



**CLAIRE'S COURT**  
**SENIOR BOYS**

# Weekly Bulletin

**5 DECEMBER 2025 (AUTUMN TERM WEEK 12)**

## FROM THE OFFICE

### Principal's Blog

Please read the latest blog from Mr Wilding here: ["Surviving Christmas with All I Want for Christmas is You" - Mariah Carey](#)

### End of Term - Site Closure, Lockers and Lost Property

The Senior Boys site will be closed on Thursday 18 December for essential electrical maintenance, so if you need to contact school please do so via email rather than phone [seniorboys@clairescourt.net](mailto:seniorboys@clairescourt.net). As such, the site requires clearing by the end of term so all lockers need to be emptied and left unlocked for cleaning by close of play Wednesday last day. If your son is not going to be in school for the last week, please ensure he clears his locker before his last day at school. Any lockers left locked will have their padlock cut off. If your son has any lost property please ask him to check with the nurses for clothing and in the staff room for books, pencil cases, water bottles etc. and also ask at reception. Anything unclaimed and unnamed will be donated to charity after the last day of term.

### Activity booking - closes Monday 8 December

Please see our [Activities Website](#) with all the necessary information surrounding the before/after school programme. Booking via the Report Portal closes Monday 8 December and something needs to be selected for after school each day of the week Monday through to Friday whether that be an activity, study or going home ([booking guide](#)). Activities in the Spring Term begin on Monday 12 January, with early buses on Thursday 8 and Friday 9 January.

### Whole School Photograph - available to order

Looking for a Christmas gift? The Whole School Photograph taken last academic year in April is still available to order via Tempest - <https://http.st/120031-416>. Orders will be sent direct to home addresses only so P&P applies and if it is intended as a Christmas gift please place your order before 5 December to give the best chance of receiving your photograph before the Christmas holidays. For assistance, please call 01736 752411, Option 3 - Place an order, Option 5 - Customer services.

### Claire's Court TV - Christmas Report

Please do take a look at the Claire's Court School TV [Surviving Christmas Report](#) where you might pick up a few tips to keep things running smoothly over the festive period.

## 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 CHRISTMAS!

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

The Senior Boys St Luke's Christmas Tree has now been decorated by Mrs Carey and her band of merry elves (guess what her favourite colour is?!). Please pop along to St Luke's [Christmas Tree Festival](#) (Norfolk Road, Maidenhead SL6 7AX) to view it along with the Juniors, Senior Girls and Sixth Form trees plus all the other decorated trees on display. Buy tokens and vote for your favourite trees to raise funds for [Alzheimer Dementia Support](#). Opening times are shown below but if you cannot visit the church, you can donate [online](#).

- Friday 5 December 10am - 7pm
- Saturday 6 December 10am - 7pm
- Sunday 12 (noon) - 5.30pm



### Christmas Tree Pick Up - Friday 5 or Saturday 6 December



Thank you so much to everyone who ordered their Christmas tree via the PTA website to support the boat club. Please collect your tree from Claire's Court Senior Boys (SL6 8TE) at one of the following times:

- Friday 5 December: 4.45pm-5.45pm
- Saturday 6 December: 10am-12pm

## 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 [Save the Children](#). For a £2 donation boys are invited to wear a festive jumper with or without their blazer as preferred. Please make payment preferably via the [Payment Portal](#) or cash to Form Tutor.



## Clares Court Santa Fun Run - Friday 12 December

Mr Richards and Mr Jost are thrilled to announce their popular Santa Fun Run will take place on Friday 12 December. Open to all pupils, parents and staff, regardless of experience level, whether you're a seasoned runner or just starting out, everyone is welcome to join us for some festive fun! If your son wants to join and it is his first run with us, please complete this [consent form](#) in advance.

- **Timings:** please arrive at 7:20 am for a briefing and warm-up to start at 7:30 am sharp!
- **Location:** Starting and finishing from outside the Senior Boys' reception.
- **Routes:** You have two options, depending on how you're feeling on the morning, the 3.5k [Sheep](#) route (everyone can walk this!) or the 5k [Double Sheep](#)
- **Festive Attire:** we strongly encourage you to add some festive flair to your running outfit...think Santa hats, reindeer antlers, tinsel, festive socks... or why not all of these?!





## Christmas Food Donations - by Friday 12 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 [Maidenhead Foodshare](#). Please see their wishlist of items below, which should be brought into school and handed to Form Tutors by Friday 12 December. Form Tutors will ask boys to bring in specific items according to this [list](#) to ensure a good range is collected. Thank you in advance for your contributions.



## 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 Senior Boys Years 7-9
- 11.30am for Senior Boys Years 10-11

## Christmas Tree Recycling

Riverside Tree Care is offering free local Christmas tree collections in exchange for a donation to Thames Hospice. It's a simple, sustainable way to clear out your tree while supporting a great local cause. See the flyer to book your collection!



# YEAR GROUP FORTHCOMING DATES

## ALL YEAR GROUPS

Please see our website [calendar](#) for this term's dates, which will be updated when new events and dates are confirmed.

### Space Dress Up Day - Friday 12 December

All pupils in Years 7 and 8 were given a two week homework to create their very own 'Space Dress Up day' costume ready for the fashion parade next Friday. Year 9's were also invited to dress up if they would like and there is a competition for the best dressed teacher as well!

## YEAR 7 ONLY

### Year 7 Language Choice for January 2026

Please complete the [Year 7 Language Choice Form](#) by Wednesday 10 December to confirm which two languages your son would like to continue with from January 2026 onwards. If we do not receive a completed form by the deadline, we will allocate pupils to either French, German or Spanish, as necessary.

## YEAR 10 ONLY

### Year 10 GCSE French Language Pupils Only

#### Cultural French Trip to London - 5 February 2026

Please find the [letter](#) regarding the Cultural French trip to London taking place on Thursday 5 February. The deadline for the £34 payment via the [Payment Portal](#) is **Friday 5 December**.

### Year 10 GCSE Artist Only

#### 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 [previous letter](#) amended accordingly.

### Year 10 GCSE Geography Pupils Only

#### Year 10 Margam Park - 19-21 March 2026

Please find the [Year 10 GCSE Geography Field Trip letter](#) containing details of venue, itinerary, costs and consent. Please note the following required actions:

- Pay £200 non-refundable deposit via [Payment Portal](#) by **Friday 12 December**
- Complete [Consent Form](#) by **Friday 12 December**

## YEAR 11 ONLY

### Year 11 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 [GCSE Subject Directory](#) 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 [view](#). As and when trips become available to book, an email letter will be sent containing all the details you need to know.

### **Hazewinkel Rowing Camp 2026**

Please find the [Hazewinkel Rowing Camp letter](#) taking place 26 March - 2 April 2026 which invited pupils would have received by email yesterday. To confirm their place please make payment of the £450 non-refundable deposit **by Friday 9 January** via the [Payment Portal](#).

### **Spanish Trip to BFI, Southbank - 23 February 2026**

Please find the [letter](#) regarding the Spanish trip to the British Film Institute taking place on Monday 23 February.

## **DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION**

### **'Of the Month'**

Please find the new [December 'Of the month'](#) containing interesting facts and information for your perusal! Our '**Historical facts of the month**' highlight the following events that took place in December:

- Boston Tea Party in 1773
- Attack on Pearl Harbour in 1941
- End of the Cold War in 1991



### **Linguists of the Week - German**

In Spanish for their excellent Common Task

Year 8: Thomas A, Finn D, Rhys N, Harry R, Phoenix A, Manny B, Zak D, Jack M

Year 9: Hayden D, Henry P, Oliver W, Will H

### **Mathematicians of the Week**

Year 7: Thomas H, Felix S, Seb W, Elliot DJ

Year 8: Saxon L, Joe D, Tomo R, Thomas A

Year 9: Benedict B, Hayden D, Olly N-B

Year 10: Ollie C, Alessio R, Tom A

Year 11: Seb S, Felix R, Ciaran W, Toby C

### **Scientists of the Week**

Year 9: Zaid S for some incredible acceleration calculations

Year 10: Alessio R for continued hard work in Science

### **Sparx Reader of the Week**

Year 7: Harry H

Year 8: Ernie G

### **Accelerated Reader of the Week**

Year 7: Jayden H

Year 8: Elliot KH and Errol W

Year 9: Max L and Hayden D

## **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](mailto:seniorboys@clairescourt.net)
3. Telephone to 01628 327600

Other absences during term time will need to be requested using the [Term Time Absence Request Form](#). 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](#)
- [Claire's Court SchoolTV](#)
- [CC Administration of Medicine Request Form](#)

