

ISSUE NO.24  
SPRING TERM 2024

Heard it

through  
the...

# cherryvine

GATEWAYS SCHOOL'S TERMLY REVIEW



**INSIDE:**

*Gateways  
beyond the  
Gates and  
Events!*

*Focus on  
...Early Years*

Meet Gateways  
Alumni -  
Hayley Goldsmith

# Introducing our Head of School...

## FAITH FALINYA

Being Head of School is a busy and fulfilling role; as well as being visible at school events and carrying out public speaking duties, the Head of School leads the team of prefects and is seen as an ambassador for Gateways.

Our current Head of School is Faith Falinya, who is very much involved with all these duties as well as having a busy diary of extra-curricular activities within and outside of school.

Faith joined Gateways in Lower 3 (year 6) and is studying psychology, English language and theatre studies at A Level. She sings in the Counterpoint choir and has starred in various High School productions, most recently playing the part of Paulette in Legally Blonde.



### Plans for the future...

Faith's aim is to study International Relations at Kings College London to either pursue a career in politics (with a focus on diplomacy & security) or become a solicitor in Immigration Law. She would still like to pursue her acting though and is determined to be on the big screen, either as a diplomat at the UN, an actress in a Hollywood blockbuster or even starring in the screen adaptation of her book!



Outside of school, Faith is equally busy and is a member of the Model United Nations Debate committee which meet monthly and debate issues that are profound in the current political climate.

She is a part-time working actress and is currently practising for the biggest event in her acting calendar,

“ I adore getting to know both our current and new pupils and I try to be visible around school, so I usually hover around at break time to talk to pupils! I help out with subject clinics too (mainly English). It is a very busy role but I love being a role model for the school; attending school events is fun and public speaking is something I enjoy. ”

the annual Monologue Slam hosted by Mark Jermin Stage School and Management. Faith is also a talented writer; over the past 3 years she has written a three-part series of novels. Her musical talents are expanding, as she is teaching herself how to

play the piano. Additionally, she volunteers at a nursing home in Headingley, where she sells cakes and sourdough bread (to raise money for the home) and also sings for the residents!



“ The thing I have enjoyed most about being Head of School is representing positivity within school. It is so empowering to know that I represent so many voices and have had a positive influence within school, hopefully not only within this academic year but even after I've left! Seeing pupils around school, happy and calm, as a result of the presence of the prefects and myself is something that motivates me every day to be the best Head of School that I can be. I enjoy being Gateways' 'big sister' (as the Upper 5 call me!) ”

# Meet... alumni Hayley Goldsmith

**Hayley attended Gateways from 1984 to 1998 and studied maths, business and English at A Level.**

After Gateways, Hayley went to Manchester Met University to study business and IT. For her placement year at University, she worked in IT for GE Capital (based in Leeds) and joined the company, after her degree had finished, on a 2 year IT graduate programme. Location wise, her graduate programme was based in London, Leeds and Australia with training in New York, Paris and Vienna.

After the graduate programme, Hayley became a 'Lean Six Sigma Blackbelt' working in various roles around GE Capital for 10 years. Hayley's latest role is based at Barclays in Manchester where she works in IT and Finance as a transformation project manager.

## **What did you enjoy most about going to Gateways?**

I loved Gateways and had such happy days; school felt like my second family!

## **What were your favourite subjects and why?**

Maths and IT. It was still quite early days for IT as a subject though, the IT area was only just being set up. I always found Maths easy... until I did it at A Level and realised that wasn't the case!

## **Did you take part in any extra-curricular activities?**

I was Deputy Head Girl so had additional responsibilities which came with that role. I also played netball and tennis at school.

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

It may have changed since I left over 20 years ago, but I would say just enjoy your time there and make the most of everything on offer!

## **How would you sum up Gateways in 3 words?**

The best school!

**“I loved Gateways and had such happy days; school felt like my second family!”**

*The best school!*





# Beyond the Gates AND EVENTS...

## TRIPS AND VISITS

Here's a summary of some of the trips and visits which have taken place this term:

### Ski trip to Italy

54 pupils from Upper 2 to Upper 6 spent their half term break away on the school ski trip in Folgarida. They had six fun packed days of ski-ing as well as several other activities including karaoke, quizzes, team building challenges and ice-skating.



Non-residential trips this term included a visit to Pontefract Castle by Lower 1 and Upper 2 visited Eureka in March.

### Lower 4 Liverpool trip

In March, Lower 4 spent 3 busy days in Liverpool visiting its main attractions and learning about the history of the city. They had a stadium tour of Liverpool Football Club, took in a bird's eye view of the city from the top of the Liver Building and visited key sights which were included in The Beatles' songs.

### Combined Cadet Force (CCF)

#### Sjt Ant Berry

This term our Combined Cadet Force (CCF) program has been full of thrilling activities for our cadets. Our newest recruits had their first taste of weapons training during Exercise Half Way, while senior cadets got to fire SA80 rifles on the dismantled close combat trainer.

- Altcar Training Camp in Liverpool was the base for another CCF weekend - cadets learnt military skills and had a round of laser quest at Area 51.
- During the Easter break, cadets are looking forward to a week-long adventure training camp in Capel Curig, Wales, which will include mountain biking, climbing, and canoeing.



**DofE**

*Mr Col Davies, DofE Manager*

29 pupils from Upper 4 continued their journey towards the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award with a training day on the Otley Chevin at the beginning of March. The participants focused on essential skills such as navigation, putting up a tent, cooking on a Trangia stove, emergency procedures and of course, teamwork!



In mid-March, 12 Silver level and 4 Gold level participants participated in two days of intensive canoe training at Ellerton Park in Richmond. These sessions are designed to ensure they are adequately prepared for their practice and assessed canoe expeditions in the summer term.



# Events

## PRODUCTIONS



Our Cabaret evening in March was a musical feast, showcasing the amazing singing talent at Gateways.

As well as solo performances, there were several choir performances including a beautiful rendition of 'Adiemus' by our most senior choir – Counterpoint. The evening finished with a memorable all-choir performance of Coldplay's Vida La Vida.

At the end of the Spring Term, Upper 1 and Lower 2 treated us to a wonderful performance of Zoom! This musical version of the classic story of the Hare and the Tortoise had everything from go-karting tortoises to squirrels doing tai-chi!



PARENTS & FRIENDS  
ASSOCIATION

### UPDATE FROM THE PFA

The PFA runs regular events throughout the school year to raise donations to support the school.





Total  
Raised  
**£2,642**

Also this term, the new Prep School playground, funded by the PFA, was officially opened.

The PFA Spring Chocolate Fair took place on the 19th March and was a choc-tastic event raising £2,642! There were incredible luxury chocolate prizes for the raffle and tombola, as well as an array of spring themed kids games with chocolate themed prizes!



Please follow us on social media to keep up with PFA news and events

 @gwaysPFA  @GatewaysPFA



# Focus on... Early Years

## Nursery

Our purpose-built nursery, The Gatehouse, is situated on the edge of the school grounds. The Gatehouse is open from 7.30am - 6pm Monday to Fridays and is where our youngest children (aged 2-3 years) begin their Gateways journey.

They are welcomed into a nurturing and engaging environment and introduced to the beginning of their educational journey through a carefully planned curriculum. They get involved in a whole range of



“ The Gatehouse staff have been amazing at settling my child into the nursery and making her feel so welcome. ”

Gatehouse Nursery parent

activities from creative crafts to obstacle courses and learn about topics such as animals, transport, the seasons and special days of the year.

As well as benefiting from the school's grounds, children can also access other school facilities such as the dance studio, sports hall and a purpose-built enclosed playground. The children particularly love a toddler waddle on the school field!

There is one member of staff to four children; our well-established Nursery staff are very experienced; two of them have been at Gateways for over 15 years!



## Pre-Reception

Once they turn 3, children can move into Little Gates which houses Pre-Reception and Key Stage 1. They have several visits from the Gatehouse to Pre-Reception over the course of their last half term, to ensure they are familiar with the new environment and staff.

There are two separate indoor areas and an outdoor area which promotes exploration, curiosity and independence. The children have a daily phonic and mathematics session and plenty of creative opportunities both indoors and outside. We even have a pet rabbit Fudge and sometimes our



- school dog (Cherry), who is a lovable cockapoo, joins the children for a walk on the school field!
- We prepare our Pre-Reception children for full time school by following a structured day interspersed with playful learning opportunities. This develops confidence and enthusiasm for learning whilst developing social skills and fostering friendships.



## Reception

Confidence and enthusiasm for learning continues in our Reception class suite which houses two classrooms. These are connected so at times children can come together for activities. The move to full-time school is seamless and is a natural progression for the children.

Our two Reception classes have between 12 – 15 pupils; small classes ensure each child receives the individual attention and support they require.

'Forest Friday' is a firm favourite, along with PE and music, both of which are taught by our specialist subject teachers.

If you need before and after school care, our Earlybirds club runs from 7.30am – 8.30am and Sundowners runs from 3.00pm – 6pm (additional fees apply).



## Extra-curricular opportunities for EYFS

In February, we introduced a new rugby extra-curricular club which children in the Nursery, Pre-Reception and Reception can join (during the school day). Our 3 and 4 years olds can also access Spanish and dance classes during the school day.

Pre-Reception children also join together with Reception children for Christmas events such as the nativity which take place in our Performing Arts Centre.

## Holiday club

Holiday club\* is available during the main school holidays from 8am - 5pm for Nursery and Pre-Reception. Reception children and upwards can take part in one of the many activity clubs\* which take place at Gateways during the school holidays from our external providers; these can include sports camp, drama, dance and craft clubs.

*\*Additional charges apply.*





The outstanding players selected to represent Great Britain this year

## SPORTS UPDATE

# Ultimate Frisbee goes from strength to strength

*Mr Josh Crosby*

ULTIMATE FRISBEE (UF) IS A UNIQUE NON-CONTACT SPORT PLAYED WITH ENDZONES, WITH THE BASIC RULES BEING VERY EASY TO PICK UP. THIS EXTRA-CURRICULAR SPORT IS AVAILABLE IN HIGH SCHOOL.

The highlight for the past decade has been competing in the JWIN (Junior Women's Indoor Nationals). With more pupils taking the sport than ever at Gateways, we have entered two full teams to the competition this year. The Gateways team has made it to the semi-finals several times in the past and the final in 2019. Our aim in 2024 is to take this one step further and win! The team have a new name this year, the Gateways Valkyries, with a new kit to match.

Over the past few years, five of our players have been selected for the U17s Women's GB squad. This year, four players were selected; two players have now moved up to the U20s Women's GB squad. Past students have gone on to captain their university teams and one was even on the highest placing British team at the World Mixed Championship! Coaching the UF team is one of the highlights of my week and I love seeing see the players enjoying the sport so much.

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

## SUMMER TERM 2024

- 15<sup>th</sup> APRIL  
Start of term
- w/c 15<sup>th</sup> APRIL  
Prep School 'Open Doors'
- 16<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL  
Travelling Book Fair (Prep School)
- 25<sup>th</sup> APRIL  
UKMT Junior Maths Challenge (Upper 3/Lower 4)
- 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL  
D of E Bronze assessed expedition
- w/c 29<sup>th</sup> APRIL  
High School Examinations Week
- 29<sup>th</sup> APRIL - 1<sup>st</sup> MAY  
Lower 2 & Upper 2 residential to Peat Rigg
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> MAY  
D of E Gold practice expedition
- 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> MAY  
D of E Silver practice expedition
- 14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> MAY  
Upper 1 residential to Carlton Activity Centre
- 22<sup>nd</sup> MAY  
GCSE and A Level Art Exhibition
- 23<sup>rd</sup> MAY  
Reception visit to Canon Hall Farm
- 24<sup>th</sup> MAY  
Transition visit to Yorkshire Wildlife Park
- 26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> MAY  
D of E Gold practice canoe expedition
- 4<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
Lower 3 Careers Day
- 4<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
Upper 4 and Lower 5 trip to Barcelona
- 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
Lower 3 residential to London
- 14<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
Transition & Lower 1 visit to Thornton Hall Country Park
- 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
D of E Silver assessed expedition
- 14<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
D of E Gold assessed expedition
- 18<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
Prep Sports Day
- 20<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
High School Sports Day
- 24<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
Sports Dinner
- 25<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
Ready Steady, Reception!  
Upper 5 Celebration
- 28<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
Prize Giving
- 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE  
Summer Ball
- 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE - 5<sup>th</sup> JULY  
CCF Central Camp
- 1<sup>st</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> JULY  
Valencia trip (Upper 3)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> JULY  
Upper Key Stage 2 Production
- 5<sup>th</sup> JULY  
Term ends

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