



Dream big • Do your best • Give back

4th April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As this term draws to a close, this week we have released our [Term 4 Newsletter](#) packed with a wide array of student success stories and a roundup of all the activities that have happened this term.

Next term is a short 5-week term, do please look at the bottom of this letter for the updated list of key dates and a reminder that the Easter Monday Bank Holiday falls on 21st April so students will return to school on the Tuesday (22nd April).

Effort focus

We've had a whole school 'Gordano Learning' focus on Effort during terms 3 and 4, exploring what we mean by concerted effort in learning and building confidence in thinking deeply, being stretched and becoming increasingly independent. Students in all year groups have been responding really positively, understanding the link between effort and resilience. We look forward to exploring this further in Terms 5 and 6.

Years 7 to 11 Learning Updates

Mr Snow, Director of Key Stage 3 and Mr Beesley, Director of Key Stage 4 have produced newsletters for each year group giving you an overview of curriculum topics for the remainder of this academic year, an update on activities and achievements, and dates for your diary.

You can read the newsletters for each year group below:

[Year 7](#)

[Year 8](#)

[Year 9](#)

[Year 10](#)

[Year 11](#)

PE Skort reminder

A reminder to parents that the skort is no longer part of the PE uniform. After Easter, students will be expected to wear the Gordano PE shorts. Students arriving in skorts will be required to borrow a pair of shorts from school or sent home to change. If any families are struggling to afford the shorts, please get in touch with Mandi Davies via mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk.

Black shorts in the style of Nike Pros are not part of the uniform and students wearing these will be sent to the Student Centre to borrow the correct PE kit or sent home to change.

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LIGHTHOUSE
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As per our uniform correction process, any student refusing to borrow the correct kit or unable to go home will need to spend the day in the Focus Room.

English as an Additional Language

Mrs Thomas sent out a survey to all students for whom we believe English to be an additional language. If you did not receive this survey link but think you should have, please contact Mrs Thomas via mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk.

Keeping in Touch Surgeries: Term 5 Bookings

Following my communication in last week's update that we will be introducing Keeping in Touch Surgeries in Term 5, with initial sessions running every Wednesday 4pm - 5pm in 15-minute slots with a member of SLT, I am pleased to share that from Tuesday 22nd April at 7pm the following link can be used to book a slot:

[SchoolCloud - Gordano School](#)

We will issue a reminder to all parents on that day and provide the link again.

Activities Week 2025

All payments should now have been made for Activities Week for Years 7, 8 and 9. If you have not yet made full payment, please log into your ParentPay account and settle the outstanding amount at your earliest convenience or contact our [Trips Team](#).

Drama Showcase - 23rd April

We are proud to announce our Drama Showcase taking place on Tuesday 23rd April from 6pm until 8.30pm, to celebrate our students' work. The evening will feature 'No Regrets', directed by Miss Day and featuring students from Years 9 - 13 fresh from their performance at the Bristol Old Vic, along with a special performance of Allan Ayckbourn's 'Ernie's Incredible Illucinations', presented by Mr Hussey's Key Stage 3 Drama Club. Tickets are available from Your Box Office [here](#).

Dance Showcase - 29th & 30th April

Get ready for an unforgettable evening of talent, rhythm, and fun at our School Dance Showcase on Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th April, 7pm - 9pm in the Main Hall. Tickets are £5 per person (£2 for students) and you can book via the website [here](#) or pay on the door. Join us as our talented students hit the stage and show off their incredible dance skills in a spectacular performance - it's a night you won't want to miss!

Police Notice

There have been a couple of incidents in and around Portishead involving 'strangers' approaching children in the past week. Police have been informed but it seems a timely reminder to talk to children at home about keeping safe when out and about and the importance of telling someone if something happens to make them feel unsafe.

Safeguarding and Support during Easter Break

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, 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

Portishead Youth Centre Easter Activities

There are lots of exciting activities happening at the Youth Centre over the Easter Holidays, including trips, games and sports, crafts and cooking. You can find more information and details of how to book [here](#).

The Buzz - April 2025

This newsletter has been produced by North Somerset Council and contains useful information and contacts for Children and Young People with SEND and their families. You can read the latest edition [here](#).

Become a Travel Champion

North Somerset Council invite you to make a positive impact on your community and the environment by joining their **Travel Champions** initiative.

As a Travel Champion, you'll:

- promote **sustainable travel**, like biking or taking the bus
- build your **knowledge** and **leadership experience**
- have a voice in **council initiatives** in your local area
- be eligible for **free bus travel** as a reward for your efforts!

This is your chance to lead by example and help create a greener, more connected community. Find out more and register your interest [here](#).

From everyone at Gordano we wish you all a relaxing Easter break and we look forward to welcoming students back to school on Tuesday 22nd April.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher

Key Dates for Term 5

Monday 21st April	EASTER MONDAY BANK HOLIDAY
Tuesday 22nd to Thursday 24th April	Year 11 GCSE Textiles Practical Exam
Tuesday 22nd to Friday 25th April	Year 13 A-Level MFL Speaking Exams
Wednesday 23rd April	Year 7 General Knowledge Quiz

Wednesday 23rd April	6pm Drama Showcase
Thursday 24th April	Year 13 A-level Music Composition Arrangement Exam
Thursday 24th April	3.30pm - 4.30pm Careers Teatime Networking
Thursday 24th April	4pm - 7.30pm Year 8 Progress Evening
Friday 25th to Sunday 27th April	Silver Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition
Monday 28th April to Friday 2nd May	Year 11 GCSE MFL Speaking Exams
Monday 28th April to Wednesday 30th April	Year 13 A-Level Textiles Exam
Monday 28th April to Thursday 1st May	GCSE Art and Photography Exam
Monday 28th April	Dance Show Technical Rehearsal
Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th April	7pm Dance Showcase
Thursday 1st May	Junior Maths Challenge
Friday 2nd May	Sixth Form May Day Challenge
Friday 2nd May	Year 11 Celebration Day (Year 11 students finish school at midday)
Monday 5th May	BANK HOLIDAY
Tuesday 6th to Wednesday 7th May	Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition Group A
Tuesday 6th to Thursday 8th May	Year 13 A-Level Art Exam
Tuesday 6th to Wednesday 7th May	Year 12 Mock Art Exam
Thursday 8th to Friday 9th May	Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition Group B
Thursday 8th May	Start of GCSE written exams
Thursday 8th May	5pm - 7pm Year 6 Parental Information Evening
Thursday 9th May	Year 13 Leavers' Celebration
Monday 12th May	Start of A-Level written exams
Tuesday 13th May	6pm Parent Forum
Wednesday 14th May	Year 9 MenACWY/DtP Vaccinations
Thursday 15th May	4pm - 7.30pm Year 10 Progress Evening
Monday 19th May	Year 8 Geography Trip to Cheddar Gorge - Group 1
Tuesday 20th May	Year 8 Geography Trip to Cheddar Gorge - Group 2
Wednesday 21st May	Year 8 Geography Trip to Cheddar Gorge - Group 3
Wednesday 21st May	Year 12 UWE Business Day
Thursday 22nd May	Year 12 Trip to Oxford University for potential Oxbridge entrants
Thursday 22nd May	6pm Year 7 Celebration Evening
Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th May	Gold Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition
Monday 26th to Friday 30th May inclusive	HOLIDAY