



Dream big • Do your best • Give back

9<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you had a lovely bank holiday weekend. This week has continued to be busy and productive at Gordano. Both of our Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh cohorts (as I write) are on the hills in the Mendips completing their practice expedition. I joined cohort A on Tuesday night, and I am looking forward to joining cohort B as they arrive at camp on Thursday afternoon following their first day. Spirits have been high, and it has been a privilege to see the teamwork and resilience shown by our students on what can be a challenging day of walking. Well done to all students participating and digging deep over their 2-day practice and thank you to our dedicated staff leading the award and H5 our external providers.

### **Year 11 and Year 13**

Year 11 have made an excellent start to their exam season. We have seen some incredible work in Art and Photography, really focused revision in lessons and in the Hive and Thursday saw the commencement of the 'sat' exams for Drama and Psychology, which the students took in their stride. Next week brings a busy week of exams including the first papers for the core subjects.

Students must wear full school uniform for all exams (this cannot include their hoodies).

We will be offering an exams 'breakfast' each morning (8.20 - 8.40am) where students can come to the Dining Hall, have something to eat, a quiet space to prepare for the exam and be joined by members of the Senior Leadership Team and subject staff.

We are offering the opportunity for Year 11 students to wear 'non-school uniform' each Friday this term, however if they have an exam then school uniform must be worn for this.

Following the end of the English Language paper on Friday 23rd May, all Year 11 students will be able to leave the school site (timings dependant on end of exam).

We have enjoyed celebrating 'Leavers' Day' with Year 13 today (particularly the baby photos!) and wish them all the very best with their revision, some of it with teachers, some of it independent, as they enter their final exam season with us. As with the Year 11s, this is a cohort to be proud of, and we look forward to celebrating their achievements on results day.

### **Year 6 Parent Information Evening**

It was great to welcome Year 6 families into school on Thursday evening for the second of their information sessions. Huge thanks to the brilliant Year 7s who took part in this event. The transition process is well under way, and we have enjoyed hosting groups of Year 6 students on site this term as we prepare them for Gordano life.

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**LIGHTHOUSE**  
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

### **Year 9 Vaccinations - 14th May**

The Year 9 Meningococcal ACWY and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio vaccinations are taking place on Wednesday 14th May. If you haven't already done so, please provide consent via [this link](#) by Monday morning. Please also complete the form if you do not wish your child to receive the vaccine as Sirona require a response for all students.

### **Year 7 Activities Week - Residential trip to Osmington Bay - Parent Information Evening**

Mrs McKenzie-Liddington will be holding an online Parent Information Evening via Teams.

Date: Monday 19th May 2025

Time: 6pm

The link will be shared with parents through ClassCharts.

If you have any questions, please contact [trips@gordanoschool.org.uk](mailto:trips@gordanoschool.org.uk)

### **Dig for Victory Show - 'One Evacuee' Musical Performance**

A family friendly 1940's revival festival is taking place at the North Somerset Showground, on 13th - 15th June. It will be a wonderful weekend of 1940's nostalgia packed with wartime spirit, with WW2 vehicles, live re-enactments, vintage stalls and fairground rides, swing dance lessons and toe-tapping music! On the evening of Friday 13th June Clevedon School Music Theatre are performing 'One Evacuee', a musical for all the family, based on real life experiences of Operation Pied Piper. The show has proudly raised £30,000 for good causes to date and is delighted to be supporting The Great Western Air Ambulance and the Royal Marines Charity this year. For more information, please see the [poster](#).

### **Shine Holiday Clubs - May Half Term**

It's not too late to book your child's place at Shine Holiday Clubs, which are running in Portishead this May Half Term at Gordano School and Portishead Town FC.

For children aged 5 to 12 years, the day runs from 9am until 3.30pm with late stay hours available if you need them. There are loads of different fun activities running including Outdoor Adventure, Football Fundays, Creative Colour Craze, Racquet Sports, Cricket and so much more!

Shine are Ofsted Registered so you can pay via Childcare Vouchers and the Tax-Free Childcare Scheme.

For Football Fundays at Portishead Town FC, [click here](#).

For other activities at Gordano School, [click here](#).

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend.

Yours sincerely



**Ms L Blundell**  
Headteacher

### Key Dates for Term 5

Monday 12th May	Start of A-Level written exams
Tuesday 13th May	6pm Parent Forum
Wednesday 14th May	Year 9 MenACWY/DtP Vaccinations
Thursday 15th May	4pm - 7.30pm Year 10 Progress Evening
Monday 19th May	Year 8 Geography Trip to Cheddar Gorge - Group 1
Tuesday 20th May	Year 8 Geography Trip to Cheddar Gorge - Group 2
Wednesday 21st May	Year 8 Geography Trip to Cheddar Gorge - Group 3
Wednesday 21st May	Year 12 UWE Business Day
Thursday 22nd May	Year 12 Trip to Oxford University for potential Oxbridge entrants
Thursday 22nd May	6pm Year 7 Celebration Evening
Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th May	Gold Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition
Monday 26th to Friday 30th May inclusive	HOLIDAY

### Key Dates for Term 6

Tuesday 3rd to Wednesday 4th June	Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Qualifying Expedition - Group B
Wednesday 4th June	Year 12 Textiles Mock Exam
Wednesday 4th June	6pm Gordano School PTA AGM
Thursday 5th to Friday 6th June	Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Qualifying Expedition - Group A
Monday 9th to Friday 13th June	Year 10 MFL Speaking Mock Exams
Monday 9th to Friday 13th June	Year 12 End of Year Exams
Monday 9th to Friday 13th June	Men's Mental Health Week
Tuesday 10th June	6pm Shannon House Celebration Evening
Wednesday 11th June	6pm Lundy House Celebration Evening
Thursday 12th June	6pm Portland House Celebration Evening
Monday 16th to Friday 20th June	Year 12 MFL Speaking Mock Exams
Monday 16th to Friday 27th June	Year 10 End of Year Exams
Tuesday 17th June	6pm Fitzroy House Celebration Evening
Wednesday 18th June	School Improvement Partners Visit
Wednesday 18th June	1pm - 3.30pm Year 13 Clearing
Wednesday 18th June	Year 9 HPV vaccinations
Wednesday 18th June	6pm Biscay House Celebration Evening
Thursday 19th June	6pm Cromarty House Celebration Evening
Friday 20th June	11.30am - 2.30pm Swimming Gala
Monday 23rd to Friday 27th June	Year 12 Bridging Week
Tuesday 24th June	Year 11 Prom

Thursday 26th June	1pm - 3.30pm Year 13 Clearing
Friday 27th June	Year 12 A-level Music Recital mock exam
Friday 27th June	Year 13 Ball at Bristol Marriott Hotel
Monday 30th June to Friday 4th July	Activities Week
Monday 30th June to Friday 4th July	Year 12 Futures Week
Monday 30th June to Friday 4th July	Gold Duke of Edinburgh Expedition to Snowdonia
Wednesday 2nd July	6pm - 7pm Year 12 UCAS Parental Information Evening
Monday 7th to Friday 11th July	Functional Skills English and Maths Exams
Tuesday 8th July	Year 6 Induction Day
Tuesday 8th July	6pm Parent Forum
Thursday 10th July	Year 12 A-level Arranging Music mock exam
Thursday 10th July	Sports Day (pm)
Friday 11th to Sunday 13th July	Year 10 Silver Duke of Edinburgh Qualifying Expedition
Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th July	5.30pm - 9.30pm Creative Arts & DT Festival
Thursday 17th July	Reserve date for Sports Day
Tuesday 22 July	Last Day of Term - students finish at 12.30pm
Wednesday 23rd July to Monday 1st September inclusive	HOLIDAY