

Head of School UPDATE

Friday 6th March 2026



Dear parents/carers and students,

We have had another fabulous week at Giles Academy, with many student opportunities and achievements to celebrate.

Our Year 11 students continue to work extremely hard, and we are encouraging them to complete as much revision as possible to make the most of their remaining time in school. Remember: the more loyalty cards completed, the more prizes can be won for attending the intervention sessions! To further support students with last-minute tips and guidance, we will be holding the Year 11 Exam Success Evening on Wednesday 25th March 2026 at 6pm.

On Thursday, we celebrated World Book Day. Our Key Stage 3 students and staff had the option to come dressed as their favourite book characters - from classics to graphic novels to biographies. We were thrilled by the creativity, imagination, and effort put into the costumes. Throughout the day, students took part in activities including the Masked Reader challenge and booklet tasks. To reward students, we hosted a 'Best Costume' competition in the Library, with gift vouchers and certificates for the winners. It was wonderful to see so many staff joining in as well! To name just a few, our Year Leads dressed as characters from 'The Wizard of Oz', the Humanities department dressed as characters from 'Alice in Wonderland' and our Senior Leadership team (including myself) dressed as characters from 'Peter Pan'. Next week, look out for student photos from World Book Day on our website and social media platforms.



Our extra-curricular clubs and KS4 intervention sessions continue to be extremely popular within school, with high attendance both during lunchtime and after school. Chess club, sports clubs and the Year 11 masterclasses are particularly popular. Our Term 4 extra-curricular timetable can be found on our website: www.gilesacademy.co.uk/enrichment-period-6.

This week has been National Careers Week. During form time, students in Years 7 to 10 explored a variety of career opportunities such as Sport, Retail, Construction and Robotics. Staff have also been sharing their own career pathways at the start of lessons to help raise aspirations. In addition, on Wednesday we welcomed STEM UK/Outer Dowsing, who delivered a STEM workshop for a group of our Year 9 students.

Throughout this week, we have been celebrating all students with exceptional attendance during Term 3 by inviting them to a special reward breakfast during morning registration. Each day, these students from different year groups gathered in the canteen to enjoy free pastries and treats, creating a really positive atmosphere. It was wonderful to see them enjoying their breakfast and taking pride in their achievement. We place great importance on attendance to school as it is not only important for academic progress but also for the wellbeing of students.



There has been more success this week within the team sports, as our students continue perform exceptionally well within netball and football. Our U15 girls netball team came second in the district netball tournament on Wednesday, losing just one game. All the girls played so well and represented the school with pride. There was further success in netball the following day where the Year 9 girls (pictured below) won the SLAT games, scoring 36 goals and only conceding 4 by winning 12-1, 13-1 and 11-2! In boys football, our U13 team beat Haven High Academy 5-3 in a close fought game on Wednesday and the Year 9 team came second in the SLAT games.



Finally, I would like to inform parents/carers that Friday 20th March 2026 is **Comic Relief / Red Nose Day**, and we will be holding our traditional non-uniform day. This year, we are asking students and staff to **wear something red** to show support for the event.

Thank you for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Wright'.

Mr Chris Wright
Head of School, Giles Academy

For the latest news

You can visit our website or follow Giles Academy on our official social media platforms as follows:

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