



Dream big • Do your best • Give back

23rd February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you had a wonderful half term break and a warm welcome back to Term 4. Whilst Term 4 is a short term we do have a lot of activities and events ahead of us. Don't forget that at the start of March our whole school production of 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame' will be taking place, I was fortunate to see the end of their rehearsals on the last day of term and the quality of the performances were extremely impressive! You can book your tickets [here](#).

This term also sees the beginning of our Year 8 guided choices launch where we will be starting the exciting journey of taking Year 8 students through the Guided Choices process (formerly known as Options). The guided choices information evening will be held in school on **Thursday 14th March**.

A huge thank you to our Year 7 parents who were able to join us for the Year 7 progress evening yesterday. We hope you found the evening useful.

SEND Twitter account

Mrs Caswell our new SENDCo who joined us in January has set up a SEND@gordano twitter account, please do follow us to see our journey and keep updated about on-going developments. [SEND@gordano \(@SENDatgordano\) / X \(twitter.com\)](#)

Spring into Wellbeing Event

Portishead Town Council are hosting a community health and wellness event on 2nd March. For more details see the poster [here](#).

Kindness and respect online

As we start a new term can we ask parents to closely monitor the social media group chats that students may belong to - reminding students of the importance of being respectful to each other online and reminding them of the school Behaviour Policy and the law relating to misuse of social media and disrespectful comments made on such platforms. We continue to educate students about their online presence, however notice that some students still believe that their digital footprint is 'clear' once a derogatory comment is deleted from a group chat.

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

Year 10 Work Experience:

Thank you so much for supporting your child to get a work experience placement. We do understand that it can be difficult and also frustrating, but so far many Year 10 students have managed to get varied and interesting placements. There is still plenty of time to contact employers and secure a placement for July so please keep trying if you haven't managed to find anything just yet. We will be emailing you some tips on how to use social media and your local network to try to find a placement if your child doesn't already have one.

Please do read our Careers Newsletter: [Careers Newsletter - February 2024](#)
It is packed with age-appropriate opportunities for our students.

Safer Internet Day 2024

Although national Safer Internet Day took place earlier this month, in connection with the item above, you may find the following useful as we work together to keep young people safe and respectful online:

[Parents and carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

Wishing you a relaxing weekend

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher

Key Dates for Term 4

Wednesday 21st February - Friday 1st March	Year 13 Mock Exams
Wednesday 21st February - Friday 1st March	GCSE Food Practical Exams
Tuesday 27th February	3.30pm Year 8 General Knowledge Quiz
Monday 4th - Friday 8th March	Year 13 MFL Speaking Mock Exams
Monday 4th March	Year 11 Mock Exams begin
Monday 4th March	School Production to Primary Schools
Tuesday 5th - Friday 8th March	School Production
Wednesday 6th March	Year 13 Biology Electrophoresis Trip
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day
Monday 11th March	Year 13 A-Level Music Recital Exam
Thursday 14th March	4pm - 7.30pm Year 8 Key Stage 4 Guided Choices Evening
Friday 15th March	Sixth Form Photo
Monday 18th - Friday 22nd March	Year 11 DT Mock Exam Week
Monday 18th - Friday 22nd March	Book Fair in the School Library

Tuesday 19th - Wednesday 20th March	Easter Concert
Thursday 21st March	5.30pm - 7pm Post-18 Apprenticeship Meeting
Friday 22nd March	Year 11 School Photos
Friday 22nd March	Sixth Form option choices confirmed to Year 11 students
Friday 22nd March	A-Level Music Trip to BBC Concert (all day)
Sunday 24th March	Year 10 Silver Duke of Edinburgh Training Day
Monday 25th - Wednesday 27th March	Year 10 GCSE Drama Performance Exam
Tuesday 26th March	6pm - 7pm Parent Forum
Thursday 28th March	Last Day of Term - Non-uniform day for students
Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April	EASTER HOLIDAY