



Head of School

Friday 10th November 2023

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

Wow - what a week! Not only has it flown by, we have had trips, visits, a Careers Fair and our headline news this week - the Prime Minister!

It has simply been the most amazing week, to be contacted by the Ministerial Office to inform Mrs Conley and myself that the Prime Minister would like to visit the school was quite surreal! The visit follows on from our successful Ofsted inspection and the provisional Progress 8 scores announced last month, which show the school is performing above the national average and is the top performing secondary school in the Boston area.

It was an absolute pleasure to see how engaging the Prime Minister was with our students in both a Science (taught by Mr Andrew Castley) and PSHE (taught by Mr Hind – Deputy CEO) lesson and the personal meet and greet with our Head Students and Year 8 student Logan Burrell. As well as the Prime Minister we welcomed Matt Warman MP and Mr Will Hawkins, Chair of the Trust Board.

It was particularly fitting for the Prime Minister to meet students in Years 8 to 10, as it will soon be illegal for people born on or after 1 January 2009 to be sold cigarettes. This will mean that students around 14 years of age should never be able to put their health at risk by smoking.

The whole event was such an amazing tribute and reward for our whole staff team who are at the heart of the rapid transformation of the school led by South Lincolnshire Academies Trust. It was an amazing memory for all students and staff involved and a legacy for our local community. You may have seen the visit documented in the national and local press which raised the profile of our school nationally!

Visit www.gilesacademy.co.uk/prime-minister-visits-giles for more photos and details of the visit.



This week, in other news, our students have been supporting the annual Poppy Appeal and learning about the Remembrance services which will take place over the weekend. Students have been donating to support our local Royal British Legion, as they help support the most vulnerable in our society. As a school, we held a minute silence to mark the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the month. The Head Students and other student ambassadors with myself have the honour of taking part in the Boston Town Parade by laying a wreath on behalf of the school and the Trust, on Sunday 12th November 2023.

Students have also experienced different trips, visits and workshops this week. Selected students in Year 9 experienced 'The Big Draw' at Lincoln University – this is an annual National Festival of Drawing on this year's theme – Drawing with Senses. In addition to this some Key Stage 3 students took part in the Illuminate workshop in Art which again will see students create lanterns of all shapes and sizes to parade in the Boston Illuminate parade on Thursday 23rd November 2023.

Throughout House assemblies this week we have launched the Student Council, which is another opportunity for students to develop their leadership skills, alongside increasing the student voice and body of the school. We are encouraging students to access the online application which has been sent through Show My Homework. In Year 11 assembly this week, Mr Relton (Key Stage 4 Lead) promoted and encouraged attendance at intervention and lunchtimes afterschool. I would also strongly encourage the use of GCSEPod which all students can access. Students in Year 11 this week have received their individual AOL data which is a strong indicator of their current working levels in view of the summer examinations.

We have also held a Fire Drill practice this week, our routines and procedures were followed with exemplary attention by all students who were immaculate in their conduct throughout this process.

Thank you to all the parents and family members who visited the Careers Fair this week. We had over 30 exhibitors at the school promoting their post-16 establishment which provided informative guidance and support in regards to careers for all students. It was particularly fantastic to see the progress of some former Year 11 students who left in the summer supporting their new post 16 establishment at the Fair. Look out for a review of the Careers Fair on website.

Finally, as a school community, it has always been important to us to seek stakeholder feedback. We appreciate and value all the feedback we receive from our parents/carers throughout the academic year. We would like to ask as many parents as possible, to complete our Trust feedback survey. We will use your stakeholder feedback, to ensure we continue to offer the best education our young people deserve. Please click <https://forms.office.com/e/W6W8Eq6FqU> to access the survey.

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