

12<sup>th</sup> April 2024



Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

I hope that term 5 has started strongly for all our students this week; for many, Wednesday's celebration of Eid was a wonderful and enjoyable community occasion.

The School received some good news over the break: our Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) bid for the upgrade and renovation of the main school hall was successful, with the central government granting the School nearly £500,000 to enable us to carry out the necessary work on that important area of the School. The main school hall is used for many activities: assemblies; exams of course, musical concerts and plays; careers activities, talks and other gatherings. The state of the hall is such that we have already had to close the stage area. The monies will be used to carry out a full repair of the external roof, to install new lighting and to replace internal ceilings; to undertake a complete redecoration of that space and we also hope to be able to update the stage sound and lighting systems as well. The work will commence following the end of the summer public exam season in early July and is aimed to be completed by November.

This week, year 10 students have commenced their internal examinations in the hall; an opportunity for them to experience what their actual GCSE exams will be like next year, and an opportunity to demonstrate their progress to date in their academic courses; I do hope that those exams are progressing well for year 10 students. Years 11 and 13 are of course working hard as they prepare for their public exams, which commence in May, with our other year groups also continuing with important academic work, whether that is students in year 9 preparing for the GCSE RS short course, or students in year 7 continuing with their first year studies and preparing for their in class end of year assessments, which start on the 13th of May.

I was delighted to learn from Mr Croft, that our two flying start challenge teams, performed brilliantly in this week's regional finals, with our teams coming first and third respectively. Well done indeed to all those involved in that engineering project.

As our students will know, two of our teachers will soon be departing on their maternity leave: Mrs Hayes (History and head of year 12), and Mrs Humphreys (maths). We wish them well as they look forward, together with their families, to welcoming new life into our world, and we look forward to hearing of their good news in due course. Their work and roles in school will be covered internally: Dr Lintott will take over from Mrs Humphreys as second in mathematics, and Miss Parkin will be our new head of year 12 from the beginning



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The Crypt School: a company limited by guarantee.  
Registered in England and Wales: Company No: 7489196

The Crypt School  
Educating students since 1539

of June; Mr Bevan (head of year 13) will take over the leadership of the current year 12 cohort, when his year 13 group go on study leave in early May. Miss Parkin's work in term 6 will focus on the preparation needed to ensure the smooth induction into the sixth form of our new year 12 cohort. Joining the School in June will be a new drama teacher, Mrs Crozier, who will work closely with head of department, Mr Roberts, to further strengthen our creative arts offer to our students. Mr Passmore, who has been acting head of biology this year, will become our permanent head of biology with immediate effect; congratulations to him on his appointment, which reflects his outstanding leadership of the biology department across this academic year.

As you know, from my earlier letter today, our outstanding Ofsted report was officially released today - it makes for really wonderful reading.

My continued best wishes to you all.



Nicholas Dyer  
Headmaster

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### ***School Dates***

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14<sup>th</sup> April – Year 12 Gold DofE Canoe & Navigation Day

15<sup>th</sup> April – Year 10 exams continue

16<sup>th</sup> April – CSPTA Meeting 6.30PM S Block all welcome

21<sup>st</sup> April – Year 10 Silver DofE Day

22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> April – GCSE Speaking Exams

22<sup>nd</sup> April – Year 12 UCAS Discovery Day Trip

23<sup>rd</sup> April – Year 12 Exams Start

25<sup>th</sup> April – GCSE PE Moderation

25<sup>th</sup> April – Junior Maths Challenge

26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> April – Year 10 Silver DofE Practice Expedition

2<sup>nd</sup> May – A Level Speaking Exams

7<sup>th</sup> May – Music Visit to Oxford University

8<sup>th</sup> May – Book Fair

9<sup>th</sup> May – GCSE Exams Start

10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> May PGL Netball Trip

13<sup>th</sup> May – A-Level Exams Start

17<sup>th</sup> May – Grand Final of the Flying Start Challenge

18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> May – Year 9 Bronze DofE Practice

21<sup>st</sup> May – Year 12 Geography Trip to Birmingham

22<sup>nd</sup> May – Year 10 Water Sports Trip

24<sup>th</sup> May – End of Term 5

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### ***Careers Talks***

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Next week will officially launch our Career Insight Talks with our Year 12 students. During terms 5 & 6 we will be hosting 20 different Insight talks spanning a range of different career areas from Psychology to Teaching and Civil Engineering to Degree Apprenticeships. The aim is for our students to hear from those who are working in these areas to help inspire and educate. Students will be asked to choose at least two talks to attend. The series forms part of our comprehensive careers programme for Year 12, which also involves the UCAS Discover Day on 22 April, Work Experience in July and our Employment and University Conference during the last week of term.

If any parent is able to help contribute to our careers programme by giving a short talk in lesson time (either remote or in person) we would love to hear from you. Please contact Mr Germaine, Careers Leader ([cgermaine@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:cgermaine@crypt.gloucs.sch.uk))



# Career Insights

As part of our Careers Programme we are delighted to announce our full range of Career Insight talks, which is being offered to Year 12

<u>Wednesday 8 May 2024</u>		<u>Wednesday 15 May 2024</u>	
<b>Entrepreneurship</b>	The Ideas Agency	<b>Psychology</b>	British Psychological Society
<b>Civil Engineering</b>		<b>Gap Year</b>	Project Trust
<b>Film Documentary</b>		<b>Wealth Management</b>	St James' Place
<b>Degree Apprenticeships</b>	Exeter University	<b>Cyber</b>	Launchpad
<b>Wednesday 22 May 2024</b>			
<b>Accounting</b>	Hazlewoods	<b>Software Engineer</b>	Microsoft
<b>Project Management</b>	Ward Williams	<b>Degree Apprenticeships</b>	Exeter University
<b>Architecture</b>	Robert Limbricks	<b>Teaching</b>	University of Gloucestershire
<b>Biomedical Science</b>	NHS	<b>Pharmaceutical</b>	Ipsen Biopharmaceuticals
<b>Wednesday 12 June 2024</b>			
<b>Curator</b>	Holst Victorian House	<b>Strength &amp; Conditioning</b>	The Athlete Academy
<b>Journalism</b>	University of Gloucestershire	<b>Law</b>	Crown Prosecution Service

## Other Dates:

- 8 & 9 July 2024 - University & Employment Conference
- 8 July 2024 - University & Employment Parents' Evening 7.00pm



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## ***Gloucestershire Young Photographer Competition***

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Congratulations to Amelia-Lily from 7RR - for her stunning photo submission to the Gloucestershire Young Photographer.

Her photo has been added to the audio-visual reel for the competition which will be available in a few weeks, and a certificate is on it's way too - huge well done Amelia-Lily, this is a great achievement.



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## PeD Term 5

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In PeD this term, students will be working with their teachers to explore a range of subject matter. External support is sign posted for each year group.

Y7 - To understand the importance of living in an equitable community & how to be a good citizen, abiding by those laws. The Equality Act 2010. The Kindness Project - ways to encourage kind behaviour in schools.

<https://crae.org.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/government-equalities-office>

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/gb/basics/happiness>

Y8 - To understand the rights of children. To consider how charities help us to have more meaningful lives, to understand the role of charities and know some jobs that exist within charities. To identify different types of racism and to evaluate ways we could reduce racism.

Investigate practical steps we can take to live a happier life and commit to personal actions to create more happiness, for ourselves and others as we work towards end of year assessments - keeping mentally and physically healthy.

<https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/>

<https://www.childline.org.uk>

<https://www.relate.org.uk>

<https://actionforhappiness.org/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/children-race-racism-racial-bullying/>

<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/blog/talking-your-children-about-racism>

Y9 - To understand why economic wellbeing is important, and how this will be useful in the future. To learn how to achieve this. The Bank of England and consumer choice.

<https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/education/education-resources>

Y10 - To understand the importance of respecting diversity and to assess the impact of media, social media and actions on people's attitudes around diversity. To be able to distinguish extremism from legitimate behaviours in a democracy. To demonstrate the ability to advise someone who is worried about another's behaviour and to be able to identify behaviours which contribute to community efforts to reduce the risk of

extremism. To understand the Equality Act 2010, why it is important and how it can be applied in different cases.

[www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

<http://www.report-it.org.uk/home>

Y11 - To develop knowledge of how Britain is ruled. To be able to debate a key political issue.

To explore whether citizenship is a right or a privilege. What are the benefits of being a British citizen? What responsibilities come with being a citizen?

<https://www.youngcitizens.org/>

Y12 - To understand the different types of car insurance for young drivers. To be able to purchase car insurance successfully. To understand the components of the driving theory test. To be aware of the dangers facing new drivers. To take steps to avoid those dangers.

<https://toptests.co.uk/>

<https://www.rospa.com/road-safety>

Y13 - An understanding of British values, the impact of the media and unconscious bias & the importance of affirming & celebrating diversity.

<https://www.stophateuk.org/>

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## *Library*

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Welcome back after the Easter holiday, I hope it was a restful and enjoyable break. Over the break I have been having a move around in the Junior library. This has proven to be very popular with the students enjoying the extra space the move around has given them.

Before – we had rows of bookshelves all in straight rows.







Now we have a more welcoming atmosphere in the library with spaces for students to study along with the opportunity to sit and relax reading. There are now stackable stools available for students to use and move around the library amongst the bookshelves.

Both student and teacher reactions have been very positive. This week we have been full every lunch break, which is very encouraging knowing that the students are enjoying the rearranged area.



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### ***CSPTA***

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The CSPTA (Crypt School Parent Teachers Association) will be meeting on Tuesday 16th April at 6.30pm in the sports block all are very welcome to join.

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### ***Duke of Edinburgh's Award***

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All three award sections have successfully completed their first training day in school for the expedition section. The Y12 Golds did a full certificated first aid course and started to think about their routes for their practice canoe expeditions. The Y10 Silvers completed enough first aid to ensure their safety on the hills or rivers for their expeditions, started to plan menus and think about kit. The Y9 Bronzes did some team building, basic first aid and learnt how to use a Trangia stove as well as what clothes they need and how much food to take.

This term the Y12s have a planning day on the 14th April at school again where they will finalise their routes, learn how to portage a canoe and check out all the new equipment they need for wild camping. Details were sent out via ParentPay on Tuesday.

There is also another training day on 21st April for the Y10s to do a Paddle sport Start canoe course or a Navigation course if they are walking and finalise their menus. Their practice expedition is the weekend after (26th-28th April) so they don't have time to forget it all!



Details for those will be sent out via ParentPay this week once we have confirmed the location (flooded rivers causing a few hiccups at the moment!).

The Y9s will be using their lunchtime DofE club sessions to ensure they can read a map, use a compass, have planned suitable menus and know what kit to take before their practice expedition on the 18th-19th May.

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### *Volunteering Opportunity*

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**Gloucestershire  
Wildlife Trust**



Are you aged between 13-17,  
interested in nature and want to  
contribute to making positive  
changes for nature and wildlife?



## Why not join the Youth Rangers?



**When?**  
Usually the third Saturday of each month  
from 12:30pm-4:30pm

**Where?**  
Robinswood Hill in Gloucester

**What?**  
Practical conservation; from scrub clearance  
to surveying, building bird boxes and habitat  
creation

**Why?**  
Learn about wildlife, conservation and gain new skills, meet new people, gain  
volunteering hours towards a qualification (e.g. Duke of Edinburgh award)

If you may be interested in finding out more, please visit  
<https://www.gloucestershirowildlifetrust.co.uk/youth-rangers> and register your interest!

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## ***Local Charity Appeal***

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### **Gloucestershire Bundles**

A Helping Hand for Local Families and Children

### **Can you help.....?**

We're really short on lots of sizes of clothes at the moment  
to fulfil referrals

We will be holding a clothes donation morning on  
**Sunday 28th of April 10-12**

All clothes 0-16years  
Coats 0-16years  
Sleepwear 0-16years ( no growbags/sleeping bags )  
All footwear up to adult size 9  
School uniform 0-16years  
Maternity clothes  
Teen wear - small adult sizes appropriate for teens  
Summer Hats

**Gloucestershire Bundles**

Unit 2, Whitworth Court, Baird Road Waterwells Gloucester GL2 2DG

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## ***Spring Concert***

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We are delighted to share with you the wonderful moments from our Spring Concert held on Thursday, March 21st. The evening was a celebration of musical diversity and talent, showcasing the hard work and dedication of our students.

The concert opened with the orchestra's performance of Mozart's timeless masterpiece, "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik," followed by Cantores Cryptienses, our school choir, who performed two contrasting pieces: Rutter's "For the Beauty of the Earth," and the lively "Chatanooga Choo Choo".



The rhythm intensified as the Samba Band, led by the dynamic Year 9 pupil Jai, infused the hall with pulsating beats and infectious energy. Young Voices captivated the audience with their contrasting performances of "Adiemus" and "A Million Dreams" from *The Greatest Showman*.

The evening featured outstanding solo performances by Erika on piano, Aleksia on violin, and Robin on flute, who mesmerized the audience with the beautiful piece "Hypnosis" by Ian Clarke. Simeon graced the stage with his piano performance, and Joshua B sang a soulful rendition of "Waving Through a Window" from the musical *Dear Evan Hansen*.

Our Brass Group treated the audience to classical masterpieces including Haydn's "Surprise Symphony" and Elgar's "Hope and Glory," while the Woodwind Group impressed with their performance of "Parade of the Sword Dance," showcasing precision and flair. The Jazz Band brought the first half of the concert to an exhilarating close with their dynamic performance, leaving the audience eagerly anticipating what was to come.



For the second half, the Acapella Choir captivated everyone with their rendition of the emotive "Lighten our Darkness" by L'Estrange. Furthermore, the Year 9 band's rendition of "Smells Like Teen Spirit" added a youthful energy and rock flair to the concert. A truly special moment occurred when the orchestra performed a unique piece composed by Year 10 pupils Aleksia and Erika, marking its premiere performance and leaving a lasting impression on all in attendance. As the concert drew to a close, the school choir performed their uplifting rendition of "Mr. Blue Sky". Special mention must be made of Sebastian B, a Year 7 pupil whose drumming added vibrancy and rhythm to both the choir and Young Voices performances, enhancing the overall experience for all. Our Spring Concert was a resounding success, showcasing the exceptional talent and dedication of our students. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all performers, teachers, and staff who contributed to this memorable evening, as well as to all parents, guardians, and friends who attended and supported the event.





# Special Jet Age Anniversary Event



**SATURDAY 27TH APRIL 2024**

April marks the 83rd anniversary of the first flight of Sir Frank Whittle's revolutionary jet engine in a Gloster E28/39 at the Gloster Aircraft Company airfield, Brockworth, in 1941.

On Saturday 27th April in the Community Learning Space we will mark the occasion with a series of special talks to allow visitors to learn about jet powered aviation and hear pilots' stories.

The Talks:

1030 – 1115 - Introduction by Jet Age Museum Patron, Ian Whittle (RAF Meteor and Boeing 747 pilot).

The Dawn of the Jet Age - The Whittle Jet is Airborne.

1130 – 1215 –

Gp Capt Laurie Hilditch (RAF Phantom and Test pilot) – Part 1: Fast Jet Test Pilot - The Boscombe Years.



1330 – 1415 -

Gp Capt Laurie Hilditch – Part 2: Fast Jet Fighter Pilot - The Mighty Toom!

1430 – 1515 - Capt John Tye – Flying Concorde.

*We will be joined by several other jet pilots who will be invited to take part in Q&A sessions and there will be jet related table displays including an opportunity to purchase John Tye's new book - Life of a Concorde Pilot.*

*Please support the event if you can.*

*It promises to be an interesting day.*

*Plus all the normal attractions of Jet Age Museum*

**Museum open 10am- 4pm**

**No Admission Charge**

*but all donations welcome to our all volunteer museum*

**Meteor Business Park, Cheltenham Road East, Glos GL2 9QL**