



CLAIRE'S COURT
SENIOR BOYS

Weekly Bulletin

28 MARCH 2025 (SPRING TERM WEEK 11)

FROM THE OFFICE

Remember the clocks spring forward overnight Saturday/Sunday this weekend and as this is the last Bulletin of the term we wish everyone a lovely Easter break when it arrives.

Principal's Blog

Please read Mr Wilding's blog: ["In an era of 'fake news' the role of trained and professional journalists has never been more important."](#)

End/start of Term Arrangements

- w/c 31 March - no after school activities/study with the school day finishing at 4pm and coaches departing 4.30pm
- Tuesday 1 April - locker clearance, all lockers should be emptied and left unlocked for cleaning over the holidays
- Wednesday 2 April - non-uniform day £2 for Autism Awareness ([payment portal](#))
- Thursday 3 April - last day of term, full school day ending at 4pm
- Friday 4 April - grade cards/reports emailed out
- Wednesday 23 April - start of summer term, no activities/study and early coaches this week
- Thursday 24 April - whole school photograph, smart uniform/hair brushed etc.

Stationery Requirements

Please ensure your son has the following equipment in school from the start of the summer term and check periodically that he still has all items as required, thank you.

- Glue stick, scissors
- Pens (black or blue for writing, plus purple for tests and green for corrections)
- Pencils, sharpener, eraser
- Ruler, geometry kit
- Scientific calculator (Year 8 summer term upwards)

Charity Week

Thank you to everyone for their support in raising money for the [Thames Hospice](#) during our Charity Week last week. We have pleasure in confirming we have currently raised over £1,200 (and still counting!) for this wonderful local charity, split by year groups as follows:

- Year 7 Baked sale - £252.95
- Year 8 Sponsored Walk - £380
- Year 9 Rowathon - £325
- Year 10 Playstation Challenge - £125
- Year 11 Raffle - £119.10

ISC's legal challenge re. VAT on school tuition fees

The Independent Schools Council (ISC) Board voted in October to begin legal action over the government's decision to introduce VAT on independent school fees. Before the Christmas break, families supported by the ISC filed a judicial review claim in the High Court of England and Wales and, in January, it was agreed that this legal action should be fast tracked. The defendant to the claim is the chancellor, Rachel Reeves, as the minister responsible for the Treasury. The court case backed by the ISC will be heard in the High Court next week, from 1 - 3 April. Please find an [FAQs document](#) to answer some of the most common questions about the upcoming hearing.

Potential traffic disruption - Cookham

Cadent gas works have been granted a licence from the Highways agency to undertake major works on Sutton Road, Cookham. This is the main route many of our buses take to get to/from school and the route you may take your child/ren to school. They plan to carry out this work in phases from 31 March- 6 June. We will aim to minimise any disruption to our coach routes where we can but suggest you allow extra time for your journey to school if you go that way.

Additional Transport Route

We are exploring the introduction of new school bus routes from Bracknell (starting September 2025) and Hillingdon (starting September 2026). If you are interested, please contact Vectare by today **Friday 28 March** via the '[Contact Us](#)' form and select 'Express interest in additional transport routes'. Please note that if we do not receive sufficient demand, we will not be able to run the route.

The London Marathon

Mr Beck is running the London Marathon on Sunday 27 April with his wife and sister. They are raising money for MENCAP who help children and adults with learning difficulties. If you wish to help them achieve their £7,500 target you can donate [here](#). Thank you!

Our App is temporarily unavailable

Unfortunately our school app is experiencing technical issues that are out of our control. We hope that it's back up and running by early next week.

New, news, news!

Take a look here..... <https://bit.ly/40ggNjs> at our fantastic media wall on the school website where we collate all the stories from across the school. There are stories from Instagram, Facebook and Twitter plus photo albums from Flickr which can all be filtered by year group/activity/event.

YEAR GROUP FORTHCOMING DATES

ALL YEAR GROUPS

Autism Awareness Day - Wednesday 2 April - £2 Non Uniform Day

Autism Awareness Day aims to raise awareness, promote acceptance and advocate for inclusion of autistic people. Mrs Keaney will be running an assembly on Monday 31 March to increase understanding of Autism and on Wednesday 2 April boys can contribute £2 to wear their own clothes and raise money to support the work of these charities (payable via the [payment portal](#) or in cash to form tutors).

Claire's Court PTA Canapés & Cocktails - Friday 6 June

*** SAVE THE DATE *** This evening event will be for adults only at Moor Hall in Cookham. Further details to get the party started will be shared soon, but for now please add the date to your calendar.

YEAR 8 ONLY

Year 8 Fancy Dress Walk Sponsorship

Please return all sponsorship money preferably electronically via the [Payment Portal](#) under 'Year 8 Fancy Dress Sponsored Walk' or in cash to form tutors **by the end of term**, thank you.

Scientific Calculator - for the Summer Term

Pupils in Year 7 and 8 currently complete non-calculator work in Mathematics, but the IGCSE examination papers are both calculator only, and so in the last term of Year 8 we like to start looking at calculator skills and topics which require a calculator. With this in mind, your son will need a scientific calculator for his Maths lessons from Easter onwards. Our strong recommendation is that the best calculator for the IGCSE studies is the Casio FX-83GTCW, as it has the best functionality and ease of input for pupils.

Year 8 HPV Immunisations - Monday 28 April

The NHS Immunisation Team will be visiting school on Monday 28 April to offer Year 8s their Human Papillomavirus vaccination. Please complete a [YES or NO Consent form](#) using school code BK110153B **before the end of term**. Please only submit one form per child and if you are unsure if you have completed a form please check your emails for communication from Cinnamon Digital. Further information can be found in the links following:

- [Letter](#)
- [Leaflet](#)
- [Information](#)

YEAR 9 ONLY

B9 Sponsored Rowathon

Please return all sponsorship money preferably electronically via the [Payment Portal](#) under 'Year 9 Charity Rowathon' or in cash to form tutors **by the end of term**, thank you.

YEAR 10 ONLY

Year 10 GCSE Business Trip - payment by Monday 31 March

Please find shared the GCSE Business Trip Letter 2025 for Year 10 pupils taking place on Monday 30 June. To confirm your child's place on this trip to the Warner Brothers Studios, please pay the non-refundable £45 via the Payment Portal **by Monday 31 March**.

YEAR 11 ONLY

GCSE PE Moderation Day - Monday 31 March

Year 11 Exam Support Evening - 6pm Monday 31 March

Please join Mr Richards online at 6pm on Monday 31 March where he will talk about support for the forthcoming examination period and final arrangements in school. This will be followed by a Q&A session. The MEET link will be emailed to you on Monday.

Revision Calendar

Please find shared a [Revision Calendar Template](#) from Head of Year 11, Ms Mirza, to support the boys planning of the remaining time in the lead up to their exams, with some suggestions about how to structure their Easter Holidays. Please make a copy of this master template so it can be edited to create a personalised revision calendar.

Year 11 Music Coursework Day - Friday 4 April

For those who have confirmed their attendance at the Music Coursework 'Catch-up and Complete' day on Friday 4 April please arrive at 9.30am, bring a packed lunch and make collection arrangements for 3.30pm.

Year 11 Prom/Thorpe Park/Hoodies - **payment deadline 4 April**

Please note the deadline to make payment for the [Year 11 Prom](#), [Thorpe Park](#) and Leavers Hoodies (order instructions below) is Friday 4 April and we regret we cannot accept any late request for tickets/orders. Those who have not paid for one or more of these items have been emailed a reminder this morning. If you do not wish to attend/order any of these, please complete this [opt-out form](#) so that we do not keep sending you reminders!

Leavers Hoodies - **order by Friday 4 April**

Personalised grey leavers hoodies are available to order now! Please make £23 payment via the [PTA website](#) noting your **four digit #ordernumber** which will be emailed to you and then complete the [Order Form](#) to choose the size and name to be printed on the hoodie. To guarantee delivery for next term both payment and order form need to be completed by Friday 4 April.

Year 11 Art Catch-Up Day - Tuesday 22 April

Art GCSE pupils are invited into school on Tuesday 22 April to catch up on any unfinished artwork and prepare for their exam days on 24/25 April. All preparatory work must be completed and submitted before the start of the first exam day, so we strongly encourage all pupils to take up this opportunity. Please arrive at 9.30am promptly with a packed lunch and arrange collection for 3.30pm. Please complete the Google [form](#) by Friday 21 March to confirm attendance.

B11 GCSE Subject Directory 2024/25

Please find the [Senior Boys GCSE Subject Directory](#) containing the various subjects/exam board/coursework deadlines/exam dates. You will also find a link to the GCSE handbook on the document.

GCSE Examination Timetable

Please find the [Year 11 GCSE Written Paper Timetable](#) and note the following Contingency Days that all pupils must be available for:

- Wednesday 11 June - afternoon
- Wednesday 25 June - all day

TRIPS INFORMATION

Hazewinkel Training Camp 5-12 April

Please find the [final letter](#) for the Rowing Training Camp with details of final payment, departure/return times/locations, kit list, consent forms, ground rules.

Ski Trip Parent Consent Form

Please find a [Parent Consent Form](#) about child trafficking that needs to be completed to take pupils on the Ski Trip next week. Please print, complete and sign then return it to your school office as soon as possible, but **by Monday 31 March** at the very latest. Please note both parents with parental responsibility need to sign this form to give authority for their child to be taken out of the UK by a third party.

Please also find the [Medical Consent Form](#) for you to print, sign and return if you have not already done so, as well as the [Parent Information Presentation](#) with updated contact numbers, and the [form](#) to print and bring on the day if your child needs to be given medication.

DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

Linguists of the Week

In Year 7 French for their great results in their assessment:

Harry R, Joey F, Charlie C, Guy H, Nilay P, Xander F, Phoenix A, Cameron S and Jake M. Well done!

Scientists of the Week

Year 9 - Louis C for his incredible hard work in Biology lessons recently

Year 10 - Jackson M, Dylan S, Charlie G and Jack L for their brilliant motors that they made in Physics this week

Sparx Reader of the Week

Year 7 - William G

Year 8 - Flynn S

Accelerated Reader of the Week

Year 7 - Rory M

Year 8 - George N

Year 9 - Sam H

Cooks Corner

Please see this [update](#) from Miss Frost with details of all the delicious culinary delights the boys have been cooking up this term.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Term Time Absence

[Request for Term Time Absence Form](#)

Sickness Absence

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

