



Dream big • Do your best • Give back

12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have had a good week and well done to our students who have settled back in well to the new term. Our Year 11 students were busy this morning picking up their mock GCSE grades. Just a reminder that students will continue to be closely supported. We have already started the process of walking through the papers with students and ensuring we support students to move forward for their current position over the next few months. We also have our Parent Information Evening for Year 11 parents on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January between 6pm-7pm. To support students in ensuring that they have time to look at their mock results, we have extended the deadline for Sixth Form applications and look forward to receiving your child's application if they have not already submitted one. The new deadline is **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January**.

#### **Careers - Tea-Time Networking Wednesday 24 January 3.30pm - Engineering**

We have an opportunity coming up for students in Years 9-13 to meet and talk to major companies in the Engineering Industry. So far Edwards Vacuums, BAE Systems, BEMA and Airbus have confirmed they will be attending. Students have been sent a notification and Microsoft Form to sign up to the event on ClassCharts if they are interested.

#### **Employability and Mock Interview Sessions for Year 10 Students**

Our Employability programme for Year 10 was launched last Friday in Tutor time when students selected a job role that they would like to apply for. On the morning of **Wednesday 24 January** students will be off timetable between periods 3 & 6 and will have the opportunity to write a CV, undertake interview preparation and develop employability skills ready for Mock Interviews with employees from a wide range of companies on **Thursday 29 February**.

#### **School Counselling**

We continue to experience a strong demand for our school counselling service, please note that counselling sessions will stop for all Y11 & Y13 students during the exam period in April/May.

- No new counselling requests for Y11/Y13 at this point. For Y11s & Y13s that are not already being supported by us, we do not have sufficient capacity before the summer exams to offer new blocks of counselling sessions at this point. We will do our best to offer signposting support to staff / students if needed (e.g. staff discussion or one-off session to think about what type of support the student/family may wish to look for).
- Post-exam support for students we are already supporting will be agreed on an individual basis.

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**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](mailto:mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk) [www.gordanoschool.org.uk](http://www.gordanoschool.org.uk)

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

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**LIGHTHOUSE**  
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

## Contact Forms

We are aware that we have had some issues with contact forms not arriving to the intended recipient. We are just looking into this issue and reviewing the contact form process. If you have sent a recent communication directly to me via the contact form and have not had a response, can I ask that you resend the original email into the mailbox email account, and I will respond as soon as possible. [mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk](mailto:mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk)

## Parents of students with SEND

Please see the attached letter from our new SENDCo Julie Caswell who joined us this term.

## Christmas Card Competition

A huge well done to all those who entered as we received many entries of a high standard. I would like to congratulate Katie in 7P1 whose beautiful hand drawn design of Portishead was our winner. Runner up was Artyom in 7P2 who designed a card including a humorous edited photograph. Both entries can be seen on our website [here](#).

We wish you a relaxing weekend.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell  
Headteacher

## Key Dates for Term 3

### Term 3 Achievement Reviews for Year Group 7 and 11

Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 11 Mock Results Day (tutor time)
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	8.30 - 12.30 Year 12 Food & Nutrition Practical Exam
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	Sixth Form Winter Electives begin
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 13 A-level Music mock recitals (all day)
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Year 11 Parental Information Evening 6pm-7pm
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 10 Employability Workshop
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	4.00 - 7.30 Year 13 Progress Evening
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Intermediate Maths Challenge (Years 9-11)
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 11 GCSE Drama Performance Exam (lessons 1-6)
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	3.30 - 4.30 Year 7 MFL Spelling Bee Final
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 11 GCSE Drama Performance Exam (lessons 1-6)
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	6.00 - 7.00 Parent Forum
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 11 GCSE Drama Performance Exam (lessons 1-6)
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	4.00 - 7.30 Year 11 Progress Evening
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	School Production all-day rehearsal (8.40 - 5.30)
HOLIDAY	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February - Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February inclusive
INSET DAYS	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February & Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February