



DEAR PARENTS AND CARERS

Thank you to the many parents and carers who joined us for our Year 8 and Year 11 Information Evenings this week. We greatly appreciate your support and engagement as we work together to help our students thrive. For those who were unable to attend, or who would like to revisit the information shared, presentations from the evenings can be accessed [here](#).

It was wonderful to see so many students from across all year groups, accompanied by their parents and carers, attending our annual Careers Convention last night. With more than 50 employers, education providers and training organisations represented, the event provided a fantastic opportunity for students to explore future pathways, ask questions and gain valuable insight into a wide range of careers. We are incredibly grateful to our local partners for giving their time and expertise to support our young people, and it was inspiring to hear the many thoughtful conversations taking place throughout the evening. Slides from the career's presentation will be shared on the Careers section of our website as we continue to deliver our comprehensive careers programme across all year groups.

Wishing you all a relaxing and restful weekend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Blundell', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Ms L Blundell, Headteacher

LOST PROPERTY

We are making changes to our lost property procedures due to the sheer volume of items being handed into school. Despite regular efforts to reunite students with their belongings, we are collecting more lost property than we can reasonably store or manage.

From Monday 5th October any item handed into the Student Centre will be kept for one week only. After this time, any unclaimed items will be disposed of, donated, or recycled as appropriate.

Whilst we will continue to do our best to return lost property to students, this is only possible when items are clearly labelled with the student's name. We therefore ask all parents and carers to ensure that uniform, PE kit, water bottles, lunch boxes, pencil cases and other personal belongings are clearly marked.

Please note that it is the responsibility of students to check the Student Centre promptly if they believe they have lost an item. Given the volume of lost property we receive, we are unable to store items indefinitely.

Your support in labelling belongings and encouraging students to take responsibility for their possessions will help us manage this issue more effectively.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

EMPTY BUILDINGS FACEBOOK POST - AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE

Please see the link below from Avon and Somerset Police Facebook page which shows a video highlighting the dangers of urban exploring in empty buildings.

Please discuss this with your child(ren) as this is such an important issue that is happening every single day in North Somerset, involving many of our young people.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1C9tofQhQe/>

PARENT FORUM

I look forward to connecting with parents at our first forum of the academic year in Term 2. A date will be shared with you in due course.

In the meantime, if there is anything you would like to discuss at the forum, please feel free to email mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk and mark your email for the attention of Sarah Sperring.

Many thanks, Mr Mailey

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING POP UP

The Mental Health and Wellbeing pop-up on 29th September was very well attended with 194 students contributing ideas.

The main themes students say they would like more support with are:

- Mental Health in general (including specific ideas such as anxiety, exam stress, self-harm, stress, low mood)
- Bullying
- Friendships/relationships - keeping them healthy

Anti-Bullying week is 16th - 20th November so we will pick up on this theme then. We will also be supporting HelloYellow on 9th October and students have been asked to wear one item of yellow and contribute to mental health charity Young Minds. Tutor time and assemblies next week will also focus on the mental health of young people.

GORDANO 70 - COLLECTING MEMORIES

As part of Gordano School's 70th anniversary celebrations, we are inviting members of our school community, past and present, to share their memories, stories, photographs and memorabilia.

We would be grateful if parents could help spread the word to family members, former students and anyone connected to Gordano who may have memories to contribute. These stories will help us celebrate and preserve the rich history of our school and the people who have shaped it over the past seven decades.

Please use the QR code or click here to submit your memories:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/HTB UYGSPSA>





INTRODUCING OUR NEW READ TO SUCCEED WEEKLY FEATURE!

Reading is at the heart of learning at Gordano, and each week we'll be sharing a little more about **Read to Succeed**, our whole-school approach to reading.

Look out for book recommendations, practical reading tips and ideas to support reading at home, alongside updates on how we are developing confident, independent readers across the school.

This week, why not take a look at our first recommended read?

BOOK OF THE WEEK

KS3

A gloriously dark and original collection from the limitless imaginations of Guy Bass and David Roberts for readers who like their stories on the unsettling side.



READING AT HOME

Encourage your child to find a regular time and a comfortable place to read. A little and often can make a real difference. Let them choose something they enjoy and ask them about what they're reading. **Showing an interest is one of the simplest ways to encourage positive reading habits.**

KEY DATES FOR TERM 1

Monday 5 to Wednesday 7 October	Year 11 GCSE Music Coursework Recording Days
Thursday 8 October	World Mental Health Day
Friday 9 October	Hello Yellow Day
Wednesday 14 and Thursday 15 October	Year 11 GCSE Dance Set Phrase Exam
Thursday 15 October	Year 12 Geography Fieldtrip to Weston-super-Mare
Thursday 15 October	SENDSCO Surgery
Thursday 15 October	5.30pm – 6.30pm Read to Succeed Parent Evening
Friday 16 October	Year 10/11 photo mop up session
Tuesday 20 October	Year 11 Futures Evening
Wednesday 21 and Thursday 22 October	Flu Vaccinations Years 7-11
Friday 23 October	Year 11 Photographs
Monday 26 to Friday 30 October inclusive	Holiday

PORTISHEAD YOUTH CENTRE SEND DROP IN



SEND INFORMATION & SUPPORT DROP IN

4TH FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH
9am-10.30am

A friendly and supportive space for parents and carers of children and young people with SEND, to meet and talk to professionals who work in a variety of different roles that support families in North Somerset.

**£4 per parent/carers with coffee & biscuits included -
no need to book, just turn up!**

For more information call 01275 842461

or email

amanda@portisheadyouthcentre.co.uk

**PORTISHEAD
YOUTH & COMMUNITY
CENTRE**

Wellbeing Wednesdays



Informal support sessions for young people to promote positive mental health and wellbeing
5pm-6.30pm each week

1st Wednesday of each month

Lego create & chat session –
age 7-11

7th Oct, 4th Nov, 2nd Dec

2nd Wednesday of each month

Wellbeing drop in & support –
age 10+

14th Oct, 11th Nov, 9th Dec

3rd Wednesday of each month

'Your safe space' bereavement
chill & chat session – age 10+

21st Oct, 18th Nov, 16th Dec

4th Wednesday of each month

Social drop in session, with hot
drinks & biscuits &

careers/further education
support for 16-18 year olds

23rd Sep, 28th Oct, 25th Nov

More information on the focus for
each session, sign up and referral
forms available at
www.portisheadyouthcentre.co.uk

PORTISHEAD
YOUTH & COMMUNITY
CENTRE



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- ▣ Make a Musical
- ▣ Football at Portishead Town


Shine
HOLIDAY CLUBS
[MyShine.co.uk](https://www.MysHine.co.uk)



*Conditions apply. Expiry 11/10/26



Free Listening Service

Aged 11-16?
Need a trusted adult to talk to who's
not your parent, carer or teacher?



Local. Low key. No pressure



To book or find out more: 01275 810879 or email
reception@wellspringcounselling.org.uk

USEFUL LINKS

[Contact Us](#)

[Gordano School Facebook Page](#)

[Communications to Parents](#)

[Latest School News](#)

[Termly Newsletters](#)

[Attendance](#)

[Uniform & Equipment](#)

[How You Can Support the School](#)

[Safeguarding](#)

[School Key Dates](#)

[School Calendar](#)

[Gordano Extra - Clubs Information](#)

[Careers](#)

[Trips & Activities Week](#)

[Sixth Form](#)

[Vacancies](#)

[Community Clubs & Holiday Clubs](#)

[Facilities Hire](#)

[GoShine Gordano Sports Centre Membership](#)