



Headmaster's Letter

26th June 2026

Dear parents/carers and students,

A new Creative and Performing Arts Centre for the school and community

Following a very successful launch event held at St Mary de Crypt Church and old Crypt Schoolroom last Friday, and as noted on my linked in account, we have received some fantastic news: an Old Cryptian, who left the school in the early 1960s, has generously donated £250,000 towards our new creative and performing arts centre. After leaving Crypt, he subsequently went on to a very successful career in the information technology sector and, alongside his wife, is a great believer in the power of the arts to transform lives. Thankyou to him and his wife for this wonderful donation and for their belief in our vision. Further donations are already coming in on our fundraising site - give as you live - and my sincere thanks to those who have already donated. Working together, we can transform lives through the power of the creative and performing arts.

If you want to make a donation to this project, to help enable our vision of performance and creative, and of community to become a reality, then follow this link to our donations page:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/creative-and-performing-arts-centre-campaign-cpac>

Or do get in touch with our School Development Manager - Sarah Veal: sveal@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk



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





A new Grand Piano set to arrive in school - see further on for more details

The new grand piano is due to be delivered to school on the 2nd of July: what a difference that will make to the quality of music making at school, and help enable our pianists to really flourish as they develop their skills over the years to come. My thanks to everyone who so generously donated to the 'keys for a cause' fundraising event.

School Staffing update

As we approach the end of the academic year, some valued members of staff are sadly moving on from Crypt, with new colleagues set to join us in September. On behalf of everyone connected to the work and life of the school, I would like to thank all those colleagues who are leaving at the end of term, for all their hard work and dedication to the life of our school, and wish them every happiness and success in their future careers and personal lives.

Staff leaving

Mrs Lorraine Atkins (Teacher of Geography)

Miss Thea Gooch (PE Intern)

Mr James Green (Science Technician)

Mr Julian Lowenthal (DART Technician)

Mr Matthew Peake (Temporary Teacher of Art)

Mrs Jennie Vine (Teacher of Food/Nutrition)

Mr Duncan Walthew (Teacher of Drama and English)

Other

Mrs Meghan Hayes (History and Politics) is going on MAT leave at the end of the academic year

Mrs Alex Crozier (Head of Drama) is going on MAT leave at the end of term 1 in November

New staff appointments

Mrs Samantha Akamine (Head of Drama from November maternity cover)

Miss Hannah Bartlett (Teacher of History & Politics maternity cover)

Mr Harrison Green (DART Technician)

Mrs Elizabeth Kitonga (Teacher of Food/Nutrition)

Mr Kevin Swankie (Teaching Assistant)

Other

Mr Julian Boon (Teacher of Physics) and Ms Jessica Barnett (Teacher of Geography) will return from their sabbaticals and Mrs Hannah Quinn is returning from her MAT leave as 2nd in MFL next week

Internal staff changes for September

Mr Matthew Bevan (Assistant Headteacher: Pastoral)

Mrs Claire Gee (Assistant Headteacher: Academic)

Mrs Nicola Bowes (Head of Chemistry)

Miss Lizzie Chilman (Second in English)

Mrs Rachel Lintott (Second in maths - maternity cover)

Mrs Nikola Stoneman (School Diversity Lead)

Head of Year changes for September (most heads of year will move up with their current year group in September unless otherwise stated)

Mr Zander Rausch (New Appointment as Head of Year 7 from September)

Mrs Diane Duxbury (Head of Year 8 - in place already with current year 7)

Mr Christopher Germaine (Head of Year 9 - in place already with current year 8)

Miss Hannah Searle (Head of Year 10 - in place already with current year 9)

Mr Harry Windsor (Head of Year 11 - in place already with current year 10)

Mr Henry Bowen (Head of Year 12 - from September)

Miss Sarah Parkin (Head of Year 13 - in place already with current year 12)

Student Personal Development

Despite the disruption caused to our normal school and wider lives this week due to the extreme hot weather, there have nonetheless been a number of events helping to support our student's personal and career development. Year 12 students were able to attend an online UCAS personal statement advice session, delivered by the University of Bath on Thursday afternoon and many year 11 students from the Crypt and other schools and colleges attended our annual Year 12 Summer

School on Monday and Tuesday. Next week, year 12 will be on their work experience week, which I hope will be a valuable experience for them, as they look forward to making their post-18 choices in the next academic year. We now look forward to celebrating the end of their GCSE exams with our year 11 students at their Prom later today, to be held at Hatherley Manor Hotel.

With my continued best wishes,



Nicholas Dyer
Headmaster

Dates For Your Diary

29th June	Founders' Day Gloucester Cathedral 7.15pm
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

Keys for a cause

The impact of last week's "Keys for a Cause" pianothon is still being felt. Donations have continued to come in throughout the week, and as of this afternoon (24 June), the total stands at £7,005, plus £1,552 in Gift Aid, resulting in an incredible total of £8,557, which is 34% of our target. A huge thank you to all of our pianists—every one of you was simply fantastic! And an even bigger thank you to everyone who donated, tuned in, cheered, or just enjoyed the music.

We are also thrilled to share that Crypt alumnus Andrew Pitt, who currently serves on our Creative and Performing Arts Centre Committee (CPAC), has made an incredibly generous pledge to help us reach our goal. Andrew is committed to ensuring our music students have access to equipment that reflects their talents. His welcome contribution allows us to purchase the concert-grade piano that Mr. Whittaker has long desired. Thank you, Andrew!

What an exceptional achievement - as you might expect from The Crypt School community.

Year 9 Surf Camp

We have just returned from 4 days in Cornwall with a group of year 9 students enjoying some water based activities. The weather was cloudy but warm but did not affect the activities. We began on Polzeath Beach with 2 hours of surfing in some big waves. Lots of people managed to stand up and everyone enjoyed this activity. The following day we travelled to Rock for a morning of kayaking then over to Port Gaverne for the most challenging activity, coasteering. Everyone gave this a go and most managed to get to the top ledge.

Everyone enjoyed the residential which was only made possible with the help of Mrs Williams and Mr Windsor.

Mr Hart

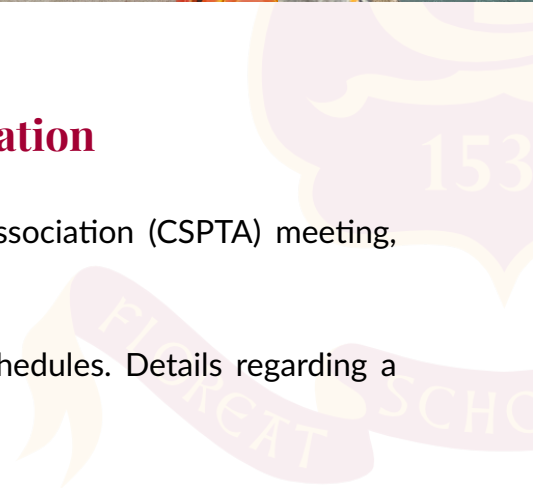


CSPTA Notice: Meeting Cancellation

Please note that the upcoming Crypt School Parent Teacher Association (CSPTA) meeting, originally scheduled for Tuesday, 30th June, has been cancelled.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause to your schedules. Details regarding a rescheduled date will be shared in a future newsletter.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.



Upcoming performance: Musical theatre cabaret night!

The Musical Theatre club is delighted to be hosting a cabaret night at school on Saturday July 4th.

See the hall transformed into a 'speakeasy' style performance space, with a variety of musical theatre numbers from many different shows performed by our incredibly talented students.

Book your tickets by Wednesday 1st July to add drinks and a graze board onto your booking (after this date tickets will be audience only, the CSPTA bar will be running at the event, serving drinks and tuck shop items).

Tickets can be purchased here: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/114006>

We hope to see you there!

Alice in Wonderland at St Mary De Crypt

Last Friday saw our fantastic cast perform Alice in Wonderland (abridged) for a sold out audience at St Mary De Crypt. Led by year 12 directors Amelia, Ammenah and Edgar, the show took us on a journey through wonderland in traverse style staging (audience on two sides), meaning that characters kept appearing out of nowhere!

The audience reaction was wonderful and we're so proud of all involved for their hard work and dedication to our summer show.



Animal Farm – Upcoming dates

Auditions for Animal Farm took place on Tuesday of this week - and the talent was outstanding! Mrs Crozier & Miss Chilman had a difficult job casting the show as everyone who auditioned was incredible. Alas, decisions have finally been made and the full cast (including ensemble) was announced yesterday, along with the rehearsal schedule.

Upcoming key dates:

Full cast meeting - Thursday 2nd July (drama studio, 1.30pm)

First rehearsal: Monday September 7th, main hall, 3.30-5pm (full cast)

Dates for your diary:

Saturday rehearsal reminder: Saturday 14th November

Show days: Friday 27th & Saturday 28th November (both evening only shows)

Thanks in advance for all of your support with our next big project!

Please donate new toiletries

We are collecting donations for Gloucestershire Bundles as part of our new year 7 transition day on Monday 29th June. All current pupils and staff are also encouraged to bring any new toiletries or sunscreen and place them on the Crush Hall table on Monday. These could be any toiletries for adults, children or babies - for example toothpaste, shower gel, nappies or soap. Please ensure all donations are new and unopened. They will be sent to the Gloucestershire Bundles charity who share them with local families in need.

Athletics

Congratulations James Arminio senior boy u19 year 12/13 and Enrico Savioli inter boy year 10/11 u17 200m on being selected to represent Gloucestershire in the English Schools' Track and Field National Championships, to take place on the 10 th /11 th July 2026.

Alex Continues Sailing Success at the RS Feva Nationals

Alex has enjoyed another successful regatta, competing at the RS Feva National Championships at Plas Heli.

Having only sailed the boat for two days and spent just two days training with his new helm before the event, the aim was to gain experience together, qualify for the gold fleet and continue building their partnership ahead of the World Championships in Germany this July.

The championships attracted 101 boats, with 202 under-18 sailors competing. During the qualifying series, the fleet was split into blue and yellow groups, with the top 25 boats from each progressing to the gold fleet.

Alex and his helm produced an excellent set of qualifying results, finishing 12th, 6th, 21st and 9th. This placed them ninth in the blue fleet and 19th overall, securing their place in the gold fleet in their first event together.

On the second day of racing, competitors in the gold fleet swapped roles, giving Alex the opportunity to helm an RS Feva for the first time. Despite his limited experience in the role, he steered the boat to an impressive 11th-place finish against a highly competitive fleet.

Light winds meant that the remainder of day two and all of day three were abandoned. Racing resumed on the final day, when three further races were completed. Alex and his helm finished 33rd, 35th and 34th, resulting in an overall placing of 27th out of 101 boats.

The accompanying photograph shows Alex during race two on the opening day, sailing with the yellow spinnaker.

Alex now looks ahead to the South and South West Regional Championships in Weymouth before travelling to Germany to compete in the RS Feva World Championships later this summer. We wish him every success.

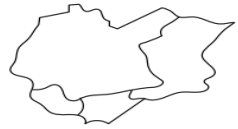


Maths Challenge

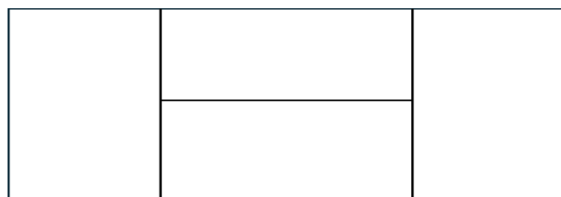
Last week we set this question from the junior kangaroo that nineteen very bright year seven and eights sat.

- 25.** Julia has four different coloured pencils and wants to use some or all of them to colour the map of four regions shown in the diagram. She wants to ensure that two regions that share a common border are shaded in different colours. In how many different ways can she colour the map?

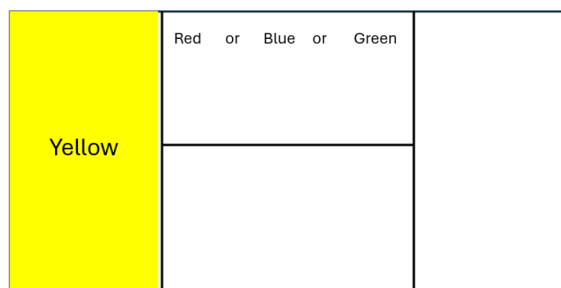
A 12 B 18 C 24 D 36 E 48



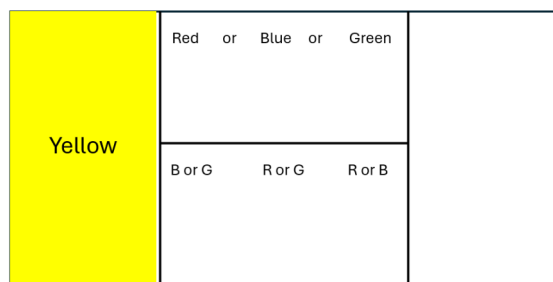
First try to make this simpler. The important thing is how the four regions border each other. This is the same as how many ways are there of colouring these rectangles, because they share borders the same way. This branch of mathematics is known as topology.



Lets give Julia yellow, red, green and blue pencils. To keep this simple we'll look first at the case where she colours the left hand rectangle yellow. She has a choice of the three colours other than yellow for the top middle rectangle.



The bottom middle rectangle borders both the coloured rectangles so must be coloured one of the remaining two colours, for $3 \times 2 = 6$ ways for these three rectangles.



Finally look at the right hand rectangle. This could be coloured two ways: using the one colour we haven't used or, because it doesn't border the yellow, it could be yellow. So there are $6 \times 2 = 12$ ways of colouring the map with yellow on the left.

Similarly there are 12 ways of colouring the map with red first (just swap yellow and red in the argument above). And twelve ways starting with blue and twelve more starting with green for a total of $12 \times 4 = 48$, the answer is E 48.

This was the hard question at the end of a hard test, so well done if you got it right, don't worry if you didn't. Congratulations to Clara, JohnHenry and Dylan in year seven and Jaanvi, George, Oscar and Elliot in year eight who all got this right under test conditions.

Theatre trip to see Annie at the Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham

A letter and link to buy tickets to see Annie at the Everyman Theatre in October were placed on Parent Pay last week. If your child is interested in attending, please ensure that you purchase your ticket by Wednesday 1st July (next week).

There are currently a few spaces left. Please bear in mind that we are not able to run the trip if we don't sell all of our reserved tickets.

Cheerleading showcase

On Sunday last weekend, our wonderful competition cheerleading team performed at GCA Allstar's showcase. The cheerleaders showed their routine in two of the shows and gave their best performance yet, despite the heat!

We're so proud of the growth of the team this year, and look forward to continuing the club next academic year.

Any student interested in trying out for the 26/27 competition team should keep an eye out for notices at the start of September.



Musical Theatre Club presents:

Cabaret Night

Saturday 4th July

Main Hall at 7pm

Doors open at 6:45pm

Tickets can be purchased via
TryBooking (link on school website)



◆ Featuring performances from: ◆

~Chicago

~Dear Evan Hansen

~SIX

~Phantom of the Opera

~The Greatest Showman

~Wicked



Do you want to learn new ways of managing difficult thoughts and feelings?

Who is it for?

Anyone aged 9-25 years who lives and/or goes to school, college or university, or is registered with a GP in Gloucestershire.

What is InTER-ACT?

It's three, 1-hour online sessions to help you learn new ways of managing difficult thoughts and feelings, so that you can do more of what matters to you.



What happens in the sessions?

Sessions are live on Zoom with videos, slides & anonymous polls, and you can join in or just watch.

Cameras and microphones are turned off so no one will ever see or hear you, if you don't want them to.

Where do sessions take place?

There are three, weekly live online sessions every Tuesday evening. Each session lasts one hour.

Early Bird at 6pm
Night Owl at 7:30pm

How do I book?

You will need an email address to register (it can be a parent/carer's).
If you don't have access to an email you can **contact us** for help.

Scan the QR code or go to:
www.letstalkwell.org.uk/interact



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)

