

# THE OAKES

## COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

Autumn Term Newsletter

Editor: Lorenza Samuels

## "Good" News for Oakes



I am pleased to share that within a week of launching the Oakes College, we received verification from OFSTED that we are GOOD!

On the eve of our Open Evening, we received a call that educational inspectors, Ofsted, were visiting the school. The staff and students were observed, interviewed and assessed on their contributions to the college. We were so proud of the students' honesty, confidence and openness that they shared with the inspectors.

The visit shone light on our student progress, strong community values and good teaching across all subjects. It is great to receive recognition for all the hard work that takes place each day.

Ofsted believed that the college deserved a "good" rating and commented on the "strong teaching", "highly rated pastoral care" and commented that it has excellent facilities and activities along with a "striking range of opportunities to enrich students' experiences."

The full report can be found on our website.

**Students at Oakes achieve good outcomes, in line with national averages, and current students are making good progress in the academic and vocational courses that the school offers**

**(Ofsted 2018)**

Over 95% of our students secured their first choice progression route last year, with 68% going onto higher education and 17% into Russell Group universities. Of those who entered Higher Education, 92% obtained a place at their first choice institution. We are also seeing a continuation of the growth of apprenticeships especially Higher Level 4, with 14 students opting for this route. I would like to wish all of our alumni, the best of luck for their future careers.

I am hoping that the current year 13s are just as successful. We have had many students already receive offers and interviews for University, including our Oxbridge candidates.

This year our Open Evening was the busiest on record. We were pleased to meet so many potential students. We are anticipating being over-subscribed for the first time in several years.

As well as great academic success, we have had some amazing sporting successes this term, with our Netball, Badminton and Football teams competing against other colleges. More games are coming up, so to find out more information and hear about our super sports teams - visit our social media pages.



Building on the progress of students inside the classroom, enrichment opportunities often provide some of the most memorable and rewarding experiences at Sixth Form. Business and ICT students recently spent an action packed day out at Alton Towers, enjoying the rides but also attending seminars and workshops on the financial and promotional planning that has made it such a success. Upcoming trips include a visit to the University labs to see the latest brain scanning technologies for Psychology students, a visit to BFI in London for Media students and a tour of Parliament for those studying Politics and Sociology. In the New Year trips are going further afield, with opportunities to go skiing in the Italian dolomites and a humanities trip to Poland, where we will visit Auschwitz.

Students are sitting their internal assessments before Christmas. I would like to wish them the best success. It has been great to see so many students engage in independent learning in our study facilities.

I wish you a fantastic, well deserved winter break.

*Karim Marzaoui*

Head of Oakes College Cambridge



## Student Presidential Message

We've had a brilliant start to the term welcoming 107 Year 12 students to the college, who have joined us from almost 20 different schools!

At the start of term, everyone settled in quickly with form groups and getting to know each other. They have worked together to complete activities including group research tasks, form discussions, debates on issues (including owning a credit card, healthy work habits and the wonders of fake news). On top of this we have had competitions, quizzes, rounders and much more.

Each form is currently engaged in a community challenge, raising money for a charity close to each groups' hearts. We've raised over £100 with Ms Forrest's group baking up some beautiful cakes, £25 to Ms Samuels' group for winning a dodgeball competition and lots of other events are set up in the future to fundraise. If the college raises £2000 as a whole, Head of the College, Mr Marsaoui, promises to shave his head!

*Jennie*

Student President



## Final Thoughts

We hope you have enjoyed reading Oakes College's first newsletter. This is our termly newsletter and whether you are reading this as a student or parent from our trust, a member of the local community, waiting for an interview with us or perhaps visiting our actual college, this is a taste of the Oakes experience. For regular updates follow us on social media.

We look forward to welcoming our trust school students at our student futures event "How To secure a place at Russell Group Universities including Oxbridge".



Please contact or call on 01223 242 931 (ext 216) to arrange a tour or email [office@oakescc.org](mailto:office@oakescc.org)