

17th January 2025



Dear parents, carers and students,

I do hope this letter finds you all well.

I was delighted to welcome one of our Old Cryptian back into school on Tuesday - Jack Keveran - who left school in 2019, and is now a practising paramedic, whilst also volunteering for Gloucestershire air Ambulance, and who was in school supporting our year 8 students with their CPR training. My thanks to all the volunteers from Great Western Air Ambulance who gave up their time to teach lifesaving skills to the year 8 cohort. On that note, school does have four defibrillator units, located at strategic points around school, in case of any emergencies that require a lifesaving device. On Thursday and today, those involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme in year 9, enjoyed time away from lessons learning important first aid skills, as part of their progression through the award scheme, and in preparation for their expedition later in the year.

Many year 13 business studies students enjoyed a fact finding trip to Harry Potter World, in Watford, on Tuesday as part of their A Level work on marketing and business in general. The trip included talks from those who market Harry Potter World and the business dynamics that underpin its success as a visitor attraction, as well as a tour around the faculty. My thanks to the business studies department for organising that trip.

I am delighted to hear of the offers from university that many of our year 13 students are now receiving across a wide range of subject areas and disciplines. Congratulations to all students who have received conditional offers from HE institutions across the UK; those applying for degree and other apprenticeships are now making their applications, and I wish them every success in securing these wonderful opportunities to progress on to after their school careers at Crypt end in the summer.

Support and revision sessions for our public exam candidates continue, and it was good to see so many students attending sessions this week. My thanks to colleagues for leading these and other sessions, designed to support students as they progress towards their examinations in the summer. I do hope that year 13 parents/carers' consultation evening, held yesterday in school, was useful to both students and their families as they together, and with school, work to achieve their academic aims and objectives across the remainder of the academic year - up to and including their exams. Year 11 December mock exam outcomes are due to be sent home today, with a full report due on Monday 27th of January. Of course, students will already know their outcomes in each subject and I suggest parents/carers discuss these at home, identifying any areas where their child has underperformed in relation to their target grades and ambitions and help to support them as they seek to strengthen



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The Crypt School
Educating students since 1539

their understanding in those and other areas further.

Year 11 will have a further set of mock exams in March - a final opportunity before the summer GCSE examinations to review progress.

It was great to see many sporting fixtures and activities taking place this week, such as the 1st and 2nd XI senior boys' football against KLB School, senior boys' basketball, and a variety of girls' football fixtures. Other clubs and societies are running over this term, as noted to all students in Mr Hart's assembly last week and posted on the website. Examples include, the Classics Club, which meets each Wednesday at lunchtime, as does the Japanese Club by example, with Mr Croft's Chess Championship club taking place each Thursday at lunchtime; KS3 badminton, runs each Tuesday lunchtime, led by Mrs Perkins and myself.

Finally, a warm welcome to Mrs Lorriane Adkins, who will be covering for Ms Barnett (geography), who will shortly be leaving school to take maternity leave. We wish Ms Barnett and her family well at this exciting time.

With continued best wishes,



Nicholas Dyer
Headmaster

School Dates

22nd January – Year 9 Showcase Concert 6pm – 7.30pm

24th January – Year 7 GE Aerospace RETHINK Day

29th January – Year 12 Drive Fit PED

31st January – Non uniform day and cake sale in aid of Muslims Around the World Project

3rd February – Year 11 Information Evening 6pm

5th February – Music Theatre Showcase 6pm – 8pm

6th February – Year 10 Parents Evening Virtual

6th February – GCSE Music trip to Guildhall

7th February – Year 10 Bath University Visit

11th February – CSPTA Meeting (6pm, S Block) All are welcome to attend

11th February – Dear Evan Hansen Theatre Trip

12th February – GCSE Poetry Live Bristol

14th February – Year 12 GE Aerospace RETHINK Day

14th February – Term 3 ends

24th February – Term 4 Starts

The Crypt School Learn Life-Saving CPR Skills

Year 8 students at **The Crypt School** recently took part in vital CPR training, equipping them with skills that could one day save a life. On Tuesday, January 14th, volunteers from the [Great Western Air Ambulance Charity](#) visited the school to deliver this essential training.



“It was a pleasure to work with Year 8 students from The Crypt School to teach them the vital CPR skills. They showed a great level of interest during the day and if called upon, will be in a better position to offer critical life saving care.”

Forrest Wheeler, Volunteer

The students engaged in hands-on practice using industry-standard resuscitation devices. They

learned the correct ratio of rescue breaths to chest compressions, a crucial element of effective CPR. The training also covered the use of a defibrillator, a device that can significantly improve the chances of survival during a cardiac arrest.

“Following a highly effective workshop delivered by the Great Western Ambulance Charity, Year 8 are to be commended for their acquisition of these vital life-saving skills. The students demonstrated excellent engagement and exemplary behaviour while learning CPR techniques. I know that they are very grateful to Mr Germaine for organising the event”

Hannah Searle, Head of Year 8

This valuable experience provided the Year 8 students with the knowledge and confidence to respond effectively in a medical emergency. Learning these techniques is crucial, as immediate action can dramatically improve survival rates. **For every minute that passes without CPR and defibrillation, the chances of survival decrease by approximately 10%. However, if someone receives immediate CPR and defibrillation, their chance of survival can more than double or even triple.** This highlights the importance of early intervention and the potential impact these newly acquired skills can have.

“I personally found the training very informative and helpful, especially the part about the courage to help someone in the first place. Also I thought that his anecdote of his own experience proved how impactful CPR is in real life.” Rowan Year 8

By learning these life-saving techniques, the Year 8 students are now better prepared to assist someone in need, potentially making a critical difference in a life-threatening situation. The Crypt School is proud to have facilitated this important training, empowering its students with skills that extend far beyond the classroom.

The Crypt greatly appreciates the time and effort given to our students by the volunteers who came to school to help our students and values the work carried out by the medical professionals to help save lives.

Pictured: Crypt alumni, Jack Keveren, now a qualified paramedic, working with some Year 8 students.



Music

We Welcome back to everyone for a very exciting year ahead! Thanks to Mr Partington, Director of Music at Gloucester Cathedral, we have been invited again this year to sing in at the Evensong service on Wednesday 12th March. Our choir have made a tremendous start in learning the programme, featuring John Ireland's Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in F, Parry's I Was Glad and Barnaby's Psalm 24.

After displaying incredible effort for Teenage Voices and the recent Carol Service, we have promoted members of our Young Voices into the Cantores Cryptienses ensemble, giving an earlier opportunity to perform in larger scale events.

The choir are preparing these in conjunction with our Spring Concert repertoire, which is being held on Tuesday 25th March and featuring Karl Jenkins' The Armed Man. Because of

our students and their commitment to their musical practice, we can offer these additional opportunities and bring out even more fulfilling experiences for lasting memories.

We were pleased to welcome new additions to our Symphony Orchestra who have also started their Spring Concert pieces. This year, they are delving into Grieg's Norwegian Dances, Strauss' Radetsky March, Mozart's Symphony No. 41 and West Side Story selections.

On Wednesday 22nd January, we're giving our Year 9 students an opportunity to showcase their talents in an evening concert performance. They have been rehearsing with great commitment and dedication which we look forward to hearing their work resonate with joyous praise throughout the Main Hall.

Music Technology Club will be relaunching next Monday lunchtime with Mr Slemensek and would like to invite anyone interested in recording vocals to join in the session.



Finally, Gloucestershire Music Hub are offering an opportunity to learn and perform Holst's The Planets Suite. Please find more information below.

'We're really excited to be running a fantastic project for musicians across the whole of Gloucestershire this term. Students are invited to come and learn Holst's The Planets with our expert team of tutors and young musicians from across Gloucestershire. Concluding with the amazing opportunity to perform in the magnificent Cheltenham Town Hall as part of Gloucestershire's Music for Youth festival.

Rehearsals / activities

Saturday 25 th January 9.30 – 12.30 at Sir Thomas Rich's School, Oakleaze, Gloucester, GL2 0LF

Saturday 15 th March 10.30 – 12.30 at Sir Thomas Rich's School

Performance

Sunday 16th March 9.30 – 11.30 rehearsal and performance at Cheltenham Town Hall

All of this is available to students for just £10 – full bursaries also available for those facing financial hardship. This is open to any young musician who can play an instrument – we advise that you are playing at around grade 2 standard or above to get the most out of the project but you do not need to have taken an exam. Unfortunately, we only have limited spaces for piano players and percussionists so these will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. To sign-up, please go to <https://gloucestershiremusic.paritor.com/>

Quiz Night



QUIZ NIGHT

Show off your knowledge and have fun in a friendly competition with quiz host Simon!

£5pp/£2.50 for under 18s *Plus Raffle!*

Teams up to 6 people (8 max if including children) - or you can be added to a team on the night.

FRIDAY 28TH FEB 2025
from 6.15pm for a 7pm start
AT THE CRYPT SCHOOL

Book via ParentPay or email
cspta@crypstschoool.org

**LICENSED BAR,
SNACKS &
PIZZA!!**

Tickets are now available on ParentPay. When purchasing tickets please select the number of tickets you require.

January Hamper Appeal

JANUARY HAMPER APPEAL

After the expense of Christmas, January can be a really tough time for many people and we always see an increase in need at Poet's Pantry.

CAN YOU HELP US TO FILL 40 FOOD BAGS?

WHAT WE NEED

The top eight most used and in demand items at our food pantry are:



BAKED BEANS
TINNED TOMATOES
TINNED SWEETCORN
TINNED FRUIT
DRIED PASTA
TINNED MEATBALLS
TINNED SOUPS
PASTA SAUCE



COLLECTION DATE

21st January 2025

For further information please contact Debbie at
info@blackbridge.co.uk

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT - IT WILL MAKE A
BIG DIFFERENCE!**

Vacancy: School Administration Assistant

New Vacancy

20 hrs per week, Term Time only over 5 days

School Administrative Assistant

Closing Applications: Noon, Wednesday 29 January 2025

Interviews: Thursday 6 February 2025



The Crypt School is seeking a skilled and experienced administrator to provide essential support across various key areas of the school, including the main office, sixth form, and other departments. This role also carries significant responsibility for overseeing first aid provision.



Read the post for more details & how to apply

We have an exciting opportunity for a **School Administration Assistant** to join our team. This is a part-time role (20 hours per week, over 5 days, term time only).

The role involves supporting key areas of the school, including the main office, sixth form, and the other regions, as needed. It also carries significant responsibility for first aid provision, so confidence and comfort in handling medical situations are essential.

We are looking for someone who is proactive, personable, and flexible and can manage a variety of tasks efficiently. A commitment to professional development, including participation in training, is also required.

Full details and an application form can be found here: <https://cryptschool.org/explore-our-school/work-with-us/>.

If this sounds like the role for you or someone of interest, we'd love to hear from you!