

WELCOME

A message from the Head of School

Mrs G McLaughlin

It has been an outstanding start to the Spring Term, with the students back eager to learn, which is reflected in the work ethic that I am observing in lessons, student attendance and student achievement points.

A reminder that all students received their academic reports over the last week. If you need any further information regarding your child's academic report, then please do not hesitate to contact their Progress Leader.

We are continuing to go from strength to strength as a staff body, with staff retention at over 96%. In order to continue to support our students, we are looking for a Head of Music

<http://www.theglc.org.uk/189/joining-our-team/careers/1125/glc-gateway-academy-head-of-music-1> and Lead Practitioner in English

<http://www.theglc.org.uk/189/joining-our-team/careers/1341/glc-gateway-academy-secondary-lead-practitioner-in-english>

to join our team. If you know of anyone suitable for any of these positions, please feel free to pass them the links above or ask them to contact the Academy. They must have experience and be a really good practitioner to support our wonderful students.

On a different note, if any parent/carer ever wishes to tour the building and get an insight into the educational experience your child has, then please do not hesitate to contact my PA, Jo Jaffa, via email at jo.jaffa@theglc.org.uk to organise this.

We are incredibly proud of our students and staff, it is a true joy to be part of the Gateway family.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,

CONGRATUALIONS HARRY

Harry Sanham (year 7) has been representing the Gateway Academy in the Thurrock schools football district team since September. He scored a hatrick in a recent match, helping the team win 12 -3 against Waltham Forest. Big well done from all of us at the Academy Harry!!!

FOOD SHOW DOWN!!!

The school food show down, healthy eating food show was a fantastic event enjoyed by year 4, 7, 8 and years 9-11 hospitality and catering students. Pupils got to discuss food poverty and how we can try and overcome that by creating shopping lists on a budget. Then Chef Ben spoke to the students about a healthy diet and which meal is the most important and they all got that correct: "breakfast of course".

Pupils got to share their ideas of a healthy breakfast while watch some of their year group live cook with some teachers. The cooking was in the style of ready steady cook and the it was green peas vs red chillis. The red chillis seemed to be a common theme throughout the day as that team won in every session. The red chillis only had the vegetarian options. Pupils discussed where protein comes from and about alternative proteins. Pupils got to come up and taste and most importantly judge the team. Well done for everyone who took part, absolute fantastic effort. I know Mr Moruzzi, Mr Clark and Miss Bettle were very delighted for their teams winning.



MEET MR LAWLER

Who am I?

Dear Parents and Carers,

I recently joined the GLC consortium of schools as the Sustainability Lead and hope to encourage the children to become environmentalists. As a young boy I was inspired by the likes of David Attenborough and Jacques Cousteau, the latter leading me into my passion for scuba diving and marine life. I have since dived with my wife and sons, and hope that my two grandchildren also want to explore their natural world.

Our schools' vision is to increase outdoors learning in 2023, and we would really appreciate any donations of the following second-hand items to help all our children gain access to the benefits and enjoyment of education outside of the classroom:

- Welly boots
- Waterproof jackets / trousers
- Gardening tools (sieves, trowels, forks, spades, rakes, wheelbarrows, watering cans, brooms, buckets etc).
- Pots and pans for outdoor kitchens
- Planting pots/ trays
- Any unused, unwanted top soil or sand

Our children have lots of ideas, such as growing vegetables for school dinners and planting wild flowers. Also, at my previous school the children enjoyed on-site bee experiences and sold honey at school events. Therefore, if anyone knows a local beekeeper who would be interested in discussing the possibility of initiating a school beekeeping club with me, please let me know their contact details. Here's looking forward to engaging your children with the outdoors.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

DATE	Time	Event
30.11.2023	2 Weeks	Year 11 PPE start
9.1.2023	16.00	GLC Recruitment Fair
9.1.2023	17.30	Senior Citizens' dinner
10.2.2023		End of half term

[Click Here](#) for the full parental Calendar

COOKING CLUB

Well done to those who attended cooking club with Mrs Reynolds, Miss Akumanyi and Mr Lovelock who made a little taste of Italy with their focaccia bread. Pupils developed skills in kneading, proving and seasoning. Well done to those who came. Remember cooking is a life skill and would be great to see you all there. Mondays 1-202; this week will be muffins.



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YEAR 10 AND 11 ALPS

ALPS
ADDITIONAL LEARNING PROGRAMME OF SUPPORT

Students must commit to taking part in **ALL** additional hours of learning every week.

What results will be in your envelope?
GCSE RESULTS

Additional learning to ensure you achieve your potential

WEEK 1 - 14.50 - 15.50PM

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Year 11	English - X Band Science - Y Band	Option B		Science - X band Maths - Y band	Childcare Option B Targeted Students Drama - Mrs Kitsiou

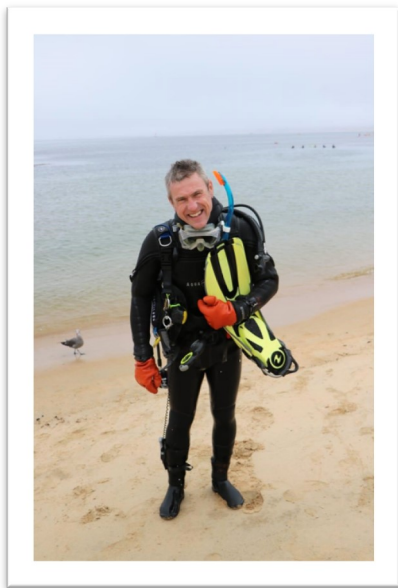
WEEK 2 - 14.50 - 15.50PM

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Year 11	Maths - X Band English - y Band	Option A		Option C	Targeted students English Lit Further Maths Technology Food

Subjects in each of the options	Option A	Option B	Option C
	Business PE Geography Health and Social Care Performing Arts Arts Dance Design Technology Spanish	Business Photography Creative Media Art Spanish History Computer Science Geography	Business Geography Psychology Music French Hospitality and Catering Dance Computer Science Design Technology History

Pomodoro Sessions
Monday - 16.00 - 17.30 PM
Tuesday - 16.00 - 17.30 PM
Wednesday - 16.00 - 17.30 PM
Thursday - 16.00 - 17.30 PM
Taking place weekly in the SET room

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MORE NEWS

YEAR 11 Mrs L Bruce

Well done year 11 on your return since Christmas. It has been intense and we’re pushing for you to be really resilient at the current time. We’re encouraging you to work harder and we’re demanding more from you all the time. But we know it’ll be worth it in the long run. The next round of PPE exams start in a week’s time, 30th January and last for two weeks. This is your final round of formal assessments before your exam window opens officially in May. Please ensure you are working hard at home, prioritising revision and seeking support and guidance from your teachers if you need it. Saturday school starts on the 28th January so please complete the link on the letter sent home and make sure you let us know that you want to attend. We’re having a year 11 social evening on the 10th February (letter to follow) to bring us all together after the intense period of exams. Please join us for a couple of hours. Two final reminders are that ALPs are running every week until 3.45pm and then there are Pomodoro sessions running from 4-5.30pm. My advice would be to try all different revision strategies and silent study is a proven technique for increasing retention of information.

Wishing you all the very best of luck in this final round of PPE exams. Mrs Bruce and Mrs Fuller.

YEAR 9 Ms A Shannon

Welcome back Year 9, we hope you had a lovely Christmas break and New Year and are all raring to go in 2023!

We finished last term on a high and were given the trophy for ‘Best Year Group’ at the end of term assembly and were rewarded with a non-school uniform day in January. Thank you for all of your efforts and we hope to see this continue into the rest of the school year. Let’s keep our standards high and continue to improve upon our best

Year 9’s have come back and got straight into looking at a ‘Compassion Project’ during their tutor times. This project is to look at different ways in which we can show compassion to each other and within the community. We have asked students to come up with ideas that they think will show compassion either in school or in the local area. Tutors have been working hard to support the students with their ideas and to give out different jobs and roles within their projects. .

YEAR 7 Mr M Scott

Year 7 have started the Spring term in fantastic fashion with an attendance that surpasses the national average by some margin. Even in the icy conditions our students wrapped up and showed great resilience to make their way to school. A massive thank you to all of you who have kept their attendance high and shown a real appreciation to make every day count.



Year 7 lead the charge with their reward points and positive contribution in and around the school with thousands of points achieved in the spring term alone. While tutor groups battle for first place in holding the top spot, it is Miss Curran’s tutor group 7F that maintains top spot with all tutees having 250 or more points and the top contributor’s holder totals of 850 and up. A brilliant effort from 7F. Well done. Keep it up and the end of term reward will be yours, though it is all still to play for.

Students across year 7 have really excelled this term and continue to value their learning and respond to the challenges of our diverse and aspiring curriculum. Year 7’s are really pushing the boundaries of what it means to be a Gateway student. Hats of to you all.

Year 7’s were fortunate enough to take part in the Food Roadshow. A challenge that pitted Red Chillies (Mr Clark, Archie-Harley and Lexi-Rose) and green peas (Mr Scott, Joshua and Raba). After careful consideration and a close contest the Red Chillies took the win with their lentil dish besting the effort of the Green Peas and their chicken and mandarin noodles. Year 7 loved the experience and really embedded their understanding of healthy food and speed at which it can be created. A massive thank you to Mrs Reynolds for arranging the experience.

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Our school attendance at the Gateway Academy is well above national figures, however we want to improve this even further and encourage every child’s attendance to be as close to 100% as possible.

We wanted to make you aware that we are launching a new initiative regarding attendance.

From 8:15 am - 8:40 am we will have a member of the leadership team at the bottom of the ramp (wearing a yellow high visibility vest) who will be available to speak to yourself and your child in order to support attendance. There is no appointment needed, you can simply turn up and we will meet with you in order to encourage attendance.

We are offering this service because research suggests that poor attendance at school is linked to poor academic attainment across all stages (Balfanz & Byrnes, 2012; London et al., 2016) as well as anti-social characteristics, delinquent activity and negative behavioural outcomes (Gottfried, 2014; Baker, Sigmon, & Nugent, 2001). However, evidence suggests that small improvements in attendance can lead to meaningful impacts for these outcomes.

3 Ways to improve your child’s attendance:

- 1. Help your child understand why going to school everyday matters. Discuss what they’re missing out on and how showing up to school every day is an important skill that will help them become successful in life. It will help them keep a job and learn what they need to know and be able to do to realise their hopes and dreams.
 - 2. Make sure your child understands the connection between school success and attendance.
 - 3. Create attendance goals with your child and track their progress in a notebook or calendar. Also, you can try giving them small rewards for high attendance. Make attendance a priority by giving your children regular bedtimes.
- With a collective effort, we will hopefully improve attendance figures next half term.

Reminder that this is where you can find the information from the daily lead coach conversations for every year group: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1SKQeGhFaaoZoMflUF6QMckqYa-9ecOrL>

Below: Year 7 students taking part in the School Food Road Show Last week



THE GATEWAY SPARKS

The Gateway Sparks U12s have progressed to the quarter finals of the Essex Girls Cup following a victory against Sacred Heart School. The Sparks started the game well and created a number of chances to take the lead but a lapse in concentration led to a goal for the opposition which saw the Sparks trail by one. Moments later, Rox C equalised for the home team before she found the net again to help the Sparks lead 2-1 at half time. The away team battled back and got an equaliser moments after the restart but the Sparks were resilient and scored two more goals (both by Gracie S) to lead 4-2 and put the home team in a better position. Towards the closing of the game, Sacred Heart grabbed another goal and made it 4-3 to make it a dramatic ending! The Sparks held on and saw out the game and will now play either Sydney Russell, All Saints or Redden Court in the quarter finals. “I am extremely proud of this group! The work we’re doing with the Women’s Football Academy is benefiting the girls. There’s still a lot we need to improve on but they’re making tremendous progress in training. Bring on the next round!” added Head Coach, M Kamutero. #LetsGoSparks!



To top off our excellent week with the football academy, the players attended a WSL match between West Ham Women vs Man City Women on a chilly Sunday evening at the Construction Stadium in Dagenham. The experience was invaluable for our young ladies as they got to watch a professional match and had the opportunity to take photos with some of their idols, including Lionesses #WEURO2022 winners Chloe Kelly, Alex Greenwood and Lauren Hemp. We hope that the experience will inspire some of our girls to go on the same path as their idols!



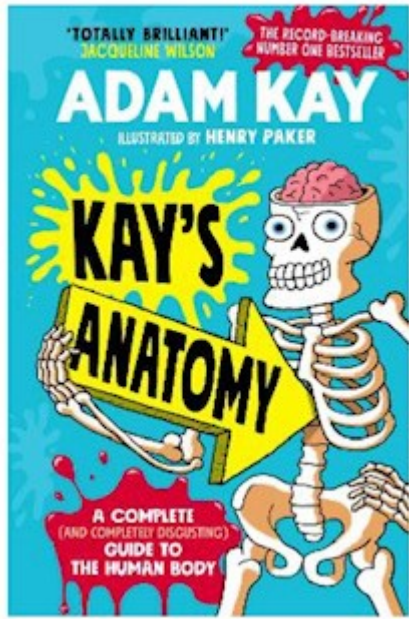
MORE NEWS....

CAREERS

Upcoming College/ Sixth Form Open Days

USP College	Palmer’s Campus	Tuesday 28th February 2023 5.30pm – 7.00pm
	Seevic Campus	Tuesday 21 st February 2023 5.30pm – 7.00pm
South Essex Col-lege	Thurrock Campus	Thursday 19 th January 2022 5pm-8pm
	Southend Campus	Tuesday 14 th March 2023 5pm – 8pm
	Stephenson Road	Tuesday 31 st January 2023 5pm – 8pm
	Centre for Digital Technolo-gies	Wednesday 8 th February 2023 5pm – 8pm
	Luckyn Lane	Wednesday 1st March 2023 5pm – 8pm
Brampton Manor		Thursday 5th January 2023 online event
Newham Sixth Form		Saturday 5 th February 2023 10am – 1pm
West Thames Col-lege	Isleworth	Wednesday 1 st February 2023 5-7pm
	Feltham	Tuesday 7 th February 2023 5-7pm
Chelmsford Col-lege		Monday 6 th February 2023 6pm – 8pm
St.Clere’s Sixth Form		Wednesday 18 th January 5pm - 8pm

READING CORNER



Better than a science lesson!

I love this book! This is so funny and disgusting but I liked it better than any science lesson! I like how you can pick and choose any section you want to find out more about, and you don't have to read through the book page by page. This is a good book to keep going back to. I liked being able to read it on my own but also with my mum to make her go urrgghhh! It's funny reading my family parts of this book, especially the bits about farts and bogeys (and they can't tell me off because I'm reading it from the book!). I think kids who have read David Walliams a while ago will love this!

The Book Thief!

A touching tale that follows the life of Liesel Meminger, a young girl who's just shy of ten years old when we first meet her. The Book Thief is set in pre-WW II Germany. After her father's capture and her brother's death, she's handed over to foster parents Hans and Rosa Hubermann who live on Himmell Street in the town of Molching, just outside Munich. And while Rosa is often foul-mouthed and abrasive, Hans swiftly becomes a beloved and supportive papa to the young girl..... To find out the rest grab your copy from the library.

Blood Brothers

On Thursday 19th January, fifty year 11 students had the opportunity to attend the world renowned performance of 'Blood Brothers' at the Cliffs Pavilion in Southend. The performance was fantastic as were our lovely students; we can't wait to read their review.

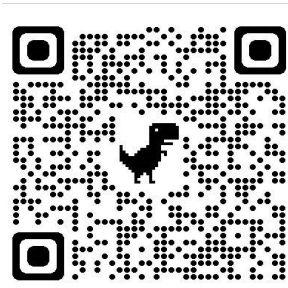
GATEWAY CLUBS

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BEFORE SCHOOL 7:15 – 8:00	Free Breakfast Canteen Fitness Suite Breakfast Club 4-204 JLE	Free Breakfast Canteen Fitness Suite Breakfast Club 4-204 JLE	Free Breakfast Canteen Fitness Suite	Free Breakfast Canteen Fitness Suite Breakfast Club4-204 JLE Cross Country (all years) MCK	Free Breakfast Canteen Fitness Suite Years 10 and 11 Basketball MCK Breakfast Club 4-204 JLE
AFTER SCHOOL 2.50 onwards	Years 7 and 8 Basketball JWS Year 10 Football MCK Girls Football Elite Squad MKU Cooking Club 1-202 RRS Printmaking Club 2-203 JCI Dance Club (7&8) Ellis Theatre RTS/BMD Homework Support Club 4-206 SAR/ATN Library open until 5pm Starting 20 February STEM Club (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) Maths area	Year 7 Basketball Girls Football (all years) Girls Basketball CCA Karate Club Gym Chess Club 2-309 JJN History Club W3 JCN Film Club 2-109 NDD/ACS Child Development Club W2 MSH Drama Club (7&8) 2-108 LRE Bloco ensemble 2-105 Dance Club (9&10) Ellis Theatre RTS/BMD Homework Support Club 4-206 SAR/ATN Library open until 5pm	Library open until 5pm Girls Football Elite Squad MKU	Year 7 Football MSH Year 7 & 8 JWS Year 9 & 10 Rugby MCK Year 7 Netball LBE Year 8 Netball DRN Year 9 Netball ASN U16 Netball ACR Library open until 5pm Book Club 2-406 ZAN Debating Club 2-404 HKR European Cuisine Club 1-206 GCU LGBTQ+ Club 4-202 TBT Eco Club 2-307 WAE Maths drop in 1-307 OJA Homework Support Club 4-206 SAR/ATN	Library open until 5pm Girls Football Elite Squad MKU

SEND

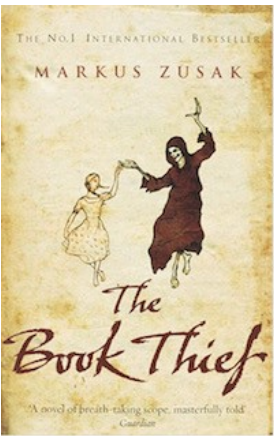
If your child receives additional support within the Academy, please scan and support us in filling out the questionnaire below:



EUROPEAN CUISINE CLUB

The European Cuisine Club started last week and a large number of students joined. All together 27 students from year 7, 8 and 9.

They truly enjoyed cooking a traditional Spanish dish all by themselves: Tortilla de Patatas, served with chickpeas and tomato salad.





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FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Who is eligible?

Students may be eligible for free school meals if parents/guardians do not receive working tax credit but receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit – provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Universal Credit – provided your total net earnings are no more than £616.67 each month
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

The Thurrock website is the place to apply:
<https://www.thurrock.gov.uk/school-meals/free-school-meals>



Scan the QR Code to apply for free school meals.

Contact Us:
Gateway Secondary Academy
Siobhan O'Dwyer
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Empowering Parents
Empowering Communities



Being a Parent Group

8 sessions, delivered by parents, for parents.

Friendly and fun! Informal sessions to give you new ideas on building better communication and relationships with your child.

For parents with children aged 2yrs – 11yrs

To be delivered in various Children's Centres across Thurrock after February half term

Please call to find out more information or book a place
01375 413936



For more interesting articles go to <http://www.theglc-gatewayacademy.org.uk/>

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