



The Crypt School Parent Teacher Association

Parents, Teachers and Friends

cspta@cryptschool.org

Minutes of Committee Meeting 18th May 2026

Venue: Sports Classroom 1, The Crypt School

1.	Present Mike Byfield (MB - Chair) Sharon Byfield (SB - Secretary) Debbie Jordan (DJ)	Tracy Scott (TS – 200 Club and Vice-chair) Steve Scott (SS - Treasurer) Hazel Walsley (PA to Head of School) Liz Bastock (LB) Peter Fieldhouse (PB)	
2.	Apologies Indu Arza Nick Dyer	Rebecca Scanlon-Brown (Refreshments)	
3.	Treasurer's Report Summary @ 30/4/2026 Current Balance of PTA account is £11632 (increased £438 since last month) Current Balance of Uniform account is £27421 (increased £77 since last month) Total at 30/4/26: £39053 (up £515) Bids paid this month: PE Cricket Bid £860 Main Outgoings: Refund Old Cryptians Bar Share £348 Main Income: iZettle *3: £751		SS

	SS has started a handover to incoming Treasurer CF. Suggestion from Ali that the bid template should change – to include the total amount being bid for in gross and net, then we only have to pay the net amount. Action: SB will update the bid template SS has created a float of £120. CF is being added as a signatory to the account. The remaining surplus has been banked. MB thanked SS for his work as Treasurer and all volunteers for helping us to raise money.	
4.	Bids Bid 1 Physics Bid – Power Packs – Sarah John 10 x Power packs (EduLab laboratory variable power supply) Cost: 10 x £374 = £3740 In order to check value for money, Ms John has: - Researched suppliers - Chosen a tried-and-tested make and model – they have approx. 35 of these in school already and they are durable, reliable and easy for students to use. - Ms John already bid for an Ogden Trust grant for these items, but this was unsuccessful. Power packs are essential for a lot of the practical work done in Physics. From Year 7 to Year 13, these will be used regularly by most of the classes. This is particularly important for teaching the Electricity topics in Years 8, 10, 12 and 13. Currently, the department do not have full class sets of working power packs for each lab. Many of the stock of power packs are decades old. They have been repaired as many times as possible, but they are at the end of their lifespans and can no longer be safely used. Currently, practical work is limited due to this, with students working in larger groups, or classes having to miss a practical if multiple classes need to complete it at the same time. Non-specialist Physics teachers of Y7 and 8 (Biology and Chemistry specialists) find it difficult to troubleshoot when the older power packs go wrong, leading them to abandon class practical work. Replacing 10 of these older power packs will enable the team to deliver practical work in pairs and give all teachers the confidence to do electricity practical work. Impact Improved practical work – fewer issues, smaller group sizes, increased teacher confidence. - GCSE and A Level required practicals can be done in smaller groups, giving students a better chance of success in their exams.	MB

- Many of the students already go on to further study/apprenticeships in Engineering or Science. Improved quality of practical work may encourage more students to consider STEM careers.

Ms John would expect these power packs to last decades with maintenance from our technician team.

The CSPTA team voted to support this bid.

Bid 2 Physics Bid – iPads – Sarah John

4 x iPads

1 x iPad = £242

3 years insurance for one iPad= £99

MDM license for one iPad = £20

Total per iPad = £361

Total Cost (x 4 iPads) = £1444

In order to ensure value for money, Ms John has:

- Researched suppliers – approached the IT department for their recommended supplier (Albion) and any discounts they may offer.
- Chosen a tried-and-tested make and model – as recommended by the IT department

The Physics department has made excellent progress with digital learning. iPads are used in many ways to enhance the quality of teaching and learning. This includes:

- Practical work – datalogging using Pasco sensors
- Data handling – spreadsheets to process data and plot graphs
- Formative assessment – google forms, Socrative quizzes, Quizlet for learning equations or definitions, show me app
- Independent research
- Work flow – use of the GoodNote app for completing and storing student work (especially useful for our SEN students)
-

These are used across all year groups, in nearly all lessons.

Problems arise when students have forgotten their iPads or chargers, or in the Sixth Form where not all students have a device. The IT department has some spares, but these are limited, and by the time a student collects a spare device, they have often missed the learning opportunity.

	Ms John is bidding for 4 iPads to hold in the Physics department as spares to lend to students in Years 7-11. These will also be used for A Level practical work as we have one required practical that requires students to use datalogging apps. Impact Having spare iPads will enable all students to join in with all digital activities, allowing them to flourish. Often, it is those students most in need of support that forget their iPad or arrive with it uncharged. They then miss out on learning opportunities which means they can fall further behind their peers. This will also allow our Y12 and 13 students (currently 95 students) to use datalogging for their required practical work in small groups, allowing them the first-hand experience necessary to be able to succeed in their exams. There is no school iPad scheme for Y12-13. We do have quite a few spares. Y12-13 students without iPads quite often work from their phones. Students who have forgotten their iPads should go first thing to collect a spare and not leave it until the lesson. This is about how iPads are managed in the school. Process of getting a spare needs to be managed better, it is the responsibility of the child. The students need to take responsibility for arriving with their iPad fully charged. This should be managed by the school. Can the dept send a reminder when it's critical for a lesson? The flags have arrived and look amazing, they will be used at the Y7 pastoral evening and at sports day.	
5.	School Report Main strategic priority is to strengthen experience in the classroom to enable all children to flourish. 60 appeals have been processed, those who are successful will hear by 29 May. Registration for the entrance test opened today – this is the last year with GL assessment, next year the school will use the Reading School model for the 11+ test. Y11 and 13 exams are going well. There is a Governors' meeting taking place today. Nick sends his thanks to those continuing on the committee and to those stepping up. Founders Day will be on 29 June at 7.15pm.	HW

6.	Future Activities/Events/Fundraising & Marketing Becky will be organising • 18th June New Y7 Pastoral Evening – uniform sale and refreshments – would like to invite people to join PTA • 24/25th June Open Mornings • 1 July Y7 and 8 Showcase Concert • 4th July Cabaret HW will start an annual list of events with PTA involvement in term 6 to help with planning: Harry Potter in October, what kind of event do we want to do at Christmas eg silent disco, auction of promises, raffles. The calendar gets full very quickly, so if we want to request a date for an event we should do so early The Fortnum and Mason hamper sold a lot of raffle tickets. We could do an online event for example 24 prizes (one per day) in the run up to Xmas. We can also engage with Sarah to see what she is planning – and to ask new y7 parents what they would like to see – a questionnaire, or could have a white board that people could tick which events they would like	MB/ TS/ RSB																								
7.	School Clothing Sales Steady flow of 2-3 orders per week. LB will do a post for this week's head's letter. We will do a 2nd hand uniform sale at the new Y7 evening.	LB																								
8.	200 Club We can promote the 200 Club at the next new year 7 evening. The draw has taken place, there are 6 prizes this month (3 x £10 prizes rather than a £20 and a £10 prize). This needs to be taken over – LB and/or IA will take this over with Peter as back up. Raises about £5k per year. We have 2 members of staff taking part. Action: HW will put sign up forms into staff trays. LB will update the newsletter to remind parents about EasyFundraising <table border="1" data-bbox="204 1563 1331 2042"> <tr> <th colspan="3">May 2026 – Winners</th></tr> <tr> <th colspan="3">Congratulations! – look out for a cheque in the post.</th></tr> <tr> <td>1st</td><td>Miss A Read</td><td>£50</td></tr> <tr> <td>2nd</td><td>Mrs K Hall</td><td>£40</td></tr> <tr> <td>3rd</td><td>Mrs V Dobson</td><td>£30</td></tr> <tr> <td>4th</td><td>Mrs J Jaskowska</td><td>£10</td></tr> <tr> <td>5th</td><td>Mr D Gopinath</td><td>£10</td></tr> <tr> <td>6th</td><td>Mr S Milward</td><td>£10</td></tr> </table>	May 2026 – Winners			Congratulations! – look out for a cheque in the post.			1 st	Miss A Read	£50	2 nd	Mrs K Hall	£40	3 rd	Mrs V Dobson	£30	4 th	Mrs J Jaskowska	£10	5 th	Mr D Gopinath	£10	6 th	Mr S Milward	£10	TS
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9.	AOB Dates of next meetings Tue 30 th June	SB
	AOB Replacement of New Officers Action: Each officer to provide a short summary of what they do – just a few bullet points MB will write a piece for the Head's letter about shortage of Officers The Cryptorian – online magazine of everything that's happened during the school year in every department – a short report and photos. We could have a PTA section – this is a flipbook on the school website, we could summarise events/200 club etc plus what we have spent the money on – trying to get it to go live by Founder's Day. MB will put something together. The flags have not been paid for. Steve will request the final cost from Becky.	
10.	Action Summary • SB will update the bid template to show the amount being bid for in both gross and net • HW will put sign up forms for the 200 Club into staff trays. • Each officer to provide a short summary of what they do – just a few bullet points • MB will write a piece for the Head's letter about shortage of Officers and prepare something to go in the Cryptorian • SS will request the final cost of the flags from RSB • MB will discuss Benevity website with Sarah Veal. • MB will send out a message to confirm who has the 2nd card reader/iPad. • SB will advertise the AGM • SB will collaborate with LB on creating a list of places where we should advertise events • HW will put together a yearly plan of events that the PTA is involved with, SB can assist • MB will look into maintenance of the PTA cupboards in the school kitchen	

Chair: Mike Byfield
 Secretary: Sharon Byfield
 Web: <http://www.cryptschool.org/association-aims/>

Vice Chair: Tracy Scott
 Treasurer: Steve Scott

Email: cspta@cryptschool.org

The Crypt School Association (known as The Crypt School Parent Teacher Association), Podsmead Road, Gloucester GL2 5AE
 The Crypt School Association is a registered charity dedicated to supporting the school, registration number 280200