



CLAIRES COURT
SENIOR BOYS

Weekly Bulletin

14 MARCH 2025 (SPRING TERM WEEK 9)

FROM THE OFFICE

Principal's Blog

Please read Mr Wilding's blog: ["Changemaking in this Diamond era - how to meet the challenge!"](#)

Summer Term After School Programme - **booking opens 9am Tuesday 18 March**

Our [activities website](#) provides parents with all the necessary information surrounding the before, during & after school programme. Parents will require their parent Report Portal login details in order to book their child into activities, study or going home. A choice does need to be made for each day of the week please. Booking opens 9am Tuesday 18 March (but the activities are now visible on our [webpage](#)) and close on Monday 24 March. A brief guide to show how to book can be found in the [Activities Guide](#). Please direct any enquiries to activities@clairescourt.net.

Charity Week - w/c 17 March

As part of the school's charity week raising valuable funds for [Thames Hospice](#), please send your son to school next week with 50p/£1 change to support the following activities taking place each day over the course of the week:

- **Year 7 'Baked' Sale** - Year 7s will be selling home baked or shop bought cakes/biscuits at break times
- **Year 10 Fifa Tournament** - battle it out to be crowned best in year! £5 to be paid in advance to Head of Year, Mr Young. Monday for Years 10 & 11, Tuesday for Year 9 and Wednesday for Years 7 and 8.
- **Year 11 Raffle** - Year 11s will be selling raffle tickets in the canteen during first and second break to win an Amazon gift card plus other prizes.

Update to Claire's Court Sports Kit

We would like to let you know that we are changing some of the sports kit from September 2025. The key reasons for these changes are to:

- create a more unified appearance across all four divisions of the school
- reduce the amount of white kit
- streamline the number of items required.

This will make the kit more versatile across different sports, ultimately helping to reduce costs for families. The new kit will be available for purchase from Hawkinsport from May/June 2025 with a gradual transition to adopt all new items by the start of the Autumn term in September 2026. Please note that there is no immediate requirement to purchase the new kit if your child's current PE kit still fits. We hope to have samples of the new kit for you and the pupils to see soon after the Easter break and we thank you for your support in this.

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.

YEAR GROUP FORTHCOMING DATES

ALL YEAR GROUPS

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.

Clares Court PTA Quiz Night - 6pm Friday 21 March

A few seats have become available at next week's quiz night. If you would like to attend please contact Helen Phipps via HEP@clairescourt.net. For those who have bought tickets we look forward to seeing you at College Avenue SL6 6AW. A reminder there will be a card payment only bar and please bring your own food or order 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 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 by 21 March so a booking form can be emailed to you as there is limited space available in the hall.

YEAR 7 ONLY

B7 Charity Week 'Baked' Sale

If your son is bringing items into school next week to sell as part of Charity Week, please ensure he completes the [HOME BAKED-ALLERGEN CARD 2025](#) to accompany all items, thank you.

YEAR 8 ONLY

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 next Tuesday afternoon. 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.

Scientific Calculator - for the Summer Term

Pupils in Year 7 and 8 currently complete non-calculator work in Mathematics, but the IGCSE examination papers are both calculator only, and so in the last term of Year 8 we like to start looking at calculator skills and topics which require a calculator. With this in mind, your son will need a scientific calculator for his Maths lessons from Easter onwards. Our strong recommendation is that the best calculator for the IGCSE studies is the Casio FX-83GTCW, as it has the best functionality and ease of input for pupils.

Year 8 HPV Immunisations - Monday 28 April

The NHS Immunisation Team will be visiting school on Monday 28 April to offer Year 8s their Human Papillomavirus vaccination. Please complete a [YES or NO Consent form](#) using school code BK110153B before the end of term. Please only submit one form per child and if you are unsure if you have completed a form please check your emails for communication from Cinnamon Digital. Further information can be found in the links following:

- [Letter](#)
- [Leaflet](#)
- [Information](#)

YEAR 9 ONLY

B9 Sponsored Rowathon - Monday 17 March

Please find details of the [Sponsored Rowathon](#) Year 9 will be doing as part of Charity Week during games next Monday afternoon 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 9 Cadbury World Trip - Tuesday 25 March

Full details can be found in this [letter](#), but in summary 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.

YEAR 10 ONLY

Year 10 Geography Trip to Margam Park - Thursday 20 to 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 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 Music Coursework Day - confirm by TODAY 14 March

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.

Playworker Programme - application deadline TODAY 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 - booking closes 7am Tuesday 18 March

Parents and pupils are invited into school on Wednesday 19 March to meet with teachers ahead of the GCSE examinations. Your son will **need to bring his charged Chromebook** to the evening as he will be filling in a target for each subject in his PAP during the appointments. Please pre-book appointments via [schoolcloud](#) manually so that you can leave appropriate 'travel time' gaps between English, Maths & Science appointments in the Maths block classrooms (rooms 1-8) and all other subjects will be in the Sports Hall ([map](#)). Booking instructions can be found [here](#) and will close 7am 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.

Year 11 Art Catch-Up Day - confirm attendance by 21 March

Art GCSE pupils are invited into school on Tuesday 22 April to catch up on any unfinished artwork 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.

GCSE PE Moderation Day - Monday 31 March

Year 11 Exam Support Evening - 6pm Monday 31 March

Mr Richards will be hosting another short online meeting at 6pm 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.

Leavers Hoodies - deadline to order Friday 4 April

Personalised grey leavers hoodies are available to order now! Please make £23 payment via the [PTA website](#) noting your **#ordernumber** which will be emailed to you and then complete the [Order Form](#) to choose the size and name to be printed on the hoodie. To guarantee delivery for next term both payment and order form need to be completed by Friday 4 April.

Thorpe Park Trip - payment by 4 April

Please find details of the [Thorpe Park trip](#) for Year 11 on Tuesday 24 June. To confirm your son's place please pay £20 via the [Payment Portal](#) or complete [Annual Pass Form](#) by Friday 4 April.

Year 11 Prom - payment by 4 April

The [Year 11 Prom](#) will be held on Wednesday 25 June at Moor Hall in Cookham (SL6 9QH). To book a ticket, please pay the non-refundable £25 via the [Payment Portal](#) by Friday 4 April. Parents are invited to a drinks reception on arrival at 6.30pm. After parents depart there will be dinner and a disco for pupils. Carriages no earlier than 9.30pm and by 10pm please.



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 [Year 11 GCSE Written Paper Timetable](#) and note the following Contingency Days that all pupils must be available for:

- Wednesday 11 June - afternoon
- Wednesday 25 June - all day

TRIPS INFORMATION

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](#).

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 '**Re**' meaning '**back or again**'
- Example words: return, reduce, repetition, repeat

Re

Origin: Latin

Meaning: Back or again

Examples:

Return

Reduce

Repetition

Repeat

Linguists of the Week

In Year 7 German for great scores in dictation:

Charlie C, Tim F, Zach M, Adam M, Myles W, Alex H, Monty G, Freddie S, Ethan L and James R

Mathematicians of the Week

Year 8 - Millun M

Year 9 - Dan W

Year 10 - Max B

Scientists of the Week

Year 10 - Harry M: Really focussed in Physics and working hard

Year 11 - Henry C: Really focussed in all of his science lessons as well as completing all of his Past Papers

Sparx Reader of the Week

Year 7 - Adam M

Year 8 - Zaid S

Accelerated Reader of the Week

Year 7 - Xander F

Year 8 - Oliver G

Year 9 - Sam H

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 Director of Sport, Mr Carter (sic@clairescourt.net).

