



CLAIRES COURT SENIOR GIRLS

Weekly Bulletin

Friday 24 November 2023 Autumn Term Week 10

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](#)'.

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.

CHRISTMAS - information for parents

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

All donations are greatly appreciated and the hamper boxes will be in the school office next week.

St Luke's Christmas Tree Festival

Friday 8 December to 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

Please pop along to St Luke's to view all the trees on display which are decorated and sponsored not only by Claires Court but other local schools/business and community groups.

The trees are then donated to local families in need or retirement homes in time for others to enjoy over the festive period.

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



Don't forget to get your tickets (£13 per adult, £2 per child). Please pay via our Payment Portal.

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.

INFORMATION FROM OUR LIBRARIAN

National Non-Fiction November: i newspaper 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 has arranged for every pupil in KS3 to receive a free copy of the i newspaper. The i

has no political allegiance and is a trusted news brand. See the barcode and QR code on the digital vouchers to obtain a free copy of iweekend (the Saturday edition) and free access to the i digital edition through the app. ([Voucher 1 redeemed against 1 copy](#) and [Voucher 2 Free unlimited digital access for 1 month](#)).

AXOLOTLI NAMED



We had over 50 entries to name the axolotl, many with good justifications.

The most popular choice was 'Fernando', which was the name of the axolotl's delivery driver and is a nice link to the Mexican roots of the species. In addition, we particularly liked the entry of 'Morph' from Lucy, who chose this name because the axolotl is a paedomorphic salamander. The resulting name is **Fernando Morph** or **FM** for short (liking to its radio antenna style gills).

Thank you to all those who participated.

YEAR 7 ONLY

[St Luke's Christmas Tree Festival](#) and Year 7 Decorations

Every year we sponsor a Christmas Tree at St Luke's Church which is then donated after the event to a local family in need or a retirement home and as usual our Year 7 girls help with the decorations. This year the girls have chosen a theme of the 'Gingerbread Man' so may we ask that your daughter bring in her decoration, homemade or bought, by **Monday 4 December**.



The tree festival details for you to go and view all the decorated trees are:

Friday 8 December

10am - 7pm, Church open to view decorated trees; stalls and refreshments

Saturday 9 December

10am - 7pm, Church open to view decorated trees; stalls and refreshments

Sunday 10 December

12pm - 6pm, Church open; stalls and refreshments, 6pm 'Christmas Tree' Service

Year 7 Science Trip – Monday 27 November

As a reminder please find the information letter [here](#). We plan to leave the Senior Boys School at 9am.

- All Year 7 girls must be dropped off at the **Senior Boys School** (Ray Mill Road East SL6 8TE) at their usual time for registration, but please do not drive into school as there will be coaches arriving and departing. You can drop off on Ray Park Avenue, but do not stop on the double yellow lines.
- The girls know to go to the Senior Boys Dining Room when the bell goes and they will be registered there.....Mrs Harrington Fuller plus other members of staff will be on-site to do this.
- If your daughter is on a bus that stops at College first but comes onwards to Senior Boys afterwards they should remain on their coach to travel there and then make her way to the Senior Boys Dining Room.
- If your daughter is on a bus that stops at Senior Boys first then she must

alight there (do not get on a link bus to College) and make her way to the Dining Room.

- Pupils should wear school uniform and bring a nut free pack lunch and small amount of money (optional).
- The trip will return during school hours so going home/parent pick up will remain as normal from senior girls.

YEAR 9 GCSE OPTIONS

We hope you found the information evening of interest and please find the [slide presentation here](#) that was shown on Wednesday and also a [letter](#) from Mrs O'Clee on the next steps of the options process.

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.