

17 November 2023 (Autumn Term Week 9)

Principal's Blog

This week Dame Rachel De Souza, Children's Commissioner for England, invites our children supported as appropriate by their parents to contribute to her national survey "The Big Ambition", to hear from all children and young people in England aged between 6 and 18 years old. Further information in Mr Wilding's blog 'A Principled View'.

Important - Registers for the coach

Your child's safety is of the utmost importance to us and as such, we request that you must mark your child as 'not travelling' if they are not going to go on the coach to and from school for any reason. This can be noted either by going into Vectare online or by downloading the Vectare app (please search for "VecTive Passenger App" on Android and Apple). Through either method you can then amend your booking and mark your child as not travelling. From Monday 20 November we will only use coach registers given to us from vectare to confirm who we expect to be on the coach to and from school including the link between the schools. Please ensure that Vectare is kept up to date on a daily basis to ensure your child's end of day arrangements are correct. If you have any last minute changes on the day (After 3.30pm) please contact the school office.

For all other queries please contact Vectare at clairescourt@vectare.co.uk who will be happy to assist.

Remembrance

Thank you to everyone for their kind donation to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal last week.

The children attended a Remembrance Assembly led by Mrs Kirby on Wednesday 8 November where we had some poems, songs and laid a Wreath. On Friday 10 November the children accessed the Royal British Legion online Remembrance Assembly.



Piano performance

Thank you to Joey B who volunteered to perform 'The Skater' in assembly on Tuesday, it was beautifully played. Well done!.



U11 Bristol Sports Tour

On the 9 November, the U11 A&B Netball and Rugby teams embarked on their annual joint Sports Tour to Bristol. Please see here an account of their trip, It sounds like they had an amazing time!



Chess Words from Mr Hogg

Saturday saw our 21st annual PTA Chess Festival at Claires Court Juniors with competitors coming from far and wide to try and clinch a qualification place in the British Championships coming up in London this December.

As was expected, the competition for places was extremely fierce with one player flying in from Morocco. I am pleased for him that he left us with a trophy and the need to book flights for next month.

Very well done to Tom, Murray and Mia who helped Claires Court lift the Schools Award.

My thanks go to all those who helped on the day to make the tournament so successful: Mr Dennis, Mrs Goford, Miss Bharj, Moksha Suriarachchi and, of course, our wonderful PTA.





FROM THE MAIN OFFICE

Up and Coming Christmas Dates for your Diary!!

- Thursday 30 November Christmas Jumper Swap
- **Tuesday 5 December** Years 3 and 4 Christmas Carols at All Saints Church AM
- Tuesday 5 December Years 5 and 6 Christmas Carols at All Saints Church PM
- Wednesday 6 December Lower Juniors Christmas Production PM
- Thursday 7 and Friday 8 December Christmas Jumper Days and Christmas Lunches

Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Days

Christmas lunch will be served at Juniors on Thursday 7 December for Reception, Year 1, 2, 3 and 4 and Friday 8 December for Year 5 and 6. Pupils are invited to wear a Christmas Jumper on both days for a £2 donation to Save the Children. We assume that all pupils will have a Christmas lunch and you will be charged £4.50 for this **UNLESS** you opt out by completing the form below by Friday 1 December. The cost includes the Christmas meal, a dessert, drink and cracker. Please also complete this form to provide any dietary requirements that your child has. Please note that there will be no other food served at lunchtime this day, so if your child is opting out they will need to bring their own lunch. Christmas Lunch Juniors Opt Out / Dietary Requirements Form

Christmas Trees - order by midnight Wednesday 22 November

The Claires Court School Boat Club are now fundraising via their <u>Christmas Tree Sale</u>. If you haven't ordered one before, the trees are very reasonably priced and are fantastic quality (and if there is an issue they can be replaced providing they are told within the first 48 hours). You can order via the <u>PTA website</u> with the deadline for orders being the end of next Wednesday 22 November. The trees will be delivered to Senior Boys (SL6 8TE) on Friday 1 December, for pick up either that evening or the morning of Saturday 2 December at the Boat Club's festive morning with mince pies, mulled wine and second hand kit sale.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER COLLECTION Monday 27 November-Friday 8 December

We are once again collecting items for Maidenhead Foodshare. We will be collecting from Monday 27 November until Friday 8 December and the pupils will find the hamper boxes outside the dining hall. Thank you in advance

for your support.

We have looked at foodshares requested list and have taken a selection of items for each year group to donate:

Reception/Year 1: Christmas Pickles, Chutneys

Year 2 and 3: Christmas Cakes, Yule Logs (not fresh cream)

Year 4: Chocolates, Sweets

Year 5: Savoury Crackers, Crisps

Year 6: Jam, Marmite, Chocolate Spread

Sport Team Photos

- **Thursday 23 November** Year 3 and Year 4 Sport Photos
- Friday 24 November Year 5 and Year 6 Sport Photos

Year 3 and Year 5 to come into school wearing their forest school clothing and then they can change into their games kit on the day of their photos as normal.

Year 4 and Year 6 come into school dressed in their games kits ready for their photo.

LOST PROPERTY

Please can all items brought to school be clearly named. We will keep any unnamed items for two weeks, and then if not claimed they will be disposed of or donated.

Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity- Parent online course

HELP! is now available online and on-demand, delivered by Helen Barrett, an experienced specialist teacher and assessor who is also the parent of two dyslexic teens. Helen understands your struggles with homework, self-esteem, and with dealing with school. She, alongside other dyslexia specialists, has put together a practical, easy-to-follow course that explains dyslexia and helps you support your child with:

- study skills and homework
- reading
- spelling and writing
- maths

Online Booking **Here**

Bunny/Rabbit Award

Awarded for kindness, helpfulness and compassion doing the right thing without being asked, it is what makes our school a wonderful environment. This week our bunny/rabbit has been awarded to Oscar L and Raefe K.

PTA

Nearly New Uniform

The next nearly new uniform sale will take place on Friday 24 November at 8am-8.45am, this will be in the stable block.

A reminder that we only accept branded school uniform items, so please no school shirts, trousers/shorts, swimwear, or grey/burgundy socks and tights. Please wash all items before donating.

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.

Sports Fixtures / Sports News

All details of fixtures can be found on our website.

REMINDERS

Reporting Absences

Please report any sickness absence/medical appointments via the school office on 01628 327400, email <u>juniors@clairescourt.net</u>. For any requests for term time absences, please complete the <u>google form</u>.

Is my child too ill for school?

https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/

After School Care Contact Telephone Number from 5pm

If you need to contact the After School Care from 5pm onwards regarding a delay in collecting your child please telephone 01628 327745.

School Calendar

Please don't forget to check our <u>online school calendar</u> to see what is happening throughout the term.

Class Bulletins

Reception

Year 1

Year 2

rear z

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

Year 6

Have a lovely weekend