GILES ACADEMY

Head of School UPDATE

Friday 23rd January 2026

Dear parents/carers and students,

It is that time of year when our Year 11 students receive their PPE results and their AOL2 data set. This set of PPE results has provided our students with a realistic picture of what they may expect to achieve in the summer. During our practice results sessions, many students were pleased with their progress, while others experienced a helpful reality check about the areas they now need to concentrate on ahead of the summer examination season.

Our Year 11 Parents' Evening will take place online on Thursday 29th January 2026 from 4.30pm to 7.30pm, and parents are required to book their online appointments in advance. Year 11 is a crucial year, with GCSE exams and coursework to complete, so this Parents' Evening will focus on discussing progress, current grades, and areas where students should prioritise their learning to achieve their best outcomes in the summer.

As we approach these critical months, we remain committed to providing every student with the tools and support they need to excel in their GCSE examinations. To that end, we offer a range of intervention strategies designed to target areas where students may benefit from additional guidance or encouragement. These include lunchtime and after-school revision sessions with specialist teachers, opportunities for students to engage with GCSEPod, subject-specific afternoon registration sessions, and assemblies that focus on how to plan and organise effective revision. We are also pleased to share that once again we will be offering subject-specific sessions during the Easter break. Year 11 parents should look out for further information regarding these opportunities. We kindly ask for your support in encouraging your child to make the most of the intervention and support available to them.

In sports, on Tuesday the Girls U14 Football team delivered a dominant performance in their County Cup opener, beating William Farr School, near Lincoln 10-3. It was a strong all round display, with excellent contributions from every area of the pitch. Their victory sends Giles confidently through to the next round. Well done girls!

Also this week our Year 7 Netball (girls) and Basketball (boys) teams made an impressive start in their first competitive fixtures. Both squads showed confidence, teamwork and determination on the court.

Last week Giles Academy had the exciting opportunity, along with the other schools in the Trust to take part in the regional event for the F1 STEM races, an international STEM competition endorsed by Formula 1, held at Boston College. Ten pupils, across Years 8 and 9 received the instructions and design brief in October and set about designing their model racing car, with the team names of 'Ch@os' and 'Blitz'. There were several key areas to overcome, such as learning how to access and use unfamiliar CAD software to produce a design that would be suitable for racing. The day of the event saw us arrive at Boston College, nervous and excited about what we would encounter. It was an unforgettable experience, with not just our entry-level teams being there, but the developer class and professional class racers! Every team had a display area that served as the 'pit-stop', and one professional team had arrived with a virtual reality racing booth for pupils to try out! All the students had a fantastic day!

PSA sessions have begun for Year 10 vocational students who have shown excellent attitude and focus throughout the programme so far. It is vital that attendance remains high to ensure progress continues and students stay on track. Well done to all students so far.

We've had an outstanding response to the launch of the Year 10 Prefect and Reading Ambassador applications this week. It's fantastic to see so many students eager to take on new responsibilities, support their peers and represent the school with pride. There is still time to get the Prefect application in, which closes at the end of next week.

Finally, I wanted to share an important update about our Trust Board. Our Chair of Trustees, Will Hawkins, retired from the Board in December after many years of dedicated service. We are incredibly grateful to Will for his leadership, commitment, and the positive impact he has had across our Trust. We are pleased to let you know that John Stokes has now been appointed as our new Chair of Trustees. John brings a wealth of experience to the role, and we look forward to working with him as we continue to move the Trust forward. If you have any questions or concerns, please do speak with your Head of School or Mrs Curson in the first instance. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kindest regards,

Mr Chris Wright
Head of School, Giles Academy

For the latest news

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- www.gilesacademy.co.uk
- www.instagram.com/GilesAcademySLAT
- www.facebook.com/GilesAcademy
- www.x.com/GilesSLAT