



6th October 2023

Dream big • Do your best • Give back

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to those parents who were able to join us this week for our final round of parent information evenings. As a team, we have thoroughly enjoyed having you in to school to talk through what each academic year group's year will look like, and I hope that you have found the evenings useful. All the presentations (now including Year 11 and year 7) are available on the website by clicking on [this link](#).

Also, a reminder the curriculum area of our website holds a lot of useful information for you as parents with regards to the curriculum and content that your child will be learning throughout the year. We continually update our curriculum pages throughout the year to reflect any changes we may make. I have shared the link [here](#) to those pages.

Careers Convention 2023

I would like to thank all the students and parents who joined us for last night's Careers Convention which took place at the school. It was fantastic to see such a large variety of stands from providers and exhibitors across the South-West (including many Gordano alumni!) and I hope that students who attended went away with lots of inspiration, information and ideas about their future pathways. I would also like to thank the careers team at the school who carefully planned the evening.

Our next Careers Event will be Sixth Form Open Evening on 9th November; Year 11 students and their parents are warmly invited to visit subject stands and listen to presentations from the Sixth Form team and current students.

#HelloYellow

Just a reminder that on Tuesday 10th October we are encouraging students to replace one item of their uniform with an item of yellow clothing to support national mental health awareness. There will be a mental health awareness theme in assemblies and tutor time, with a focus on encouraging students to talk about their concerns.

Year 7 Parents – Languages Information

Year 7s have been set their first piece of vocabulary learning homework for French/Spanish on Tuesday 3rd October. One of the ways in which students might like to learn their words is by using the website/app Quizlet, and a link is included in the homework set on Class Charts. For students to be able to use all the features of Quizlet, they will need to create a free account at home and will need a parent/carer's email address. They don't have to use Quizlet at all, and a look-cover-write grid is also attached, but many students find it useful.

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Free bus pass for a month

If you live in the North Somerset or Bristol area, you can receive free bus travel for the entire month of your birthday! To take up this offer, use this link to register: [Register - Birthday Bus](#). Parents will need to add some details to access this offer for their children, but it is open to all residents.

Spelling and reading tests

Over the next two weeks, in double English lessons, Year 7 will complete spelling and reading tests. They will complete the NGST and NGRTs using computers and will be provided with logins by the English staff. These tests are nothing for students or parents to worry about, they are useful for teaching staff to best understand the needs of the individual students they teach.

If students have a set of wired headphones (mini jack), that can plug into a computer, it would be useful to have these in their bags for the next two weeks.

Portishead Air Cadets Open Evening

The 2494 (Portishead) RAF Air Cadets are hosting an open evening on Wednesday 11th October. For more information see [this flyer](#).

Portishead Youth Centre October activities

The Youth Centre will be providing activities over the October half term week. You can find more information [here](#).

Parent Forum – Change of Date

Please note that we have a change of date for our parent forum meeting. This will now take place on Tuesday 17th October. If you would like to attend, please complete [this form](#).

We wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher

Key Dates for Term 1

Tue 10th Oct: World Mental Health Day – Hello Yellow

Wed 11th Oct: Year 11 GCSE Dance Set Phrase Exam (all day)

Thu 12th Oct: Year 7 – 13 Tutor Reviews, 4.00 – 7.30pm, online

Tue 17th Oct: Parent Forum, 6.00 – 7.00pm in CR1

Wed 18th Oct: Year 11 GCSE Art Photography Mock Exam (all day)

Thu 19th Oct: Year 11 GCSE Art Photography Mock Exam (all day)