

ISSUE NO.17
AUTUMN TERM 2021

Heard it

through
the...

cherryvine

GATEWAYS SCHOOL'S TERMLY REVIEW

INSIDE:

*Gateways
beyond the
Gates and
Events!*

*Focus on
Gateways
Drama*

Meet Gateways
Alumni - Dr Frankie
Jackson-Spence



Facilities update...

During the school summer holiday we always take the opportunity to carry out maintenance and facilities updates. Here's a summary of the main changes made this summer...

DINING AREA REFURBISHMENT

Our dining room had an overhaul during the summer and was completely refurbished. This included a new ceiling, new lighting, flooring and a new serving area; there are now two serving areas and an additional self service area in the middle. Fortunately we have now returned to our wider pre-Covid menus and are able to re-introduce our 'Taste of...' world cuisine days which started with a 'Taste of Mexico' day in November.



IT SUITE AND LIBRARY

A new carpet was fitted in the Cox-Simpson Library and as well as being re-decorated, the Library IT Suite had new desks and equipment installed.

IT INFRASTRUCTURE

Over the summer the IT infrastructure was significantly updated. As well as new compact desktops for our classrooms and IT suites, all network equipment was updated. New classroom sets of laptops have been provided in Prep School and the Modern Foreign Languages Department has had the languages lab replaced with a more flexible suite of laptops, allowing access to state-of-the-art Sanako software as well as other language software.



NEW SIXTH FORM CENTRE

Plans were approved for a change of use for our recently purchased property the Old Vicarage which is adjacent to the school's main entrance. Work has now commenced on the roof and it will be an exciting time ahead to see the transformation of this residential property into our new Sixth Form Centre.

Meet... alumni - Dr Frankie Jackson-Spence

Former pupil Frankie started at Gateways, aged 4, in 1997 and completed A Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Maths.

After finishing the Sixth Form at Gateways, Frankie took a gap year and worked to save up enough money to go travelling to Australia and used her gap year as an opportunity to get some more work experience in medicine.

Frankie studied medicine at the University of Birmingham and achieved Honours and Distinction in her MBChB Medicine and Surgery degree, but also did an intercalated Biomedical Science degree and achieved First Class Honours. She developed an interest in oncology and cancer clinical trials and is doing a Clinical Research Fellowship at St Bartholomew's Hospital in London, working in kidney and bladder cancer trials and drug development.

What did you enjoy most about going to Gateways?

I absolutely loved going to school and I really do look back at my time there as the best days of my life! I enjoyed that the school was small so you knew who everyone was and we had a real community.

What were your favourite subjects and why?

I always loved the sciences and I was hugely inspired by Dr Newton who made our lessons so enjoyable and really invested in us as individuals. I currently work in cancer clinical trials and I think that interest stems from the passion she showed when she talked to me about the research she was involved in before she decided to become a teacher.

I also loved studying RS as we used to all sit round one desk and have really interesting debates. I learnt some great life skills, which I didn't realise at the time, such as viewing things from someone else's perspective.

Did you take part in any extracurricular activities?

I absolutely did! I played netball all throughout school and enjoyed playing competitively for Leeds too. I played tennis in the summer, and still play to this day! I also really enjoyed my time doing the LEAP Young Enterprise scheme where we learnt how to set up and run a business. I was a keen member of the environment club too and completed all of the LAMDA drama levels. I also did bronze, silver and gold Duke of Edinburgh awards.

I was heavily invested in every aspect of Gateways life, so I was really proud to have been chosen as Harewood House captain when I was in Lower 6, and Head Girl for my final year.

Do you have any tips for pupils thinking of joining Gateways?

It will be the best thing you ever do. Not only is it a great school academically, but I feel it teaches you to have life ambition. Gateways gave me the confidence to give things a go and not give up if I got knocked back.

How would you sum up Gateways in 3 words?

Family. Ambition. Unique.

Alongside her NHS work, Frankie developed a keen interest in preventative lifestyle medicine and created an educational social media platform where she creates free educational health content, busts the myths surrounding common health topics and starts conversations on taboo subjects such as women's health. Check it out - @df Frankiejs



Family Ambition Unique

Beyond the Gates

AND EVENTS...

TRIPS AND VISITS

Combined Cadet Force (CCF) Summer Camp



Cpt Col Davies

During the last week of the summer term, 28 cadets and 6 staff from the CCF departed for their very first residential camp. The cadets, a mix of High School pupils from both Horsforth and Gateways, spent five days at Hornby Laithe Bunkhouse and took part in adventure training activities.



All the cadets thoroughly enjoyed the multi-activity adventure, which was organised by WO Tracy Sockett (caving activity lead), 2Lt Jarod Dixon (canoeing activity lead) and an external provider who laid on the climbing activity.

The camp was supported by 2Lt Sophie King, 2Lt John Allison (Horsforth) and myself. As part of using the bunkhouse we had to cater for everyone ourselves, which meant we needed a chef. Fortunately, our classics teacher Mr Crosby (also a qualified chef) kindly offered his services and the food was amazing!

At the end of the camp, promotions were made as follows:- UO Charlotte Swales, A/LCpl Corinne Myers, LCpl Isabel Dyer, LCpl Olivia Griffiths (Horsforth) and LCpl Aliza Mudasar.

The cadets are now looking forward to a trip to the Isle of Wight in Easter 2022 where they will undertake sailing activities for their 'adventure training'.



GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP

It was great to see the return of field trips this term. In September, the Lower 4 geographers visited the Holderness Coast, East Yorkshire to study coastal processes and look at how humans try to protect land from erosion.



EYFS trip

Pre-Reception and Reception visited Børn of the Forest, near Harrogate in December for some exploring in the great outdoors. They even met Father Christmas!



Fundraising



Raised
£1,145
Children in Need

Raised
£210
Make a Wish Foundation



This year, rather than having one school charity, individual year groups are fundraising for their own chosen charities. So far we have had a **Harvest collection for a local food bank** by Upper 5, a teacher bake off and pie face event by Lower 5 which **raised £210 for the Make a Wish foundation** and whole school were involved in fundraising activities for **Children in Need**, raising **£1,145**.



Raised
£2,601

LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE

The annual fundraising leadership challenge took on a 'I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here' theme this year as High School went up against Prep School to see who could raise the most money...the losing team then had to face a challenge!

Dr Johnson and Mrs Titman (High School) came off worst and had to face being gunged and then find stars hidden in trifle using only their mouths!

For the final 'wine and canapes with a difference' challenge, Mrs Wallis and Mrs Bartle (Prep School) joined Dr Johnson and Mrs Titman. You can view a short video of their challenges on our You Tube channel or visit our Facebook page to watch the challenges in full. **They managed to raise a fantastic £2601 which will be split between Children in Need and Leeds Hospitals Charity (the Rob Burrows MND Centre).**



PARENTS & FRIENDS
ASSOCIATION

UPDATE FROM THE PFA

Kathryn Dyer, Chair of the PFA

Fundraising activities for this term have included the autumn raffle, the Christmas raffle and the Festive Fayre held in the PAC. We had a great turn out and plenty of excited children waiting to see Santa in his grotto. **PFA total raised this term - £3,963.**

Raised
£3,963
this term



Huge thanks to everyone who helped out with this event, it was nice to have so many new mums as part of the PFA team this term.

Watch this space for future events and please follow us on social media

 [@gwaysPFA](https://www.facebook.com/gwaysPFA)

 [@GatewaysPFA](https://twitter.com/GatewaysPFA)

Focus on... Drama

Mrs Hamlyn, Mrs Foster, Miss Cook and Mrs Bartle

Drama plays an important role for stimulating creativity in children. As a largely practical and completely inclusive subject, it changes perceptions and allows children to communicate with confidence, encouraging cooperation and critical thinking.

At Gateways, our drama lessons are designed to develop imagination and creativity. By focusing on three main areas: creating, performing and responding, pupils learn to problem-solve, adapt and develop skills and ideas and make sense of

the world around them by 'living through imagined experience'.

Once children enter KS1 they become involved in more structured performances such as the annual nativity. This year they learnt lines, actions and songs to 'Are we nearly there yet?' and performed in front of parents in the PAC.



We encourage a love of drama early on; in Early Years we actively foster and develop children's growing imaginations through drama, role play, singing and movement. We provide role play areas such as a home corner, doctors surgery or a garden centre for children to explore and develop their understanding of the world around them. Music, song and dance enable children to express themselves and is an integral part of every day. We make full use of the Performing Arts Centre and produce two concerts annually, one at Christmas and one in the summer term.

The children in Upper 2 and Lower 3 have an hour's drama lesson each week. Through games and fun activities, we aim to develop the children's confidence, imagination and team work as well as giving them opportunities to develop public speaking and characterisation techniques. We also use drama as a way of bringing to life humanities and English work, helping the children to gain a deeper understanding of the topics or texts they are studying.

In the summer term, the Juniors traditionally stage a production in the Performing Arts Centre. This is always a highlight and gives the children chance to act, sing and dance in front of a live audience.



Gateways prides itself on the quality of its school productions. In November, we were excited to be able to put on a High School production – Chicago! As the nature of this production had adult themes running throughout, it was decided that KS4 and KS5 pupils would be our main focus. Sophie Rushfirth (Velma), Lucy Sherman (Roxie) and Maia Walker (Billie Flynn) demonstrated phenomenal talent and maturity in their performance supported by a cast of exceptional actors, dancers and musicians.



As pupils move into High School, drama also includes the experience of watching live theatre. The next trip is being planned for Upper 4, Lower 5 and Upper 5 to see 'Blood Brothers' at Darlington Hippodrome theatre in February. Over the course of the next academic year it is our aim to offer a live theatre experience to every pupil in High School.



Extracurricular sessions are always popular in drama. Next term, the after school High School drama club, led by Mrs Hamlyn, will be offered to all KS3 pupils. In addition to this, Mrs Malone offers small group and individual drama lessons to those in Reception through to Upper 6 during the school day.

"One of the most magical moments when teaching acting is when a student lets go of all inhibitions and gives a truthful performance. In lessons, I provide exercises that will hopefully bring many of these moments. I have created a wide range of exercises to help students improve their acting technique. Topics covered include acting, poetry, mime, improvisation, and sight reading. Pupils work towards yearly examinations entered on age and ability, gaining UCAS Tariff points for all level 3 examinations to augment University entry."
Mrs Malone

The
2021 results
were outstanding
with 100% pass
rate and 98%
distinction.





'WHEN YOUR LEGS GET TIRED, RUN WITH YOUR HEART'

Mrs Laura Braithwaite

IN HIGH SCHOOL THE UPPER 3, LOWER 4 & UPPER 4 PUPILS HAVE TAKEN ON A FITNESS CHALLENGE TO IMPROVE THEIR CARDIOVASCULAR FITNESS, COMPLETING 6 WEEKS OF CROSS COUNTRY.

They had to run between 1km and 2.4kms. For some, the challenge was to simply run it all each week without walking and for others the challenge was to run it as fast as possible.

Before and after each run, we have discussed pacing, aerobic fitness and heart rate. The pupils should know that the heart is the most important organ in the body and a very good way of looking after it is to engage in cardiovascular exercise. Feeling out of breath when doing exercise is normal and they should try to push themselves enough to allow themselves to get out of breath. Increasing their heart rate will help to increase their heart health. We would like the pupils to continue to think about their own fitness as regular exercise can lead to long term health benefits.

Want to hear more from Gateways?

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REMINDER

Please note these dates are subject to change. Gateways parents should refer to the calendar on Firefly for event dates and times. All sports fixtures will also be added onto the Firefly calendar.

Dates for your Diary

4TH JANUARY

Staff Development Day

5TH JANUARY

Term begins

12TH JANUARY

GCSE Information Evening

19TH JANUARY

A Level Information Evening

3RD FEBRUARY

Lower 5 Parents' Evening
From 4.30pm

4TH FEBRUARY

NSPCC Number Day in Prep

17TH FEBRUARY

Lower 4 Parents' Evening
From 4.30pm

w/c 21ST FEBRUARY

Half Term

28TH FEBRUARY

Term Re-starts

w/c 28TH FEBRUARY

Mock Exams - Upper 5 and Upper 6

w/c 28TH FEBRUARY

Test Week - Lower 5 and Lower 6

w/c 28TH FEBRUARY

Prep Progress Reviews to Parents

3RD MARCH

Upper 3 Parents' Evening
From 4.30pm

17TH MARCH

Upper 5 Parents' Evening
From 4.30pm

23RD MARCH

PFA Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

1ST APRIL

End of Spring Term

Nursery World Award finalist



For the 3rd year running we made it to the final at the Nursery World Awards 2021 for 'Best Early Years Provision in School'.