



From the Headteacher - 8 November

I hope that you had an enjoyable half term break. The new term has already been very busy, with our Year 12 students completing their November Examinations, Year 7 pupils attending Skills Zone trips, multiple sports fixtures and *We Will Rock You* rehearsals, as well as preparations for our whole-school Remembrance Assembly on Monday.

Parent Survey by Kirkland Rowell

A reminder that parents are invited to complete our upcoming Parent Survey, the link for which will be emailed on Monday 11 November. We would be most grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete and submit the survey. We value your feedback and opinions highly, and your responses will feed into planning for the next academic year.

German Exchange

This week, we welcome pupils from the *Otto Hahn Gymnasium*, who arrived on Wednesday for the Gloucester leg of the German Exchange. Our guests joined their Year 10 hosts for Period 1 and 2 lessons on Thursday and will enjoy a number of activities during their stay, including a barn dance tonight, as well as trips to Bristol, Cheltenham and the historic sites of Gloucester. My sincere thanks go to the German Department and to our host families for all their work in organising and supporting the exchange.

Business Competition

On Wednesday, Mrs Manning (Head of Business Studies and Careers) took 15 of our Year 13 Business students to the introductory launch of the University of Gloucestershire Business Competition at the Oxstalls campus. Teams will now formulate business ideas and pitch the proposals in-school, with the winners returning to the University for the county finals on 11 December. We wish them all the best for the competition.

Charity Rugby Match

The First XV team will play Cheltenham College at Kingsholm Stadium, home of Gloucester RFC, on Thursday 21 November. Proceeds will go to Gloucestershire Young Carers (GYC), who offer support services to over a thousand local young carers each year.

The match will kick off at 7.30pm, with The College Prep vs STRS U13 teams playing as a curtain raiser from 5pm. Last year, the event raised approximately £12,000 for GYC. As I am sure you appreciate, Kingsholm is a large stadium, and it would be great to see as many supporters as possible for both the teams and the charity on 21 November.

Tickets are £7.50 each and can be bought via the link below; on sale from 5pm this evening.

www.ticketsource.co.uk/cheltenham-college.

Coats

With the weather turning a little colder, you may wish to ensure your son or daughter starts bringing a coat to school. Coats may be worn during lesson transitions, as long as all other uniform is correct, including wearing a blazer underneath. Coats should, of course, be taken off in classrooms and when not moving around the School.

Elmleaze Road Closure 27 November

A reminder that the highways department at Gloucestershire County Council has notified us of its planned closure of a neighbouring road, Elmleaze, for resurfacing work. The closure is expected to last for four days (excluding weekends), between 9.00am and 3.00pm from Wednesday 27 November until Monday 2 December 2024.

Diversion routes will be signposted, and we have been informed that dates may change at short notice. As things stand, with our upcoming INSET days on Friday 29 November and Monday 2 December (when the School will be closed to pupils), this work may only impact two school days. Further information about this scheme can be found at:

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/resurfacing

Train to Teach

Our partners at Odyssey Teaching School Hub are running a secondary teacher training taster day on Monday 18 November at Pate's Grammar School in Cheltenham. It is an excellent opportunity to explore how to get into teaching, the routes available, funding and how to apply for training in Gloucestershire. The event is aimed at career changers as well as recent graduates. If you are interested, or know of anyone who might be, please use the link below for further information:

[Odyssey website](#)

PTFA Quiz and Pudding Night

Tickets are now on sale for the PTFA Quiz and Pudding Night on Friday 22 November in the main hall. Doors open at 7pm and the quiz kicks-off at 7.30pm. Teams of six can enter, but smaller teams can join forces on the night, so don't be put off if you can't raise a full team beforehand.

Visit the [PTFA shop](#) to buy tickets, £7.50 per person.

Christmas Events

Whilst it is probably still too early to mention Christmas, a reminder that our annual and highly popular *Jazz Night* takes place at 6pm on Thursday 5 December in the main hall. Tickets will go on sale online shortly; please do look out for an announcement on our website and social media channels.

Our Christmas Carol Service will take place on at 6pm on Thursday 19 December at Holy Trinity Church, Longlevens. Tickets are not required for the event; all members of the School community are welcome to join us.

Finally, well done to the U16A Badminton team, who won against Clifton College 4-2 before half term, in Round 2 of the area cup. Congratulations also to Sophie in Year 12 for her winning entry in the Drama and Art House Competition, designing the graffiti that will be used as part of our production of *We Will Rock You* next February. You can see her efforts on the news page of the School website, or on our Facebook and Instagram accounts.

[Website](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

Best wishes



Matthew Lynch

HEADTEACHER

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