



Dream big • Do your best • Give back

21st October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this update finds you and your families well. This week has been a week of reflection for me, looking back on the first term of the school year and my first term as Headteacher at Gordano.

One of my priorities this term has been in getting to know our students, which has been an absolute highlight. I have had the privilege of walking through the school on a daily basis seeing our students in action in the classroom, at lunchtimes/breaktimes, on entry to the school at the start of the day and on their way home at the end of the day. I have also seen students actively involved in extra-curricular activities not only in school but also externally. We have held several whole school events over this term and each time we have student ambassadors involved they really have been a credit to not only the school but you as parents – whether that be at open evenings, the careers convention, trips, fixtures to name but a few. I have also had the pleasure of meeting with our young people to discuss their views on how we can improve our provision and we are now working on these areas in order to support our community moving forward. And finally, this week, our Post-16 students have excelled themselves in providing a superb RAG week, raising money for Mend the Gap (our Kenyan linked charity) and Macmillan. Not only has this been an organisational feat but in organising this week they have brought our community together for some great activities – including the student v staff dodgeball event, the lunchtime RAG fayre and RAG fest. I would like to say a personal thank you to our student body for their contributions over term 1, demonstrating on a daily basis our core values of ‘Dream big, Do your best, Give back’.

We will update you on the final RAG week donations total next term (currently looking like it will top £2,000), but if any parent wishes to support the student fundraising, donations can be made on [ParentPay](#).

Student Equipment

Please can you support your child in having the right equipment so that they are ready for learning: a pencil case and for Years 7-9 a reading book.

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LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

Student Uniform

Thank you for your continued support in upholding our uniform standards. Please can we take this opportunity to remind you of our uniform expectations and where appropriate use the half term to get any items that students may no longer have, see the attached link for a reminder <https://www.gordanoschool.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=551&type=pdf>. You can also purchase uniform items from our second-hand shop <http://www.uniformd.co.uk/gordanoschool>, however certain items and sizes may not be available. We have seen an increase in the number of students wearing socks over tights and socks which are not in accordance with our policy, please can you ensure that your child is adhering to our policy on socks.

Staff Congratulations

A huge congratulations to Mr Yau, Head of House for Lundy who this week has been appointed Assistant Headteacher at a school in Gloucester. We are extremely proud of his achievement, and we will certainly miss his energy and commitment to our students and their families enormously. We will of course be recruiting a new Head of House after the half term break to ensure a smooth transition when Mr Yau leaves at the end of Term 2.

Gordano Swimming Team

A huge congratulations to our swimming teams who competed at the regional championships a few weeks ago at Millfield. Some of those teams have now qualified for the National Finals at the Aquatics Centre at the Olympic Park which is a wonderful achievement.

Keep your child safe on Instagram

Please also find a link to parental guidance on Instagram and how to support your child in using it safely. Also, just a reminder that Instagram has a minimum age sign up of 13.

[Instagram Fact Sheet](#)

We wish all our families a wonderful half term break and look forward to welcoming our students back to school on Monday 31st October.

Yours sincerely



Ms L Blundell
Headteacher