



DEAR PARENTS AND CARERS

Last week, I had the privilege of attending the opening Catalyst Conference for the Cradle to Career programme, led by the Reach Foundation. The day was a powerful reminder that the success of young people is shaped not only by what happens at home and in school, but by the strength of the community around them. It left me reflecting on how fortunate we are in Portishead to have such a supportive and engaged community, and how much we value the partnerships we have built with families, local organisations and employers over recent years.

As a school, we are committed to ensuring that every student feels a genuine sense of belonging and connection to our community. One of the ways we are strengthening this for our youngest students is through our ambition that every Year 7 student attends at least one extra-curricular club during Term 2. We are delighted to be introducing some exciting new Year 7-only opportunities, including Indoor Athletics, Pop Choir and the Great Gordano Bake Off. Please look out for a special Year 7 booklet next week, which will include details of all available clubs and a form for you to complete with your child to select their preferred activities.

This focus on belonging was also evident during our Open Morning Tours today. We were incredibly proud to welcome our first group of Year 6 families into Gordano and hope they enjoyed experiencing school life first-hand. Mr Tipler and I ran the tours this morning and saw lessons across a wide range of subjects, including DT, Science, English, Maths, Creative Arts, Languages and PE, spanning Years 7 to 13. It was wonderful to see the focus, enthusiasm and positive relationships that characterise our school community, and we hope our visitors left with a real sense of what makes Gordano such a special place to learn and grow.

Wishing you all a relaxing and restful weekend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Blundell', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Ms L Blundell, Headteacher

SCHOOL OF SANCTUARY

Gordano School is working towards a School of Sanctuary Award, strengthening our commitment to creating a welcoming, inclusive and safe school community where everyone feels respected, valued and that they belong. If you would like to read more, please visit our webpage:

[Gordano School - School of Sanctuary](#)

ROAD SAFETY

It is great to see so many students cycling to school. Can you please remind them that, for their own safety, they need to wear cycle helmets and follow staff guidance as they leave the school site (parked cars around the St Mary's roundabout make visibility difficult).

HELLO YELLOW

To highlight World Mental Health Day, students and staff have been wearing an item of yellow today and contributing to the Young Minds mental health charity. Assemblies and tutor time have focused on the importance of belonging in our community, which link to our whole school values and there were cake sales and a mental health Pop Up in school today.

CHARITY EVENT NEXT FRIDAY

SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD

 **FRIDAY 16TH OCTOBER**

 **PUPILS CAN WEAR AN ITEM OF RED IN SUPPORT**

 **DONATE VIA PARENT PAY**
The link is on Parent Pay to donate.

 **BRING A DONATION OF £1 OR MORE**

TOGETHER
WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

WEAR RED DAY 26
SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD

KEY DATES FOR TERM 1

Wednesday 14 and Thursday 15 October	Year 11 GCSE Dance Set Phrase Exam
Thursday 15 October	Year 12 Geography Fieldtrip to Weston-super-Mare
Thursday 15 October	SENDSCO Surgery
Thursday 15 October	5.30pm – 6.30pm Read to Succeed Parent Evening
Friday 16 October	Year 10/11 photo mop up session
Tuesday 20 October	Year 11 Futures Evening
Wednesday 21 and Thursday 22 October	Flu Vaccinations Years 7-11
Friday 23 October	Year 11 Photographs
Monday 26 to Friday 30 October inclusive	Holiday

WELLSPRING COUNSELLING



A safe space to talk

Feeling overwhelmed? You're not alone.

Our professional counselling service offers a confidential, non-judgemental space to talk about what's on your mind – and to find your way forward.



Manage
stress & anxiety



Navigate
life changes



Improve
relationships



Build confidence
& self-esteem



Explore your
feelings &
find clarity



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counsellors.



For anyone aged 11 years and up

Young people and adults
are welcome.



Short waiting times at the moment

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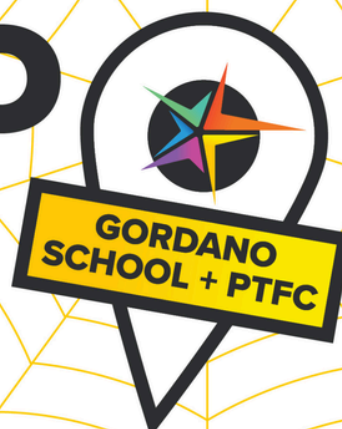


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- ✦ Make a Musical
- ✦ Football at Portishead Town


Shine
HOLIDAY CLUBS
[MyShine.co.uk](https://www.MysHine.co.uk)



*Conditions apply. Expiry 11/10/26



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