



CLAIRES COURT SENIOR GIRLS

Weekly Bulletin

Friday 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](#)'.

SPACE WEEK 20-24 November & Dress Up Friday 24 November

Senior Girls 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.

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.

SENIORS PTA MEETING - Rearranged for Wednesday 10 January

CHRISTMAS - information for parents

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](#) 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 LUNCH & CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY - Friday 8 December

Christmas lunch will be served at Senior Girls 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 girls 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 daughter has. Please note that there will be no other food served at lunchtime this day, so if your daughter is opting out she will need to bring her own lunch.

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

CHRISTMAS HAMPER COLLECTION

Monday 27 November - Friday 8 December

We are again collecting for Maidenhead Foodshare and they have shared their requested list [here](#). We have looked at the list and have taken a selection of items for each year group to donate (please note we are a nut free school and we would ask **do not** buy gift vouchers):

- Year 7: Christmas Pickles, Chutneys
- Year 8: Christmas Cakes, Yule Logs (not fresh cream)
- Year 9: Chocolates, Sweets
- Year 10: Savoury Crackers, Crisps
- Year 11: Jam, Marmite, Chocolate Spread

The donation hamper boxes will be outside the dining hall from Monday 27 November - thanking you in advance once again for helping Maidenhead Foodshare.

FORTHCOMING DIARY DATES

ALL YEAR GROUPS

"ANOTHER DAY IN PARADISE" YEAR 9-11's Musical Production
Wednesday 6/Thursday 7 December 7-9.30pm College Avenue SL6 6AW



We would like to invite all our parents, grandparents and guardians to our senior musical production with a cast of some of our Year 9 - Year 11 Senior Boys/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) available to pay via our Payment

Portal now 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 so we know the seating capacity for the hall for each performance.

YEAR 7 ONLY

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 9 ONLY

Year 9 Options Evening - Wednesday 22 November 6pm-7pm

Year 9 Parents are invited to join the Senior Girls leadership team for an onsite Information Evening at 6pm on Wednesday 22 November. The presentation will outline the core GCSE subjects and offer guidance on selection of GCSE optional subjects including the introduction of new subjects your daughter may wish to study.

YEAR 11 ONLY

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.

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 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

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.