

WELCOME

A message from the Head of School

Mrs G McLaughlin

As we approach the Easter break, I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the exceptional achievements of our students and the unwavering dedication of our staff. It has been a fantastic term, and I am immensely proud of the way our young people continue to excel in all aspects of school life.

Our students' attendance and academic achievements remain above the national average, demonstrating their commitment to learning and personal growth. Their drive for success is also evident in the Arts and across multiple sports, where they have showcased their talents and passion. Whether it be excelling on stage, in competitions, or representing our academy in various sporting events, their efforts have been truly commendable.

Behind these successes stands a team of dedicated teachers who work tirelessly to support our students, particularly as they approach their GCSEs. We recognise that this period can be challenging, and we have put in place a comprehensive support package to ensure every student has the best possible chance to succeed. This includes Easter School, Saturday School, and a range of targeted interventions designed to provide additional academic guidance and encouragement.

We are also delighted to share the exciting opportunity offered through the Thames Freeport Scholarship Programme. This initiative is providing financial support to 25 of our Year 11 students as they transition into Year 12, ensuring that financial barriers do not hinder their pursuit of further education. We are incredibly grateful for this support, which will allow our students to continue striving towards their full potential.

As we break for Easter, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to you all. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mrs G McLaughlin

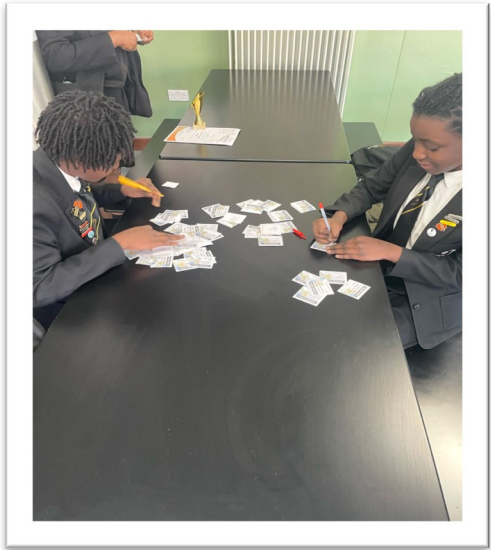
HEAD OF SCHOOL

GLC Gateway Academy

All Different: All Equal: Together, Improving Upon Our Best

PRIZE DRAW

Our Easter prize draw took place this week, bringing lots of smiles and celebration across the Academy! Congratulations to all the students who were lucky winners — we hope you enjoy your well-deserved prizes. A huge well done as well to every student who received a voucher and entered the draw. These vouchers are a recognition of your consistent effort, positive attitude, and excellent work throughout the term. It's fantastic to see so many of you going above and beyond in your learning and showing pride in everything you do. Keep up the great work – we're proud of every single one of you!



INSIDE YOUTH ZONE

On Thursday 3rd April, a selection of Year 8 and 9 students had the opportunity to visit **Futures**, Dagenham's Youth Zone, to get a preview of what's coming to Tilbury. Alongside Jen Craft, Thurrock's MP, the students enjoyed a full tour of the facilities and had the chance to experience a variety of activities.



PARENTAL CALENDAR

<https://www.theglc-gatewayacademy.org.uk/calendar/?calid=1&pid=16&viewid=1>

As well as other valuable information, for example, announcements, letters home and uniform can be found on The Gateway Academy website <http://www.theglc-gatewayacademy.org.uk/>. Please check this regularly for any update

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

DATE	Time	Event
22 April	8.15	All students start back
24 April	16.00—19.00	Year 9 Parents' Evening
28 April	15.00	Year 9 SEND Parental Event
6 May		GCSE Exams start
7 May	19.00	Dance Show
12 May	15.00	Year 910SEND Parental Event

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

COOKING WITH THE NAVY

We were delighted to welcome the Royal Navy to the Academy for an exciting cooking session with our Year 10 Hospitality and Catering students, along with selected Year 9 pupils. The session began with an engaging introduction to life in the Navy, exploring their roles, opportunities, and the many perks of a naval career.

Pupils then took part in an energetic cook-off, working in teams to prepare and present two challenging dishes: Chicken Kiev with fondant potatoes and a classic sticky toffee pudding. Each team rose to the occasion, showcasing impressive culinary and presentation skills, and representing the Academy with pride.

Ms Reynolds was incredibly proud of all the students who took part in the Navy cook-along — their enthusiasm and teamwork was outstanding!



PARENTS' EVENING DATES

- Year 9 & Options Evening – Thursday 24 April 2025
Each evening will start at 16:00 and no appointments are required.

MORE NEWS

EIDD MUBARAK

To all our wonderful students, teachers and their families we would like to wish you all Eid Mubarak! Eid al-Fitr is a festival that marks the end of Ramadan. Sending you warm wishes for a blessed Eid filled with love, peace, and prosperity.

"Eid Mubarak, have a blessed Eid-ul-Fitr.



FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Well done, Year 7, for your fantastic Easter nest creations!

Your creativity and effort have truly shone through — the results look absolutely delicious and are a perfect way to celebrate the Easter season. We're so proud of the imagination and care you put into your treats!



CELEBRATING THE ARTS

These four students have been selected by their teachers as **Students of the Month** for February. We are incredibly proud of their dedication and commitment to their subjects. Well done—keep up the great work!

Actor of the Month

Bobby A. – Year 9

Bobby is always dedicated to his work in drama, both inside and outside the classroom! His leadership and passion shine through in everything he does. Last term, Bobby performed a monologue from *Blood Brothers*, delivering it with fantastic vocal clarity and skill. This term, he has been creating imaginative scenes with his groups while also supporting his classmates with confidence and compassion. **Brilliant work, Bobby!**

Artist of the Month

Elwen N. – Year 8

Elwen has been nominated for **Student of the Month in Art** for her dedication, resilience, and compassion—both in lessons and in her own time. She consistently goes above and beyond in every task she undertakes and has made fantastic progress this year. In addition to creating her own high-quality artwork, Elwen is always willing to help those around her with ideas and advice. **Well done, Elwen—keep up the great work!**

Dancer of the Month

Mia B. – Year 10

This month's **Dancer of the Month** is awarded to **Mia Broadway!** Mia's hard work, dedication, and unwavering passion for dance shine through in every single lesson. She spends every lunchtime in rehearsals and attends multiple after-school clubs—this award is a testament to the countless hours she has spent perfecting her craft and pushing herself to new heights.

Mia's dance coursework is also of an exceptionally high standard. Her commitment to dance is inspiring, and it's clear that this is just the beginning of many more incredible achievements. **Keep shining and sharing your amazing talent—congratulations, Mia!**

Photographer of the Month

Jessy A. – Year 10

Jessy is an exceptional student, she works tremendously hard every single lesson and is constantly enquiring about how she can improve her coursework. She is completely driven in the subject and consequently is getting very high grades! Her ability to take photos with the correct exposure is fantastic, she is also editing images to further improve them after the shoot. We are very proud of Jessy and her commitment to the subject.



PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) EASTER HOLIDAYS 2025

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free

BURGER KING

From Monday 7th - Sunday 20th April 2025, Kids Eat Free with every adult meal, via the app.

BILLS

Kids eat free Mondays - Fridays, from Monday 7th - Friday 25th April 2025.

FARMHOUSE INNS

2 kids eat FREE with one paying adult, Monday 7th - Friday 25th of April. Sign Up Required

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase any adult meal (Via App)

ZIZZI

Sunday 6th - Sunday 27th April 2025 kids eat free with every adult main. (excludes Saturdays)

CAFE EIGHTY NINE @ THE RANGE

Kids eat free Sat 5th April - Mon 21st April 2025

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (monday - friday) during all school holidays, when dining with an adult

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids eat for £1.

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 every, with no adult spend.

TRAVELODGE & PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day

WHITBREAD INNS

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

PREZZO

Kids receive a free, 3 course kids meal, everyday at Prezzo between 31st March - 27th April 2025

COCONUT TREE

One child (under 10) eats free every day, 12pm - 6pm from Monday 7th - Sunday 27th April 2025

PIZZA HUT

Kids eat free buffet from Monday 7th - Sunday 27th April, until 3pm daily with a £10 spend

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

SAINSBURY'S CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Sun to Weds. All Day Thursdays

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

LAS IGUANAS

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult!

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.

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MORE NEWS



BOOK REPORT

Malala Yousafzai Book Report: Mason Eaglestone

I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban is a book written by Christina Lamb and Malala Yousafzai. It details Malala’s life and the events she went through, showing how she achieved global recognition with only her voice—and how anyone can stand up for what they believe in, no matter their situation.

My favourite part of the book was how it explained the effects of the Taliban in her home and how she continued to fight for education despite the risks. She used her voice to stand up to them, and her determination to be heard by people around the world was incredibly powerful. The book also shows how her family adapted to their situation and how Malala dealt with the emotional impact of everything happening around her.

If I were to rate this book out of 5, I would give it a 4. This is because the story is detailed and engaging, helping the reader to really understand what Malala went through. However, I feel that some parts were left unexplained—such as what happened to the Taliban after Malala moved to England—which leaves a few questions unanswered.

Overall, I think this book tells Malala’s story in a powerful and inspiring way, and I would definitely recommend it to others my age.

WORLD BOOK DAY

We had an absolute blast this year celebrating World Book Day! Our theme, ‘**All Different; All Equal,**’ gave us the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of what it is like to experience neurodivergence. We explored a wide range of neurodivergent conditions and discovered some new and exciting books.

A huge well done to everyone who took part in the very challenging World Book Day Crossword!

Writing Superstar
A huge congratulations to **Oretimofe Ajibola** for being the only student in the academy this academic year to have her creative writing published in the **Young Writers** competition. Well done, Oretimofe!

A Ghost Story
By Oretimofe Ajibola (12)

I was driving my car down Route 66 with my five-year-old niece when we came across a modest cemetery decorated with flowers and candles. It looked like a beautiful garden. As I drove by, she exclaimed, “**Look! There are a lot of old people there!**”

I glanced over my shoulder but saw nothing. I assumed it was her imagination, yet her words rang with an eerie certainty. Then she spoke again, and her next words made my blood run cold.

“**They’re waving at you.**”

A chill ran down my spine. The sun cast long, eerie shadows across the cemetery, making it hard to see clearly, but for a moment, I thought I saw a flicker of movement in the distance. Dismissing it as a trick of the light, I tightened my grip on the steering wheel and kept driving.

Yet, as we left the cemetery behind, my niece’s sincere expression lingered in my mind. A creeping sensation told me we had not been alone.

When I started the engine, a silent whisper, carried by the wind, repeated my niece’s words:



FREE ENTRY
FUN FOR ALL
THE FAMILY

THE GPFS PTA

Summer Fete

11AM - 3PM

SATURDAY 5TH JULY

"STALLS"
"GAMES"
"FOOD"
"BOUNCY CASTLE"
"TOMBOLA"
AND MORE!

THE GATEWAY ACADEMY FIELD

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR STALL ENQUIRIES
PLEASE EMAIL
GPFS-PTA@THEGLC.ORG.UK OR VISIT
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/FREESCHOOLPTA

MORE NEWS

PHOTOGRAPHY

Year 11 Photography students are working exceptionally hard, getting ready for their 10 hour exam on the 1st May! This week we did something totally new; using a smoke machine to enhance portraits, experimenting with front and back lighting to capture the smoke.



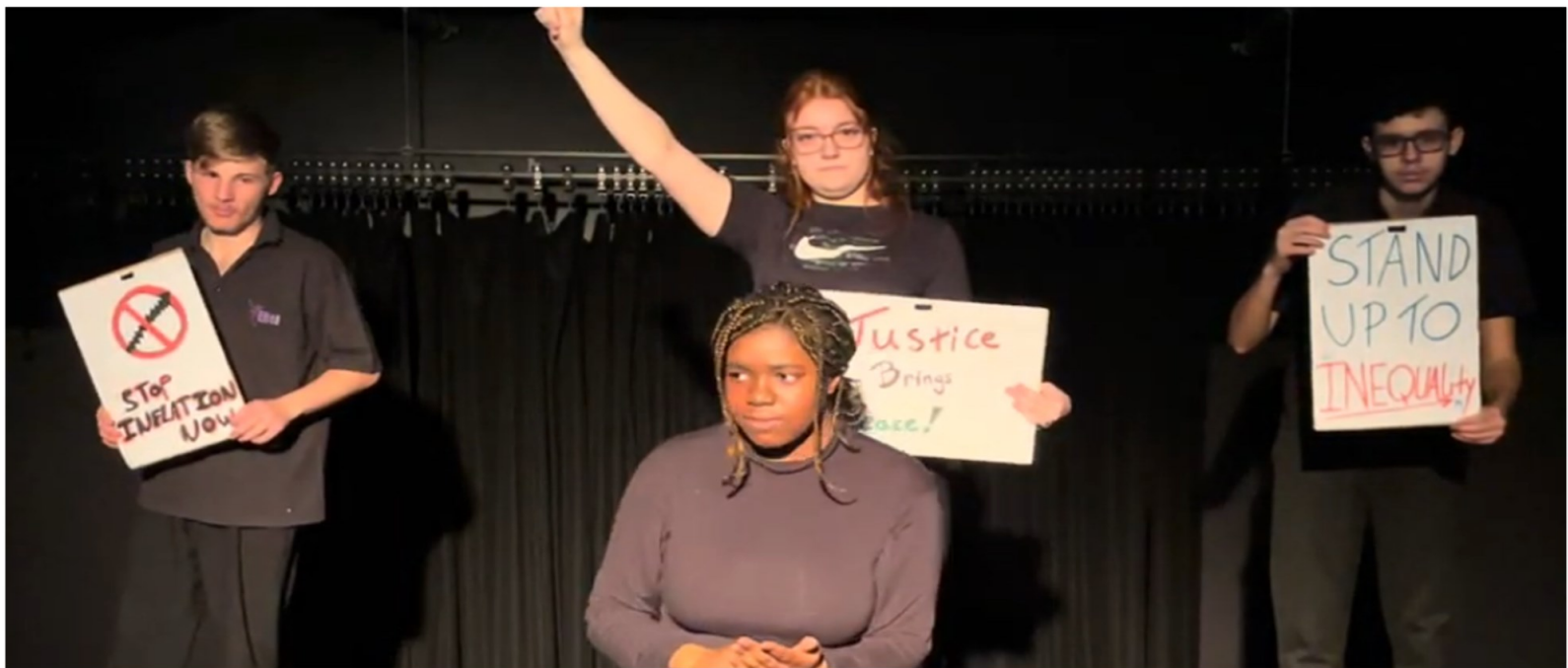
PHOTOGRAPHY

Here’s a glimpse of the Year 10 students’ incredible 5-hour Still Life Photography GCSE final projects! Each student showed real creativity and dedication, carefully selecting and arranging objects to capture powerful visual stories through their lenses. From bold colour contrasts to subtle lighting techniques, the results are truly impressive. It’s clear how much thought and effort went into each composition. Well done to all our budding photographers — we’re so proud of your hard work and artistic eye. Best of luck as you continue your photographic journey!

YEAR 11 DRAMA

Yr. 11 Drama Final Exam Performance Success

Congratulations to all the Yr. 11 Drama students who completed the final practical exam on Thursday 27th March. The performances centred around the theme ‘Joint Effort’ were very hard hitting and poignant and allowed students to showcase their exceptional talents. We are confident that the Drama results are going to be well-above national average again this year.



BOOK REPORT

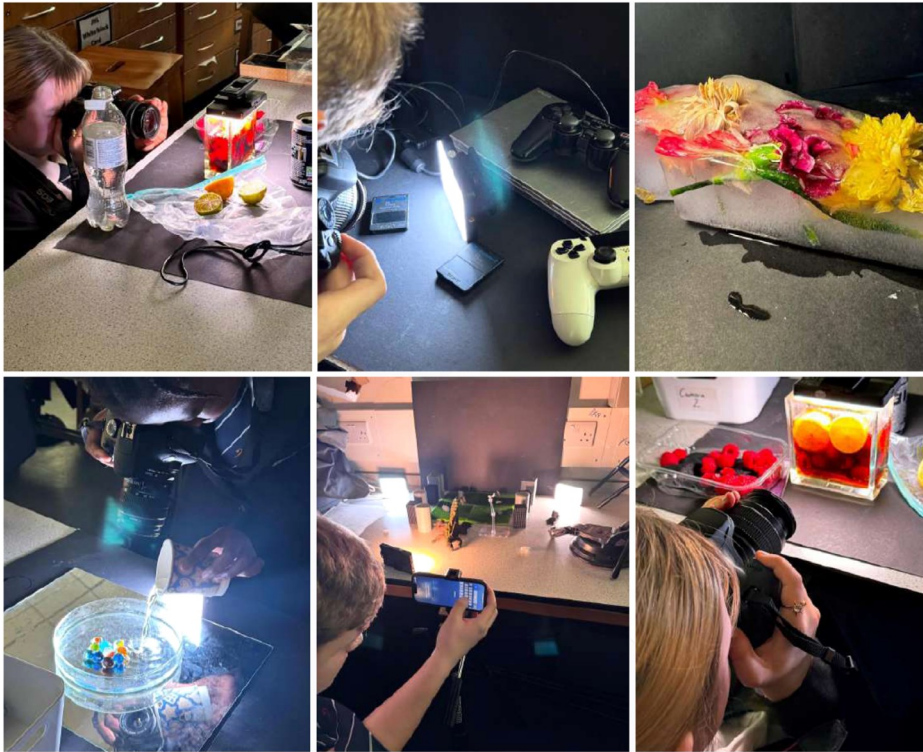
Malala Yousafzai Book Report: Honey Davis

In 2009, Malala was shot in the head by a member of the Taliban who disagreed with her activism. In this book, we are introduced to her life before and after the attack, and we see how one single moment can completely change your perception of everything you thought you knew.

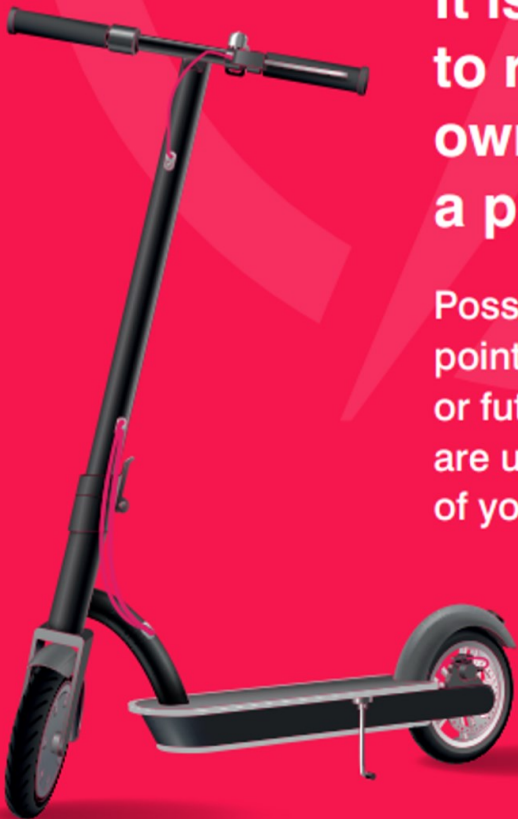
My favourite part of the book was being able to read about how she felt during the recovery process. She was hurt and frightened, yet she remained determined to reassure those around her — supporting them and convincing them that everything would be all right. This part of the book highlights Malala’s empathy and the deep devotion she has for those she loves.

If I were to rate this book out of 5, I would give it a 4. This is because of the empowering and inspiring message it carries, and how it encourages individuals to be resilient during times of hardship and suffering. The only issue I had was that the events weren’t told in chronological order, which made it a little difficult to follow at first.

Overall, I really enjoyed this book and hope that others my age will read it too.



E-SCOOTERS ARE NOT WELCOME HERE



It is against the law to ride a privately owned e-scooter in a public place

Possible penalties include points on your driving licence, or future driving licence if you are under 17, and the seizure of your scooter



Find out more

thurrock.gov.uk

MORE NEWS

YEAR 8

Mrs Bruce



As another term draws to a close, it gives me great pleasure to share a round-up of all the fantastic things happening with our Year 8 students.

Students have continued to work hard in their lessons. In English, they have been reading *Animal Farm*, while in History they’ve been learning about Jack the Ripper. In PE, they’ve kicked off the athletics season. Over in Food Technology, students have cooked up a storm with special fried rice and cottage pie. They’ve also been developing their piano skills in Music, and practising musical theatre and street dance in preparation for the upcoming dance show — we hope to see lots of our Year 8 students involved!

Over the past two weeks, we’ve had the pleasure of holding two celebration assemblies. The first was our Rewards Assembly, where we recognised our Tutees of the Term, as well as the overall Tutor Group of the Term. Congratulations to our Tutees of the Term:

- 8A – Chris M and Delight D
- 8B – Olivia H and Darren J
- 8C – Sijda B and Reuben W
- 8D – Aabidah O and Joshua T
- 8E – Poppy F and Tate G
- 8F – Sofia P and Fadeel A
- 8G – Al-Hakam M and Adele S
- 8H – Freddie G and Pearl R
- 8I – Nawfal M and Oretimofe A



Miss Livingstone and I also had the privilege of awarding our "Students of the Term." A huge well done to **Rhylie C** and **Oretimofe A**!

In our attendance competition, 8F came out on top with an impressive **95.8%**.
For achievement points, 8G smashed it with an astounding **148,293 points**!
The tutor group with the fewest behaviour points was 8F, with just **64 points** — fantastic effort.

The highly anticipated tutor competition finished with a tie, as both **8E and 8F** were crowned Best Tutor Group of the Term!

In the final week, we held our Progress and Attainment Assembly — a fantastic celebration of students’ recent assessment results. I was delighted to present 16 Progress Awards and 16 Attainment Awards, recognising achievements across every subject studied in Year 8. Our Gold winner for Progress was **Aaliyah A**, and our Gold winner for Attainment was **Elwen N**.

A special mention goes to **Hope C**, who achieved one of the highest results in the Sparks Reader programme. The English department awarded her a well-deserved Easter egg as a reward — well done, Hope!

It was also a bittersweet moment as we said goodbye to two of our tutors: Miss Heavey and Miss Akumanyi. We wish them both the very best in their new schools. We are, however, excited to welcome two new tutors: **Mr Williams** for 8H and **Mrs Waters** for 8D.

As you can see, it’s been a fantastic term filled with hard work and great achievements. Our students thoroughly deserve a restful Easter break!



MORE NEWS

YEAR 10

Ms Mead



It’s been a fantastic term for our Year 10 students! We’ve seen them really step up, showing incredible commitment to their assessments — and their hard work has truly paid off in the results they’ve achieved. We also received official grades for our Dance and Drama students this term, and we’re thrilled to report they secured exceptional marks in their component coursework!

Our student leadership team continues to go from strength to strength, leading groups of younger students and spearheading various projects across the GLC. We are extremely proud of each of our young leaders! Meanwhile, our Year 10 Drama students completed their LAMDA exams this term, and we have our fingers crossed for excellent results — the effort they put into their rehearsals and preparation was outstanding.

On 7th March, as part of International Women’s Day 2025, we were delighted to offer nine Year 10 students the opportunity to attend an International Women’s Day event at Orsett Golf Club. Students enjoyed a fantastic evening of celebration, reflection, and empowerment for young women in sport over a two-course dinner. They engaged in discussions about diversity and equality in sport and explored ways to raise awareness of these important issues. They also heard from inspiring guest speakers who shared their journeys so far. Our Year 10 students were exceptional throughout and were a real credit to the Academy!

We rounded off the term by celebrating the many achievements of our fantastic year group with two big rewards assemblies. In the first assembly, we recognised 20 students who had been nominated by their tutors for going above and beyond this term. Students also enjoyed competing in some lively inter-tutor competitions!

Here are our tutor award winners:

- 10A – Lola K
- 10B – Mylee L
- 10C – Beatrice O, Lily-Sue H
- 10D – Daria B, Archie B
- 10E – Brandon B, Celina H
- 10F – Oliver B, Gavriella N
- 10G – Angel K, Jack F
- 10H – David T, Isabella B
- 10I – AJ A, Jessica S
- 10J – Emily C, Gabrielle T, Jessie A, Casey C

Our second assembly focused on recognising students’ progress and attainment in their recent spring assessments. Twenty students were awarded trophies, subject badges, and certificates for achieving the highest progress in each subject across Year 10, with a further twenty receiving awards for attainment.

A special shoutout goes to our bronze, silver, and gold award winners for both progress and attainment:

Progress	Attainment
Bronze – Jahia T	Bronze – Beatrice O
Silver – Emenuela-Chika OA	Silver – Nuhana I
Gold – Lennie C	Gold – Jessica S

As we head into our third and final term of Year 10, there’s lots to look forward to! Students should ensure their work placements are confirmed and uploaded to UniFrog in preparation for our Work Experience Week starting **30th June**. We’ll also be gearing up for mock interviews and our final round of assessments, which will take place in the sports hall next term.

Keep up the fantastic work, Year 10 — and have a wonderful Easter break



MORE NEWS

YEAR 11

Ms Shannon



This is it... our final term at the Academy. Where has the time gone? The child you entrusted to us back in 2020, during a pandemic, is now about to enter their final term at the Gateway Academy and prepare to leave secondary school!

Our Year 11 students have been incredibly busy this term, and their focus on the upcoming exams has been fantastic. They have had the opportunity to attend targeted intervention sessions in English and Maths — with a well-deserved pizza dinner to reward their hard work! Extra support sessions have also been running throughout the Easter break to help them feel as prepared as possible for their exams.

In addition, students have been offered the chance to apply for a scholarship to support their further education — not only for college but also looking ahead to university, helping with fees, books, and other essentials.

Every student has had a one-to-one interview with our brilliant careers advisor, Mrs Fuller, who has dedicated a great deal of time to ensuring that every member of Year 11 has a clear plan for their next steps and future career aspirations. Many students have also been busy attending college interviews, stepping out of their comfort zones to meet new people and showcase their talents. These experiences have been invaluable in preparing them for life beyond Gateway.

We recognise that this Easter holiday will feel a little different for Year 11. Please support your child with their revision and encourage them to take full advantage of the sessions available. All revision timetables can be found on the school website and have also been sent home, so you're fully informed about what's on offer.

Of course, we understand it's not all about academics — it's equally important to have some downtime. Please encourage your child to take breaks, get outside, and enjoy some fresh air over the holidays so they return refreshed and ready to hit the ground running.

From Tuesday 22nd April, it's **GO, GO, GO!**

Have a fantastic Easter break, Year 11!



KEW GARDENS

Students at the Gateway Academy recently enjoyed an inspiring day out at **Kew Gardens** as part of their Geography fieldwork studies. The visit allowed students to explore a range of ecosystems up close, from tropical rainforests to desert environments, deepening their understanding of biodiversity, plant adaptations, and the global importance of conservation.

Armed with fieldwork booklets, students collected data, made observations, and considered the environmental challenges facing different habitats. They explored the iconic glasshouses, took in the views from the treetop walkway, and engaged with interactive exhibits to enhance their learning.

The trip brought to life key topics from the classroom, such as ecosystems, climate change, and sustainability, while also offering an exciting cultural experience. For many students, it was their first visit to Kew Gardens, and they were inspired by the beauty of the surroundings and the scientific work taking place there.

Staff were incredibly proud of the students' enthusiasm and curiosity throughout the day. A huge thank you to the Geography department for organising such a valuable and enjoyable educational experience.



MORE NEWS

LAMDA EXAMS—DRAMA

Yr. 10 and Yr. 11 Drama students took part in the prestigious LAMDA Drama exams on Monday 24th March. The quality of the students work was exceptional and we are confident of outstanding results. Just 6 weeks to wait! Well done to all the students who were involved; we are immensely proud of you all.



YEAR 7

Mrs Dixon

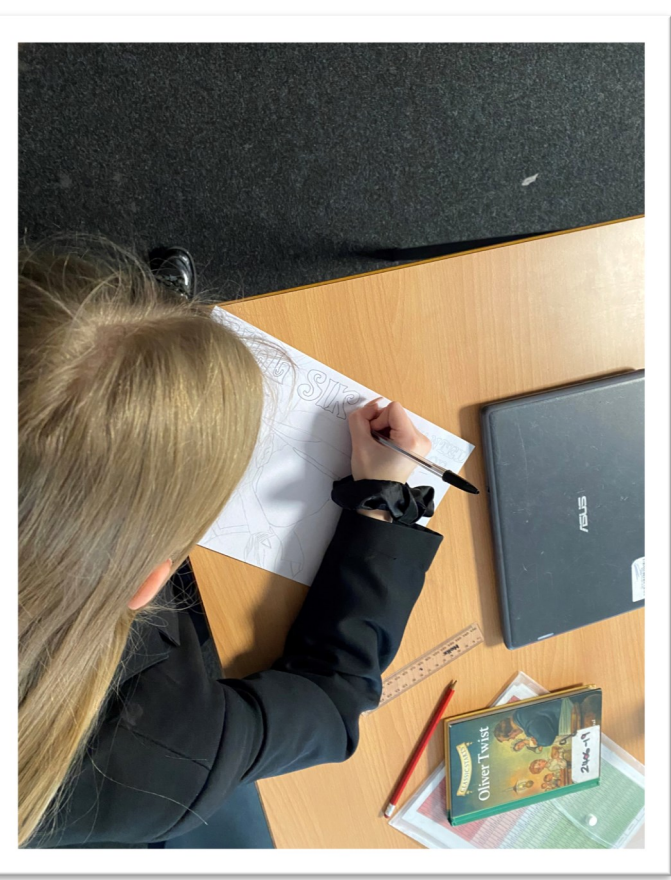
Year 7 students have been incredibly busy across the academy over the last few weeks, earning Golden Tickets, Values Badges, Tuttee of the Term awards, extra reward tokens, queue jump tokens, and positive points. We are extremely proud of their achievements so far and look forward to seeing them accomplish even more next term.

Over 180 Year 7 pupils have participated in extracurricular activities or attended a trip in the last term—an amazing achievement! We hope all Year 7 students continue to take advantage of our fantastic facilities in the coming term. A huge thank you to all the pupils who have represented the academy this half-term—we are grateful to have such a talented and dedicated group of students. Keep up the hard work!

Year 7 students have also shown great improvement in punctuality and organisation, and we have celebrated this across the year group each week. However, one area we still need to improve is attendance, so there will be a big focus on this during the summer term.

A special shoutout to our Student of the Week, Sydney F.B., for his resilience and outstanding work ethic across the academy—we'll done!

We hope all our pupils and their families have a wonderful Easter break. If you need any additional information or support next term, please don't hesitate to contact Miss Davis or myself.



MOVE IT

Students Enjoy an Inspiring Trip to MOVE IT Dance Convention!

Our students recently had the fantastic opportunity to attend **MOVE IT**, the world's largest dance convention. They spent the day watching incredible live performances, taking part in workshops, and meeting professional dancers and industry experts. It was an exciting and inspiring experience for all, giving students valuable insights into the world of performing arts and post-16 opportunities. For the full story and highlights from the day, turn to **page 10!**



MORE NEWS

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Over the past few weeks, assemblies across all year groups have been filled with pride and applause as we celebrated our students’ academic achievements through our termly Academic Awards. These awards recognised not only outstanding attainment in individual subjects, but also the remarkable progress made by students who have shown dedication, resilience, and a determination to succeed.

At Gateway Academy, we believe that success takes many forms. For some, it is about reaching the highest levels of academic excellence; for others, it is about pushing boundaries, overcoming challenges, and making meaningful strides in their learning journey. That’s why our awards honour both attainment and progress—because effort and growth deserve to be celebrated just as much as results.

It has been truly inspiring to see students from all year groups take the stage to be recognised by their teachers and peers. From the quiet achievers who have blossomed this year, to those consistently performing at the top of their subjects, every award tells a story of perseverance, hard work, and ambition.

A huge congratulations to all of our award winners—you embody what it means to be a Gateway learner. We are incredibly proud of every-thing you’ve achieved so far, and we’re excited to see how you continue to grow.

Let this celebration serve as a reminder to all students: every step forward matters, and every effort counts. Keep striving, keep learning, and keep believing in yourselves.



MORE NEWS



GATEWAY SPORT

As the winter season draws to a close, it is a great opportunity for us to reflect on the successes and opportunities our pupils have enjoyed over the past few months. Basketball has continued to grow, with pupils really buying into the ethos and now achieving results to match their commitment. Our U13 boys narrowly lost their Essex Cup semi-final by just 2 points — an agonising result, but their development from last year has been remarkable. Meanwhile, our U14 boys reached the Essex Cup final, facing Shenfield, who had beaten us comprehensively in last year's final. This time, the game was very different: Gateway led for most of the match, only to come up just short at the end. While this will be remembered as a missed opportunity, it is an experience from which we will all learn. Both girls' teams and both boys' teams have progressed to the knockout stages of the Jr. NBA national competition, with three of the teams qualifying as top seeds. These fixtures will take place after the Easter break, and we look forward to seeing how they progress. District sport has also concluded, with all our teams successfully crowned district basketball champions. This achievement is a testament to the pupils' hard work and the continued development of our basketball programme over the past two years. The Year 8 girls narrowly missed out in the netball final, losing by just two goals to an exceptionally strong St Clere's team. These girls have worked incredibly hard, transforming from a team with very little netball experience to one capable of competing with the best. As we head into the summer term, our focus will shift to athletics — an area where we have enjoyed immense success over the past two years. We aim to continue this strong tradition, with all teams striving to achieve their very best. Our first competition will be the ESAA National Athletics event, and we will finish the year with the District Athletics Meet.



YEAR 9

Mrs Scott

As our Year 9 students enjoy their Easter break, it's the perfect moment to celebrate their remarkable progress. This year group has truly excelled, demonstrating exceptional growth in both confidence and resilience. The recent round of assessments delivered outstanding results across the cohort, showcasing not only significant improvement but also a steadfast dedication to academic excellence.

The data speaks for itself: Year 9's progress is unprecedented. Their commitment to revision, engagement in after-school sessions, and unwavering work ethic have produced results that suggest they are on course to become the highest-achieving group ever to graduate from the Gateway Academy.

Beyond their academic accomplishments, they have also thrived in extracurricular pursuits. Their victory at the County Sports, the under-15 boys' basketball team reaching the finals for the second consecutive year, and their standout performances in the school play all stand as testaments to their diverse talents and collaborative spirit.

Crucially, these achievements are underpinned by the students' consistent embodiment of the Gateway Academy's core values: Responsibility, Resilience, Compassion, and Aspiration. Their dedication to taking ownership of their learning, their determination in the face of challenges, their genuine care for one another, and their ambitious pursuit of excellence have shone throughout the year.

This powerful combination of academic success and community spirit makes them an exceptional cohort.

As they return after Would you like me to also give you an alternative version? (For example: a slightly shorter, crisper version for a newsletter, or a slightly warmer one if it's going in a parent email?) Happy to give you options!



DANCE NEWS

We've had an incredibly busy and exciting term in the Dance Department!

Our Year 11 dancers have been working hard in preparation for their final Component 3 choreography exam, demonstrating outstanding resilience and teamwork. A huge well done to all of our Year 11 dancers — we are so proud of you! Meanwhile, our Year 10 students have received exceptional results from their Component 2 submissions, reflecting the dedication and effort they put into their coursework last term. Fantastic work!

This term also saw us run two major dance trips. The first was to the **Move It Dance Convention**, the world's largest dance event. Students had the opportunity to watch incredible professional performances, meet and speak with renowned dancers and companies, and explore post-16 options in the performing arts with various colleges and universities. Everyone who attended had a brilliant day, and we're already looking forward to returning next year!

Our second trip was to the **Royal Opera House**, where we watched the world-famous Royal Ballet perform *Romeo and Juliet*. Thanks to the Trailblazer project, we were lucky enough to have fantastic seats in the theatre. Our students were a real credit to the Academy throughout the visit. For many, this was their first time experiencing a full-length ballet — and they loved it! A huge thank you to all 70 students who attended — we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!

Finally, students across all year groups have been working tirelessly in their dance lessons, as well as in after-school and lunchtime dance clubs, to prepare for our annual **Dance Show**. This year's show will take place on **Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th May 2025**, and it promises to be an incredible evening celebrating all their hard work.

The performance will feature a wide variety of dance styles, with students from every year group taking part. We are also excited to welcome back two local colleges and some fantastic local dance schools, who will be performing alongside our students.

Tickets are now available and can be purchased via the following link: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-gateway-academy> A password has been emailed home via EduLink, which you'll need to enter when booking. If you haven't received this, please contact becky.mead@theglc.org.uk.

It's set to be a fantastic event, and we can't wait to welcome you to the show! Read More on Page 9....



MORE NEWS

Dance Cont.

Don't miss out on the upcoming Dance Show at The Gateway Academy!

We are excited to invite you to what promises to be an incredible evening of talent, energy, and creativity. Our students have been working tirelessly in lessons, after-school clubs, and lunchtime rehearsals to prepare a fantastic showcase of dance. From contemporary pieces to high-energy group performances, the show will feature a variety of styles performed by students from across all year groups.

The event is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our dancers, and we're also thrilled to be welcoming guest performances from local colleges and dance schools, making this year's show even more special.

Make sure you join us for this highlight of the school calendar — we can't wait to see you there!

SCHOLARSHIP

Year 11 Students Receive Life-Changing Scholarship Opportunity Through Tilbury Freeport Initiative

As part of an exciting partnership with **Tilbury Freeport**, 25 of our Year 11 students were awarded a truly once-in-a-lifetime scholarship, designed to support them not only through their college years but also as they prepare for future careers.

The scholarship aims to provide ongoing support with educational costs, helping to ease the transition to further education and beyond. To celebrate this incredible opportunity, students were treated to an unforgettable day in London. The experience included a visit to the iconic **Shard**, where they enjoyed breath-taking views of the city skyline, and a special meal to mark the occasion.

As an added bonus, each student was gifted a brand-new outfit, selected to support them as they step confidently into their future endeavours — whether for college interviews, work experience placements, or other exciting opportunities that lie ahead.

This inspiring initiative is not only a celebration of their hard work and potential but also a valuable investment in their future success. A huge well done to all the students involved!



Dance show
2025

TUESDAY 6TH MAY
&
WEDNESDAY 7TH MAY

GLC Gateway Academy
All Different: All Equal: Together, Improving Upon Our Best



SAFEGUARDING

If you have been a victim of online abuse or you're worried about somebody else, let us know securely

- Thurrock MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding hub), Civic Offices, New Road, Grays, Essex, RM17 6SL, Tel: **01375 652802**
- Emergency Duty Team (for out of hours) **01375 372468**.
- Police Child Abuse Investigation Team **01277 266822** or call **999** if you are concerned a child needs immediate protection.
- Childline **0800 11 11** www.childline.org.uk
- NSPCC **0808 800 5000** www.nspcc.org.uk; www.facebook.com/nspcc

Users can also manage their experience through the **Digital Wellbeing** tool in their settings, using 'Screen Time Management' and 'Restricted Mode', to limit the type and amount of content viewable.



SCAN ME

SOURCES OF HELP:



Thurrock
CVS