

Headteacher UPDATE

Friday 23rd October 2026



Dear parents/carers and students,

As we reach the end of another busy and rewarding term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to share some of the wonderful things that have been happening across our school community.

In assemblies this week, I have been delighted to reward students with our prestigious **Athletic and Artistic badges**. These badges celebrate exceptional dedication, commitment and achievement, whether through outstanding contributions within school or remarkable success beyond the classroom. The introduction of these badges has provided an excellent opportunity to highlight and celebrate the diverse talents within our school community, recognising those students who consistently demonstrate perseverance, passion and excellence in their chosen fields.



Artistic badges were awarded to:

- Pheobe Coupland, Xander Cuthburt, Mia Liumate, Zuzanna Malek, Tia Moore, Bella Mustill and Winter Zanelli



Athletic badges were awarded to:

- Annabelle Booth, Albie Daniels, Taya Frost, Finley Graves, Rosie Lawrence, Zuzanna Malek, Lucas Ogden, Alfie Sargent and Sienna Ward

A special congratulations goes to Zuzanna Malek, who has achieved the remarkable distinction of being awarded both the Athletic and Artistic Badge. This outstanding accomplishment reflects not only her exceptional and dedication in Art but also her sporting achievements outside of school. To excel in both areas is a significant achievement and one that deserves particular recognition.

We are also incredibly proud to have presented the very first **Headteacher Award badge** to Logan Burrell in Year 11. This special award has been created to recognise students who consistently go above and beyond in their contributions to school life and who exemplify our values on a daily basis. Logan is a thoroughly deserving recipient, having continually demonstrated leadership, reliability, kindness and a willingness to support both staff and fellow students. His positive influence within the school community makes him an excellent role model for younger students, and we look forward to seeing many more students aspire to this prestigious recognition in the future.

It has been wonderful to see students wearing their badges with immense pride around school, inspiring others to strive for success and demonstrating the value we place on achievement, commitment and character. The badges are already becoming a symbol of aspiration and accomplishment, reflecting the high standards and positive attitudes we seek to promote across all year groups.



We know that many of our students achieve remarkable success outside of school in a wide range of activities, including sport, the arts, volunteering, leadership, community service and other personal pursuits. We would encourage parents and carers to share their child's achievements with us so that we can recognise and celebrate these successes as part of our wider school community. Please do get in touch with the school to let us know about your child's achievements so that we can celebrate their success alongside them.

This week we have also demonstrated a token of appreciation for our Prefects who continue to carry out superb commitment to their role which includes supporting other students and supervision of areas of the school as part of their Prefect duties led by Mr Relton and Mrs Vrstiak. This week our Prefects enjoyed a hot drink and pastry to help their day get off to a great start. Thank you to all our Prefects, Senior Prefects and Head Students who are all brilliant school ambassadors.

Despite many cancelled sports fixtures this week, our U16 Netball team attended the in the U16 District Netball Tournament with a brilliant result finishing 3rd place overall. It was a brilliant team effort and a huge congratulations to the entire team for their hard work and incredible efforts during all matches.

As the evenings become darker and roads busier, we would also like to remind students who cycle to and from school to take extra care. Please ensure that helmets are worn, bikes are fitted with working front and rear lights, and, wherever possible, high-visibility clothing is worn. Staying safe and being considerate of other road users helps protect everyone in our community.

We would also like to remind students that our worried@gilesacademy.co.uk email service remains available throughout the half-term break. Should students need support or advice, we will respond and ensure they are directed to the most appropriate help.

Looking ahead, we have a number of important and exciting events planned for Term 2. These include Remembrance Day, with poppies available to purchase during the first week back and up to Wednesday 11th November 2026, as well as Children in Need, which we will once again support through our popular 'Wear Something Spotty' day. Before we know it, preparations for the festive season will also be underway, bringing many opportunities for our school community to come together and celebrate.

Thank you once again for your support throughout what has been an extremely busy, productive and successful term. We are incredibly proud of all that our students and staff have achieved and are grateful for the partnership we share with our families.

I wish you a restful, enjoyable half-term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back for Term 2.

Kindest regards,



Mr Chris Wright

Headteacher, Giles Academy

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