



The Crypt School

Newsletter

December 2010

Dear Parents,

I wish you all a happy and restful Christmas season.

The main news item is to confirm that the Full Governing Body met on 6th December and passed a resolution agreeing to apply for Academy Status. Our application has been received by the DfE. It is estimated that it will take around a month to receive ministerial approval, and then another couple of months for the detailed documentation and legal work to be completed. We should therefore convert to become an Academy on either 1st March 2011 or 1st April 2011. I shall keep you informed of our progress.

There is one staffing change for the New Year. We say goodbye (again) to Miss J Lappin, who returned to help us out at short notice this term. We are very grateful indeed for her hard work and commitment this term. Mr J Philips joins us in January.

Jonathan Standen
Headmaster

EVENTS

Oliver!

The Drama and Music departments wish to thank all pupils, parents and friends who supported our production of "Oliver" in November and the preceding months. The performances revealed the hard work put in by so many to present an excellent show and we are very pleased with the end result. There were complimentary letters received from junior school pupils who were invited to see the first performance so there is every reason for us to feel pride in our achievements. We are all looking forward to the next event which will showcase our students' high levels of dramatic and musical abilities. Watch this space!

Mr. I. Hiscock & Mr. I. Griffiths



"Being a part of Oliver meant hard work, lots of commitment and overcoming nerves. However, all of the energy that we put in meant that we made new friends we wouldn't have normally made. It meant we felt a sense of achievement and found a new confidence in ourselves. Performing in, or supporting, Oliver was something that each one of us enjoyed and felt pride in doing. It was a pleasure to be a part of, and we are all relieved to have finally pulled off a spectacular performance receiving wonderful reviews." Jessica McNair Templeton & Louise Brown

MOvember

MOvember was a huge success with 10 members of staff taking part in growing a moustache to raise awareness and money for Prostate Cancer. It was a tremendous effort from all the staff which was finished off with a school 'shave off' in which students paid to come into the hall and vote for the best moustache before there was a race to shave off each moustache. Everyone involved in the charity event raised just over £120, a superb effort!! Mr. A. Bawden

Careers Fair – 26th January, 2011

A reminder to parents of students in years 9 – 13, that you are warmly invited to attend the Careers Fair on Wednesday, 26th January at lunchtime. There are over 25 universities / professions represented and it promises to be a wonderful opportunity for students and parents to gain valuable careers advice. Reminders will be sent home nearer the time. Mrs. K. Reynolds

Rowing Challenge

Wednesday 8th December saw the first charity sporting event of the year. The challenge was centred around 4 concept 2 rowing machines. 4 teams competed against each other over a 9 hour period. Each person rowed for a maximum of 10 minutes with each distance being recorded. The staff team started off with an early lead but was soon caught by the strong team of senior students. The year 9 and 10 team was performing consistently and the year 7 and 8 team were finding 10 minutes tough. It came down to a 2 team fight between the staff team and the senior students and went all the way to 5pm. The final results could not be closer with the senior students rowing 101,869 metres to the staff and girls team 99,064 metres. The year 9 and 10 team rowed 71,552 metres and the year 7 and 8 team rowed 59,647 metres. The challenge managed to raise £225 and will be spent on gym and fitness equipment. A great effort from all staff and students and a thoroughly enjoyable challenge. Andy Hart SSCo

CONGRATULATIONS

The Senior Team Maths Challenge took place on 2nd December at Wycliffe College in Stonehouse. Our team consisted of Chris Lange, Shaun Minnear, Ashe Morgan and Jon Madigan.

The team came 2nd out of the state schools competing (and were seventh overall) beating both Pates and Marling. An excellent result considering one of our students had been concussed the previous day, but was still keen to take part, and another missed half of the first round. Mrs. P. Bennett

Physics Olympiad

Chris Lange, Brad Pring and Luke Woodliffe recently took part in the Physics Olympiad. Congratulation to Chris who received a Silver Award, and Brad and Luke who both received commendations. Mr. K. Downes

NOTICES

Gifted & Talented Update

Teachers are currently in the process of nominating Year 12 pupils to be placed on the Gifted & Talented register. This is a crucial step towards ensuring that as a school we are doing everything possible to meet the needs of our most able students. Other provisions, which will be put in place after selecting the correct students, will be a mentoring scheme in which our Year 12 students will act as role models and mentor Gifted & Talented pupils within KS3. This is again another initiative to help raise performance but also support students in and outside of the classroom. Mr. A. Bawden

The LRC News

It is no idle boast that The Crypt School Library is now better stocked than at any other point in its almost 500 year history, some 17,000 items. The school's archives and antiquarian collection are also catalogued, some dating back nearly 300 years. This entire collection is all searchable from the Library link on the school's intranet, the catalogue has been completely upgraded and is now more user-friendly. Also on the same link is access to our collection of EBooks and PC guides. Please take a look.

The Library is becoming so busy now that from January students will need to book one of the 60 places that we have. Students will also be issued with a unique PIN so that they can access more services, such as reviewing and reserving books.

But am I content? Well, no! I know that there are gaps in our collection and am always looking for new resources and donations are always gratefully received. Many thanks to those parents who ordered from Scholastic this year, your generosity means the Library has obtained over thirty free books.

John Aston

Enrichment Challenge

As part of our continued efforts to create a positive learning environment at The Crypt School, we regularly evaluate current practice and strive to change and improve where appropriate. Last year working with a team of staff and liaising with the school council we have designed a new incentive, "The Crypt School Enrichment Challenge", to reward students for their contribution to the wider curriculum both in and outside of the school.

The Challenge is going to be piloted this academic year (starting this month) to year groups 8, 10 and 12. The Challenge can be found on pages 26 and 27 in your son's planner. The aim is to complete as many of the seven fields as possible. If your son completes all seven, he will then receive an award. Each time he completes one section, he can take his signed planner to the office to receive a raffle ticket for the PLP draw (which also gives him the equivalent of eight merits towards his house monthly totals).

A challenge can be signed off by a teacher/coach in school or by a coach/instructor outside school. However, the key to it being signed off is that they must have put 'sustained effort' into each challenge - please do not allow them to get it signed off by an outside person if they have only completed an event or activity as a 'one off'. We also stress that we do not want students taking part in activities without the correct parental authority or supervision, so only from organised events that take place and that you are aware of.

The aim of the Challenge is to not only to reward your son for the activities that he currently takes part in (either in or out of school), but also to encourage him to move out of his comfort zone and get involved with activities that he may have not tried in the past, and to hopefully improve his skill base and enjoyment of extra curricular activities. Mr. R. Biggs

Snow closure



If a particularly heavy downfall of snow does occur there may be the necessity to close the school. Should this happen, local radio stations will be notified of the closure.

The closure will also be notified on the school website : www.cryptschool.org
and Local Authority Website :
<http://www.glosclosedschools.com>

We would be grateful if you would check the above before telephoning the school.

Should the school close for more than one day work will be put on the school website for students to be working through.

VACANCY

MID-DAY SUPERVISOR
(Required as soon as possible)
Grade B (£12,312 fte)
1 ½ hours per day

If interested in the post please contact Mrs. Baldwin.

hbaldwin@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk



Gloucester Rugby in the Community

We would like to invite you to be part of an exciting new opportunity being offered by Gloucester Rugby Club.

The scheme offers parents the chance to purchase tickets at a discounted rate (10% reduction from the match ticket price). You can attend any home game in the Aviva Premiership, LV=Cup, or the European challenge Cup, even any 'A' game fixture. Tickets are available in all stands.

When ordering your tickets you must quote the school name, and our unique reference number : 11056524 and must be ordered 48 hours in advance.

Demand for tickets will vary depending on each fixture and those with high demand will be subject to availability. Unfortunately this scheme does not operate if ordering via the internet, only over the phone or in person.

The school will benefit by receiving 10% of all ticket sales over the season, which will be invested back into sport at the School.

We hope that you will enjoy the benefits of the school's association with Gloucester Rugby Club.

Having Trouble With Homework?

The school has a print version of World Book in the Reference Section of the Library. There is also an online version with four versions available: Kids, Students, and Advanced. It is completely up to date and fully citable.

It also gives access to news, EBooks, documents and a project planner.

This can all be accessed from:

<http://worldbookonline.com>

User name is **Crypt**

Password is **Library**

Lost Property

We have had lots and lots of lost property brought to Reception recently – from full PE kits, to pencil cases and trousers. Unfortunately because these items weren't named we were unable to return them to their owner. Please, please ensure that everything not physically attached to your son/daughter is named.