



**CLAIRES COURT**  
**SENIOR BOYS**

# Weekly Bulletin

**24 NOVEMBER 2023 (AUTUMN TERM WEEK 10)**

## 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](#)'.

### National Non-Fiction November: inewspaper offer

To support non-fiction reading at home for National Non-Fiction November and to encourage students to engage with the news, the Claires Court Library arranged for every pupil in KS3 to receive a free printed copy of the i newspaper to read in their DEAR time this week (Drop Everything and Read). The i has no political allegiance and is a trusted news brand. See the [flyer](#) to obtain a free copy of iweekend (the Saturday edition) and free access to the i digital edition through their app. All pupils and families can also use the barcode and QR code on the [digital vouchers](#).

### School Coach 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. Those without a booking will not be permitted to use the coach service. 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](mailto:clairescourt@vectare.co.uk) who will be happy to assist.

### REMINDER - Double Yellow Lines

May we kindly ask all parents to not stop or wait on the double yellow lines when dropping off or collecting from Senior Boys. The double yellow lines are there for the safety of pedestrians and drivers alike and provide the visibility required around this hazardous crossroads near school. Please respect the highway code and do not stop or wait on the double yellow lines, even if it is only for a few seconds.

### Rewards and Sanctions weekly email

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

# CHRISTMAS INFORMATION

## 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 ([item list](#)). 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.

## St Luke's Christmas Tree Festival - Friday 8 - Sunday 10 December

Please pop along to [St Luke's Christmas Tree Festival](#) (Norfolk Road, Maidenhead SL6 7AX) to view all the trees on display which are decorated and sponsored not only by Claires Court Senior Boys, Senior Girls and Juniors, but also other local schools, businesses and community groups. Vote for your favourite tree by making a donation to support Number 22 community counselling services and St Luke's. The church is open to view the decorated trees, with stalls, raffle & refreshments Friday and Saturday 10am - 7pm and Sunday midday until 6pm. You can also [view the trees online](#) and donate/vote for your favourite. Please join St Luke's for their 'Christmas Tree' service 6pm Sunday 10 December.

**St. Luke's Church**  
Norfolk Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7AX

**Christmas Tree Festival**  
**8th—10th December**



Friday and Saturday:  
10 am - 7 pm  
and  
Sunday:  
midday - 6pm  
*Closing service at 6pm*

Refreshments daily  
Stalls and Raffle  
Supporting  
Number 22  
community counselling services



Also available to view online  
[www.stlukeschristmastreetrail.co.uk](http://www.stlukeschristmastreetrail.co.uk)

## Seniors Carol Concert - Wednesday 13 December

**\* SAVE THE DATE \***

# FORTHCOMING DIARY DATES

## ALL YEAR GROUPS

**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 7 St Luke's Christmas Tree Decorating - Wednesday 6 December**

Year 7 are representing Claires Court Senior Boys by decorating our tree for the [St Luke's Christmas Tree Festival](#). They will choose a theme for their decorations and will spend time making them in their forms over the next two weeks. Please ensure they have scissors and glue in their pencil case, and any contributions of string gratefully received! Four boys will be invited to decorate the tree on Wednesday 6 December. They really enjoy it and it's lovely to see their creative juices flowing!'



## **YEAR 9 ONLY**

### **Year 9 GCSE Options Information Evening**

As mentioned at the GCSE Options Evening your son should have brought home the GCSE Options Handbook today, along with a copy of the Options Blocks. These documents can also be found below, along with other resources from the evening:

- [B9 Options Process Letter](#)
- [Presentation Slides](#)
- [MEET Recording](#)
- [GCSE Handbook 2024](#)
- [GCSE Option Blocks 2024](#)
- [Year 9 Options Assemblies](#)

## **YEAR 10 ONLY**

### **B10 Study Skills - Friday afternoon 1 December**

Year 10 boys will be off games Friday afternoon and participating in a Study Skills workshop here at school in place of their usual sporting activities.

## **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**

### **Linguists of the Week**

In French for superb scores in the recent Common Task:

Year 10: Josh C, Spike S and Gareth W

Year 9: Josh L and Euan S

Year 8: Louise C, Sam BS, Matthieu M, Jonah V, Seb B and Freddie C

### **Mathematicians of the Week**

Year 7 - Finlay M, Riley LP, Albert H

Year 8 - Ben T, George L

Year 9 - Josh BP, Toby C, Monty E

Year 10 - Harry Ca

### **Scientists of the Week**

Aarron C, Rory E and Saul H (Year 10): for building excellent parallel circuits in Physics

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:seniorboys@clairescourt.com) or via the Report Portal (accessible via the Parents page of our website [www.clairescourt.com/parents](http://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](mailto: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.