



Headmaster's Letter

8th May 2026

Dear parents/carers and students,

Leavers' Days

We were all very sorry to say farewell to our Year 13 students this morning as they move into their A Level exams and study leave. Of course, school will be here to support them throughout the examination period and we look forward to celebrating their time at Crypt at the year 13 leavers' party in June and their success on A Level results day in August. The school will support every member of year 13 with their onward journeys, whatever they may be, and we always continue to support students after they have left Crypt with references, future UCAS applications and so on. However, today has provided a wonderful occasion for each student to reflect on their time in the sixth form, to wish each other luck with their exams and to thank their teachers and other staff who have supported them over the last two years in the sixth form.

On Wednesday, we also wished our year 11 students every success as they embarked on their study leave and their GCSE exams. Year 11 will enjoy a leaver's Prom at Hatherley Manor in June, and we look forward to celebrating their examination success in August, before welcoming back the vast majority, along with many new students, into Year 12 to commence their A Level studies with us in year 12 in September.

My thanks go to all our year 13 and year 11 students for their hard work across their A Level and GCSE studies, and I wish them all every success in their examinations. For our year 13 leavers and for those in year 11 who may be moving from Crypt at the end of their exams, I wish each of them



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



every success and, above all, happiness in the future, and urge them all to keep in touch with the school in their future lives.

Academic studies and examinations

Year 12 finished their internal examination this week, just in time for the A Level and GCSE exams to start. I do hope the year 12 examinations went well for each student, but as importantly these exams provide an opportunity for them to learn how to approach A Level examinations under timed conditions in the hall; mock exams also provide a very useful occasion for feedback, with students able to reflect with their teachers on how they can improve further as they approach the start of their final year at school.

Careers

Our careers guidance programme at school is exceptional, providing opportunities for all year groups to learn about the labour market, the further education pathways open to them, and the careers available to them, as well as those emerging into the labour market, both now and in the future. Of course, the labour market is an ever changing landscape, and with the support of many of our parents/carers, local employers and the local careers hub, we work to ensure that our programme remains relevant and future focussed. This week, to audit our careers work and benchmark it against nationally approved standards, our career programme was evaluated by the Careers Mark Company. We await the outcome of that external audit, and any recommendations for improvement will be welcomed.

Sport

It has been a busy week for our sports teams, with many students in years 7-10 taking part in a rugby tournament held at Cheltenham Tigers rugby ground on Wednesday, with all of our teams performing very well indeed across the age range. It was good to see many primary school students on the athletics track on Wednesday, competing and enjoying themselves, assisted by our year 10 sports leaders, drawn from our GCSE PE groups. Four year 11 students competed against Collegiate School in Bristol in the U16 National Sports Magazine Tennis competition on Wednesday, performing very well indeed. The annual PGL netball tour left school today, and I've no doubt those attending from years 7-9 will thoroughly enjoy that experience. Finally, congratulations to Charlotte Gardner in Year 11, who has been developing her cricket skills with her club, Apperley Cricket Club (National Champions in 2024), and the MCCF (Marylebone Cricket Club Foundation). Recently, Charlotte was selected by her coaches from MCCF Gloucestershire to trial for the U17 Girls Southwest Region Cricket Team. Charlotte was successful and has been selected for this Southwest team and will be engaging in various training, residential and match opportunities over the Summer. Fantastic news to hear.

School Sports Hall

As many parents/carers will know, one half of the school sports hall has been out of use for this academic year and the half that is in use is restricted to certain sports/games. The reason for this problem is the lifting of a section of the sports hall floor, for reasons that have been under investigation for some time now, without a final resolution. Investigations continue, as does the related insurance claim; however, the school remains committed to ensuring the sports hall is fully reopened by September, subject to contractor availability during the summer closure period.

With my continued best wishes,



Nicholas Dyer
Headmaster

Dates For Your Diary

11th - 14th May	Year 12 Road Safety Week
18th May	CSPTA Meeting - 6:30pm
22nd May	Sports Day Term 5 Ends - 3:15pm

School Textile Bank

Partnering with C&G Collections to recycle **useable** unwanted clothing and textiles for those in need.

YES PLEASE:

- Clothing
- Paired Shoes
- Handbags and belts
- Bedsheets & covers
- Soft toys

NO THANK YOU:

- Wet/damaged clothes
- Pillows & cushions
- Books & Bric-a-brac
- Electrical Items
- General Rubbish

Students can drop off suitable donations during school hours to the textile bank at the canteen steps.

Visit cgcollections-ltd.co.uk for more info.



Girls' Cricket Success!

We are incredibly proud to share an exciting update regarding Charlotte in Year 11. You may remember that Charlotte recently attended U17 Southwest region cricket trials and a U15 residential trip representing MCCF Gloucestershire.

Having been a National Champion in 2024, Charlotte has been continually progressing her cricket skills with Apperley Cricket Club and the MCCF (Marylebone Cricket Club Foundation). Recently, she was selected by her coaches to trial for the U17 Girls Southwest Region Cricket Team. We are delighted to announce that Charlotte was successful and has been selected for the Southwest team! She will be engaging in various training, residential, and match opportunities over the summer.

We are so proud of Charlotte's dedication. We hope her fantastic achievements will inspire even more girls to get involved and help girls' cricket really take off here at Crypt!

🧪 Chemistry - Y13 Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) Olympiad 🧪

We are delighted to announce that our Y13 Chemistry students have excelled in the 2026 RSC Chemistry Olympiad, with 36 awards being achieved - our highest number ever! Overall, they have been awarded 8 Gold awards 🥇, 13 Silver awards 🥈 and 15 Bronze awards 🥉 which is truly impressive and they should all be very proud of their accomplishments, and be confident in their abilities as they approach their A-level exams this summer.

This prestigious competition had record numbers of students taking part this year, 17,241 from over 1100 schools. It involved a fiendishly challenging 2 hour written paper which required the students to apply their knowledge of A-level chemistry to unfamiliar and novel questions. The students benefit greatly from the experience as one of their A-level papers will contain a lot of synoptic and application based questions, and it is a good opportunity for them to practise different question styles and challenging new content. This year, it involved questions around isocyanides, compounds in henna tattoos, and even 'pee in swimming pools'.

Only 8.5% of students achieved a Gold award, so special mention goes to the following Y13 students: Michael N, Sam T, Dan H, Alek R, Joshua S, Pheo O and Jacob P. We also highly congratulate Y12 student Callum A who sat it a year early and also achieved a Gold award!



Crypt U13s Strike Gold with Clinical Cup Win Over HSL

Crypt 114 for 6, HSL 75 all out - Crypt win by 39 runs

On a lively surface at The Crypt Oval, The Crypt U13s secured their first win of the 2026 County Cup campaign with a convincing all-round performance.

Put in to bat, Crypt's top order initially struggled. Otis fell without scoring, and while Xander scored briskly at over a run-a-ball, he was soon caught. After Sonar and Bean both fell cheaply for 1, Crypt found themselves under pressure. However, a vital 46-run partnership between Russo and Scheepers steadied the ship, allowing Crypt to post a competitive 114 for 6 from their 20 overs.

Defending the total, Crypt's bowling was disciplined and dominant. Wood struck early to remove the HSL opener, before Scheepers claimed two quick wickets to reduce the visitors to 41 for 3. Otis immediately followed up with an LBW, shifting momentum firmly in Crypt's favour. Sonar then took control, claiming three wickets to tear through the HSL middle order. Howard and Shayle efficiently cleaned up the tail, bowling HSL out for 75.

Key Contributions:

Sonar: 3 wickets in a decisive spell

Scheepers: 2 wickets & vital batting support

Russo & Scheepers: Match-saving 46-run partnership

Wood & Otis: Important early breakthroughs

While not flawless, it was a resilient and clinical performance. The squad showed excellent bowling depth, setting a highly positive tone for the rest of the season.

Childrens Online Safety – Mr J Rice

We recognise that supporting children to navigate the online world can feel challenging at times, and we are keen to work in partnership with you. We would like to share the government's Kids Online Safety website, which offers gentle, practical advice to help families talk openly about online experiences. It encourages simple, reassuring conversations—checking in regularly about what children are seeing, how it makes them feel, and helping them understand that not everything online is real or reliable. The guidance is designed to build children's confidence and resilience, while also giving parents helpful prompts and ideas to guide discussions at home. By keeping these conversations ongoing and supportive, we can help our children feel safe, informed and able to make positive choices in their digital lives.

The government website on online safety can be found here: <https://kidsonlinesafety.campaign.gov.uk>

Cheerleading club

Our competitive cheerleading team were delighted to receive their first ever cheerleading competition uniforms this week!

A huge thank you to our corporate sponsors - Cleeve Lettings and Airey Miller Ltd - as well as the CSPTA for supporting us with fundraising. Of course thank you also to everyone who brought cakes from the cheer team at their cake sale - that fundraising all went directly to the uniforms.

The team have been working very hard and are excited to represent the school at national competition at the end of May, as well as a local showcase in June!



National Diversity Awards nomination

Congratulation to Mrs Hayes who has been nominated for a National Diversity Award for her work as Inclusion Lead this year, organising events such as our Culture Week, Community Iftar, Diwali assembly, and running a regular club for LGBT+ pupils and allies

You can vote for her here: <https://www.nationaldiversityawards.co.uk/awards-2026/nominations/meghan-hayes/> or search for her on the National Diversity Awards website

We love to show pride and celebrate our staff and pupils and support them with respect and kindness, in line with our school values



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Supporting a teenager can feel overwhelming ...

You don't have to do it alone!



Our NEW & FREE live Zoom webinars are here to support you!

Our NEW live webinars give parents and carers practical tools, expert guidance, and a safe space to support young people's emotional wellbeing.

By taking part, parents and carers can:

- Understand their young person's challenges
- Learn practical strategies for resilience and wellbeing
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- Feel more confident, supported, and less alone
- Access live Zoom Webinar sessions easily from home

Join us online and take the next step in supporting your child's wellbeing.

To find out more, or to book onto a session, visit

www.letstalkwell.org.uk/parents-carers/webinars

Limited spaces

Who: Tailored for Gloucestershire parents and carers of children ages 11-18.

When: A range of topics delivered across the year.

Where: Online Zoom Webinar