

Head of School

Friday 20th September 2024

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

It has been another fantastic week full of activities and events.

As reported in the update last week, our PE department had been nominated to for a Positive Experiences for Children & Young People Award. This week, I can report that we have been selected into the FINAL three for the Active Lincolnshire Sport & Physical Activity Awards 2024! This is a fantastic achievement for the school and we cannot wait until the final, which will take place in November 2024.

On Tuesday, our whole school photo plan took place - this went extremely well as 850 students had their photograph taken.

Thank you for all of the reply slips that have been returned to consent for your child to take part in our annual Open Evening on Thursday 3rd October 2024. This date will soon be upon us and we are expecting a large amount of visitors to our school site, therefore you may have to allow additional time for the collection of your child from this event.



Prospective students in **years 4 to 6** and their parents/carers are invited to our

Open Evening

Thursday 3rd October 2024
5.30pm to 8.00pm

SAVE THE DATE

Aspire • Challenge • Achieve

Please remember to promote this event to any parent/carer and child in Years 4-6 that may be interested in joining our fantastic school!



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Our new Year 7 students have been settling into school life really well. I am so pleased with their uniform, enthusiasm in lessons, maturity and politeness. Our transition team have been working really hard to lead activities to support our new students. These sessions have included:

- House competitions
- Travelling safely to and from school
- Safeguarding
- Show My Homework Launch App

Well done to Year 7 on their resilience and courage during their first weeks with us.

This week students have had their first assembly with their Heads of House, going through some of the exciting competitions and aims for the academic year. I am really looking forward to seeing as many students as possible representing their Houses.

Also, this week we have seen success at our first sporting fixtures of the academic Year 8 students continued their ongoing success from last year with a first victory of the season against Cowley Academy of 21-3. Well done to Florence Mackay and Bella Mustill for receiving Players of the Match. Our Year 8 boys were also victorious - they won 11-4 against Cowley Academy! The team played some brilliant attacking football with superb goals scored, we must highlight Oliver Richardson who scored 7 of these goals - well done to all the team for a superb team effort!

From next week, we will be introducing handheld metal scanners, which is now a common approach in many local and national schools. The purpose of the handheld scanners are for detection and deterrent, and these additions will further support our Behaviour Policy, in line with creating a safe environment. This decision has been made to further ensure the safety and security of all students and staff.



Listed below are the key reasons for this initiative:

- Enhanced Security: The handheld scanners will help us detect and prevent the presence of any prohibited or dangerous items on school grounds.
- Preventive Measure: This proactive step aims to deter any potential banned items and ensure a safe learning environment for everyone.
- Student Safety: Our primary concern is for the well-being of our students. These scanners are part of our ongoing commitment to maintaining a secure and supportive school atmosphere.

This approach is supported by the Department for Education (DfE), as outlined in the [Searching, Screening and Confiscation document](#), where it states: *“A senior member of staff may use a metal detector/scanner to assist with a student search for any banned or prohibited items. Health and Safety legislation requires a school to be managed in a way which does not expose students or staff to risks to their safety. Therefore, the metal detector/scanner will be used at the discretion of the school when searching a student for any banned or prohibited items. Please note that if a student refuses to be screened, parents/carers will be contacted and this may result in the student being refused admission into the school building on the grounds of safety.”*

We believe that these measures will contribute positively to our school community and enhance our school safety. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we implement this new safety procedure, as we believe that this measure will contribute positively to our school community. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us at the school, via your Pastoral Year Lead.

Once again – school attendance has been fantastic this week and I thank all of the parents and carers for their commitment to ensuring your child attends school daily. Please can I remind parents to use the studentabsence@gilesacademy.co.uk to communicate a future medical appointment or an absence from school.

I hope you 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