



Dream big • Do your best • Give back

19th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to Term 5, I hope you managed to have a lovely Easter break (despite the wet weather!). Over the Easter holidays five of our students represented the Avon Schools Sports Hall Association in the UK Sports Hall Championship in Stoke-on-Trent. The students competed at a very high level with the Boys finishing in 2nd place as a team and the Girls finishing 6th best. The County Schools Team Managers have written to me to congratulate our students for their dedication and outlining what a credit they were to our school, so many congratulations to Eliza, Clio, Lexie, Sam and Josh.

At the start of this term, we held our weekly Monday Broadcast and reminded students of our expectations as we go through this term. Please find attached a copy of the presentation [here](#).

Knife Crime

St Giles Trust are offering a free parent/carers 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](#).

Also, 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](#).

Nose piercings

We have seen an increase in the number of students with nose piercings. We would like to take this opportunity again to highlight that students are not permitted to have nose studs or nose rings. The reasons for this are due to the health and safety risks attached to wearing this item for both the individual and other students. Please can we ask that you adhere to our expectations on this matter.

Parental Meetings

If you require a meeting with a member of staff, please ensure this is arranged in advance. Staff have various teaching and other commitments through the day, and it is unlikely that they will be able to see you without a pre-booked appointment.

Uniform

We have been informed that there is a rumour circulating that we are phasing out blazers. We want to be clear and state that this is not the case, and we will inform parents and students of any changes to our uniform. As per our message towards the end of last year, we are phasing out the school sports hoodie and in its place is the ¼ zip sweatshirt which our current year 7's are wearing. The ¼ zip sweatshirt is available to purchase in a range of sizes at the Sports Shop. Please click on the link for both the uniform and PE kit requirements [Gordano School - Uniform](#).

Headteacher: Ms L Blundell BMus(Hons) MA

Gordano School, St Mary's Road, Portishead, Bristol BS20 7QR

Tel: 01275 842606

e-mail: mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk www.gordanoschool.org.uk

Lighthouse Schools Partnership, Registered address: St Mary's Road, Portishead, Bristol BS20 7QR

A charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (Company Number: 07662102)



LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

Year 9 Core Mocks

Year 9 mocks will run on the dates listed below. These mocks will take place during lessons, with all other subjects continuing as normal. Please see Mrs Harding's email from Wednesday for revision topics and strategies.

Maths Paper 1	Tuesday 30 th April
English	Tuesday 30 th April
Science	Wednesday 1 st May
Maths Paper 2	Friday 3 rd May

As a result of how we have scheduled these exams, we have arranged with Sirona to move the vaccinations that were scheduled on Tuesday 30th April. These will now take place on Thursday 9th May. We will write out to all Year 9 parents to confirm this too. Consent for the vaccinations stands whenever they take place, and we will send out more information on missing consents when Sirona have collated their data for us.

Year 10 AR2 Reports

The Year 10 Achievement Review 2 will be issued by the start of next week. This was put back slightly to support colleagues marking the Year 11 Mock Exams. The reports will show **EFFORT**, **BEHAVIOUR** and a **PROJECTED GRADE** for the end of Year 11. We continue to learn from exam feedback but cannot be certain about grade boundaries each year. Please take the opportunity to discuss these reports as a family, celebrate the positives and set yourself targets on how to make progress in the subjects where improvements can be made.

Year 10 Mock Exams

As Year 11 complete their exams and leave us, we will begin the Year 11 journey, with the Year 10 Mock Exams. They begin on **Monday 17th June** and will continue over the following two weeks. We try to replicate a Summer Exam season as best we can, to ensure students experience what it will be like in Year 11. It is important that students are prepared as best as possible for these assessments and take them very seriously. They will be challenging, and time management is essential to balance revision and rest to ensure students are in the best place possible to perform well. Now is a great opportunity to begin effective revision, and resources have been shared via ClassCharts on how best to prepare.

Year 11 AR2 Reports

The Year 11 Achievement Review 2 reports were issued at the start of this week. The reports show **EFFORT**, **BEHAVIOUR** and a **PROJECTED GRADE** for the end of Year 11. This is now the final phase of preparation in the build-up to the exams, so please take the opportunity to discuss these reports as a family, and set specific time related to effective revision. Resources have been shared via ClassCharts on how best to prepare and [GCSEPod](#) is available for all students and is a superb resource!

Exam Stress Workshop - Wednesday 24th April 2024

Portishead Town Council are offering a free workshop for parents on managing exam stress in children and young people. You can find more information [here](#).

Portishead Youth Hub Survey

One of our key community partners, Portishead Youth hub would like to gather your thoughts of what you would like from the Youth Centre, either in house or community-based sessions/ workshops. This will help when we are putting together funding bids for the next year.

Please click [this link](#) to complete the survey.

Gate Incident Follow Up

We have reviewed our Risk Assessment following the incident at the school gate last term and have put in place several additional strategies to ensure that we do not have a similar incident again, as the safety of our students is our highest priority. I met with the Health and Safety Executive this week who are satisfied with the additional measures we have taken. We continue to work with our competent advisor for Health and Safety who is completing an independent investigation. Once this is completed the report will be shared.

We wish you all a relaxing weekend.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher

FREE!
WEBINAR SESSION
COUNTY LINES

SOS+
services

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/transporters, 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:
biniky.kennard@stgilestrust.org.uk

St Giles is a registered charity No 801355. St Giles Head Office, 64-68 Cambridge Church St, London, SE5 8J9. www.stgilestrust.org.uk © St Giles Trust 2023

KNIFE ANGEL
Weston-super-Mare

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT

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
Portishead Youth Centre + Police Bike Marking 

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

Saturday 20th - Sunday 21st April	Year 9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Training Days
Monday 22nd - Friday 26th April	Year 11 GCSE MFL Speaking Exams
Monday 22nd - Wednesday 24th April	Year 13 A-level textiles exam
Tuesday 23 April	1.30pm Year 12 UCAS Convention
Tuesday 23rd - Wednesday 24th April	Year 11 GCSE dance exam
Thursday 25th April	Junior Maths Challenge (Years 7-8)
Thursday 25th April	6pm - 7pm Year 6 Parental Information Evening
Friday 26th April	Sixth Form May Day Challenge
Friday 26th - Sunday 28th April	Year 10 Silver Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition
Monday 29th April - Friday 3rd May	Year 9 Mock Exam Week
Monday 29th April	Dance Showcase technical rehearsal
Monday 29th - Tuesday 30th April	Year 11 GCSE Art Exam
Tuesday 30th April - Wednesday 1st May	7pm - 9.30pm Dance Showcase
Wednesday 1st - Thursday 2nd May	GCSE Art Photography Exam
Thursday 2nd May	4pm - 7.30pm Year 12 Progress Evening
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 9 th 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