



**CLAIRE'S COURT
JUNIORS**

Weekly Bulletin

12 December 2025 - Autumn Term - Week 13

Principal's Blog

Please read Mr Wilding's latest blog: ["Lethal Mutations - When the Direction of Government Policy is fundamentally flawed"](#)

Claire's Court is a founding partner school for the Association for Families of Independent Schooling (AFIS). AFIS is the only membership organisation that brings together families who choose and value independent education in the U.K. and British international schooling. Their work supports their member families, and the wider sector, by championing choice, fair representation, and greater access to independent education.

You can join AFIS here: <https://www.afis.org.uk/register>

AFIS Members can save money from day one with heavily discounted prices from local businesses, and well-known brands such as Waterstones, Clarks, Booking.com, Theatre Tickets Direct, Tastecard, and many more. Just in time for gift giving this holiday season!

Also, AFIS has commissioned the University of Chichester to conduct research investigating "what are the demographic profiles of independent school families and why do they choose independent education for their families?" With AFIS, Claire's Court wishes to make sure as many families as possible are given the opportunity to contribute their views, as part of the mission to give independent school parents a voice in the national education conversation and provide evidence.

CLASS BULLETINS

[Reception](#)

[Year 1](#)

[Year 2](#)

[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)

[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)



Awards

Responsibility: Kiran (6L)
Respect: Freddie (3H)
Loyalty: Lucia (5F)
Integrity: Ollie (2W)

FROM THE OFFICE

This is our final bulletin of the Autumn term 2025. Thank you for staying up to date with us each week. The children had a wonderful visit from Father Christmas today and each received a sweet treat to enjoy at home. A big thank you to all staff and pupils who wore their festive jumpers today in support of Save the Children. The Payment Portal will remain open until Monday to receive any late £2 donations, and we will announce the final total in the end of term letter. Thank you to our catering team for a wonderful Christmas Lunch! It was amazing! Catering Team, left to right, Marley, Louise-Jade, Mandy, Father Christmas, Janine, Anja, Surjeet and Naz.



From the office, Robyn, Dexter and everyone at Claires Court Juniors, we wish you a wonderful Christmas break and look forward to seeing you in January 2026.





Merry Christmas from our Libraries

Immerse yourself in some fantastic award-winning books over the Christmas Holidays! [Click here](#) to find out more. We please ask you to make room for new books and return your overdue loans to the school library. We currently have a very large number of overdue library books on loan, so please renew or return any overdue books as soon as possible so everyone can read and enjoy them. Thank you!

Books of the Week

We're excited to launch our new Book of the Week feature, put together by Miss Dockerill, our Head of English, and Miss Murphy, our School Librarian. Each week, we'll be sharing staff recommendations.

Last week we had recommendations from Mr Grist and this week, take a look at **Mr Laouira's recommendations!**

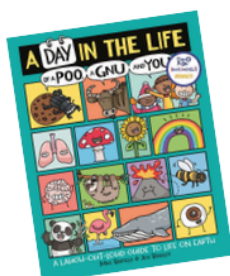
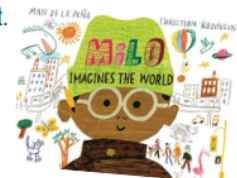


Our Books of the Week

Milo, who takes the subway with his sister to visit their mother, uses his sketchbook to imagine elaborate lives for the strangers he sees, only to realize they're all more similar to him than he thought when he meets another boy in the same queue, learning that you can't judge people by appearances and we're all more alike than different.

Why I Loved This Book

This is a wonderful story about a boy with a big imagination, and learning that you can't judge people by their appearance.



All told in a super-fun comic book format this non-fiction book is split into three awesome sections: Human Body, Animal Kingdom and Earth and Science. A Day in the Life... is packed with facts, laughs and amazing illustrations you can dive into all day long. Meet your grumpy liver that has to do practically EVERYTHING; your trusty hands that are very, well, handy; the spiky porcupines ready to charge; lonely Mars rovers abandoned on the Red Planet; raging tornadoes ready to rip through the pages of the book and bubbly volcanoes ready to blow.

Why I Loved This Book

A brilliant non-fiction book, told in a comic book style! It is written in a very fun and accessible way.

END OF TERM AND CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES INFORMATION



MONDAY 15 DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS HAMPER COLLECTION

We're making one final, joyful push to fill our hampers for the Salvation Army Maidenhead and **we need your help!** Their preferred items list can be found on their [flyer](#), but here's what we're kindly suggesting for each year group:

Please remember we are a nut-free school.

Year R: Children's chocolate selection packs, boxes of chocolates

Year 1: Christmas biscuits, cakes, mince pies

Year 2: Christmas puddings (Best Before date past December, please!)

Year 3: Tea, coffee, hot chocolate, UHT milk

Year 4: Canned vegetables, beans, soup

Year 5: Rice, pasta, cereal, porridge

Year 6: Non-food items such as toiletries and hygiene products

Our festive "hampers" are ready and waiting:

- **Upper Juniors:** by the office
- **Lower Juniors:** by the Lower Juniors entrance

They'll be there until **Monday 15 December**, don't miss your chance to donate!

Tuesday 16 December - SEN Coffee Morning

Join us for an informal meet-and-greet with the Learning Development Department (LDD). It's a great opportunity to connect with our team as well as other parents of children with SEN in a relaxed and welcoming setting. Please use this [link](#) to let us know if you will be attending.



W/C Monday 15 December

Study/Guided Play will be available between 4-5pm and After School Care between 5-6pm Monday-Tuesday. There is no after-school provision at all on Wednesday 17 December. *Early buses only* from Monday-Wednesday leaving Juniors at 4pm. Our Click and Collect service will be running on Monday.



Tuesday 16 December - [Juniors Carol Service](#)

2.30pm - 3.30pm at All Saints Church, Maidenhead, SL6 4HE

All parents are welcome to attend. However, due to health and safety regulations, the church can accommodate a maximum of 320 people. To ensure space for everyone, we kindly ask that each family brings no more than two guests. Once the church reaches capacity, we will unfortunately have to turn away any additional guests.

Wednesday 17 December

End of Autumn Term with a full day of lessons, early bus only leaving Juniors at 4pm. There is no after-school provision at all on Wednesday 17 December. Our Click and Collect service will be running. Parents 'end of term letters will be emailed home.

LOCKERS

All lockers need to be emptied for cleaning. If your child is not going to be in school for the last week, please ensure they clear their locker before their last day at school. If they have any lost property please ask them to check with the office, staff room, PE office for clothes, books, pencil cases, water bottles etc. Anything unclaimed and unnamed will be donated to charity.

W/C Monday 22 December - Wednesday 24 December

Holiday Club - Mini mids Claires Court Reception

- From Year 1 Claires Court and external

Our Holiday club is open over the Christmas and New Year break, and your child/children (and their friends) are welcome to join us for all or some of these 4 days. **The dates are: Monday 22 December, Tuesday 23 December, Monday 5 January, Tuesday 6 January.** They will have a fun filled time, socialising, enjoying structured games, sporting and creative activities. We have days of combined activities and there is also the opportunity to book a full day of Art and Craft, and/or Cookery. More details can be found on our [website](#), or feel free to email holidayclub@clairescourt.com for further information. [Book now.](#)

Office

The school will be closed during the Christmas Holidays and the office will not be staffed until Monday 5 January 2026. If you require assistance, please telephone 01628 327700 where all calls are monitored during holiday periods.

FROM THE OFFICE

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!



ST LUKE'S CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

We hope you managed to pop along to St Luke's Church to view all the decorated trees on display. Thank you to Mrs Vader, Charlotte, Rafferty, Alfie and Cece for decorating the Juniors tree!



Santa Run

A massive well done to everyone who joined the Santa Run this morning at Senior Boys! We had a fantastic turnout of over 40 runners - more than double last year! Next up: We are doing hill runs in Cookham on Tuesday 30 Dec.



Tub-To-Pub 2026

As the season of over-indulgence (and excessive plastic) is upon us, Mr Wragg will once again be collecting plastic Celebrations / Heroes / Roses / Cracker tubs to be recycled and raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support. Further information can be found at [TUB2PUB](#). Last year the school collected 127 tubs which was fantastic, 52 more than the previous year and potentially 127 less tubs going to landfill. Overall the campaign collected 240,000 tubs raising £10,916 for Macmillan. Tubs should be handed into Form Tutors or the staff room with the final collection being 6 February 2026. **It's an environmental win-win!**

[Claire's Court TV - Christmas Report](#)

Juniors Drive

We kindly ask all parents to follow our procedure for coach access on the school drive. If you are entering from the mini roundabout by the Thicket Car Park and a coach is leaving the site, please pull into the National Trust car park to allow the coach to exit safely.

The 'Bus Lane' on the main drive is reserved for coaches only when they are arriving or departing. During these times, please move across to the opposite side of the drive to give them priority. At all other times, this lane may be used as normal.

Trainer Donations

Claire's Court Juniors are supporting **Maidenhead Nomads**, a community-focused sports club that uses our facilities. Committed to providing inclusive access to sport, they are collecting all types of sports shoes, including trainers, football boots, rugby boots, and more, to be distributed to underprivileged children in UK primary and secondary schools.

Please donate any unwanted sports shoes in any size. Bring them into school and drop them in the labelled **"Trainer Donation"** box outside the Junior Sports Hall office. If your child is at a Senior school, please drop the trainers off at the front office so they can be transferred to the Juniors site. Thank you!

Chess Lessons

Looking to sharpen your strategy and level up your game? Mat Dydak, an expert player, offers **1:1 chess lessons every Friday to Year 2 to Year 6 pupils!** Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned player, this is a fantastic opportunity to boost your skills and have fun while doing it. If you'd like more information, please contact the school office juniors@clairescourt.net.

RESPONSIBILITY



RESPECT



LOYALTY



INTEGRITY