

Weekly Bulletin

21 NOVEMBER 2025 (AUTUMN TERM WEEK 10)

FROM THE OFFICE

Don't forget to....

- Order your Christmas Tree by Tuesday 25 December
- Buy your Christmas Wreath Making ticket by Wednesday 26 December
- Opt-out of <u>Christmas Lunch</u> by Friday 28 November

Principal's Blog

Please read the latest blog from Mr Wilding here: <u>"Strength does not come from winning. Your struggles develop your strengths" – Arnold Schwarzenegger</u>

PTA Quiz Night - Friday 28 November - only two tables remaining!

Last chance to <u>buy tickets or a table</u> for this unmissable Quiz Night hosted by our brilliant Quizmasters, Mr Richards and Mrs O'Clee, taking place 6-8pm at College Avenue. For those that have bought tickets, there will be a bar run by the PTA selling refreshments and remember to bring your own snacks, picnic dinner or takeaway.



School Closure

Following the flurry of snow we saw on Wednesday morning, a reminder that if school is closed an announcement will be posted on our <u>website</u>, so please check there as your main source of information. Depending on the circumstances for the closure we will also communicate via text message or email and separate communications will be sent directly from Vectare regarding operation of our school coaches.

Thank you for Supporting our Shoebox Appeal

Senior Boys filled a fantastic 112 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child which were delivered this week by Head Boy Tom Hickson. Thank you so much for all your kind donations of gifts to fill the shoe boxes.





PTA Nearly New Uniform

If you are having a pre-Christmas clear out, the PTA would gratefully receive any donations of good quality school uniform and sports kit. All money raised from uniform sales go directly to the PTA to provide valuable funds to support the school, so please feel free to drop any items into the school office. If you wish to purchase any uniform, please contact the school office who can put you in touch with our amazing parent helpers Amanda and Tonia who give up their time to manage our uniform (so a big **thank you** to them for all they do!).

Claires Court SchoolTV - HIGHLY RECOMMENDED RESOURCE

Please make use of this valuable resource <u>Claires Court SchoolTV</u> that is available to all our parents. 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.

Dining Room Spend

The default daily spending limit for Seniors has been increased to £10 as a result of the recent catering price increase. If you would like to increase this further please contact the school office via seniorboys@clairescourt.net.

Drop-in Flu Clinics - various dates

NHS Berkshire Health will be holding drop-in flu clinics for those who missed the school immunisations at Foundation House, Windsor at the times shown below:





Drop-in flu clinics

At Foundation House, Windsor SL4 4LE

We are holding drop-in clinics for your child's flu vaccination on the following dates:

- 18.11.25 14:30-16:30
- 27.11.25 14:30-16:00
- 5.12.25 12:00-16:00

If you haven't completed a consent form yet, you can complete one using the information sent by your child's school or complete one at the clinic with one of the team.

Goto the address below to share your views and ideas

cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/feedback

Rewards and Sanctions email

You should have received an email from your son's Form Tutor yesterday sharing details of any rewards and sanctions your son has received in the last seven days. If you did not receive this, please check in your junk/spam folder and add the tutors email address to your 'safe sender' list.

New, news, news!

Take a look here..... https://bit.ly/40qgNjs 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.

IT'S NEARLY CHRISTMAS!



They're Tree-Mendous!



Get your Christmas tree and support the Claires Court Boat Club this festive season!

- How to Order: visit our <u>PTA website</u> and order by Tuesday 25 November
- **Pick-up:** from Claires Court Senior Boys (SL6 8TE) Friday 5 December (4.45pm-5.45pm) or Saturday 6 December (10am-12pm)



CC Sailing Christmas Wreath Making Evening - book by Weds 26 November

The CC Sailing department and PTA warmly invite you to a Christmas Wreath Making evening on Wednesday 3 December at Senior Boys. Ticket price includes: drinks, nibbles, an oasis ring and small decorations. Bring your own foliage and clippers and any additional decorations that you would like to add to your wreath. Book via the PTA website by Wednesday 26 November.



Christmas Lunch - OPT OUT by 28 November

Christmas Lunch will be served at Senior Boys on Wednesday 10 December. It is assumed that **all boys will partake in this occasion** and £6.30 will be charged to their cashless catering account **UNLESS you opt them out by Friday 28 November** by completing the <u>Senior Boys Christmas Lunch Form</u>. There will be no other meal options available that day, so if your son is opting out he will need to bring a packed lunch. Please also use the <u>Senior Boys Christmas Lunch Form</u> to tell us of any dietary requirements he may have.



Christmas Hampers & Foodshare Donations - w/c 1 & 8 December

We are once again collecting non-perishable food donations to make up hampers for St Luke's Church and local families in need and in support of <u>Maidenhead Foodshare</u>. Please see their wishlist of items below, which should be brought into school and handed to Form Tutors between Monday 1 December and Friday 12 December. Form Tutors will ask boys to bring in specific items according to this <u>list</u> to ensure a good range is collected. Thank you in advance for your contributions.



Claires Court Juniors PTA Christmas Market - Thursday 4 December

Please come along to the Juniors PTA Christmas Market (SL6 4QQ) and start your Christmas shopping. Join us from 6.30pm - 8.30pm for artisan gifts, skincare, jewellery and so much more!



St Luke's Christmas Tree Festival - Friday 5 to Sunday 7 December

Please pop along to St Luke's fourteenth annual <u>Christmas Tree Festival</u> (Norfolk Road, Maidenhead SL6 7AX) to view all the decorated trees on display. You will find four Claires Court trees from Juniors, Senior Boys, Senior Girls and Sixth Form. Buy tokens and vote for your favourite trees to raise funds for <u>Alzheimer Dementia Support</u>, a local charity helping people living with Dementia in Windsor, Maidenhead and surrounding villages. If you cannot visit the church, you will be able to view and donate <u>online</u>.



Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day - Wednesday 10 December

To make Christmas Lunch even more festive, we will be donning Christmas Jumpers on Wednesday 10 December to raise valuable funds for <u>Save the Children</u>. For a £2 donation boys are invited to wear a festive jumper with or without their blazer as preferred.



Seniors Carol Concert - Tuesday 16 December

Parents are warmly invited to our Seniors Carol Concerts taking place at St Luke's Church (Norfolk Road, Maidenhead SL6 7AX) at 10am for Years 7-9 and 11.30am for Years 10-11 on Tuesday 16 December.

YEAR GROUP FORTHCOMING DATES

ALL YEAR GROUPS

Please see our website <u>calendar</u> for this term's dates, which will be updated when new events and dates are confirmed.

YEAR 7 ONLY

Year 7 Winchester Science Trip - Wednesday 3 December

Please find the <u>Year 7 Winchester Science trip letter</u> taking place on Wednesday 3 December, noting that Senior Girls need to be dropped off near to the Senior Boys school (Ray Park Avenue) by 8.35am. Normal collection arrangements will apply, so your usual school at the usual time or school coaches. Pupils will need a nut-free packed lunch and drinks for the day and should wear their school uniform.

YEAR 7 - 8 ONLY

Science Space Week 'Dress up Day' Friday 12 December

Pupils in Year 7-8 have been invited to wear something into school along the theme of space on Friday 12 December. There is a competition for best dressed staff as well!

YEAR 9 ONLY

Year 9 Online GCSE Options Information Evening - Monday 24 November Please join Mrs O'Clee and Dr Loughran from 6-7pm for this online GCSE Options Information Evening where they will offer guidance on selecting the most suitable subjects for study. Further information can be found in the <u>Y9 GCSE Options Process Letter</u> which was emailed home recently.

Year 9 Ypres Online Parents Meeting - 5.30pm Tuesday 25 November

A letter containing information and a MEET link has been emailed home to all parents whose child is on the trip in December.

Year 9 GCSE Options Fair - Tuesday 2 December

Parents and pupils are invited to the GCSE Options Fair from 6pm - 7.30pm at College Avenue (SL6 6AW) where each of the Options subjects will have a stall so you can ask any questions you may have about studying that subject at GCSE. Further information can be found in the <u>Y9 GCSE Options Process Letter</u> which was emailed home yesterday.

YEAR 10 ONLY

Year 10 GCSE French Language Pupils Only

Cultural French Trip to London - 5 February 2026

Please find the <u>letter</u> regarding the Cultural French trip to London taking place on Thursday 5 February. The deadline for the £34 payment via the <u>Payment Portal</u> is **Friday 5 December**.

Year 10 GCSE Spanish Language Pupils Only

Spanish Trip to BFI, Southbank - 23 February 2026

Please find the <u>letter</u> regarding the Spanish trip to the British Film Institute taking place on Monday 23 February. The deadline for the £42 payment via the <u>Payment Portal</u> is **Thursday 4 December**.

B10 English Mock Examinations - Friday 28 November

Year 10 will be sitting their mock English Language examination next Friday morning. There will be a further opportunity to sit another English Language Mock Examination on Tuesday 10 February.

Year 10 Artist Visit - rearranged for 11 December

Due to the artist Ian Murphy being unwell on 16 October we have rearranged this workshop for Thursday 11 December. All details remain the same, so please find the <u>previous letter</u> amended accordingly.

YEAR 11 ONLY

Post Mocks Movie Evening - Friday 28 November

Year 11 boys and girls are invited to a movie night with pizza and popcorn to celebrate the completion of their mock exams. This will take place at Senior Girls and there will be a coach to take boys there after school. Please complete this <u>form</u> **by Monday 24 November** to confirm attendance and indicate arrangements for your son to travel home.

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

The Year 11 Mock Examinations continue next week according to this <u>timetable</u>, with the following additional dates:

- MFL speaking Wednesday 3 December
- Food practical Wednesday 3 & Friday 5 December

Please check out these resources about exams on <u>Claires Court SchoolTV</u>. FYI, there will be a further opportunity to sit another English Literature Mock Examination on Tuesday 10 February.

Y11 Sixth Form Reference Requests

Most Sixth Forms will use an online system for reference requests that requires the applicant to put in the grades they are predicted to achieve. At Claires Court we do not issue 'predicted' grades, but instead use 'working at' grades, which will be based on a combination of pupils' most recent grade cards:

- Year 10 Summer Exams Grade Card which covers Year 10 work and
- Year 11 Half Term Grade Cards which covers the start of Year 11

Pupils should therefore use these grade cards to enter a considered grade after which the application is sent to us and we will be asked to agree or disagree with the grades they have put in. We will be basing our judgement on the same grade cards that the pupils have used which should therefore ensure consistency. The picture will obviously build following the Year 11 Mocks in November and full report in January. If you have any queries over grades, please ask your son to discuss with their form tutor in the first instance and references should be directed to the office for the attention of Miss Mirza.

Year 11 Subject Directory

Please find for reference the <u>GCSE Subject Directory</u> containing useful information on revision checklists, past papers, coursework deadlines and exam dates by subject.

TRIPS 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.

Year 9 Ypres Online Parents Meeting Tuesday 25 November 5.30pm

A letter containing information and a MEET link has been emailed home to all parents whose child is on the trip in December.

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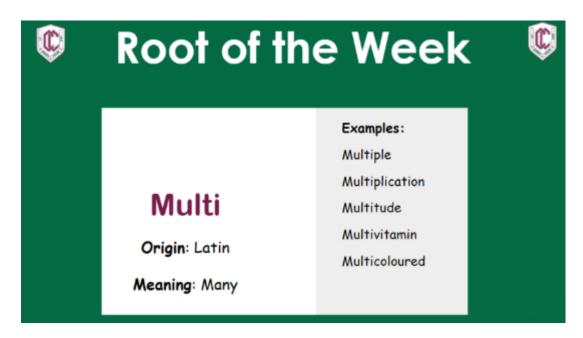
DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

Root of the Week

In our 'Root of the Week' pupils learn one new word root and its meaning each week, along with examples of words containing that root, in an attempt to increase

vocabulary and comprehension.

- The root this week was 'multi' meaning 'many'
- Example words include 'multitude' and 'multivitamin'



'Of the Month'

Please find our <u>'Of the month' November</u> edition containing interesting facts and information for your perusal! Our '**Book of the month**' is Game Zero by Christopher Edge, a twisty, puzzle-filled story, its a gamer's delight!



Linguists of the Week - French

<u>In French for their amazing CT results!</u>

- Year 8: Ethan L, Rufus C, Thomas A, Harry R, Cameron S
- Year 9: William B, Max L, Jay S, Nathaniel W
- Year 10: Seb B, Matthieu M

Mathematicians of the Week

- Year 7: Elliot DJ, George L, Charlie G
- Year 8: Zach G, Joe D, Tim F
- Year 9: Thomas K, Dylan M, Oliver G
- Year 10: Felix G, Alfie B, Ben T

Scientists of the Week

- Year 9 Freddie S for his incredible work on calculations and distance time graphs
- Year 9 Louis M for his great work on velocity calculations

Sparx Reader of the Week

- Year 7 Daniel TB & Luca R
- Year 8 Robert S

Accelerated Reader of the Week

- Year 7 Aaban M
- Year 8 Finley D and Manny B
- Year 9 Ethan A

GENERAL INFORMATION

Reporting Absences

A reminder that if your son is unwell or unable to attend school due to medical/dental appointments, please let the School Office know by 9.30am on each day of absence by one of the following means (in order of preference).....

- 1. 'Absence Reporting' on the Report Portal
- 2. Email to seniorboys@clairescourt.net
- 3. Telephone to 01628 327600

Other absences during term time will need to be requested using the <u>Term Time</u> <u>Absence Request Form</u>. Whilst we may 'approve' these absences they will invariably be recorded as 'unauthorised' due to the strict Department for Education guidelines to which we adhere.

Please find below other links that you may find useful....

- Payment Portal
- Sports Website
- Coach Booking
- Chromebook Policy
- Claires Court SchoolTV
- CC Administration of Medicine Request Form