

22nd March 2024



Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

As we now reach the end of term 4, I wish all our students and staff a very pleasant break. Of course, for our exam candidates, the holiday is an important opportunity to revise for their public examinations due to take place in May, and for those in years 10 and 12 to do so also, as they have important internal exams to sit in term 5 too.

I would like to start by thanking those students in year 13 who have given up a considerable amount of time this past year, to act as school prefects and to serve as members of our sixth form student executive team. They have all been outstanding leaders of the sixth form and of the wider school body; in particular though, I would like to thank outgoing Head Boy - Sam Powell - and Head Girl - Genevieve Chukwuonye - for their outstanding leadership of that group, and of the wider student body.

At the final assembly today, I had the privilege of announcing our new student executive team, head boy and head girl for the academic year 2024-25; it was immensely difficult selecting just 15 students from year 12 to sit on that committee, which is charged with helping Mr Biggs (Director of Post 16 Education) and I to lead and manage the sixth form and wider school, as that year group has so many talented students in it. We are immensely fortunate in that regard, and I congratulate all who applied to be a member of that team, each of whom possess significant leadership skills and personal qualities and who embody the values and sense of pride that being a Cryptian involves. However, after much consideration and a detailed selection process, I am delighted to announce the following names, who will form our new Student Executive Team, 2024-25

Poppy Brenton
Thea Gooch
Albie Hastings
Maddison Lee
Lachlan Mackenzie
Jack Mitten
Bea Norwood
Derrick Osei
Naomi Peet
Olivia Perkins
Kai Potter
Manu Thomas
Elizabeth Tweneboa
William Thompson
Evie Warwick



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The Crypt School
Educating students since 1539

Congratulations in particular, to our new Head Boy - Jack Mitten - and new Head Girl - Elizabeth Tweneboa. I look forward to working with them all in terms 5 and 6 and across the next academic year.

The CSPTA held their AGM and monthly meeting in school on Tuesday, and it was really great to see new members of that group in attendance. I would like to thank outgoing Treasurer Steve Burn, outgoing CSPTA Secretary Sarah Riordan-Jones and Claire Richards for all their hard work over many years, during which the CSPTA has contributed significant sums of money to fund school improvements and have maintained their work in supporting many school events and acting as a forum for parental support of their children's education. Thank you to Claire Berry for remaining as Chair for another year, to Claire Gooch for remaining as Vice Chair, and to Steve Scott who will become the CSPTA's new Treasurer.

A busy and productive last week in school, with so much going on. Last week, Mrs Hargraves led a neurodiversity assembly, and this week activities and work has taken place in school to support neurodiversity week. On Wednesday, students studying German from across the school thoroughly enjoyed a German play in the main hall. That play also coincided with our open morning on Wednesday, which was very well attended indeed; my thanks to our year 7 speakers and many musicians who entertained our guests, and for everyone else who contributed to its success.

On Thursday, Crypt was represented at the Famelab final by year 9 student Bertie Travis, held at Roses Theatre, Tewkesbury. Bertie performed extremely well, but narrowly missed out on top three finish; however, very well done to him indeed on his work in this area. Thursday evening witnessed the Music Department Spring Concert, held in our main school hall. As always, it was a magnificent feast of music and singing, with students from across the school taking part - congratulations indeed to all involved. Today witnessed the Duke of Edinburgh Easter Egg Hunt fundraiser in school and of course the end of term.

Sport has featured prominently for many, as always, with fixtures ranging across many sports, including a netball tournament involving many of our year 10 girls.

Next week, many students from years 11 and 13 will attend school for our Easter Revision Clinics; my thanks to those teachers leading these important sessions.

We head then into the holiday break, but I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 8th of April.

My continued best wishes to you all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Dyer', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nicholas Dyer
Headmaster

School Dates

8th April – Term 5 Starts Week 2

9th April – Flying Start Challenge

10th - 19th April – Year 10 exams

16th April – CSPTA Meeting S Block all welcome

17th April – Sixth Form Webinar 5-6.30pm

22nd April – Year 12 UCAS Discovery Trip

23rd April - 3rd May – Year 12 Exams

25th April – Year 7 Parents Evening

25th April – Junior Maths Challenge

6th May – May Day Bank Holiday

CSPTA Raffle Winners

Thank you for taking part in the Easter Raffle. We raised a fantastic £712! Congratulations to our winners:

Y7 JM Finlo, Y8 JC Oliver, Y9 RR Daniel, Y10 WEH Riley, Y11 RR Ashley, Y12 MY James, Y13 EG Thomas



Preloved Uniform

The CSPTA would be grateful for any school uniform you no longer need. Uniform can be left with reception.

Year 10 and 12 Work Experience

Term 6 sees students in Year 10 and Year 12 take part in their Work Experience. Year 10 are out on **Wednesday 12 June** and Year 12 between **1 and 5 July**. For those who have not secured their placements, the Easter break is the ideal opportunity to finalise their placement. A reminder that once a placement is found, it should be added to Unifrog, under the placement tile. Students should simply complete the form and follow the instructions. Placements are due for completion by the end of **April**. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Germaine at school.

Sports Kit to be Returned

As you may be aware, the PE department lend students Crypt kit to wear when representing the school in rugby, netball and football. As we approach the end of term we have completed a stock take and are missing a considerable amount of school kit. At times and straight after a school match we understand that students might not be able to get changed and hand in the kit straight away, however it is expected that all school kit is returned as soon as possible.

Please can I ask that if your child has represented the school this term that you please check at home and ask them to return any kit which might not have been returned to the PE office. Unfortunately, we do not have the budget to continue to replace school kit and students will not be able to borrow school property again in the future if it continues.

History

Our Hidden Histories session today dovetailed with Neurodiversity awareness week. Students discussed the difficulty of identifying neurodiversity in history. They also researched & shared some of the important neurodiverse historical figures - including Alan Turing, Van Gogh & Thomas Jefferson - quite a range!

Famelab Academy Final

Today Bertie competed in the Gloucestershire Final of FameLab Academy. FameLab Academy is a fantastic science communication competition run by Cheltenham Science

Festival where Y9 students perform about any STEM topic of their choosing. He competed against 23 other schools in the county. Bertie stood on the stage of the Roses Theatre to deliver his talk "What would happen if tonight the Minions stole the Moon?" to a large audience. The courage and commitment Bertie has shown is exceptional. His speech was brilliantly executed, educational and entertaining. He really brought science to life!

Our School finalists also attended to cheer Bertie on and we were treated to talks on a range of STEM topics from "Poisonous Woodlands", "Why does time fly when you're having fun?" and the winning topic of "The problem with malnutrition". The winning speech was powerful and emotive. Well done, Bertie, we are all so proud of you!

Netball

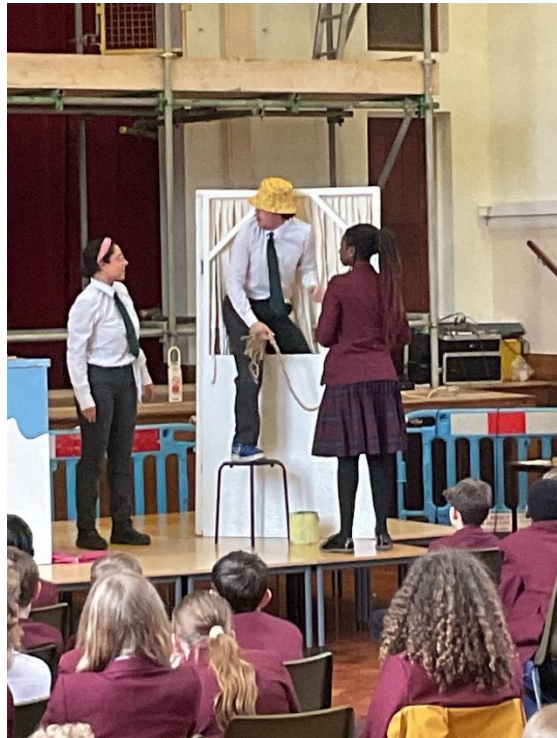
Congratulations to the U15 Netball team for their outstanding performance at the Maydent tournament this weekend. They played five matches against Stroud High, Denmark Road, Kings Gloucester, Cheltenham Ladies College and Pates. They won four out of five matches with convincing wins. The team worked well together with most of the girls playing out of their usual position due to players being unavailable. We are so proud of the U15 team and how much they have achieved this netball season. Well done!



Modern Foreign Languages

Last week and this week we held the French and German plays. The students really enjoyed them and were very much engaged.

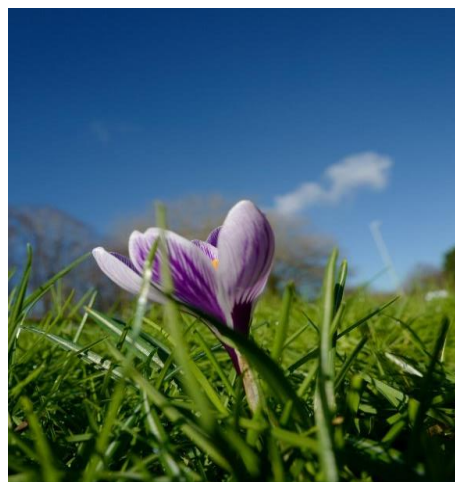
The French play took place on Thursday the 14.03.24 and it was called 'Le Cours d'Art'. It was a very engaging play and one of our students acted in it - she was great!



Young Photographer Competition

Huge thank you to the students who have entered the annual Gloucester Young Photographer competition. This countywide school competition is incredibly popular in all our neighbouring schools and I am pleased we have entries for our second year participating.

Best of luck!



Newent Choral and District Society

This Saturday, March 23rd at 7.30pm the wonderful Newent and District Choral Society will be putting on a fantastic concert. They will be singing some of the world's most loved Opera Choruses. There will also be some solo items too! It will be a lovely evening of beautiful singing. Everyone is cordially invited. The concert will be conducted by our Director of Music, Mr Whittaker. Come and join us!



Aspens Catering Position

Aspens have a position for a general assistant in the school canteen. Up to 16 hours Monday to Friday serving students, till work, food preparation and general cleaning. Please email the.crypt.school@aspens-services.com if you are interested.

Free Webinar

The advertisement has a dark purple background with teal and light purple circular patterns. At the top, it says 'Free Webinar'. Below that, a teal speech bubble contains the title 'A Parents Perspective: Empowering Autistic Children' and a photo of Sam Bailey. Underneath the photo, it says 'Presented by Sam Bailey, X Factor Winner & Influencer'. At the bottom, there is a calendar icon, the date '25.04.2024', a clock icon, and the time '10am'. A teal bar at the very bottom contains the registration link: 'Register your free place: witherslackgroup.co.uk/empowering-autistic-children'.