

Head of School

Friday 4th February 2022

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

Another busy week at Giles Academy with a fantastic range of activities, rewards and celebrations taking place across the whole school.

This week we have focused on our whole school reading initiative. Our Book Fair held in the library this week has been extremely busy. Students have been exploring the Book Fair throughout the week and have shown enthusiasm about the selection of books available with many purchases being made.

In addition to this on Thursday, our Year 7 students experienced DEAR Time – ‘Drop Everything And Read’. This initiative encourages reading for pleasure at a designated time where students practice important reading skills. Year 7 students all engaged in a wide range of reading material and appeared to thoroughly enjoy it!

At the beginning of the week the River of Hope project was hosted at the school. This is an exciting project planned to be part of Her Majesty the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Pageant for students in Key Stage 3. The art-based cross-curricular project links schools around the world through the study of rivers with the final design being used in a flag to be part of the Jubilee parade. The students involved created an outstanding level of work with the visiting artist commenting on how talented and engaged the students were – well done to all involved!

Year 11 have received their Loyalty Cards this week, which are used to reward students who attend intervention sessions in their social times in school and after-school. Once students have completed their Loyalty Cards with staff signatures for attendance, they can opt for a reward such as ‘Lunch with Mrs Conley’ - this is sure to be a favourite! Whereas I’m hoping that ‘Miss Belcher to waitress for me at the Prom’ may not be so popular! Year 11 students are regularly attending all sessions on offer so it will be great to see students being rewarded for their hard work and efforts towards maximising their grades.

Year 11 prefects this week have also received their final Prefect Breakfast before they start to hand over to the Year 10 temporary prefects. We are very fortunate to have received many applications from Year 10 students who are extremely motivated to gain prefect status and support the school with additional responsibilities, acting as role models of the school. Currently these students will train in their role and aim to gain full prefect status during the summer term. Congratulations to all who have been appointed!



Finally, I would like to share with you some fantastic feedback received from a Boston College visitor this week who supports local schools in the transition to college for Year 11 students with their next stage of education:

"It was one of the most enjoyable school visits I have made. One of my 'wow' moments was during lesson change. The behaviour of your students was a joy to see – minimum fuss, laughing voices, kindness to others and respect for staff."

We are all very proud of every student at the school, such positive feedback received from a visitor reinforces the magnificent changes that continue to transform the school to being the fantastic place it now is.

Kindest regards,



Miss Katie Belcher

Head of School, Giles Academy

Upcoming key dates

Mon 7 th to Fri 11 th February 2022	National Apprenticeships Week	All years
Wednesday 9 th February 2022	Key Stage 4 Options Form sent via ParentMail	Year 9

For the latest news

You can follow Giles Academy on our official social media platforms as follows:

- www.instagram.com/GilesAcademySLAT
- www.facebook.com/GilesAcademy
- www.twitter.com/GilesSLAT

There have been some notable highlights this week which you may have seen on our website and social media pages. You can access the links below for the various news stories:

- www.gilesacademy.co.uk/library-launches-annual-book-fair
- www.gilesacademy.co.uk/drop-everything-and-read-2022
- www.gilesacademy.co.uk/river-of-hope-project-launched
- www.gilesacademy.co.uk/we-treat-our-prefects-to-a-free-breakfast
- www.gilesacademy.co.uk/reward-scheme-for-outstanding-students