

Weekly Bulletin

7 FEBRUARY 2025 (SPRING TERM WEEK 5)

FROM THE OFFICE

Principal's Blog

Please read Mr Wilding's new blog for this week: <u>Proprietorial governance in times of change</u>

PARKING

This is really important so please read.

Do not park up/wait/quickly stop at pick up on either the zig zags outside of the school or especially on the double yellows at the junction with Ray Park Avenue. Just this week, two boys very narrowly avoided being knocked over in the road, in part due to drivers getting frustrated with the parked cars on the double yellows and speeding out from behind them. We understand that everyone is busy and time is precious but for those that continue to do this, PLEASE do not park in either areas mentioned for the safety and convenience of everyone.

Tub-2-Pub - deadline 10 February

Last opportunity to bring any empty plastic sweet/cracker tubs to school by Monday 10 February to be recycled raising funds for MacMillan Cancer Support. More information can be found here.

Non-Uniform Day - Friday 14 February

A small group of Year 10 pupils visited Thames Hospice recently and they wanted to do something to help this charity. As such, we will hold a non-uniform day next Friday across the Senior School to raise money for the hospice. As it is Valentines Day, we ask pupils and staff to wear red, white or pink to show their love for the loved ones who have been, are, or could be supported by this wonderful hospice. We ask for a minimum donation of £2 but all amounts are welcome, as this amazing place needs every penny we can muster. This can be in the form of cash or online payment. Thank you all for your support. Lessons will continue as normal, so please remember to bring the correct games kit and the right equipment for lessons, as this can sometimes be forgotten when we deviate from the norm.

Nearly New Uniform Plea

If you have any uniform that your son has grown out of please drop it off at reception for the Nearly New Uniform shop that our fantastic PTA volunteers organise. Please only send in uniform in good condition and CLEAN. You will understand that we cannot accept dirty kit or kit that we cannot sell. If you would like to purchase any uniform, please get in touch with the school office 01628 327600 or seniorboys@clairescourt.com who can provide you with all the information you need.

ADHD & Autism Support Group Coffee Morning - Friday 14 March

The Croft Clinic are hosting a coffee morning (10am@Odney Club SL6 9SR) offering 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

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.

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 INFORMATION

YEAR 9 ONLY

B9 Parents Evening - Thursday 13 February

Parent Evening booking via <u>schoolcloud</u> (<u>booking guide</u>) closes at 7am Tuesday 11 February. On the evening 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. English/Maths/Science appointments in classrooms 1-7 and all other subjects which will be in the Sports Hall, as shown in this map.

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. The evening is scheduled to finish by 8pm.

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 <u>letter</u>.

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 10-12 Drama Theatre Trip - Wednesday 26 February

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

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

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

YEAR 11 ONLY

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 10-12 Drama Theatre Trip - Wednesday 26 February

Please find the <u>Y10-12 Drama Theatre Trip letter</u> to see Blood Brothers at the Theatre Royal Windsor on Wednesday 26 February. To confirm your place please pay £46 (non-refundable) via the <u>Payment Portal</u> and complete the <u>Consent Form</u> 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 <u>Senior Boys GCSE Subject Directory</u> 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 <u>timetable</u>, 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.

TRIP LETTERS

German Trip to Cologne - October half term

<u>Cologne Trip letter</u> 18-21 October for German pupils currently in Years 8-10. Please pay £350 non-refundable deposit to secure flights via the <u>Payment Portal</u> by Friday 7 February. If oversubscribed, places will be offered on a first come first served basis.

Belgium Choir Tour - October half term

<u>Belgium Choral Music Tour letter</u> 18 - 21 October for pupils currently in Years 7-12. To secure a place, a non-refundable £350 deposit is required via the <u>Payment Portal</u> 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 'Per' meaning 'through'
- Example words: perforate, perfect, permeable, perspire

Per

Origin: Latin

Meaning: Through

Examples:

perforate

perfect

permeable

perspire

Linguists of the Week

In year 8 French for great Attitude to Learning:

Rory M, Callum W, Albert H

In Year 9 French for great Attitude to Learning:

 Curtis L, Luke B, Ewan G, Varan PA, Toby W, Seb B, Jacob T, Jacob M, Harry J, Freddie C, George L, Zac A, Jonah V

Mathematicians of the Week

Year 8 - Nabil ALS, Benedict B

Year 9 - Dan W, Will W

Scientists of the Week

Year 11 - Andrii P for excellent work on balancing chemical equations

Year 11 - Harry K and Jack J for excellent work on Halogens

Sparx Reader of the Week

Year 7 - Oscar P (7A)

Year 8 - William B (9B)

Accelerated Reader of the Week

Year 7 - Josh W

Year 8 - Deven S

Year 9 - Varan PA

GENERAL INFORMATION

Term Time Absence

Please see our <u>Attendance and Holidays in Term Time Policy</u> 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 <u>Request for Term Time Absence Form</u>.

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 <u>CC Administration</u> of <u>Medicine Request Form</u> 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).