



12th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As this fantastic term draws to a close, we probably have the busiest week ahead of us, so I just wanted to try and give you a short run down of everything that is taking place next week, and of course I will go through all of the details with students during the Broadcast on Monday morning.

As well as RAG week, Year 7 are also running their charity week next week. Please see below the range of activities taking place for Year 7:

- Monday (breaktime) - Cake sale. Donations required.
- Tuesday Lunchtime - Christmas fair in the Elliot Hall and a Santa run in PE lesson for Year 7 on Tuesday and Thursday. All pupils asked to run or walk a mile or complete as many laps as they can listening to Christmas music. Year 7 can wear a Santa hat, elf hat or reindeer ears. Sponsorship - all pupils can raise money for running a mile or how many laps they complete. Sponsorship forms in Mrs Will's office if needed.
- Wednesday - Christmas Jumper day (all students). Donation of £1 (optional on Parent pay)

All details will be sent home on Monday on ways to pay from home for Christmas jumper day and Santa run.

On Wednesday 17th December all students are welcome to replace their blazer, shirt and tie with a Christmas jumper if they wish to. If you would like to donate towards the Year 7 charities (Molly Ollies and Make a Wish) then you can do this on ParentPay and I know Year 7 students would be very grateful. Also, a reminder that on Wednesday lunchtime our Sixth Form team will be hosting the RAG fayre in aid of their two chosen charities.

On Tuesday lunchtime we will be hosting the Sixth Form Christmas lunch in the dining hall. Therefore, only the canteen will be available to students in Years 7-11. We will be staggering the start of lunchtime on this day for students in Years 7-11 to ensure all students can get through the service. Details will be shared with students and tutors during Monday's Broadcast. On Wednesday it is the Year 7-11 Christmas lunch in the dining hall and again for those students who have not purchased tickets the lunch service will take place in the canteen with the same arrangements in place as it is on Tuesday.

Friday is the last day of term and school closes for students at 12.30pm. Students will be informed of the arrangements in full and we are really looking forward to the morning. Tutor time will run as normal, Lesson 1 will run from 9.15-10am, breaktime from 10-10.30am and then we will have our whole school celebration assemblies (in two groups), and House assemblies to celebrate the end of term.

Year 11 Mock Exams

As we come to the end of a very busy few weeks of Mock Exams we have been absolutely delighted with the application and attitude of the Year 11 students. The exams have been completed in an extremely positive fashion, with lots of positive feedback from our invigilation team. The students benefitted from a morning briefing each day and the very clear processes that were in place. The subject teachers are now busy marking all of the completed papers and students will receive very bespoke feedback throughout their lessons. Students will receive their final grades for the Mock Exams on Friday 23rd January as part of the Mock Results day. We will also share results with families on this day too.

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Year 9 Options

Pathway letters will be emailed to students and parents/carers today. The link for booking places at the Options Evening on Tuesday 6th January is on this letter as well as a link to the Options Handbook with specific subject information. We are looking forward to supporting students through this exciting process!

PSHE Bulletin January/February

This [PSHE Bulletin](#) gives an outline of what each year group will be studying in PSHE lessons in January and February 2026. If you have any queries about PSHE themes or topics please contact us via mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk and mark your email for the attention of your child's Head of House or Miss Trevethan, Head of PSHE & Ethics.

Christmas Carols

Gordano Christian Union invite all students and staff to join them for Christmas Carols in the Sixth Form Hall at lunchtime on Thursday 18th December - everyone welcome, see the [poster](#) for more details.

Church Christmas Crafts

Our school chaplain has extended an invitation to students to join the free craft activities on Saturday 20th December at St Peter's Church, including a fun opportunity to create a clay nativity scene. Details below. [Deck the Halls poster](#)

RAG Week - Caring at Christmas Donations

A huge thank you to all who have donated goods for Caring at Christmas. If you still have items you wish to donate, just a reminder that it's the last opportunity on Monday morning, as our Sixth Form students will be delivering them to the charity on Monday afternoon as part of their RAG Week activities. Collection boxes are in all the House areas and Sixth Form as well as main reception, and you can find a list of requested items [here](#).

Help with food during the school holidays

During the school holidays Rev Lindsay of Portishead Church can issue lunch bags and food bank vouchers. The Portishead Food Bank is run by volunteers and is open on Fridays from 12pm until 2pm. To request a voucher, call or email Rev Lindsay Smith on 07483 932608 or pioneer@portisheadparish.co.uk, all conversations are confidential.

Food Bank opening days (12pm-2pm) over the Christmas period are:

Friday 19th December

Tuesday 23rd December

Back to normal Friday opening from Friday 2nd January

Easyfundraising

Please support us **at no extra cost** simply by doing your Christmas shopping online and to make sure you never miss a donation opportunity, we'd really appreciate you installing the **Easyfundraising Browser Extension** on your smartphone, PC, or tablet. Thank you so much in advance and to those already using it: [Gordano School - Please Support Gordano School Through Your Christmas Shopping](#)

Parents in Partnership

Thank you to everyone who has already contributed to our Parents in Partnership Fund via ParentPay. Your generosity helps us support projects that enrich the student experience, including subsidised trips, arts activities, technology, and improved learning spaces.

We appreciate that this time of year can be challenging financially. We have set it up so the donation amount is flexible, and the option to contribute will remain open on your ParentPay account at any point throughout the year.

INSET Day

A reminder that Monday 5th January is an INSET day, and we look forward to welcoming all students back to school on Tuesday 6th January.

Wishing you all a relaxing and restful weekend.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher

Key Dates for Term 2

Monday 15 and Tuesday 16 December	Year 13 Textiles Mock Exam
Monday 15 to Friday 19 December	Sixth Form RAG Week
Monday 15 December	Year 13 Caring at Christmas Charity Delivery
Tuesday 16 December	Sixth Form Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 17 December	Year 7 - Year 11 Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 17 December	5pm - 6pm A-level Certificate Evening
Friday 19 December	Last Day of Term - 12.30pm finish for students
Monday 22 December to Friday 2 January inclusive	Holiday

Key Dates for Term 3

Monday 5 January	INSET Day
Tuesday 6 January	Year 9 Options Evening
Friday 9 January	Year 9 Taster Sessions
Wednesday 14 January	Sixth Form Winter Electives begin
Wednesday 14 January	Year 12 Food & Nutrition Practical Exam
Thursday 15 January	Year 13 A-level Music mock recitals
Monday 19 to Friday 23 January	Functional Skills English Exams
Tuesday 20 January	Year 10/11 Geography BTEC Trip to Manchester Airport
Tuesday 20 January	6pm Year 11 Parental Information Evening
Wednesday 21 January	5.30-6.30pm Year 12 New York trip parent information meeting
Thursday 22 January	Year 13 Progress Evening
Friday 23 January	Year 11 Mock Results Day
Monday 26 to Friday 30 January	Functional Skills Maths Exams

Monday 26 January	Year 11 Geography River Holford fieldwork trip 1
Tuesday 27 January	Year 11 Geography River Holford fieldwork trip 2
Wednesday 28 January	Year 11 Geography River Holford fieldwork trip 3
Wednesday 28 January	Careers Teatime Networking
Thursday 29 January	Year 8 HPV vaccinations
Thursday 29 January	Y12 HE+ Programme trip to Kings of Wessex Academy, Cheddar
Saturday 31 January and Sunday 1 February	Weekend rehearsals for school production
Monday 2 to Friday 6 February	School Production
Thursday 5 February	3.35pm Year 8/9 General Knowledge Quiz
Saturday 7 February	Silver and Gold DofE Training Day
Monday 9 to Friday 13 February	National Apprenticeship Week
Monday 9 February	Deadline for Year 9 Options
Monday 9 to Wednesday 11 February	Year 11 GCSE Drama Performance Exam
Monday 9 February	3.35pm MFL Spelling Bee Final
Monday 9 February	Year 7 Street Trip 1
Tuesday 10 February	Year 7 Street Trip 2
Tuesday 10 February	6pm Parent Forum
Wednesday 11 February	Year 7 Street Trip 3
Wednesday 11 February	Post-18 Apprenticeship Evening
Thursday 12 February	Year 11 Progress Evening
Friday 13 February	INSET Day
Monday 16 to Friday 20 February	HOLIDAY