

# Great Oaks Weekly

Friday 12th September 2025



## --- Welcome Back! ---

We're so pleased to see all our students return, and a big welcome to all of our new families.

Each year we have a school theme that runs throughout the year. Our school theme this year is "**Connections**". Students will be exploring what this means through lessons and a range of activities. We'll be building stronger connections with our families, community, and local groups, whilst also looking at how we have positive connections within school. If you have any ideas or contacts to share, we'd love to hear from you. Please also send us any inclusive community events that you feel are worth sharing with other families and we will try to include these in the newsletter.

Most of our updates and celebrations are shared through Great Oaks Weekly (emailed every Friday, also posted on our website and Class Dojo). These are our main ways of keeping you up to date without sending lots of separate letters.

Also look out for coffee mornings advertised in the newsletter. This is a lovely chance to meet other parents and hear useful information from key speakers.

Please remember, we're always here if you have any worries or concerns. Getting in touch early means we can work together to support your child and tackle any difficulties.

We look forward to working with you throughout the year.

**Geraldine Lindsay - Headteacher**



### Connections

This week, pupils have been busy exploring our school theme of "**Connections.**" Across classes, children worked together to design and build imaginative objects and models from Minecraft-style boxes, encouraging teamwork and creativity. They also created a giant paper chain that stretched across the South Site playground and around the sports hall at West. In 4MG, pupils enjoyed a lively game of **Connections Bingo**, linking ideas and friendships.



# Safeguarding

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is **Grace Kent**. If you have any concerns, you can also contact any member of the Safeguarding Team:

Geraldine Lindsay  
Andy Evans  
Tony Parkes  
Lynne McKeown  
Andy Vivian  
Kate Henty  
Ilda Ourique

Sarah Morrish  
Jo Goodrich  
Tracey Harris  
Natalie Woodhouse  
Rory King  
Graham Carter  
Sarah Hogg



# Results Day

Well done to our Pathway 3 Year 11s who collected their GCSE and Entry Level results. They all did brilliantly and secured their chosen college places. Thanks also to the staff who supported them. Certificates to be presented later this term.



# Musical Connection

Great Oaks College student, Ping Liang Ng shared his musical talents on the Ethereal Drum at a House of Lords recital, a wonderful example of making connections through music.



# Attendance

It's been brilliant seeing our students in school, smiling, learning, and making the most of the year so far. At Great Oaks, we know that *every single day counts* - and that's why we live by our motto: **Aim for MAXimum attendance!**

## Let's Keep the Momentum Going!

Students who come to school every day benefit from the rhythm of routines, consistent support, and the chance to build friendships and feel part of our vibrant community. Plus, it helps them stay on track with their learning and development. So far this year, our whole-school attendance is **91.5%** - a fantastic start!

Of course, we understand that sometimes students need to stay home due to illness. If that happens, please let us know by **08:50** each morning by calling the school office or emailing: **[studentabsences@greatoaks.school](mailto:studentabsences@greatoaks.school)**.

If we don't hear from you, we'll have to mark the absence as *unauthorised*, and in some cases, we may carry out a home visit just to check in and make sure everything's okay.

**Need support?** If you're facing any challenges with attendance, please reach out to your child's class teacher or Pathway Manager. We're here to help and want to work together to make sure every student can enjoy all the opportunities school has to offer.