

Head of School

Friday 6th October 2023

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

We had an amazing Open Evening last night. There were over 200 student helpers (including many new Year 7 students), who volunteered to promote our school to our new families. The students were a credit to our school and we were absolutely inundated with positive comments regarding their professionalism and respect. I am so very proud of all of the students who supported the evening and, in particular, I would like say a special thank you to our student speakers Jasmina Kukla in Year 7 and George Skipworth in Year 8, and, our Year 7 performer Bella Mustill - they all made a fantastic contribution to the evening. I have received so many positive emails from families and visitors who have taken the time to email the school to personally thank our students. One parent emailed in to say ***"It was such a brilliant evening, the staff clearly go above and beyond for the students and the student tour guides were just amazing!"***

On the evening, just over 1,000 visitors came through our doors, which is unprecedented! Mrs Conley and I had to deliver four speeches which has never happened before. It was an excellent evening all round and I went home feeling even more proud to be the Head of School. We cannot wait to meet our future students and start their transition to secondary school.



Aspire • Challenge • Achieve

On Thursday, in addition to the Open Evening, in the school day we celebrated National Poetry Day. Each lesson on Thursday started with a poem linked to a subject or topic. Students enjoyed listening to the varied poetry which we hope will inspire them with their own poetry creations!

Year 9 this week received a presentation by an external speaker on Vaping. This highlighted the concerns and dangers around vaping including addiction and illegal vapes and their contents. This was an important issue to raise with young people of today's society, our students were excellent whilst listening to the invaluable information. This was also an opportunity to remind students that vaping or vape paraphernalia is not allowed in school.

We have also received some other phenomenal news this week in our PE Department! We have been shortlisted by 'Chance To Shine' for 'Secondary School of the Year' for all our work with girls cricket! This relates to promoting girls cricket with the after school clubs, fixtures, taster days, leadership group, hosting the indoor cricket competitions, CPD sessions for staff and the fabulous support we gave coaching primary school students at Trent Bridge. This is fantastic news for the whole school and particularly for those students involved, Mrs Cooper and Mr Dodd are extremely excited - I will keep you informed with the next stages of this event!

Finally, please can I remind student and parents of Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9) students about the new reward initiative the Aspire Challenge Passport. We have so many students enthusiastically completing tasks in school and at home with one or two students to shortly be rewarded with their bronze badges, which is absolutely amazing. We will be encouraging students to share with you their passport over the next days so they can discuss their fantastic start to this exciting new initiative!

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Kindest regards,



Miss Katie Belcher

Head of School, Giles Academy

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