



to the Crypt School Association (CSA) – an essential part of the Crypt School community.



# 2013

## Crypt School Association News letter

Our purpose is to support the School where we are able to. This is mainly by providing some additional funding but we also help by running the Uniform Shop and some social events including providing refreshments at plays, concerts and meetings.

In recent years we have given the school over **£120,000**, including **£20,000** for the Science School bid and new Sports Hall, **£5,000** to transform the Dining Hall and in 2008 another **£25,000** on refurbishing the School Hall. A further **£10,000** was donated to buy equipment in the new John and Joan Cooke Centre and in 2010 **£10,000** was given to the Heads of Departments to spend on their departments – including a **£2,000** bowling machine for the Sports Department!! More recently we bought a brand new minibus. This cost over **£23,000** and is one of the biggest single items the CSA has ever bought.



Last year we gave another **£18,000**. This was for various items including an outdoor PA system; software for Chemistry, Physics and the Library, equipment for the new Food Tech and Sports Departments and a new canopy (**£10,000!**) for the quiet area helped by the boys themselves.



This year we have been asked for another **£15,000**. This includes **£5,000** for Drama and Music and **£4,500** for Physics and Chemistry. Sport has requested

nearly **£2,000** worth of software and equipment so we are already planning how to raise the money needed.

As you have a boy in the school (or a daughter in the “6<sup>th</sup> form”) you are automatically a member of the CSA so please help us support the school. Any help is really appreciated. You can find out how you can help by coming to one of our monthly meetings or contacting Kay Searle via e-mail on [csa@cryptschool.org](mailto:csa@cryptschool.org) or by leaving a message with the School Reception on 01452-530291. If you can't make any of the meetings then don't worry as minutes are taken and these are sent by e-mail to everyone who is on our database and by Parentmail. Check out our website [www.cryptschool.org/csa](http://www.cryptschool.org/csa) and see what else we do and how else you can help us.

### Activities and Events

The CSA also provides refreshments at Events hosted by the School. Although Lin and Emma have some helpers, they are always looking for new recruits to help cover the dozen or so functions there are each year.



Please contact Lin or Emma if you would be able to help [csa@cryptschool.org](mailto:csa@cryptschool.org)

## WANTED Volunteers

We are always looking for new volunteers so please get in touch even if it's just a couple of hours you can spare a month. Remember as students leave our school so we lose our parents.

### News in brief....

- CSA consider 2013 Wish List worth £15k
- *Over £1,200 earned by CSA at recent Car Boot Sales*
- Volunteers needed to help run remaining Car Boots
- *Uniform Day - 13<sup>th</sup> July 2013 when you can also meet members of the CSA. Refreshments will be available!*
- Angela Madigan takes on new role as Treasurer
- *Hoping to raise another £800 at next Non Uniform Day. Thank you for supporting this event...*

## Top tips for parents and students:

- To get 5 diagonal stripes on your tie the school will show you a video during induction.
- Insurance for pupils for school trips is covered by Local Authority Insurance
- Mobile telephone policy - if a mobile is seen in any lesson then it will be confiscated and given to the Head of Year for collection at the end of the week. If parents want their sons to have a phone with them for home time, we are happy to keep it safe in the office.
- Absence procedure - telephone in on first morning of absence and also write in homework diary
- Lost property - EVERYTHING must be named. Anything brought to the office named will be returned to the pupils. We advise students to check everywhere they have been, check lost property by the PE office.
- Pastoral care - the first point of contact for any concern is the Form Tutor, from there the Head of Year (Mr Sayers), then Assistant Head 14-19 (Mr. Courtenay). There is a counsellor who comes in to see students, which is usually on a referral basis by the Form Tutor or Head of Year; all sessions are confidential and voluntary.
- Security of valuables - these must not be left in your blazer during DT or PE. There is a valuables box for PE, or things can be handed into the office for safekeeping.
- Bike security - there is a new compound, and all bikes should be put in the compound and locked.
- Parental communication is via the planner, or letters home from Head of Year.
- There is a pay phone in reception; it is helpful for boys to have 20p on them to phone home in an emergency.
- When a pupil needs to leave school during the day, e.g. dentist, doctor, parents should write a note to the Form Tutor, who signs the note. The pupil collects a 'Permission to Leave' slip from the reception, and when they have to leave they show the letter and slip to the subject teacher, who signs it, they then go to reception to be signed out. No student should ever leave the school site without first signing out.
- Reception does have some money to 'lend' to students, in case they lose or forget lunch or bus money. We ask that this money is repaid the following day. If students do not repay debts, they get blacklisted and we won't lend them any more!!



## Ideas for Fundraising?

Please bring us your ideas for fundraising – we're always open to suggestions and assuming we have enough support we'll try just about anything... You can e-mail them to us at [csa@cryptschool.org](mailto:csa@cryptschool.org) or leave a note at Reception - better still come along to one of the monthly meetings. Also, how would you like to see us spend the money we/you help raise...?



## Diary Matters

Administration – 2013/14

Dates for CSA 2013 Meetings are:-

Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July,
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December

2014 Meetings will be on:-

Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March (AGM)
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July

These will be shown on the website as soon as possible

### Car Boot Sales – Sundays

30<sup>th</sup> June, 14<sup>th</sup> July, 11<sup>th</sup> August, 15<sup>th</sup> September & 6<sup>th</sup> Oct (reserve date for late cancellation)

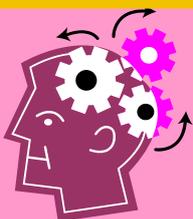
Also coming up –

- 2013 Non Uniform Day
- 2013 Cheese and Wine Night
- 2014 Quiz Night
- Annual Cake Sale

Please bring along your ideas..

## QUIZ NIGHT

Great fun for all the family and the first opportunity for new parents and boys to have a get together and compare notes after the first few weeks at school. Loads of banter with the Quiz Master dishing out 20p fines for the worst offences!?! A fun night with nearly £400 added to the CSA fund.



Next Quiz Night – January/February 2014 - Date tbc

**AGM** In February Will Fair was re-elected Chairman, Kalvyn Griffiths vice chairman and Chris Allen Treasurer. The role of secretary was left vacant after Catherine Wynn decided to step down. Kay Searle agreed to help out until a suitable person could be found.

Will Fair addressed the committee and thanked everyone for their support, especially Cath our outgoing secretary. Also Donna Burchett - Uniform Shop, Lin Cheveralls - Events, Helen Hartery-Brown - 200 Club and Rob Hunt - Car Boot Sales who said he was praying for a drier Summer!!

*Feedback and request from one of exciting students!!*

**Mindstorms** These Mindstorms projects have been fantastic learning experiences for me and many other Crypt students as they are great fun and offer us an opportunity for various enrichment activities and challenges.

The first time I used them was in an enrichment day for the Robotics Club. Then that evening we were able to show off our skills and programs using the robots at the Year 6 Open Evening, including the ball shooter accessory and the ultra-sensor!!

Earlier this term, I was also included in the STEM GE Aviation Challenge with Simon and the Mindstorms. This challenge meant creating a system with the Mindstorm that could move around a line from the starting box to a tower 50cm high (which we had to construct ourselves) before making a light flash and raising a flag at least 40cm off the ground. With the advantage of my familiarity with the software and my group's expert creation of the tower, we were able to win this Challenge Day despite one of the team having to leave for two hours for an "A" level Chinese exam! This success means we now go forward to the GE Aviation Engineering County Finals!



This success is amazing when you think the computers we use are not really designed for this sort of work as we have to use trial and error to find correct angles for turning and connecting the correct ports. All the teams also had difficulty with the software, including one group whose software could not be found on their computer shortly before the systems were judged.

As I appreciate the CSA kindly donated the £2,000 Mr Downes needed to buy the robotic units in 2012 an enhanced programming computer (or even two!!!) costing about £1,400 specifically for these Mindstorm units would be really beneficial towards the Finals and all our further projects.

Many thanks for considering this request.

Jude Hunt

Year 9

*PS Perhaps some of the money raised at the Crypt Car Boot Sales my dad (Rob) organises and which I help with most Sundays could be put towards this request!!*

## 200 CLUB



The Crypt 200 Club is drawn monthly and is open to anyone who purchases numbers. It particularly suits parents who want to support the CSA but live just too far away to help out at sales and functions.

Numbers cost £1 each and there is no restriction on how many you can buy. The monthly prizes are currently £50, £30 & £20. We normally collect the entry fees through Standing Order and a form is available at [www.cryptschool.org/csa/200club](http://www.cryptschool.org/csa/200club). Just complete and return the form to us and our Helen will then do the rest. If you prefer we can accept payments for 12 months in advance by cheque or cash. Draws are made each month **at** our committee meetings **and** winners are notified by post.

More good news - Helen and her team raise about £2,000 a year which is fantastic - and remember - all money raised goes to benefit the students.

## Cheese and Wine Evening

This was a great success and was well attended with both ourselves (the CSA) and the staff present able to help with any questions new parents had.

Our Chairman Will Fair explained that he had seen his son grow in maturity and confidence since entering the 6<sup>th</sup> form. However, he also remembered the early days how new and confusing everything was and how he found being involved with the CSA helped as he gained a much better insight into the way the school was run, its future plans and he also got to know the headmaster and teachers a bit better!!? He therefore urged parents to get involved through standing for election, joining the 200 Club, helping Lin and her team do teas and coffees or Rob and his team run the car boot sales. Alternatively Donna was always looking for help in the Uniform Shop.

To everyone's surprise a raffle ticket was GIVEN to each parent as they arrived. Then at the end of the evening the draw was made for a bottle of fizz, chocs and rugby shirts..



New Year 7 parents clutching all their prizes!!

## Wheelbarrow Race

Later this year we will be running a wheelbarrow race around the school grounds. There will be various races over both long and short courses so athletes can choose the class that best suits their team. Of course we will need to handicap some teams (we might let their tyres down!) to make it fair. We expect to have some obstacles too and areas where teams might be ambushed by spectators. Watch this space for further details.

## UNIFORM SHOP



The School Uniform Shop is run by The CSA let by Donna and Amanda and it sells the official school uniform.

Located within the school, the shop is open from 1pm - 2pm every Monday (term time only).

If you cannot make it to the shop, then please download and complete an order form from our website and send it with your payment to the School Office with cheques payable to 'The Crypt School'

Orders can be collected from the School Office.

For further details please contact Donna or Amanda via e-mail at [csa@cryptschool.org](mailto:csa@cryptschool.org)

**Thank you!!** We would like to thank everyone for their support this last year – Cath Wynn, Philippa Overthrow and Chris Allen who have all recently stepped down from running various sections of our CSA. Also Kay who is - for the time being – taking notes again!!

NCPTA perks – other members who've helped are now benefitting from perks offered by the NCPTA including substantial discounts to theme parks and similar days out. For further details contact the committee or go to [www.ptalocal.co.uk](http://www.ptalocal.co.uk) and check it out

# WANTED Secretary

We need a new secretary to help run the CSA. There isn't much to do but the post does offer a real opportunity to make a difference. So if you think you might be able to help please get in touch or come along to the next meeting to see what's involved.  
*We can't do this on our own..*

**CAR BOOT SALES** Our Car Boot Sales are one of the most popular ones in Gloucester and one of our biggest earners raising **£3 - 4,000** each year. Sales are run by our un-paid CSA team of volunteers with every penny raised coming back to support the school.



Buyers searching for another bargain in the sunshine..

Please come and help with traffic management as it takes about 12 staff to run a sale successfully.

- Gates open at 8.00 am.
- Charges: Cars £5; trailers £3; vans £10.
- **FREE** parking for buyers. Disabled parking available.

**Sorry - strictly no Traders or Dogs.**

Remaining dates for 2013 are: -

30<sup>th</sup> June            14<sup>th</sup> July  
11<sup>th</sup> August        15<sup>th</sup> September &  
6<sup>th</sup> Oct (reserve date for late cancellation)

## Crypt School Association (CSA) - Parents, Teachers and Friends

The Crypt School, Podsmead Road, Gloucester, GL2 5AE - [csa@cryptschool.org](mailto:csa@cryptschool.org)

Chairman: Will Fair (Y12) Vice Chairman: Kalvyn Griffiths (Y12 & Y7) Treasurer: Angela Madigan (Y8) Secretary: Vacant