

12th September 2025

Dear parents/carers and students,

I hope that this letter home finds you all well.

On Thursday evening, the school held its annual Speech and Prize giving evening, which celebrated the achievements, progress and success of our prize winners, and of the school more widely. It was a wonderful evening, and the music was truly outstanding and I would like to thank everyone who attended and who made that event so special. It was a particularly special evening, as our guest of honour was Old Cryptian Geoff Squire OBE, who attended the school between 1958 and 1963. Geoff enjoyed a stellar career, as a leader of the UK IT industry who most notably perhaps established Oracle in the UK and for leading Veritas to a Y2K \$75Bn market capitation. Over recent years, together with his wife Fiona - who also attended the event - Geoff has focused on their grant giving charity. I am sure that those present will have been inspired by the words and advice contained in Geoff's speech.



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The Crypt School
Educating students since 1539

We are very keen this year to promote to our students the 8 characteristics of what together make up our vision of what a successful Crypt Learner needs to develop if they are to achieve success in their academic studies, in indeed in all else that they do. Making progress in one's work, ultimately, we think, comes down to each student developing important learning characteristics, and in doing successfully they will ultimately achieve success in their exams. Families at home may well want to discuss and promote these learner characteristics with their children, with homework of course also forming an important part of our curriculum at Crypt.



The Crypt Learner

On Tuesday after school, it was great to see the cast of Oliver! carrying out their first full rehearsal in the school hall, overseen by Mrs Crozier, head of drama, supported by her colleagues Mr Waltham, Mrs Banda and Mr Whittaker. Performances are scheduled for November, and I very much look forward to observing their progress over the next few months.

Sports practices, fixtures and our clubs and societies have started up this week. The weekly clubs and societies on offer, overseen by Mr Hart, have been issued to all students and can be found on the website - I encourage all students to get involved in something from the extensive programme on offer that will help them relax, have fun, develop key skills and make or strengthen further friendships as well.

Tomorrow, the Crypt hosts nearly 650 children for the grammar school entrance test in two sittings. I hope that anyone who has a child sitting the test here tomorrow, or indeed at any one of the country's grammar school performs to the very best of their ability and I'd like to thank Mrs Sue Wales and our staff and student helpers who I know will ensure that the test day goes smoothly across the country tomorrow.

My continued best wishes,

Nicholas Dyer
Headmaster

School Dates

15 th September	Y13 Information Evening Online
16 th September	Y10 Information Evening Online
17 th September	Y8 Residential Trip
19 th September	Y13 Oxford University Trip
22 nd September	Y12 Information Evening Online
23 rd September	Y7 Heritage Day

Blackbridge Community Sports Hub

Our Director of Sport, Amy Leask, recently took Year 8 and Year 9 students to Blackbridge Community Sports Hub, where they had the opportunity to play on the new astroturf pitch. The pupils played exceptionally well, showing great teamwork, skill, and enthusiasm throughout their games.

The visit was made even more special by the presence of the Minister of Sport, Stephanie Peacock MP, who was impressed by both the facilities and the students' performance. These wonderful facilities are now being used by our pupils on a weekly basis, providing them with an excellent environment to develop their sporting talents.



School Safety

Please remember not to park on the turning circle. It is used by school buses and is very busy with pedestrians, making it dangerous to block or drive on.

Pupils who are brought to school by car must walk up the driveway. Parents should only drive up the driveway if they have a scheduled appointment or need to bring/collect a child who is injured.

There is no vehicular access to school between 3:10 and 3:30 for the safety of all pupils.

We also ask that you remind your child to look carefully when crossing the roads to ensure everyone's safety.

Year 11 GCSE English



Year 11 English has begun with the study of 'Romeo and Juliet', and it has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm students have brought with them from the summer. Over the break, students researched the play's context and created fantastic mini booklets to support their knowledge and revision. Many of these were beautifully presented and thoughtfully reflected Shakespeare's world and themes. We look forward to an exciting and successful year ahead in English.

Volunteers Needed for Year 13 Mock Interviews

We are looking for volunteers to support our Year 13 students as they prepare for life beyond school. On Friday 17 October, between 8.50am and 1.15pm, we will be running a day of mock interviews, giving students the chance to practise their communication skills, gain confidence, and receive constructive feedback.

We warmly welcome parents, carers, or your work colleagues who are able to give up some of their time to act as interviewers. Your experience and insight will make a real difference in helping our students feel ready for the challenges ahead.

If you are able to help, please contact Helen Michaluk by email at hmichaluk@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk by Friday 26 September.

Thank you in advance for supporting our students in this important stage of their journey.

Drama department

We have several exciting theatre opportunities coming up in the next few months!

On Monday September 29th we are live streaming the musical 'Heathers' to school at 4-6.15pm. Tickets are open to students in years 9-13 and are £1.50 each. There's more detail in the letter sent out to families.

We are also running a trip to see Mary Poppins in Cardiff on Wednesday December 3rd (the letter and link to pay for this is coming out on Monday September 15th). We anticipate this being very popular so do be quick in purchasing your child's place if they would like to attend!

Additionally, we are taking our drama exam students to see Lost Atoms (produced by Frantic Assembly) on Wednesday 22nd October, which is an amazing opportunity to see new work by this widely revered theatre company.

Rehearsals for our school production Oliver! began this week, and it's been an extremely strong start, we are very excited for the production! If any students would like to get involved (as ensemble or backstage) please email Mrs Crozier by the start of next week.

Voluntary Contributions School Trips and Visits

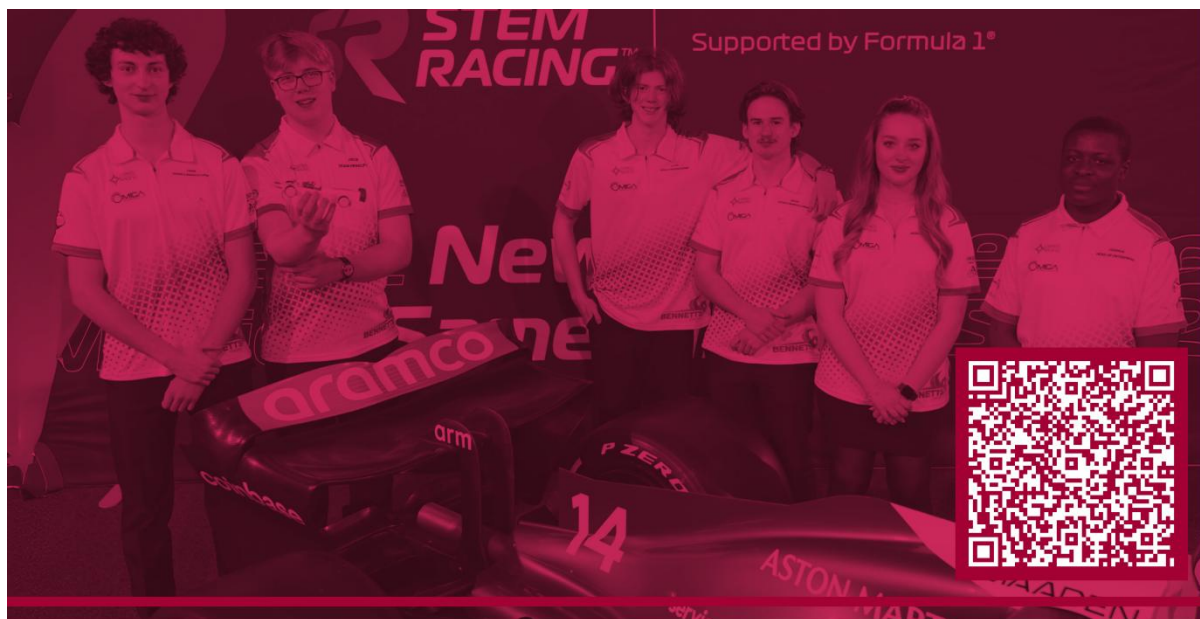
School trips and visits are a wonderful way to enrich our students' learning, providing opportunities and experiences that cannot always be delivered in the classroom. We know how valuable these experiences are and how much students gain from them.

However, it's important for all to understand that these trips can only go ahead if all costs are covered. Education regulations mean that in certain circumstances some parts of a trip or all of a visit must be classed as a voluntary contribution. While the contributions are voluntary, the school simply cannot absorb the financial shortfall if voluntary payments are not made. Without these contributions trips and visits will be cancelled.

In certain circumstances there is support available for children who receive free school meals. Please contact finance@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk for further information.

We do all we can to keep costs down and we truly appreciate the support of our parents/carers in making these opportunities possible. Your contributions ensure that students can continue to benefit from the wide range of educational and cultural experiences we want to offer.

Crypt F1



JOIN CRYPT F1

✦ Y12 APPLY FOR THIS SEASON

Work as a team to design and test a car using CAD software, build your brand with F1-style marketing, and compete on track for a place in national and world finals.

FUTURE CAREER BOOSTS

Engineering & Tech – Mechanical, Automotive, Aerospace, Motorsport
Digital & Data – CAD Design, 3D Modelling, Graphic Design
Business & Leadership – Marketing, Project Management, Sponsorship

AWARDS ON OFFER

National & International Prizes
Women in Motorsport Award
Race for Diversity Award
Win a Scholarship to Aston University *(A Crypt Student was awarded this!)*

Visit: www.stemracing.com for more info

APPLICATION DEADLINE

14TH SEPTEMBER

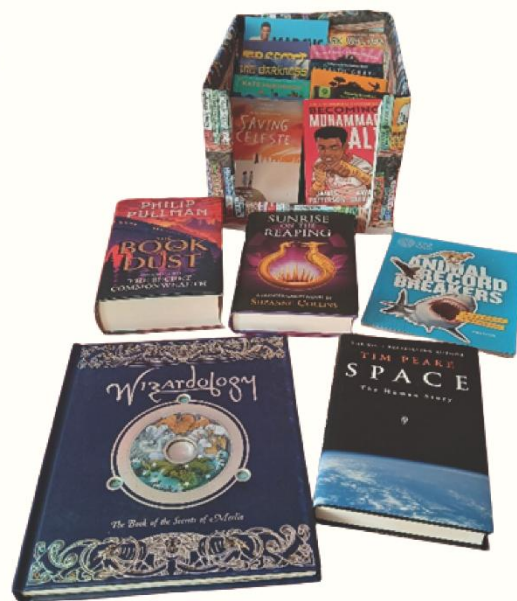


WIN A FABULOUS BOOK SELECTION

TICKETS £2.00 ON PARENTPAY UNTIL 12PM ON 30TH
SEPTEMBER

17 TITLES
TO WIN!

VIEW
THEM IN
THE
LIBRARY



DRAW ON 1ST OCTOBER 2025 AT THE CRYPT SCHOOL

ALL PROCEEDS TO THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

PARENTPAY RECEIPTS ARE YOUR TICKETS AND CONFIRM YOUR ENTRY
WE ALLOCATE A TICKET NUMBER TO EACH TICKET PURCHASED
PROMOTER - HAZEL WASLEY, THE CRYPT SCHOOL, PODSMEAD, GLOUCESTER, GL2 5AE
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 2802000