wardrop, Jamie Cocket  
Pathway 2 KS4 - Aneesha Yasiny

Key Stage 4 - Ella Eagan, Michael Acheampong

College - Lauren Bennett, George Bertelsen



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD 1

As another year comes to a close I just wanted to provide updates on a few of the things that we have discussed in the newsletter and elsewhere this year.

1. Finance. At the time of writing our budget still hasn't been fully agreed by Southampton City Council. The relative good news is that it will not be the 11 or 12% cut that we first feared and which was reported in the media but is still likely to be a cut of up to 1.5% with further cuts likely next year. We are working with Governors to try and lessen the impact of these cuts across school.
2. Academy Status. From 1st September we will no longer be a Local Authority special school but will be an Academy and part of the Solent Special Education Trust, consisting initially of Great Oaks and Rosewood schools. In the longer term we hope to use this opportunity to start to making some changes to our curriculum and develop closer working partnerships with Rosewood in a number of areas.
3. New Free School Our new Free school bid to help meet the ever increasing demand for places at Great Oaks had to be put on hold during the General Election, however we are hopeful that a new round of bids will be open in September.

Despite all of these things going on in the background overall it has been a very successful and positive year for our young people. I would like to say a really big thank you to all the staff and Governors who have worked tirelessly throughout the year to create such positive and creative learning environment. I would also like to thank the parents and carers without whose support these achievements would not be possible.

Have a very happy summer break.

Andy Evans

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD 2

*I was elected to be Headteacher for today in the Great Oaks General Election. We are having fun, there will be singing, waterslides and Bouncy Castles. Isaac is going to be helping as my Deputy. I am going to be a great Headteacher  
Guy Betteridge*



## GREAT OAKS COLLEGE NEWS

Great Oaks College students celebrated the end of term and those leaving Great Oaks with two special events last week. The college students who are based on site had a teaparty and awards ceremony for Rachel, Callum and Luke who are moving on at the end of term. In the Evening there was a BBQ at Down to Earth Farm for Brandon and Harley who are moving on to College. It was also an opportunity for those students and parents who will be based at the Farm in September to view the facilities and meet the staff.

In the evening we were presented with a cheque for an amazing £3,200 from the family of Stuart Heather. This was money collected at Stuart's funeral to support the work in the garden at the Lodge, a place that he loved. We are looking to use it to develop our outside Dome. Many, many thanks to everyone who contributed towards this.



The forum is celebrating its 1st Anniversary

Join us on Friday 29th September 2017

10am—1pm

Southampton Parent Carer Forum Open Day

Venue: Portswood Church, Portswood Road

Portswood, Southampton, SO17 2FY

Including refreshments and a selection of cakes and pastries

Come and meet local services and experience an inspirational keynote speech

"Communication Matters" delivered by our amazing guest

speaker, Alex Kelly of Alex Kelly Ltd



Local services attending including CAMHS, Southampton Mencap,

Carers in Southampton, Southampton IAS Service, Activation, Reminds support group and

Adhara Autism Trust

We look forward to meeting you

Please confirm your place by email to [clairepritchard@rosewood.org.uk](mailto:clairepritchard@rosewood.org.uk)



CARERS IN SOUTHAMPTON  
EMPOWERING THE SILENT ARMY

Office open Monday 4th Sept  
Term starts Year 7s - Tuesday 5th Sept  
Year 8s - 11s Wednesday 6th Sept  
College students (both sites)  
Friday 8th  
HAPPY HOLIDAYS

