

Head of School

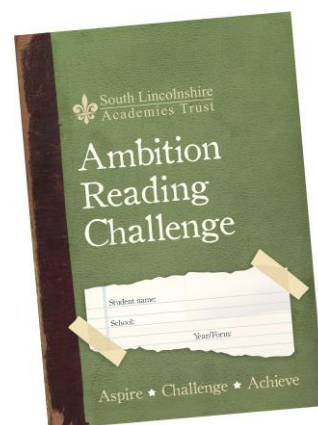
Friday 21st March 2025

UPDATE

Dear parents/carers and students,

Today is Comic Relief / Red Nose Day, and we celebrated by holding our annual non-uniform day at the school to support this incredible charity. I am thrilled to announce that we raised an impressive amount of over £4,000 across the Trust. This achievement wouldn't have been possible without the generous contributions and enthusiastic participation of our students, staff, and community. It was wonderful to see the students supporting the cause by wearing an item of red. Please remember to visit our website and follow us on social media to see photos of our students from today. Their smiles and creativity truly captured the spirit of Comic Relief / Red Nose Day, and we are excited to share these moments with you.

We have been excited to announce the launch of our Ambition Reading Challenge in school. The challenge for our students is to read any ten books from our specially curated list from 50 books that have been chosen for their enjoyment and challenging nature. We have focused on the 'classics' across a wide range of genres including adventure, fantasy, history, mystery and general fiction. There will be rewards for students who have completed the challenge as they will receive £15 worth of book tokens, 250 achievement points and a special Ambition Reading badge. Visit www.bourneacademy.org/ambition-reading-challenge for details of the books that are part of the challenge. Students can also pick up their Ambition Reading Challenge booklet from the school library.



Thank you to all Year 8 parents and carers who attended Parents' evening last night, it was a valuable opportunity to check on your child's progress in the different subject areas, I hope it was an informative evening for all those who attended.

Our Year 9 students this week have received an Options assembly this week delivered by Dr Chrysostomou. Information regarding the Options process was delivered to students to support their understanding of the process. Next week, from Monday, Year 9 students will not be allocated any homework, however, we do expect that time will be spent with parents and carers to look at the option materials on our website to explore and discuss which subjects would be a good combination for each individual. This time marks the start of Year 9 students transitioning into Year 10 with their own personal selection of subjects they wish to study. This is an important process where we urge students to discuss at home their choices in readiness for their pathway into Key Stage 4.



This week, Year 9 also received a Relationship and Sex Education workshop from the Positive Health Team. The information discussed is essential for all young people at this age to ensure they are all well-informed about these important matters. It is fantastic to report that Positive Health stated that the students were incredibly mature about the sensitive topics.

I would like to extend a thank you to our dedicated student School Council representative for their outstanding contributions and hard work. To show our appreciation, this week we are treating them to a sweet breakfast treat from the canteen to say thank you for their contributions. A School Council brings numerous benefits to the school community, fostering a positive and inclusive environment. Firstly, it provides students with a platform to express their opinions, ideas, and concerns, ensuring their voices are heard in decision-making processes. This involvement helps students develop essential leadership skills, such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. Moreover, School Councils promote a sense of community by encouraging collaboration between students, staff, and parents, enhancing the overall school experience. Students learn to take responsibility for their actions and decisions, fostering a sense of accountability and maturity.



I am incredibly proud of our The Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award students as they embark on their adventurous journey over the weekend. This practice expedition is a testament to their dedication, resilience, and commitment to personal growth. We wish them the best of luck as they navigate through their tasks, overcome obstacles, and create unforgettable memories. Your hard work and perseverance have brought you to this point, and we have no doubt that you will excel in this endeavour. Remember to support each other, stay positive, and enjoy every step of the way. Good luck to Skye Panther and Bea Harrison - our Silver Award students! We are cheering you on and look forward to hearing all about your incredible achievements.

I would like to remind Year 11 parents about the Year 11 Easter holiday revision sessions. Please can you discuss these additional revision sessions with your child and get signed up for the additional holiday sessions with a specialist.

In addition to this, Prom tickets are available and it is certain to be another superb event in the school calendar and an amazing final celebration for Year 11 students to celebrate their time at Giles Academy. Our Prom Celebration is on Wednesday 25th June 2025 will be held at the Jakeman's Stadium, which is home to Boston United FC.

To mark another milestone for Year 11, some students this week received their course work unit grades which contribute to 30% of their overall grades. Congratulations to students who received their unit grades yesterday, it is a huge acknowledgement of how hard our students are working to gain fantastic grades they so deserve.

Finally, I really need to shout about the success of our Sports team, not only are our netballers District winners and our Year 7 football team sailing into the County Cup semi-final both the Year 8 netballers and Year 7 football team have WON the SLAT tournament. We have some incredibly talented and committed sports students, some superb coaches and some supportive parents and carers. I will definitely be telling everyone I can about the amazing opportunities and achievements in our sporting platforms.



I hope you all have a fantastic weekend.

Kindest regards,

Handwritten signature of Miss Katie Belcher.

Miss Katie Belcher

Head of School, Giles Academy

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