

# Great Oaks Weekly

Thursday 29th January 2026



## National Lego Day



During Connections Week, learners across the school created LEGO models to represent Great Oaks for National LEGO Day on 28 January.

All pathways joined in, building trees, classrooms, the sports hall, school trips and even the car park!

The project highlighted our theme of Connections, bringing learners together through shared creativity, collaboration, and imaginative learning experiences.

Iris Marie Minard  
28th March 1929 - 8th December 2025



## Thankyou Iris

We would like to honour the memory of Iris, a long-standing music teacher and governor at Great Oaks (formerly Red Lodge), and thank her family for their kind donation to the music department.



# Great Oaks Gazette

## Hot Topic - Food Waste Bins

Great Oaks has received food waste bins, and Southampton residents will soon be getting them too. The aim is to reduce landfill waste and help people think more carefully about what they throw away.

The Gazette team feels food waste bins are a good idea, as long as they are maintained properly to prevent pests and unpleasant smells.

Food waste bins can be used for kitchen scraps, leftovers, peelings, expired food, eggshells, tea bags (without plastic), coffee grounds, fruit, bread, rice and pasta. Items such as cooking oil, pet waste, garden waste, tin foil and nappies should not be included.

If used correctly, food waste bins can have a positive impact on the environment.



## South Site News

By our regular columnist **Mike Bull**



Staff and students at South Site are getting fitter and stronger thanks to regular sessions in the new and improved gym at Testlands Wellbeing Hub. All students are entitled to FREE membership of

the facilities in Green Lane, Millbrook, where they can use treadmills, a stairmaster, rowing bikes and a dedicated weights area. The gym is open 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 4pm on Saturday and Sunday. To see videos of the new equipment, check out the Testlands Instagram and Facebook pages. Customer experience co-ordinator Lauren said: "We are always keen to welcome new members, come and see what our gym has to offer".

By our Student Reporters



Kane



Xavier enjoys history, computing, music, and vocational learning.

Xavier



## MAXimum Attendance



Our attendance this week has been 90.1%. It is really important that we all keep striving for excellent attendance. Let's keep aiming for 93% attendance! Next week we will celebrate classes with attendance over 96% across the school. Every session Counts! Woof.