

Head of School

Friday 3rd February 2023

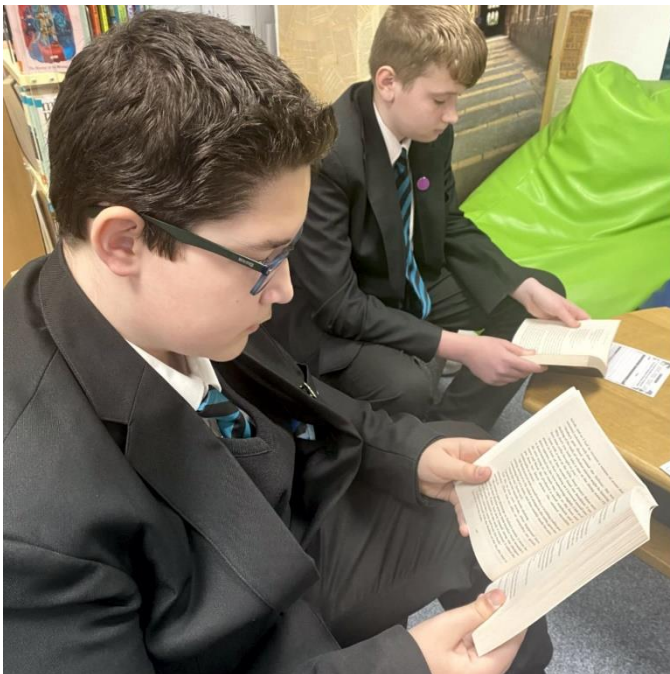
UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

What a fantastic week we have had! This week has been a particularly busy one.

I would like to say a huge “thank you” to you and the students of the school during the teacher strike day on Wednesday. There was no disruption to the students’ learning on the teacher strike day which allowed the school to operate as normal with no missed learning time. The next teacher strike days are on 1st, 15th and 16th March 2023. We will review each of these days as they arrive and will keep you fully informed on any changes to our normal working day.

On Thursday, in Years 7 and 8 we ran our popular DEAR Time sessions, which stands for ‘Drop Everything And Read’. This is where the whole class take turns to read a text and they then discuss what they have read to highlight key vocabulary and share their thoughts on the issues raised in the material. Our students’ feedback on the DEAR sessions and they are always so positive. In relation to our communications and reading agenda we have been holding our annual Book Fair this week and through to Friday 10th February 2023. This has proven to be popular with the students and there is a wide selection of books for available for all.



Arriving at school and on time always makes for a positive start for the day. More recently we have had some students arriving late to school, after 8.40am. This lateness does not give the students the best possible chance for their day ahead. This week we have been operating a late procedure which means that all students arriving after 8.40am without a valid reason will be issued an appropriate sanction. Please note this does not apply to those who travel on a bus and the bus has delayed and arrived late. There has already been a significant positive difference in reducing lateness to school this week - thank you to all for your co-operation with this.

Year 11 have completed their first 'real' exams this week for their BTEC courses in Business, Health & Social Care and IT. The students have prepared well for these exams and we were very proud of their conduct and mature attitude towards the examination process.

During Year 10 assembly this week, 25 new temporary prefects have been appointed. These students have had to apply through a formal process and have been selected based on their good attendance and attitude to learning. Well done to all 25 students who will be starting their new responsibility next week as Year 11 Prefects are released from their duties to focus on their preparation for exams. There will be another round of Prefect applications for current Year 10 students next term.

I would like to remind you of an important change that will take place on Friday 10th February 2023. You will have seen a letter sent by Mr Hind (Executive Deputy Headteacher) explaining a decision the South Lincolnshire Academies Trust has made for students to follow their usual Monday timetable on the last day of this term - Friday 10th February 2023. The decision has been made because of the significant disruption our students have faced to their usual Monday timetable as a result of the various public holidays over this academic year. Please can I ask that you remind your child of this important change in preparation for next Friday.

Finally, I am looking forward to the student House Competition - Bake Off! Unfortunately, last time I participated in the School Bake Off I received the wooden spoon! I am certain the student baking will be of 'Masterchef' quality and the judges will thoroughly enjoy the taste test! I will hopefully share the photos of the finished products during next week's update.

I hope you all have a restful weekend.

Kindest regards,



Miss Katie Belcher

Head of School, Giles Academy

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