



**CLAIRES COURT**  
**SENIOR BOYS**

# Weekly Bulletin

**7 MARCH 2025 (SPRING TERM WEEK 8)**

## FROM THE OFFICE

### Principal's Blog

Please read Mr Wilding's blog: ["Acts of Purpose - Why Teachers Come to School"](#)

### Double Yellows / Zig Zag parking

Please DO NOT stop/wait/quickly drop off/pick up on the zig zags outside of the school entrance in any circumstance. There are no exceptions for this please as it means our coaches do not have the space to pull into the school safely. We say this to ensure the safety of all our pupils and teachers walking into school to ensure there is visibility for them to enter the school safely too. **Thank you for not parking on the double yellows at the junction too, it has been an improvement.**

### 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 outside we will sign your son out and send him out to meet you.

### Non Uniform Day supporting DASH- Monday 3 March

Thank you once again for your support of our Charity events, we have currently raised **£528.26** and counting for [DASH](#). If you have already paid **THANK YOU**, and if you still need to please do so via the [Payment Portal](#).

### 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](#))

### 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 to attend so if you do not have a child involved but would still like to attend, please contact Helen Phipps via [hep@clairescourt.net](mailto:hep@clairescourt.net) **by 21 March** so a booking form can be emailed to you as there is limited space available in the hall.

## **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.

## **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.

## **Clares Court PTA Canapés & Cocktails - Friday 6 June**

**\* SAVE THE DATE \*** This evening event will be for adults only at Moor Hall in Cookham, further details to be shared in due course, but please add this evening to your calendar.

# **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 8 into 9 Options Form - completion deadline Monday 10 March**

A reminder that the deadline to complete the Year 9 September 2025 Subject Choices Form is Monday 10 Monday. You have received a personalised link to the form in the letter emailed out on 27/02/2025. A short recording of the Q&A session from Wednesday evening can be found [here](#).

### **Year 8 Sponsored Fancy Dress Walk - Tuesday 18 March**

Please find details of the [Fancy Dress Sponsored Walk](#) that Year 8 will be doing for Charity Week during the afternoon of Tuesday 18 March. Please help us in raising money for the [Thames Hospice](#) by gaining sponsorship and handing monies collected in to form tutors by the end of term or transfer via the [Payment Portal](#) **by Friday 4 April**.

## **YEAR 9 ONLY**

### **Cadbury World Trip - Payment due TODAY**

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](#).

## **B9 Sponsored Rowathon - Monday 17 March**

Please find details of the [Sponsored Rowathon](#) Year 9 will be doing as part of Charity Week during their games afternoon on Monday 17 March to raise money for Thames Hospice. Please return any sponsorship money collected to form tutors by the end of term or pay directly via the Payment Portal by Friday 4 April.

## **YEAR 10 ONLY**

### **Geography Trip to Margam Park - Thursday 20 - Saturday 22 March**

Final details for Margam Park, including itinerary, kit list and emergency contact, can be found in the [final arrangements letter](#).

### **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 Parents Evening - booking opens 7am Tuesday 11 March**

Parents and pupils are invited into school on Wednesday 19 March to meet with teachers ahead of the GCSE examinations. Appointments for all subjects will need to be pre-booked via [schoolcloud](#). Please opt to **book manually** so that you can leave appropriate 'travel time' gaps between appointments. English, Maths & Science teachers will be in the Maths block classrooms (rooms 1-8) and all other subjects will be in the Sports Hall, as shown in this [map](#). Science appointments will be ten minutes and you will be allocated one teacher who will cover all three Sciences and all other subject appointments will be five minutes. Booking will open at 7am Tuesday 11 March ([instructions here](#)) and close on Tuesday 18 March. Parking will be available in school **after 5.40pm** when all the school coaches will have safely departed the site. On arrival please sign in at the Sports Hall, where refreshments will be available.

### **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](#).

**\* NEW DATE \* Year 11 Exam Support Evening - 6pm Monday 31 March**

Mr Richards will be hosting another short online meeting on Monday 31 March where he will talk about support for the forthcoming examination period and final arrangements in school. This will be followed by a Q&A session. The MEET link will be emailed to you in advance of the evening.

**Year 11 Music Coursework Day - Friday 4 April**

The Music department is hosting a 'Coursework Catch-up and Complete' day for GCSE Music pupils on Friday 4 April to ensure all coursework is submitted prior to the Easter holiday. Please complete this [form](#) to confirm attendance **by Friday 14 March**. Pupils will need to arrive at 9.30am, bring a packed lunch and be collected at 3.30pm.

**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.**

**Thorpe Park Trip - Tuesday 24 June**

Please find details of the [Thorpe Park trip](#) for Year 11. To confirm you son's place please pay £20 via the [Payment Portal](#) or complete [Annual Pass Form](#) **by Friday 4 April**.

**Year 11 Prom - Wednesday 25 June**

The Year 11 Prom will be held at Moor Hall Cookham on 25 June for Claires Court Pupils only. To book your son's ticket please pay the non-refundable £25 via the [Payment Portal](#) **by Friday 4 April**. Parents are invited to stay for a drink on arrival at 6.30pm.



## **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**

### **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 **today, 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](#).

### **Ski Trip Information Evening & Forms**

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

- [Presentation slides](#)
- [Participant Information Form](#)
- [Medical/consent form](#) (please print off, complete/sign & return)

### **Hazewinkel Training Camp 5-12 April**

Please find the [final letter](#) for the Rowing Training Camp with details of final payment, departure/return times/locations, kit list, consent forms, ground rules.

## **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 '**Hydr**' meaning '**Water**'
- Example words: hydration, dehydrate, hydrotherapy, hydrogen

# Hydr

**Origin:** Greek

**Meaning:** Water

## Examples:

Hydration

Dehydrate

Hydrotherapy

Hydrogen

## Linguists of the Week

In year 8 and 9 French for their amazing Common Task results!

Jay S, William B, Nathaniel W, Sam B-S, Matthieu M and Jonah V

## Scientists of the Week

Year 11 - Sam K and Milan T for their excellent past paper trackers

## Sparx Reader of the Week

Year 7 - Freddie M (7C)

Year 8 - Riley L-P (8A)

## Accelerated Reader of the Week

Year 7 - Rufus C

Year 8 - Flynn S

Year 9 - Vihaan T

# 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](mailto:seniorboys@clairescourt.com) or 01628 327600.

