



College Newsletter



23.2.2024

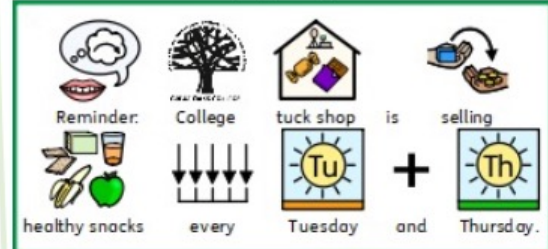
Interpersonal skills Kate's Corner



Afternoon,
 Hope everyone had restful half term breaks. A big thank you for all your support in the week leading up to half term in any money you contributed for our charity events it was a great week full of positive spirit and giving. The Common room is now complete, and we are looking forward to a 'Launch party' planned by the students in a couple of weeks' time!



The college tuck shop has proved popular with students using their skills to buy a range of healthy snacks and drinks. This will continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays going forward.



Have a nice weekend, Kate



A16 spent the morning with the SoCo Music Project. We explored different musical instruments and had a go at singing along to our favourite songs. Carolina and Chardonnay especially enjoyed singing 'We will rock you' accompanied by Vinnie on the drums. Chardonnay had a go at making music using the computer. Wednesday morning, we went to the new common room which is based in the Lodge building. We enjoyed playing Pool and football and relaxing in the new and colourful room.



M16 have been looking at snacks and food they might make for their common room launch party. We made cinnamon swirls; they came out well and we will definitely make them for the party!

F16 have had a brilliant first week back. On Tuesday we visited Blackwater Arboretum where we enjoyed the Tall Trees Trail. We all sat calmly and listened to the birds together, Alex especially liked this! We have also enjoyed getting creative with technology by creating our own paintings using Sumopaint – Harry was really focussed on choosing his colours for his painting. The whole class also did a great job of planning what we would like to have on our nachos earlier in the week, and then had a go at following our own planning.

Diary Dates
18th – 22nd March 2024
Residential and Activity Week

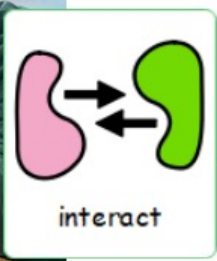
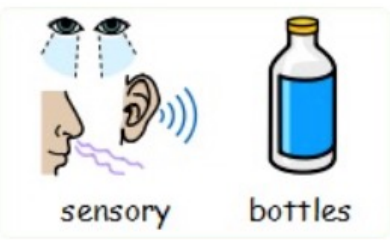
Thank you to everyone who has returned their forms. Please return them if you have not already done so.



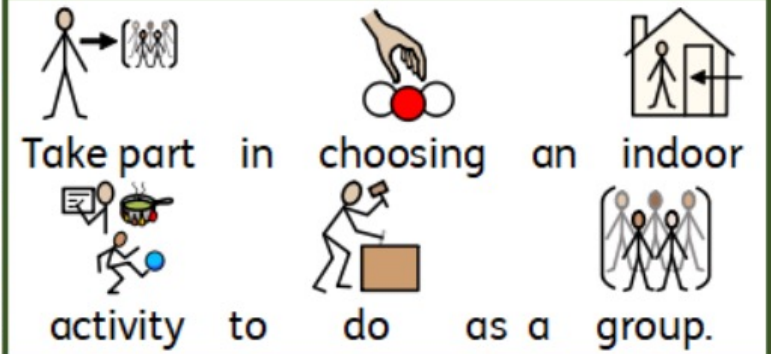
Celebrate



D16 used oil and watercolour paints to make sensory bottles and drip paintings. We enjoyed watching how the different liquids interact.




Skills Builder Challenge Leadership

Take part in choosing an indoor activity to do as a group.

Hold a discussion with your family members or a group of friends to decide on an indoor activity that you are going to do together.

Think about how you will include everyone. Think about how you are going to manage a group discussion and come to a shared decision.

Extension: With your family members or a group of friends, give the activity a go.

The Word from Woodwork.

In the Great Oaks College workshop students learn many skills through a range of projects. Since September the College has taken over running this facility full time and both the space and the students have been developing fast.

While we have been learning we have produced many items that we want to sell to buy materials for future projects.

This is the first of many Termly bulletins from the workshop to tell you what students have been learning and creating and to offer you the opportunity to buy some of our products.

In the Autumn term M16 and A16 were learning about measurement through creating these fabulous bird tables. They are built to last from 9mm plywood with a weatherproof paint finish and are designed to be hung or placed on a post.



Several classes participated in longer term projects like creating a Sensory Board for use across the College. They also began creating the Giant Labyrinth game that will soon be installed in a communal outdoor area. Other community projects have included sawhorses for Forest College and various planters for the College gardens.

This term D16, 4JS and F16 have been learning to transition around College community and sequence tasks through making bird boxes. They are really good at it and several boxes are ready to give nesting birds a home.



M16 have been making marble mazes – these are not for sale – students are learning to engage with a creative project and they get to take these home.



A16 have been learning about solving problems while helping the gardening team by making planters for their succulent plants. These will be available before Easter.



Products.



Bird Boxes – made from untreated timber and painted with weatherproof paint on the outside only (birds prefer this).

£15 per box or two boxes for £26.



Bird Tables – made from 9mm ply and weatherproof paint, available with hooks for hanging or without for mounting. Plain or decorated. £18 each or two for £30.



Pen pots £3

Branch key hooks £7

Nail Art Hearts £4

Planters/bat boxes/mini bird tables £6

Boot pullers £4



Email: tomneusinger@greatoaks.school to make an order – products can be sent home with students on receipt of payment. Cash only. All proceeds used to fund further woodworking projects. Everything is made by students but quality checked by staff.