



CLAIRES COURT
SENIOR BOYS

Weekly Bulletin

17 NOVEMBER 2023 (AUTUMN TERM WEEK 9)

FROM THE OFFICE

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](#)'.

Space Week 20-24 November & Dress Up Friday 24 November

Senior Boys will be celebrating Space Week next week and to round the week off, there will be a Space Dress Up day on Friday 24 November. Pupils in Years 7 - 9 have been challenged to design their costumes as part of their homework. Year 10 are also welcome to take part but please note that Year 11 are unable to participate due to their mocks.

School Transport

All bookings whether regular or ad hoc must be made via [Vectare](#) here you will find information on routes, costing and how to book.

Current users - We have been informed that all bus passes have now been distributed. These must be presented to the driver's handset when boarding to ensure a quick and efficient departure.

If you have any questions relating to a pass please contact Vectare at clairescourt@vectare.co.uk who will be happy to assist.

'Rethinking Masculinity' Workshops

Over the past two Mondays, we have been delighted to welcome Matt Pinkett into our Senior schools, to work with boys and girls. Matt is an English teacher who is also a speaker and author on the subject of boys' mental health. We invited Matt to run assemblies at Senior Boys and Senior Girls' on the topic of 'calling out'. This involved strategies for pupils to call out their peers if they saw or heard something that, in their opinion, was inappropriate. This included learning to use the phrase 'Come off it Mate'.

Matt then ran individual workshops with boys and girls (together) from Years 7, 8 and 9. These were around the topic of masculinity and what it means to 'be a male'. It was very

interesting to hear the views of both the boys and the girls. Examples included "aggressive; tough; sporty; strong". They examined what males 'are expected to be like' and this was put in the 'Man Box'. Matt also discussed some statistics about males. The groups then created a new 'Claire's Court Man Box', which included attributes such as "kind; gentle; males can show emotions".

Please find a copy of the [presentation](#) and if you are interested in learning more please contact Huw Buckle at hdb@clairescourt.net. Matt's latest book on the subject is titled "Boys do cry", which is a fascinating read about boys.

Rewards and Sanctions weekly email

The weekly Rewards and Sanctions email was sent out last night so if you did not receive it please check your junk/spam folder. The email would have come from your son's form tutor. To stop it going to spam, try adding them as a contact or VIP.

Chess Words from Mr Hogg

Saturday saw our 21st annual PTA Chess Festival at Claire's 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 Claire's 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.



Request from Remote Controlled Car Club

As the dark/wet winter weather approaches and the Remote Controlled Car Club find themselves indoors more often, they are diversifying their engineering talent and looking at the design and manufacture of Scalextric cars. They are keen to reuse rather than just purchase new track and cars for this activity and therefore would be grateful for any unwanted Scalextric cars, track or components you may have which are no longer wanted. Please contact Mr Boulton (anb@clairescourt.net) if you may be able to help.

CHRISTMAS INFORMATION

Christmas Trees - **order by midnight Wednesday 22 November**

The Claires Court School Boat Club are now fundraising via their [Christmas Tree Sale](#). 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 [PTA website](#) and the deadline for orders is 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 and mulled wine.

Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day - Friday 8 December

*** OPT OUT BY 1 DECEMBER ***

Christmas lunch will be served at Senior Boys on Friday 8 December and pupils are invited to wear a Christmas Jumper for a £2 donation to [Save the Children](#). We assume that all boys will have a Christmas lunch and you will be charged £5.50 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 son has. Please note that there will be no other food served at lunchtime this day, so if your son is opting out he will need to bring his own lunch.

- [Christmas Lunch Senior Boys Opt Out / Dietary Requirements Form](#)

Christmas Hamper Collection - Monday 27 November -> Friday 8 December

We will be collecting Christmas food items to make up hampers to distribute to local families in need, as well as donating to [Maidenhead Foodshare](#). Form Tutors will arrange with boys which items to bring in to ensure there is a good variety of food items. Please find the Foodshare suggested [Christmas Donation List](#) FYI, but please remember we are a nut free school and please no food vouchers. There will be a competition amongst form groups for the best themed hamper! Donations should be brought in between 27 November and 8 December and taken to form rooms.

FORTHCOMING DIARY DATES

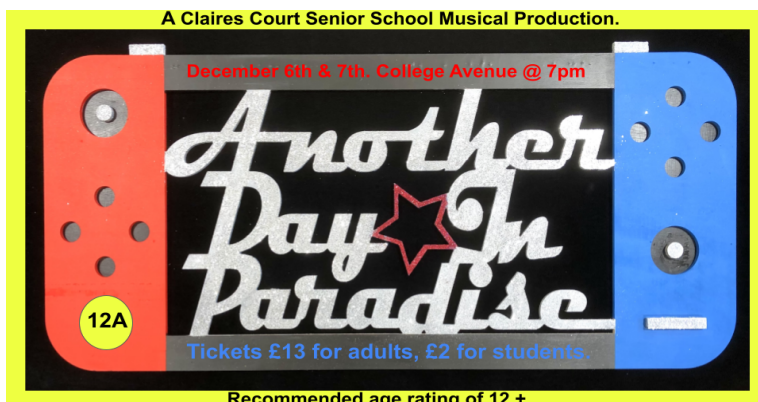
ALL YEAR GROUPS

Seniors PTA Meeting

Rearranged for Wednesday 10 January

School Musical Production "Another Day in Paradise" 7pm-9.30pm

Wednesday 6 & Thursday 7 December @ College Avenue SL6 6AW



We would like to invite all our parents, grandparents and guardians to our senior production with a cast of some of our Year 9 - Year 11 Senior Boys and Girls and also a small number of Sixth Form students who are currently in rehearsals to present this to you.

Tickets (£13 per adult, £2 per child) are available to purchase via our Payment Portal now and will be issued upon receipt of payment. Just to mention that due to some of the content in the show it has a rating of 12. May we also ask you to complete the [google form](#) as this automatically updates a spreadsheet for seating capacity for the hall for each performance.

YEAR 7 ONLY

Year 7 Winchester Science Trip - 27 November

Please find the [Year 7 Winchester Science Trip letter](#) taking place on Monday 27 November. The trip takes place within the normal school day timings, so usual drop off and pick up arrangements apply. Pupils should wear school uniform and bring a nut free pack lunch and small amount of money (optional).

YEAR 8 ONLY

Year 8 Parents Evening

Thank you for your support of the Year 8 Parents Evening last night. We hope you found the sessions beneficial and please find a copy of the [presentation slides](#) for reference.

YEAR 9 ONLY

Year 9 GCSE Options Information Evening (virtual) 7pm Tuesday 21 November

Year 9 Parents are invited to join the Senior Boys leadership team for an online Information Evening at 7pm on Tuesday 21 November (MEET link will be emailed separately). The presentation will outline the core GCSE subjects and offer guidance on selection of GCSE optional subjects including the introduction of new subjects your son may wish to study.

YEAR 10 ONLY

B10 Mock English Examination - Tuesday 21 November

Year 10 boys will be sitting their English mock examination the morning of Tuesday 21 November. Please find 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 examination.

YEAR 11 ONLY

Year 11 Mock Examinations w/c 20 & 27 November

Please find the Year 11 Mock Examinations [Timetable](#) commencing 20 November, 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.

DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

Historians of the Week

Year 7 - Sam C for great work in history lessons

Year 8 - Ben H for excellent knowledge about life on a plantation

Year 10 - Tom P for excellent knowledge of history key terms, and Ben O, Alex RH, Danny J and Cameron P for great presentations

Linguists of the Week

In Spanish for excellent results in the Common Task:

Year 8: Kody H, Xavier T-O, Ollie W, Jonah V, Andes Y, Freddie H, Tom A, Luke B, Matthieu M, Harrison M, Sam B-S

Mathematicians of the Week

Year 7 - Jay S, Henry P, Thomas K

Year 8 - Ethan N

Year 9 - Tom He, Tom Hi

Year 10 - Tom D, Will C

Year 11 - Harry Wi, Alex Bo

Scientists of the Week

Peter AL (Year 9) - excellent work on atomic structure in Chemistry

Alex J (Year 10): Excellent CT1 grade in Physics

Zak T (Year 10): Excellent CT1 grade in Physics

Raeef K (Year 10): Excellent contributions on photosynthesis

John-Ross A (Year 10): Excellent revision for Biology CT

Jack J (Year 10): Excellent revision for Biology CT

GENERAL INFORMATION

Medical/Dental Appointments

Please notify the school office at least 24 hours prior to the appointment (where possible) via email to seniorboys@clairescourt.com.

Sickness Absence

Please report all other absences daily to the school office before 9.30am either on 01628 327600, by email seniorboys@clairescourt.com or via the Report Portal (accessible via the Parents page of our website www.clairescourt.com/parents).

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 [Online Holiday Request Form](#).

Leaving School / Returning to School during the School Day

If you are collecting your son for an appointment during the school day, he should wait in reception at the allotted time. When you have arrived outside to pick him up, please call the school on 01628 327610 and we will sign him out and send him out to you. Pupils are not permitted to wait outside or use their phones in reception. When your son returns to school, he must sign in at reception before going to lessons so that we know he is back in school.

Medication

Any medication should be handed into the school accompanied with the [CC Administration of Medicine Request Form](#) for nurses to administer.

Parking near School

Please do not stop on the double yellow lines at the crossroads of Ray Park Avenue and Ray Mill Road East, or on the zig zags outside school. Also, please turn off your cars while you are waiting to minimise disruption for our neighbours. Please pass this onto anyone new who may be picking up your son.

Mobile Phones

Boys are not permitted to use their mobile phones during the school day. These should be locked away securely in lockers or handed into Mrs Tarr before registration. If boys need to contact home during the day for any reason, they should do so via the school office or nurses depending on the reason for contact.

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.

Chromebooks

Please find our [Chromebook Provision and Policy](#) as a reminder of pupils and parents responsibility for their chromebook, including any repairs/replacement due to damage/loss.

School Calendar

Please check our [online school calendar](#) to see up to date information about events happening throughout the term.

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.