



21st November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Sixth Form Information Evening

A big thank you to everyone who attended our Sixth Form Information Evening on Tuesday where students in Year 11 were able to find out about the offer we have in place for the next academic year. If there are questions that have arisen around this then please do make contact with any subject areas or Dr John, our Director of Sixth Form.

Remembrance Day

I wanted to report back around our Remembrance Day where the whole school came together at the front of the school and a student played The Last Post. This was the first time that we had done this, rather than having students in individual classrooms at 11am, and we hope to continue this in the future.

Mobile Phone Policy Moving Forward

I have been very open about the fact that the school has for some time been reviewing its policy with regards to mobile phones in school where currently we ask for them to be out of sight in bags. We worked with the University of the West of England in reflecting on the views of students, staff, parents and carers as stakeholders and their [published report](#) gave us some reflection and certainly any change in strategy would want to address the areas raised here. Gordano School in Portishead, which is part of the Lighthouse Schools Partnership, has already introduced Yondr pouches ([How It Works — Yondr](#)) and we recently took student members of the School Forum along with some staff and governors to Gordano School to talk to them about the implementation of these. We will continue to work with the students involved on this project. I know other local schools are looking at similar strategies too.

I would like to give the opportunity to discuss the next steps with parents and carers and therefore I am offering two opportunities to do this on either **Monday 8th December between 4pm and 5pm** or on **Thursday 11th December between 7pm and 8pm**. If you would like to attend, could you please complete the Microsoft form using the following link [Mobile Phone Consultation Meeting – Fill in form](#) indicating this. Both events will happen in the School Library.

Challenge Partners Visit

A Challenge Partners team of five reviewers visited us last week from Wednesday to Friday. They looked at all aspects of school provision including talking with students and staff, visiting lessons and assemblies as well as interviews with senior staff. The written feedback we received talked about our 'climate for learning' being excellent and our curriculum enrichment provision which helps develop the whole child being really extensive. They also stated that 'student leadership opportunities abound' which was lovely to read.

We nominated our Sixth Form as an 'Area of Excellence' around the provision that we provide for our students and I am pleased to say that this was accredited by the organisation. Again the review team were really impressed with their interaction with the students in particular and the opportunities and support that students receive.

The governing body of the school went through the written report in their meeting on Wednesday evening and talked to myself about the findings.

Autumn Music Concert

Wednesday evening brought with it our Autumn Music Concert. Congratulations to all of the talented students who performed on what was a fantastic night.

Year 11 Mock Examinations

Mock examinations start for Year 11 next week. These are important in that they give students an opportunity to see where they are with regards to working towards next summer as well as introducing them to our invigilator team. I know students will have prepared well for these and we are looking forward to supporting them through the process.

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors taking Assemblies

Recently a group of students have taken each of the House assemblies on the theme of anti-bullying. We have a team of trained young people as part of our provision who are able to support others in the first instance and are based in Marmion House at lunchtime for the majority of the week.

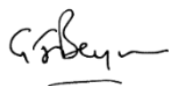
Sixth Form RAG Week – Week commencing 8th December

The Sixth Form are busily preparing for their annual RAG Week where they raise money for charity via a range of activities that include dressing up and throwing sponges at teachers! This is always one of the highlights of our calendar and we are looking forward to seeing what they have come up with.

Christmas Holidays and Return to School in January 2026

Although it is some weeks away, we finish at 12.05pm on Friday 19th December. All of the timings of the buses will be adjusted accordingly. We will return on Monday 5th January.

With best wishes,



Gareth Beynon
Headteacher