



From the Headteacher - 22 November

Year 11 Mock Interview Day

A huge thank you to the alumni and parents who joined us for the Year 11 mock interview day on Thursday. Every pupil in Year 11 had an interview with one of our visitors, who brought a huge wealth of experience across a range of industries and professions. This is always incredibly useful for our Year 11 students, as they start to think about their higher education and career choices. Thanks also go to Mrs Manning (Head of Careers) for organising the event, which gives our pupils a bespoke opportunity to meet and speak with employers and employees in line with the Gatsby Benchmarks (a framework for good career guidance in secondary schools and colleges).

Student Council

The first round of our Student Council process is well underway, with multiple opportunities for pupils' views and suggestions to be put forward at form, year group and Key Stage level. So far, discussions have been very productive, and I am grateful to all pupils who have put themselves forward to represent their form or year group as a *School Council Rep*, as well as to our Year 13 Student Leaders for co-ordinating this process. We hope to have actioned as many suggestions as possible by the end of term and will seek to provide updates on this to pupils in due course.

White Ribbon Day

As you may be aware, Monday 25 November is National White Ribbon Day, which aims to raise awareness of the need to address the attitudes and behaviours that contribute to violence against women. As part of our support of this important message, at lunchtime on Tuesday 26 November (the day the Society usually meets) the School's Female Lead Society will be running cake sales in the Sports Hall corridor by the changing rooms and in the Sixth Form lobby to fundraise for the charity.

Saturday Fixture Parking

It has been great to see so many parents at home rugby matches over the last few weeks. If you drive to any of our weekend fixtures, a reminder that the best place to park is on the tennis courts, which have plenty of spaces with easy access to pitches. Please enter and exit through Gate 1.

Weather

Having had some snow earlier in the week, a reminder that should the School need to close due to adverse weather conditions, I (or another member of the Senior Leadership Team) will send an email to all parents as soon as possible, with a notice appearing on the homepage of the School website at the same time. We will also inform Gloucestershire County Council, who will post details on their website at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/closures.

Kirkland Rowell Parent Survey

A reminder that the parent survey is open until Friday 29 November; we would be most grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete it. I would like to thank parents who promptly identified the small glitch in the survey when it was initially sent out; the company has apologised for this error, and it should now be rectified.

The link and password to log in to the survey are in the email I sent to all parents on Monday 11 November, and are also found below:

[Parent Survey](#)

Password: STR6729Pa

Thank you once again for taking the time to offer your views.

Senior Debate Team

Congratulations to members of the Senior Debate Team who won the first round of the English Speaking Union Debates last week, competing against four other schools in the main hall. The team put in an excellent performance, proposing the motion: "The house would introduce a four-day school week". Their group will now progress to the next round in January.

Rugby

Yesterday afternoon there were 14 games of rugby played against Cheltenham College, with some fantastic results. The 2nd XV and 3rd XV defeated Cheltenham College 19-7 and 17-10 respectively in two excellent games of rugby. The U14Cs also took a dramatic victory 35-34.

In the evening at Kingsholm Stadium, the U13A, B and C teams played a curtain raiser before the 1st XV game, with almost 50 pupils representing the School. The boys played exceptionally well, with the U13As winning 25-10 against the Prep School. In the 1st XV match, players worked hard to recover from a 17-0 deficit, to lead College 28-27 with 15 minutes to go, but three late tries from Cheltenham saw the opposition take victory on the night, 44-28. Despite this, the team should be very proud of their performance on the pitch.

Well done to everyone who took part yesterday, it was a great occasion for players, staff, parents and our supporters. All the money raised goes to a worthwhile charity, Gloucestershire Young Carers.

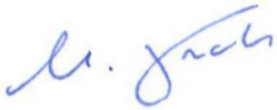
Netball

Huge congratulations go to the 1st VII Netball team who travelled to Bristol this week to play Redmaids' High School in round 3 of the Sisters 'n' Sport Shield. It was a tough game, but they won 38-35 and are through to the quarter-finals as a result; the team are certainly having an incredible season.

Upcoming Dates

- This evening (Friday 22 November) – **PTFA Quiz and Pudding Evening** – 7.00pm, in the School Hall – tickets are available until 5.00pm through the [PTFA shop](#).
- Friday 29 and Monday 2 December – **INSET days**; School closed to pupils.
- Thursday 5 December – **Jazz Night** in the School Hall at 6.00pm; tickets can be purchased via: [Buy tickets online](#)
- Thursday 19 December – **Carol Service** at Holy Trinity Church, Longlevens at 6.00pm. No need to book tickets, all welcome.

Best wishes



Matthew Lynch

HEADTEACHER

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