



Dream big • Do your best • Give back

27th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Last night we held our annual open evening for students currently in Year 6. It was good to see so many families join us. This night simply could not run as successfully as it does without the significant support of our students. Last night we had more than 200 students supporting as tour guides, supporting in faculties, leading our presentations to parents as well as performing for parents and students as part of the presentations. It was a huge team effort so thank you to everyone who was involved.

Parent information Evenings

Just a reminder that we have two up and coming information evenings next week. Year 8 information evening will be taking place on Monday 30th September and Year 11 on Tuesday 1st October. Booking links are below:

[Year 8 - Monday 30th September](#)

[Year 11 - Tuesday 1st October](#)

Tutor Meetings

Online tutor meetings will be held on Thursday 10th October for all year groups. Parents will have received an email this week providing further information and details of how to book an appointment.

Pastoral Staffing Update

We are delighted to announce that Mr England will be taking over as Head of House for Lundy when Mrs Lloyd goes on her maternity leave. Mr England has previous experience in a pastoral role and is very excited about supporting our Lundy students during the period that Mrs Lloyd is on leave.

Careers Convention - Thursday 3rd October

Please join us at our annual Careers Convention on Thursday 3rd October from 6-8pm. There will be over 50 employers, colleges, universities and other educational organisations all eager to talk to parents and students about what they offer and what skills and qualifications are needed for different career pathways. We always encourage parents and students from all year groups to attend this event but will prioritise talks in the Sixth Form Hall for Years 10-13 parents (18:00 Apprenticeships, 18:45 University, 19:30 College). Eventbrite tickets have been shared with parents on ClassCharts. If you are unable to reserve a space, there will be future opportunities for parents and students to learn more about these options.

Due to building work on the school site, please note that there is limited parking for this event; please use the coach park, car share or arrive on foot if possible.

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LIGHTHOUSE
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Safeguarding

We continue to emphasise the benefits on wellbeing of being phone free during the school day and offer age-appropriate advice to students about the need to use social media kindly and safely, however the impact of inappropriate social communication online continues to impact our young people. Our pastoral and safeguarding teams continue to support students around this area and the following links share useful advice for parents to continue these discussions at home and is a timely reminder to check parental controls and age-appropriateness for the apps being used. (For example, Instagram has introduced teen accounts for 13- to 15-year-olds in response to concerns about access to adult content).

[Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

[Top Tips for Reporting Harmful Content Online - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

Year 9 Activities Week 2025

The Year 9 Activities Week programme for 2025 has been launched this week. Take a look at the exciting residential experiences on offer in our [online brochure](#).

The Year 7 and Year 8 Activities Week programmes will be launched very shortly.

For more information visit our [Trips & Activities Week webpage](#), or contact trips@gordanoschool.org.uk if you have any questions.

Portishead Town Football Club Community Engagement Day - 5th October

See the [poster](#) for more information about the activities available.

Period Products

We have various sanitary products available if families are experiencing financial difficulty. Please email Mrs Thomas via mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk if you would like some products for your household. This will be treated in the strictest confidence.

We also have period pants available in the Student Centre if any of our students would like a pair or two.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher

Key Dates for Term 1

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| Monday 30th September | Year 11 School Photographs |
| Monday 30th September | Year 8 Parental Information Evening |
| Tuesday 1st October | Year 11 Parental Information Evening |
| Wednesday 2nd October | Year 9/10 UPS Trip to Police Headquarters, Portishead |
| 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) |

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| Thursday 10th October | World Mental Health Day |
| Thursday 10th October | Online Tutor Meetings |
| 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 |
| Monday 21st October | Year 11 Careers Trip to Weston College |
| 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 |