



22nd November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

I do hope that this correspondence home finds you well.

Year 13 have been busy with their November exams, held in their classrooms, the outcomes of which will be shared home in due course. Those outcomes will help each student to identify what aspects of their work in each subject needs improving upon, whilst also highlighting areas of strength to build further upon as they move through the final year of their A level studies and school lives here at Crypt.

On Monday, Leslie and Imaan from Wills Bros Ltd - a civil engineering company involved in the cycle path between Gloucester and Cheltenham - came into school to talk to students about careers in civil engineering. On Thursday, entrepreneurship was the focus of another one of our Inspired Lecture series, organised by our careers leader, Mr Germaine. Many students enjoyed listening to Vassil Rakhov from the University of Gloucestershire, who spoke of the importance of entrepreneurship to the UK's economic development, and the varied pathways which many people follow on their own journeys to becoming successful entrepreneurs. My thanks to our visitors for giving up their time to come into school, and for sharing their stories with the students.

On Wednesday, many of our senior mathematicians sat the Maths Kangaroo, a demanding maths challenge in which Crypt students usually perform highly. Thank you to Mr Foster, for organising that opportunity and for ensuring other maths challenges occur on a regular basis at school, and which enrich and help strengthen further our maths offer in school.

On Thursday, our year 12 A Level French students attended a lecture series held at Cheltenham Ladies College. It is really pleasing to see so many students studying a modern foreign language at Crypt, both at GCSE and at A Level too. Studying a foreign language, also involves studying and learning about the culture and society of different countries, granting students not only the linguistic means to develop their appreciation of the country, and indeed countries where their chosen language is spoken, but also of its peoples. Many of our students go on to study languages at university, subsequently using their skills and knowledge in a wide variety of career pathways. On Tuesday, I was delighted to welcome former student Nabil back into school: Nabil left Crypt in 2020, having studied maths, politics and French for his A levels; he studied French and Japanese at university, studying abroad for a year in Paris and Tokyo. He now works for Deloitte, on their graduate training programme.

Year 7 left school on Wednesday for their residential in Wales: the year 7 residential traditionally forms the final part of our comprehensive induction programme. I do hope that



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The Crypt School
Educating students since 1539

they all enjoyed and benefited from that experience; indeed, many of our students in older year groups look back with great fondness on their residential trips and other trips and visits, which form a really important part of our school life here at Crypt. My thanks to Mr Bowen (head of year 7) and his team for giving up their time to lead and support this residential trip.

Despite the cold, sporting fixtures have taken place: on Monday, the U14 rugby squad enjoyed playing in a local rugby tournament, and on Wednesday the U16 netball team beat St Albans in the SIS competition. Also on Wednesday, our senior rugby players from years 11-13 enjoyed training at Kingsholm - the home of Gloucester rugby of course.

On Thursday evening, three of our year 12 history students were involved in Gloucestershire's heat of the Great Debate competition, with Lucy giving an impressive and powerful speech at Gloucester heritage hub, on behalf of both herself and two other year 12 historians - Sapphire and Sanjeevani. Well done to all three students for their hard work in preparing for that debate competition, and to Mr Higgs for accompanying them to the event and in his support of their research.

Thank you to those who brought cakes into school today, for the Raikes house cake sale, which raised a good sum of money in aid of The Wye & Usk Foundation, a rivers trust that improves the ecology, habitat and water quality of the rivers Wye and Usk.

With continued best wishes,



Nicholas Dyer
Headmaster

School Dates

26th November – Year 9 Options Evening 5.40pm - 8pm

28th November - 1st December – Cologne Christmas Market Trip

28th November – Teenage Voices Gloucester Cathedral

29th November – CSPTA Christmas Fair 6pm-8pm

5th December – Year 12 Parent/Carer Evening (Virtual)

6th December – Christmas Jumper Day and Cake Sale

10th December – CSPTA, 6pm, S-Block

11th December – St Mary Redcliffe Bristol Carol Concert

12th December – Theatre Trip, War Horse, Oxford

17th December – Christmas Carol Service, St Barnabas 6.30pm

20th December – **12.30pm End of Term**

6th January – Start of Term Week 2

14th January – CSPTA Meeting (6pm, Sports Block)

16th January – Year 13 Parents Evening

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

3rd February – Year 11 Information Evening

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

6th February – Year 10 Parents Evening Virtual

Christmas Fair

Thank you for all the donations and raffle tickets sold!

Donations of bottles of wine, toiletries, small toys, ornaments, chocolate/sweets, unwanted gifts can still be handed in at school reception. The CSPTA would also welcome donation of cakes on the day of the fair.

Raffle tickets please return all tickets and money to reception by Wednesday 27th November. We do have more raffle tickets students can collect from reception and tickets will be available to buy on the night of the fair.



Santa's Grotto you can still book for your little one to see Santa, £5 per child, can be made here They will receive a wrapped chocolate gift and Crypt Christmas decoration.

<https://forms.gle/92vuDCrpnimvfCPZA>

Finally we hope to see you at the fair which starts at 6pm on Friday 29th November.

Anti-Bullying Week



Last week, The Crypt School proudly took part in Anti-Bullying Week, with the theme "Choose Respect." This important initiative, led by our dedicated anti-bullying ambassadors, focused on promoting kindness, respect, and taking responsibility within our school community.

The week began with a powerful assembly followed by an extended tutor time hosted by our anti-bullying ambassadors, a group of pupils who have shown an outstanding commitment to raising awareness of and tackling bullying. In their assembly, they highlighted the importance of not being a bystander, choosing respect, and that everyone has the right to feel safe. Their inspiring presentation set the tone for the week, encouraging all pupils and staff to join the movement against bullying.

Following the assembly, a series of engaging activities and events took place across the week to reinforce the message.

- **Monday** - Whole school assembly followed by an extended tutor time
- **Tuesday** - Meet the anti-bullying ambassadors at breaktime
- **Wednesday** - The anti-bullying ambassadors visited tutor rooms during AM and PM registration delivering a poster with their contact details
- **Thursday** - Scavenger style treasure hunt around school at break time and lunchtime with an anti-bullying ambassador being at each location
- **Friday** - Wholeschool email reminding students of how to report bullying

Throughout the week, we were reminded of the critical role each of us plays in creating a positive and safe school environment. The Crypt School remains dedicated to fostering respect, kindness, and a zero-tolerance approach to bullying.

Thank you to everyone who took part in Anti-Bullying Week, especially our fantastic anti-bullying ambassadors. Let's continue to stand united against bullying every day, not just this week.

Rugby Refreshments

During match days on a Saturday, we provide refreshments to parents. These are available from the Pavilion, which is a short walk from the rugby pitches. These include bacon rolls, as well as tea and coffee. Should you wish to pre order a Bacon Roll, please complete the appropriate Google Form below and we will have it ready for you. Refreshments are available during the games and pre-ordering is **not** essential, although we may sell out before you have the opportunity to get your hands on one! All funds raised goes to our Sports Foundation, to further improve Sport at school.

30 November v [Hereford Cathedral School](#)

Future Engineers



Gloucester, 19 November 2024 – Wills Bros Ltd, a leading civil engineering company, recently hosted an inspiring careers talk at The Crypt School, engaging students from Year 8 to Year 13. The event aimed to shed light on the diverse and exciting world of civil engineering, highlighting the crucial role of STEM subjects in shaping the future of infrastructure.

During the talk, Wills Bros Ltd employees shared their experiences and insights into the various roles within civil engineering, from project management to site engineering. The discussion delved into the company's current and recent projects across the UK, including the significant cycle lane between Gloucester and Cheltenham and the Glasgow Investment Area.

By emphasizing the importance of STEM subjects, the talk encouraged students to explore the practical applications of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in real-world scenarios. The presentation also highlighted the diverse skill set required for success in civil engineering, such as problem-solving, critical thinking, and teamwork.

"We are passionate about inspiring the next generation of engineers," said Leslie McNeil, Public Liaison Officer at Wills Bros Ltd. "Civil engineering offers a wide range of opportunities to make a tangible impact on our communities. By exposing young people to the possibilities within this field, we hope to spark their interest and encourage them to pursue STEM education."

The Crypt School expressed gratitude for Wills Bros Ltd commitment to inspiring young minds. By providing valuable insights into the industry, the company has empowered students to make informed decisions about their future careers.

“We are grateful to the team at WillsBros Ltd for coming into school to speak with our students. Civil engineering is a career that our students are increasingly progressing into at university or apprenticeships”. Chris Germaine, Careers Leader.

About Wills Bros Ltd

Wills Bros Ltd is a renowned civil engineering company with a strong track record of delivering innovative and sustainable infrastructure solutions. With a focus on excellence and client satisfaction, the company has established itself as a leading player in the industry.

Drama – The School Show



The Drama department's school show, 'Treasure Island', was performed at St Mary's De Crypt on November 15th, to an entirely captivated audience. Directed by our Director in Residence Finn Gould and supported by Mr Roberts, Mrs Crozier, Mrs Watts (script) and Mrs Evans (costume), the performance received a standing ovation! The piece was linked to local celebrations of renowned poet William Henley, as he was the inspiration for the character 'Long John Silver'.



Well done and thank you to everyone who took part!

Gloucester Rugby Foundation Charity

This week the senior rugby teams had the opportunity to train on the pitch at Kingsholm Stadium. This was a fantastic experience for the students and we are very grateful to Gloucester Rugby for providing this opportunity.

As a token of our appreciation, we would like to share the Gloucester Rugby Foundation's donation page. If you are able to, please donate to the 4Ed charity, which is raising money to tackle Motor Neurone Disease.

<https://gloucesterrugbyfoundation.beaconforms.com/form/eb37df19>

Drama Trip

The drama department is excited to be hosting another trip to see an evening performance of Dear Evan Hansen at the Bristol Hippodrome on Tuesday February 11th 2025. This trip is open to students in years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 and costs £26.50, which includes their ticket and coach travel.

A letter with more information and a link to purchase a ticket will be put on student's Parent Pay accounts at the start of next week.

We anticipate this trip being popular and tickets are sold on a first come, first served basis, so please purchase quickly if your child would like to attend.

Any questions, please email acrozier@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk

Elevate Education

We're excited to announce that Elevate Education will be hosting their next parent webinar on **resilience** on December 3rd.

Elevate works with our students, delivering high-impact workshops on study skills, motivation, wellbeing, and exam preparation. By tuning into their webinar series, you'll learn **how you can help support your child at home by reinforcing the skills they're learning at school.**

Sign up for the session below to learn how you can **help your child to recover from a knock to their confidence.** Whether that's a disappointing grade, exam slip-up, or a less-than-perfect report.

How You Can Build Resilience in Your Child
Tuesday 3rd December 6:00-7:00pm (GMT)

[Click here to register for free](#)

SEN Afternoon – Tuesday 26th October

You are warmly invited to our drop-in afternoon, on Tuesday 26th November between **2.30pm - 4pm**.

This is an opportunity to meet the SEN team and ask any questions you may have. Mrs Prout (SENDCo) will be available along with Miss Hall (Deputy SENDCo), and Teaching Assistants Mrs Dutton and Mrs Watts.

Along with the SEN team our Educational Psychologist Dr Kate Billington will be in school to discuss and problem solve any concerns you may have about your child.

The afternoon will primarily take place in the Crush Hall with a meeting room available for any more confidential conversations. Tea, coffee and mince pies will be available. Please note school is only accessible on foot between 3 - 3.30pm to allow all students to leave safely.

If you would like to attend this session please complete the [Google Form](#)

School's Academy Trust

The Members of the School's Academy Trust met recently to receive reports on the School's recent performance and plans for the year ahead. The Members, who are all volunteers, are



responsible for appointing most of the School's Trustees (Governors) and ensuring that governance of the School is effective. From L to R: Nick Dyer (Headmaster), Anthony Gilbert (Member), Lee Hill (Member and Chair of Trustees), Grant Stevens (Member), Jo Hitchings (Finance Director), Emma Boobyer (Member); (apologies: Birgit Whitman, Member).

The Great Debate Competition

We had the Great Debate competition last night - this was the Gloucestershire heat to enter the national competition. This involved students from 9 schools presenting their ideas on how an aspect of Gloucestershire's history told a global story. Our VI form team of Lucy, Sanjeevani & Sapphire researched the Gloucester Docks, and crafted their speech which Lucy delivered at the Gloucester Heritage Hub on Wednesday evening. Unfortunately she wasn't picked to represent Gloucestershire but the judges commented on the quality of the presentation. A huge well done to all involved! The full speech can be found [here](#).

House Pumpkin Winners



Thank you to everyone who entered the House pumpkin carving competition and very well done to the winners. Merits coming your way to everyone who entered.

Food Standards Agency Update

Peanut/Mustard Allergy Update

The FSA have confirmed that all necessary food safety measures have been put in place and affected products removed from sale following an investigation into mustard products being contaminated with peanuts.

As a result, they have lifted their precautionary advice to people with a peanut allergy to avoid eating foods that contain or may contain mustard, mustard powder, mustard seeds or mustard flour when eating out as these products are now safe to eat. **As a result the precautionary poster can be removed.**



Are you a kinship carer?

A kinship carer is someone who is raising a relative's or friend's child.

Come along to our group for kinship carers



A chance to meet, listen, share and support one another.

Gloucester City Kinship Group

When: 10:00am-11:45am

First Monday each month.

Term time and 18+only

Where: Finlay Children and Family Centre

Tredworth Road

Tredworth

GL4 6TL

All kinship
carers and
special
guardians are
welcome

Call Jayne: 07518 291759

Email: jayne.howard@kinship.org.uk



**Part of the Kinship
Group Network**

Bringing kinship carers together



**compass.kinship.org.uk
kinship.org.uk**

Kinship is the working name for Grandparents Plus, which is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales under number 4454103 and registered as a charity under number 1093975



BRITISH ROWING **OLYMPIC TALENT ID TESTING**

**You could be the future of
British Rowing.**

Are you inspired by the recent success of the Olympic Games? Are you interested in learning a new sport? We want to invite you to a British Rowing Talent ID testing session on **Tuesday 3rd December 2024**, in the **Sports Hall**.



Date: 3rd December 2024

When: From 1:30pm

Who: Year 9's, Year 10's and Year 11's

Where: Sports Hall

Please contact the PE Department for more information.

**GB PERFORMANCE DEVELOPMENT
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YOUR MIND
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