



Dream big • Do your best • Give back

19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Last night I attended the second night of our creative arts festival. It is challenging to put into words how blown away I was by the sheer talent, dedication, enthusiasm and team work on show across the whole evening. It really was a true spectacle, from our wonderful textiles work being modelled by our students, the vast array of incredible dances choreographed and performed by students of all ages, the art exhibition which is one of the strongest I have seen in my career, to the pure talent on our various stages in the music event. Our students and staff are simply incredible, and I want to thank each and every one of them for creating a memory for me which I will never forget! What a way to end the term.

On that note this is the last parent update of the academic year, and I would like to thank all parents for their support throughout this year. We are very much looking forward to seeing our students return in September but before then we wish you all a wonderful summer holiday ahead, no doubt a time to relax and recharge the batteries!

#### **Portishead Youth Centre Summer Activities**

The Youth Centre will be running a programme of trips and activities throughout the holidays for young people who will be in school year 7 and above from September. Find more information [here](#).

#### **Off The Record (OTR) Portishead Hub**

OTR are providing a drop-in space for any young people aged 11-17 at Portishead Children's Centre from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July. You can find more information [here](#).

#### **Summer Reading Recommendations**

If your child is looking for something to read over the summer holidays, take a look at our librarian's suggestions for books that students might enjoy [here](#).

#### **Lighthouse Schools Partnership (LSP) Art Competition**

LSP are running an art competition over the summer for all schools within the Trust, with prizes to be won for both Primary and Secondary age students. Please see the poster at the bottom of this letter for entry details and closing date.

#### **Families Bulletin July 2024**

Bristol City Council have produced a [Families Bulletin](#) with useful information for families to support their young people across the Summer Holidays.

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**LIGHTHOUSE**  
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

## Wellbeing across the Summer

We hope that the summer break allows students - and their families - time to recharge and relax at the end of a busy academic year; we do understand that for some young people, the lack of school structure can impact their wellbeing adversely.

The following resources from Anna Freud are designed to support student wellbeing:  
[secondary\\_fe\\_selfcare\\_toolkit.pdf \(mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk\)](https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/secondary_fe_selfcare_toolkit.pdf)

While school is closed, if you are worried about your, or someone else's mental health, and want to access support straight away, please try the following helplines or webchats:

**Samaritans** - call them for free from any phone 24/7 for emotional support on 116 123  
**Shout** - if you're experiencing a personal crisis, are unable to cope and need support, text Shout to 85258 for free, 24/7

**Childline** - call them for free 24/7 on 0800 1111 or go to the website for a 1-2-1 webchat with a counsellor.

**HOPELINEUK** for confidential support and practical advice on suicidal thoughts and feelings call 0800 068 4141. HOPELINE UK are open 9am-10pm weekdays, 2pm-10pm weekends.

**KOOTH** - an online counselling service for people aged 5-16, go to [kooth.com](https://www.kooth.com), available Monday to Friday midday - 10pm, Saturday & Sunday 6pm - 10pm.

**CAMHS Crisis Line** - 0800 953 9599

If you need to speak to **Children's Social Care**- please contact the front door service on 01275 888808.

If a life is at risk, please call **999** to access support from emergency services.

## Lost Property

Just a reminder to encourage students to collect any lost property from Student Centre Reception before the end of term.

## Staff Leavers

The latter part of any year within a school setting involves recruiting the very best staff we can to continue to provide the best educational experience for our young people. On Tuesday we will saying a sad goodbye to staff leaving us this academic year to go onto new adventures - promotions, moving area, moving out of the country and into other areas. We are immensely grateful to them for the passion and dedication they have given during their time at Gordano and wish them all the very best for the future.

Teaching Staff		
Mr Fewster	Miss Orlans	Mr Rumming
Mr Powell	Mr Reakes	Miss Waite
Mr Hill	Miss Chivers	Miss Player
Mr Supple	Miss Gardiner	Mrs Jackson
Mrs Reid	Mr Rossiter	

Support Staff		
Mrs Toft	Mr Hance	Mrs Murray
Mr Greenway	Miss Verity	

Mrs Toft, our assistant librarian has been with the school for 16 years and will be retiring this academic year. We would like to thank her for her dedication and support for all the students who she has supported through her work in the library, and we know her retirement will be full of wonderful adventures

I would also like to extend a huge thank you and best wishes to one of our Assistant Headteachers who is retiring this year after an incredible period of time serving the students of Gordano. Thank you to Mr Rossiter, who has been at Gordano for 19 years. He has had a huge impact on the lives of the young people at Gordano and we wish him all the very best in his retirement.

We are also saying a sad farewell to Mr Supple. Mr Supple who is our Head of Boy's PE and second in Faculty is leaving Gordano after 24 years of service to the school. He is simply a legend, and his legacy will stay with the school for a long time. We wish him all the very best with his move.

### **New Staff Joiners**

In September we will have the pleasure of welcoming a new group of staff into the school and we have been lucky to appoint such a strong field. I know they all look forward to working with your children over coming years...

Mr Hussey	Leader of Drama
Mr Stops	Teacher of History
Miss Goodwin	Teacher of Maths
Mr Dorney	Teacher of Music
Mr Willis	Teacher of Physics
Mr Manning	Teacher of Maths
Miss Blakelock	Teacher of English
Mr Hemming	Teacher of Science
Mrs Butcher	Teacher of Art & Photography
Mr Skinner	Teacher of Boys PE
Mr Allen	Teacher of History
Mr Riddell	Behaviour Support Coordinator
Mrs Harmer	HR Administrator

From the whole team at Gordano, we wish our students and families a wonderful and relaxing summer break. We look forward to welcoming you back in September. All the details for our September start will be sent out next week to all families in our summer mailing...

Yours sincerely



**Ms L Blundell**  
**Headteacher**



### Key Dates for Term 6

Tuesday 23rd July	Last day of term for students - 12:30 finish
Wednesday 24th July - Tuesday 3rd September	SUMMER HOLIDAY

### Key Dates for Term 1

Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September	INSET Days
Wednesday 4th September	Years 7 and 12 only at school for 8.45am
Wednesday 4th September	School Photographs for Year 7
Thursday 5th September	Years 8 to 11 and Year 13 at school for 8.45am Years 7 and 12 at school for 10.45am
Thursday 5th September	School Photographs for Year 10
Friday 6th September	Year 12 and 13 Electives Launch
Thursday 12th September	Year 12 Parental Information Evening 6pm
Monday 16th September	Year 9 Parental Information Evening 6pm

Tuesday 17th September	Year 10 Parental Information Evening 6pm
Wednesday 18th September	Sixth Form Autumn Electives begin (lessons 5 & 6 on Wednesdays)
Thursday 19th September	Year 13 Parental Information Evening 6pm
Thursday 26th September	European Day of Languages
Thursday 26th September	Year 6 Open Evening (school finishes at 2.30pm)
Friday 27th September	INSET Day
Monday 30th September	Year 8 Parental Information Evening 6pm
Tuesday 1st October	Year 11 Parental Information Evening 6pm
Thursday 3rd October	Gordano Careers Convention 6pm - 8pm
Friday 4th October	Year 6 Open Morning 9.45am - 11am
Monday 7th October	Year 10 Travel & Tourism Trip (group 1)
Tuesday 8th October	Parent Forum 6pm
Wednesday 9th October	Year 10 Travel & Tourism Trip (group 2)
Wednesday 9th October	Year 11 GCSE Dance Set Phrase Exam
Thursday 10th October	World Mental Health Day
Friday 11th October	Hello Yellow Day
Friday 11th to Sunday 13th October	Year 11 GCSE History Trip to Munich
Monday 14th October	Year 10 Travel & Tourism Trip (group 3)
Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th October	Year 11 GCSE Dance Set Phrase Exam
Thursday 17th October	Year 12 Geography Fieldwork Trip to Minehead/Porlock Weir
Thursday 17th October	Year 7 Parental Information Evening 6pm
Tuesday 22nd October	Year 11 GCSE Art Mock Exam
Tuesday 22nd October	Year 11 Futures Evening 2pm - 7.30pm
Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th October	Year 11 GCSE Art Photography Mock Exam
Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November	HOLIDAY