

Head of School

Friday 21st July 2023

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

Firstly, I would like to welcome you to our 2022/23 end of year newsletter!

As the sun sets on another academic year, you will see that the Head of School – Miss Katie Belcher has looked back on a year of enriching lives at Giles Academy. Her last newsletter of the year shares some of the exciting things which have been happening as the summer term closes.

There has been so much we need to value and appreciate this year, including a highly successful Ofsted inspection, positive enrichment visits and activities, our careers events and PSHE programme, many wider curriculum successes in sports and the arts and with many rewards to celebrate.

I have so much pride for all our students and staff and feel privileged to be able to lead such a successful Trust and work with so many amazing families. It has truly been an exceptional year for the South Lincolnshire Academies Trust and for Giles Academy!

We have said goodbyes to a few colleagues today in farewell speeches and have wished them well in any new ventures, whether that be retirement, moving across the Trust to other schools or to promoted positions. I also want to take this opportunity to say farewell to those year 11 who are going on to further education elsewhere, we are full of pride in what they have achieved and sadness to see them go and we hope that they will keep in touch.

As we look forward to a new academic year in September, we will be especially pleased to welcome all of our new students in Year 7 and a record number of applicants into the Sixth Form.

I wish you all a very pleasant, restful and fun filled holiday.



Mrs Lucy Conley

CEO and Executive Headteacher
South Lincolnshire Academies Trust



Head of School Update

We have reached the final day in what has been an incredibly busy, but amazing academic year at Giles Academy!

Throughout this week, our respective Year groups have had the opportunity to enjoy their reward day through the Film Festival. I am pleased to inform you that our students thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated their complimentary treats/snacks, as well as having the chance to win some Love2shop vouchers in the Prize Draw and Super Prize Draw! We are very proud of our students and always look to reward them as much as possible. We are looking forward to the start of next academic year where all Trust schools will be launching the new rewards programme through our ASPIRE Challenge Passport.

Students across the South Lincolnshire Academies Trust took part in a STEM Dustbin Windmill Challenge in collaboration with Lincolnshire Institute of Technology. This team challenge is based on engineering and design and open to students in Year 9. Six of our Year 9 students attended the final following weeks of preparation to showcase their Turbine, competing against a number of other schools at the Lincolnshire Showground. The team had to provide a practical demonstration to a panel of judges, with the wind turbine being put through its paces to be able to withstand changeable winds from 10mph to 40mph. A fantastic final saw our Giles team 'VENUS' positioning overall 8th place. Well done to Andrew, Oakley, Lennon, Daniel, Millie and Zuzia for all of their hard work and commitment to the project with the valuable support from Mr Vrstiak and Mr Castley.

I would like to inform parents and carers of the following staff who will be leaving Giles Academy for pastures new: Miss Cridland (Performing Arts), Mrs Gomez (IT) and Miss Wilkinson (Admin). We would like to thank them all for their contribution to Giles Academy and wish them all the very best in their new endeavours.

I would also like to mention that we highlighted some long service milestones today for three members of staff who have been at Giles Academy for 25 Years or beyond! You may know Mr Cooper for many various important roles within his time at the school however today we have acknowledged that both Mr Cooper and Mrs Burrell (HR and Business Manager) have been at the school for 25 years in September. This is amazing service and commitment to the school! A special mention must go to Mrs Goodwin (Exams Officer) as she has worked at the school for an amazing 28 years! Congratulations to these three long serving members of staff, who I know have all supported the many students and families and staff who have attended Giles Academy.

As this is my last newsletter for this academic year, I would like to take the opportunity to reflect on some of the highlights from this academic year 2022/23.

- We ran into the start of the academic year with tremendous **examination success in Summer 2022** with our Progress 8 score being **above national average** and the highest progress score in the local area apart from Skegness Grammar School.
- Our student numbers have increased rapidly in all year groups, we have had the most admissions in the county and we are now **OVERSUBSCRIBED** in Year 7 for September 2023.
- In sports, we were **finalists for the Contribution to Children and Young People Award** for setting up the influence of golf for girls with Girls Golf Rocks! In addition to this, the PE department took part in a Cricket leadership programme and students were invited for their **outstanding contribution to cricket** to the Women's Ashes and interviewed for Sky Sports!

- The school Art and Design department continues to be a particular highlight in inspiring our students to produce fantastic creative mediums of art. There have been **many invitations across the year to produce art work for events far and wide** from the Illuminate lantern parade to an international project featured in an open gallery to producing a bespoke pieces for the local community, one of which will be unveiled at Skegness Train Station over the summer.
- Our school **Bus Subsidy was launched to provide additional support for families** with travel to and from school and we saw the arrival of the **Food Pod for Year 7 students!**
- There has been a **variety of trips and visits to positively influence student school experience** these have included Voice It, Tate Modern & Tate Britain Galleries as well as Peterborough Cathedral and Mosque visit.
- **Students have actively supporting charities** such as the overwhelming contribution to the Christmas Hamper event and supporting other international charities including the Turkey/Syria Earthquake appeal.
- Year 11 have had **exam success with fantastic preparation, support and conduct** during the exam process and a **spectacular Prom** to celebrate their time at Giles Academy!
- **Reading Ambassadors, Buddies, Prefect Breakfasts...** there has been far too much to mention!
- It has been an amazing year at Giles Academy.... and not forgetting the **Ofsted inspection** which validated the journey we have been on and the progress that we have made with the **Good with Outstanding Leadership** outcome, and the confirmation that our students are EXCEPTIONAL!

I am looking forward to welcoming our students back following the summer break as follows:

- Wednesday 6th September 2023 Years 7, 10, and 11 will return to school
- Thursday 7th September 2023 All students will return

Please see the end of this update for the term dates for 2023/24.

Finally, I would like to thank parents and carers for your continued support throughout the year, I wish you and your family a restful and safe summer holiday.

Kindest regards,



Miss Katie Belcher

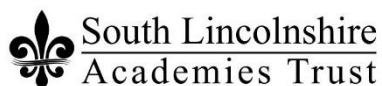
Head of School, Giles Academy

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

Upcoming key dates



Term Dates 2023/24

SEPTEMBER 2023						
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DECEMBER 2023						
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JANUARY 2024						
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FEBRUARY 2024						
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MARCH 2024						
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APRIL 2024						
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MAY 2024						
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JUNE 2024						
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JULY 2024						
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AUGUST 2024						
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- School Holiday
- Bank / Public Holiday
- Staff Training Day
- Years 7, 10, 11 & 12 return
- All year groups return