



Headmaster's Letter

12th June 2026

Dear parents/carers and students,

NACE (National Association for Able Children in Education) Award - reaccreditation

Three years ago, the school was reaccredited as a **NACE Challenge School**: this prestigious accreditation provides recognition of school-wide high-quality provision for more able learners within a context of challenge for all. This week, a team from NACE visited the school to review our work with our more able learners, and with all our students, to consider whether the school should have that award reaccredited. Following that review, I am delighted to announce that the school has officially received reaccreditation as a NACE Challenge school.

Furthermore, NACE has invited the school to become a **NACE Challenge Ambassador School**, a status that has been established to celebrate those schools that have consistently demonstrated exceptional standards, achieving Challenge Award accreditation at least three times, and that have also actively contributed to the development of NACE's professional training, research projects, and collaborative resources. What a wonderful achievement for the school, its staff and students.

I would like to thank Mr Higgs, Ms Glock and Mr Biggs for all their work in preparing for that reaccreditation visit, and to all my colleagues who work tirelessly to support the progress and achievement of all our students, in what is a school with exceptionally able students who enjoy and benefit from the challenge of their academic studies.



"We are an outstanding co-educational grammar school which places the child at the heart of all that we do..."



Special Education Needs

I was thrilled to learn from Mrs Hargraves (Deputy Head - Pastoral) that The Crypt School has won the **Education Choices Awards 2026 for Inclusive SEN Provision**. What wonderful news and a considerable endorsement of the work of our SEND team at school, led by SENDco Mrs Prout as well as all of our teachers and other support staff, who all go above and beyond to support the needs of all of our students.

Student Personal Development

Last Friday, many students and their families enjoyed attending our Sports Awards Evening, and my congratulations to all who were nominated for an award and to those whose achievement and commitment were recognised in the winning of an award.

Opportunities continue to abound for our students at Crypt, with Mr Higgs (head of history and Politics) advertising an opportunity for our historians to enter into a £100 Prize History Competition, being organised by The Gloucestershire Branch of the Historical Association in memory of Richard Slessor, a former Chair of the branch. Those entering that competition will need to create a project on any historical topic that tells an interesting and engaging story. Meanwhile, our journalism club meets every Thursday, and they are responsible for writing, editing and producing the Scrypt student magazine, the latest edition of which was published recently - well done indeed to all involved in that work, overseen by English teacher, Mr Cobb.

Careers education is such an important part of our personal development programme here at Crypt, and this week saw many year 10 students engage with external work experience placements, or undertake careers related research in school.

As part of their studies of RS, Year 8 enjoyed a talk form on Hinduism on Thursday, whilst our year 12 chemistry students all sat the very demanding Cambridge Chemistry Challenge, organised by head of department Ms Gee.

Year 5 students enjoy their visit to the school

It was really great to see nearly 160 year 5 students attend a taster day this week, on either Wednesday or Thursday. Those who came enjoyed visiting the school, attending science, art, DT, history, business studies, PE and other lessons, whilst also having time to explore the school site, meet current students and staff to see if they think The Crypt is somewhere they would like to attend, as they consider their future education journeys after primary school. My thanks to all my colleagues, sixth form and year 10 student volunteers and Mrs Whiting for making these two days such as success.

Keys for a cause - Crypt 'pianothon'

The two day 'pianothon' - keys for a cause - take place on Tuesday and Wednesday of next week,

and I see that we have received a number of kind donations already, meaning that our current total raised is now at £3,170. I know we'll hit our target of £25,000 by this time next week - thank you all for your support.

Staffing News

Congratulations to Mrs Hayes (history and politics, and school inclusion lead), who has been shortlisted as a finalist in the Education Choices Awards 2026 in Category A: Improvements in the EDIB award. That's no surprise, as Mrs Hayes has been a wonderful advocate for inclusion across this year in her role as our school inclusion lead, overseeing a programme of community hours, assemblies and cultural events such as the culture week last term and the community Iftar held in school on the 9th of March by example.

With my continued best wishes,



Nicholas Dyer
Headmaster

Dates For Your Diary

15th / 16th June	Geography Trip Forest of Dean
16th June	Matilda Bristol Hippodrome
16th June	Surf Camp
19th June	Alice in Wonderland St Mary De Crypt 7pm
22nd June	Hamilton Live Stream 3.40pm
22nd June	Summer School 8.35am
23rd June	Summer School 8.35am
26th June	Y11 Prom Hatherley Manor - from 7pm
26th June	Y12 Team Building Day
29th June	Founders' Day Gloucester Cathedral 7.15pm
30th June	CSPTA Committee Meeting S1 6.30pm
1st July	Y7 and 8 Showcase Concert 6pm
2nd July	Y13 Leavers Meal 7-9pm
4th July	Cabaret Night 6.45pm
6th July	Post 18 University and Employment Workshops 6 - 7:30pm
8th July	Girls into Electronics University of Bath
8th July	Term 6 Ends 3.15pm

Alex Makes a Flying Start at the RS Feva Nationals

Alex Y8 arrived at the RS Feva Nationals at Plas Heli with just two days' experience in the boat and only two days sailing alongside his new helm. With such a fresh pairing, the target was simple: learn fast, build the partnership, and see if they could battle their way into gold fleet ahead of the World Championships in Germany this July.

With 101 boats entered — that's 202 under-18 sailors all chasing the title of National Champion — the competition was always going to be fierce. Day one saw the fleet split into blue and yellow groups, with only the top 25 from each qualifying for gold fleet.

The boys rose brilliantly to the challenge, posting impressive results of 12th, 6th, 21st and 9th across the four qualifying races. That placed them 9th in blue fleet and 19th overall going into gold fleet — a fantastic achievement for a brand-new partnership and definitely a big-smiles-all-round moment.

Day two brought a twist, with gold fleet crews swapping seats with their helms. Alex took the helm for the first time in an RS Feva and delivered a superb 11th place against far more experienced competition. Unfortunately, while the sunshine was plentiful, the wind was not, meaning the rest of day two and all of day three were lost to calm conditions.

The breeze finally returned on the fourth and final day, allowing three more races to be completed. It proved a tougher day on the water, with the wind not quite falling kindly for the boys, who finished 33rd, 35th and 34th. Even so, their strong early results meant they finished 27th out of 101 overall — comfortably in the middle of gold fleet and a brilliant first event together.

The photo captures Alex in race two on day one, flying the yellow spinnaker at the front of the picture.

Next up is the South and South West Regional Championships at Weymouth on 20 and 21 June, where the boys will gain more valuable racing experience before heading to Germany for the World Championships.



Success at the NSEA National Championships

Congratulations to Lily, who enjoyed an outstanding weekend competing at the NSEA National Championships at Hickstead with her pony, Kilkern Village.

Competing against some of the best young riders in the country, Lily achieved an impressive second place individually in her first show jumping class – a remarkable result at a national final.

The success continued on Sunday when Lily finished 11th individually in the Arena Eventing competition from a field of more than 270 starters. Although an unlucky pole on Monday meant she finished further down the order, Lily rode a beautiful round and was delighted with her performance.

To qualify for the National Championships is a significant achievement in itself, making these excellent results all the more special. Lily is already looking ahead to next season and planning her route to the Winter Championships.

Well done, Lily, on representing both yourself and The Crypt School so brilliantly.



Year 12 University & Employment Workshops – Monday 6 July

A reminder to parents and carers of Year 12 students that our Post-18 University and Employment Workshops will take place on Monday 6 July.

A recent letter has been sent home inviting parents to take part in this valuable evening, which is designed to help families navigate the different pathways available to students after Sixth Form. A number of workshops will be running, covering key areas such as personal statements, apprenticeships, student finance, competitive university courses, and the support available in school to help students make informed choices about their futures.

This is an excellent opportunity for parents and carers to gain a clearer understanding of the options available and how best to support students as they begin making important decisions about life beyond Year 13.

Parents wishing to attend are asked to complete the Google Form by Wednesday 1st July:

<https://forms.gle/vog5bacjxgNNhdCQ8>

Music Newsletter

Keys For Cause

We have received a huge amount of interest for participating in the Keys For a Cause fundraiser and should now have enough players to make the 12 hour playthrough achievable. We are grateful to all participants for offering their skills to help with our goal. Please continue to share the link below with family, friends and the wider community.

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/keys-for-a-cause-the-crypt-school>

A mandatory meeting for all players will be held on Monday 15th June at morning break (10.55am). It is crucial that all players arrive on time over the two-day fundraiser as slots are locked into the broadcast and cannot be changed.

The teams must arrive 15 minutes before their starting slot at the assembly point outside of the

PE office. Miss Veal will be there to assist with moving students in and out of the recording studio. Please note the recording studio will be out of bounds from Monday 15th June to set-up for the event. Students may enter and exit for class lessons on this day.

During the broadcast on Tuesday and Wednesday, those who are having music class lessons will need to wait in the Cooke Centre and be escorted through the corridor to keep noise levels down.

Founders' Day

Our Cantores Cryptienses choir and Symphony Orchestra have been busy with details and dynamic control. Walton's Crown Imperial is shining with dramatic flair and ambience, while Ireland's Greater Love Hath No Man is sounding triumphant.

Year 7 and 8 Showcase

Thank you to Mrs Banda for organising the Year 7 and 8 Showcase. All successful soloists will receive communication soon.



Duke of Edinburgh Award at The Crypt

The Participants of the Duke of Edinburgh Award at The Crypt School have strengthened their links to Gloucestershire by giving over 5676 hours of volunteering

Since 1956, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) has been inspiring millions of young people of all backgrounds and abilities to explore who they are, grow in confidence and develop the skills they need to successfully navigate life. As we celebrate the DofE charity's 70th

anniversary, our mission remains as relevant today as it has done for the last 70 years; helping young people build life-long belief in themselves, supporting them to take on their own challenges, follow their passions, and discover talents they never knew they had.

The Crypt School in Gloucestershire is delighted to share the impact that The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) participants have made locally through the Volunteering section of their DofE.

Young people have volunteered at their local religious centres, park runs, litter picks, and community centres helping them to support their local communities and to learn new skills for their future.

Participants doing their Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) Award at The Crypt School are being celebrated today for the amazing impact they have had on their local community.



At The Crypt School there are over 200+ students signed up to the Bronze, Silver, or Gold award this year alone, with over 600 students on record. This has meant that students, at The Crypt, this year have volunteered over 5676 hours worth £45,000 in unpaid services. This is a significant milestone as a school, and it is amazing to showcase the dedication our students have given to support their local community.

Eleanor Y12, who is doing their Gold DofE said: "The Duke of Edinburgh qualification has provided me the opportunity to increasingly challenge myself in an environment that is supportive. The expeditions have allowed me and my friends to strengthen our bonds and create memories that will last a lifetime. On completing the Bronze and Silver Award it has made me feel a good sense of achievement, whilst the new skills and resilience gained from the

programme has helped me strengthen my university personal statement.

The programme has also provided me a framework to promote the idea of community engagement, which has had a lasting impact on my value for volunteering and being part of your community. I have dedicated the past three years to volunteering at my local Brownies' camp and picking litter on the weekends around the canals local to my home. Doing this has allowed me to escape from the stress of exams and be present with my friends and family, creating short, but meaningful, tech-free environments".

Mr Howell, Duke of Edinburgh Manager said: "At The Crypt, we are incredibly proud of the opportunities the Duke of Edinburgh's Award provides for our students. As someone with a genuine passion for outdoor adventure and community engagement, I have seen first-hand the positive impact the programme can have on young people.

DofE gives students the chance to experience challenges that take them well beyond the classroom. From canoeing along the River Wye and trekking through the mountains of Wales to undertaking the remarkable challenge of traversing Scotland from the west coast to the east coast, participants develop confidence, resilience, teamwork, and leadership while exploring some of the most inspiring landscapes the UK has to offer.

Equally important is the volunteering section of the Award, we believe strongly in developing young people who make a positive contribution to society. Through volunteering, our students dedicate their time to supporting charities, community groups, schools, and local organisations, gaining a deeper understanding of the value of service, responsibility, and community spirit.

What makes DofE so special is the way it brings these experiences together. It encourages students to challenge themselves, support others, and discover what they can achieve. The skills, friendships, and memories they gain through the Award often stay with them long after they leave The Crypt, helping to shape them into confident, compassionate, and capable young adults."





THE CRYPT SCHOOL

KEYS

For a Cause

A 12-hour Music Marathon

16th and 17th June

Join us as our community of piano students play a wealth of diverse music through Facebook Live over an exciting two days!

Raising funds for our music department and towards a new grand piano in the main hall

**Donations
through
Give As
You Live**

Please follow the QR code
or the link below for
donation and livestream details



<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/keys-for-a-cause-the-crypt-school>

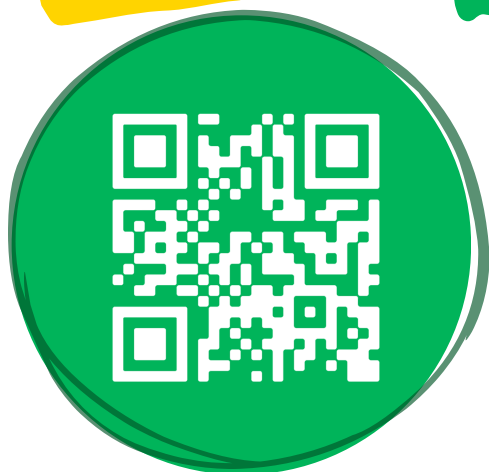


**Canal &
River Trust**
Making life better by water

FREE event!

BETTER BY WATER

COMMUNITY FUN DAY



Join the Canal & River Trust at a free, family-friendly fun day with paddling, music, creative activities, games, and plenty to explore for all ages. Orchard Square, outside the National Waterways Museum Gloucester.

ACTIVITIES

- Paddling, canoeing & kayaking
- Music & dance
- Art & photography
- Family & sports day games
- Play zone
- Community stalls

20 JUNE 2026
12.00pm–5.00pm

Want to be involved? We are looking for local organisations to be part of this community event.

Email tracy.yates@canalrivertrust.org.uk
canalrivertrust.org.uk/gloucester



National
Waterways
Museum
Gloucester



Supported by
Gloucestershire
Gateway
Trust

Summer Term Parent Support Series

elevate
education

Free Parent Webinars

Join us and Elevate Education for FREE 60- minute webinars designed to help you support your child's studies at home.

**Scan the QR code
to register**



In the Summer Term, we'll cover:

- 1. Ask Me Anything (Live Q&A)**
- 28th April @6:00pm (BST)
- 2. How You Can Help Improve Your Child's Memory**
- 12th May @6:00pm (BST)
- 3. How to Help Your Child Alleviate Stress**
- 9th June @6:00pm (BST)
- 4. How to Get (And Keep!) Your Child Motivated**
- 23rd June @6:00pm (BST)
- 5. How You Can Set Your Child Up for Success**
- 7th July @6:00pm (BST)

