



## CLAIRES COURT SENIOR GIRLS

# Weekly Bulletin

**Friday 13 October 2023 Autumn Term Week 6**

### Principal's Blog

Please do read Mr Wilding's blog '[A Principled View](#)'.

## FROM THE OFFICE

**PTA FIREWORKS Saturday 14 October 5pm - 9pm**

**PTA FIREWORK AND HALLOWEEN SPECTACULAR!**

**Saturday 14 October, 5pm-9pm  
at Claire's Court Juniors**

**Online Ticket Price (at [ccpta.org.uk](http://ccpta.org.uk))**  
Adult: £9 Child: £5 Family (2 adults, 2 children): £25

**On the Gate Ticket Price**  
Adult: £10 Child: £6 Family (2 adults, 2 children): £30

Ticket includes one burger or one hotdog  
Vegetarian burger available

CCSBC Sponsored Ergo and raffle  
Slideshows & stalls by Year 10 & Year 11

Pumpkin carving competition  
Bring your spooktacular entry on the night  
Prize for best pumpkin!

Online ticket on sale at [ccpta.org.uk](http://ccpta.org.uk) and available until 9/10/23. Tickets bought on the gate do not guarantee food.  
Strictly no dogs allowed.

Bar opens at 3.30pm for those coming to watch the Wales vs Argentina rugby, with the main gate opening at 5pm when stalls etc. will be up and running.

If you have purchased tickets in advance THANK YOU & these will have come home with your (oldest) child today or yesterday, so there is no need for you to queue at the gate, just show your wristband for quick entry. To ensure food is available may we kindly recommend you get this prior to 6.30pm.

If you haven't purchased yet, tickets will be available on the gate on the night (card payment accepted) although you will not be able to access food until 6.30pm.

### **COACH TRANSPORT w/c 16 October only**

As previously confirmed in this [letter](#), with the closure of Cookham Bridge from 16 October, we will be running all coaches (with the exception of Twyford and Windsor) at the earlier time of 4.15pm departing Senior Girls (College Special, Holmer Green) with the onward links homeward bound from Senior Boys at 4.30pm to allow for increased road congestion and thereby ensuring the day is not too long for our pupils and drivers.

All activities will continue to operate with the obligation for parents to collect from school if their specific school-home bus service is running early. Please note there are no changes to the school day timings or timings for activities this week.

### **TRANSPORT SCHEDULE after half term & changes to school day timings**

After half term, the school day will finish ten minutes earlier at 3.50pm for all Senior Girls and Sixth Form, with activities starting at 4pm and ending at 4.45pm. Students/pupils can be collected at these earlier times, or if parents are unable to collect until later, children will be supervised at school. Those on coaches home will be transferred at 4.50pm for onward coaches at Senior Boys.

The Holmer Green (College Special) coach will depart from College Avenue at 5.05pm. All other coaches, apart from the Twyford coach, will depart Senior Boys at 5.05pm Mondays to Thursdays and 4.30pm on Fridays and the last week of term. The Twyford coach will complete the late after activity link from Juniors to College and then to Senior Boys for the local pick-up families, and therefore will leave Senior Boys around 5.15pm.

There are some specific arrangements for individual passengers on the routes which Vectare will communicate directly to the families involved. These include for example, waiting on the other side of the road on the Bourne End pick-ups as the coaches are travelling out from Bourne End to the Marlow by-pass. Finlan Travel are collecting our Cookham passengers in the morning, and our own minibus drivers taking them home in the evening. This will be further explained in communication from Vectare.

Those pupils needing to wait at Senior Boys may of course do so, and we will look after them as usual from 5pm until parents collect circa 5.30pm Monday to Thursday and 4.30pm on Fridays.

We would like to reassure parents that each week we will review the arrangements in the light of the emerging traffic situation and adjust as best we can. We thank you in advance for your support whilst we adapt to this. Please send any feedback or concerns to Vectare who manage all our school transport, on [contact@vectare.co.uk](mailto:contact@vectare.co.uk)

### **COPAS TURKEYS**



Yes it is VERY early! However, Copas is a great local company and alumni of the school and they are offering their PTA cashback scheme again this year. Our PTA can earn up to £10 per turkey, just add "PTA Turkey Cashback" to the basket when

you place your order.

<https://www.copasturkeys.co.uk/our-shop/christmas-2023/>

### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD - National Collection Week 13-20 November**

We have decided to bring back Operation Christmas Child, a project of the Samaritans which aims to provide shoeboxes filled with toys, toiletries and school supplies to children affected by war, poverty, famine all over the world. We ask that your daughters can create a shoebox and bring it into school on the 13 - 20 November. Here is a link to what can and cannot be included:

<https://cdn.samaritans-purse.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Gift-Suggestions-and-FAQs-2022-2.pdf>

### **CATENIANS ANNUAL MUSICAL EVENING - Saturday 11 November**

Maidenhead Catenians invite you to their [Annual Musical Evening](#) 7.30pm Saturday 11 November 2023 to be held at Claires Court School College Avenue, SL6 6AW. The evening features four professional Opera performers singing a selection of operatic arias followed by a lighter medley of non-classical popular songs. The performers have performed with various British companies including the ENO, WNO and Opera North as well as foreign opera companies. The accompanist, Janet Haney, has performed with such singers as Dame Kiri Te Kanawa. The hall gives an intimate setting, allowing for a wonderful rapport between the singers and the audience. Please contact Jonathan Holder on [manorcott@outlook.com](mailto:manorcott@outlook.com) to purchase tickets priced £25.00 per person.

### **CHRISTMAS FAIR CLAIRES COURT JUNIOR SCHOOL**

#### **Thursday 16 November \*SAVE THE DATE\***

This is being held from 6:30 - 9pm at our Junior Sports Hall (SL6 44Q). Please come along and feel free to bring a friend with you! We'll be serving mince pies and mulled wine while you shop.

### **HELLO TO OUR AXOLOTL - "I need a name" Competition**



Last Thursday we welcomed a Leucistic Axolotl, *Ambystoma mexicanum*, to the Senior Girls Science Department. The axolotl has settled in well to its new environment, with special thanks to the PTA for providing the tank and filter. Our axolotl has been happily swimming around observing Biology lessons for over a week, but does not yet have a name. We are inviting all Senior Girls to help us choose a name by entering a competition. If you would like to enter, please note down a name and an explanation as to why you have chosen that name and submit your entry to the Science Department Office by Friday 10 November. *Please note it is currently too early to determine our axolotl's gender.*

# FORTHCOMING DIARY DATES

## ALL YEAR GROUPS

### YEAR 7 - YEAR 11 ONLY

#### **Flu Vaccinations - Thursday 16 November**

Don't forget to complete the [electronic consent form](#) either **providing** or **withholding consent** using school code **BK110153G** by **Friday 20 October**. Further information can be found in the NHS Berkshire Health letter [here](#).

### YEAR 9 ONLY

#### **Geography Trip to Kew Gardens - Tuesday 17 October**

A reminder about the [Year 9 Geography trip to Kew Gardens](#) taking place within the school day on Tuesday 17 October (normal drop off / pick up arrangements apply). A £14.50 payment is required via the [Payment Portal](#) to cover the cost of transport and booking fee.

### YEAR 10 ONLY

#### **G10 Parents Evening - Thursday 19 October 6pm-8pm - Sports Hall**

Your daughter has now been given access to the appointment sheet and will start to make the timed appointments for you to meet with her subject teachers.

### YEAR 11 ONLY

#### **Parent Workshop - Monday 16 October 6pm-7pm**

A reminder about the Year 11 Parent Workshop we are holding to help you understand how best to support your daughter through her GCSE year. We will cover revision techniques; the study environment; time management; revision timetables and academic monitoring. If you would like to attend, please complete [this form here](#) **today, Friday 13 October**.

#### **Mock Exams w/c 20 November - Friday 1 December**

Please find the Year 11 Mock Examinations [timetable](#) along with the [Rules and Regulations Booklet](#) containing important information which we kindly ask that you read carefully and retain for future reference for the summer GCSE examinations.

## REMINDERS

### CHROMEBOOKS

Please find our [Chromebook Provision and Policy](#) as a reminder that pupils and parents are responsible for the chromebook that your daughter has been allocated, including any repairs/replacement due to damage/loss. Should you require the school to source you a new chromebook please email your daughter's form tutor to authorise the cost of approx. £250 being added to your fee invoice. If you decide to purchase your own replacement **chromebook** (please note other platforms/devices are not permitted in school e.g. laptops, apple as they are not compatible with our systems), you will need the Claires Court Google licence added to the chromebook at a cost of £35, again to be authorised by emailing your daughter's form tutor.

### **Clares Court SchoolTV**

Please take a look at [Clares Court SchoolTV](#), a wellbeing resource to support you in the challenges relating to modern-day parenting. It aims to help build relationships, foster connections, enable understanding and break down barriers to navigate a pathway towards better mental health and wellbeing for young people. It can assist in starting conversations on topics that are sometimes awkward or difficult to tackle.

### **NUT FREE SCHOOL**

Can we please remind you that we are a **nut free zone** (this includes nut related products like Nutella or pesto). We do have both children and staff on site that have severe allergic reactions to these. Thank you.

### **PARKING, DROP OFF, PICK UP**

Please may we ask our parents to be mindful where they are parking and to avoid blocking local residents driveways and on yellow lines/zig zags both inside and outside of the school grounds. The coach bay is reserved for school coach transport, emergency vehicles and for delivery vans unloading throughout the school day.

### **TRANSPORT**

For regular or ad hoc bookings please visit [Vectare](#) where you will find information on routes, costs and how to book. Any questions please contact vectare in the first via [clairescourt@vectare.co.uk](mailto:clairescourt@vectare.co.uk).

### **TERM TIME ABSENCE**

Please see our [Attendance and Holidays in Term Time Policy](#) noting that absence for holidays is not encouraged during term time and will not normally be authorised for the first or last week of any term. If you do wish the headteacher to review a request please complete the holiday request form [here](#).

### **MEDICAL/DENTAL APPOINTMENTS**

Please notify the school office at least 24 hours prior to the appointment where possible via email to [seniorgirls@clairescourt.com](mailto:seniorgirls@clairescourt.com) we can then inform teachers ahead of any lessons that your daughter may be absent from. We would also ask where possible that appointments are made outside of school hours or during school holidays.

### **LEAVING SCHOOL / RETURNING TO SCHOOL DURING THE SCHOOL DAY**

If you are collecting your daughter for an appointment during the school day, she should wait in reception at the allotted time. We do require parents/guardians to collect and sign your daughter out of school - we will not let a pupil leave school on their own to go to an appointment. Pupils are not permitted to wait outside or use their phones in reception. When your daughter returns to school, she must sign in at reception before going to lessons so that we know she is back in school.

### **SICKNESS ABSENCE**

Please report any sickness absence to the school office before 9.30am on each day of sickness either by telephoning 01628 327500 or by email to [seniorgirls@clairescourt.com](mailto:seniorgirls@clairescourt.com)

### **MEDICATION**

Any medication must be handed into the school accompanied with the

[CC Administration of Medicine Request Form](#) for nurses to administer.

**SCHOOL CALENDAR**

Please remember to check our [online school calendar](#) to see what is happening throughout the term.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.