



CLAIRE'S COURT
JUNIORS

Weekly Bulletin

06 February 2026 - Spring Term - Week 5

Principal's Blog

Please read Mr Wilding's latest blog: ["The Morning After VAT: From Panic to Adjustment in the Independent Sector"](#)

CLASS BULLETINS

[Reception](#)

[Year 1](#)

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[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)

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Awards

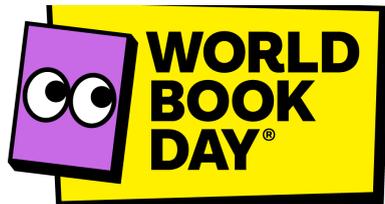
Responsibility: Martina (1S)
Respect: Emma.R (6J)
Loyalty: Max OC (6L)
Integrity: Margot (2S)

Children's Mental Health Week

We will be celebrating this important event from **Monday 9 to Friday 13 February** by linking the week up to our curriculum and holding some extra special events. The theme for this year is **This is my place**. This week has always been a success and shines a light on the importance of mental health and talking about it, and we have included some top tips for families here. There will be no homework this week, and while homework clubs will still be running, there will be different activities on the schedule. Pupils are also invited to **Dress to Express** on **Friday 13 February** where children may choose to dress in a certain colour that matches their mood for example. We look forward to sharing

this event with your children.

Francesca Oakes, SENCo/Deputy Head Pastoral



Clares Court Juniors Book Day is being held on **Friday 13 March** and we would really like to take this opportunity to promote sustainability and teach the children some thriftiness, with a Character costume swap! If your child has a Book Character Costume they would like to donate please could they bring this in by **Monday 9 February**. Costumes should be handed to Miss Murphy in the Library and in return children can choose a new costume from those donated on Friday 13 February. Please find more information [here](#).

Books of the Week

This week, we have recommendations from our **Deputy Head, Mrs King...**

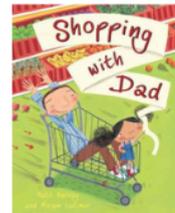


Our Books of the Week

It's Saturday, and one small girl and her Dad are heading for the supermarket while Mum gets on with some work. It's so exciting! How can she contain herself? She tries - but she can't! An enormous sneeze sets in motion a small calamity, and Dad gets the blame. But when his daughter speaks up and takes responsibility for her actions, the mood changes.

Why I Loved This Book

I used to read this book on repeat to my children, and they absolutely loved the humour. I loved it too, because as a parent it's so easy to relate to. It captures how much fun can be found in the most ordinary, everyday moments.



Follow Elizabeth Allen in book one as she arrives for her first year at boarding school. Elizabeth is spoilt and selfish and has made up her mind to be the naughtiest pupil there's ever been! But soon she finds out that being bad isn't as simple as it seems ...

Why I Loved This Book

I love the journey of Elizabeth as she adjusts to her new school and learns how to make friends. She goes from being quite selfish and unkind, although I think misunderstood too, to learning how to be kind and fair.

Upcoming local booky events

Please see details [here](#) of some upcoming author events being organised by Four Bears Books, a local independent bookshop in Caversham.

The Masked Reader

As part of our celebrations of National Storytelling Week, Claires Court Juniors played a game of 'The Masked Reader', the answers were announced in assembly today!

- The Horse - Mrs Vine
- Cartoon Girl - Miss Gerrish
- The Wolf - Mrs King
- Potato Glinda - Mrs Gill
- Disco Ball - Mrs McKee
- The Lion - Mr Worth
- The Mouse - Miss Murphy

If you haven't already, check out our social media channels to watch their videos!



German Word of the Week

During this Spring Term our focus language in MFL is German. To tie in with this, each week, there will be a German word in the bulletin, designed to expand vocabulary and spark curiosity! Some of the direct translations are surprisingly imaginative and offer a fun glimpse into how the language works, and how Germans see the world.



Calling all singers

Do you want to find your voice, have fun and build confidence? Mr Orme has space for more singing pupils and would love to hear from you! Whether you want to work towards singing grades or just de-stress from your academics, singing lessons can benefit you, and stimulate other areas of learning and creativity. Discover your potential and give it a try! Register your interest with the Google form for next steps. Mr Orme would especially welcome any boys who would like to give singing a go.

PTA Nearly New Uniform Sale

All Nearly New Sales are on a Friday morning from 8.15am to 8.45am and take place in the PTA Nearly New Uniform shop in the Stable block, Upper Juniors playground. Payment is by card only and NOT cash. The next sale date at Juniors is Friday 13 March.

FROM THE OFFICE

Transport Questionnaire - **deadline to complete 16 February**

A gentle reminder to please complete the [Transport Questionnaire](#) you should have received by email on Wednesday. This will help us determine the transport requirements for the next academic year. Please complete it

by Monday 16 February, even if you have decided not to use school transport to let us know your reasons. If you have any questions please contact Hayley Morrissey at travel@clairescourt.net.

PTA Summer Party - 27 June 2026

The PTA Summer Party date has now been confirmed as Saturday 27 June in the grounds of the Junior School. Please **SAVE THE DATE**. Further details will follow in due course.

Cashless Catering

Please ensure your child's cashless catering account is topped up and any outstanding balances are cleared

Breakfast Club

Please ensure your child is not dropped off before 7:30 am, as they are not permitted in the building until this time. We kindly ask that you do not ring the doorbell prior to 7:30 am to allow staff time to prepare. When dropping off your child, please remember to confirm with a teacher that they have been officially marked on the register before you leave.

Gate opening and closing times

To avoid missing the gate, please ensure children are on the playground by around 8.40am, when the whistle goes for lining up. If the gate is locked, please drop your child at the front of the school. The gate is open from 8.15am to 8.45am prompt, though it may be locked a minute or two early to allow staff to get to class on time. It is essential for safety that staff are in the classrooms promptly with the children.

At the end of the day, the gate opens at 3.30pm, closes at 4.00pm, and reopens at 5.00pm until approximately 5.10pm. On Fridays, pick-up arrangements are slightly different due to Click & Collect, but the usual arrangements for collection from After School Care remain the same.

Hot Drinks

Please ensure that any hot drinks brought for children are fully consumed before entering the school site in the mornings.

End of Day Collections

If you are collecting your child from the front office, please knock on the office door and ask the School Administrator, Mrs Gill, or the School Secretary, Miss Gerrish, to radio the class teacher to bring your child to the office. For safeguarding reasons, parents are not permitted to enter classrooms.

School Closure Policy

A reminder that if school is closed due to weather conditions or any other reason, an announcement will be posted on our website, 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 coach operation.

Association for Families of Independent Schooling (AFIS)

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](#).

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](#). 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.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Please check your child's class bulletin (linked at the top of this bulletin) for more dates to remember and [important information](#) from your child's class teacher.

RESPONSIBILITY ◆ RESPECT ◆ LOYALTY ◆ INTEGRITY