



Dream big • Do your best • Give back

7th February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Next Friday is our final INSET Day of the academic year and so the school will be closed to students. These days are extremely important to us in terms of staff training. The day is being held at Ashton Gate as all teaching and student-facing support staff from all four secondary schools in LSP will be coming together for our first LSP conference. The focus for the day is 'Advancing equity and unlocking potential'. We have a range of exceptional speakers involved in the day and I have no doubt it will be an inspiring day for our staff.

If you're not already, we would love you to follow our school Facebook page (facebook.com/Gordanoschool/) to stay up to date with the range of activities happening here at Gordano.

Following the success of our first Termly Newsletter (you can read it [here](#)), we are busy working on the next one which will be issued on Tuesday 11th February so do keep your eyes peeled on your emails and our Facebook page. It's a bumper issue and we can't wait to share lots of exciting news and updates with you and our wider community.

Contact from First Aid

Following some parental feedback, we are now endeavouring to contact parents/carers at the first point that a student reports to First Aid, regardless of the symptoms that they are reporting to us with. Please do not feel that your child must go home following a call from First Aid; more often than not, students are able to continue with the rest of their school day.

Children's Mental Health Week

This week all year-groups have engaged with activities to support Children's Mental Health Week - including assemblies, lunchtime screenings of 'Inside Out 2' and pop-ups from OTR, Kooth and NSLGT. Thank you to all our students involved and to our external agency partners for joining us throughout the week.

Careers Spotlight - Bristol Airport

A huge thank you to Bristol Airport for our Careers Spotlight Session this term. They talked about the wide range of different careers available at the airport, how the airport will be expanding and how they work with lots of other organisations to provide the essential services that enable the airport to run. A member of their Fire Service team explained to students how they operate within the airport and one of our students tried on all the equipment they need to wear when attending an emergency. It was a fascinating event and an area to investigate as Bristol Airport are one of the largest employers in the local area. The students thoroughly enjoyed the session with many staying after the talk to ask more questions.

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LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

Post 18 Apprenticeship Evening: Wednesday 12th February 5.30pm - 7pm

On Wednesday 12th February we will be hosting our Post 18 Apprenticeship Evening. The evening will begin with an overview of the apprenticeship pathways available after Year 13, including degree apprenticeships. You'll also hear from Gordano Alumni about the routes they took after leaving school. The event will conclude with a mini careers fair.

Please sign up here if interested - full details have been sent directly to parents and students:
[Post 18 Apprenticeship Evening Registration - Wednesday 12th Feb 2025](#)

Design a programme cover for Portishead Town FC

Portishead Town Football Club are running a competition for one of their junior fans to design the front cover of their programme for their game against St Austell next week. You can find full details [here](#) and entries need to be submitted by 12th February.

Social Media

If I could ask parents to continue to check the security settings on their children's mobile phones and to have conversations around the law - and appropriateness of comments and personal information shared online - we would very much appreciate it.

Year 8 HPV vaccinations

These will take place on Wednesday 12th February. If you have not yet confirmed whether or not you wish you child to receive the vaccine, please complete [this form](#) as soon as possible.

Year 9 Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio (Td/IPV) vaccinations

These vaccinations will now take place on Wednesday 14th May, further details with a link to provide consent will be sent shortly.

We wish you all a lovely and relaxing weekend.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher

Key Dates for Term 3

Sunday 9th February	Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Training Day
Mon 10th to Fri 14th February	National Apprenticeship Week
Monday 10th February	3.35pm MFL Spelling Bee Final
Mon 10th to Wed 12th February	Year 11 GCSE Drama Performance Exam
Tuesday 11th February	6pm Parent Forum
Wednesday 12th February	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
Wednesday 12th February	Year 9 Travel & Tourism trip (group 1)

Wednesday 12th February	5.30 - 7.30pm Post-18 Apprenticeship Evening
Thursday 13th February	Year 11 & Year 13 Student Leadership Conference, Chew Valley School
Thursday 13th February	Year 12 & Year 13 English Trip, Noel Coward Theatre London
Thursday 13th February	4 - 7.30pm Year 11 Progress Evening
Friday 14th February	INSET Day
Monday 17th to Friday 21st February inclusive	HOLIDAY

Key Dates for Term 4

Monday 24th February to Friday 7th March	Year 13 Mock Exams
Tuesday 25th February	Year 11 Dance Choreography Mock Day
Wednesday 26th February	Year 9 Travel & Tourism trip (group 2)
Thursday 27th February	4pm - 7.30pm Year 7 Progress Evening
Thursday 28th February	Year 13 Media Studies trip to BFI London
Thursday 28th February	Year 8 Aspire trip to Bath University
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 14th March	Year 13 MFL Speaking Mock Exams
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 14th March	Year 10 GCSE Drama Performance Exam
Friday 14th March	8.45am Sixth Form Photo
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 and Wednesday 19th March	6pm Easter Concert
Thursday 20th March	4pm - 7.30pm Year 9 Progress Evening
Thursday 20th March	Year 11 Drama trip to Bristol Old Vic (evening)
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 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
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	4.00 - 7.30 Year 12 Progress Evening
Monday 7th to Friday 18th April inclusive	HOLIDAY