



22nd September 2023

Dream big • Do your best • Give back

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to our parents with children in Years 13, 12, 10, 9 and Year 8 who joined us for our parent information evenings over the last week. We hope you have found the meetings useful, and we hope they have given you clarity over the journey for your child this academic year. Our next set of meetings are for parents of students in Year 11 and Year 7. These are due to take place on the 2nd October for Year 7 and the 3rd October for Year 11. Please use the links below to book a ticket. We will be adding this year's presentations onto the website for all parents to access.

[Year 7 – 2nd October 6pm – 6.45pm](#)

[Year 7 – 2nd October 6.45pm - 7.30pm](#)

[Year 11 – 3rd October 6pm – 7pm](#)

Early Closure – Thursday 28th September

Just a reminder to all parents that the school will finish at 1.15pm on Thursday to allow for the school's Open Evening preparations. Lunch service will run from 12.35 until 1.05pm and students will register with their P5 teachers before being dismissed.

Open Evening Helpers

We are delighted that so many of our students want to support our Open Evening by helping in subject areas and/or acting as a tour guide for our visitors. We always need a large number of tour guides, so if your child is in Years 8-11 and would like to take part, please complete the Open Evening Parental Permission Form that can be found on the parent page of the school website, using this link: www.gordanoschool.org.uk/parents

If your son or daughter is in Year 7, please note that while we are always very pleased to see our new Year 7 students volunteering to help out in a subject area, this is by invitation, in order to manage numbers – teachers will have given Year 7 helpers letters to take home. Please note that we only allow tour guides from Year 8 upwards. This is because the older children know the school better and are able to talk to visitors about their experience of being a student at Gordano for a full year or more.

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

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LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

If your son or daughter is volunteering to be a tour guide, **please ensure that they are in full school uniform (not PE kit)** and report to the **Sixth Form Common Room by 4.10pm** at the latest. Anyone who is not able to make the first tour should arrive by 5.10pm for the second tour. If they are helping in a Faculty area, they should go to the relevant Faculty classrooms (or Sports Hall for PE) where staff will meet them.

Although we will provide some refreshments for the tour guides in the form of drinks, your son or daughter may wish to bring snacks to eat between tours. If so, please ensure that any snacks do not contain nuts or traces of nut. Finally, a huge thank you to all the students who have been willing to give up their time to support the school. It is very much appreciated.

End of the school day

Please remember the changes we made to gates in term 6 last year mean that students can only walk out of school via 3 gates:

- Clevedon Road (main pedestrian gate at front of school)
- St Marys Road
- Greenfield Park (rear of school)

If you are collecting students by car, you are welcome to pull into the coach turning park off Clevedon Road (students can access this from the front carpark, but must be collected from the turning area, they must not walk out through the vehicle gates, that is not a safe route). If you are collecting them from the road outside school, then students must use one of the three pedestrian gates to get to you.

Many thanks for your assistance with keeping students and the community safe at this busy point in the school day.

Staying safe online

Just a reminder to parents to check mobile phone permissions and to speak to children about staying safe online. The following leaflet may offer useful suggestions:

[10 tips to help your child stay safe online - parent factsheet.doc](#)

Consultation on Admission Arrangements

The Local Authority is required to consult on and review its relevant area for admission arrangements every 2 years. Details of the consultation and the map showing the relevant area can be viewed [here](#).

Portishead Moon Festival

Based on the festival tradition within the Hong Kong culture, this community event celebrating diversity and heritage is being held on 30th September in Portishead. You can find more information [here](#).

Wishing you and your family a relaxing and restful weekend

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher

Key Dates for Term 1

Thu 28th Sep: Open Evening for Prospective Year 7 Pupils, 4.00 – 7.30pm (school finishes at 1.15pm)

Fri 29th Sep: INSET DAY 3

Mon 2nd Oct: Year 7 Parental Information Evening, 6.00 – 7.00pm in the Main Hall

Tue 3rd Oct: Year 11 GCSE Music Coursework Recording Day

Tue 3rd Oct: Senior Maths Challenge (Years 12-13)

Tue 3rd Oct: Year 11 Parental Information Evening, 6.00 – 7.00pm in the Main Hall

Wed 4th Oct: Year 11 GCSE Music Coursework Recording Day

Thu 5th Oct: Year 11 GCSE Music Coursework Recording Day

Thu 5th Oct: Gordano Careers Convention, 6.00 – 8.00pm in the Main Hall

Fri 6th Oct: Year 6 Open Morning, 9.45 – 11.00am in the Sixth Form Hall

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

Tue 10th Oct: Parent Forum, 6.00 – 7.00pm in CR1

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

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

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