

# Great Oaks Weekly

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025



## Visit from our MP



Darren Paffey one of Southampton's Members of Parliament came to visit us last Friday as part of our ongoing work on our local community. He bravely joined Assembly where he answered lots of varied questions from the pupils ranging from how are you going to fix the pot holes, to can you provide more computers and resources for schools. He correctly answered the question about his favourite football team! Darren also had a tour of the school where he was asked lots more questions.

As well as being a local MP Darren is a member of the Education select committee which is currently looking at SEND. It was great to talk to him about the challenges and successes of our work. If you want to contribute to the current inquiry into SEND they are welcoming evidence (particularly solution focused evidence) from parents and a range of organisation – you have until 6<sup>th</sup> February.

[.https://committees.parliament.uk/call-for-evidence/3517](https://committees.parliament.uk/call-for-evidence/3517)

## Puzzle week at Great Oaks

Its been puzzle week at Great Oaks with lots of exciting maths and word games set by staff for pupils to attempt to solve. Pictured below pupils from 4JD cracking the code on the Cryptex. Thanks to Mr Down for leading the week.



## Southsite Funday

Due to the cancellation of school for students before Christmas on our Funday they had a rearranged event on Thursday. College students went out bowling and for lunch. KS4 pupils had lots of exciting activities including bouncy castle magic shows and concerts.



## 4LB report on Ice cores



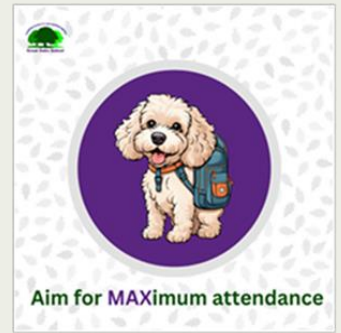
In science over the last few weeks, we have been making ice cores. Scientists drill for ice cores in Antarctica. Ice cores show scientists what Earth's atmosphere was like over different years. Ice cores show scientists how the climate has changed over thousands of years. We decided to make our own ice cores. It took us just over a week to layer up our ice. Thank you for reading

## Max's Attendance Challenge

Attendance for the school was 87.49%

Attendance for the College was 86.72%

Well done to the 229 students who achieved 100% Attendance this week.



Our Challenge this week was to see which Year Group had the best attendance. A huge well done to Students in Year 7 who achieved a fantastic 95.26% overall

Attendance at school is really important. While we understand that some absences are unavoidable, for absences that are avoidable we urge you to consider the impact this has on your child's wellbeing, development and learning. Even sporadic absences, such as a day off a week or fortnight, add up over time and can have an impact. If you need support with attendance, please contact your child's pathway manager so we can work together to develop a supportive plan.

## Great Oaks Family Food Pantry



Our vocational College students have been working hard to get our Food pantry open ready for 4<sup>th</sup> February Launch (see details below)

When - Every 10am-12pm

Where - Great Oaks, Green Lane, Southampton, SO16 9FQ

What - £3 for 15 food items, uniform/coats from 50p  
Contact Jo Goodrich or Ellie Pereira Bastos for more information

To support this we will be having a dress down non-uniform day on the last day of this half term – February 14<sup>th</sup>. Please can pupils bring in tinned or dried food or good quality old Great Oaks Uniform (no perishable goods).

## Sports visit



Pupils in the ASDAN Sports and Fitness group had really interesting tour of the Hampshire Cricket ground last week

## Sponsored event

Parents of 2 of our pupils are raising money for an autism charity with a sponsored walk starting on 28<sup>th</sup> March. If you would like to sponsor them follow the link below

<https://fundraise.autisminitiatives.org/fundraisers/lauranharris>

Please do send us details of any community events you are involved in we are always happy to publicise them