

## 5 September 2025 - Autumn Term - Week 1

Welcome back everybody to Claires Court for the new Academic Year, and I hope to see you at one of the various gatherings over the next few weeks. Every week, I write my thoughts on the wider educational scene; whilst I always aim for balance, that's not always possible on any one occasion. As Sir Keir Starmer has asked all headteachers to share with their community his welcome back, I do so willingly; nothing is more important than the education of our children to secure our own future well-being and prosperity. <a href="https://schl.cc:443/hf">https://schl.cc:443/hf</a> Please read the rest of Mr Wilding's blog here: <a href="">"Claires Court: Resilience, Vision and Futures 2025"</a>

# **After Dinner Speaker - GB Olympian Mark Richardson**



Book your tickets for the first in our Claires Court After Dinner Speaker Series on 03 October, from 6-8 PM at College Avenue. The event will feature an inspirational speech from Mark Richardson, a world champion athlete and GB Olympian, who is also an ex-CC student.

The evening will include an informal panel discussion and a live, podcast-style Q&A, providing valuable insights and networking opportunities. We look forward to welcoming you for what promises to be an engaging and motivating event. You can book tickets via the PTA site here.

## **CLASS BULLETINS**

Reception

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

Year 6

## **Individual School Photographs**

The children have their individual school photographs next Wednesday 10 September. Please send your child into school with their blazer and all boys Y3 and above should be wearing their ties. Further details about ordering photographs will be sent in due course.

## **Term Dates for 2025-2027**

Please find shared the <u>Claires Court Term Dates</u> for the next two academic years. These can also be found on our website in the <u>'Parent Hub'</u> under <u>'Term Dates'</u>.

## 25/26 Transport routes

The 25/26 routes have now been published via Vectare and bookings are live.

## **Smartphone Free Initiative**

Claires Court will participate in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead's (RBWM) Smartphone Free Schools Consortium. By the end of 2025, smartphones will either not be allowed on our school sites, or will become inaccessible during the school day and on school trips. This initiative aims to reduce smartphone use among children in RBWM. Further details on how this policy will be implemented at Claires Court will be shared with you soon.

## **Instrumental Tuition for 2025/26**

Please see our <u>Instrumental Tuition Leaflet</u> and if you are interested in booking any one to one music lessons for your child for next year please complete the <u>Music Tuition Booking Form</u>.

# May we introduce our new staff at Juniors



**Kate McNamara** *Head of Music* 

## **Choir and Chamber Choir**

Our new Head of Music, Kate McNamara, will be continuing with Choir and Chamber Choir this year, and they will be showcased at a number of school events throughout the academic year. Singing provides a wonderful opportunity for students to develop their vocal skills, extend their musical learning, and be part of a fun and supportive group. Please see the below details if your child is interested in taking part.

Choir will be held on Mondays at lunch (1pm-1.30pm) beginning the week of Monday 15 September. Please indicate on our Google form whether your child is interested in attending. This is not a firm commitment; students are welcome to give it a try for the first few weeks. If your child chooses to continue beyond this period, please note that attendance is expected at all rehearsals.

## **Chamber Choir**

Chamber Choir will be held on Tuesdays at lunch (1pm-1.30pm). Auditions for those students who are interested will be held at lunch on September 16. Please indicate below if your child wishes to audition. Students do not need to prepare anything, and please reassure them that it will be a relaxed process.

Sign up <u>here</u>.

## Calling all singers!

Do you want to find your voice, have fun and build confidence? Mr. Orme has space for more singing pupils and would love to hear from you! Whether you want to work towards singing grades or just de-stress from your academics, singing lessons can benefit you- and stimulate other areas of learning and creativity. Discover your potential and give it a try! Register your interest with the Google <u>form</u> for next steps. Please note this is for years 3 to 6 only.

#### **Harvest Assembly**

We will be holding a Harvest Assembly at the beginning of October during our regular assembly time. This will be for the children only. We would greatly appreciate donations of non-perishable food items, including tinned goods, biscuits, and coffee. Please ensure these are given to the school by Thursday 4 October. These items will be donated to the Salvation Army. Thank you for your support!



# Dates for the diary

# Friday 5 September - PTA Welcome Back BBQ - 4pm

Our annual Welcome Back BBQ hosted by the PTA will take place this Friday, 5 September at 4pm – a perfect opportunity to catch up with familiar faces and meet the wider Claires Court team. If the weather doesn't cooperate, we have alternative arrangements in place and will confirm these by the end of the day on Thursday.

**Jeans for Genes Day – Friday 19 September Saturday 11 October - PTA Fireworks** 

> RESPONSIBILITY RESPECT LOYALTY INTEGRITY