



31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Dream big • Do your best • Give back

Dear Parents and Carers

As the final day of Term 4 approaches, I look forward to sharing and celebrating the achievements from this term with students during our Easter Celebration Broadcast. It has again been a very busy week at Gordano, and I would like to congratulate our year 10-13 students who were involved in the fantastic performance of 'Tuesday' at The Bristol Old Vic part of the National Theatre Connections Festival earlier in the week. *'They worked so hard and created an engaging, imaginative and thought-provoking piece of theatre. They were incredibly professional, and their performance was outstanding. If you didn't get the chance to see this performance, please come to our drama showcase on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May'*

Thank you also to our parents who joined us for our first two nights of 'an evening with...' this week. We will be recording the content of the first two sessions just after the Easter holidays to share with all parents.

Over the last few weeks we have seen a range of fantastic sporting achievements. A huge congratulations to our Year 8 boys football team who gave a great performance to overcome Millfield in the semi-final of the Somerset FA cup and the girls football team who also succeeded in their semi-final in the Somerset FA cup and are now through to the final, what a superb achievement! Our Year 11 netball team who epitomised team effort in their recent tournament, our Year 8 hockey team who won the North Somerset tournament this week – again, such an achievement, our swimming team who were crowned North Somerset Champions and finally a huge congratulations to our Year 9 hockey team who finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in their tournament earlier in the week.

### Reporting Absences

In term 5, we will be continuing to roll out reporting of absences via Microsoft Forms. Whilst the absence line will remain live for now, we would encourage all parents to now use [this link](#) rather than phoning in (the link is also on the homepage of the website). We do appreciate that this may take you a few moments longer, however it considerably reduces administrative time for our attendance team. This will then enable us to account for (and therefore safeguard) all students much earlier in the day – something we know that parents / carers will appreciate. It will also free up more staff time to be spent supporting students. A polite reminder to parents that we do need all absences reporting on a daily basis.

### It's OK not to be OK

Wellspring Counselling are running a free 8-week mental wellbeing course for students covering a range of topics from anxiety and depression to exam stress and identity. Sessions will be held at Gordano School starting on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April. Further information and the contact details to book a place directly with Wellspring Counselling are available [here](#).

### Non-uniform day - 31<sup>st</sup> March

Thank you for all your donations so far. For those who have not yet made a donation, the [ParentPay link](#) remains open.

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**LIGHTHOUSE**  
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### **OTR creative drop in sessions**

OTR are hosting hubs in Clevedon and Worle where young people aged 11 to 25 can drop in for a chat and to take part in creative activities. Find out more information using the links below:

[The Creative Resilience Lab – YMCA Clevedon](#)

[OTR Hubs Creative Drop In – Castle Batch Community Centre, Worle](#)

### **Year 10 Work Experience – Please read!**

With WEX week fast approaching, we need parents to help chase the 72 forms still with prospective Employers – no student placement can be confirmed without this form. We still have 105 students without a placement and the deadline is 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Students can visit the Careers Office, email Debbie Crosby or speak to their Year 10 tutor; they have been reminded about this.

The Veryan database is a useful starting point for students and parents, but placements can come from anywhere from South Glos to Devon. Please approach family members, friends, parents of friends and don't forget the local directory books and Yell.com.

### **Early closure on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

To accommodate the setting up for our Year 8 Guided Choices Evening school will close at the end of lesson 5 (2.30pm) on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April. All students will leave site at this time, unless they are involved in a planned after-school activity.

### **Portishead Lawn Tennis Club Open Day**

Whether you're a keen tennis player or just fancy giving it a go, Portishead Lawn Tennis Club invite you to their open day on 2<sup>nd</sup> April at the Lake Grounds. You can find more information [here](#).

Ahead of us are two weeks for the Easter holidays. From everyone at Gordano we wish all our families a relaxing and restful holiday. We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April.

Yours sincerely



**Ms L Blundell**  
**Headteacher**