Parents' Newsletter

Dear Parents

It has been another fabulous term at Gillotts this summer, and at the end of my first term as the new Headteacher of the school, a particularly significant moment for me to reflect on all that's happened in the past few months.

From my first encounters with students, staff and parents, to my first assembly with all the different year groups, I have felt so welcomed into the Gillotts community this term. I'd like to thank everyone for making it such a positive and smooth transition for me and it says a lot about the school's strong sense of community - captured in our motto *not by ourselves alone* - that a new Head has been able to feel at home so quickly.

I experienced my first ever Gillotts Year 11 Prom which took place on a lovely sunny evening at Badgemore Golf Club. It was a pleasure to see the students and staff celebrate all that they had achieved together over the previous five years and talk to the students about their plans for the future - the school is very proud of them. We look forward to seeing the students at GCSE Results Day on Thursday 20th August to congratulate them on their examination outcomes.

I have loved other opportunities to celebrate the wonderful variety of talent within the Gillotts community. The Key Stage 3 Celebration of Success Evening was a huge highlight as such a large number of students were recognised for their contributions across the range of academic and applied subjects at Gillotts. There were House points awards, attendance awards, resilience awards, and much much more. I'm very excited to see the younger students transition into the role models for our incoming Year 7 students. We also had our Performing Arts showcase evening in the final week of term, where I was so impressed with the quality and range of the performances. The magician was a particular highlight!

We have run our transition day to welcome in our new Year 6 students who were superbly supported by the staff and the new student leadership team. The Year 6s I spoke to are so excited to join the school and had a wonderful time.

And there has been a wide range of fantastic opportunities - in and outside of school hours - which students have had the chance to take part in this term. There has been the brilliant Skern Lodge trip for Year 7 in April. Year 9 have just come back from Woodlands on the Welsh borders, Year 10 students have been to Valencia and there have been hundreds of Year 9 and 10 students involved in Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. We've hosted Athletics tournaments, Drama performances, rounders competitions, Year 10 students have been on work experience placements and much much more besides. As I write, Sports Day and our final end of term assembly celebration and all the accompanying prizes, and the House Cup, are still to come. Then next week, a group of Year 11 students are off on a World Challenge expedition to Bali. There is always so much more to be involved in at Gillotts than just the lessons.

I'd like to particularly thank the staff who have made all these experiences possible and given up their time outside school hours to create these opportunities for students. As ever at the end of an academic year, there are a few staff leaving for promotion opportunities or new ventures, and I'd like to thank all of them enormously for their time and contribution at Gillotts.

And finally, I'd like to thank families for their very warm welcome to Gillotts, and for your support and care for the school, our students and staff. We are very fortunate to have the parental support which we do and I look forward to meeting more of you in the months to come.

Wishing everyone a very restful summer break,
Mr Bedford
Headteacher

Parent View

Parent View is an online questionnaire for parents and carers to feed back to Ofsted on their child's school. It is now the main mechanism that Ofsted use to gather parents' views at the time of an inspection. There are just 10 questions to answer. The questions look at the key areas such as happiness, safety, behaviour and school communication. The final question asks if you would recommend the school to another parent. Everyone's responses are put together and are available to view on the Parent View website. In order to minimise the risk of abuse, you are required to register and create a password. We would be very pleased to have your ongoing feedback of what you think of the school – please visit https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/

School Fund

Our School Fund is an opportunity for parents to support the quality of education for their children through making regular voluntary contributions to be used directly to provide resources for use in the classroom and at home.

Why do we need your support?

Unlike many schools, Gillotts has not had a tradition of regular individual donations to support the school. However, as you will have seen from media coverage, the financial climate for all schools has become increasingly difficult in recent years. School funding is still below 2010 levels in real terms - in spite of steadily rising costs - so in real terms, our income is falling. This is making it harder for the school to deliver the excellent teaching and learning we aspire to.

How much would we like you to contribute?
There is no obligation or pressure to donate but, if you would like to, we will be grateful for whatever you can afford. Suggestions donations are below.

If you give £10 per month, this would give us £120 per year – with Gift Aid, that is £150!

If you give £1 per day, this would give us £365 per year – with Gift Aid, that's over £450 per year!

How does this work with the support provided by the Parents' Association?

The Parents' Association has provided invaluable support to Gillotts for many years. The Association fully endorses this request for individual regular contributions. However, payments will be through the school, to preserve parents' anonymity.

> "The PA fully supports the school in striving to maintain a high standard of education for our children in the face of reduced income. Donating to the School Fund will be a way of trying to ensure that our children continue to receive the excellent standard of education that Gillotts at present provides. The School Fund is also a way for parents/ carers who do not have time to help with the PA to be involved with the school."

What will we spend the funds on?
We will spend the funds on ensuring all curriculum subjects are well resourced, including with the additional new online resources that we know students and their parents value so much. This will enable us to support students to continue to make the outstanding progress that has become the norm in recent years.
Please give whatever you can – fill in and return the form attached – thank you for your support.

House Award Update

Gillotts House/Not By Ourselves Alone update – March 2026

Our school motto, *Non Nobis Solum* ("Not for ourselves alone"), drives everything we do. It inspires our core values of kindness, respect, and compassion. By actively celebrating students when they demonstrate these values, we build a supportive environment that fosters a deep sense of community.

The Summer term is packed with exciting House activities! This term, students have jumped into Sports Day, tutor contests, sports tournaments, chopsticks challenges, and recycling initiatives—to name just a few.

Students earn House points by trying their best in class, maintaining great attendance, and showing kindness and community spirit.

A massive congratulations to **Pankhurst** for capturing the top spot in this year's House Competition! Well done to everyone for your incredible participation, earning precious house points for your House across the year! In second place were **Darwin**, with **Orwell** in third this year. The House Cup was presented to Pankhurst in final assembly to rapturous applause

The easiest way to keep up with everything else happening is by following our school's social media accounts on Instagram and X:

www.instagram.com/gillottshenley

www.x.com/gillottshenley

We are always pleased to hear about students' achievements beyond school as well, so if you have any news or stories to share, please do let us know!

Staff v Students Rounders
2026!!

WINNERS
CERTIFICATE!
Chopsticks Champion 2026!

Darwin News Tutee of the Term

DGS: Jina Shah

DHLS: Maison Marrast

DJLM: Toby Telford

DROM/BJB: Scarlet Blacklock

DTWN: Milo Mcginn

DPJY: Ella Buckham-Hedges

DNMM/AD: Ben Markham

DFMW: Reilly Baldwin

DAPM: Samuel Jackson

Orwell News Tutee of the Term

OHJS/SEL: Emma Groat & Monty Haigh

OPCM: Maia Magson

OCM: Sumay Minnaar

OGMO/JWW: Ojas Joshi

OJJ/AB: Dimitrios Costopoullos

OJRE: Hugo Moss

OCG: Emma Cook

OADT: Summer Swift

OACM: AJ Parks

Pankhurst News Tutee of the Term

PSC: Poppy Pattinson

PFLP: Aidan Bonar

PLS/LJA: Niamh Coombs

PJDS: Chantelle Chananda

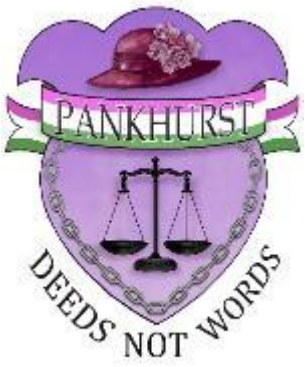
PKLO/CF: Jago Wall

PGDM: Gabriela James Saraiva Dos Anjos

PSMS/ELD: Jonathan Hof

PCEG: Isaac Wilson

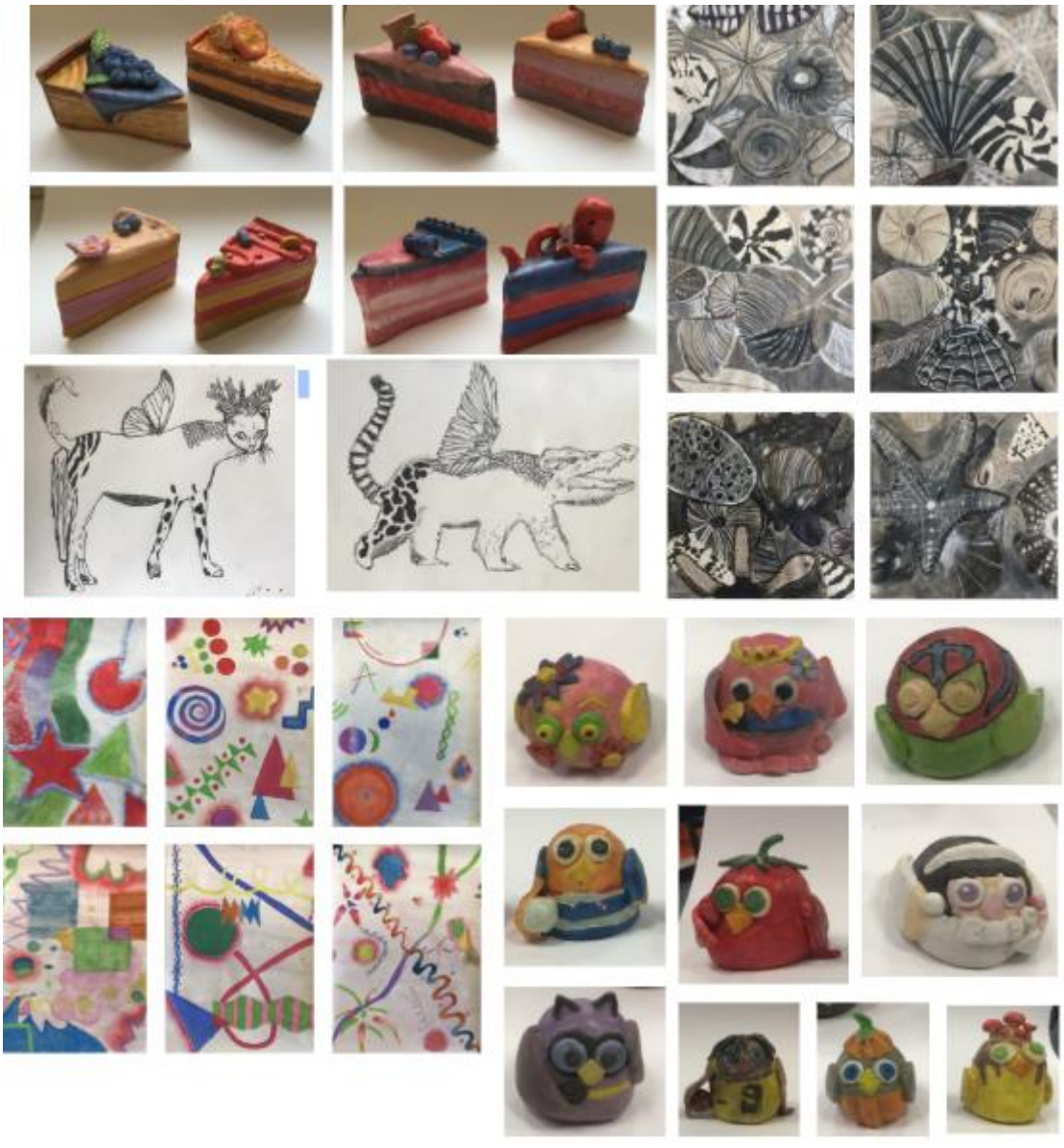
PCJW: Seb Spiers



Art

The Year 11 GCSE students worked amazingly hard and produced some fabulous work this year. I am not allowed to share that with you just yet, but watch this space next term.

Key stage 3 students have worked on a variety of projects from ceramic cakes, to surrealist animals. Here's a selection of work from the year.



Geography

Y10 Geography trip to Bristol

In June, we took the three Year 10 GCSE Geography classes to Bristol on a field trip to help them prepare for their final exams. This involved studying regeneration around the Bristol Docks and the wider city.

On last year's trip we spent the first few hours getting soaked in a series of torrential downpours and we were concerned, based on the weather forecast, that there would be a repeat of this again. However, as we approached our drop off point at Temple Meads station, the rain stopped and the sun almost came out.

The students spent time in the morning visiting Broadmead, the main shopping street in Bristol. This area has been partially re-generated although footfall has been affected by the opening of the Cabot Circus Shopping Centre a decade ago. While there, the students completed environmental quality surveys to examine the impact of regeneration on this area. They also asked members of the public to complete a questionnaire to get their perspectives on the impact of regeneration in this area.

In the afternoon we visited the Temple Meads Quarter of Bristol around the railway station. As I mentioned in my newsletter article last year, this part of Bristol has become a lot busier in the last few years after a very quiet year post-covid in 2022. This is, I think, in part because of the impact of the continued regeneration programme in this part of the city. The next stage will be for the opening of a new 4500 student campus in October focusing on quantum computing (amongst other things) on the former derelict post office site.

As part of the trip, we were very lucky to have a talk from staff from a company called ARUP which has been leading on a number of urban regeneration projects across the UK, including the Temple Meads regeneration project which we were studying. These were very informative talks and it was really interesting to hear about some of the challenges faced in this part of Bristol and how regeneration, based on a mixed use, is helping to transform the area.

The students also went on the boat trip around the Bristol Docks. This was accompanied by a very informative commentary which is aimed at GCSE students. This took us through the history of the docks and their impact on Bristol as well as the decline and subsequent regeneration of this area. We had to have three separate trips again this year because of the high numbers of students taking GCSE Geography.

Looking ahead to next year, the first trip will be for the new Year 11s heading to study the River Pang from source to mouth. We will then be taking Year 9 to the Natural History Museum in London followed by the annual trip to the south coast, visiting Lulworth Cove in Dorset, with Year 8 in May. We are also hoping to take all the new Year 7s to the River Pang in June. The fieldwork year will finish off with the Bristol trip again for the new Year 10.

I would like to say a huge thank you to the staff for helping to organise and run these trips. The students have also behaved superbly on all the trips and I would like to thank them as well.

Dr Newbold

Y8 trip to Lulworth Cove

Despite long journeys, the Yr8 trip to Lulworth Cove in May was a real success. The students embraced the steep long walk and they seemed to really appreciate getting out in the field! Geography is very much a dynamic subject which is happening all around us. It makes such a difference to see it in real life!

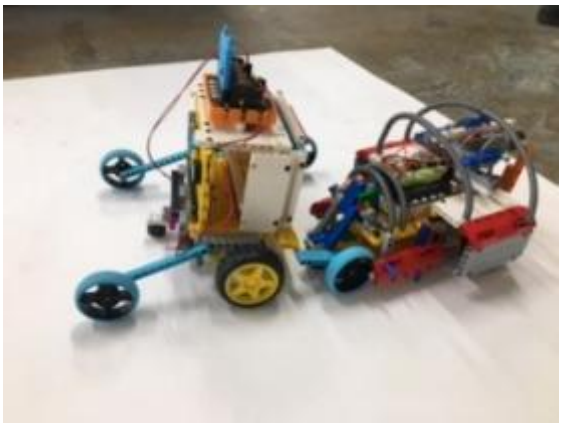
"The Geography trip to Lulworth Cove was one of the best school trips I have been on this year. The Cove itself looked absolutely beautiful but the tiring walk to Durdle Door was worth it as it was such an amazing site. It was so cool seeing that massive natural limestone arch sticking out into the sea.

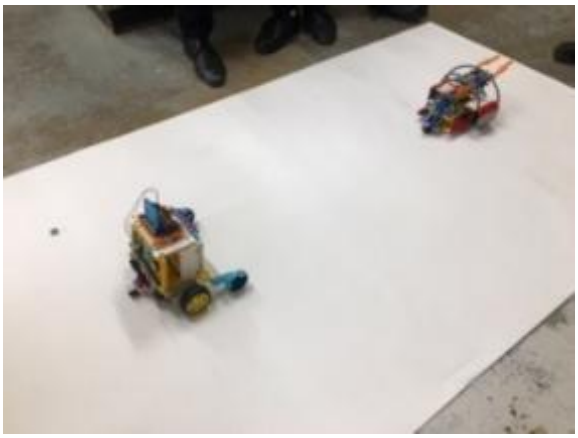
My favourite part was taking photos from the viewpoints, checking out the rock layers and getting an ice cream. I had such a brilliant time seeing all these amazing landforms in real life, it actually made learning about it really fun." - Aya Bellout, Yr8

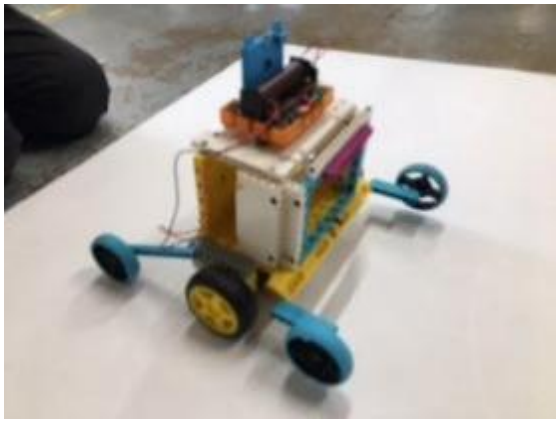
DT/Robotics

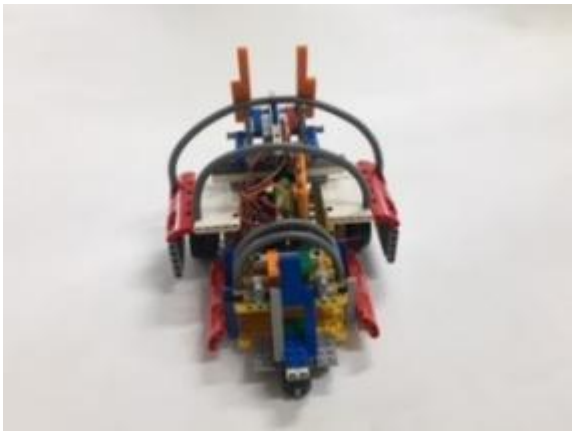
Thank you to everyone who has attended the 2026 robotics club this year and competed in the First Lego League 2026 competitions. We'd just all like to say a huge thank you to Mr Howard who has been so generous with his time, coaching the team every Monday lunchtime (A&B week) 12.35pm - 1.30pm in T3.

Here are a few photos of our recent Gillotts robot wars competition where students designed and built their own robots using Microbits. Well done to everyone and good luck to all students with the competitions next year!









Library News

Great Big Green Week Henley Fair

This term the Eco Club have been working hard on projects with Mrs Michael and Mr Delorenzi. Mrs Seddon has been back to manage the library for a few weeks, in the interim recruitment period. Gillotts helped run the Environmental Science stand at the Green Fair in Henley on Saturday 6th June. Gabriella, Jack, Islay, Arlo, Elin and Emily all came to help showcasing some environmental awareness activities to share with members of the public. We were particularly interested to attract families with young children. Despite rather wet weather, we had plenty of visitors to our stall. We were also assisted by a student from Shiplake College, who is undertaking volunteering for Duke of Edinburgh. Our hands-on experiences included placing the bugs and mini beasts into their preferred habitats and sorting out rubbish and recycling into the correct piles for putting in relevant bins. We had some information leaflets on how South Oxfordshire organises its rubbish and recycling, which many families enjoyed discussing and took home to use.

Our Eco Club members also enjoyed experiencing the rest of the Fair, where there was information about bats and bees and other local interest topics. Some of us took the opportunity to paint a bee with seed paper for placing in the garden.

Eco Club started in 2020, amidst the COVID lockdown period, and it is heartening that it is still thriving and attracting new members every year.

Islay, Elin and Emily sharing ideas with the public for how to support nature in our gardens on the Mini Science stand at the Festival in Henley on Saturday at the start of Green week.

It was a damp and windy day, so well done to the girls and Gabriella, Jack and Arlo who also helped out on the stand braving the weather and to Mr Delorenzi, Mrs Seddon and Mrs Michael for supervising**.**

Berkshire Book Award

The Book Group which had the opportunity to read and vote on the longlisted and shortlisted books placed their final votes. Mrs Seddon met up with them to see how they were getting on with the books. Elin Johnston and Emily Cox both enjoyed reading 'The First Year' by Matt Goodfellow. Sadly, this book did not get into the Top 3 books. It is a brilliant sequel to Matt's earlier book, 'The Final Year.' Elin produced a stunning word cloud based on this book. For more information about the award, take a look at the website: [Katie Kirby | berkshirebookaward]

From Sarah Seddon.

This is the word cloud made by Elin Johnston, related to the Berkshire Book Award

We want to take the opportunity to thank Sarah, who has been Gillotts Librarian for 8 years. Sarah, a passionate ecologist, has shared her enthusiasm, skills and love of learning with the students and dedicated her time to supporting Gillotts Library in many ways. We wish her all the best, and a well-earned rest!

Skern Lodge 2026

We took over 120 Year 7s to Skern Lodge activity centre in Appledore, Devon. We were extremely lucky this year with beautiful sunshine all weekend which made it even more enjoyable being outside on all the activities and certainly made the surfing a little warmer too! From the moment we got there the students took on all the activities with great enthusiasm and many of them overcome fears on the high ropes, leap of faith and many more the more difficult activities. There was some high scoring on the archery, fun in the outside pool and lots of team challenges and competitions in the mini-Olympics and scavenger hunt. The highlight for most of the students was the surfing which everyone loved and there were lots of students managing to stand up on their boards to surf some waves too!

Overall, it was an exceptionally successful weekend, the staff at Skern lodge made it a fantastic weekend and a huge thank you must be said to all the staff who kindly gave up their weekend to go on the trip - without whom it would not have been possible. Next year's trip is already in the planning stages ready for the new Year 7's joining us in September.

Duke of Edinburgh

Silver DofE Expedition

15 year 10 students completed their Silver practice at the end of March walking long distances through the stunning Chilterns around Tring with their heavy packs and braving low overnight temperatures. Silver involves hiking for 3 days and camping for 2 nights so students have to carry more food and snacks to see them through but we congratulate them for supporting each other to make it an enjoyable experience.

After a very chilly practice expedition in March, it is ironic that the Silver assessed expedition had to be postponed until 25-27 September.

Bronze DofE Expedition

Gillotts Bronze DofE students successfully completed their assessed expedition in June walking through the beautiful countryside, setting off extra early to avoid the heat of the afternoon on the 2nd day. Many congratulations to those who will complete their Bronze award when the expedition sections all signed off. Hopefully, achieving the incredible feat of the expedition will encourage anyone still with sections to complete to get these done soon and get the award. We hope many will consider carrying on with Silver award next term.

New school term, new DofE participants

Students going into Year 9 can look at the DofE.org website for details of what Bronze award entails. The award will launch towards to end of September with a Year 9 assembly and parent meeting. Look out for the launch email in September.

Again, we would like to thank families and members of the community for supporting students as they complete their DofE awards.

Year 10 Spanish Trip to Valencia 2026

GCSE Spanish students recently spent 4 days in the city of Valencia and had an incredible time. We congratulate all pupils who attended; you did Gillotts extremely proud.

Day 1: This was a day of travel and nice, early start; we left Gillotts at 7am! The pupils conducted themselves brilliantly around the airport and on the flight, despite the delays. After settling in to our hotel we headed out on a walk along the Jardines de Turia and later out for dinner to practise our Spanish ordering food and drinks.

Day 2: We visited el Museo Fallero in the morning to give insight to one of the Spanish festivals they study at GCSE; las fallas. A paella lunch at the beach was then devoured and some refreshing time on the beach was enjoyed!

Day 3: We went to the Mueso Taurino, next to the beautiful bullring and then headed to the Mercado central where we admired the wonderful building but, most importantly, allowed the pupils free time to explore and order their lunch. The next stop was the historic cathedral tour and exploration of the stunning Plaza de la Reina.

In the evening, we went to the Ciudad de las Artes y Ciencias, some famous architecture in Valencia, where we watched an immersive film about solar eclipses in Spanish.

Day 4: We were given a wonderful and informative tour of the Mestalla football stadium; one of the oldest in Europe. This was another opportunity for understanding and interacting in Spanish. Lunch was had in the city centre around the main town hall square. We flew home the same day and all pupils left the city smiling and proud of all of the Spanish we'd spoken.

Year 7 Flamenco Workshop June 2026

In June we welcomed Danielle Yglesia to our Spanish lessons for our fourth year to give an immersive experience of dancing flamenco. The pupils enjoyed watching Danielle impress us with a performance and both groups learned some movements that feature in this traditional dance. Our pupils were interested to learn about the origins and the characteristics of flamenco. We also had the hot Spanish weather to accompany us through this, olé!

Performing Arts

The Performing Arts Department is looking forward to The Wizard of Oz in December and has seen some brilliant talent at the auditions. Some very hard decisions had to be made and we look forward to getting started with the rehearsals in the new term.

Careers

It's been a great final term for Gillotts students where careers and encounters with employers and different workplaces are concerned.

Careers Advisor

Year 10 students are now receiving their one-to-one appointments with Charlotte, our independent Careers Advisor. We are working our way through the year group and if students haven't yet been offered a meeting, this will be in Year 11.

A reminder that Charlotte runs a drop in, no appointment needed, **Careers Clinic every Tuesday from 12:35-13:05**. All students ***from any year*** are welcome to come and speak to her. She has a wealth of knowledge and can help with anything from advice for Work Experience to choosing post 16 subjects for future career paths.

Year 9 Careers Visit to RAF Benson

RAF Benson recently played host to the incredibly inspiring 'See What You Can Be' event, giving Year 9 students a front-row seat to a world of endless career possibilities. The World's Strongest Woman gave a keynote speech at the start of the event and the day closed with words from an air ambulance paramedic. The main part of the day was packed with extraordinary guest speakers from all walks of life, including military leaders, commercial pilots from British Airways and TUI, military engineers, heavy vehicle drivers, and firefighters. Students were equally captivated by civilian trailblazers, from a Met Office scientist and the first female farrier in the army to a life-saving RNLI volunteer. These incredible professionals showed the students that with passion and determination, there is truly no limit to what they can achieve. Thank you to Miss Hodge who kindly drove us there and accompanied the visit.

Year 10 Work Experience

From 5th - 8th May, our Year 10 students traded their school uniforms for the workplace during an incredibly successful four-day work experience week. Our pupils expanded their horizons across a fantastic range of industries, some of the many examples included gaining hands-on experience in mechanics and local bike shops, exploring the corporate world at Invesco and Johnson Matthey, and getting a taste of the arts at the Kenton Theatre. Many students showed wonderful community spirit and care while working at Acacia Lodge care home, local schools, pre-schools, and early years settings, while others braved the elements to learn the ropes in farming and equestrian environments. We are immensely proud of how maturely Year 10 conducted themselves, and we extend a huge thank you to all the local businesses and organisations that provided such invaluable, real-world insights for our future young professionals.

We received lots of really positive feedback from employers, please see a selection below

"This student has set the bar high for our next 2 work experience students in June."

"I just wanted to get in touch and let you know what an absolute joy it has been to have this student with us this week. The kids (and staff) all love him."

"Over the years, we have welcomed many work experience students and have been fortunate to meet some wonderful young people, but this student truly stood out. She has all the qualities that any employer, team, and working environment would value. She is pleasant, polite, helpful, professional, observant of what needs to be done, eager to help, and confident in taking initiative.

Year 10 Career Development Workshops

This term has seen 2 further workshops with Year 10 students delivered by Rhian from Aspire2Be. The sessions continue to support the PSHE programme with session 5 focusing on post work experience reflections and personal values and the final session in July looking to the future.

Students have grown in confidence as the workshops have progressed and had some wonderful stories from their work experience week to share.

Parent Evaluation

If you can, we would be very grateful to receive feedback from the careers programme this year via this survey.

https://forms.gle/pZmeNVXmVFuSi8Tr7

Kenton Youth - Theatre Programme Opportunity

Please see below details of **Kenton Youth**, a new inclusive theatre education programme launching at **The Kenton Theatre in September 2026** for young people aged **9 to 16**.

Kenton Youth has been created to add to the fantastic range of opportunities already available locally for young people in Henley and the surrounding area. It will give young people the chance to learn, create and grow within a working theatre environment.

The programme is open to all experience levels and is not just for young people who want to perform. Across the year, participants will explore theatre in its broadest sense, including performance, backstage skills, technical theatre, design, writing, stage management and creative production.

Students will also have the option to work towards an **Arts Award qualification**, managed by Trinity College London in association with Arts Council England.

Bursary places available

We want Kenton Youth to be open to as many young people as possible. For the pilot year, The Kenton has secured eight fully funded bursary places, supported by South Oxfordshire District Council, for young people who may otherwise face financial barriers to taking part. We would particularly welcome help sharing this opportunity with families who may benefit from financial support, so that cost does not prevent young people from accessing high-quality theatre education at The Kenton.

Apply for financial support:
https://thekenton.org.uk/kenton-youth-bursary-form/

Eton College 'Orwell Award' Fully Funded Sixth Form Programme

We have been asked to share this information with parents.

This is a Sixth Form programme targeted at boys with academic potential, for whom an opportunity to go to a boarding school, free of charge, might be transformative. While students with this profile have been coming to Eton since 1440 and are absolutely integral to our vision of the education that we offer, this award seeks to reassure and encourage boys, especially those with some particular reason to board, that a place at Eton is within their grasp.

Next term, 14 free Sixth Form places for September 2027 will be offered as Orwell Awards to boys who will be in Year 11 at the point of application (so currently in Year 10) and who are studying in UK non-selective state schools.

The easiest way for your students to find out more is through the collection of films that we have uploaded to Orwell Award (16+) - Eton College. We are also hosting an Orwell Award Open Afternoon on Sunday 13th September 2026 and would encourage any interested candidates to contact Admissions (admissions@etoncollege.org.uk) for further information.

The Orwell Award will recognise that academic achievement may have been held back by personal circumstance, and so will not be offered to only those with the highest grades. Instead, applicants will be assessed on academic potential and against specific criteria such as if a boy has refugee status or is a Looked After Child, if a boy would be the first generation of his family to go to university, or if they are in receipt of the Pupil Premium.

The Award is named after author and Eton alumnus George Orwell, himself the recipient of financial aid, and aims to give recipients access to a transformative experience. Funding will cover a Sixth Form place, including boarding, and includes additional financial allowances to enable boys to fully participate in the life of the school.

Applications are now open and will close on Sunday 20th September 2026 - Sixth Form (16+) Entry - Eton College. We are looking forward to receiving, and are grateful for, all applications from schools who have applied in the past, and welcome applications from all schools who may be applying for the first time.

Apply for financial support:
https://thekenton.org.uk/kenton-youth-bursary-form/

Next academic year

We have already planned many career opportunities for students in the next academic year, however, if your own employer offers apprenticeships or other training on the job opportunities, we would love to hear from you. Similarly, we are always very grateful to hear of opportunities for students in the local community when it comes to work place experiences so please do get in touch.

Thank you to those parents who have signed up to volunteer to deliver a careers talk / support at an event at Gillotts this year. If you would like to volunteer to come into school next year or find out more about how you could help, please do contact me on the below email address.

Ms Laura Allen, Careers and Guidance Lead, lallen@gillotts.org

PE update

We have hosted all the rounders tournaments with the results as follows:

Year	Tournament position
7	1st
8	Tournament is the first week back after half term
9	Postponed twice due to the weather
10	2nd place on rounders scored
11	Cancelled and unable to replay due to exams

In the Cricket 6's tournaments the results are as follows:

Year	Tournament position
7	Won
8	Won
9	Cancelled
10	2nd

We have also been fortunate enough to have Henley Cricket Club coaches coming in again during lesson time this year focusing solely on Year 9

A combination of Year 7 and 8 had the opportunity to play at Henley Cricket Club this week and beat River Academy.

Athletics

In Athletics we did really well in the South Oxfordshire Area Athletics, which took place at Tilsley Park in Abingdon on Thursday 16th May - it was another very successful day, the students were excellent and many of them were chosen to compete in the county athletics event on Sunday 9th June. The results were as follows:

Boys

Year 10	Points
Gillotts	143
Wallingford	109
Wheatley Park	78

Year 9	Points
Gillotts	162
Wheatley Park	138
Wallingford	119

Year 8	Points
Gillotts	119
Langtree	103
Wallingford	101

Year 7	Points
Gillotts	115
Wheatley Park	92
Wallingford	91

Girls

Year 10	Points
Wallingford	134
Wheatley Park	118
Gillotts	107

Year 9	Points
Gillotts	134
Wheatley Park	122
Wallingford	113

Year 8	Points
Gillotts	130
Wallingford	119
DGS	106

Year 7	Points
Langtree	104
Wallingford	84
Wheatley Park	83

We were also Overall Team Champions

Every single student did their bit whether they came first, last or somewhere in the middle and **once again** we were the only school to enter 2 students into **every single** event in **every year group** – totalling 132 entries. It was a very successful day and all the students did themselves and Gillotts proud. Their behaviour was impeccable and their support for each other, their willingness to participate in any event if needed and their drive to do well for the school was great to see – the students were brilliant. There were some outstanding individual achievements as well and many of our students will go on to compete in the County schools event in June.

We also took part in the area Quadkids and Super 6's for Years 7 to 10 - which was held at Gillotts with the results as follows:

Day	Date	Year Group	Against	Result
Tuesday	10th June	Year 7 Quadkids	South Oxfordshire	1st
Tuesday	17th June	Year 8 Quadkids	South Oxfordshire	1st
Thursday	19th June	Year 10 Super 6's	South Oxfordshire	1st
Tuesday	24th June	Year 9 Super 6's	South Oxfordshire	Cancelled

The summer term finished off with our own schools sports day - with the field events taking place on Tuesday 15th July and the track events on the afternoon of Wednesday 16th July.

This was another successful 2 days and despite the hot weather everyone put maximum effort into all of the events and it was great to see everyone coming together to support their houses.

This year the results were as follows:

1st equal was Pankhurst and Orwell with 1783 points and 2nd was Darwin with 1740 points.

Huge congratulations to everyone who took part in any sports events throughout the year.

Now after a summer off, the PE department will be looking to replicate this success in the autumn term with Hockey, Rugby, Cross country and Duathlon competitions taking place.

Hayley Rogers

Head of PE

Food Technology

It's heating up in the food kitchen this term. Year 10 have made so much progress now, it is really lovely to see how far they have come. Here are some of their Tunnocks tea cake challenge plates they made recently. Lucas James and Abigail Palmer also won the blind judging for their piping skills recently. In Year 8, May Campbell gave me a slice of pizza and has her pizza displayed on the chef of the moment KS3 board. Well done to May.

Year 9 are now in their show stopper lessons and have key lime pie and Swiss rolls to make.

In Year 7 we are onto the favourite jam tarts lessons which they all enjoy.

Finally, Year 11 have their GCSE exam today as I write this. I wish them all so much luck and success now and, in the future, - they have all learnt so much about the body, food and nutrition which will set them up for a lifelong love of food and health - well done Year 11, I am so proud of you all!

Crochet Club

It has been a busy term at Crochet Club, with a few new joiners and lots of interesting projects. Two students have made lovely flower arrangements, which were perfect for Spring! We are saying farewell to our Year 11 student leaders, Violet Sindle and Rosie Elson. We are very grateful for all the crochet advice and support they have given us, and will really miss their kindness and expertise. Thank you, Violet and Rosie, good luck in your next steps and we look forward to hearing about your future crochet creations!

Henley Youth Festival

The Henley Youth Festival is inviting young people to design their 2027 logo around the theme of Myths & Legends. You can see the full details of how to enter here: Deadline for entries is 31 July 2026

https://www.hyf.org.uk/logo-competition

Parents' Association

Fundraiser Update & Cycle to Paris 2026

On 12th June a group of over 40 parents and grandparents will set off from Henley on a big fundraising cycle ride to Paris. The group headed south to Newhaven before boarding the ferry to Dieppe, having already covered around 140km in several tough stages.

After a few hours' sleep on the ferry, they rolled into France at sunrise and began the long ride to Paris. With beautiful Normandy scenery, a number of refuelling stops, and one final push, they completed the journey with another 190km in the legs.

It's a huge physical and mental challenge so your support will made every kilometre count.

The Henley to Paris Cycle is supporting **Gillotts School, Trinity School, and the Chiltern Centre**.

Funds raised for Gillotts School from 'Cycle to Paris' and the other fundraisers through 2026 will go towards the school's green initiatives and improving our students' outdoor spaces and learning environments. We will also continue to support the school with smaller projects to enhance our children's learning;

- Wildflower meadow
- Mansion Block Pond
- Canopy for quad
- Outdoor classroom

To Find out more and to donate, please visit the Gillotts PA website. You will find the information under 'events'. Or click here; https://www.gillottspa.co.uk/events-page

All donations are very much welcomed. Many thanks for your continued support!

Gillotts PA

Term dates for 2026 - 2027

The dates set out below are the confirmed school term and holiday dates from September 2026.

Term	Dates	Number of days
Autumn Term	01 September - 23 October	39
October half term	26 October - 30 October	
Autumn Term	02 November - 18 December	35
Christmas holiday	21 December - 01 January	
Spring Term	04 January - 12 February	30
Spring half term	15 February - 19 February	
Spring Term	22 February - 25 March	24
Easter Holiday	26 March - 9 April	
Summer Term	12 April - 28 May	34
Late Spring half term	31 May – 4 June	
Summer Term	07 June - 21 July	33
Total		195

INSET days
The school will be closed to students on:
Tuesday 1 September 2026
Friday 25 September 2026
Monday 19 July 2027
Tuesday 20 July 2027
Wednesday 21 July 2027
Note that only Year 7 and Year 10 (and Year 11 Leaders) are required to attend on Wednesday 2 September 2026. The remainder of the school returns on Thursday 3 September 2026.

Monday 3 May 2027 is the May Day Bank Holiday.

Early closures (12.30pm)
Thursday 24 September 2026 Staff and students preparation for Open Evening
Friday 18 December 2026
Friday 16 July 2027

Term dates for 2027 - 2028

The dates set out below are the confirmed school term and holiday dates from September 2027.

Term	Dates	Number of days
Autumn Term	02 September - 22 October	37
October half term	25 October - 01 November	
Autumn Term	02 November - 21 December	36
Christmas holiday	22 December - 04 January	
Spring Term	05 January - 11 February	28
Spring half term	14 February - 18 February	
Spring Term	21 February - 7 April	35
Easter Holiday	10 April - 21 April	
Summer Term	24 April - 26 May	24
Late Spring half term	29 May - 2 June	
Summer Term	05 June - 21 July	35
Total		195

INSET days
The school will be closed to students on:
Thursday 2 September 2027
Friday 3 September 2027
Friday 1 October 2027
Monday 20 December 2027
Tuesday 21 December 2027
Note that only Year 7 and Year 10 (and Year 11 Leaders) are required to attend on Monday 6 September 2027. The remainder of the school returns on Tuesday 7 September 2027.

Monday 1 May 2028 is the May Day bank holiday.

Early closures (12.30pm)
Thursday 30 September 2027 Staff and students preparation for Open Evening
Friday 17 December 2027
Friday 21 July 2028