



7th March 2025

Dear parents/carers and students,

Firstly, many congratulations indeed to the U14 (year 9) boy's rugby team, who played at Kingsholm rugby stadium on Wednesday night in their county cup final against Dean Close, and won, beating Dean Close through a late try by 29 points to 24. I know that there was a crowd of about 1000 who attended that match and I'm sure that evening's events, and their victory over Dean Close will stay long in the memory of all the boys who have been part of that cup winning rugby squad. Well done also to their coach - Mr Hart - for his work, coaching and inspiring them to their success this year. On Thursday afternoon, the U16 girl's netball team participated in a district netball tournament held here at Crypt and performed highly against some very good local teams. Very well done indeed to all involved and my thanks to Ms Leask and Ms Burnside for their work with this group of girls in year 11. Other fixtures and sporting activities have also taken place across the week, including a handball tournament on Monday, giving many of our students a chance to participate and excel.

On Tuesday, many local employers visited school to talk with year 8 about employability skills, organised by our career's leader, Mr Germaine. Thank you very much indeed to all our visiting speakers that day, who gave up their mornings to be with us here at Crypt. A full write up of that event is included in this newsletter.

It was great to see so many of our (younger) students arrive in their World Book Day costumes on Thursday, which ranged from the traditional Harry Potter outfits, through to the incredible hulk and Disney characters, with many in between. It's wonderful to see so many students engaged with reading a wide variety of literature. We encourage reading here at school, for its own sake, as well as for the obvious benefits reading has to the development of literacy. My thanks to our school librarian Mrs Jordan, for encouraging a love of reading here at school.

On Thursday evening, I welcomed our new year 7 cohort (September 2025 entry) into the community of our school, at the new year 7 welcome webinar event. Last week, I was delighted to find out from the Local Authority, that our new year 7 intake will have 71 girls and 79 boys. In September 2018, when the first coeducational cohort joined the school, we then had 43 girls, out of an intake of 150. Today, and thanks to that year group and all others who have entered the school since, and thanks to the support of staff and the support and confidence that our parents/carers have shown in our school, we now have an almost balanced cohort in our new year 7 at Crypt.



Headmaster: N C Dyer BA (Hons) MA NPQH
Telephone: 01452 530291
Email: enquiries@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk
www.cryptschool.org

Registered Office:
Podsmead Road, Gloucester GL2 5AE
The Crypt School: a company limited by guarantee.
Registered in England and Wales: Company No: 7489196

The Crypt School
Educating students since 1539

Year 11 final mock exams began on Wednesday, in the main hall, granting all in that year group a final practice before their actual exams begin in May. I do hope that the year 9 (virtual) parent's evening, held last evening, was useful to parents/carers and students in that year group. The date for the submission by students in year 9 of their GCSE option choices form, is **Tuesday the 18th of March.**

Good luck to the two F1 in Schools teams, who have their regional final in Bath today. This year, Crypt has entered one team into the development stage - Altais Racing (a new team composed of year 12) - and one into the professional class - Ceres Racing (mainly year 13, who entered the development class last year). Both teams have been working really hard to get all the components required by the competition, such as ensuring their cars meet the demanding technical regulations set out and that their presentations are as good as they can be. Good luck to the 12 students taking part and my thanks to Ms Hall, and Mr Baldwin for their support of those involved. On Sunday, our Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award teams are undertaking training for their summer expedition to Scotland, under the supervision of Duke of Edinburgh leaders Mr Antonious and Mr Howell - my thanks to both colleagues for giving up their time to support those involved.

As noted in my newsletter last week, Ramadan has commenced, and Wednesday - or Ash Wednesday - marked the beginning of Lent: the 5th of March - 17th April. Lent is the Christian religious observance in which those involved prepare themselves for Easter, echoing the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the desert according to the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. I am sure that many of us enjoyed sharing pancakes on (Shrove) Tuesday - traditionally the feast day before the Lent fast. Pancakes symbolise perhaps the tradition of eating rich and indulgent foods, before the 40 days of fasting and abstinence of Lent. It is interesting to observe the symmetry between Ramadan and Lent, and whatever one's perspective, I'm sure that periods of self-restraint and reflection can be good for us all.

My continued best wishes.

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'N. Dyer'.

Nicholas Dyer
Headmaster

School Dates

- 11th March – CSPTA 6pm S Block all welcome
- 12th March – Y12 European Youth Parliament Trip
- 12th March – Evensong Gloucester Cathedral
- 13th March – Community Iftar
- 13th March – Y12 Geography Trip to Swanage
- 14th March – Spanish Play
- 17th March– GCC Apprenticeship Roadshow Main Hall
- 18th March – GCSE Recital
- 19th March – Prospective Y12 Webinar
- 21st March – Non uniform Day

Cheerleading club

This week the cheerleading teams held a 'sweets and treats' sale on Monday to raise money for their competition uniforms. The event was well supported, and we are delighted to be hosting a second sale this coming Tuesday (11th March) at lunchtime in the JCC centre.

Once again, we can only accept cash. Please come along to support us again at the next sale!

Thank you!



The Crypt School Parent Teacher Association

Parents, Teachers and Friends

cspta@cryptschool.org

Our next meeting to be held on
Tuesday 11th March 2025 at 6.00pm

Venue: Sports Classroom 1, Sports Block, The Crypt School

This is a group open to all parents and carers and all are welcome to attend and support meetings/events

Agenda

1. Present
2. Apologies
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Bids
5. School Report
6. Future Activities/Events/Fundraising & Marketing
 - Quiz Debrief
 - Easter raffle
 - Parentkind fundraising ideas
7. School Clothing Sales
8. 200 Club
9. Date of next meeting

Tue 8 th April AGM	Tue 10 th June
Tue 13 th May	

10. AOB
 - Succession Planning – upcoming vacancy for refreshments role

Chairman: Claire Berry Vice Chairman: Claire Gooch
Secretary: Sharon Byfield Treasurer: Steve Scott
Web: <http://www.cryptschool.org/association-aims/> Email: cspta@cryptschool.org

The Crypt School Association, Podsmead Road, Gloucester GL2 5AE
The Crypt School Association is a registered charity dedicated to supporting the school, registration number 280200

Employer Engagement Event for Year 8 Students at The Crypt School: A Step Towards Future Careers!

On As part of our Stable Careers Programme, Year 8 students at The Crypt School had the exciting opportunity to participate in an Employer Engagement Event designed to enhance their understanding of the world of work. This event was a valuable contribution to Gatsby Benchmark 5, which focuses on ensuring that students receive meaningful encounters with employers.



Why is Gatsby Benchmark 5 Important?

Gatsby Benchmark 5 aims to provide students with the chance to meet local employers and explore the wide variety of careers available in their communities. By engaging with employers, students gain insights into different job roles, industry expectations, and the skills and attributes required for success. This benchmark is crucial in helping

students build a clear and informed vision of their future career paths, equipping them with the knowledge to make well-informed decisions about their next steps.

“The event was well organised and managed. Students were engaged and asked interesting questions. I would compliment students on their behaviour. They were a credit to the school.” Chantal Taylor, GET

A Day of Discovery During the event, students were able to meet with representatives from local businesses, who shared information about their companies, the roles they offer, and the skills they look for in potential employees. The interactive discussions allowed the students to ask insightful questions, showcasing their curiosity and enthusiasm for learning about the world of work.

The employers were impressed by the students' level of engagement, as they asked thought-provoking questions that kept them on their toes. From questions about career progression to the specific qualifications and personal qualities that are valued in the workplace, the students displayed a mature understanding of what employers are seeking.

The Benefits to Students Participating in this event provided Year 8 students with numerous benefits, including:

- **Exposure to Local Career Opportunities:** Students learned about a diverse range of job roles within local businesses, helping them to start thinking about their future career options.
- **Understanding Employer Expectations:** By hearing directly from employers, students discovered the key skills and attributes that are highly valued in the workforce.
- **Boosting Confidence:** Engaging with employers gives students the confidence to ask questions, express their interests, and consider how their strengths might align with future career paths.
- **Better Prepared for Future Careers:** The event allowed students to start thinking about the qualifications and skills they might need to pursue their future ambitions.



At The Crypt School, we believe that such employer engagement events play a pivotal role in preparing students for the challenges and opportunities of the future. We look forward to continuing to build strong connections with local employers and providing students with the experiences that will help them thrive in the world of work.

Year 10 Experience of Work - Wednesday 11 June

Thank you to the families of students in Year 10 who have finalised the Experience of Work for Wednesday 11 June 2025.

As the deadline of 14 April is fast approaching, I wanted to take the opportunity to remind both students and parents. This is an excellent opportunity to gain experience of the workplace, which will hopefully inspire students for their future.

The idea of Year 10 Experience of Work was built on 'Take your Child to Work Day'. As a school we realise this may be challenging for some students and would encourage you to be

creative, utilising family and friends as appropriate. Should you have any questions, please contact Mr Germaine (cgermaine@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

M3 Challenge

Last Friday, a group of five sixth formers, Woody, Hayden, Iason, Sen (Year 13) and Elijah (Year 12) took part in the MathWorks Math Modelling Challenge. The challenge consisted of them using mathematical models to answer three real-life problems on rising global temperatures and heat waves and how these affect energy demand which in turn puts strain on the electrical grid, often resulting in widespread loss of electricity. Over the course of 14 hours, the team developed a mathematical model to represent the problem, tested it against data, used it to predict future developments and proposed an approach to solve the issue at hand. The problem can be read in full on the official website:

<https://m3challenge.siam.org/2025-problem/>

The team worked together outstandingly to write up a report, which will be judged by professionals with a background in mathematics. The team finished the challenge feeling satisfied and fulfilled with their efforts.

Music Newsletter



We were joined by Gloucester Cathedral's Director of Music, Mr Adrian Partington, for our choir rehearsal on Wednesday. He spoke very highly of the professionalism and standard set by our choir and it is testament to their efforts during our weekly rehearsals. A

15 minute rehearsal has been organised on Monday lunchtime before Young Voices and everyone who is participating is expected to attend.

A reminder that the Evensong Service is next Wednesday 12th April at 5.30pm. The service is free with donations encouraged towards the Cathedral. All are welcome!

The letters have now been sent to Spring Concert participants and we would appreciate your responses as soon as possible to ensure your child can perform in this. Everyone in the choir and orchestra have been working to a high standard with Karl Jenkins 39; The Armed Man, West Side Story selections and Strauss' Radetsky March, amongst many other exciting performances.

One of our GCSE students and outstanding flautist, Robin, has excelled in his performance for the British Flute Society's annual competition at Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, in the Young Performer Category. The event was adjudicated by principal flautists Joss Campbell and David Cuthbert, who both have extensive portfolios as orchestral musicians and as educators. We are really proud of Robin's achievements.

A selection of our choristers have been invited to participate in Newent Choral Society's performance of Carmina Burana by Carl Orff, taking place on Saturday 12th April at Newent Community School and directed by our very own Mr Whittaker. More details will follow soon.

We are thrilled to announce that our Jazz Band has been chosen to perform at Cheltenham Jazz Festival on Sunday 4th May in Montpellier Gardens, as part of the Jazz It Up! programme. Mr Rushton has been teaching an exciting selection of music inspired by Cuban dance as well as a few favourites.

Gloucestershire Young Carers visit

Hana from Gloucestershire Young Carers is coming to school to meet some of our Young Carers on Monday 10th March, at breaktime. She will be available in the Library to meet our students and discuss Young Carers support. This is also an opportunity for our Young Carers to meet others who also have caring responsibilities. Please encourage your child to come along if this is relevant to them.



If parents/ carers would like any further information on Gloucestershire Young Carers they can see the website - [Gloucestershire Young Carers | Charity | UK](https://www.gloucestershiroyoungcarers.org.uk) or email Mrs Hargraves.

IT Online Shop

The iPad accessory store where you can buy items such as pencils or replacement cases at a discount will be now open and will close at the end of March. Once the store is closed all orders will be shipped to the school for distribution to the students.

<https://store.albion.co.uk/the-crypt/>

There is also a link on the iPad page of the website (under our parents)

Canteen Theme Day 13th March



13th March

Chicken & Bacon Pie
Cheese Potato & Leek Pie
Minced Beef & Onion Pie
Served with Roast Potatoes
& Seasonal Vegetables

Apple Pie with Custard





is it normal
to feel
ANXIOUS?

No matter how
you feel inside,
we're here to help.



Nobody is Normal

childline

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME
childline.org.uk | 0800 1111

**NOBODY
is
NORMAL**

Childline is a service provided by the NSPCC. ©NSPCC 2021. Registered charity England and Wales 216401, Scotland SC037717 and Jersey 384. Illustration by Biff. Nobody is Normal campaign by The Gate, Catherine Prowse and Cleopham Road Studios. J20211120. NS2914.

Could you be a Homes for Ukraine champion?

Join the many generous Gloucestershire people
who have opened their homes to those
fleeing the war in Ukraine.

We need people who have a spare room or two, an annexe, or even another property, to house a Ukrainian family and help them rebuild their lives.

Hundreds of Ukrainian guests have so far regained their independence and settled in Gloucestershire with the help of our champion hosts, and here's how you can help:

Sign up to express an interest in hosting. Find out more online or book an informal chat with the Gloucestershire Homes for Ukraine team.

The Homes for Ukraine team would then let you know about guests who match your household.

Meet the guests and get to know them before deciding whether to go ahead with hosting.

Hosting agreements are very flexible, and the Homes for Ukraine team are available to assist and advise you every step of the way.

All hosts receive payments of £600 per month to thank you for your help and to cover any additional household expenses. These payments are tax free, and hosting will not impact your council tax.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact us via HFUTeam@gloucestershire.gov.uk



Register your interest today:

Visit <https://apply-to-offer-homes-for-ukraine.service.gov.uk>
or scan the QR code to express your interest in becoming a
Homes for Ukraine champion!

Join the Olio Community

What's Olio?

It is a sharing app for local communities, on a mission to reduce waste. From food to furniture to clothing.

☀️ Share and receive items

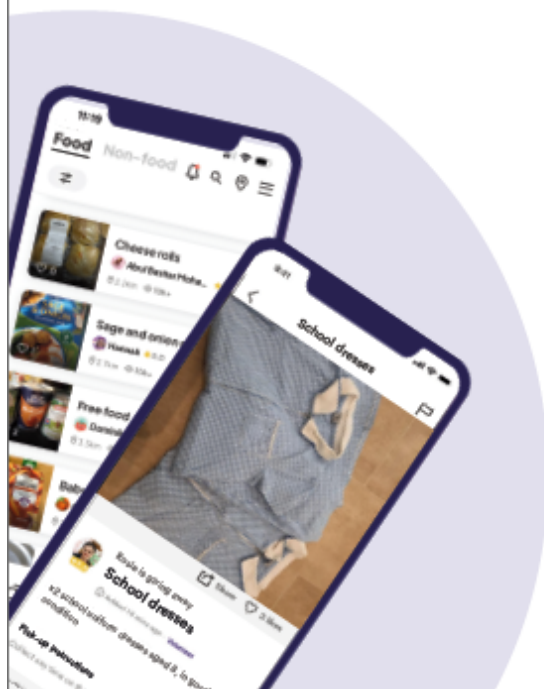
- Grow together: Pass on outgrown clothes, toys, books, and more to other families
- Save money: Get free items that your children need, from other local parents
- Declutter: Free up space in your home by giving items a new life with another family

🍏 Give and get free food

- Collect free food that would otherwise go to landfill - perfect for feeding your family on a budget
- Don't let surplus food go to waste, share it with people in your neighbourhood instead!

🌍 Protect our planet

- Help reduce waste and your carbon footprint by reusing and sharing items and build a better future for our children



How to get started?

- 1 Download the Olio app**
Available for free on iOS and Android
- 2 Create a profile**
Join our growing community of over 8 million users
- 3 Start sharing**
Post items you no longer need or browse items available nearby

Scan to download
the Olio app



olio
Your local sharing app

