

Head of School

Friday 10th May 2024

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

It has been another busy week for Giles Academy packed with fantastic learning opportunities and extra-curricular activities...

Firstly, on Tuesday, our Year 10 students engaged in a Stay Safe Day where the structure of the day allows for our students to hear from external specialist speakers. This raises awareness of important life topics such as Road Safety, Domestic Abuse, County Lines, Substance Abuse and Online Safety. The students were very engaged in the programme and were commended on being able to deal with the sensitive topics in a mature way, whilst actively engaging in the lessons.

Secondly, the school engaged in a local programme to support improving attendance and being vigilant with truancy from school. On Tuesday, the school joined with other local schools and Boston Police as part of 'Operation Absence'. In addition to the patrolling of streets, a number of home visits were made where there may be cause for concern in respect of persistent absence. Mrs Whitehead, our Safeguarding Manager joined the patrolling team and in total across all schools involved in the Boston Community over 40 teens were identified, many of which, were brought into school with the policing team. It was the first day of the programme planned for this academic year with many more days earmarked to support the safety of our young people.

I would also like to remind parents and students regarding lateness to school. Students must be present in school at 8.35am, ready and prepared for their morning tutor time which starts at 8.40am. Whilst we appreciate that the lateness of school buses cannot be helped, there are far too many students who do not catch a bus to school arriving late. We are working with all students this term to focus, not only on good attendance but also on punctuality, to best promote student organisation, being school-ready and also for those leaving school in relation to their Post 16 choice of establishment.

On Thursday, for Years 7 and Year 8 we held DEAR Time, which stands for 'Drop Everything And Read'. It doesn't matter what subject students are timetabled to study at the time – whether it is Science, Maths, Art, Music or Food Technology – the whole class drops everything and reads. This is a fantastic opportunity to work together on our Communications agenda, raising awareness of varied texts and reading opportunities to support the learning in the classroom. There were some excellent examples of this seen across the school with highlights seen across the range of subjects.



In order to promote online safety for our young people, the Stay Safe Partnership at Lincolnshire Country Council are hosting an online event on Microsoft TEAMS for all parents/carers in Lincolnshire. The session is highly recommended as it will be specifically focused on secondary school students and offers valuable information to parents/carers regarding the latest apps, online platforms and social media trends which are available to our young people as well as parental controls. The event will take place on Wednesday 19th June 2024 from 6.00pm to 7.30pm. To sign up for this free online event please register in advance by visiting: www.tickettailor.com/events/staysafepartnership/1238529

Congratulations to all Year 11 students for an excellent start to their GCSE examinations this week with the first whole year group examination today. I couldn't be prouder of how the Year 11 students are preparing and revising for their examinations and utilising every opportunity open to them possible to get the grade they deserve – well done to all and keep up the good work!

Finally, it is absolutely brilliant to see so many of our young people in Years 7, 8 and 9 receiving their Aspire badges. Well done to all students who have achieved a badge so far this term. Students have challenged themselves to complete enrichment tasks from their passport and it has been an absolute pleasure to see how very proud the students are when receiving and wearing their badges.

I hope you have a fantastic 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