



Dream big • Do your best • Give back

14th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 12 students attended the Exeter UCAS Fair this week, engaging with representatives from universities across the UK. It was an insightful day that helped them plan for their future studies and careers. A huge range of universities were present, including large, well-established institutions that are always popular with our students, such as Cardiff, Exeter, and Swansea, as well as smaller, more specialized universities that some students had not encountered before.

It was great to see our students making the most of the event—collecting useful information (not to mention an enormous number of freebies!) and exploring the wide and exciting range of future opportunities that await them after Gordano.

We also had the pleasure of hosting our rearranged RAG fest last night which was a vibrant evening full of quality student performances, lots of dancing and a healthy dose of Karaoke! This evening was arranged by the sixth form team as part of their RAG week charity fundraising. I would like to share particular thanks to the performers, Emma W who organised the event and Will B for his role in running the tech for the event.

On Thursday our Year 7 students were also treated to a preview performance of our Music Department tour programme which students will be performing in the Netherlands later this month. We hope they enjoyed the concert. It was certainly nice for our tour students to perform their pieces to an audience. You will be able to see some of those performances yourself if you are able to join us for our two Easter concerts next Tuesday and Wednesday evening. Details on how to book tickets can be found on our website [Gordano School - Spring Concert](#).

Book Fair in the Library - 17th to 21st March

We will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair in the Library from Monday 17th March to Friday 21st March. It will open at lunchtime. You can get a preview of the books available to buy on [the website](#).

There are several ways to purchase books:

- by card or cash
- by buying [book fair vouchers](#). Students then bring the voucher and use it as payment at the fair.
- by using the online payment system <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay>. If you want to use this method, we will provide your child with a form so they can write down the details of the book(s) they would like to purchase, which they will need to bring back with the transaction details added when collecting their book(s).

Every purchase from the Book Fair earns free books for the school library.

Headteacher: Ms L Blundell BMus(Hons) MA

Gordano School, St Mary's Road, Portishead, Bristol BS20 7QR

Tel: 01275 842606

e-mail: mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk www.gordanoschool.org.uk

Lighthouse Schools Partnership, Registered address: St Mary's Road, Portishead, Bristol BS20 7QR

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LIGHTHOUSE
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Shine Easter Workshops

There's still time to take advantage of the early booking discount for the Easter Holiday Workshops until 23rd March. There are a range of sports and activities available at Gordano School and Portishead Football Club, you can find more information and booking links [here](#).

Year 10 WEX

Work Experience is gradually approaching and currently well over half of Year 10 have added their placement details to Unifrog. We know that many students are either waiting for confirmation from an employer or have a placement but haven't yet added the details to Unifrog. There is still plenty of time to find a placement for 30th June - 4th July and for some tips on how to find a placement and add the details to Unifrog please look at the school Careers website page [Parents - LSP Careers](#). If you have any questions, please email the Careers Team on careers@gordanoschool.org.uk.

Christian Union and Chaplaincy

It was lovely to see so many students attend a series of events run by Gordano Christian Union. The 'Would I Lie to You' event was an opportunity for students to listen to the personal spiritual journeys of teachers and a former student.

The next event is an Easter Crafting session, and the student Christian Union meets every Tuesday lunchtime.

Our new Chaplain Verity Eastwood Dewing is already supporting Breakfast Club and working with Nurture students to explore pottery skills. She will shortly be working with students on a revamp of the school Prayer Room, a room available to students and staff of all faiths and none.

Polite Reminder - mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk

Parents are politely reminded to use the above email address when needing to contact teachers. Emails sent directly to teaching staff can often be missed if high volumes of correspondence are received whilst staff are teaching for the day. Using the above mailbox means things can be triaged and often answered more swiftly by support staff. We also have a tracking system to enable us to follow up required responses with teachers, so emails are less likely to be missed.

Year 11 Prom reminder

If you've not yet secured your child's place for the Year 11 Prom on Tuesday 24th June, the booking deadline has now been extended to Friday 21st March. You can make a payment to reserve a place on [ParentPay](#) and if you have any questions, please contact our [Trips Team](#).

Listening Mentors

Wellspring Counselling are offering a new Listening Mentor service which is free for young people aged 11-16 years old. Waiting lists are short, and sessions are available in Portishead, Clevedon, Nailsea and Weston. See the [flyer](#) for more information and contact details.

We wish you a relaxing weekend and look forward to seeing our Year 9 DoE students over the weekend as they embark on their training days.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher

Key Dates for Term 4

Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th March	Year 9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Training Days
Monday 17th to Friday 21st March	Book Fair in the School Library all week
Monday 17th to Friday 21st March	Learning Hub Functional Skills English Exams
Monday 17th to Friday 21st March	Neurodiversity Celebration Week
Monday 17th March	Year 13 A-level Music Recital (all-day exam)
Tuesday 18th March	Easter Concert all-day rehearsal
Tuesday 18th March	Year 13 Politics revision at Vue Cinema
Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th March	6.30pm Easter Concert
Thursday 20th March	4pm - 7.30pm Year 9 Progress Evening
Thursday 20th March	Year 11 Drama trip to Bristol Old Vic (evening)
Friday 21st March	Senior dance company performance, Taunton (Year 10 and 11)
Monday 24th to Friday 28th March	Year 11 DT Mock Exam Week
Monday 24th to Friday 28th March	Learning Hub Functional Skills Maths Exams
Monday 24th March	Year 10 Cambridge National Sports Studies Assessment
Tuesday 25th March	Flying Start Engineering trip to UWE (selected Year 8/9 students)
Tuesday 25th to Sunday 30th March	Year 10-13 Music Tour to the Netherlands
Wednesday 26th March	Year 10 Mock Interview Day
Wednesday 26th March	Year 12 Aspire HE+ visit to Kings of Wessex
Thursday 27th March	LSP Inter-school English Challenge at Backwell School
Friday 28th March	UKMT Maths Challenge at Sidcot School (Year 8/9)
Monday 31st March to Wednesday 2nd April	Year 10 GCSE Drama Performance Exam
Tuesday 1st April	6pm Parent Forum
Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd April	Year 11 Dance Choreography and Performance Exam
Thursday 3rd April	4pm - 7.30pm Year 12 Progress Evening
Friday 4th April	Year 13 Drama trip to Bristol Old Vic
Monday 7th to Friday 18th April inclusive	HOLIDAY