

# November/December Term 2 2020

# Newsletter

For Students, Parents & School Staff

Attendance Line Year 7-11 tel.01275 841374  
Attendance Line Year 12 &13 tel.01275 841380  
[attendance@gordanoschool.org.uk](mailto:attendance@gordanoschool.org.uk)  
[www.gordanoschool.org.uk](http://www.gordanoschool.org.uk)

## FITZROY FOXES WINNERS OF 2020 INTERHOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

	BISCAY	CROMARTY	FITZROY	LUNDY	PORTLAND	SHANNON
YEAR 7	6	2	3	5	1	4
YEAR 8	3	5	4	6	1	2
YEAR 9	5	1	2	3	4	6
YEAR 10	2	6	1	4	5	6
YEAR 11	6	1	4	3	2	5
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>



Well done to all our competitors in this year's Inter House Cross Country, a total of 1323 students took part in this year's inter house cross country, covering 2502km, that would get us to Moscow! Lundy had most runners with 230 students taking part. The overall winners were FITZROY!

## Headteacher's Blog



As we approach the end of this unique (and, in many ways, surreal) year my overriding feeling is of great pride. Pride in the community for all of your support throughout some very challenging times; pride in all of our staff who have placed themselves selflessly at the forefront of the national response of the pandemic at considerable personal risk, and pride in our wonderful students who, at a time in life where they should be enjoying the journey of discovery and growing independence, have responded so maturely and responsibly given the huge limitations placed upon their lives.

It is, of course, a great shame that we are missing the usual trappings of December at Gordano; the carol service, Christmas concerts, numerous charity events and Christmas dinners. These are, of course, hallmarks of a strong community that values what happens outside of lessons as much as inside them in developing our young people into the brilliant young adults that we see them grow into. But I think we have seen something very different this year, and even more powerful - the coming together as a community, in looking after each other and supporting each other through these tough times. It may be less 'visible' than a Christmas concert, but it just as important. I have felt the 'spirit' of Gordano

more strongly in recent months than ever before and I know that this will stand us in great stead for the challenges that 2021 will no doubt present.

Thank you to every member of our community for playing your part so willingly and so positively. A strong community comes from the contribution of everyone within it, and we have seen the best of that this year.

Wishing you all a very well-deserved, safe and enjoyable Christmas break.

Tom Inman  
Headteacher

## Diary Dates

Thursday 17th December - **LAST DAY OF TERM 2**

Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January 2021 - **CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY**

Monday 4th January 2021 - **First day of Term 3**

Friday 15th January - **Year 11 Photo**

Tuesday & Wednesday 19th & 20th January - **Year 9 Vaccinations MenACWY/DtP**

Friday 22nd January - **Go Gordano Singing and Orchestra Celebration**

Friday 29th January - **Year 11 Mock Results Day**

Monday 1st February - **Year 7 Spelling Bee Final**

Wednesday 3rd February - **Higher Apprenticeship Evening**

Thursday 11th February - **YEAR 11 Progress Evening**

Friday 12th February - **INSET DAY**

Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February - **HALF TERM HOLIDAY**

Monday 22nd February - **FIRST DAY OF TERM 3**



# GORDANO MUSIC NEWS



HOME TFM LIVE MUSIC VIDEOS FAQs



## WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE

**GORDANO SCHOOL CONCERT BAND**  
Bristol

This is our school concert band made up of the best wind, brass and percussion players at Gordano School. We were supposed to be taking part in an MFY event for the first time this year and put this video together in lockdown. Hopefully it shows how much fun we have making music together.

Congratulations to the Gordano School Concert Band who are featured as part of 'The Future Is Now', a National online music festival celebrating young talent. Our lockdown performance from earlier in the year is now live on their website and it's great to see the talent within Gordano being championed by such an aspirational national platform.

#TheFutureIsNow, is an online event from @musicforyouth that took place on the 4 & 5 Dec! Students had the opportunity to join live workshops & music sessions, get help & support from music leaders and view 250+ inspirational music videos from young artists. Including Gordano Schools rendition of "Welcome to The Jungle." The video that the band put together can be viewed on the Music For Youth website [here](#)

It doesn't stop there. The music department has had great success this term with their extra-curricular provision, having risen to the challenge of year group bubbles and the hurdles of the ever changing government guidance. Music is a huge part of life at Gordano and we weren't going to let something like a global pandemic stop us in our tracks. This term has seen 59 students join our bubbled-up school orchestra. An impressive 52 in our bubbled-up chamber choir, and a whopping 50+ students have joined our brand new Year 7 choir with Miss Day. Every year group has been well-represented and before the end of term we are looking forward to sharing with you the products of all their hard work. Watch this space!



Year 8 Orchestra



Year 9 Choir



Year 10 Orchestra



## HOUSE FORECAST - CROMARTY

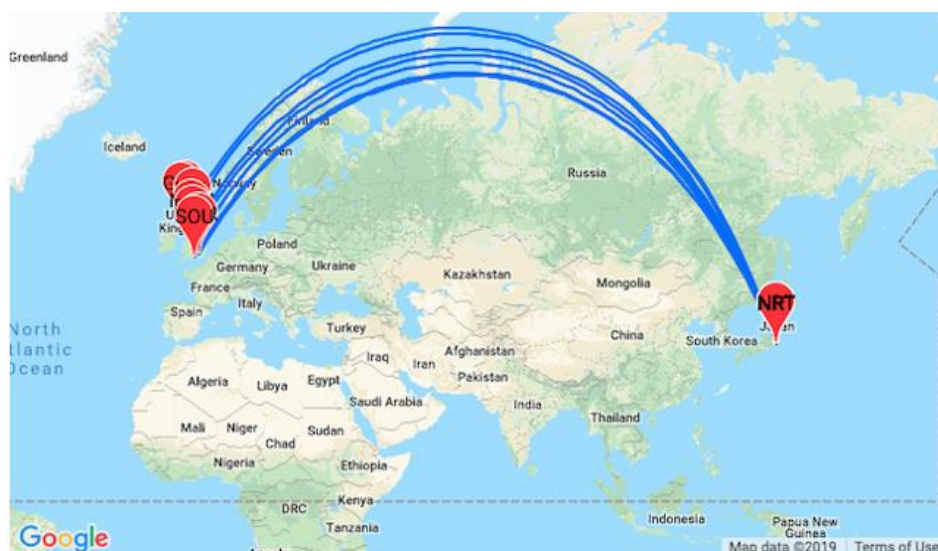
Hello from Team Cromarty, I am really pleased to announce that during the first term the students and staff in Cromarty managed to finish off our 'Road to Tokyo' Challenge. This is a challenge we started during lockdown to complete the equivalent of the 6000 miles from Portishead to Tokyo where next years Olympics will be held. This involved either walking, running or cycling. I was really pleased that over 55 students and staff got involved in this challenge. A particular mention must go to Daisy Manners-Lolley 11C who completed over 800 miles of running during this challenge.

We have also started to collect food items for our chosen charity Bristol North West Foodbank. This is something we aim to support throughout the course of the coming year during these challenging times for so many people.



In the first major sporting event of the year, the Inter house cross country competition, we were really pleased to come third and gain a place on the podium. This year the events had to take place in lessons, so we had two competitions for each year group. Cromarty had some outstanding performances from Jasmine Wallis 8C2, Archie Rawlinson 8C1, Charlie Cocks 7C2, Conor Hewitt 9C2, Elliot Jeston 9C2 and Lily Simmons 9C2 who all came first in their respective competitions.

This year we have also welcomed Mrs Katie Watts as our new Assistant Head of House, she is making a fantastic contribution in supporting so many students within the House. We would also like to wish Mr Bridges 9C1's tutor (not to be confused with Mr Bainbridge HOH) all the best in his retirement as he leaves us at Christmas. In his place we welcome Ms Davies who is going to replace him as 9C1's tutor.



# YEAR 7 CHARITY EVENT



Well done to Year 7 who have kick-started their charity event this term. The entire cohort of 338 students are aiming to fill as many boxes per tutor group as possible and donate these to local food banks to give something back to those in our local community who are in need.

Each tutor group is aiming to fill the most boxes with items provided on the list. The top tutor group will get a small prize per term for their efforts. Each month Year 7's will be rotating which local food bank or charity they donate to. The aim by the end of the year is to help as many families as possible and have some fun along the way.

If your child is in Year 7 and you are able to spare a few items from the list, please do send them in. The kind of items they need include cereals, nappies, toiletries, tinned foods, washing powder and more. The full list of items can be found is below.

So far Year 7 have collected 19 boxes, 7C2 (Mrs Rose) and 7P2 (Dr Delaney) are currently joint leaders. We have already had 32 tubes of toothpaste, 42 tins of soup, 24 tins of beans, 45 tins of veg and 17,000g of pasta. Many thanks to everyone who has donated items already, well done Year 7, keep up the good work. Mr Webber certainly looks impressed with your efforts!

<b><u>Christmas Items</u></b>	<b><u>Toiletries</u></b>	<b><u>Food Stuffs</u></b>
Tinned Chicken	Tooth Paste	Soup
Stuffing	Tooth Brushes	Beans
Gravy Granules	Soap	Tinned Tomatoes
Christmas Puddings	Shower Gel	Tinned Veg
Christmas Cake	Shampoo	Tinned Fruit
Boxes of Biscuits	Conditioner	Tinned Meat
Boxes of chocolates	Deodorant	Tinned Fish
Crisps	Washing Powder	Tinned Custard
Crackers	Washing up Liquid	Tinned Rice Pudding
Custard	Toilet Cleaner	Fruit Juice
Christmas Crackers	Hand Sanitiser	Instant Mash Potato
	Anti-Bac Spray	Pasta
	Sanitary Products	Rice
	Size 6 Nappies	Cereal
		Long Life Milk
		Biscuits
		Misc



## GRAND PRIZE DRAW



Last year saw the introduction of the Gordano grand prize draw, whereby students earned tokens through the year relating to the number of merits they achieved. The tokens were then placed in the appropriate slot of the prize box, with both termly prizes and larger, end of year, prizes available for the lucky winners.

Unfortunately, due to Covid, the hot air balloon and concert ticket prizes had to be substituted, but we are pleased to announce that Zsuzsa Pope (11S1), George Thompson (8B1) and Esmee Audain (9F1) were all worthy winners of £100 Amazon vouchers. Well done to all three!

The prize draw will be running again this year, and students have already started collecting their tokens. Good luck to everyone, and remember, the more merits you get, the more tokens you earn!"



## NON SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY RAISES FUNDS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

Many thanks to everyone who participated and donated to our non school uniform day on Friday 13th November 2020.

We raised an impressive £1500 as a whole school, all of which will be going to support children in need across the UK.



We're supporting

**BBC**  
**Children**  
**in Need**

## NEW ASTRO COURTS IN USE



Our new all-weather playing surface is proving to be really popular with PE staff and students alike. All Year groups have thoroughly enjoyed PE sessions on the courts this term.

From couch to 5k to hockey, football, tag rugby and more. It has really brightened many of our Autumn mornings and afternoons. As COVID restrictions are lifted in the new-year we are looking forward to sharing these facilities more widely with our local community.

Local clubs interested in hiring the facility for the 20/21 season should visit the GSCT web-site [www.gordanosportscentre.org.uk/](http://www.gordanosportscentre.org.uk/)

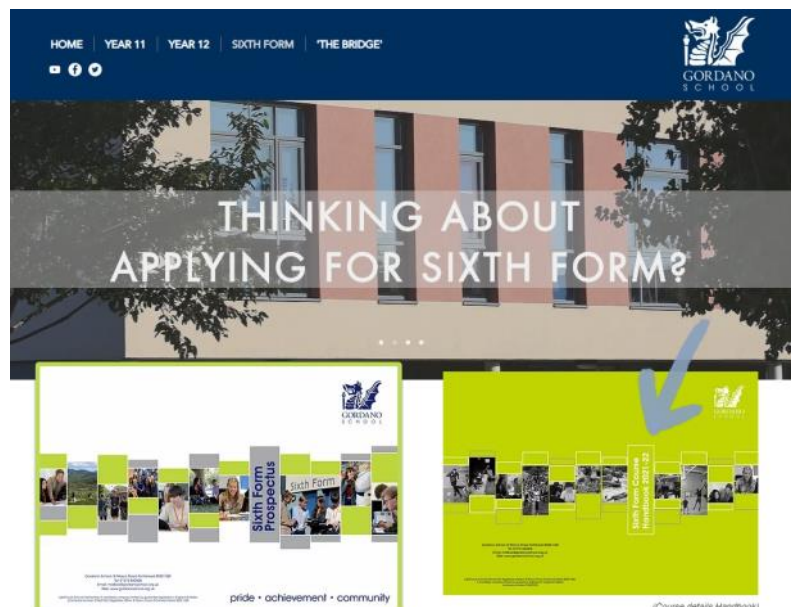
## SIXTH FORM VIRTUAL OPEN DAY 2020

A huge well done to all the staff and students who were involved in our Sixth Form virtual open day earlier this term. The event was well attended with over 200 students and parents logging on.

After an introduction and film about Sixth Form life, Mr Inman, Ms Fairs and Mrs Ramsay gave the reins to senior students to signpost our subject, pastoral and careers offer as well as the many extra curricular opportunities.

You can click the image or access the Sixth Form presentation and film [here](#).

Any ongoing queries about Sixth Form options can be emailed to [Jfairs@gordanoschool.org.uk](mailto:Jfairs@gordanoschool.org.uk)





## ARKWRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP WINNER



Congratulations to Neal Shah, one of our Yr12 students who has been successful in securing a prestigious Arkwright Engineering Scholarship this year. Successful scholars go through a rigorous process of application and selection during Yr11 and compete with over 1000 other students from across the UK.

The aim of the scholarships is to give support and encouragement to those students who have their sights set on a career in Engineering. Along with the prestige of being awarded an Arkwright Scholarship comes a bursary to help students further their Engineering interests.

The process for this year's hopefuls is well under way and the deadline for applications is the first week in January. Any Yr11 students who are considering a degree or higher level apprenticeship in Engineering should contact Mr Stanton [dstanton@gordanoschool.org.uk](mailto:dstanton@gordanoschool.org.uk) this week if they would like to find out more.



**ARKWRIGHT**  
ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIPS

## BEBRAS COMPETITION NOVEMBER 2020

This November Students at Gordano have been taking part in the Bebras competition in their Computing lessons this term. The Bebras Computing Challenge introduces computational thinking to students.

It is organised in over 50 countries and designed to get students all over the world excited about computing.

It's been wonderful in Gordano's first year of running the competition to see such fantastic performances in all age categories with many students receiving Merit and Distinction certificates from their teachers in lessons.

Congratulations to the 50 students who achieved Gold certificates due to their outstanding performance, achieving within the top 10% nationally. These students will be invited to take part in the Oxford Computing Challenge which will take place next year.

Special congratulations to students named here who achieved Best in School' awards in each year group:



			Score
Alexander	MASON-PAULL	7F2	184
Ethan	LLOYD	8P2	173
Max	APPLEYARD	9P2	173
Santiago	WESTON	10S2	128



# YEAR 7 VIRTUAL AUTHOR EVENT

In the week before October half term, all Year 7 English classes were involved in an exclusive virtual author event. The session included personalised videos made especially for Year 7 Gordano students by the author Phil Hickes.

Students were asked to read the opening chapter of his new novel *The Haunting of Aveline Jones* prior to the lesson and then completed a range of activities centred around this in class.

Within the lesson, students were shown a series of videos created by Phil, where he explained the process involved in creating believable characters for the novel and gave students top tips for their own creative writing. At the end of the session he asked students to produce their own descriptive writing, which was then sent off for him to read. Year 7 thoroughly enjoyed the event and, in

## Writing Task...



It's now time for  
you to be the  
writer!

In his final video, Phil is going to set you a special writing task.

Let's find out more about it...

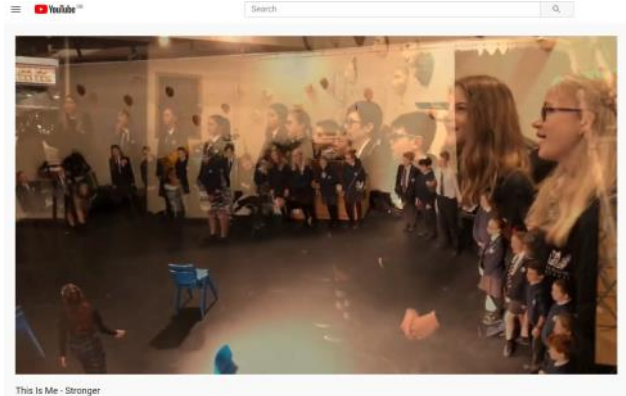
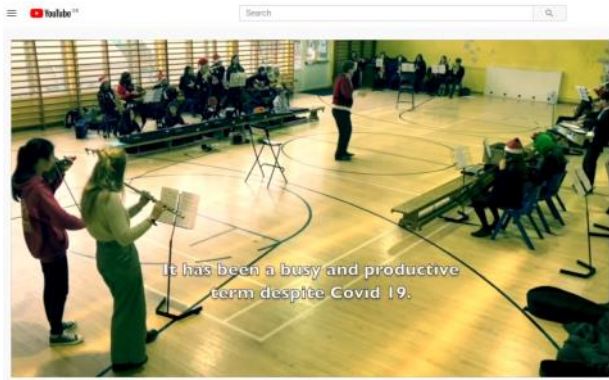
<h3 style="margin: 0;">The haunting of Aveline Jones</h3>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">21 Oct</div>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #f4a460;">Starter</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #f4a460;">Phil Hickes</div> </div>		<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #f4a460;">Aveline</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #f4a460;">vocabulary</div> </div>
<p><u>Creepy</u>, <u>mysterious</u>, <u>autumnal</u></p> <p>a. Because there are orange leaves and orange leaves come in Autumn.</p> <p>b. Because she looks shocked and she's in a dark wood woods alone.</p> <p>c. Because it's right and she is alone and looks scared.</p>		<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #f4a460;">Shy (blush marks)</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #f4a460;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• deserted</li> <li>• glare</li> <li>• desolate</li> <li>• eerie</li> <li>• ominously</li> </ul> </div> </div>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #f4a460;">Notes</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #f4a460;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It's a ghost story.</li> <li>• A girl called Primrose disappeared 30 years ago.</li> </ul> </div> </div>		<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #f4a460;">Mad about books especially ghost stories (cozy clothes and reading glasses)</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #f4a460;">Keira</div> </div>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #f4a460;">Aunt Lilian: Nice but cold. Can be strict. Used to be a school teacher. complex character. Intimidating.</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #f4a460;">Mr Lieberman: Talkative. Funny, interesting. owns book shop.</div> </div>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #f4a460; text-align: center;"> <h3 style="margin: 0;">Haunted place</h3> </div>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #f4a460;">Aveline: Young girl. Mad about ghost stories. Curious, shy, caring, smart, bright.</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; background-color: #f4a460;">Harold: Book lover. Works at his uncles book shop. loves chips. Full of little bits of knowledge.</div> </div>		<p>Trembling, I crept towards the deserted, eerie house. The white lace curtains were never open and the sharp holly had taken over the walls. It was 10:00 on Halloween night and the full moon shone over the depressing house like a torch in the darkness. The house seemed to lean forward and the walls breathed. I heard an ear piercing scream echo around me. My eyes fell down my pale face but I carried on... I went inside. There was a thick coat of dust that gathered a sheet over the floor. Suddenly, "hello?"</p>

## END OF YEAR ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS

The Music department have been really busy this term preparing some musical highlights to share with the school for our final term assembly at the end of this week.

See below links to the videos of our Year 7 choir singing 'This is me - Stronger,' and some festive musical highlights from across the Year groups. Click the images below to view the videos. More videos will be shared on the website, social media and news pages before the end of the week but below is a sneak preview.

The videos were created from 14 different bubbled rehearsals held every weekday morning excluding Monday's with three to four rehearsals run by our dynamic musical duo; Mr Guerrini and Mr Humphries and a fantastic cohort of 120 young musicians making music at Gordano School. Thank you and well done to everyone involved for their commitment, hours of practice and fortitude.



## MEND THE GAP YOGA CHARITY EVENT

Gordano students have been unable to visit our linked Sixth Form charity - Mend the Gap - in Kenya this year but the fund raising efforts continue. Our linked schools and orphanages in Kissi and the Mara have all been badly impacted by the Covid epidemic. To continue this support, Head of Sixth Form, Jeanne Fairs, will be running a charity yoga session under the BMF Bristol banner on December 30<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm on Zoom and would love members of the Gordano community to get involved. All proceeds will go directly to the Mend the Gap charity. If you would like to please donate [here](#)



Some of the Kenyan Mend the Gap team will be joining this festive yoga session and we would love to see students who have visited their communities with Gordano School since 2012. If you don't feel like yoga, but would like to donate, Mend the Gap would also be grateful to hear from you.



## CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to the winner and three runners up of our Christmas 2020 card competition.

The winning design was produced by Abigail Fox from Year 8, our three runners up were Ellie Hurst, Clara Cooke and Hope Weston all from Year 7. Many thanks to everyone who entered, we received some very creative submissions.

Happy Christmas everyone and well done to Abigail.



## YEAR 7 GORDANO STUDENT IS A PUBLISHED AUTHOR

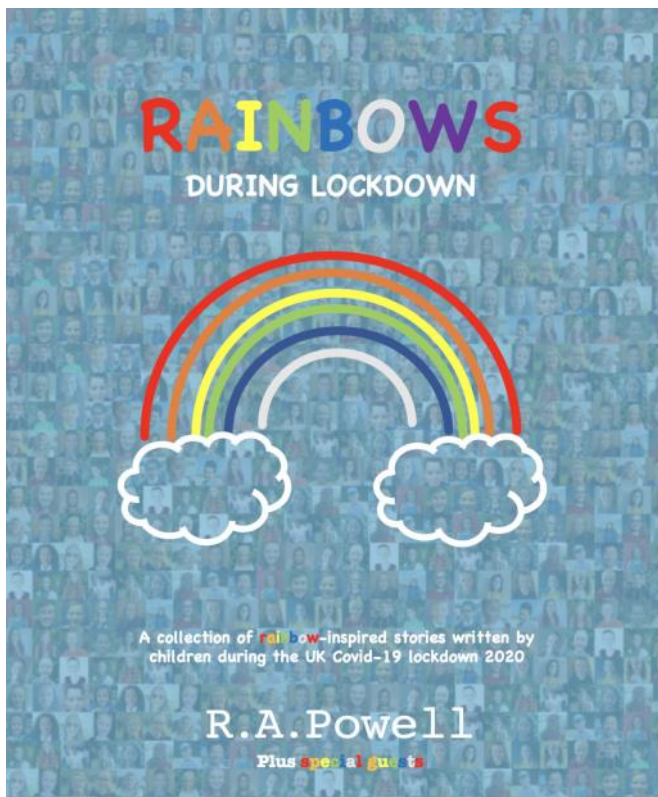
During lockdown in March, Gracie Hemmings (Year 7C1) completed a six-week [Creative Writing Course](#) hosted by children's author R.A. Powell. The course was streamed live on Facebook. As a participant, Gracie wrote a story entitled "Reading A Book" to enter [Rainbow Writing Competition](#) which the author ran during the summer.

Since then, alongside R.A. Powell and children from across England, Wales, Scotland & Australia, participants have collated the stories from the competition into a book entitled *Rainbows During Lockdown*; a collection of 58 rainbow-inspired tales written during lockdown by children as young as four, all the way up to 15 years old, including Grace's entry.

The book is due for release on Tuesday 15 December via Blossom Spring Publishing and will be available online at Amazon & Waterstones. 100% of the author's royalties are being donated to [ICUsteps](#) and [School-Home Support](#) and Gracie and her fellow participants are aiming to raise as much as they can for these two fantastic charities that have worked so hard during Covid-19 to keep vulnerable people safe.

Well done Gracie, what a great way to make a difference during the lockdown. R A Powell has also offered to set up a workshop with Gordano Library, which we hope to arrange early next Year.

If you would like to order the book you can do so [here](#) and please share and follow news of the book on social media using the #rainbowsduringlockdown on all posts

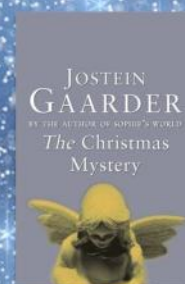




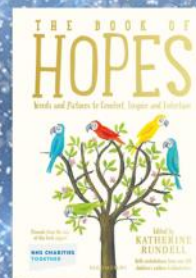
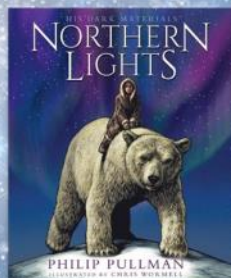
Welcome to the Gordano School Library newsletter for parents and carers, bringing you news of books and events in the library as well as reading news.

## Give the gift of reading this Christmas!

### Festive Reads



### Gift books



You can purchase the above titles on Gordano School Library's [bookshop on uk.bookshop.org](http://uk.bookshop.org) as well as more festive reads and other recommended reads! The bookshop is part of their affiliate programme and the school will receive 10% of revenues generated through sales.



You can also find links to the latest editions of *Books for Keeps*, *Booktime* and BookTrust's 2020 *Great Books Guide* on FireFly: Resources > Students > School Library > Information for Parents.

