



Headmaster's Letter

22nd May 2026

Dear parents/carers and students,

This term has certainly been a busy one for all members of our school community, with examinations understandably dominating the work and thoughts of many students and staff alike. I would also like to recognise the invaluable support provided by families at home, which remains fundamental to our students' wellbeing, personal development, progress and success as young people.

New Instruments for the Music Department Appeal

Our appeal to raise funds for a second-hand grand piano and other musical instruments has already received some generous donations, and I would like to thank all those who have contributed so far. However, further support is still needed, and our fundraising "Pianothon" is now scheduled for Term 6.

In September, we hope to hold a special recital at which we will proudly unveil our new piano (subject to funding) and showcase the talents of some of our wonderful student musicians. Everyone who donates to the appeal will be warmly invited to attend this event.

Fundraising to Support the School

Like many schools, we continue to face increasing financial pressures amid significant challenges across the education sector. We fully recognise that many families are also managing financial pressures of their own; however, as we look ahead to requesting voluntary parental contributions next academic year, I would ask families to consider supporting the school where possible.



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



These contributions make a meaningful difference to the opportunities, experiences and support we are able to provide for all students across every year group, enriching both their education and wider school experience.

Academic Studies and Examinations

A Level and GCSE examinations continued throughout the week, including the Religious Studies Short Course GCSE sat by our Year 9 students on Wednesday. With a brief break from examinations ahead, students in Years 11 and 13 have an important opportunity to rest, recharge and continue their revision in preparation for the remainder of the examination season in Term 6.

Year 8 students have also completed their end-of-year examinations this week, while our Year 12 Geography students undertook their field trip to Birmingham as part of their coursework studies.

Mr Foster (maths) notes that our students performed exceptionally well in the recent Junior Maths Challenge: 146 students sat the challenge with 32 receiving a gold award, 50 a silver and 43 a bronze award - what an amazing achievement by our younger mathematicians. Best in school was Elliot C Y8, who was also best in year in 2025, and best in year 7 was Joseph K, who is a regular attendee at the maths society.

Personal Development

This week has also seen a range of valuable enrichment opportunities for students, including Careers Insights talks for Year 12 students, Duke of Edinburgh practice expeditions, and a clarinet masterclass for our musicians.

Our annual Sports Day was, once again, a wonderful whole-school event, and was made particularly special this year by the first display of our wonderful new House flags, kindly donated by the CSPTA and sponsored by @Typecraftprint, encouraging a greater House competitive element in the individual and team events. My sincere thanks go to Mr Hart, the PE department, and our GCSE and A Level PE students for their hard work in organising and leading such a successful and enjoyable day for all involved.

Staffing news

Congratulations to Mrs Humphreys (maths), who gave birth to her baby son, Felix - last week. We wish her, Felix and their family every best wish.

With my continued best wishes,



Nicholas Dyer
Headmaster

Dates For Your Diary

22nd May	Sports Day End of term 3.15pm
1st June	Term 6 begins 8.35am
4th June	School planning day - school closed to pupils except those taking GCSE & A Level exams
5th June	Sports Award Evening
10th - 12th June	Y10 Work experience
15th / 16th June	Geography Trip Forest of Dean
16th June	Matilda Bristol Hippodrome
16th June	Surf Camp

Gloucester Futures

Not sure what you want to do after school? Keen to develop new skills and explore employment prospects in Gloucester and beyond?

Join us for Gloucester Futures, a week-long skills programme in Gloucester. Organised by Alex McIntyre MP in collaboration with several local businesses, students will be hosted across the city. This is fully funded, with lunch included – all you need to do is meet us in the city centre! A great chance to gain some skills, check out the wide range of career prospects in Gloucester, and have fun with your peers. During this week, you will have the opportunity to:

- Explore broadcast journalism with the BBC
- Travel into the creative industries with Music Works
- Get coding and website building with Fasthosts
- Discover careers in sports with Gloucester Rugby
- And lots more!

Plus, a trip to London including a tour around the Houses of Parliament.

To apply, head to alexmcintyre.com/Gloucester-futures

You have until 12th June!



gloucester futures

*Inspiring confidence and
curiosity in the next generation*



A week-long fully funded summer
programme for 15-18 year olds to
explore and develop skills with local
businesses

Work with:

GWR

BBC

Gloucester Rugby

University of

Gloucestershire

Magnum Ice

Cream Co



Gloucester



10th-14th August

To apply, head to
alexmcintyre.co.uk

2026 School show - Information

The drama department is delighted to announce that our school show for 2026 will be *Animal Farm* by George Orwell (Tatty Hennessy adaptation).

The play is open to students in all year groups, so we would encourage anyone that is interested to get involved.

Auditions will be taking place on Tuesday 23rd June in the drama studio (1.25pm sharp start). Audition scripts can be found on the drama page of the school website.

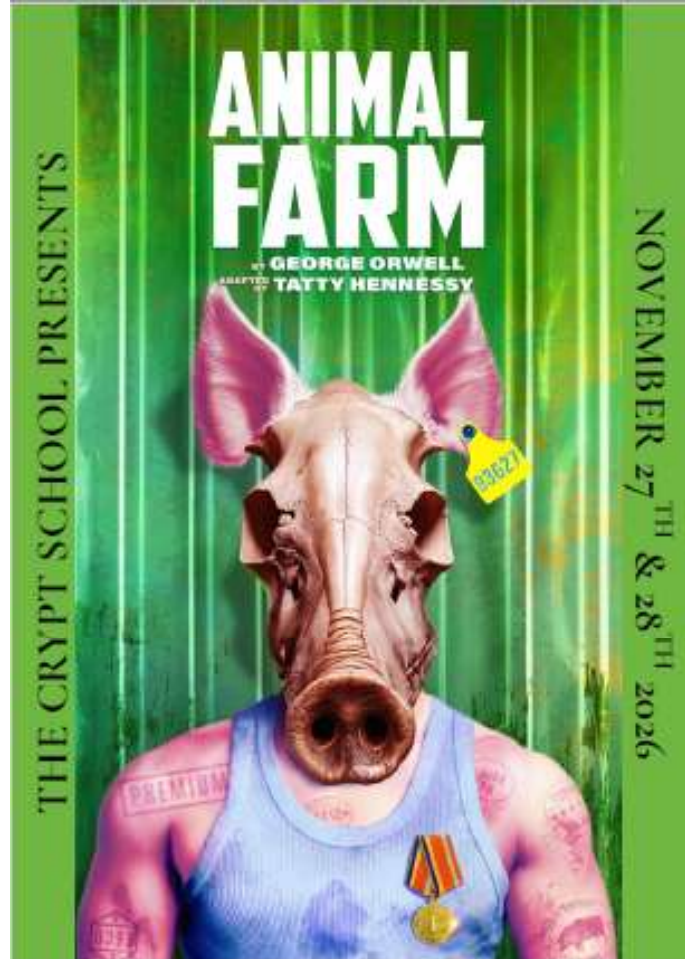
All key dates:

- Cast announcement- Thursday 25th June
- Full cast meeting- Thursday 2nd July (drama studio)
- Rehearsals- Every Monday 3.30-5pm, Starting Monday September 7th Tuesday lunch times for specific cast (as outlined in the rehearsal schedule)
- Additional Saturday rehearsal- Saturday November 14th 2026
- Show days- Friday 27th and Saturday 28th November

Both shows are evening performances only. On show days full cast and the technical team will be required from 3pm.

Students who are successful in gaining a role must be available for all of the above dates.

There will be 'named' cast, as well as an ensemble who are in the vast majority of the play (as farm animals/ farmers/ in fight scenes/ dance scenes etc.) If you are not successful in gaining a 'named' role on this occasion, we hope that you will still join us in the ensemble, as the ensemble are equally as important and necessary to the show!



Any students who would like to be involved in the backstage/ tech team (lighting, sound, costume, props, set, marketing etc.), please email Mrs Crozier directly.

Please be aware that the show includes themes of social class, inequality, power, control and violence.

Any questions, please email Mrs Crozier (acrozier@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk)

Tickets for our summer production of *Alice in Wonderland* (abridged) can now be purchased here: <https://www.stmarydecrypt.org/special-events>

This event is taking place on Friday 19th June at St Mary De Crypt in Gloucester. Doors open at 6.45pm for a 7pm start.

Tickets are extremely limited so if you are interested in attending, please don't hesitate to book.

The House Flags – Thank you!

The School would like to say a huge thank you to the CSPTA for funding our fantastic new House feather flags, which made their debut at Sports Day this year.

The flags looked brilliant out on the field and added real colour, atmosphere and House spirit to the event. They will now become a feature of future Sports Days and many other whole-school events.

We would also like to thank Typecraft Print for their generosity and support in helping bring the project to life.

A big thank you to everyone involved – the flags were a real success and looked superb throughout the day. More to follow next term.



Silver DofE Canoeing Practice Expedition

Over the course of an unforgettable long weekend on the River Wye, our Silver DofE canoeists demonstrated outstanding resilience, teamwork and determination. Due to the high number of students taking on Silver this year the students were split into 2 groups paddling the same route from the Boat Inn near Hay-on-Wye to Hereford Rowing Club. Group 1 paddled between the 15th to the 17th of May, while Group 2 paddled from the 16th to the 18th May. Throughout the expedition, students faced a variety of conditions, including periods of rain, strong winds and long hours on the water, all of which tested both their physical and mental endurance. Despite the challenges, every participant showed excellent perseverance, maintaining positive attitudes and continuing to support one another throughout the journey.

The expedition provided a fantastic opportunity for students to develop many of the key skills at the heart of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Canoeists worked together to navigate the river safely, manage equipment, set up camp and make collective decisions under pressure. Communication and cooperation within each canoe and across the wider groups was excellent, with students encouraging one another through difficult stretches and celebrating success together. By the end of the expedition, all participants had grown in confidence, independence and leadership, and should be incredibly proud of their maturity and commitment.



Library Newsletter

Over the last 2 weeks we have been running a Star War quiz to celebrate May the 4th be with you day. Lots of students entered the quiz who all received merits for entering. All the correct entries went into a draw and the winner was Vihaan 7JM. He is now the proud owner of Star Wars pens – Well Done Vihaan.

The library is always a very welcoming place and changing displays with book recommendations on a regular basis. We have had some wonderful donations from parents, thank you! These books are included in the new display by our entrance, which attracts a lot of attention encouraging our students to browse through and explore new genres. A new Upper School series requested by a student is now available for year 9 and above.

Next term we have a quiz on George Orwell to celebrate his birthday as well as a quiz on The Hunger Games to mark Reaping Day – the day children are chosen for the Hunger Games contest. We will also be holding a book sale in the library. The books are old stock from our shelves. There will be more details to follow next term.

We run the Bookbuzz programme for new year 7 every year with Read for Good. It is well established that reading for pleasure leads to significantly better outcomes for students. It boosts academic performance, enhances wellbeing and fosters vital life skills such as empathy.

Details of the latest National Book Tokens competition is below. A £1000 prize for the library. Please help us win by nominating the school. The more nominations we receive the greater chance of winning – please spread the word. Thank you.



HELP US WIN £1,000 FOR OUR LIBRARY

Nominate us and you could win a £100 gift card!
nationalbooktokens.com/schools-prize

SCAN ME

NATIONAL BOOK tokens
In association with **Read for Good**

GO ALL IN.

#rebuildthelibrary

National Year of Reading 2028

A promotional poster for the National Book Tokens competition. It features a yellow background with two smiling children, a QR code, and various book-related graphics. The text encourages nominating the school to win a £1,000 prize for the library.



Planning a clear
out of uniform over
the holidays?

Drop it to school reception
and support the CSPTA
preloved uniform shop

Your donation means the
CSPTA can:

- make preloved items
available to everyone
- support a range of
projects throughout school
from music and sports to
pastoral and science



Music Marathon Fundraiser

Following Mr Dyer's announcement of our music fundraiser, we are pleased to introduce Keys for a Cause: A 12-hour Music Marathon taking place on Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th June. We are aiming to raise £25,000 to support the efforts of the music department which is at the beating heart of cultural life at the school. The funding will also be used to fund the purchase of a grand piano to replace our tired Bluthner in the main hall.

To reach a total of 12 hours, we are encouraging every piano student to take part regardless of skill level. From the first five notes of the scale from Middle C, all the way to advanced Bach, our goal is to represent the passion and commitment that every piano student has for music and supporting the school values.

A letter has been sent out to all participants if you can complete this by Monday 1st June please. We require a good number of students to make the fundraiser possible.

The donation page is now live with the link below. Please share this around to your family, friends and local community. Facebook Live will be available to access from Monday 15th June.

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/keys-for-a-cause-the-crypt-school>



THE CRYPT SCHOOL

KEYS

For a Cause

A 12-hour Music Marathon

16th and 17th June

Join us as our community of piano students play a wealth of diverse music through Facebook Live over an exciting two days!

Raising funds for our music department and towards a new grand piano in the main hall

**Donations
through
Give As
You Live**

Please follow the QR code
or the link below for
donation and livestream details



<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/keys-for-a-cause-the-crypt-school>

Junior Maths Challenge

Last week brought the results of the Junior maths challenge to 146 students in years 7 and 8. It was a Crypt record number of awards (125, 85% of students compared to 50% nationwide), a record number of gold awards (32, 22% compared to fewer than 9% nationwide).

Many of the year 7 students took advantage of free webinars from the parallel organisation to prepare and this seems to have paid off. We have 19 students sitting the successor round, the junior kangaroo including ten year 7s, when our previous best was 11 across both years. Congratulations go to Joseph K, Trevis, Fliss, Ethan P, Arita, Sopia L, JohnHenry, Jakub, Dylan and Clara in year 7 and Elliot, Jaenah, Arjun, Mithul, George S, Samuel B, Oscar, Jaanvi and Finley in year 8 as well as all the others who took part and did so well.



Old Cryptians Rugby Success

I am delighted to report that 5 former pupils were involved in an excellent win in the RFU Community Cup final which took place at Coventry Rugby Club. They were all representing Cheltenham Saracens RFC against Sittingbourne RFC, Kent. Saracens were the eventual winners 43 - 28 in a hard fought game. The former pupils are Seb and Louis Capaldi, Dylan Harman, Sam Peach and James Fish.



PARENTS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT OMOGGLE



Omoggle is an 18+ random video chat platform that adds AI face ratings.

That mix can expose young people to strangers, appearance pressure and harmful content.



18+ ONLY

Omoggle's official terms say the live arena is for adults only.

LIVE VIDEO WITH STRANGERS



Users are matched on webcam with people they do not know.



AI FACE RATING

The platform uses the PSL Scale to score appearance.

KEY TERMS PARENTS SHOULD KNOW



PSL SCALE

A number-based system used to judge how attractive a face is.



MOGGING

Slang for 'beating' someone else on looks or rating higher than them.



LOOKSMAXXING

An online culture focused on maximising appearance and chasing ideal looks.

WHY THIS CAN BE HARMFUL



EXPLICIT CONTENT

May include nudity or sexual pressure.



BODY IMAGE HARM

Scores can fuel comparison and self-doubt.



PUBLIC HUMILIATION

Leaderboards can turn looks into bullying.



BIOMETRIC PRIVACY

Face scans raise data privacy concerns.



ALGORITHMIC VALIDATION

Ratings can affect a child's self-worth.

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO



ASK OPENLY

Ask: 'Have you seen Omoggle?'



EXPLAIN THE TERMS

Explain that PSL and mogging judge people by looks.



TALK ABOUT SELF-WORTH

Remind them looks do not define value.



KEEP THE DOOR OPEN

Let them know they can always come to you.

A SCORE SHOULD NOT DEFINE A PERSON

www.kidsnclicks.com