

YEAR 8 AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2025



Celebrating Success

This term has been filled with incredible achievements across sports, arts, and beyond. We are so proud of every year 8 who has represented The Gilberd School with dedication and enthusiasm:

- George Vinter – Selected for Prince of Wales Cup (Water Polo)
- Flo Tavner – 2nd place in Showjumping
- Mason Partridge – 4th place at Eastern Counties Combined Athletics
- Megan Mooney – Winner of BMX Regional Championship
- U14 Girls Football – 3rd in County
- Year 8 Netball – Wins against Philip Morant, Thomas Lord Audley & St Mary's
- Year 8 Basketball – Victory over Stanway
- Year 8 Rugby – Won two out of three games at Northern Gateway
- Charlotte Pang – Winner of Rotary Club Young Artist Intermediate Group

Please continue to share your child's achievements with us using the email **year8@gilberd.com** – we love celebrating their successes together.

Year 8 Christmas Disco

Tomorrow evening, we look forward to welcoming students to the Main Dining Hall for our Christmas Disco from 5:00pm to 6:30pm. It promises to be a fun and festive event!

Students may bring up to £10 for sweets and refreshments.

If you are collecting your child, please arrive at 6:15pm and wait by the bike gate.

Please note: there will be no supervision after 6:30pm.

Winter Concert

Our Winter Concert will take place on 17th December at 6:30pm. It's always a highlight of the year, and we hope you can join us for an evening of music and festive cheer.



Community & Charity

We are delighted to share that our CCF Cadets raised an incredible £1,900 for the Combined Cadet Force Association from their recent burpee challenge, where Jessica Ryan beat all the other cadets and staff, managing 35 in a minute.

In addition, thank you for your generous contributions to the Colchester Food Bank during our Reverse Advent Calendar initiative – your kindness makes a real difference.

Last summer, our Year Council raised £800 selling ice lollies on Sports Day, contributing to a total of £2,500 for St Helena Hospice. We celebrated with a cheque presentation and a visit from Saunders the Elephant, the hospice mascot. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this possible!

Gilberd Way Awards

Applications for the Silver Gilberd Way Award will open shortly. Students have been working with their tutors to draft their applications, and we would greatly appreciate your support in reviewing these before they apply online using the Microsoft Form available on our school website.

Next Challenge Cup

We have a fun activity planned for our next Challenge Cup and would love your help! Please send us a baby photo of your child (with name and tutor group) for a guessing game that promises plenty of laughs to year8@gilberd.com.

End of Term

We finish at 12.10pm on the last day of term. Full details will follow soon in a letter, but we look forward to ending the term on a high note together.

Contact Info

Email: year8@gilberd.com

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