



14th July 2023

Dream big • Do your best • Give back

Dear Parents and Carers

Despite it being the penultimate week of term the pace of events at the school has not slowed down. This week I had the absolute pleasure of attending our Creative Arts & DT Festival held at the school and I thank all our families and members of the community who were able to join us for this incredible event. The evening was a showcase for the amazing talent of our students across all 8 creative art subjects, it was nothing other than joyous and uplifting! I would like to thank each, and every student involved at all levels as well as our inspirational creative arts and DT teams who masterminded this event as a platform for their students. Do have a peek on our twitter page if you want to see some of the highlights.

Summer Mailing

Over the next two weeks you will be receiving the summer mailing with details for the start of term in September.

Just a reminder that at the start of next academic year, we will be running a similar 2 days to the days we ran in September last year. Further details will be shared with you in the summer mailing that I send out, but just to ensure you are aware of the outline, please see below:

INSET Days: Monday 4th September and Tuesday 5th September

Wednesday 6th September: Year 7 and Year 12 only

Thursday 7th September: Year 8-11 and Year 13 in for 8.45am. There will be a late start for students in Years 7 and 12 on this day (10.45am)

Year 10 Parents – Work Experience (WEX)

It has been lovely hearing the experiences of Year 10 students out on Work placements during Activities Week – we understand two job offers have already been made! We would welcome assistance from home in nudging the completed WEX booklets back in to tutors so that students can be issued with their WEX certificates.

Year 9 Parents – Work Experience

Please note that work experience for current Year 9's; next year's Year 10's is: **Monday 1st July – Friday 5th July 2024**. It is a very competitive market for work placements, and it is never too early for students to start searching for their placements for next year. Please encourage your child to get a head start and use the summer holidays to approach possible employers for their work experience week.

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LIGHTHOUSE
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New LSP Attendance Policy

The Lighthouse Schools Partnership have this year introduced a common attendance policy. Gordano will be adopting this from September 2023. Attached is a letter from Gary Lewis, CEO, to explain the rationale behind the new policy.

There are some changes involved, and I would like to draw your attention to pages 23 – 27 of the policy [here](#). These pages provide a clear flow chart detailing the attendance stages. Please note that one session is equal to half a day in school.

Thank you in advance for your support in this area in the new academic year.

Nose Piercings

Another reminder that nose studs (including clear studs and studs covered with a plaster) are not permitted to be worn in school in Years 7-11. We are seeing an increasing number, and this presents a health and safety risk, particularly in practical subjects such as PE and Science. Nose piercings take much longer than the 6-week summer holiday to heal, and I therefore ask for your support in ensuring your child does not get this done until the end of Year 11, as they will be required to remove it when in school, even if that means the piercing will heal over.

Last Day of Term Arrangements

The last day of term this academic year is **Thursday 20th July**. During the day the students will have normal lessons and end of term celebration assemblies. The school day ends for students at 12.30pm.

'Thank you' messages for Gordano staff

Thank you to all those parents who have already sent messages of thanks to our staff, we've been overwhelmed by the response. There's still time to send a message if you wish using [this link](#).

We wish you a relaxing and restful weekend.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher