



3rd May 2024

Dream big • Do your best • Give back

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, I would like to share my deepest thanks to our students, staff body and parents for their valuable input into the Ofsted inspection that took place over Tuesday and Wednesday this week. The two-day inspection looked at all aspects of the school's provision and identified many areas of strength as well as areas for continued development. The process of quality assurance means that the outcome of the inspection is currently confidential. The timeline is that the final report will be published within 30 working days of the conclusion of the inspection. It is at that point that I will share the report with you all, thank you for your patience.

Bank Holiday Monday

Just a reminder that Monday is a Bank Holiday and therefore the school is closed to students. We look forward to welcoming them back to school on Tuesday 7th May.

Parents/Carers Survey

Just a reminder that if you haven't yet completed the Lighthouse Schools Partnership survey, there's still time to share your views about the school until Friday 10th May. The link is [here](#).

Homework Review

Thank you for the responses to the Homework Review that was sent out earlier this year. Common procedural themes that were raised have been fed back to Faculty teams for them to consider in their setting.

Some of these were:

- Ensuring that homework is set on the stated day for each year group
- Ensuring all homework is set as a task rather than an announcement
- Plenty of notice for upcoming tests

Heads of Faculty will be meeting in a few weeks, when we will be discussing the issues raised around the types of tasks set, how feedback is given to students on homework and the length of time that tasks should take for each year group.

The current system of setting homework on one day, with a maximum of a two-week deadline has been positively received in the main, though we recognise no one system will ever be ideal for all students. If not already flagged in the survey or with your child's tutor, please do continue to contact your child's tutor in the first instance with any issues specific to your child around the completion of homework.

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LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

Dance Showcase

A huge congratulations to all our dancers who performed at our Dance Showcase which was held over two evenings this week. It was wonderful to see such an array of styles, talent and creativity. Well done!

Parents of Sixth Form students

If your child is driving to school, could you please discuss with them the key points we have raised in assemblies with them, and our key expectations:

- We have no capacity for any student to park on site.
- Parking on the streets around the school must be both legal and considerate. We have had concerns raised by our neighbours in recent weeks and would really appreciate us all coming together as the wider school community to ensure that Sixth Form students consider the implications of their choices on the community.

Knife Crime

All students had an online assembly about the arrival of Knife Angel for the month of May in Weston-super-Mare. This was delivered by the Violence Reduction Team. Students were updated about a month of awareness initiatives being run by the local community and how to share any concerns or to seek support.

A community engagement event is taking place at Portishead Football Club on Saturday 4th May. Details on this can be found at the bottom of this letter, and on Gordano School Facebook page and [website](#).

St Giles Trust are offering a free parent/carer webinar and have asked us to share this - the poster is at the bottom of this letter and the link and QR code to sign up are [here](#).

Celebration Evenings

We are looking forward to hosting families for our Celebration Evenings later this term and next term, the dates for these are below. If your child will be receiving an award you will be invited to attend once the awards are finalised.

Year 7 - 23rd May

Biscay - 13th June

Cromarty - 11th June

Fitzroy - 12th June

Lundy - 20th June

Portland - 18th June

Shannon - 19th June

Portishead Residents Annual Meeting - 15th May

The Town Council invite all Portishead Residents to share their views on local matters at this meeting. You can find more information [here](#).

Wishing you a relaxing bank holiday weekend



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher

FREE!
WEBINAR SESSION
COUNTY LINES

SOS+
SOMERSET

for Parents/Carers in North Somerset as part of Knife Angel

Wednesday 8th May
5:30pm-7:00pm

Our gang and county lines parents' session consists of speakers with lived experience within the criminal justice system to unpack and explore the realities and consequences of county lines, gang involvement, and serious youth violence.

Perspectives from previous perpetrators and runners/transmitters, combined with relevant case studies, aid audiences in gaining an authentic and credible understanding of this complex and cross cutting issue.

The session will help parents and carers to identify the signs and triggers that a child or young person might be involved in county lines and gain an understanding of how to appropriately respond to such indicators.

Register below:

Scan the QR code or click here!

Meeting will be held on Zoom.

St Giles
Turning a past into a future

For more information:
binkey.kennard@stgilestrust.org.uk

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KNIFE ANGEL
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

SATURDAY 4th MAY 2024
9:00 – 12:00
Portishead Football Club



Find out more about Knife Angel and month of awareness!

Join us to find out more about Knife Angel's visit in North Somerset and speak to:

Violence Reduction Partnership
Portishead Police Beat Team + Police Bike Marking
Portishead Youth Centre
Talk Club

For information on knife crime, including surrender bins, scan here:

The Knife Angel is in Italian Gardens, Weston 1 - 30 May 2024

Key Dates for Term 5

Monday 6th May	MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY
Tuesday 7th May	Year 7 General Knowledge Quiz
Tuesday 7th - Friday 10th May	Year 13 A-level MFL Speaking Exams
Tuesday 7th - Thursday 9th May	Year 13 A-Level Art Exam
Tuesday 7th - Wednesday 8th May	Year 12 Mock Art Exam
Wednesday 8th May	3.30pm - 5pm Teatime Careers Networking Event
Wednesday 8th May	Year 11 Celebration Day (Y11 students leave school at midday)
Thursday 9th May	Year 9 MenACWY/DtP Vaccinations
Friday 10th May	Year 13 Leavers' Celebration
Monday 13th - Friday 17th May	Mental Health Awareness Week
Tuesday 14th May	6pm - 7pm Parent Forum
Tuesday 14th - Wednesday 15th May	Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Practice Expedition - Group 1
Thursday 16th May	4pm - 7.30pm Year 10 Progress Evening
Thursday 16th - Friday 17th May	Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Practice Expedition - Group 2
Monday 20th May	7pm - 9pm Drama Performance: Wonderland
Wednesday 22nd May	LSP UWE Leadership Conference (Year 12)
Thursday 23rd May	6pm - 7pm Year 7 Celebration Evening
Friday 24th - Sunday 26th May	Year 12 Gold Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition
Monday 27th - Friday 31st May	HOLIDAY