



**CLAIRES COURT
SENIOR BOYS**

Weekly Bulletin

31 JANUARY 2025 (SPRING TERM WEEK 4)

FROM THE OFFICE

Principal's Blog

Please read Mr Wilding's new blog for this week: <https://jameswilding.blog/>

Parent survey - your voice counts!

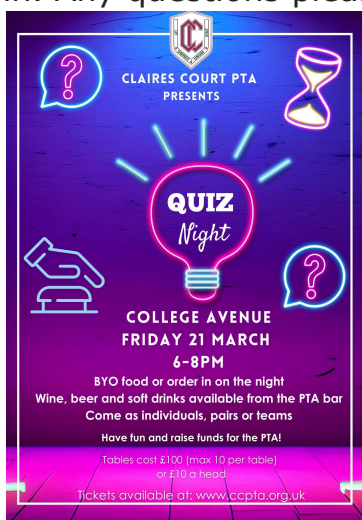
Last week we launched our annual parent survey and so far we have had a good response. However, to get a representative view of the school community, we would like to invite all our parents to please complete it. Your voice counts and all feedback is read by us and formatted to ensure it is reflected accurately across all the schools. The link was emailed on 28 January and the **deadline to complete it is 8pm today**.

Seniors PTA Meeting - 9.30am Friday 7 February

Our first 2025 PTA meeting is next Friday and will be virtual, as we want to encourage as many senior parents as we can to join us. The meeting will take place at 9.30am to ensure parents can be home/work after the school drop off. The purpose of the meeting is for the PTA to share what they have been doing, what is planned for 2025 and also to provide an opportunity for parents to make suggestions and share ideas on fundraising and enhancing our children's school experience in addition to the curriculum and what the school provides. The MEET link was emailed out on 30 January.

PTA Quiz Night - Friday 21 March

Mr Richards and Mrs O'Clee are hosting another popular Quiz Night on Friday 21 March 6-8pm in the Hall at College Avenue SL6 6AW. This event sold out in November, so book early to avoid disappointment. Tickets are £10 per person or £100 for a table of ten and can be booked here -> <https://ccpta.org.uk/products/quiz-time>. There will be a bar, card payment only, with thanks to the PTA and bring your own food or order food in. Any questions please contact Helen Phipps via hep@clairescourt.net.



Seniors Spring Concert - Thursday 27 March * SAVE THE DATE *

This music concert will be held at College Avenue and further details will be shared in due course.

Tub-2-Pub

A reminder if you have any empty plastic sweet/cracker tubs please do bring them to school by Monday 10 February to be recycled raising funds for MacMillan Cancer Support. Head of Outdoor Education Mr Wragg will be taking them to his local GREENE KING establishment, deadline Monday 10 February 2025. More information can be found at Tub2pub.co.uk / [here](#).

New, news, news!

Take a look here..... <https://bit.ly/40ggNjs> 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.

Court Report 2022-24

If you would like to receive a hard copy of the Court Report for 2022-24, please complete the [Google Form here](#) and we will pass it to your child to give to you.

Please do not stop on Double Yellow/Zig Zag lines by school entrance

Please do not stop/wait on the double yellow or zig zag lines by the school gate even if just for a minute or two. It causes traffic to bottleneck and severely limits our coaches' access into and out of school. It also jeopardises the safety of our pupils by restricting visibility.

Additionally can we please reiterate that you cannot park/wait on the double yellow lines at the junction of Ray Park Avenue/Ray Mill Road East. This severely limits visibility to the boys trying to cross the road there, as well as cars. This is a dangerous cross road so please do not jeopardise the safety of pedestrians and drivers alike.

YEAR GROUP INFORMATION

YEAR 7 ONLY

Unicorn Theatre Trip "Pig Heart Boy" Wednesday 5 February

Please find the [Year 7 English trip letter](#) to see Malorie Blackman's Pig Heart Boy at the Unicorn Theatre. School uniforms should be worn and pupils will need a nut-free packed lunch/drink.

B7 Parents Evening - Wednesday 5 February

Appointment booking via [schoolcloud](#) closes 7am 4 February ([booking guide](#)). Please do not park in school until after 5.40pm by which time all the school coaches should have safely departed. Your son can remain at school and meet up with you when you arrive. Please make your way to the sports hall to sign in and refreshments will also be available here. Whilst we will do our best to keep the evening running to time, inevitably there will need to be some flexibility throughout the evening, so please do bear with us. Teachers have been asked to see parents in the order they have booked where possible and keep appointments within their five minute timings. If you find a longer conversation is needed, please continue this at a later date.

YEAR 9 ONLY

B9 Parents Evening - Thursday 13 February

Booking via [schoolcloud](#) will open at 7am Tuesday 4 February ([booking guide](#)) and appointments can be booked with up to nine teachers:

- A ten minute appointment with one allocated Science teacher, who will discuss all three Sciences
- Five minute appointments with up to 8 other subjects teachers
- Please note Food appointments will only be available to those who have chosen or are considering Food as a GCSE option
- Mr Wootton is unavailable and he will contact all those who have chosen or are considering Technology as a GCSE Options subject
- Mr Cripps (English) is also unavailable and he will make contact with all parents to provide feedback

Please select to book manually so that you can leave a five minute gap for travel time between English/Maths/Science appointments in classrooms 1-7 and all other subjects which will be in the Sports Hall, as shown in this [map](#).

B9 Immunisations Consent Form

Please complete a YES or NO Consent Form using school code BK110153B at your earliest convenience. You will need your son's NHS number which can be requested here if not known. Further information can be found in the following publications:

- [Letter](#)
- [Leaflet for Secondary School Vaccinations](#)
- [Meningitis ACWY leaflet](#)
- [Teenage 3-in-1 booster](#)

YEAR 10 ONLY

Year 10 English Language Mock Exam - Tuesday 11 February

In preparation for the GCSE examination in the Summer, Year 10 will be sitting another English Language Mock Examination on the morning of Tuesday 11 February. This will replace normal lessons on that morning. We will be preparing for this in class, but students should be encouraged to revise and prepare for this at home as well.

Year 10 Drama Theatre Trip - Wednesday 26 February

Please find the [Y10-12 Drama Theatre Trip letter](#) to see Blood Brothers at the Theatre Royal Windsor on Wednesday 26 February. To confirm your place please pay £46 via the [Payment Portal](#) and complete the [Consent Form](#) by 14 February.

Year 10 GCSE Art Pupils V&A Trip - Wednesday 5 March

Please find the [letter](#) regarding the Year 10 GCSE Art & Textiles trip to the Victoria & Albert Museum on 5 March. The payment of £18 to cover the cost of travel is available to pay via our [Payment Portal](#) now. Pupils should wear school uniform and will require a nut-free packed lunch, small sketchbook/paper & drawing materials and a small amount of money.

Year 10 Geography Trip to Margam Park - 20-22 March 2025

Please find the [Margam Park Geography trip letter](#) taking place 20-22 March 2025, where boys will undertake fieldwork to collect data for their paper 3 Geographical Investigations. The [consent form](#) should be completed and the non-refundable £360 [payment](#) made by Friday 28 February 2025.

YEAR 11 ONLY

Year 11 Academic Breakfast - Wednesday 5 February

We look forward to seeing the Year 11 Academic Scholars at 8.15am in the Senior Boys Library to discuss "In reflecting on the mock examinations, what did you learn?"



Invitation KS4

Academic Scholars

5 FEBRUARY, 2025

8.15am – 9am

LOCATION:

Senior Boys

Be prepared to discuss "In reflecting on the mock examinations what did you learn?"

RSVP to Louise Thomas at ljt@clairescourt.net

Girls will be given transport back to SG site.

Year 11 English Literature Mock Exam - Tuesday 11 February

As we were unable to run a full English Literature exam during the Mocks last term due to where we were in the teaching of the course content, we will be running another English Literature Mock Examination for students in Year 11. This will take place on the afternoon of Tuesday 11 February and will replace their normal lessons that afternoon. We will be preparing for this in class, but students should be encouraged to revise and prepare for this at home as well.

Year 11 GCSE PE Practical Mock Moderation - Friday 14 February

Year 11 Drama Theatre Trip - Wednesday 26 February

Please find the [Y10-12 Drama Theatre Trip letter](#) to see Blood Brothers at the Theatre Royal Windsor on Wednesday 26 February. To confirm your place please pay £46 via the [Payment Portal](#) and complete the [Consent Form](#) by 14 February.

Year 11 GCSE Food Technology Practical Exams

The Food Technology Practical Exams will be taking place on Wednesday 5, Thursday 6 and Friday 7 March, and boys have been allocated to one of these three sessions.

Year 11 Parents Evening - Wednesday 19 March

A full Parents Evening will be held in person in school for all pupils and parents, covering all subjects, on Wednesday 19 March.

B11 GCSE Subject Directory 2024/25

Please find the [Senior Boys GCSE Subject Directory](#) containing the various subjects/exam board/coursework deadlines/exam dates. You will also find a link to the GCSE handbook on the document.

B11 Subject Drop-in Sessions

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.

Year 11 Work Experience

Please find the [Year 11 Work Experience Letter](#) shared this week. After the GCSE examination period is complete, we have found pupils benefit from acquiring workplace skills and the suggested Work Experience weeks are w/c 23 & 30 June although we appreciate that work experience may need to be arranged at alternative times. Pupils will be provided with a work experience log book to record details of their placements.

TRIP LETTERS

German Trip to Cologne - October half term

[Cologne Trip letter](#) 18-21 October for German pupils currently in Years 8-10. Please pay £350 non-refundable deposit to secure flights via the [Payment Portal](#) by Friday 7 February. If oversubscribed, places will be offered on a first come first served basis. If you have any questions please contact Annette Bentz-Denton (AHD@clairescourt.net).

Bay of Naples, Italy - October half term

[Bay of Naples 2025 Initial letter](#) 17/18 - 21/22 October (exact dates TBC) for pupils currently in Years 9-12. Please attend **virtual information Evening at 6pm on Thursday 6 February** and pay £450 non-refundable deposit to secure flights via the [Payment Portal](#) by Friday 14 February. If oversubscribed, places will be offered on a first come first served basis.

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 '**Metr/Meter**' meaning '**measure**'
- Example words: metre, barometer, ammeter, metronome, millimetre

Metr/Meter

Origin: Greek

Meaning: Measure

Examples:

Metre

Barometer

Ammeter

Metronome

Millimetre

Words of the Term

- It has been widely researched that one of the stumbling blocks for teenagers is literacy. A teenager with a 2000 word vocabulary is able to access 73% of academic literature, a 5000 word vocabulary 83% of academic literature.
- However it has also been found through research that a pupil with a 2000 word vocabulary in addition to the 570 words identified through research as the Academic Word List can access 95% of academic literature.
- The [Spring term Academic Words](#) are shown below and pupils have a copy of these words inside their exercise books. Please support your son to familiarise himself with these words, as well as comprehend and use them in the correct context.

sector	available	financial	process	individual	specific
method	data	research	contract	environment	export
source	assessment	policy	identified	create	derived
factors	procedure	definition	assume	theory	benefit
evidence	established	authority	major	issues	labour
occur	economic	involved	percent	interpretation	consistent
income	structure	legal	concept	formula	section
required	constitutional	analysis	distribution	function	area
approach	role	legislation	indicate	response	period
context	significant	similar	principle	estimate	variables

Linguists of the Week

In Year 7 Spanish for Great Attitude to Learning:

Jack M, William G, Finn Downes, Joey F, Thomas A, Gabriel S, Josh S, Harley S, Jack G, Alex E, Conor OF, Xander F, Harry R, Errol W, Brennan H

Mathematicians of the Week

Year 7 - Gabriel S

Year 8 - Callum W, Rory M

Year 9 - Aaron R

Year 10 - Will S, Sam R

Scientists of the Week

Year 9 - Dan W for excellent engagement in lessons

Year 9 - Dexter C for brilliant momentum calculations in Physics

Sparx Reader of the Week

Year 7 - Joel Z (7D)

Year 8 - Rahul M (8A)

Accelerated Reader of the Week

Year 7 - Elliot H

Year 8 - Flynn S

Year 9 - Gus S

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.

Medication

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

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 Deputy Head Sport, Mr Carter (sic@clairescourt.net).

