

Head of School

Friday 25th February 2022

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

What a fantastic first week back after half term it has been - the students have been absolutely amazing on their return to school following the short half term break.

I am absolutely thrilled that Giles Academy continues to grow from strength to strength. Our growing popularity can be seen in the increase in the student numbers, which have significantly increased and we have a few remaining places now, with students transferring from many other local secondary schools to join Giles Academy. This will continue to be the case for our upcoming Year 7, as we now expect to be full for September 2022.

This week we have held all year group assemblies where we have reminded all students about the school uniform and behaviour expectations. These mainly focussed on the positive behaviour that we witness every day and thanking the students for the exemplary way in which they conduct themselves around the school.

We had the pleasure of welcoming some external visitors to the school this week. On Thursday a representative from the Army provided a very interesting and insightful talk to our Year 11 students, the students showed interest and enthusiasm with many considering the Army as an exciting future option. In addition to this the cross-curricular Geography and Art project; River of Hope, engaged many Year 8 and Year 9 students for their second session this week, the student work produced is absolutely brilliant and we will shortly be sharing the work from this in our news stories on the website and social media.

This week in Year 10 our newly appointed temporary prefects have been in full prefect mode, shadowing our Year 11 students and learning the tools to become a responsible school citizen and support their school. It is the final week for our Year 11 student prefects next week, so that they can now concentrate on their studies in preparation for the summer examinations, and I would like to thank them all for the sterling effort and commitment they have demonstrated from March 2021 to March 2022 as they have been brilliant!

As in my previous letter before half term, it is fantastic that sporting fixtures have started again following the long break due to COVID restrictions - and what a way to start! The Year 7 and Year 9 Netball Team showed exceptional talent for their first games of the season against Haven High Academy. I was very excited to be watching both games and am absolutely thrilled to inform you that both the Year 7 and



Year 9 won their matches, 9-1 and 15-0 respectively! We are very proud of every team member who committed to playing, what a fantastic start for these superb sportspersons, well done to all involved.

On Thursday 3rd March Year 7 students have been invited to dress up as a character from a book to celebrate World Book Day. Participation in this is optional however we are looking forward to seeing some wonderful and creative ideas and I am particularly looking forward to judging the competition. Please see the below link to our website to find out more about this exciting event.

Thank you to all Year 9 parents/carers for supporting their child in submitting their option choices forms, with the deadline being this week. We will be collating all of the information and will update students and parents once all of the details have been processed.

If you have children in Years 3 to 6 in primary school, you will also be interested to know about a new Poetry Competition that we have launched in primary schools around the local area. The theme is 'My Primary School' and there are opportunities to win £150 in two categories with £75 for the student and £75 of books for their school. Information about the competition is on the last page of this update.

Finally, one important thing to raise this week is the conflict situation between Russia and Ukraine. We are aware that this issue has impacted on many students feeling worried. We have a number of students from both these countries and also neighbouring countries in all of our schools, and I have asked the pastoral leads in all schools to coordinate a response so that we can ensure that we offer the appropriate level of support for students in each school. What can I say, other than it is just a terrible situation. I have overheard conversations on the yards, and engaged in some, and know many students are genuinely worried about what is happening in Ukraine, so we are considering how to address this sensitively via assemblies and our PSHE programme, and please remember that we have the worried@gilesacademy.co.uk email tab, where students can get support as needed.

Kindest regards,



Miss Katie Belcher

Head of School, Giles Academy

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/poetry-competition-launched
- www.gilesacademy.co.uk/double-success-for-netball-teams
- www.gilesacademy.co.uk/the-army-go-back-to-school
- www.gilesacademy.co.uk/dress-up-for-world-book-day
- www.gilesacademy.co.uk/the-bbc-are-looking-for-young-reporters

Giles Academy

Poetry Competition 2022



It has been 18 months since Giles Academy became part of the South Lincolnshire Academies Trust where our school has made many improvements.

This is why we are excited to announce the theme for our poetry competition this year is **'My Primary School'**.

Using **'My Primary School'** as inspiration, the poem can be about anything to do with school, such as your favourite subject or teacher, school dinners, travelling to school, homework, being creative or playing sport.

This is your opportunity to celebrate all of the great things you enjoy about your school.

CATEGORIES & PRIZES

There are two categories with prizes for the winning students and their school:



YEARS 3/4

- **Win £150** (£75 Gift Voucher for the student and £75 of books for their school)
- Plus 3 x £10 highly commended prizes

YEARS 5/6

- **Win £150** (£75 Gift Voucher for the student and £75 of books for their school)
- Plus 3 x £10 highly commended prizes

HOW TO ENTER

The competition is **free to enter** and open to Key Stage 2 students from schools in the Boston, Spilsby and Skegness area.

The closing date for entries is Sunday 27th March 2022.

For further information and to submit your entry, visit www.gilesacademy.co.uk/myschool-competition

