



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

# Weekly Bulletin

**12 DECEMBER 2025 (AUTUMN TERM WEEK 13)**

## FROM THE OFFICE

### Principal's Blog

Please read the latest blog from Mr Wilding here: "[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](https://www.booking.com). 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 allowed to contribute their views, as part of the mission to give independent school parents a voice in the national education conversation and provide evidence.

### End/Start of Term Arrangements

- **w/c 15 December** - No activities or study, school day finishes at 4pm and early coaches departing 4.30pm
- **Monday 15 / Tuesday 16 December** - Year 9 Ypres Trip
- **Tuesday 16 December** - Carol Concert (at St Luke's SL6 7AX) 10am B7-9, 11.30am B10-11
- **Wednesday 17 December** - Last day of term, all lockers to be left empty & unlocked. Unclaimed and unnamed lost property will be donated to charity.
- **Thursday 18 December** - School closed for essential electrical maintenance (no access), reports and grade cards emailed home and available on the Report Portal
- **Thursday 8 January** - Spring term commences, no activities or study school day finishes at 4pm and early coaches departing 4.30pm
- **w/c Monday 12 January** - activities and study commence along with late coaches

If you need to contact school during the holiday period please email [seniorboys@clairescourt.net](mailto:seniorboys@clairescourt.net).

## Christmas Jumper Day

We have currently raised £250.20 for Save the Children. If you have not yet donated and would like to, please do so via the [Payment Portal](#).



## Thank you!

Thank you for all your generous food donations. We will be taking hampers to St Luke's Church to distribute to local families and other food donations will be delivered to Foodshare on Monday. Many thanks also to our wonderful kitchen staff for all their hard work in preparing our delicious Christmas lunch on Wednesday.



## Santa Run Congrats

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! Have a great Christmas, everyone!



## Merry Christmas from our Libraries

Please see the list of [Book Award Winners for 2025](#) and take the opportunity to immerse yourself in some fantastic books over the Christmas holiday!



## 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. 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!**



**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**

## 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!





## 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 tutor's 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.

# 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.

## YEAR 10 ONLY

### Year 10 GCSE Geography Pupils Only

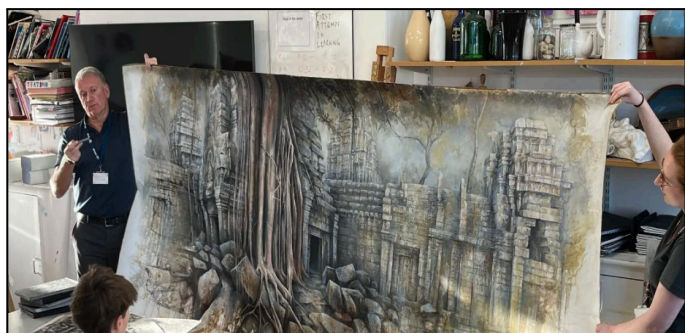
#### Year 10 Margam Park - 19-21 March 2026

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**

## Art Workshop - Thursday 11 December

All the Year 10 GCSE Art pupils had a very informative day yesterday with visiting Artist, Ian Murphy, learning about his art techniques - please see Ian's [website here](#). Thank you to Art Teacher Mrs Moorhouse for organising.



## YEAR 11 ONLY

### Christmas Holiday Revision

Miss Mirza has shared this [Revision Plan](#) with the boys to support them in continuing their work over the holiday period so that they do not have to think about what to do! Please encourage them to use their mock reflection document to create and review flashcards and you can even test them!

### Year 11 Pupils' Transport - **IMPORTANT**

Many parents opt to drive their child to school during the GCSE examinations period but also have coach transport booked. You can however book ad hoc trips without committing to the whole term and therefore if you do not require daily transport in the summer term due to exams, a full term's notice will need to be given. This is required in writing to [Vectare](#) via the 'contact us' form on the website **by Wednesday 7 January 2026** to avoid charges in the summer term. Unfortunately no exceptions or refunds can be made in the Summer term if notice has not been received by 7 January.

### 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.

### 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.

## 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.

### Ypres History Trip

Please find the [Ypres Trip letter](#) confirming departure details, itinerary and packing list. If you need to contact staff in the event of an **emergency only** please call 01628 327389 which will divert to Mr Flynn.

### **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](#).

### **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.

### **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 **'Composer of the month'** is Rachel Portman the first female composer to win an Academy Award, for the score of 'Emma'.



### **Linguists of the Week - French**

Year 8 for great writing on my school day: Oscar B, Rufus C, Berty L, Matty T and Josh S

Year 9 for their excellent essays on what I did in Paris: William B, Max L, Albert H, Louis M, Jay S and Nathaniel W

### **Mathematicians of the Week**

Year 7: Luca R, Hugo F

Year 8: Ethan L, Zach G, Jack M

Year 9: Will B, Albert H, Barnaby M, Finley M

Year 10: George R, Zach A, Seb B

Year 11: Gabe W-R, Henry B

### **Scientists of the Week**

Year 9: Harry W and Sam C for excellent work on their graphs of motion workbook

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

Year 7: Aaban M

Year 8: Matty T

## **Accelerated Reader of the Week**

Year 7: George B

Year 8: William G and Berty L

Year 9: Olly N-B

## **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](#)

