

Dream big • Do your best • Give back

28<sup>th</sup> February 2025

### **Dear Parents and Carers**

I hope you have had a positive week and welcome back to term 4. Thank you to our Year 7 parents who were able to attend our progress evening last night. We hope you found the evening informative, and it gave you a good insight into how your child has settled at Gordano. As teachers we really do value the opportunity to share the progress your child is making, and we appreciate your support in encouraging your child in those areas of development identified.

As you will recall before Christmas, we had to postpone our RAG Fest evening due to a clash of commitments with performers who were involved in a variety of other Christmas events. We are delighted to announce that this event has now been rearranged. Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 are invited to join us for RAG Fest on Thursday 13th March in the Main Hall from 6pm to 8pm. Tickets are available on ParentPay for £5 in advance or £6 on the door. Refreshments will be available on the night. This event promises to be a highlight of our year, filled with fun, entertainment and a chance to make a difference, so come along, have a fantastic time, and help raise funds for our chosen Charities.

# World Book Day - 6th March

World Book Day is on Thursday 6th March. All students in Years 7 and 8 will be given a printed token during their Reading or English lessons. Students in older years can come to collect them from the library. Alternatively, you can use a digital copy of the token here. You can print the token or download it onto your phone, though some retailers will only accept them if printed. The book token can only be used in participating bookshops, which includes Hartmanns Books in Portishead, and some supermarkets; they cannot be used online. We will also be accepting them at the book fair which we will be holding in the library in the week beginning 17th March. The tokens can be used until Sunday 23rd March.

On Thursday we will be giving away some of the 2025 World Book Day books at lunchtime in the library. We only have a limited number so only one per student will be permitted, while stocks last.

For more information on the World Book Day Books, see <a href="here">here</a> (when clicking on individual titles you will be able to look at an extract).

## National Careers Week 3rd - 8th March

We will continue to signpost our whole school careers programme to students across National Careers week, through assemblies, and subject links to Local Market Information. Please do use this opportunity to speak to your children about your own career pathways and to discuss their own aspirations.



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## Phone-free school update

We are looking forward to a visit from Yondr this month to survey the school site and move forward with the logistical steps of introducing our pouches. We are working towards a launch for the week beginning 2nd June (the first week of term 6) and would like to reassure you that we will be communicating significantly with you in the lead-up to then, through letters, meetings and webinars.

I would like to re-share the link to <u>our FAQs</u>, the questions for which came from our parent forum. If there are any other questions you have at this stage, please do communicate those via the <u>Mailbox</u>.

#### Safer Internet

We continue to share information about keeping families safe online. You may wish to check out the following with your family to learn how to spot persuasive digital marketing tactics in apps and games:

<u>DarkPattern.games</u> » <u>Healthy Gaming</u> « <u>Avoid Addictive Dark Patterns</u> Manipulative marketing in games

We wish you all a lovely and relaxing weekend.

Yours sincerely

Ms L Blundell Headteacher

### Key Dates for Term 4

School trips are not always organised for entire year groups or tutors. If your child is invited to attend a trip, you will be notified via email, and the details will be available in your ParentPay account.

Monday 24th February to	Year 13 Mock Exams
Friday 7th March	
Tuesday 4th March	Years 7/8/9 North Somerset Dance Festival - Weston
	Playhouse
Wednesday 5th March	Year 11 Uniformed Services trip to Avon & Somerset
	Police HQ
Wednesday 5th March	3.30 - 5pm Careers Teatime Networking
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day
Thursday 6th March	Year 9/10/11 Dance trip to Swan Lake, Bristol
	Hippodrome
Thursday 6th March	5.30 - 7pm Year 7 Disco
Monday 10th to Friday	Year 13 MFL Speaking Mock Exams
14th March	
Tuesday 11th March	Sixth Form MFL Spanish trip to BFI London
Wednesday 12th March	Year 12 UCAS Convention at Westpoint, Exeter
Wednesday 12th to Friday	Year 10 GCSE Drama Performance Exam
14th March	
Friday 14th March	8.45am Sixth Form Photo

Year 9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Training Days
Book Fair in the School Library all week
Learning Hub Functional Skills English Exams
Neurodiversity Celebration Week
Year 13 A-level Music Recital (all-day exam)
Easter Concert all-day rehearsal
Year 13 Politics revision at Vue Cinema
6pm Easter Concert
4pm - 7.30pm Year 9 Progress Evening
Year 11 Drama trip to Bristol Old Vic (evening)
Year 11 DT Mock Exam Week
Learning Hub Functional Skills Maths Exams
Year 10 Cambridge National Sports Studies Assessment
Year 10-13 Music Tour to the Netherlands
Year 10 Mock Interview Day
Year 12 Aspire HE+ visit to Kings of Wessex
LSP Inter-school English Challenge at Backwell School
UKMT Maths Challenge at Sidcot School (Year 8/9)
Year 10 GCSE Drama Performance Exam
6pm Parent Forum
Year 11 Dance Choreography and Performance Exam
4.00 - 7.30 Year 12 Progress Evening
Year 13 Drama trip to Bristol Old Vic
HOLIDAY