

gilesacademy

October 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Firstly, I'd like to thank you for another great start to an academic year. Students have settled back into school well after the summer holidays.

We recently had a fantastic external visitor in to deliver an exciting and engaging workshop on extremism. Students were very well behaved and seemed to take a lot from the session. Currently in SMSC lessons we are covering 'Keeping Safe' and 'Healthy lifestyles' so please feel free to quiz your child on these subjects when they arrive home from school.

I'd like to congratulate students for, in my opinion, looking like the smartest year group in the school. Uniform on the whole is impeccable and I hope we can keep this running throughout the year.

We should have now settled into the logistics of the new school day. If you are having any issues with the start / end time or anything else please drop me an email and I would be happy to help.

Computer systems are almost fully back up and running and I thank you for your patience with this. We have moved to a cloud based system in which parents and students will have app access too – more information to follow. The new system is fantastic and will improve various aspects of data use in school.

A new method is being used throughout the school to aid the memory to retrieve information across all subjects, proven use of Knowledge Organisers in other secondary schools have seen students progress quicker and help performance in examinations. All students will be given a Knowledge Organiser which will have memory aids and mind maps for each subject your child studies which will support learning key facts and information for all areas of the curriculum. In addition to this students will be given a Knowledge Organiser book (The K.O Book). The one book will be used for all subjects and the expectation will be that it is used within lessons when directed and at home in order to aid revision and self-quizzing. A K.O homework timetable has been created so you as a parent/carer can support your child in completing revision tasks on the specified days. The completion of this homework will be checked in tutor time by tutors. Further information to follow during next term.

Thank you to all students that stayed behind for Open Evening – all students presented themselves well and behaved impeccably – a true credit to the school.

I would like to remind all parents/guardians that attendance to school is vital. Should attendance drop below 95% then we would seek advice from our Education Welfare Officer on how to move forwards. For every day a student is absent they miss out on around 6 hours of education. In relation to this, please call the school as soon as you can to report any student absence.

Kind Regards



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