



Dream big • Do your best • Give back

1st December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this weekly update finds you and your families well. At the start of this academic year during our parent information evenings we touched on the importance of vocabulary across the school in all year groups. As part of our wider Literacy strategy, teachers in every subject are using our Word of the Week and delivering targeted vocabulary to help students access and use academic language. Students are more likely to remember new words and make connections between words when we have a deliberate focus on their meaning and their use.

The Word of the Week focusses on Tier 2 vocabulary (academic vocabulary found across subjects) and this term's words include: perspective, turbulent, hindrance, validity, trivial, justification & conventional. Tier 3 is subject specific vocabulary, identified in the planned curriculum and taught explicitly in lessons. Sharing and raising the profile of vocabulary and adding to a young person's 'word hoard' has a hugely positive impact on student understanding and on progress, across the curriculum.

Please do listen out for subject specific vocabulary and the Word of the Week in your conversations at home.

Christmas Information and Wreath Making Night

Please see attached the details for our up-and-coming Christmas events including the Wreath making night for which you can now book tickets on ParentPay (don't forget to bring your own secateurs if you have them... and cash for refreshments).

Also, an early reminder that on the last day of term we will allow students to wear a Christmas Jumper if they wish to - we will send further details shortly. The last day of term is Wednesday 20th December. We will be having celebration assemblies and activities in the morning. The school day finishes at 12.30 for students on the last day.

Flu Vaccinations

The vaccination team from Sirona were in school on Tuesday and Wednesday this week, and vaccinated all students that had parental consent and were present in school. If you missed giving consent and would still like your child to get the flu vaccine this year, please contact Sirona directly (this is not organised by school) on 0300 1245515.

Headteacher: Ms L Blundell BMus(Hons) MA

Gordano School, St Mary's Road, Portishead, Bristol BS20 7QR

Tel: 01275 842606

e-mail: mailbox@gordanoschool.org.uk www.gordanoschool.org.uk

Lighthouse Schools Partnership, Registered address: St Mary's Road, Portishead, Bristol BS20 7QR

A charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (Company Number: 07662102)



LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

Mock Exams

Well done to all of Year 11 (and Year 10 Religious Studies students) for their approach to the mock exams this week. There were a couple of disruptions at the start of the week, through circumstances outside of our control, and as stated at the time - the students have been brilliant in the way they responded.

Mr Beesley spoke to the cohort this morning to remind them to focus their revision and be effective with their time, prioritise physical and mental well-being and come back on Monday, ready to go again!

The marks will be shared in classes in the first week back after the Christmas holidays and then the mock results will be released on Friday 12 January.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher

Key Dates for Term 2

Tue 5th Dec: Parent Forum, 6.00 - 7.00pm in CR1
Wed 6th Dec: Year 11 Textiles Mock Exam
Thu 7th Dec: Year 11 Textiles Mock Exam
Tue 12th Dec: Sixth Form Christmas lunch in the Dining Hall
Tue 12th Dec: Christmas Concert, 6.30 - 9.00pm in the Main Hall
Wed 13th Dec: Year 7 - 11 Christmas lunch in the Dining Hall
Wed 13th Dec: Christmas Concert, 6.30 - 9.00pm in the Main Hall
Mon 18th Dec: School Production all-day rehearsal (8.40 - 5.30) in the Main Hall
Wed 20th Dec: Last day of term - 12.30 finish for students

Gordano School

Wreath Making Night

Enjoy a festive night with friends making your own Christmas wreath. A fundraising evening to support World Challenge Ecuador. A carbon neutral trip that combines marine and environmental conservation with community engagement.



Monday 11th December 7-9pm

Doors Open 6.30pm

Gordano school. Main hall

Refreshments available **cash only**.

Bring a pair of secateurs if you have them!



Tickets £20.50

per person

Buy your ticket on ParentPay now to secure your place.

