

Head of School

Friday 1st December 2023

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

I cannot believe we are now in December and heading into the festive season!

Year 11 Pre-Public Examinations (PPE) start next week, there are a multitude of interventions and additional opportunities in school and afterschool for Year 11 students to attend.

I would like to remind you that we are holding our annual Year 9 Parents' Evening on Thursday 7th December 2023 from 4.30pm to 7.30pm. This is a very important evening for parents and carers, as it provides important information regarding your child's progress. We have already sent parents/carers information about this evening including how to book your appointment.

This week we have held an inter-school Under 13 and Under 15 Cricket Tournament. It was fantastic to host this event at Giles Academy and our cricket teams, although defeated on this occasion, executed amazing team spirit and competitiveness. Well done to all involved.

We are celebrating sporting success this week for our Year 11 student Brooke Hudson. Brooke has competed in a national synchronized skating competition in London and achieved a Silver and Gold medal. Brooke will next be skating in the Czech Republic during December 2023 to compete and we wish her the best of luck!

Kooth (www.kooth.com) is a free online counselling service for 7 to 18 years with trained practitioners. It is a service that is available 24/7 and can support, advise and signpost young people to access support in relation to mental health, exam stress, eating disorders, low mood etc. We will be informing our students regarding Kooth in assemblies next week to signpost help and support in addition to the worried@gilesacademy.co.uk school based email. This will be highlighted to all students as we move closer towards the Christmas break.

As promoted via our website and social media platforms we are preparing our Christmas Hampers in each tutor group to donate to the residents at the local care home the Minstrels Care Home in Wrangle. There were some fantastic donations from families last year and we are looking forward to creating Christmas themed boxes and filling them with the kind donations. These are very much appreciated by the residents at this time of year. Visit www.gilesacademy.co.uk/donating-christmas-hampers-2023 for ideas of the type of items to donate (but please avoid alcoholic (including chocolates), candles, boiled sweets, nuts and fresh/short life food).



Staying on the Christmas theme, we will also be selling Christmas Lunches on Wednesday 6th December and Wednesday 13th December 2023 in the school canteen. For £4.00 students can receive a traditional main meal with a festive dessert and a Christmas cracker! I am looking forward to the students enjoying their Christmas lunch as we grow nearer to the Christmas break. More information can be found on our website (www.gilesacademy.co.uk/best-meal-of-the-year-twice) and social media pages.

As a polite reminder, the term ends on Wednesday 20th December 2023 at the end of the normal school day.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

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