

Head of School UPDATE

Friday 8th May 2026



Dear parents/carers and students,

It has been a slightly shorter week due to the bank holiday break and I hope you all enjoyed the long weekend.

The summer examination season has continued this week for Year 11, with a fantastic start from students in Health & Social Care and French Speaking. The full examination period for the entire Year 11 cohort begins on Monday, with English Literature being the first of many exams next week. I am pleased to see how our Year 11 students are conducting themselves around the school, and I hope they continue to attend the additional lunchtime and after-school revision sessions to ensure they are as well prepared as possible.

This week, we introduced our new bell and alert system across the school. The system has been designed to provide a clear, distinctive alert in the unlikely event of a lockdown, ensuring the safety of all students and staff remains our highest priority. Alongside this, we have moved away from the traditional school bell to a more modern and calming sound to signal transitions such as the end of lessons, break and lunchtime. The system also allows us to make clear announcements about changes to uniform during hot weather or adjustments to break and lunch arrangements during wet weather. Although it will take a little time for everyone to get used to the new sounds, the response from both students and staff has been overwhelmingly positive.

You will have received a letter from Mrs Curson, Chief Executive Officer, regarding the Trust-wide consultation on the use of mobile phones in school. Strengthening how we listen to and work with parents and carers remains a key priority, and this consultation provides an important opportunity for you to share your views. We would appreciate your feedback on the short survey send via ParentMail.

For Year 7 parents and carers, information was shared last week regarding the upcoming Mosque and Cathedral trip. We kindly ask that you complete the medical consent form to allow your child to attend.

A reminder for Year 10 parents and carers that you will have received a link to book appointments for the Year 10 Parents' Evening taking place on Thursday 14th May 2026. This is an important opportunity to meet with your child's teachers remotely to discuss their progress, attendance, and behaviour. Please take time to read the information provided and ensure you secure your appointments.

Last night, Mrs Donaldson and Mr Robinson had the pleasure of taking a small group of students to attend the Key Stage 3 Drama performance of 'Offside Dreams' at Spalding Academy. The performance was both powerful and engaging in what was a fast-paced and emotionally charged production. I am sure watching the performance will inspire our students within their own future drama productions at Giles Academy.

Today, students in Years 7 to 10 took part in DEAR Time ('Drop Everything and Read'). This initiative highlighted the importance of reading, with students engaging in a variety of materials across different subject areas during Period 2.

One of the fantastic literacy initiatives we have to encourage students to engage with reading is our Accelerated Reader programme. This is where our Year 7 and 8 students have time during their afternoon registration to read their chosen books, which can then be carried on as home learning. They can then use the Accelerated Reader portal to check their targets, progress towards their targets and take quizzes. Congratulations to the following students who are top achievers in their House for Term 4.

Blue House	- Meeting Points Target:	Millie O'Rourke
Green House	- Meeting Points Target:	Samuel Muthukattil
	- Year 7 Completed Reading Bookmark:	Gustavs Kanapeckis
	- Year 7 100% on a Reading Quiz:	Elsie Connor
Orange House	- Meeting Points Target:	Ashley Chikukwa
Purple House	- Meeting Points Target:	Leo Spiers
	- Year 8 Completed Reading Bookmark:	Caterina Pereira
	- Year 8 100% on a Reading Quiz:	Thomas Norman
Red House	- Meeting Points Target:	Tilly Butler
Yellow House	- Meeting Points Target:	Eden Blakey
Overall	- Form with Most Words Read	70
	- House with Most Words Read	Orange House

Finally, please remember that this weekend, our Art Department has secured a large space at a public art exhibition to showcase work from our talented student artists across the Trust. The exhibition will take place this weekend (Saturday and Sunday) at The Sessions House in Spalding - an impressive historic venue that will provide a fantastic backdrop for the display. Further details are opposite and we hope you are able to attend.

This weekend, Mr Dodd and Miss Heasley are taking a group of students to watch Leicester Tigers in a top of the table clash, for which will be most students first experience of a live Rugby match.

Also, this weekend, Miss Cocks, Miss Pearson and Miss Harris are taking a group of seven students from Year 10 to join up with other Trust schools for the first of their two weekend expeditions for their The Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award. I hope the weather is kind to them and I wish them every success.

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