

FRIDAY 10 October Autumn Term 2025 Week 6

James Wilding Blog

Please read the latest blog from Mr Wilding here: "Comfortable Fictions – why it's easier to make some stuff up rather than go by the evidence!"

The Claires Court Art staff, led by Martyn Goddard, Area coordinator and Lauren Moorhouse, Head of Art, hosts the annual ISA Art Exhibition every year at Norden Farm. Over 120 schools have the opportunity to exhibit their work, and the incredible range is shown in this **Art showreel**.

See you at the Fireworks!

FIREWORKS NIGHT - Claires Court Juniors (SL6 4QQ)

If you did not purchase tickets in advance, it's not too late! You can buy tickets on the gate and join us for this wonderful event and the weather is looking good!

<u>Tickets</u> on the Gate: Adult £10, Child £6, Family £30 (2 adults & 2 children)

For those who purchased tickets in advance, your (eldest) child should have brought them home yesterday and you would have received an email to confirm this, so please make sure you have safely received them. If they were not in school yesterday but were in today, they should be bringing them home tonight, so please look out for them.

Remember to wear your wristbands to the Fireworks event, then you can skip the queue at the gate and just walk in! Replacement wristbands will be charged at £1 each. We recommend you collect your food early and before 6.30pm when access is opened up to all.

The low-noise fireworks start from 7.15pm with fun stalls and activities for the whole family! Don't forget to bring your best carved pumpkin for a chance to win a prize!

Please note: Strictly **no dogs** allowed in cars or on site.



FROM THE OFFICE

TEMPEST PUPIL INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS 'Free Back to School Orders Only'

These will be delivered into school early next week and we will distribute them to the pupils asap to bring home before half term. For parents who missed the free back to school deadline your orders will be posted directly from Tempest to your home address.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

If you have been filling one of the official 'shoe boxes' with items from the suggested list below please bring them back into school w/c **Monday 13 October**. Thank you to those pupils and staff who have returned boxes with useful and special little gifts in helping support the <u>Samaritan's Purse</u> to help children less fortunate around the world.

If your daughter has brought a box home and is **not** planning to put anything in the 'shoe boxes' please can you return the empty box to school asap so that we can distribute them to staff and other pupils who have been asking about them - we don't want to have to order more if they are not going to be used. Thank you.

GIFT SUGGESTIONS:

- ✓ SOMETHING TO WEAR: T-shirt, polo shirt, shorts, skirt, cap, beanie, sandals, etc.
- ✓ SOMETHING TO LOVE: teddy bear, doll, soft toy, etc.
- SOMETHING SPECIAL: carry bag, sunglasses, bangles, stickers, necklaces, craft kits, wind-up torch, a personal note, a photo of yourself, etc.
- SOMETHING FOR SCHOOL: exercise book, pencil case, pens, pencils, colouring pencils, sharpener, eraser, chalk, etc.
- SOMETHING TO PLAY WITH: tennis ball, cars, skipping rope, marbles, musical instrument, yo-yo, slinky, finger puppets, etc.
- SOMETHING FOR PERSONAL HYGIENE: soap and face washer, toothbrush, hairbrush, comb, scrunchies, hair-clips, etc.



- ★ ITEMS THAT LEAK OR MELT: (these can spoil boxes) including toothpaste, shampoo, bubbles, crayons and plasticine/play dough
- ★ FOOD OR LOLLIES OF ANY KIND: (due to customs regulations) including medicines and vitamins
- ★ USED OR DAMAGED ITEMS: (due to customs regulations) including worn clothing and old toys
- ✗ BREAKABLE ITEMS: including glass, porcelain and mirrors
- ★ ITEMS THAT CAN SCARE OR HARM A CHILD: including Halloween, war
 or pirate-related items such as toy guns, knives, military figures or
 skull and crossbones
- ★ GAMBLING-RELATED ITEMS: including play money, playing cards and dominoes
- RELIGIOUS LITERATURE: including tracts and Bibles (every child is given an Operation Christmas Child evangelistic book at an outreach event)





These items are prohibited to protect children or to comply with overseas government and customs restraints.

SENIORS PTA MEETING - TBC FRIDAY 7 NOVEMBER

Apologies for the postponement of the Seniors PTA Meeting. We are planning to hold this on Friday 7 November again at 1pm virtually and the MEET link will be emailed out to you after half term once the date is confirmed.

CLAIRES COURT SCHOOLTV

Please make use of this valuable resource available to all our parents - <u>Claires Court SchoolTV</u>. Because parenting doesn't come with instructions, SchoolTV is a wellbeing resource that can support you in the challenges relating to modern-day parenting. This award-winning resource helps build relationships, foster connections, enable understanding and break down barriers to navigate a pathway towards better mental health and wellbeing for young people.

PTA NEARLY NEW UNIFORM SALE DATES

Please see dates below for future sale dates at Senior Girls - note these are on a **Monday morning from 8am-9am** with the sale taking place just inside the Atrium entrance with payment by card only and **NOT** cash:

- 3 November 2025
- 1 December 2025
- 12 January 2026
- 2 February 2026
- 2 March 2026
- 20 April 2026
- 11 May 2026
- 1 June 2026

If you have any good quality uniform you wish to donate to the PTA please drop off at the school office (blazers and skirts are always in demand). Thank you.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Payment Portal
- Sports Website
- Coach Booking
- Claires Court SchoolTV
- CC Administration of Medicine Request Form
- Term Time Holiday Request Form
- **Absences:** Report Portal /seniorgirls@clairescourt.com /01628 327500 (please report absences **before 9.30am** for each day of sickness)
- Senior Girls Calendar here
- Term Dates

NEWS, NEWS, NEWS!

Take a look here..... https://bit.ly/40qqNjs 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 INFORMATION

ALL YEAR GROUPS

REMINDER Flu Immunisations Year 7 - Year 11 *REMINDER*

NHS Berkshire Health will be in school on **Monday 3 November to** administer the flu vaccinations. Please may we ask that you complete the **YES/NO** consent form mentioned in their <u>letter here</u> (the school's unique code is **BK110153G**) before Monday 27 October for either:

<u>Nasal Flu Vaccine Consent Form</u> (contains a small amount of porcine gelatine) <u>Injectable Flu Vaccine Consent Form</u> (does not contain porcine gelatine)

YEAR 7 ONLY

G7 Parent Workshare Evening - Wednesday 15 October 6pm-8pm

Please see the <u>Information</u> that was emailed home recently.

Schoolcloud (now opened)

<u>How to book your appointment</u> (please ensure you use your daughter's full name as nicknames are not recognised)

Afterschool Arrangements Google Form (girls will be supervised between 5pm-6pm)

YEAR 8 ONLY

Parents' Evening - Monday 10 November 6pm-8pm *SAVE THE DATE*
Further information to follow.

YEAR 9 ONLY

Kew Trip - Monday 13 October

Please find att'd <u>letter</u> which was emailed home recently regarding the above trip. Girls should wear their full school uniform and will need to bring a waterproof coat, writing equipment and clipboard (if possible), a nut free packed lunch and drinks. There may be the opportunity to buy a drink or souvenir.

Y9 Bronze DofE Programme

Please find shared the <u>recording</u> from Monday's DofE meeting, along with the <u>Bronze DofE</u> <u>Programme letter</u> noting the deadlines to complete the <u>DofE Google Form</u> is **Wednesday 15 October**.

YEAR 10 ONLY

Artists Visit - Thursday 16 October

All Year 10 artists from both senior girls and senior boys will be participating in a <u>creative</u> <u>workshop</u> day on Thursday 16 October at the College site with special guest contemporary British Fine Artist Ian Murphy. Pupils will need to bring with them their pencil cases and photographs they have prepared work from.

G10 Parents' Evening - Wednesday 5 November 6pm-8pm *SAVE THE DATE*

Booking via Schoolcloud will be open at **9.30am on Wednesday 15 October** enabling parents to book their timed appointments to meet with the subject teachers. Please ensure you use your daughter's full name as nicknames will not be recognised. We will send a reminder email prior to the booking form being opened.

Schoolcloud online booking form How to book your appointment

YEAR 11 ONLY

Year 11 Mock Examinations - w/c 17 and 24 November

Please find shared the <u>Mock Examinations timetable</u> taking place from 17 - 28 November, noting the additional dates outside of these two weeks for MFL listening and speaking exams, as well as Food and Art practical exams. There will be a further opportunity to sit another English Literature Mock Examination on Tuesday 10 February.

Please see the links below to the documents that our exam officer will be sharing in a hard copy booklet for pupils to have:

JCQ Information for Candidates AI in Assessments

JCQ Warning to Candidates 2025

JCO Unauthorised Items

JCQ Instructions for use AI September 2025

JCO Information for Candidates for Written Examinations 2025

JCQ NEA Information for Candidates 2025

JCQ ICE Warning to Candidates 2025

JCO AI Infographic Guide for Candidates 2025

Year 11 Subject Directory

As mentioned at the Year 11 Parent Workshop, please find shared the <u>GCSE Subject</u> <u>Directory</u> containing useful information on revision checklists, past papers, coursework deadlines and exam dates by subject.

TRIP INFORMATION

Residential Trips Brochure

The 2025- 2026 Residential Trips Brochure is now available to <u>view</u>. As and when trips become available to book, an email letter will be sent containing all the details you need to know.

Cologne Trip Parent Information Evening - Monday 29 September

Please find the <u>presentation</u> from the Information Evening. A reminder if you have not already made the **final £135 payment to please do so as soon as possible**.

Naples Trip Parent Information Evening

Please find the presentation from the evening noting links on the following pages:

- Slide 20 GHIC
- Slide 29 Administration of Medication
- Slide 30 <u>Parental consent form for oversea trips</u> Mr Gray must receive a completed, physical copy

DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION



Welcome to October

Root of the Week is...... 'sol' meaning 'alone'

Examples:

Solitary

Soliloguy

Desolate

Solo

Sole

Meaning: Alone

Origin: Latin

Sol

Well done to all the girls named below this week! Linguist of the Week

w/c 6 October

Year 8 Spanish: Maisie S-Se "working very hard and making outstanding progress"

Year 9 German: Lucy W "for an excellent result in her German quiz"

Year 11 French: Maisie J "consistent, thorough, and likes taking up challenges"

Scientists of the Week

w/c 6 October

Year 9: Georgie C "Fantastic cell model"

Sparx Reader of the Week



w/c 6 October

Year 7: Sophie N Year 8: Molly K

Accelerated Reader of the Week



w/c 6 October

Year 7: Avril C Year 8: Nell C Year 9: Amelia P