



**CLAIRE'S COURT**  
**SENIOR GIRLS**

# Weekly Bulletin

**Friday 20 October 2023 Autumn Term Week 7**

## **Principal's Blog**

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

## **FROM THE OFFICE**

### **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 have communicated 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 has been 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.

In the morning the West Wycombe/Marlow, Lacey Green, Great Missenden and Amersham routes will continue to stop at College Avenue first (to drop the Senior Girls and Sixth Form students) and then continue onto Senior Boys.

## HALLOWEEN INFORMATION

We have been asked by our Police Liaison Officer at the Thames Valley Police to share the following information with parents and pupils about Halloween to assist in keeping our children safe.

- [Information leaflet](#)
- [Poster](#)

## PTA NEARLY NEW SALE - Tuesday 7 November

The PTA are holding their next nearly new sale after October half term on **Tuesday 7 November** from **8.30am-9.15am** at Senior Girls on the Hall Stage. The entrance is via the lower car park (as if going to the swimming pool). You will see a black door on the side of the building with a short staircase leading directly to the stage area. Please do not use the Atrium or School Office entrance as they are quite busy with pupils, staff and deliveries arriving. All payments are to be made by card.

## 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.

## INTERNET SAFETY PARENT TALK

Thank you to the parents that supported this talk by coming to listen to Paul Hay last week. Please find the shared [slides](#) from the evening. Should you wish to contact Paul his email is [paul.hay@pclstraining.com](mailto:paul.hay@pclstraining.com) and he also shared this useful link [www.pclstraining.com/links](http://www.pclstraining.com/links) for your information.

## ACCELERATED READER: Reports and Guidance for Parents Year 7 - Year 9

Claires Court uses the Accelerated Reader (AR) reading development programme to engage pupils, motivate reading practice and improve reading progress. All pupils in Years 7 to 9 are enrolled in the AR programme and have individually assessed Reading Ranges to allow them to select appropriately challenging books.

For more guidance on Accelerated Reader, including your child's most recent AR STAR Reading Parent Report, see the Parent Report Portal. This also includes advice on how to support book quizzing at home (available throughout the holiday) and how to access your child's AR account using the 'Home Connect' tool.

All Claires Court pupils are readers! We expect pupils to engage with the programme independently in order to continue improving their reading ages. The school holidays provide an excellent opportunity for extra reading time which can include books in print, ebooks or audiobooks.

### **AXOLOTL - "I need a name" Competition**



Don't forget to enter the competition by Friday 10 November to name me - the staff think I am quite adorable!?

*Please note it is currently too early to determine our axolotl's gender.*



### **IS IT TOO EARLY TO MENTION CHRISTMAS?**

#### **Christmas Trees - order by 23 November**

Following the Boat Club's successful sponsored row at the Fireworks on Saturday (thanks to all involved and supporting), they are now moving onto their next major fundraiser....[Christmas Trees](#)! If you wish to order your quality assured Norwegian fir tree via this [PTA link](#) you will not only be saving yourself money with a 15% discount on standard retail prices, but also supporting the Boat Club's fundraising efforts, so everyone's a winner! Trees will be delivered to Senior Boys on Friday 1 December for pick up either that evening or 2 December onwards.

#### **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>

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

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

This is being held from 6.30pm - 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.

## **FORTHCOMING DIARY DATES**

### **ALL YEAR GROUPS**

#### **YEAR 7 - YEAR 9**

##### **Netball & Hockey Tour - March 2024**

Please find [att'd letter](#) which was emailed home today regarding the Year 7 - Year 9 Netball and Hockey Tour.

#### **YEAR 7 - YEAR 11**

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

Please complete the [electronic consent form](#) today, **Friday 20 October** either **providing** or **withholding consent** using school code **BK110153G**. Further information can be found in the NHS Berkshire Health letter [here](#).

#### **YEAR 7 ONLY**

##### **Key Dates for Year 7**

Please find key dates [list here](#) for reference.

##### **Workshare/Form Tutor Parent Evening - Wednesday 8 November 6pm-8pm**

We would like to invite you in to view your daughter's work and to also have the opportunity to meet with her Form Tutor to see how she has settled in at Claires Court Senior Girls. If you would like to attend please can you complete the [form here](#) so we have an idea of the number of parents for refreshments. We look forward to seeing you there.

##### **Winchester Science Trip - Monday 27 November**

Please find the [Year 7 Winchester Science Trip letter](#) taking place on Monday 27 November (within normal school day timings).

Key points to note:

- Girls should be dropped at Senior Boys (Ray Mill Road East SL6 8TE) but please do not drive into school
- Pupils will return to both Senior Girls and Senior Boys so usual pick up arrangements apply
- Pupils should wear school uniform and bring nut free pack lunch and small amount of money (optional)

#### **YEAR 8 ONLY**

##### **Key Dates for Year 8**

Please find key dates [list here](#) for reference.

##### **Parents' Evening - Tuesday 14 November 6pm-8pm \*SAVE THE DATE\***

Your daughter will be given access to the appointment sheet w/c 6 November to enable her to make appointments for you to see her subject teachers.

## **YEAR 9 ONLY**

### **Key Dates for Year 9**

Please find key dates [list here](#) for reference.

### **Year 9 Options Evening - Wednesday 22 November 6pm-8pm \*SAVE THE DATE\***

Further information to follow.

## **YEAR 10 ONLY**

### **Key Dates for Year 10**

Please find key dates [list here](#) for reference.

## **YEAR 11 ONLY**

### **Key Dates for Year 11**

Please find key dates [list here](#) for reference.

### **G11 Study Skills Parent Workshop - Monday 16 October**

Please find the [slide presentation here](#) from Monday evening.

### **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.

### **Claires Court SchoolTV**

Please take a look at [Claires 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 relaxing October half term break".***