

Head of School UPDATE

Friday 10th July 2026



Dear parents/carers and students,

Thank you to everyone for adhering to the uniform changes due to the hot weather this week. Due to the rearranged Sports Day that is taking place on Monday 13th July 2026 - all sports day competitors will be required to come to school in PE kit. All non-competitors also have the option to wear PE kit on this day as well. **All students will then return to normal uniform expectations (including blazer and tie) from Tuesday 14th July 2026.**

Although the Sports Day has been moved for a second time due to the weather, this is a fantastic event and something the whole school community looks forward to. Please may I remind students to have plenty of drinks, wear sunscreen and bring a hat to school.

As we approach the end of term and begin preparations for September, I would like to remind students, parents and carers of our uniform expectations, which were shared again in February. When students return in the new academic year, hair should be of a natural colour only, with no contrasting colours or shaved patterns. Hair accessories should be discreet and dark in colour. Students may wear a single small stud or sleeper (huggie-style earring) in each earlobe only; earrings should not be worn in the cartilage. Students must also return without gel nails, acrylic nails, nail varnish, false eyelashes, lash extensions or fashion belts. Thank you for your support in ensuring all students meet our uniform standards from the start of the new academic year.

Our Senior Student Team has now been officially introduced to the school, and we are delighted to share their names with our wider community. Leading the team are our Head Students, **Logan Burrell and Olivia Hilton**, who will be supported in their roles by **Abigail Pearson, Cassie Winn and Nikodem Podzorski**. Throughout recent weeks, the team have been visiting assemblies to introduce themselves, outline their priorities, and begin building strong relationships with students across all year groups. They are already demonstrating the maturity, enthusiasm and commitment that make them such excellent role models. They are keen to get started, offering their time to support other students and contribute meaningfully to ongoing school improvement. This was evident in their support for our recent Year 6 Transition Day, as well as our fantastic Year 7 Buddies, who were so incredibly supportive during the day. Well done to you all!



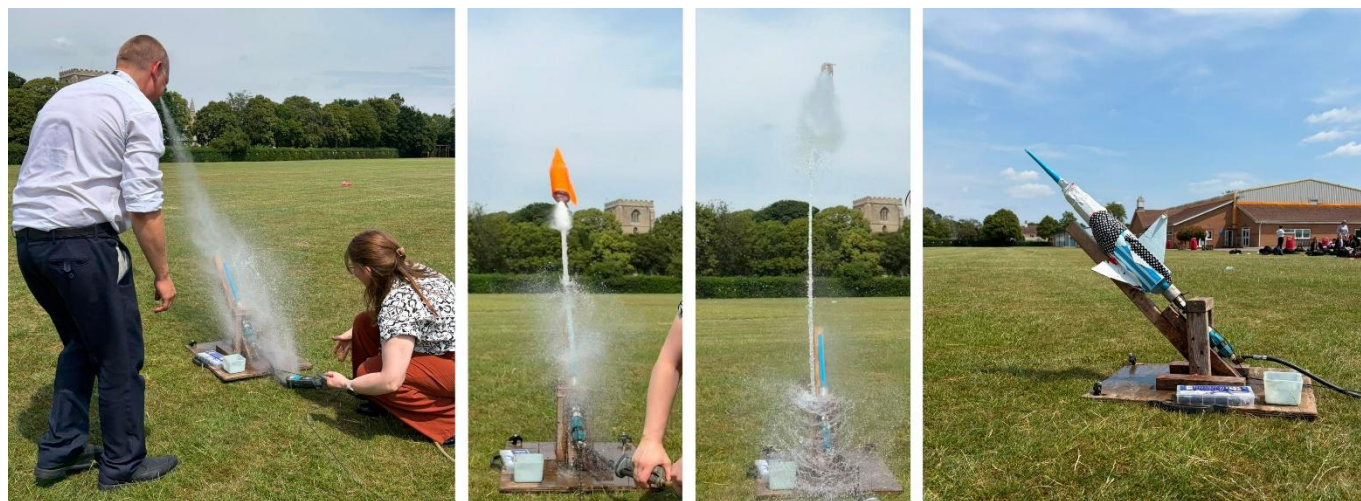
We have enjoyed an amazing penultimate week at Giles Academy, with a wide range of events and celebrations taking place across the school community.

This week, we held our House Celebration Assemblies, recognising students' achievements across a range of categories. All winners received certificates, and it was wonderful to see such a positive atmosphere as students celebrated both individual successes and collective House achievements.

A selection of Year 7 students recently took part in an exciting Challenge Day designed to develop their creativity, teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills. Following the presentations, the teams were judged on the quality of their ideas, teamwork, and pitches. The third-place team received a £5 voucher each, the runners-up received a £10 voucher each, and the winning team received a £15 voucher each. The winning team then went on to represent Giles Academy at the Trust Challenge Final at Spalding Academy to compete against teams from across the Trust. The team were incredible and enjoyed every moment of this experience, performing very well within the final presentations.



Our annual Rocket Competition took flight on the school field as we saw our rockets 'light up'. Every tutor group had the opportunity to engineer two rockets using 2 litre bottles, transforming everyday materials into soaring STEM creations. At launch time, Mr Castley, Miss Holland and Miss Brader stepped up as the official launch team, sending each rocket skyward on behalf of the students. Some rockets reached impressive heights, others delivered spectacular spins, and all of them earned huge cheers from the crowd. The atmosphere was fantastic with students gathered to champion their designs, celebrate their classmates, and enjoy one of the most loved enrichment events of the year. It was another fabulous example of the lunchtime enrichment opportunities that make our school such a vibrant place to learn, experiment and have fun.



Today, the MFL department was joined by a group of Year 5 pupils from Old Leake Primary. They worked in small groups on a carousel of activities with our Year 9 French students. The sessions had a World Cup focus and students worked on a carousel of activities that supported the learning of vocabulary for countries, sports and opinions. They practised saying the new vocabulary and played a variety of games, including match up activities, jeu de six, snakes and ladders, and wordsearches. Students went away with their newly acquired vocabulary and a gift of a French pencil and book mark from the MFL department. Our Year 9 French students led the workshop activities, and we are very proud of how well they worked with the Year 5 students. Great fun was had by all!

As part of our PSHE programme, Year 7 and Year 8 students participated in our annual Stay Safe Days this week. Through workshops delivered by their teachers, students explored important topics including Rail Safety, Budgeting, Relationships and Fire Safety. These sessions help equip our students with the knowledge and skills they need to make informed decisions and stay safe both now and in the future.

Water safety has also been a key focus during PSHE lessons this week. Students have learned about the dangers associated with open water and how to keep themselves safe. Every year, more than 300 people lose their lives in drowning incidents across the UK, often due to cold water temperatures, strong currents, hidden hazards beneath the surface, or poor water quality. We encourage all families to continue these important conversations at home, particularly as we approach the summer holiday period.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kindest regards,



Mr Chris Wright

Head of School, Giles Academy

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