



14th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Our Sixth Form Open Evening last night was a fantastic success, and it was wonderful to see so many families join us – both from Gordano and from further afield. The evening truly showcased the strength and spirit of our Sixth Form community. A huge thank you to our incredible Sixth Form students, who shared their passion so enthusiastically by supporting subject areas and speaking so thoughtfully about their experiences in our talks. We are also deeply grateful to our dedicated staff, whose passion for their subjects and commitment to our students shone through. We hope that those who attended were inspired by what they saw and heard – and we look forward to receiving your applications soon!

INSET Day

A reminder that next Wednesday 19th November is an LSP INSET day, therefore the school will be closed to students on that day. We look forward to welcoming them back on Thursday 20th November.

Polite Reminder

Could I please ask parents who drop off or pick up their children from school to avoid using the bus stop outside the St Mary's Road gate and the roadside opposite and also to avoid using the main gate area at school. It is vital that these areas are kept clear at times of high student traffic. Thank you.

Gordano School Christmas Concert

Join us for a festive evening of music and celebration at our annual Christmas Concert on Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd December at 6.30pm in the Main Hall. Enjoy a delightful variety of performances, including our beloved school ensembles and some exciting new acts that are sure to get you in the holiday spirit. Come and share in the joy of the season with our talented students as they showcase their hard work and spread some Christmas cheer. Tickets are priced at £5, see the [website](#) for booking details, and tickets will also be available on the door (cash or card). We look forward to seeing you there!

Knife Crime: Educational Outreach

The police will be running a pop up for students in the school quad on Tuesday 18th November. We have run similar sessions before, and these have been really well received by the students.

Kooth

Kooth are holding a free 45-minute webinar for families on smartphone safety and cyberbullying on Thursday 20th November from 6pm. They will share practical tips on how to help children deal with potential problems, how parents can spot signs of cyberbullying and what action to take.

The webinar will include information on:

- How their phone grabs and holds their attention
- The pressure they may feel to be online
- What cyberbullying might look like
- The impacts of social media and bullying
- How you can help young people stay safe
- How they can build a positive online space - information about Kooth for them and Qwell for parents/carers

Please sign up if you would like to attend:

[Kooth webinar for families: Smartphone safety & cyberbullying](#)

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Safeguarding

We are receiving concerns from some parents about students working around parent controls on age-specific sites - Roblox in particular. Please see guidance from Internet Matters to ensure that your son or daughter is kept safe online.

[What is Roblox? Safety guide for parents | Internet Matters](#)

Spend limit for students purchasing food/drinks

Students have the opportunity to purchase a range of main meals, snacks and drinks from our Dining Hall and Canteen during break and lunchtime, the menus and price list can be found on our website [here](#). From Term 2, Aspens have increased the maximum daily spend limit for students to £6.00 per day. If you would like to set your child's daily spend cap to a different amount then please email aspens@gordanoschool.org.uk with your child's name, tutor group and the amount.

Period Pants

We have recently received another large delivery of period pants in a range of sizes. Students are welcome to collect a pair to try, or pick up an extra pair if they already have some. We also have plenty of pads and tampons available. If any families are experiencing financial difficulties in purchasing these items, the school can provide supplies. Please contact Charlotte Thomas at mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk for support.

Local Plan Meeting - 19th November

Residents are invited to attend a public meeting hosted by Portishead Town Council to discuss North Somerset Council's draft Local Plan 2026-2041 which proposes significant new housing developments in Portishead. The meeting will be held at Somerset Hall, 7pm - 9pm, and you can find full details of the event [here](#).

Shine Festive Holiday Clubs

Shine Holiday Clubs are now open for booking for the Christmas break. The holiday fun includes the Shine Christmas Party, Cracking Creative activities, Festive Football and more. Book before 7th December to claim a 20% early booker discount. For more details see [this flyer](#) or go to MyShine.co.uk.

Wishing you all a relaxing and restful weekend.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher

Key Dates for Term 2

Monday 17 to Friday 21 November	Learning Hub Functional Skills Maths Exams
Tuesday 18 November	Knife Crime Awareness Police Pop Up
Tuesday 18, Thursday 20 and Friday 21 November	Year 11 GCSE MFL Speaking Mock Exams
Wednesday 19 November	INSET Day 4

Thursday 20 November	3.35pm Years 10/11 General Knowledge Quiz
Monday 24 to Thursday 27 November	Year 11 GCSE MFL Speaking Mock Exams
Wednesday 26 November	Year 11 City of Bristol College Visit (Learning Hub)
Wednesday 26 November	Careers Teatime Networking
Thursday 27 November	Year 12/13 English Conference trip
Friday 28 November	Year 9 Eden Project trip 1
Monday 1 to Friday 12 December	Year 11 Mock Exams (two weeks)
Tuesday 2 December	A-level DT and Art trip to London
Tuesday 2 December	Christmas Concert all-day rehearsal
Tuesday 2 and Wednesday 3 December	6.30pm Christmas concert
Friday 5 December	Year 9 Eden Project trip 2
Monday 8 December	Year 9 & 10 Bristol Bears trip to Ashton Gate
Thursday 11 December	Music A-Level trip to see BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Cardiff
Friday 12 December	Year 13 History trip to Hampton Court Palace
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