

Issue: 4

Date: 28/03/2024

# The GLC Parent Newsletter



**Message  
from CEO**



**GLC Events**



**Communication**



**Upcoming Events**



**GLC Vacancies**



**GLC Physical  
Education**



**Marketing**



We have had a busy [if very short half term]. There have been so many times where I have felt immense pride in what our young people are achieving under the guidance and support of our amazing staff team in partnership with their families.

More and more our young people are leading the way to bring about change for their peers, across the GLC and in our community. They show incredible determination, bringing our GLC values [responsibility, resilience, compassion and aspiration] to life on a daily basis.

We have welcomed the DFE and our directors and governors for tours this half term. We also had our Annual General Meeting with our members from Ormiston. All our visitors were extremely impressed with the excellent behaviour of our young people, the outstanding teaching and learning and the huge range of opportunities that are available across the GLC.

It has also been great to welcome parents to many different events, thank you for coming along to those to support your children.

We are also grateful to the many community members who have visited our academies to talk about careers, support with the Thurrock Poetry Competition, Athletics and The Thurrock Spring Music Concert.

I hope you enjoy our bulletin, you will see the smiles and positivity radiating out and bringing our motto, All Different: All Equal Together, Improving Upon Our best to life.

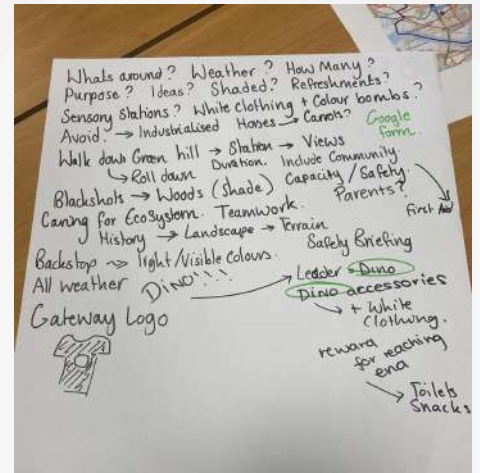
I hope you and your families have a lovely Easter break.





## Kinetika T100 Team Visit

The GLC were honoured to have the Kinetika T100 team visit to present and plan the next walk which the children are very excited to take part in. It is the tenth T100 Festival, this year has the theme 'T100 Goes Wild', it is taking place between Saturday 25 May – Saturday 22 June 2024, bringing a range of walks, events and activities to locations across Thurrock, and beyond.



# The Big Winter Wander



The GLC Eco-warriors sponsored walk was a great success. On Saturday 17 February, GLC staff, parents and families immersed themselves in nature at [Langdon Hills Nature Reserve](#) to raise money for [WWF](#), the money raised will be used for essential protection of our local wildlife and nature reserves. Well done GLC Eco-warriors for raising £100. We look forward to the next walk.

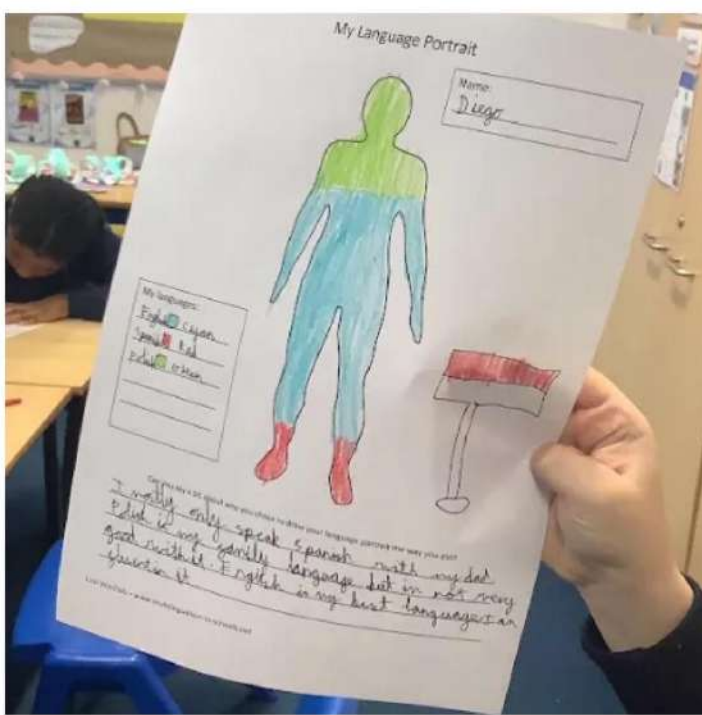


## International Mother Language Day

On Thursday 15th February, The GLC celebrated International Mother Language Day (IMLD). This is celebrated worldwide officially on 21st February by all UN countries. The day is a reminder that every child is entitled to education in a language that they can communicate in, although approximately 40% of children in the world still do not have access to education. Our students celebrated International Mother Language Day by teaching each other how to say hello, goodbye, and how to count in their home language. Pupils listened to the famous poem 'If' by Rudyard Kipling, read in English and six different languages by pupils, staff, and a parent. Everyone read a stanza each, bringing the poem together in Arabic, Gujarati, Romanian, Russian, Urdu, and Yoruba.

Pupils were visited by the secondary school students who led language taster sessions where pupils were taught Bangla, Lithuanian, Turkish, Twi, Bengali, Thai, and other

languages. This showcases how diverse our GLC community is. This experience allowed students to exercise learning competencies through curiosity and communication. IMLD promoted understanding and appreciation of different languages and cultures within the school community.



## Bloco Musicians

Our Bloco musicians have been going from strength to strength this year, with lots of brass players from our individual instrument tuition in the primary schools joining the Bloco brass section! The steel pans and drums are learning some new tunes ready for lots of concerts in the spring and summer. As well as children from all our primaries we also have students from Gateway Academy, some who have been with us from the start and setting great examples for the younger children. If any more GA students want to join us, do come and have a chat or ask Ms Kontrane who is our new Bloco rep for GA.

Hope to see you at a performance this summer!



## The Rotary Club of Grays Thurrock, Thurrock Primary School Mathematics Competition

18 Thurrock primary schools came together on 6 March 2024 for the The Rotary Club of Grays Thurrock, Thurrock Primary School Mathematics Competition hosted by The Gateway Learning Community.

The competition aimed to promote teamwork, problem-solving skills, and a love for mathematics among the pupils. They were encouraged to work together and support each other, showcasing not only their math abilities but also their teamwork and communication skills.

After a day of intense competition, the results were announced,  
1st place = Woodside Primary Academy  
2nd place = Tudor Court Primary School  
3rd place = Horndon on the Hill Church of England Primary School

**Gateway Primary Free School and Tilbury Pioneer were not far behind coming in joint 5th place - Well done!**



They were awarded a trophy for their outstanding performance. All participants received certificates to recognise their hard work during the event.

Thank you to everyone who helped support this wonderful event run smoothly.

# WORLD BOOK DAY

7 MARCH 2024

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On Thursday 7th March The GLC celebrated World Book Day. All academies had the joint theme of Alice in Wonderland. Primary Pupils spent the day learning about the story and characters through a range of activities. As part of this, they created a costume item to represent a character to be worn to their 'tea party' in the afternoon. This approach also took the pressure off parents buying costumes or some children feeling left out, which we were very mindful of.

They started the day with an assembly to launch World Book Day. The Royal Opera House trailblazer Mad Hatter's Tea Party children performed the dance (recorded or live).

Each year group learnt about one specific character in the book. Children spent the morning learning about that specific character (personality traits, actions, etc). They completed **one writing piece** (character description) and **one maths activity** (related to the book). They also thought about what they could create for the 'Mad Hatter's Tea Party' to convey their character (for example, a hat with certain accessories to symbolise the character for the Mad Hatter or a clock for the rabbit, etc).

In the afternoon the children had a 'Tea Party' - this gave the children the opportunity to discuss their character with other children.

The Gateway Academy also brought the magic of Alice in Wonderland to the Secondary providing a tea party for the students.



# WORLD BOOK DAY

7 MARCH 2024

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On Monday 4th March, selected children came together to learn the Royal Opera House choreography inspired by Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, our theme for World Book Day this year and will have the opportunity to perform their dance to schools in upcoming events.



The children were enthusiastic and excited to learn the dance routine, which was a blend of classical ballet and contemporary dance styles. They practiced diligently, following the guidance of Sian Marsh.



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## GLC Careers Week!

The week beginning Monday 11 March marked The GLC 'Big Me' Careers week. Across the Trust we have welcomed visitors in to give talks about their careers, show interesting props and equipment and provide challenges to our pupils/ students. It has been a truly engaging and aspirational week for The GLC. Here are some highlights:

### M&G Enterprise Challenge

The Talent Foundry are at the Gateway Academy delivered the M&G Enterprise Challenge to our Year 8 and 9 mathematicians, this numeracy focused STEAM workshop links Maths to real life with a fun & realistic scenario.

You can find out more here: <https://buff.ly/3Phtuch>



### Visit from Lucy Harris, Port of Tilbury

The Gateway Primary Free School Year 2 pupils were thrilled to be visited by Lucy Harris who work at the Port of Tilbury [Forth Ports] she told the pupils all about her job as the Community Engagement Manager and also told them about some of the amazing adventures she has had. Thank you Lucy!





## Visit from Police Officers PC Brand and PC Harrison

On 12 March, the Gateway Primary Free School Nursery and Reception children were treated to a visit from PC Harrison and PC Brand as part of 'The Big Me' Careers Week. The children were extremely engaged, listening about what it is like being a police officer and how it is their goal to keep the community safe.

The children loved seeing the equipment that the police officers brought with them and hearing about how they are used.

PC Harrison and PC Brand were fantastic with the children, answering all their questions. The children were buzzing with excitement after the visit and many of them said that they now want to be police officers when they grow up.

## Kinetika Visit

On Monday 11 March, Nicole and Sarah from Kinetika visited Tilbury Pioneer Academy. They wow'd the arts council, talking about their career journey. They also looked at some of the beautiful flags that they had created.

Thank you Nicole and Sarah.



## Visit from Nurturing your Needs Team



The Nurturing your Needs Team carried out assemblies for the pupils across the GLC, they spoke about the different fields of work that they are involved in e.g. Law, Sports & Nutrition, Media, Journalism, Music and Graphic Design. It opened the pupils eyes to what professions there are to aspire to. Fantastic team, thank you!

# The Gateway Academy Careers Fair 2024

On 14 March 2024, Students from Year 7 - Year 11 were given the opportunity to speak to representatives from a wide range of industries. They received valuable advice and many students now have a new aspiration and career lead with the knowledge on how to achieve it. Students left feeling inspired and motivated to pursue their dreams.

Overall, the Careers Fair 2024 was a huge success and we are grateful to all the companies who participated and shared their expertise with our students.



# Little City Workshop

As part of the GLC 'Big Me' Careers Week, Reception children were visited by Little City, they immersed themselves in their own world of adulthood where they could act like they were in the supermarket, post office, hair salon, being firefighters, builders, café owners, vets, office workers and more. The children thoroughly enjoyed their role play experience with their class friends.



## Thurrock Poetry Competition

The Gateway Learning Community were honoured to host the Thurrock Poetry Competition finals on the evening of 21 March 2024. All of the children performed magnificently, showing great courage and skill.

A big well done to the winning schools and a special thank you to Lynda Pritchard who is one of the founders of the Thurrock Poetry Competition and is a fantastic compere for the evening and also our judges, Deputy Mayor Cllr Abbas, Malcolm Taylor, Grace Defritas, Lela Campbell who without doubt had the hardest job in deciding who were the winning schools and runner up in the competition this year.



### 'Super-Curricular' Maths Masterclass

On 25 March, the GLC Year 5 pupils, parents and carers came together for their first 'Super-Curricular' Maths Masterclass specifically for more able mathematicians.

During this session, Miss Lauricourt and the more able leads presented an exciting and informative masterclass entitled 'To Infinity and Beyond.' In this session pupils and parents learnt about infinity and bounded infinity. It was nice to see the parents getting involved in the problem solving of the session and working on them together with their children.



## Trip to Disneyland Paris

On Sunday 25th February, 54 students from Year 8 to Year 11 visited Disneyland Paris. The trip was organised in partnership with NST Tours. The students had a fun filled itinerary:

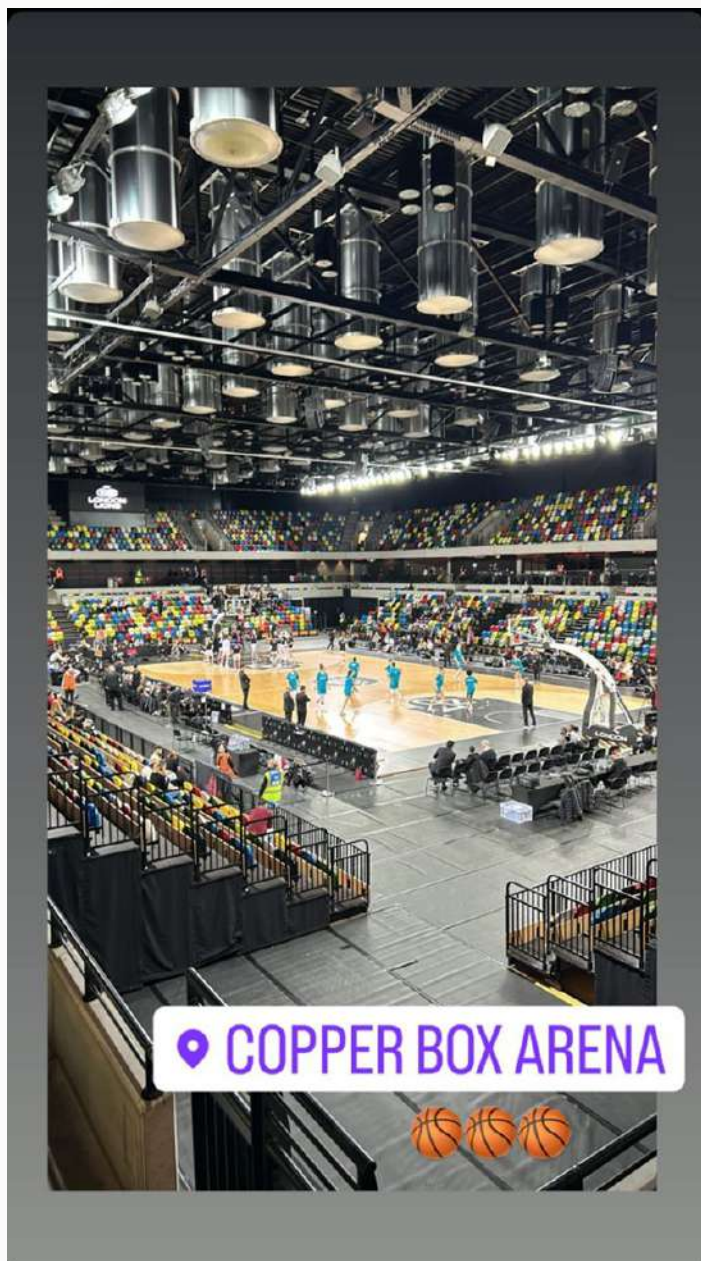
- Day 1: Ferry to Paris, visited the Eiffel Tower, gardens and park and enjoyed a buffet dinner
- Day 2: Full day at Disneyland with meals, magical parade, and fireworks
- Day 3: Visited the Palace of Versailles and gardens before returning home

The trip provided students with a fun and educational experience in Paris.



## Women's Euro Cup Basketball Match at Copperbox Arena

On 28 February 2024, 28 Year 7 and 8 students went to the Copperbox Arena to watch the London Lions Basketball Team in the Women's Euro Cup! The students had a fantastic time and enjoyed the atmosphere and experience.



🏀🏀 Great to see this in person  
last night with the basketball  
students 🏀🏀



## Gateway Charity Day in Memory of a student – Kayla Ere

A year after the tragic and sudden death of Kayla Ere, The Gateway Academy organised a fundraising campaign for the charity CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young).

We were very fortunate to have a visit from Sian Donnelly, a volunteer with the charity who came to meet some of our Student Leadership Team and not only shared her inspirational story but to help the students create an awareness plan about cardiac risks for young people. The charity not only work alongside families and organisations which have been impacted by sudden deaths but also support with screening for any parents who would like their child to receive this.



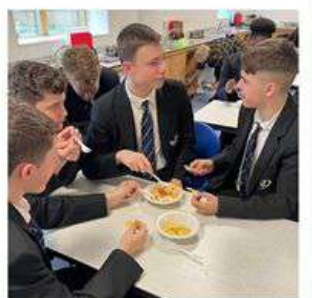
It was wonderful to see students and staff coming together to remember Kayla and raise money for this amazing charity who do so much to support family and friends through their tragic loss. Mrs McLaughlin said 'I am incredibly proud of all of our students for showing tremendous compassion and care. Kayla was an amazing young lady and we will continue to raise money for CRY in her honour.'



## Visit from Animal Aid

On Wednesday 13 March, the Year 10 hospitality and catering group welcomed volunteers from Animal Aid. They gave the students information and answered questions about more sustainable, cruelty free and plant based eating. They cooked a plant based snack for the students to tuck in to, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Animal Aid campaigns peacefully against all animal abuse, and promotes a cruelty-free lifestyle: Find out more here: <https://www.animalaid.org.uk/veganism/>



## Mensa Test Results

39 of our More Able students sat the world-renowned Mensa test before half term, and we are delighted to report that:

- all of our students scored in line with 50% of the population
- 27 students scored within the top 20% of the population
- 12 students scored within the top 5% of the population

5 students scored within the top 2% of the population which makes them eligible to join Mensa; they are:

Ethan N (Y8)	IQ 161
Jessica S (Y9)	IQ 158
Maddison C (Y10)	IQ 154
Emmanuel F (Y8)	IQ 151
Henry C (Y9)	IQ 151

This is a momentous achievement for those students; to put into context, the highest IQ score possible is 162 and the average for the population is an IQ of 100. Einstein and Stephen Hawking were reckoned to have an IQ of around 160!



## Y7 and Y8 Religious Studies Trip to Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara

Students from Year 7 and 8 visited Guru Nanak Darbar Gurdwara to secure their learning in Religious Studies. A Sikh Temple (i.e. the door to a new beginning ) is a place of learning for the humanity as well as Sikhs (Sikh comes from the phrase Seekers of the Truth). The tour was helpful in developing understanding of the Sikh code of conduct and ethos of Sikh philosophy.

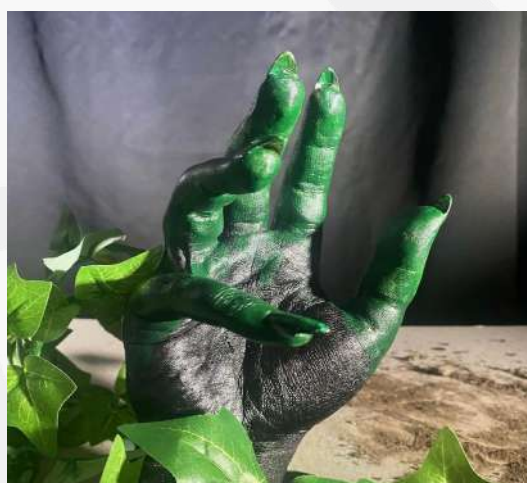
The visit was a valuable educational experience for the students, allowing them to deepen their understanding of a different religious tradition and foster a sense of respect and appreciation for diversity.



## Made Training Workshop - Revision Skills

On 18 March the Year 10 students gathered to take part in a revision techniques workshop delivered by made training - the students learnt a range of effective revision strategies, identified knowledge gaps and prioritised their efforts. They also learnt how to use revision time effectively and efficiently and build their confidence in their own abilities and potential.

It was a very engaging and interactive session, with students actively participating in discussions and activities. They were able to reflect on their current revision practices and set clear goals for improvement.



## Year 11 Photoshoot

We had some fantastic creative outcomes from the Year 11 photoshoot.

## The Gateway Academy's Couch to 5K

On 27 March, Gateway Academy students and staff took part in the GA's first couch to 5K run! Jess Heavey organised this very successful event, sending out training tips weekly to the participants.

The couch to 5K run around the school field, was a testament to the participants' dedication and perseverance. Amidst cheers and applause from fellow students, staff, and supporters, participants crossed the finish line, marking the culmination of weeks of training.

The success of the couch to 5K run underscores the Gateway Academy's commitment to holistic education, emphasising the importance of nurturing both the body and mind. By promoting physical fitness and fostering a sense of community, the academy equips its students with essential life skills that extend far beyond the classroom.



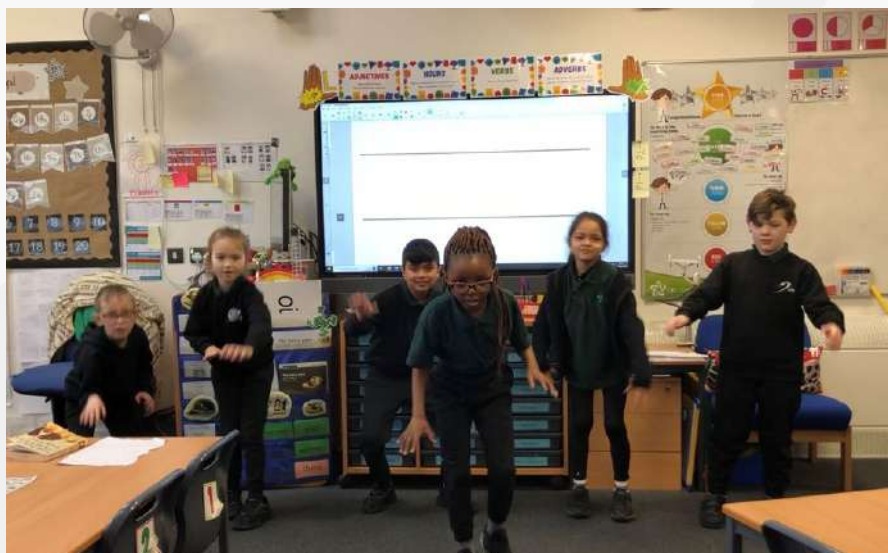


## Year 3 and 4 Visited the Dentist!

On Thursday 29 February, Year 3 and 4 visited Elite dental surgery in Tilbury and received a check up and educational session on oral hygiene. The children learned about the importance of brushing and flossing regularly to maintain good dental health. They also had the opportunity to see real dental tools and instruments used by dentists during their check up.

Overall, it was a fun and informative visit that helped the children understand the importance of taking care of their teeth.





## Thurrock Poetry Competition Preparation

The children who are taking part in the Thurrock Poetry Competition heats on Thursday 14 March, are busy practicing. We cannot wait to see the performances! Keep up the hard work, well done!

## The Brilliant Club

The Brilliant Club attended the official launch of the 2024 cohort virtually on Monday 11th March.

There was much excitement as learners discovered the objectives of the club and all that they were going to experience.



**The Brilliant Club**

## Family Learning Session

On Thursday 14 March, Reception had a very successful family learning session. They made dioramas to help the children with their creative writing lesson.



## Year 5 Celebrate their Year 4 MTC Results

The Gateway Primary Free School Year 5 pupils had great fun celebrating their Year 4 Multiplication check data (MTC) 2023 results being in the highest 7% in the country.

Emma Pattison, Head of School said

'We are incredibly proud of our Year 5 pupils for achieving such a fantastic result in their Multiplication check data last year. To be in the highest 7% in the country is a testament to their hard work, dedication, and the support of our fantastic teachers and parents/ carers. We always strive for excellence here at The Gateway Primary Free School, and this achievement is a shining example of the incredible progress our pupils are making. Congratulations to all of our Year 5 pupils on this exceptional accomplishment!'

The pupils were thrilled to receive recognition for their hard work. The school community is incredibly proud of their achievements and look forward to seeing their continued success in the future.





## The Rotary Club Young Artist Competition 2023/24

The GLC entered the Rotary Young Artist Competition 2023/2024, the theme was 'Rebuilding' and the Rotary Club were blown away with the high quality artwork they received. Below are a few of HPA's submissions.

All participants received a certificate. The results of the competition will be posted on their website in a few week's time...watch this space!



## Reception Family Learning Session

On Friday 29 March, families were invited in to school for a creative activity session with the Reception children. They had previously been looking at Van Gogh's Sunflower painting and so during this session they made sunflowers out of paper plates and tissue paper for their displays.

It was a wonderful opportunity for parents to join in on the fun of creating something together. The session was a great success and received positive feedback from the families who were able to attend.



## Year 4 Stone-Age Workshop by Historic Workshops

Year 4 were visited by Historic Workshops who delivered a Stone-Age workshop which was incredibly hands-on and engaging. A Stone-Age homo-sapien wowed the children with their animalistic behaviour and language! They showed the children some of their weapons and tools and tried to communicate with them.

The children explored real animal bones and decided what they were and which animal they had come from.

The children looked at cave drawings, then using chalk and slate boards, they created their own. They were then shown a large range of Stone-Age artefacts, including flint tools, animal furs and Stone-Age equipment.

Using knapped flint, sticks, twine and feathers, the children had the opportunity to make Stone-Age knives, spears, arrows, hammers, drills and axes.

Using safety arrows and targets of common animals pictures that the Stone-Age people hunted: wild boar, stags, pheasants, badgers and hares, the children were able to experience archery in teams. The workshop helped to secure the children's knowledge of the Stone-Age era.



## William Palmer Trust Grant

HPA are very pleased to announce that a local charity, The William Palmer Trust, linked to Palmer's College have awarded HPA a grant to support the use of Laptops for pupils in KS1.

The grant will be used to support the purchase of laptops so that pupils can access online learning in school and at home. Pupils will make use of the laptops to access

- Doodle
- Oxford Owl for reading and phonics

The William Palmer Trust, award grants for pupils within their location, the eligibility criteria is based on postcodes.

If you would like to know more about this please contact Gillian McLoughlin at HPA.

## Gardening Club

HPA gardeners have been very busy helping weed all the flower beds ready to plant some different plants. They were fascinated by some of the mini beasts they found. They talked about what they found and what they could see on them.



## Year 1 Storytelling Trailblazer workshop about Kings and Queens

On Thursday 21 March Year 1 took part in a Sensory Storytelling Trailblazer workshop about Kings and Queens. Embracing Arts use a unique brand of puppetry, storytelling, improvisation, music and sensory elements to bring the subject to life.

By the end of the workshop, the students had a deeper appreciation for the stories of kings and queens and were able to make connections between the past and the present. The workshop was a fun and engaging way for students to learn and explore the world of history through a sensory lens.





## History Wow Start

Year 5 enjoyed their history wow start to the half term. Year 5 pupils learnt how to write their names using the Ancient Greek alphabet. They enjoyed exploring a new alphabet using a Greek Name Translator application.

## Year 2 Welcome Ducklings into their Classroom

In science, the pupils have been learning all about animals and living things. They have learnt about life cycles. Pupils know that there are different animal groups and they have learnt to identify the characteristics of each group.

Best of all, the pupils have had a very exciting experience. Five duck eggs were delivered to the school, pupils saw them hatch and everyone has loved looking after the fluffy little ducks!



## Science Week Activities

As part of Science week activities, the pupils in Year 6 tested their reaction times using objects from around the classroom working in pairs. They noted down their experiment outcomes.



Year 6 explored and created circuits. They then joined hands to make a human circuit to demonstrate how a circuit worked.

This hands-on activity helped the children to understand the concept of circuits and how electricity flows through them. It was a fun and interactive way to learn about science and technology, and they were fully engaged throughout the activity. They left the lesson with a better understanding of circuits and a new appreciation for the wonders of electricity.



## Young Artists in Reception

This half term we have been learning all about different artists such as; Henry Moore, Vincent Van Gogh, Andy Warhol, and Damien Hirst. Taking inspiration from these artists, we have created our own masterpieces based on the artists' style of work. We have explored colour mixing, arranging colour spots, sculpting, and bright, bold art.

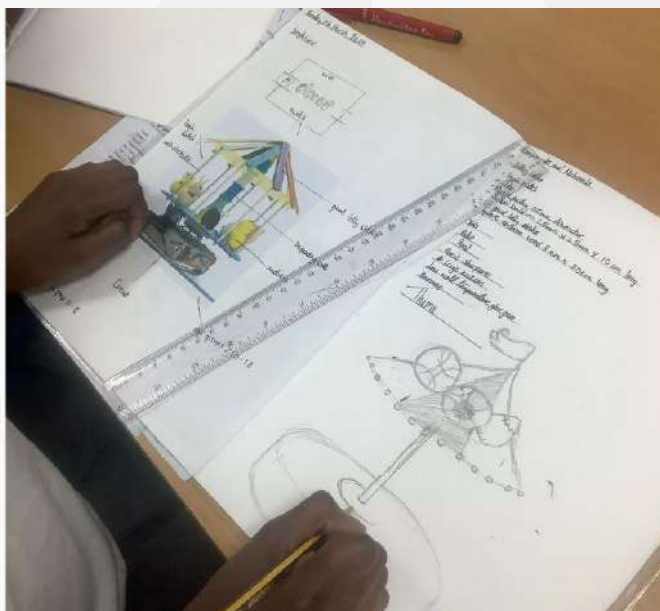
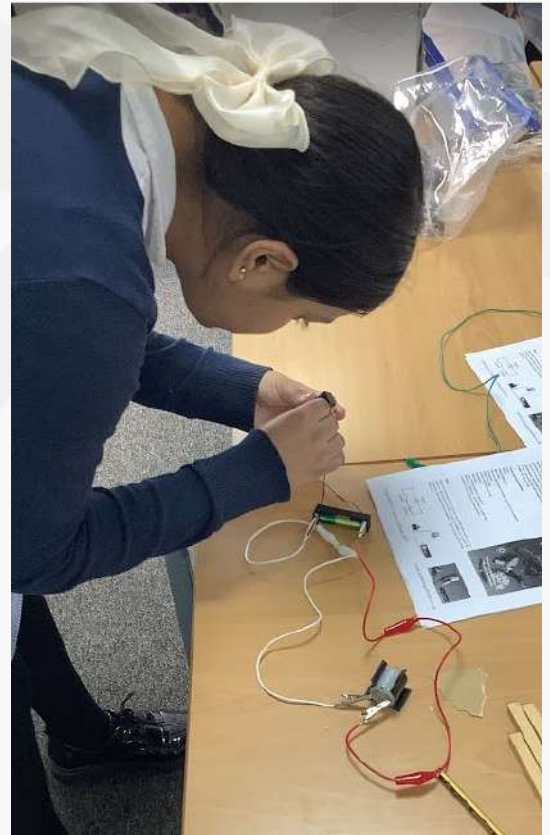
We have learned that art comes in many forms from painting, sculpting, sketching, to creative arts and design such as singing and dancing. Singing and dancing is an art we absolutely love to explore in Reception!



## Fairground Rides

During the week of 18 March, Year 6 completed their Fairground Rides in Design and Technology. They learnt about different types of motion before looking at designs of fairground rides.

They had to use their science knowledge of circuits to make their ride move. They had to measure accurately, use tools and adapt their rides if ideas didn't work. Most groups were successful in making a moving ride. Well done!





The Year 1 children at Tilbury Pioneer Academy became historians who learnt about the Queen from a range of artefacts and resources. Mrs Ashburn created their very own Queen's red box which children delved into each week and thought hard about what they could learn from the chosen artefact.

At the end of the unit, children used the artefacts to present to others what they have learnt about Her Majesty the Queen.





## Thurrock Poetry Competition Heats [1]

On 14 March, Tilbury Pioneer Academy did a fantastic job of hosting one of the Thurrock Performance Poetry Competition heats, the competition was well-organised and all of the pupils who participated did an amazing job showcasing their talents.

The judges were impressed by the level of talent and had an extremely difficult time choosing the winners. The Thurrock Performance Poetry Competition heats at Tilbury Pioneer Academy was a resounding success.

## Visit from Historic Workshops

The Year 4s have been learning about the Stone Age and were transported back in time to meet a stone age man. He showed them different artefacts of the time, including bones, weapons and animal skins. They created outfits from the artefacts and bones; cave paintings using chalk and slate tiles and weapons using sticks, twine and sharp flint.

They ended the day with archery and having a go at hunting. The targets were different sizes to show the children the difficulty of hunting. What an incredible experience!



## Nursery Trip to Barleylands Farm

On 25th March, the Tilbury Pioneer Academy nursery children visited Barleylands farm. They baked bread, looked at and petted some of the animals. They especially liked stroking the goats. The children were thrilled to see the chickens, pigs, and cows up close. They also enjoyed a tractor ride around the farm.

It was a fun and educational day out for all the children, and they can't wait to go back to the farm again soon.





## The Easter Bunny Visited TPA!

On 26th March, Friends of Pioneer arranged for the Easter bunny to visit the children in their classes to deliver Easter eggs to the children.

It was a lovely surprise for the children, they thoroughly enjoyed it.

## Embracing Arts Visit

On 21 March, Year 1 enjoyed a visit from Embracing Arts. They ran a workshop linked to our history unit on Queen Elizabeth II. The children demonstrated their impressive knowledge of her life and significant events, taking part in re-enactments and answering questions.

It formed the end of a cross curricular look at The Queen's life. Having also been busy in Art creating portraits and pop art masterpieces.





## Netball Success

Before the half term break the GA Netball teams had a full on week of fixtures! Congratulations to the girls for a week of Netball wins!



## GPFS Hockey

On Friday 15 March, the Year 6 pupils at Gateway Primary Free School enjoyed a visit from members of Thurrock Hockey Club. The children engaged in various games and activities, learning valuable skills necessary for playing hockey. We would like to thank Thurrock Hockey Club for providing this enriching experience to our children.

### A Great Week of Successful Sport.

During the week of 15 March, at the Gateway Academy we have seen students representing the academy in basketball, rugby, football and netball with lots of success.

All their hard work is definitely paying off - well done!



## HPA Year 3/4 Football event.

Well done to the selected children that took part in the Year 3/4 Football event at St Cleres on Wednesday 6 March 2024.

We were victorious in our group stages and went through to the semi finals. Well done to the team for 3rd overall.

## HPA Year 5/6 Gymnastics.

On Friday selected children competed in the Keysteps Gymnastics event. It was a tough competition and everyone performed well.



## GPFS Girls' Football

On Friday, the Year 5/6 Girls' Football team played their final league game against Abbots Hall Primary. Despite all their hard work Abbots hall managed to score 2 goal in the last 5 minutes, meaning they went on to win 4-2.

The girls finished 3rd overall in their league and have had a really good season.

## GLC Football Cup

Year 5/6 Football teams played in the GLC Football Cup on Thursday 7 March.

**Boys** 1-1 TPA vs GPFS

**Girls** 1-0 TPA vs GPFS



## Year 3/4 Tag Rugby Team

The tag Rugby team participated in a tournament organised by Thurrock SSP on Friday 15th March, where they faced a number of schools in a competitive nature. The pupils rallied together and showed true grit and determination on what was a windy and grey day at Orsett Heath Academy. It was a valiant effort from all pupils involved and they represented The GLC outstandingly throughout the event.

## 3&4 Sportshall Athletics

On Friday 22nd, Year 3&4 attended the annual sportshall athletics event. Throughout the tournament, our core values were evident. The children worked extremely hard during their single and team events showing resilience and compassion. It was also lovely to see and hear the encouragement shown to the children returning back to the school after their event had finished.

The event was very successful but most importantly, our children had an amazing time!



## Year 1 PE Balancing

Year 1 have been looking at static balancing and position holding to create particular poses. Pupils looked at different balance points and had to really hold themselves steady to create a fantastic pose (they certainly have a lot of strength to do this!)





We are extremely proud of the Year 8 basketball team for all their hard work. This paid off when they won the semi-final 63-60. They made Gateway Academy history by making it through to their very first final in the county cup! Congratulations!



### New Governors and Director

We are pleased to introduce our new Governors and GLC Director.



**Courtney Freese**



**Claire Hutson**

Courtney Freese has recently joined the GLC Board of Directors and is the Director of Education at the Burlesduna Trust. Courtney has also joined the Gateway Primary Free School and Herringham Primary Academy Local Governing Body.

Claire Hutson is the newest member of the Local Governing Body for Gateway Primary Free School and Herringham Primary Academy and is Headteacher at the Langdon Academy in Newham.

We are extremely pleased to welcome you to The Gateway Learning Community family.

**Senior Citizens Meal: Raffle Prizes** - As you know the wonderful Senior Citizens meal is going ahead on 23 May 2024. It is always a good turn out and the senior citizens thoroughly enjoy it.

**If you are able, then we would very much appreciate raffle prize donations for this event. Please take them to the GA finance office or your own school office where they will be collected.**





## Support with the Year 10 Work Experience Programme

Our Year 10 students participate in a work experience program annually. This offers invaluable opportunities for them to gain workplace exposure and enhance their skills.

However, securing placements has become increasingly challenging. We're reaching out to staff, parents, relatives, and friends for assistance.

**Do you know any employers willing to support this program?** It will run from 1st - 5th July 2024. Our aim to establish a network of organisations to aid us. Below is a link you can complete or share with your contacts, which we will follow up.

**Thank you for your support. We're fortunate to belong to a community eager to nurture the next generation of workers.**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd\\_BQegA7mS2WgzAjVGJr1f8KVkfGnuKDxYzkwhZIexpnNUiA/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd_BQegA7mS2WgzAjVGJr1f8KVkfGnuKDxYzkwhZIexpnNUiA/viewform?usp=sf_link)



### Activity inspiration for all ages

Fun activities and things to do with your child to help with their communication skills.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/activities>

### GA Extra-curricular club attendance - another record smashed!

We continue to set new standards for attendance to extra-curricular clubs – a new record **11,076** engagements since the start of the year; amazing stuff and thank you to everyone for running and supporting the broad range of clubs we offer - Dave Zeffie





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

# FREE SCHOOL UNIFORM SWAP SHOP

Every Wednesday at 3:00PM

Lansdowne Academy will be holding a  
Community Recycling Event.

You can donate unwanted uniform that  
your children have outgrown and you can  
collect items that fit better for

FREE

## ACCEPTABLE DONATIONS

- School Jumpers / Cardigans
- PE kits blue polo T-shirts / Blue shorts / blue track bottoms
- Grey trousers / Grey skirts / blue gingham summer dresses
- Coats / hats gloves
- School white shirts / white polo shirts
- Bags / lunch boxes
- Shoes / plimsoles



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# 12 Top Tips TO SUPPORT MENTAL WELLBEING THROUGH NATURE Online and Offline

'Nature' is a superb choice as the theme of this year's Mental Health Awareness Week, as there's clear evidence that getting access to nature is excellent for our mental health. With Covid-19 restrictions beginning to ease, it's the perfect time of year to rediscover the natural world and give ourselves a calming, uplifting treat. You don't have to drag the family on a four-hour hike, either – just 10 minutes each day in the garden, in the local park or your nearest green space could really help. Here are 12 suggestions for ways you can benefit from nature ... both online and off.

## ONLINE

## OFFLINE

**1 Give something back to nature**

A swift internet search should bring up details of any local conservation projects you could volunteer for, or litter-picking events that you could enrol the family in. It doesn't have to be a long-term commitment: most schemes are grateful for every bit of help!

**1 Ditch the phone**

Now the weather's improving, go for a walk in a green space nearby. If you're already familiar with your chosen route, you could always leave your phone at home to be completely free of the usual distractions and notifications.

**2 Tranquil streams**

Search your preferred music player for some soothing natural sounds. A few minutes' gentle audio of rainfall, ocean waves or birdsong are all great ways of unwinding at the end of the day to get you ready for an excellent night's sleep.

**2 Put down some roots**

Planting flowers, shrubs, herbs or vegetables can be extremely rewarding. Not only does it help us to connect with nature – it also provides an ongoing project to draw pleasure from. If your home doesn't have a garden, no problem: a window box will do the job just as well!

**3 Give geocaching a go**

If you've not heard of it, geocaching is a modern twist on the traditional treasure hunt. Participants look for items hidden in outdoor locations, using a GPS-enabled device like a mobile phone or tablet. We'd recommend that an adult accompanies young adventurers!

**3 A different kind of tweet**

Most gardens in the UK attract a wonderful variety of birds, and just watching them for a few minutes can be immensely therapeutic. There are some excellent apps and sites to help you name any species you don't already know or even play a game: identifying bird song, like bird song bingo!

**4 Share what you see**

While you're out exploring nature, take a photo or video of anything you find that inspires you. Not only will it be a nice memory for you to look back on, but you could also share it safely on social media and maybe motivate others to engage with the natural world!

**4 Feed your feathered friends**

Hang a bird feeder where you can easily see it from a window. Then enjoy the feelgood factor of satisfied avian visitors perching where you can see them. For something more advanced, you could try building a nesting box to fix onto a fence or under a windowsill.

**5 Watch the stars**

Looking at the night sky can be incredibly calming. There are some comprehensive stargazing websites and apps to help you locate and recognise different stars. It can take 20 minutes or so before you can see stars fully in the dark, even on clear nights, so allow your eyes time to adjust.

**5 Park your worries**

If you're lucky enough to live within easy travelling distance of a park, you'd benefit from using it. Whether it's to play ball games, get on your bike, walk the dog or just get some fresh air into your lungs, the potential bonuses for mental health are enormous.

**6 Wildlife on the web**


A Google search will bring up lots of sites that stream webcam footage of nature. From seals to barn owls, rabbits to badgers, you can get an intimate, heart-warming view of all kinds of animal communities from inside the comfort of your own home.

**6 Art and soul**

Younger children will enjoy drawing or painting animals or nature scenes, or writing a poem or song lyrics about nature. For extra art or crafting fun, you could collect natural materials – leaves, feathers, tree bark or seeds, for example – to use in your creations.

**Meet Our Expert**

Anna Bateman is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://rnhforrest.org/coronavirus-lockdown-we-need-nature-now-more-evil> | <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/article/call-to-wild> | 'Mental Health and Nature', Mind, 2018

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 12.05.2021



Please see the details of the latest **vacancies**:

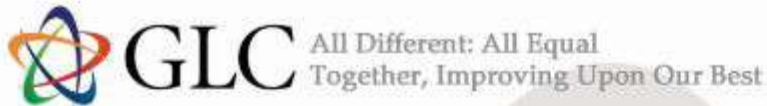
GA	GPFS	HPA	LPA	TPA	GLC
<a href="#">Lead Practitioner of English</a>	<a href="#">KS2 Class Teacher</a> <a href="#">Inclusion Advocate</a> <a href="#">Support Services Manager</a>		<a href="#">Year 2 Class Teacher</a> <a href="#">Upper Key Stage 2 Teacher</a> <a href="#">Assistant Head of School</a> <a href="#">LSA Early Years Nuser</a>	<a href="#">Cover Supervisor</a>	<a href="#">Class Teachers - KS1/ KS2</a> <a href="#">Primary Trainee Teacher [Bursary Available]</a> <a href="#">Support Services Manager [Maternity Cover]</a>

[Click here to view our GLC Brochure](#)

[Read our latest Ofsted Reports](#)

Please share with your friends and family and on your social media platforms to encourage the right candidate to join our team. #jointheglctrust

**As part of the GLC recruitment strategy the GLC will pay current employees a finders' fee of £500 (subject to necessary deductions) for every appointed teacher and/or LSA they recommend (please see recruitment and retention policy for full details).**



# GLC Primary Recruitment Fair

**Date:** Thursday 9 May 2024

**Time:** 4:30pm - 6:00pm

**Location:** Lansdowne Primary Academy, 7BE,  
Lansdowne Road, Tilbury, Essex RM18 7QB

We are looking for passionate and enthusiastic staff who are ready to make a positive difference to our young people and to support our mission of developing active and thriving citizens within a diverse, truly fair and equal community. #jointheglctrust

## Drop in to The Gateway Learning Community Recruitment Fair:

Register your attendance via our Google form:  
<https://forms.gle/YWxMtT9JciwkhL6Q7>

Walk-ins are welcome

Scan below to visit our  
Vacancies page:



[www.theglc.org.uk](http://www.theglc.org.uk)



## Upcoming Events

[Back to Main Page](#)

The events are subject to change in individual schools:

<b>15th April 2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First day of Summer 1</li></ul>	<b>8th May 2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gateway Academy Dance Show [7pm]</li></ul>	<b>13th May 2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GCSE Summer Exams</li><li>• Year 6 SATS Week</li></ul>
<b>18 April 2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Year 9 Parents' Evening and Options 1600-1900</li></ul>	<b>9th May 2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GLC Primary Recruitment Fair [4:30pm - 6pm]</li></ul>	<b>24th May 2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Last day of Summer 1</li></ul>
<b>25th April</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• KS2 GLC Games</li></ul>	<b>23rd May 2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Senior Citizens Meal</li></ul>	<b>3th June 2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First day of Summer 2</li></ul>
<b>7th May 2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gateway Academy Dance Show [7pm]</li></ul>	<b>6th March 2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rotary/ GLC Mathletics</li><li>• Trailblazer: Art Sculpture Workshop - TPA</li></ul>	



### The GLC in the Press!



- [Gateway students lead the way to create a 'Futures' programme to help young people find their path - Your Thurrock](#)
- [Students come together to inspire others and create opportunity | Local News | News | Thurrock Nub News | by Nub News Reporter](#)
- <https://thurrock.nub.news/news/local-news/school-community-remembers-and-pays-tribute-to-tragic-kayla-with-support-for-cardiac-charity-223766>

GLC Tilbury Pioneer Academy  
All Different, All Equal, Together, Improving Upon Our Best



**Nursery Enrolling Now For Academic Year 2024-25**

Making sure your child gets the right start!

Tilbury Pioneer has fully qualified staff who will ensure that your child makes the best possible start to their schooling. We have morning and afternoon nursery sessions.

Session Type	Time	Funded Daily Hours
AM	08:25AM - 11:25AM	3 hours per day funded (15 hours per week)
PM	12:15PM - 15:15PM	3 hours per day funded (15 hours per week)

Your child can start nursery here at Pioneer as soon as they have had their third birthday. If you would like a tour of the school or an application form, please use the contact details below:

For a tour of the school or an application form, please contact using the details:

01375 488420  
admin.pioneer@theglc.org.uk

Your child can start nursery as soon as they have had their third birthday

Apply now by completing the admission form

Ofsted Good Provider

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

GLC Gateway Primary Free School  
All Different, All Equal, Together, Improving Upon Our Best

**STAY AND PLAY**  
SESSIONS FOR 2-3 YEAR OLDS!

PLAY, EXPLORE, DEVELOP SOCIAL SKILLS, MEET NEW FRIENDS, BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE ENVIRONMENT AND ENJOY RHYME TIME!

**FREE** Every Thursday 10am - 11am

Gateway Primary Free School (Term time only)

Open to the wider community not just families of existing pupils.

Refreshments are available!

Contact us for more information:  
01375 489094  
support4u@theglc.org.uk  
<https://www.theglc-primaryfreeschool.org.uk/>

Ofsted Good Provider

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GLC Gateway Primary Free School  
All Different, All Equal, Together, Improving Upon Our Best



Making sure your child gets the right start!

**Nursery Enrolling Now For Academic Year 2024-25**

The Gateway Primary Free School have a teacher led nursery who will ensure that your child makes the best possible start to their schooling.

Places for both 15 hours and 30 hours are available now and for September 2024.

Your child can start as soon as they turn 3

Session Type	Time	Funded Daily Hours
AM	08:40AM - 11:40AM	3 Hours Per Day Funded (15 Hours Per Week)
PM	12:20PM - 15:20PM	3 Hours Per Day Funded (15 Hours Per Week)
30 Hours Funding	08:40AM - 15:20PM	6 Hours Per Day Funded* (30 Hours Per Week)

For a tour of the school or an application form, please contact using the details:

01375 489094  
gtps-nursery@theglc.org.uk

Your child can start nursery the term after they turn 3 years of age.

Apply now by completing the admission form

Ofsted Good Provider

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GLC Lansdowne Primary Academy  
All Different, All Equal, Together, Improving Upon Our Best



Making sure your child gets the right start!

**Nursery Enrolling Now For Academic Year 2024-25**

Lansdowne Primary Academy have fully qualified staff who will ensure that your child makes the best possible start to their schooling.

Session Type	Time	Funded Daily Hours
AM	08:25AM - 11:25AM	15 hours per week
PM	12:15PM - 15:15PM	15 hours per week
30 Hours Funding	08:25AM - 15:15PM	30 hours per week

\*30 hours funded positions are subject to eligibility and a successful application. Please visit: [www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare](http://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare)

Your child can start nursery the term after they turn 3 years of age. If you would like a tour of the school or an application form, please use the contact details below:

For a tour of the school or an application form, please contact using the details:

01375 487200  
admin.lansdowne@theglc.org.uk

Apply now by completing the admission form

Ofsted Good Provider

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# U10-11 MIXED

**SATURDAYS** **COST**  
**1-2PM** **£5**



At The Gateway Academy, RM16 4LU



# U13 BOYS

**SATURDAYS** **COST**  
**11-1PM** **£5**

At The Gateway Academy, RM16 4LU



# U13 GIRLS

**SATURDAYS** **COST**  
**11-1PM** **£5**

At The Gateway Academy, RM16 4LU

Events happening in the community:



**Start Thurrock**

**FREE EVENT**

# Creative Springs

Thursday  
21 March 2024

12pm – 2pm  
& 6pm – 8pm

Creative Springs is a chance to plant the seeds of Thurrock’s artistic scene, and choose what projects you would like to see brought to life!

South Essex College  
Grays Campus, RM17 6TF



Community creativity starts here

StartThurrock.org Tel 01375 531410

@StartThurrock

## Creative Springs

Over the last few months, we’ve had three brilliant artists – **Teatro Vivo, Joanne Tyler** and **The People Speak** - working with people in Thurrock to help shape ideas for creative projects where they live.

This is your chance to come and have your say about which of their ideas you’d like to see become a reality!



© Ella Sisco



© Suzi Clarke

It is also a great chance to chat to like-minded people, enjoy **live music, performances** and also sample **delicious food** in this **March Mixer**. We’d love you see you there!

Thursday 21 March, 2024  
12pm – 2pm & 6pm – 8pm

© Mark Massey



[www.uniformsbyniki.com](http://www.uniformsbyniki.com)

# UNIFORMS by Niki

THE COURTYARD, WALTON HALL FARM SS17 0RH

## JOIN IN FOR FREE Easter Crafts

APRIL 8TH, 9TH, 11TH, 12TH & 13TH

FROM 11AM-1PM

AGE 6YEARS+ (ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES)

SHOP OPENING HOURS:

29TH MARCH TO 3RD APRIL: CLOSED	MONDAY 8TH APRIL: 10AM-2PM
THURSDAY 4TH APRIL: 10AM-2PM	TUESDAY 9TH APRIL: 10AM-2PM
FRIDAY 5TH APRIL: 10AM-2PM	WEDNESDAY 10TH APRIL: CLOSED
SATURDAY 6TH APRIL: 10AM-2PM	THURSDAY 11TH APRIL: 10AM-2PM
	FRIDAY 12TH APRIL: 10AM-2PM
	SATURDAY 13TH APRIL: 10-2PM

# EASTER FAMILY ACTIVITIES 2024



	9:30am – 11am	11:15am – 12:45pm	1:30pm – 3pm	3:15pm – 4:45pm
Tuesday 2 April	Bushcraft	Canoe	Climbing	Kayak
Wednesday 3 April	Archery	Paddleboarding	High Ropes	Sail
Thursday 4 April	Climbing	Kayak	Archery	Paddleboarding
Friday 5 April	High Ropes	Sail	Bushcraft	Canoe
Tuesday 9 April	Bushcraft	Canoe	Climbing	Kayak
Wednesday 10 April	Archery	Paddleboarding	High Ropes	Canoe
Thursday 11 April	Climbing	Kayak	Bushcraft	Canoe
Friday 12 April	High Ropes	Sail	Archery	Paddleboarding

Activities cost £11 per person, per session. Why not book more than one session and stay for lunch (bring your own). Snack shop open at reception. Accompanying adults must stay on site. Why not take part too?

Children aged 6 to 16 years must try on safety equipment prior to booking. Get in touch to arrange an appropriate time.



SCAN ME

There's something for everyone at

## GRANGEWATERS

OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE

Buckles Lane, South Ockendon, RM15 6RS

To book call **01708 855 228**

For further information visit [www.thurrock.gov.uk/grangewaters](http://www.thurrock.gov.uk/grangewaters) or email [grangewaters@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:grangewaters@thurrock.gov.uk)

[thurrock.gov.uk](http://thurrock.gov.uk)



## PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING EASTER HOLIDAYS 2024

[moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free](https://moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free)



### ASDA

Kids eat for £1 All Day, Every Day at Asda cafes, with no adult spend required.

### TESCO

Kids eat free with a purchase of 60p+ from From Mon - Fri in Half Terms 2024

### SAINSBURYS CAFES

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

### PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

### THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

### TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase an adult's main meal (App needed)

### PUREZZA

Children under the age of 10 get free pizza at Purezza with every adult meal purchased

### TRAVELODGE & PREMIER INN

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

### SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

### BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

### COCONUT TREE

One child (10 & Under) eats free per paying adult. Valid from 23/03/2024 - 14/04/2024

### MORRISONS

Spend £4.49 and get one free kids meal all day, every day.

### GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

### PRETO

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

### WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

### BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.

### BILLS

Two kids can eat free ALL DAY (Weekdays) from Monday 25th March - Friday 12th April 2024, with one adult main dish.

### DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

At Dobbies, for every adult breakfast or lunch purchase, kids eat for FREE. Every Day!

### TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

### IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

### HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

### FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.

Copyright of MONEY SAVING CENTRAL



Thameside Theatre created an event.

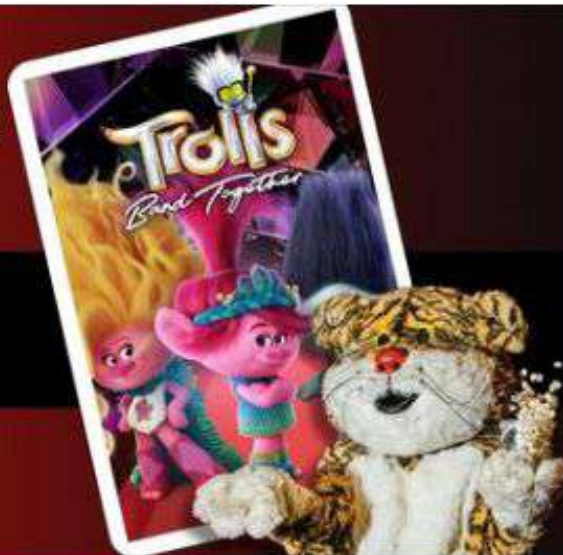
3 d · 🌐

## WICKED WEDNESDAYS Half Term Cinema

Wednesday 3 April, 11am

Trolls Band Together Cert U

Tickets:  
£3.50!



WED, 3 APR AT 11:00 BST

Wicked Wednesday Cinema | Trolls Band Together | Cert U

Orsett Rd, RM17 5DX Grays Thurrock, United Kingdom



Thameside Theatre created an event.

2 d · 🌐

## WICKED WEDNESDAYS Half Term Cinema

Wednesday 3 April, 2.30pm

Wonka | Cert PG

Tickets:  
£3.50!



WED, 3 APR AT 14:30 BST

Wicked Wednesday Cinema | Wonka | Tickets £3.50!

Orsett Rd, RM17 5DX Grays Thurrock, United Kingdom