



CLAIRES COURT
SENIOR BOYS

Weekly Bulletin

28 FEBRUARY 2025 (SPRING TERM WEEK 7)

FROM THE OFFICE

Principal's Blog

Please read Mr Wilding's new blog for this week: ["Special Report: Navigating AI Relationships"](#)

Non Uniform Day supporting DASH - Monday 3 March

Following our assembly on Monday recognising International Women's Day we will once again be supporting the charity [DASH](#) with a non-uniform day on Monday 3 March. Dash supports adults and children experiencing mental health issues and homelessness associated with domestic abuse. A £2 donation payable by cash to the Form Tutor or via the [Payment Portal](#) is requested and we thank you once again for your support.

PTA AGM - Friday 7 March

We invite all parents to attend the PTA AGM at our Junior School on Friday 7 March, at 12.30pm with a sandwich lunch and ending at 1.45pm. It is a good chance to see how the PTA supports the school. If you would like to come please complete this [form](#) so we can plan for catering.

ADHD & Autism Support Group Coffee Morning - Friday 14 March

The Croft Clinic are hosting a coffee morning (10am @ Odney Club SL6 9SR) to offer a supportive space for parents to connect, share experiences, and build a strong community with others who understand the unique challenges and joys of raising children with ADHD and Autism. **RSVP by Friday the 7 March** to admin@thecroftclinic.com.

PTA Quiz Night - Friday 21 March - SOLD OUT!!

For those who have purchased tickets, the quiz is in the hall at College Avenue SL6 6AW from 6-8pm. There will be a bar (card payment only) with thanks to the PTA and bring your own food or order food in.

Seniors Spring Concert - 7pm Thursday 27 March

Those participating have received a letter to confirm arrangements. Please remember to confirm your attendance at the concert by completing the form by Friday 21 March. All are welcome so if you do not have a child participating but would like to attend, please contact Helen Phipps via hep@clairescourt.net by 21 March so a booking form can be emailed to you as there is limited space available.

Friday Morning Run Club - Parents very welcome!

Friday Morning Run Club invitation extended to all our parents. You don't need to be a seasoned runner to get involved, in fact you don't even have to run it, you can walk! It's a great opportunity every week to train at a set time with a good group of people and Mr Richards would love you to join him!

- **When:** weekly Friday mornings, 7.20am arrival for a 7.30am (sharp!) start
- **Where:** Starting and finishing from outside the Senior Boys' reception
- **Distance:** Choose between a 3.5km ([Sheep](#)) or 5km route ([Double Sheep](#))

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.

Additional Transport Route

We are exploring the introduction of new school bus routes from Bracknell (starting September 2025) and Hillingdon (starting September 2026). If you are interested, please contact Vectare by Friday 28 March via the '[Contact Us](#)' form and select 'Express interest in additional transport routes'. Please note if we do not receive sufficient demand we will not be able to run the route.

Collection During the School Day

Could we kindly ask if you are picking your son up during the school day to please phone the office (01628 327 600) when you arrive at school. Once we know you are at the end of the drive we will sign your son out and send him out to meet you.

YEAR GROUP INFORMATION

YEAR 7 ONLY

Dorney Court History Trip - Thursday 13 March

Please find the [History Trip to Dorney Court](#) letter. Pupils should arrive at school at the normal time in the morning and will return to school by the normal end of the day timings, ready for their usual pick up or activities/study. They will need to bring a nut-free packed lunch, drinks, rain proof coat and should wear school tracksuits.

YEAR 8 ONLY

Year 9 Options Information Evening - 6pm Wednesday 5 March

Following the letter emailed out yesterday about Subject choices for Year 9 September 2025, please join the short online information Evening to explain the process and answer any questions you may have and note the deadline for completing the Choices Form is **Monday 10 March**.

YEAR 9 ONLY

Cadbury World Trip - Payment due by Friday 7 March

Please make payment of £35 (non-refundable) via the Payment Portal by Friday 7 March, further information can be found in this [letter](#). Pupils should arrive in school at the normal time for registration wearing school uniform including blazer and will return at approximately 4.30pm to either attend their usual after school activities or for onward

travel home. They will need a nut-free pack lunch and drinks and optionally a small amount of money.

B9 Immunisations - Wednesday 12 March

The Meningococcal ACWY and the 3-in-1 teenage booster (Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio) vaccinations are taking place in school on 12 March for those who have provided YES Consent. Those with missing consent forms would have received an email reminder yesterday. Further information can be found in this [letter](#).

YEAR 10 ONLY

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.

Geography Trip to Margam Park - **payment deadline TODAY**

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

Year 10 Careers Fayre Reading University - Thursday 27 March

Year 10 boys will be attending a [Careers Visit to the University of Reading](#) on Thursday 27 March taking place within the normal school day timings. Pupils should wear their full school uniform, including a blazer, bring a coat depending on weather, writing equipment and notebook, nut-free packed lunch and drinks, as well as the books/Chromebook he requires for his normal Period 5 lesson.

Year 10 GCSE Business Trip - payment by Monday 31 March

Please find shared the GCSE Business Trip Letter 2025 for Year 10 pupils taking place on Monday 30 June. To confirm your child's place on this trip to the Warner Brothers Studios, please pay the non-refundable £45 via the Payment Portal by Monday 31 March.

YEAR 11 ONLY

Year 11 Art Catch-Up Day - Tuesday 22 April

Art GCSE pupils are invited into school on Tuesday 22 April to catch up on any unfinished art work and prepare for their exam days on 24/25 April. All preparatory work must be completed and submitted before the start of the first exam day, so we strongly encourage all pupils to take up this opportunity. Please arrive at 9.30am promptly with a packed lunch and arrange collection for 3.30pm. Please complete the [google form](#) by Friday 21 March to confirm attendance.

Year 11 GCSE Food Technology Practical Exams - 5-7 March

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.

Playworker Programme - application deadline 14 March

Please see information here about the [Playworker Programme](#) which will be running w/c 30 June. Year 11 pupils will have an assembly about the scheme after half term and those interested in applying should complete an [application form](#) by 14 March. Further information about Work Experience w/c 23 and 30 June can be found in this [letter](#).

Year 11 Parents Evening - Wednesday 19 March

Appointments will need to be booked in advance via [Schoolcloud](#) and further information will be shared next week. Booking will open 7am Tuesday 11 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.

GCSE Examination Timetable

Please find the generic written [GCSE examinations timetable](#). Pupils received a **personalised individual timetable** from their Form Tutor last week, along with details of the examination charges that will be added to your end of term invoice.

TRIPS INFORMATION

Ski Trip Information Evening & Forms

Following last night's Ski Trip Information Evening, please find the following information for your reference and action:

- [Presentation slides](#)
- [Participant Information Form](#) to be completed **by Monday please**
- [Medical/consent form](#) (please print off, complete & return to school office)

Manorbier, Pembrokeshire, Outdoor Adventure Trip - October 2025

Please find the [letter](#) about this Outdoor Adventure trip open to all pupils in Years 7 - 12. If your child would like to take part in this trip, please could you complete this [consent form](#) and pay the **non-refundable** deposit of £200 via the [Payment Portal](#) by **Friday 7 March**.

Belgium Choir Tour - October half term

[Belgium Choral Music Tour letter](#) 18 - 21 October for pupils currently in Years 7-12. To secure a place, a non-refundable £350 deposit is required via the [Payment Portal](#) by Monday 3 March.

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 '**Bi**' meaning '**Two or twice**'
- Example words: bilingual, bicycle, binoculars, bisexual

Bi

Origin: Latin

Meaning: Two or twice

Examples:

Bilingual

Bicycle

Binoculars

Bisexual

Linguists of the Week

In Year 8 Spanish for great work in preparation to their Common Task 2:

- Deven S, Jonny D, Teddy N, Rahul M, Henry P, Oliver W, Oliver N-B, Hayden D

Mathematicians of the Week

- Year 7 - Matty T, James R, Jack G, Errol W

Scientists of the Week

- Year 7 - Zack M and Joshua S for amazing work in their neutralisation presentation
- Year 10 - Zach R for amazing focus during CT2 reflection

Sparx Reader of the Week

- Year 7 - Freddie M (7C)
- Year 8 - Oliver W (8A)

Accelerated Reader of the Week

- Year 7 - Alex E
- Year 8 - Charlie C
- Year 9 - Freddie C

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.

