



**CLAIRES COURT
SENIOR BOYS**

Weekly Bulletin

18 OCTOBER 2024 (AUTUMN TERM WEEK 7)

FROM THE OFFICE

Please read Mr Wilding's latest blog

[Academic Principal's Half-Term Report October 2024 – Part 1](#)

Wishing everyone a lovely half term and a happy and safe Halloween!

The office will be manned remotely over half term so if you need to contact the school please email seniorboys@clairescourt.com and we will be happy to help.

School Shoes

We appreciate your support in adhering to the [Senior Boys School Uniform Guide](#) with regards to acceptable school shoes being black polishable 'leather' shoes, and not trainers such as Nike Airforce or equivalent. We have noticed a positive change around school and thank you for this. There are however a few boys still wearing trainer-type shoes and therefore we kindly ask parents to ensure that after half term all boys are in an acceptable style school shoe.

It's Showtime! - 13/14 November - **secure your seat now!**

Book your seat for [It's Showtime](#) now via the [Payment Portal](#), £20 to include food. Seats are filling up and numbers are limited to 80 per night so book quickly to avoid disappointment. Please complete the [Dietary Requirements & Seating Requests form](#).

13 / 14 November 2024 7.30pm
£20/seat (includes beautiful spread of yummy finger food!)
Limited to 80 seats per night - book now via the [Payment Portal](#)

Tables of 10 people.
Complete [form](#) with dietary requirements & to request seating with friends (one form per group)

IT'S SHOW TIME!

PTA CASH BAR

ICONIC
Songs from the musicals performed by the Claire's Court Senior students

@Senior Girls College Avenue SL6 6AW

Additional Sports Kit items - orders close 3 November

We are pleased to inform you that there are additional optional items of the school sports kit now available for order until 3 November through our [PTA online shop](#). These items are not required as part of the standard kit but are small extras that may be useful. The new optional items include:

- **CC Branded Subs/Warm Up Coat** – ideal for staying warm on the sidelines and between games
- **CC Sliders** – perfect for wearing before and after games, especially for Saturday morning fixtures
- **CC Bobble Hat** – a cosy addition to keep warm during chilly mornings, whether your child is warming up or you are cheering from the touchline (we are aware that Hawkinsport spelt 'School' incorrectly in the mock up, that will obviously be correct on the actual hat!)

Claires Court Headmasters Run Club (CC - HMRC!) - starting after half term

This run club is open to all staff and pupils, regardless of experience level. Whether you're a seasoned runner or just starting out, everyone is welcome to join.

- **When:** Every Friday morning 7.20am arrival for a 7.30am (sharp!) start - **Our first run will be Friday 8 November**
- **Where:** Starting and finishing from outside the Senior Boys' reception
- **Distance:** Choose between a 3.5km ([Sheep](#)) or 5km route ([Double Sheep](#))

The plan is to make sure we're back at school by 8am, so if you think a 5km run might take longer than 30mins, please opt for the 3.5km option.

Any pupils wishing to join will need to complete a consent form prior to their first run and this will be shared after half term. Staff tested the run this morning and are looking forward to the pupils joining them after half term.



Flu Vaccination - **please give or withhold consent as soon as possible**

Please find shared the [Flu Vaccination letter](#) from the Berkshire Immunisation Team who will be visiting Claires Court Senior Boys on Tuesday 12 November (see this [leaflet](#) for further information). Please complete the [Consent for Flu Nasal Spray form](#) using school code BK110153B to either **give or withhold consent**. You will need your child's NHS number which can be found [here](#) if not known. If your child is unable to have the nasal flu vaccine due to the porcine gelatine, there is an alternative injectable flu vaccine - see [letter](#) for further information.

Charity Week Fundraising

Freddie A and Leon H had the pleasure of presenting the cheque from the Year 7 and 8 Charity Week Fancy Dress Sponsored Walk to the Thames Valley Air Ambulance.



Food and Nutrition - Time for Beans....

This month's in-season vegetable is green beans. They are a sweet alternative to leafy greens or broccoli, as well as affordable and versatile for family meals! Check the website below for information on nutrition; shopping guide; storage; preparation and some tasty recipes!

<https://simplyveg.org.uk/recipe/vegetables/green-beans/>

Rewards and Sanctions weekly email

The weekly Rewards and Sanctions email was sent out yesterday from your son's form tutor, please look out for its safe receipt and check your spam/junk folder if you do not receive it.

CHRISTMAS NEWS

Castle Meats Discount for Claires Court Family and Friends

One of our meat suppliers, Castle Meats, has kindly extended a 10% discount on Christmas meat orders to all staff and parents at Claires Court. Castle Meats has been a Claires Court supplier for eight years. Just identify yourself as a Claires Court parent or staff member to get the discount.

Castle Meats
11 Harrison Way
Cippenham
Slough, SL1 5LG
Tel: 01628 666034

Copas PTA Fundraiser

Order an award winning [turkey from Copas](#) and raise funds for Claires Court School. Simply enter the code CCM24PTA at the checkout and Copas Turkeys will donate 5% of your order value to the school PTA.



Christmas PTA Fundraiser!

Order an award winning turkey from Copas and raise funds for Claires Court School

Simply enter the code CCM24PTA at checkout and Copas Turkeys will donate 5% of your order value to the school PTA.

WWW.COPASFARMSHOP.CO.UK

CALL: 01628 499 980

Raise funds and enjoy an award winning turkey!

Operation Christmas Child: Shoebox Deadline - Friday 8 November

Please find information about our [Operation Christmas Child: Shoebox Collection Drive](#) and return all filled shoeboxes to school **by Friday 8 November**. Thank you for making a big difference for a child in need this Christmas.

PTA Christmas Market - Thursday 21 November

All welcome to the PTA Christmas Market being held at our Junior School SL6 4QQ



FORTHCOMING DIARY DATES

ALL YEAR GROUPS

PTA Quiz Night - Friday 29 November 6pm - 8pm - last few tickets remaining!

Mrs O'Clee and Mr Richards are the quiz masters for the evening so brush up on your Maths, History, general knowledge, popular music and film facts. It was a sold out event last year, so secure your tickets now through Melanie Doe in the front office at College Avenue med@clairescourt.net.



YEAR 7 ONLY

It was lovely to see so many parents in school on Wednesday for the Pastoral and Workshare evening. We hope your son enjoyed showing you around his school and sharing his work.

YEAR 8 ONLY

B8 Parents' Evening - Tuesday 12 November

Year 8 Parents and boys are invited into school for their Parents' Evening taking place on Tuesday 12 November from 5.45pm - 8pm. All appointments will be five minutes and we are trialling the pre-booking of appointments in advance. You will be able to book a maximum of eight appointments, so please think about which subjects you would like to prioritise seeing. If you are unable to make an appointment with a teacher that you have prioritised, please contact them via email to arrange an alternative means of providing feedback.

English, Maths and Science Teachers will be based in classrooms in the Jubilee Teaching Wing and all other teachers will be in the Sports Hall. We suggest that you leave gaps where possible to allow for travel between classrooms and the Sports Hall, hence it is advised you book appointments manually rather than automatically. Booking via [schoolcloud](#) will **open at 7am on Tuesday 5 November** and close at midday Monday 11 November.

YEAR 9 ONLY

Bronze DofE - application form deadline 4 November

Following on from the [Bronze DofE Parent Information Evening](#) on Monday, we have pleasure in sharing a [recording](#) of that meeting, as well as the [Application Form](#) should your child wish to apply. Please read all the information carefully before your child completes the application form, the deadline for which is Monday 4 November. If you have any questions please contact the Outdoor Education team via outdoored@clairescourt.net.

B9 Options Information Evening - Thursday 5 December

* Save the date *

YEAR 10 ONLY

B10 Study Skills

The Year 10 boys took part in a study skills workshop last Friday. They were reminded of our recommended [CC7 Revision Strategies](#) and the importance of self-testing and spaced practice. The afternoon focused on two activities - making Cornell notes and how to use them for active revision, and the most effective way to make and use flashcards. Please find a copy of the [presentation slides](#).

B10 Parents' Evening - Tuesday 5 November 5.50pm - 8pm

Appointment booking via [schoolcloud](#) is now open and will **close at midday Tuesday 29 October**. To login please use your son's full first name, as shortened versions are not recognised. Further instructions can be found [here](#). We suggest that you leave gaps where possible to allow for travel between classrooms and the Sports Hall. If you are unable to book an appointment with a specific teacher, they will be in contact to arrange an alternative means of providing feedback to you. We will be asking for feedback after the evening, so thank you in advance for sharing your thoughts on the format.

On the evening please may we kindly ask you to **park on surrounding roads considerably for our neighbours**. If your son normally travels home on the coach he can remain at school and meet up with you when you arrive. On arrival please make your way to the Sports Hall to sign in and pick up a map. Refreshments will be available in the Sports Hall. English, Maths and Science teachers will be based in classrooms in the Jubilee Wing and all other teachers in the Sports Hall. For Science you will be allocated one teacher who will cover all three sciences and this appointment will therefore be ten minutes.

Year 10 English Mock Examination - Tuesday 19 November

Year 10 will be sitting their English Mock Examination on the morning of Tuesday 19 November during the two week [Year 11 Mock Examinations](#) period. Please find shared the [GCSE Rules and Regulations booklet](#) that we ask you to read carefully and keep for future reference.

YEAR 11 ONLY

B11 Subject Drop in Sessions

After half term, Year 11 teachers will be running weekly drop-in sessions according to this [timetable](#), so if your son has any questions that arise from his revision or requires help in these subjects please encourage him to come along and make the most of this resource.

Sixth Form Open Evening - Thursday 7 November 4 - 7pm

Join us to explore the exciting opportunities that await you in our Sixth Form. Discover the distinctive ethos and exceptional learning environment that sets Claires Court apart. Engage with our experienced teachers and current Sixth Form students who will share their insights and experiences, providing a first hand glimpse into life as a Claires Court Sixth Former.

Please join us for a Heads talk at 4.15pm, 5.15pm or 6.15pm and there will be tours running from 4pm to 6.45pm. A coach has been booked to take the boys up to Sixth Form at 5pm as per the message you recently received from the registrar. For any questions please email registrar@clairescourt.com otherwise the Sixth Form team look forward to seeing you all there.

Aim High | Believe In Yourself | Make A Difference



CLAIRES COURT
SIXTH FORM

Year 11 Mock Examinations - w/c 18 & 25 November

Please find the [Year 11 Mock Examination Timetable](#) taking place over two weeks from Monday 18 November to Friday 29 November and a copy of the [GCSE Rules and Regulations booklet](#) that we ask you read carefully and keep for future reference. Boys will be given their personalised timetable next week by form tutors and will also be asked to read the Rules and Regulations booklet.

DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

Root of the Week

A reminder about 'Root of the Week' where 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 '**Aqua**' meaning '**water**'
- Example words: aquarium, aquatic, aqueduct

Aqua

Origin: Latin

Meaning: Water

Examples:

Aquarium

Aquatic

Aqualung

Aquanaut

Aqueduct (funny spelling!)

Linguists of the Week

In Spanish for great lesson work:

Year 8: Hayden D, Oliver NB, Oliver W, Henry P, Deven S

Year 10: Akhil V, Jack H, Charlie V, Euan S, Max B

Scientists of the Week

Year 7 - James R for excellent work on the planned practical

Year 11 - Zac T and Raef K for great Cornell notes in Biology

Chess News

Claire's Court hosted yet another successful chess tournament on Saturday 5 October with 56 competitors taking part. One player made the long journey from Blackpool, whilst another had only just arrived in the country after moving from Poland.

Well done to all those Claire's Court pupils who took part, and special congratulations to Tom A for earning a second place trophy (picture below). Whilst always on the move as a tournament arbiter, I was still able to catch parts of individual games, and I was impressed with one close endgame that Tom successfully converted whilst under time pressure. [The Lucena Endgame](#) that featured is well worth practising!

Our next tournament will be our Claire's Court PTA Chess Festival. This will be a qualification event for the Nationals to be held in London. Last year's tournament saw one player fly in from Morocco, so I expect competition to be fierce. Thank you to the PTA for all their planning.



Chef's Corner

The Seniors Boys Food Technology pupils have had an absolutely fantastic start to the new school year, cooking up various scrumptious culinary dishes in the brand new Food Studio!

Spectacular dishes range from an Eatwell Guide Salad; fruit is the 'Star of the Show' dish and an Apple Crumble. Not to mention high-level skill dishes which won their place into the next round of the Springboard FutureChef competition. We have even merged with the Science department and had STEAM students make spooky seasonal 'Jack-O'-Lantern' Chocolate Orange cakes.

It is safe to say that the new Food Studio at Senior Boys has had an incredibly amazing start already and we cannot wait to see (and try!) all of the delicious edible creations which come next!



A Golfer's Life For Me....

This term has seen a huge influx of pupils choosing to play golf at Huntswood Golf Club as their games choice. On average over 30 pupils attend each Wednesday and Friday afternoon and are supported by 4 PGA qualified coaches. The new Year 10 intake have responded really well to learn the basics and are now self-sufficient out on the golf course. Next term the golfers will focus on trying to assemble some golf teams, so that we can play some inter school matches.

It has been great to witness the attitudes and willingness to learn golf. All pupils have embraced the many benefits of the game, whilst improving their play. Huntswood Golf Club is the perfect setting to escape and play golf with their friends. Have a great half term and play some golf!



GENERAL INFORMATION

Term Time Absence

Please see our [Attendance and Holidays in Term Time Policy](#) noting that absence for holidays is not encouraged during term time and will not normally be authorised for the first or last week of any term. If you do wish the headteacher to review a request please complete the [Request for Term Time Absence Form](#).

Sickness Absence

Please report all absences daily to the school office before 9.30am either via the [Report Portal](#) (accessible via the Parents page of our [website](#)), by email to seniorboys@clairescourt.com or 01628 327600.

Medical/Dental Appointments

Please notify the school office at least 24 hours prior to the appointment via email to seniorboys@clairescourt.com. We would also ask where possible that appointments are made outside of school hours or during school holidays.

Term Time Absence

Please see our [Attendance and Holidays in Term Time Policy](#) noting that absence for holidays is not encouraged during term time and will not normally be authorised for the first or last week of any term. If you do wish the headteacher to review a request please complete the [Online Holiday Request Form](#).

Leaving School / Returning to School during the School Day

If you are collecting your son for an appointment during the school day, he should wait in reception at the allotted time. When you have arrived outside to pick him up, please call the school on 01628 327600 and we will sign him out and send him out to you. Pupils are not permitted to wait outside or use their phones in reception. When your son returns to school, he must sign in at reception before going to lessons so that we know he is back in school.

Illness and Games afternoons

If your son is unable to play sport, he is expected to accompany his year group to games and will be given an alternative role. Permission for non-attendance at games afternoons can only be signed off by the nurses (Medical-CC@clairescourt.net) or the Director of Sport, Mr Carter (sic@clairescourt.net).

Medication

Any medication should be handed into the school accompanied by the [CC Administration of Medicine Request Form](#) for nurses to administer.

School Calendar

Please check our [online school calendar](#) to see up-to-date information about events happening throughout the term.

