

## Sports Report 28/04/2025

### High School Outdoor Education



As the summer term unfolds, the Outdoor Education programme is bursting into life with a dynamic mix of water and land-based adventures. With the warmer months ahead, we're taking full advantage of the sunshine to explore new skills, build confidence, and strengthen teamwork through a variety of exciting activities. This term, our watermanship focus is well underway, starting with bell boating and rafted canoeing, perfect team-based paddling activities that teach coordination, resilience, and the importance of communication. These sessions have already seen pupils working together to navigate the water at Yeadon Tarn, tackle fun challenges, and learn key water safety skills in a supportive environment. Looking ahead, pupils will also have the opportunity to try kayaking, canoeing and rafting, allowing them to further develop their paddling technique and water confidence, all while having a splash of fun!

On dry land, our adventure continues with mountain biking, archery, and orienteering. These activities are not only thrilling but are carefully designed to promote physical fitness, mental focus, and outdoor learning. Whether navigating trails, honing aim on the archery range, or finding their way using map and compass, pupils are encouraged to problem-solve, lead, and support one another.

Outdoor Education at Gateways is more than just fun, it's an integral part of our commitment to holistic learning. These activities nurture independence, resilience, and a lasting appreciation for the natural world.

Mr Col Davies & Mr Ant Berry

## U14/15 Rounders v Roundhay

U14 Gateways 10-13.5 Roundhay  
U15 Gateways 8.5-12.5 Roundhay



Under perfect summer sports weather, both the U14 and U15 girls' teams kicked off their rounders season with energy and enthusiasm. The U14 team played two innings, while the U15s played one - both matches offered exciting moments and valuable lessons. The games were characterised by some excellent striking, with several batters hitting powerfully into the deep field. These long hits made it incredibly difficult for the fielding team to retrieve the ball and return it to fourth post in time to stump out runners. Most of the hits were directed towards second deep, creating tactical challenges for runners between first and second post, where a split-second decision often meant the difference between scoring a half rounder or being stumped out.

Throughout both matches, our players demonstrated improving awareness, managing to secure a number of half rounders. However, on a few occasions, hesitation or misjudged runs led to batters being stumped out. As the games progressed and the number of available batters decreased, the pressure mounted to not only stay in but also contribute to the score. In the U15 game, Liberty M showed exceptional composure and tactical play. As the final batter, she delivered a standout performance, consistently hitting the ball deep enough to allow her to score three full rounders, a crucial contribution to the team's final score.

Looking ahead, the focus will be on improving decision-making speed in the field. Rounders is a highly tactical sport, and success often comes down to how quickly players can read the game and react to evolving situations. The more we sharpen this instinct, the more competitive we will become. Overall, it was a positive and promising start to the season, and I am excited to see how the teams develop over the coming weeks.

Mrs Laura Braithwaite

## Boys Cricket



Now that we are into the Summer Term, the boys have transitioned to cricket and softball as their core sports. The opening sessions have focused on getting some competitive game time under their belts, while also refining key technical aspects of both batting and bowling.

This week, the groups have worked on batting stance and set-up, with particular attention given to ball striking and playing through the 'V'. On the bowling side, we have explored bowling lines, run-ups, and developing accuracy.

Game-based activities have been a key part of each lesson, allowing pupils to put their practice into performance. These games have also helped highlight important tactical elements such as running between the wickets and selecting the right shot in different situations. It's been a great start, and we look forward to seeing continued progress and enthusiasm as the term develops.

Mr Tom Davidson



## Sixth Form Golf



It is currently the turn of the boys to hit the driving range and refine or find a golf swing. The boys have had a huge amount of fun and have been given expert support in relation to their previous golfing experience under the watchful eye of Leeds Golf Centre teaching professional, Alex Cooper.

This week saw the long drive competition and a huge amount of improvement inside just an hour. All the boys crossed the three-figure mark but it was Ben in Upper 6 who claimed the title with a shot of 261 yards.

Next week we move to the putting green to challenge dexterity and touch - it could be very interesting!

Mr Phil Holmes