



# The Clere School

## Presentation Evening for Year 12

On Thursday 28th November 2019, we celebrated the achievements of last year's Year 11 students at our annual Presentation Evening.

We were delighted to welcome our guest speaker, Dulciana Hart, School Alumini, who spoke about her reflections on her time at The Clere, Peter Symonds College and Leicester University to study Medicine.

Students were awarded certificates for outstanding effort and commitment and presented with prizes for Subject and Special Awards.

Music was provided by Cameron Kemp who played a medley of popular classics on his bass guitar.



## Letter from the Headteacher

Dear Parent / Carer

I am pleased to write this letter towards the end of a busy, demanding and action packed term. It has been wonderful to see our new pupils settling into school life so well alongside new colleagues. At a time of severe teacher shortages nationally, I am proud that we remain fully staffed. In addition, demand for places at The Clere are up significantly from previous years and this reflects our commitment to excellence, great feedback and an excellent Ofsted report.

At this time of the year, many pupils are taking examinations and other tests to inform how we teach, support and ensure the best academic success. You will see a summary of this in your child's end of term report and please direct any specific questions to the subject teacher, while more general enquiries should be made via your child's tutor. I was delighted to receive excellent comments at our recent parent and open events and trust all families will attend such events in order to support their child.

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November, we welcomed our former Year 11 pupils to their GCSE Presentation Evening. With a great guest speaker in former Head Girl, Dulciana Hart, we gave a wide range of awards for academic, personal and social excellence. It was exciting to see how their college and training courses are progressing and we hope our former pupils stay in touch.

As part of our continual improvements, professional development and care of pupils, this term has witnessed significant and sustained developments of our high expectations of pupils' learning across the curriculum. The amount of challenge pupils experience must be as high as possible whilst teachers provide the best assistance and modelling in order to build pupil confidence. You will recall this has been a common theme since I arrived as Headteacher, and one that will always be a focus for us. Our pupils deserve the best grades and the best support to achieve them.

You will have read in the Social Media about our unique partnership with St. Bartholomew's School in Newbury. A number of visits, workshops and joint

working have already occurred and it is gathering pace each month. Both schools share a similar drive for academic excellence and please let us know of any questions you may have about our partnership.

In the spirit of high expectations and excellence, I am pleased with the general appearance and conduct of our pupils and we always receive positive comments from visitors. However, I must remind all pupils of the need for exemplary uniform and appearance, which reflects so well on our community. Our uniform guidelines have remained consistently high for a number of years and there is no room for confusion. Your continued support each and every day on this matter is appreciated.

As we head towards (another) general election, I am interested in the promises from all parties about increased school funding. Many parents will know I have been working closely with Hampshire and Government officials in relation to school funding, particularly rural schools like ours. Much needed investment has been promised, and is very much needed, following years of real term cuts.

Since joining The Clere, I have been fascinated by the willingness and creativity of staff and pupils for our annual Christmas entertainment on the last day of term. This will be preceded by a school and local church productions which allows our pupils to further showcase their talents. I am looking forward to each of these events.

Finally, may I remind you our school term finishes at 12.50 on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December with buses departing at 13.00. Have a wonderful, safe and enjoyable holiday. I look forward to seeing all pupils and colleagues in the New Year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



**Benjamin Bond, Headteacher**





# Presentation Evening—Thursday, 28th November 2019

The Clere School celebrated last year's GCSE examination successes at its annual  
Presentation Evening on Thursday 28th November 2019

## Special Awards

### Head Boy and Head Girl Award

Taking the role of most senior pupils in the school

George Loxton  
& Lauren Medcraft

### The Duncan Masson Trophy

Contribution to extra curricular music activities

Natasha Ellis

### The Design Award

Showing a high level of creative flair

Natasha Ellis

### The Sporting Excellence Award

Achieving the highest standard in your chosen sport

Lauren Medcraft

### The Award for Sportsmanship

Outstanding attitude and commitment in sport

Jacob Roberts

### The Karen Jones Cup

Extra effort & commitment

Bella Abery

### The Service Cup

Contributing greatly to the life of the school

Marlene van der Giessen

### The Community Cup

Contributing fully to the wider community of the school

Millie Leonard

### The Progress Cup

Making good academic progress

Natasha Ellis

### The Award for Academic Excellence

The student who achieved the best academic success

Marlene van der Giessen

### The Governors' Cup

For excellent academic endeavour

Joshua Clutterbuck



## Subject Awards for Academic Achievement

English	Adam Hopgood
Mathematics	Joshua Clutterbuck
Science	Edward Silvester
Art	Marlene van der Giessen
Photography	Sophia Abul
Music	Natasha Ellis
Geography	Sofia Morrison
History	Hannah Willis
French	Hattie Light
German	Marlene van der Giessen
Hospitality & Catering	Poppy Voke
Design Technology	George Loxton
Physical Education	Jack Stockwell
Computer Science	Alex Burgess-Cross



## Mr Paul Blake

### Deputy Headteacher



Returning to The Clere School as Deputy Headteacher in December 2017, marked my fourth spell of employment at this fantastic school. You could say that I'm like a boomerang...or maybe a bad penny. During these four spells at The Clere, I have been an English teacher, SENDco, Head of IT and Business, PE teacher, Drama teacher, PSHE teacher, Cover teacher and a Senior teacher with responsibility for the leadership of teaching and learning.

Since leaving the school in 2012, I have been Assistant Headteacher in two schools, Vice Principal in another and spent some time as an education consultant. My passion is for school improvement and I am delighted by our rapid and sustained development during the last two years. Our 'good' judgement from Ofsted in May was richly deserved and it was the culmination of three years of hard work by staff, parents and pupils - both past and present.

Although I started teaching in Southampton in 1997, I have spent some time outside of education. In 2001, I ran a retail business and later, in 2006, I left education to become a golf professional. The lessons that I have learned along the way, have helped me to maintain a balance and offer a unique perspective among adults working in education.

I work with an incredible team of Faculty Leaders and their job is to drive school improvement by ensuring that our pupils – your children – benefit from quality

teaching by subject specialists and expert teachers. Our collective vision of high expectations of what pupils can achieve is unswerving. We are committed to delivering a highly academic, decidedly challenging and uniquely personalised curriculum. I believe that it is my responsibility, with the support of my colleagues, to turn this vision into a reality.

Recently, I have added the role of partnership lead to my job profile. Working alongside colleagues at St Bart's in Newbury, my ambition is for both schools in the partnership to achieve sustainable academic excellence. At the heart of this are teachers of the highest calibre, led by talented leaders in a culture of excellence, accountability and challenge. I am certain that the partnership will be very positive for pupils at both schools, presenting a host of opportunities and enrichment activities.

Outside of my professional life, I enjoy playing and watching sport. But, as a life-long Southampton FC supporter, I am no stranger to disappointment. A father of two teenagers, I understand the challenges of parenthood and the pressure for my children to be both happy and successful. As somebody who is committed to The Clere, I promise that I will do my best to work together with you in achieving both these aims for your child.

I wish you well for the festive period. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I look forward to catching up with you in 2020.



## Mrs Jennifer Piper

School Business Manager



My name is Jenny Piper, and I am the School Business Manager at The Clere School. I have been in this post for over six years, although I have worked at the school for eight years. Since taking up the post of School Business Manager, I have completed both the Level 4 Diploma for School Business Managers and the Level 5 Diploma for School Business Leaders.

As the School Business Manager, I am part of the school's Senior Leadership Team. My role covers many aspects of school life and I am responsible for the: financial resource management, management of the school's administrative function, leadership of all support staff, ICT and Human Resource management, Site and Property management and the Health & Safety management of the school.

The support staff I work with at The Clere are highly valued members of staff who are a very supportive and dedicated team. As a result, we are able to provide our pupils and parents with a friendly service and a school they are able to be proud of.

In addition to my role at The Clere, in June 2018, I became a Governor at one of our local feeder schools, Woolton Hill Junior School.

In my spare time I enjoy running, and walking my lovely dog, Jackson!

## Battlefields Trip 2019

On 27<sup>th</sup> September, at the unearthly hour of 4am, 54 GCSE History students from Years 10 and 11 set off from The Clere for a trip to the continent. We were met by two World War One soldier guides who would spend the next three days taking us through the cemeteries and battlefields of the Ypres Salient.



Having “looked for fish” out of the window on the Eurostar, we visited the first site of the day where we got to walk along the frontlines of 1914-1917. We braved the icy wind and rain to see some of the craters caused by tunnels built under enemy lines. After lunch, we got the chance to walk through a recreated trench where we were ‘gassed’ and some of us got the chance to fire a WWI rifle. We then got to visit where one of our students, Emma’s Great-great-great Uncle, had fought and died in Hooze. Finally we visited a trench system at Hill 60, where we were able to explore the site and see the distance between the British and German lines. We then headed for the youth hostel and dinner, before heading off to bed.

We started day two by visiting the cemetery where another student, Charlie’s Great-great-great Uncle, was buried and saw where he fought and won a medal for bravery. It was certainly an emotional start to the day! We looked at the medical aspects of the war, getting to visit Advanced Dressing Stations and the opportunity to see how stretcher bearers would evacuate the wounded from the battlefield. We visited Langemark German Cemetery and compared it to that of Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest Commonwealth cemetery in the world. We were able to take in the vastness of the sacrifice that was made by so many, on both sides, during the war.



After some free time and dinner, we headed to the Menin Gate to take part in the Last Post Ceremony, and had the opportunity to lay a wreath to remember the family members of those on our trip. It was a truly moving moment as everyone fell silent and to reflect on all that we had seen and heard about over the last two days.

Our final day saw us visit a range of different sites further away from the frontline, in particular the location of a Field Ambulance Headquarters. We were also given a talk by our guides on the different medical equipment which was used, as well as getting a chance to try on some of the uniform. We then headed to Poperinge where we saw the death cells and the execution pole where men would be ‘shot at dawn’ for cowardice. We finished our trip with a visit to Talbot House, a rest and recreation place for British soldiers. Here we were able to see some of the kinds of entertainment that soldiers would have had there, before finally having a cup of tea and listened to some of the group play the piano. A relaxing way to finish the trip before heading back home!



*Mrs H Wallace, Trip Leader*



## Year 7 Bonding Day at Woodmill Activity Centre

Here is what 7B has to say about the day:



"At Bonding Day we did crate stacking and Izzy P and I got the highest score. We found it scary but fun especially when the crates tipped from side to side."

"At Bonding Day we did archery, crate stacking and rock climbing. It was entertaining."

"At Bonding Day we went crate stacking and raft building. I think it was really fun and a good way of bonding with people we don't really know."



"Bonding day was really awesome. This was because I got to have so much fun and made new friends."

"At Bonding Day my group went climbing and raft building. I'm scared of climbing but I still enjoyed it. I half fell into the water and it was freezing."

"I liked Bonding Day because it was fun and I got loads more than one friend throughout the day. It was really good."

Bonding Day was excellent and enjoyed by all. The pupils really engaged with the activities and made new friends, and it really helped them get to know the other children in Year 7 quickly, which I think has helped them since in school.

**Mr A Crook, Tutor 7B**



## Woodmill Activity Centre





## Visit to The Good Food Show - November 2019

33 students recently enjoyed a fun packed day at the Good Food Show at the NEC in Birmingham. There were hundreds of food, drink and kitchen equipment stalls, many tempting you with free samples. A few food favourites were handmade chocolates, cinnamon rolls, spicy noodles, Jazz apples and raspberry lemonade.

Lunchtime arrived and there was plenty to tempt the students and staff even after all the freebies. Popular choices were duck wraps, turkey/hog roast, cheesy chips and authentic Greek filled flatbreads.



After lunch some students enjoyed watching equipment demos and learning how to prepare and cook Christmas dinner at the Festive Kitchen stage. Others went to see Michel Roux Jr at the book signing area and also tried to catch a glimpse of Sir Ian Botham who was at the show promoting his new book on wine.

Lastly, we all went into the Big Kitchen Super Theatre to watch Nadiya Hussain, the 2016 Great British Bake Off winner. She prepared a chicken curry by cooking the whole bird marinated in a variety of spices and finished off by making Kulfi, a sweet treat.

A great day was had by all, roll on the summer show next year!





## England Euro Qualifier at Wembley

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November, on a freezing cold evening, 40 students accompanied by 8 members of staff attended the England v Montenegro Euro Qualifier at Wembley Stadium. The students soaked up the atmosphere outside the Stadium and were excited for the match. When arriving at our seats we had a brilliant view of the pitch and goal. The students got involved in the Mexican wave and the singing throughout the match. There were a lot of goals which made it exciting for the students and the final score was 7-0 to England. This was a brilliant opportunity for the students and this showed in their behaviour as they were an asset to the school. Thank you to the staff who supported me on this trip.

*Miss King—Curriculum Leader of PE*



On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November, Year 9, 10 and 11 travelled to Wembley Stadium to watch England v Montenegro. Before we entered the stadium, Deliveroo had a stand and invited the school group to have a doughnut and gave us some free merchandise. When we entered the stadium, we went to our seats and had a very good view of the pitch. We had free flags set up on each seat as well.

During the match, we were really lucky as England scored 5 goals in the first half at our end. At half time, England's footballing legends came out onto the pitch as it was the 1000<sup>th</sup> game. During the second half, England scored another 2 goals at the opposite end to finish the game 7-0.

Thank you to the staff for taking us to this match as it was a spectacular experience!

*Harrison Cotton and Harvey Hannington-Green  
Year 10*





## Fantastic Student Turn Out in Netball

It has been a brilliant season so far for all students involved in netball. The numbers of students that have been attending netball practice have been the highest I have ever seen with 60-70 students attending each week.

Years 9, 10 and 11 are currently playing their matches with the Year 7 and 8 teams playing their matches after Christmas.

I am really proud of the Year 9, 10 and 11 netball teams as they are training very hard to improve their skills and this has been very apparent within matches. I look forward to seeing where the teams are placed at the end of the season.

Well done to the Year 7 and 8 students who have been committed to training and I am excited for their season to start.

### *Miss King - Curriculum Leader of PE*

**Year 11 Netball** - This year was our last season in the netball league. Once again we have improved; partly due to our netball tour in May, where we competed against tough teams and came 5<sup>th</sup> overall. This season we have beaten teams in the league that we have never beaten before which shows our progress as a team.

It's a shame that the league is nearly over as we love



**Year 9 Netball** - This netball season has been very successful for Year 9. Training has been very effective, and has shown throughout our game play. Our teamwork is improving and we've been doing well this term, winning or drawing most matches. New additions to the club has helped our growth as a team, helping us to advance and become a stronger group.

### *Daisy Voke - Year 9 Netball Captain*



playing together as a team and we have a strong bond. With three matches left we're realising that we are coming to the end of an era that we will greatly miss. We would like to thank Miss King for her time and dedication to us and we couldn't have made it this far without her.

### *Georgia Roberts - Year 11 Netball Captain*

**Year 10 Netball** - The Year 10 netball team have been working very hard this year both in training and matches. We really want to improve our skills and become a stronger team overall for our netball tour to Liddington in April, which we are very excited about. So far we have played 4 matches and have 3 left to play. In training we have been working on our passing skills and collaborating together in order to achieve a win.

### *Ariana Smith - Year 10 Netball Captain*



## High Numbers at Football

What a great start to Football Club this year, numbers have increased in all year groups and the commitment and effort shown by students to train in some tough conditions is highly commendable. The Year 7s have played their first fixture representing The Clere and impressed on both sides of the ball. Year 9s have showed real grit and determination coming up against some big opposition. We look forward to welcoming more new faces to Football Club in the coming weeks.

*Mr Dyke - PE Teacher*



**Wednesday 20th November 2019**

### The Clere School vs Testbourne School

This match was an exciting one that was action packed the score being 8-8. The pupil who scored the most for The Clere was Lucy Powis (3 goals). Everyone had a great time especially Mr Dyke - he was smiling all the time. We look forward to the next match.

*Ryley Fulbrook - Year 7*

### Rugby

Rugby Club has had a good start to the year with a core group of students returning week on week to improve on individual skills like kicking, passing and tackling. It would be fantastic to see some new faces at Rugby Club as we begin to cover it in lessons. Come along have fun and play rugby with your friends, Thursdays after school.

*Mr Dyke - PE Teacher*



### Dance Club

I am very impressed with the commitment that the students have shown to Dance Club on a Monday lunchtime.

These students are currently practising a dance ready for the Dance Showcase to parents in January.

*Miss King - Curriculum Leader for PE*



## Life After The Clere ....

### Emily Watkins (Attended 2012—2017)



College for me was a big step. I'd chosen Peter Symonds College in Winchester because of its academic reputation and the amazing facilities. The first day was terrifying as I didn't know anyone, I was in a new town, but I was so excited to move on and get started with the next step in my life.

I had achieved good results at GCSE obtaining mostly Bs and I was proud of myself, but I knew I wanted to push myself further. From GCSEs I learned that I wasn't the best at revising, but I was good at coursework, so I chose to do a mixture of Sociology 'A' Level, Business BTEC and Performing Arts BTEC to give me a good balance at college.

I learned a lot during my time there and made the most of it. I joined the badminton team as my extra-curricular activity and also had a part time job. It definitely kept me busy, but I still made sure I had time to do all my work and had plenty of time to hang out with my friends with whom I now have some amazing memories.

It took me a while to adjust at first as it is a big step and very different to secondary school as suddenly no one's getting on your back to study or complete work. I had to learn to be independent and self-motivated, and this really helped me do well.

At college, I was able to meet people from all over the world; there were people boarding from Hong Kong, The Falkland Islands and so many other countries which made it such a welcoming, diverse community.

What made college stand out for me was the independence and opportunities I had including the opportunity to travel to Kenya to help in the community and local primary school. College really helped me to grow as a person, be more confident and prepare me for my future and support from my college meant that I was able to beat all my predicted grades achieving top grades and now I'm beginning my studies at University to become a nurse.

*Emily Watkins, October 2019*

## Careers Fair—22nd November 2019

Students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 visit our annual Careers Fair

Organised by the West Berkshire Education Business Partnership, the event contained lots of valuable information regarding post 16 opportunities - a great way for students to find out more about the next phase of their education and their career options.

For Year 11 students it may have re-affirmed their choice of college, as well as generating interest in apprenticeships such as N G Bailey and other employers including Ipsen Pharmaceuticals, the RAF, Gardner Leader Solicitors, and Sandford Springs Hotel & Golf Club, who attended. Also in attendance were local colleges including Sparsholt, Newbury College, BCOT, Peter Symonds, QMC and University of Winchester and Southampton.

The fair introduces students to the world beyond school and encourages them to consider the exciting career opportunities open to them.





## Basing House Trip

On the 21<sup>st</sup> November, Year 9 headed off to Basing House to discover how it was involved in the English Civil War. Students got the opportunity to look at what soldiers would have carried in their 'snapsacks', including replica food, bowls, cups and equipment. They had to work out what each item would have been used for and why they may have carried it.



Having looked at some of the replicas, students then got the chance to look at artefacts from the Civil War. They had the opportunity to look at pieces of pottery and work out what they might have been 400 years before.

They had the chance to stand in the shoes of those who fought in the war and heard about what happened at the siege of Basing House. They also had to think about why the different sides acted as they did, looking at the consequences of the actions that were made and how different people would have felt.

The last activity before lunch was the chance to hear about the owner of Basing House, John Paulet, and what happened to him, finishing off by trying on some of the armour that those fighting would have worn.



In the afternoon, we headed to the site of Basing House and got the opportunity to use GPS to discover more about the different features of the old site. Discovering the deep wells and the defences that were put in place to allow the house to withstand the Parliamentary attack.

It was then back on to the coach to warm up as we headed back to school.

*Mrs H Wallace, Humanities*



## Children in Need 2019

On the afternoon of Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November, the whole school met in the Sports Hall to raise money for Children in Need. Every tutor group in the school ran a stall or organised a game for people to play for a small donation, with members of staff joining in too.



Year 10 sold sweets and ran a face-painting stall while Year 8 asked people to throw balls at celebrity pictures for a prize.

In Year 7, Jack Reynolds asked if we could guess his height in millimetres with the closest guess earning a box of chocolates.

Year 11 were sports-themed (in line with their year group focus on Changing Lives With Sport) and ran basketball and football shoot-outs.

Year 9 organised posters and information leaflets about their year's focus of Autism Support as well as running numerous activities. Mrs Fowler, as Year 9 Progress Leader, built on the success of her Summer Fayre bric-a-brac stall and raised a good deal of money.

The total raised by the end of the day (and with all deductions taken into account): **£680.95**

A fantastic result for all involved—well done!



I would like to say a huge thank-you to all staff and students who helped organise and run events on the day as well as everyone who donated money or brought in prizes. I would especially like to thank the members of the Fund-Raising Committee (Mrs Thomas, Mrs Grant, Franziska van der Galien, Lauren Osborne and Sophie Morgan) for helping me to organise the event.

A new total will be shared in the next newsletter once we have added the money raised by the Christmas Jumper Day on 13<sup>th</sup> December to the current total.

*Mrs K Street*



## More Children in Need Photographs



## Year 10 hear Eva Schloss, a Holocaust Survivor, speak

As part of our partnership with St Bart's, a group of Year 10 students were invited to go and hear Eva Schloss, a holocaust survivor, speak of her experiences of Nazi prosecution and her time in Auschwitz-Birkenau. Having learned about this topic in Year 9 and about to start investigating the role of the Nazis in Germany as part of their GCSE studies, this group were able to make links between the historical theory of the past and the experiences of someone who was an eyewitness to the terrible events.

The students who took part in listening to Eva Schloss agreed that it was a rare opportunity to hear a voice from the past who could deliver a warning for the present about the importance of tolerance in our communities. We hope to be able to offer similar opportunities to other groups of students in future, so look out for letters and emails from the Humanities Faculty.



*Mrs H Wallace, Humanities*

## UKMT Mathematical Circle

We were delighted to accept the invitation to send two Year 10 students to the UKMT Mathematical Circle event held in St Swithuns School, Winchester, over two days in October.

The UKMT (UK Mathematical Trust) runs these events nationwide and invite distinguished mathematicians, including speakers from Oxford University, to give talks on a wide variety of topics such as number theories and the mathematics in the battle of Trafalgar and volcanoes. The UKMT provides individual and team challenges that provides students with problem-solving style questions designed to make students think.

Lewis Williams said "One of the sessions was on personalised polynomials and was really interesting and is above GCSE maths which was inspiring."



## Wanted - Sweet Tubs / Containers

The Food department will be very grateful for any empty sweet tubs, plastic containers or biscuit tins.

They will be used for those children who forget to bring a container to take their cooking home with them.

Please send tubs into school after Christmas.

Thank you.





## GCSE Computer Science Students Visit BAE Systems

On Friday 11th October 2019, 10 GCSE Computer Science students had the opportunity to visit BAE Systems for an exclusive STEM event for girls. BAE Systems is the UK's largest defence and security company, they employ over 34,800 people and work with more than 7,500 British companies. They commit themselves to create the best equipment and services for armed forces and government. The event was held to introduce new career ideas and prospects to teenage girls, and to hopefully convince them into a career in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths).



The day began by going around the room and talking to several different people, mainly engineers, about the different jobs they did. They showed lots of different tech that they use to help with their day-to-day jobs and gave a brief description of how important their jobs were. More was learned about this in the group discussions with all of the invited specialists in the room. One very interesting person spoke about her work for the Government to protect all of our information. Her job is to break down any defences the Government use around our data and information, then she advises them on how to improve their cyber-security.



The best part of the day was the final two hours, as the task was to create a website about Internet safety. It was really interesting, and trying to write in HTML was very challenging. Each website had to be presented to the rest of the groups with the best group winning Amazon echo dots. Ella Murrey, Phoebe Goodyear and Cody Learwood were voted as the best website and presentation.

The day was very interesting with this event showcasing the different careers that are available for women in this field.



*Report compiled from reviews by Ella Murrey, Cerys Deakin and Amelia Gibbons  
(Year 10 Computer Scientists)*

## The Clere School selected as part of the Pilot Gender Balance in Computing Programme

At The Clere we are pleased to say that we are bucking the national trend for girls choosing to study Computer Science GCSE. Nationally there is a 20% uptake. For the last three years at The Clere the uptake has been significantly higher. However there is still work to be done and we are pleased to have been selected as one of the 70 pilot schools for the Gender Balance programme.

The Raspberry Pi Foundation is working with the National Centre for Computing Education on a project funded by the Department for Education.

Together, they are exploring ways of engaging more female students in computing in order to increase the number of girls who select Computer Science at GCSE and A level. The project aim is to make clearer links between learning computing in informal activities and formal computing education. It is giving an amazing opportunity to investigate different approaches to engage girls in computing and to help increase the number of girls who select Computer Science at GCSE and A level.

## Office 2016 Free for All

As part of the upgrade to Windows 10 and Office 2016, all students have free access to download Office 2016 on 5 different devices. The installation can be accessed via the student's school email account, followed by clicking on 'my account'.

### ↓ Office apps & devices

You can install Office on up to 5 PCs or Macs, 5 tablets, and 5 smartphones.



Install Office

*Mrs R Trafford, Computing*

## The Clere Community Club

The Clere School welcomes older members of the community from Burghclere and surrounding villages to attend monthly social meetings of The Clere Community Club. We meet from 10 a.m. until 12 noon on the second Tuesday of the month. The cost is £2.50 which includes tea, coffee and biscuits and a raffle ticket.

We do a variety of different things from quizzes to cooking/baking with students. We also have various speakers on a regular basis.

We had a lovely turn out for The Clere Club on Tuesday 12th November. Members enjoyed a fun quiz with lots of easy and difficult questions ... and lots of laughs!

Our next Clere Club will be our Christmas Lunch which is on Tuesday 10th December between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. The cost of this is £5 per person.

We usually have a fun game of Bingo to start with, followed by a lovely, tasty Christmas dinner made by the wonderful kitchen staff. Then it's time for some Christmas entertainment from the students before going home.

For further information regarding The Clere Community Club please contact Jane Stockwell at [j.stockwell@clere.hants.sch.uk](mailto:j.stockwell@clere.hants.sch.uk) or telephone 01635 278372.



## Year 7

What an eventful first term at school it has been for our youngest Clere School pupils! From navigating their way around the school, experiencing new subjects, making new friends and surviving Bonding Day, the Year 7 cohort are proving to be a fantastic group. They are remembering to pack their books and PE kits and are walking around with big smiles on their faces, which is fantastic to see!

Behaviour has been exemplary with many pupils achieving very high numbers of well-deserved house points. I have enjoyed awarding the 'Skip the Queue' passes in assembly. These are given to the pupils in each tutor group who achieve the highest number of house points every two weeks. As well as being awarded in lessons, house points can be earned for participation in extra-curricular activities, for just doing a good deed or for random acts of kindness.

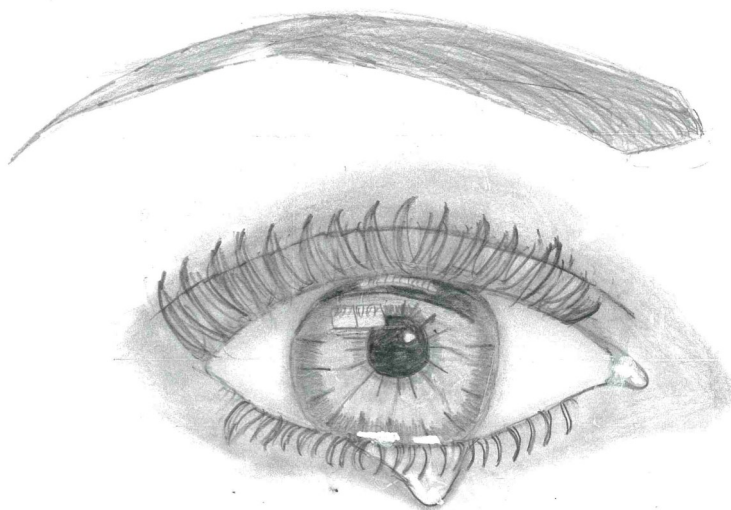
Some of the group have demonstrated how amazing they are by showing around prospective parents and their children. This is a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to meet new starters or the next generation of Year 7 and support them in this transition.

As you can see from the photographs Bonding Day was very wet! It absolutely poured down for most of the day; however, the rain did not dampen the pupils' enthusiasm. Everyone showed great teamwork skills and bravery. Well done to Georgina Pile and Arthur Pullen for achieving the maximum height possible on the stacking crates.

I hope that after a full term pupils feel settled and are happy at The Clere. If you have any concerns or are unsure about anything, then please do get in touch with me [c.wheeler@clere.hants.sch.uk](mailto:c.wheeler@clere.hants.sch.uk)

Have a lovely break and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Cheryl Wheeler*  
Head of Year 7



"Since Year 5 I have really enjoyed drawing and especially shading. I have completed about 20 drawings which I collect or give to friends as gifts. My drawings usually take at least an hour each. This is my best work so far this term."

*Anna Riley, Year 7*





## Year 7 Achievements

### 7B

- Beth loves acting. She performs in her local panto every year.
- Ivalina loves designing cakes and entering contests—Junior Bake Off next year?
- Emma loves singing and has recorded an album and filmed a music video as well as performing in front of large audiences
- Zack loves flying and has flown his Dad's full size J3 Piper Cub
- Ross works on his farm and can drive a tractor
- Dan loves drone racing with his dad and wins most races
- Jack loves long distance running. His latest run was 2.6 miles in 20 minutes

*Mr A Crook, Tutor 7B*

### 7L

7L have settled in really well and have fully engaged into life at The Clere. The students started the term by writing about themselves and what their hobbies and interests were. Our House Reps are Lily Poulter and Finley Batten and our Sports Captains are Finley Batten and Lucy Powis. The tutor group all really enjoyed the Bonding Day to Southampton, despite getting soggy and wet, they tried all of the activities and worked well as a team to help each other with the various challenges.

Members of 7L have represented the school at both football and netball and have had success! The students enjoy telling each other about what they have got up to over the weekend and we are looking forward to hearing each other talk about our hobbies through individual presentations in the New Year! Lucy and Finlay both play for local football teams and we enjoy their weekly updates on how they have got on. The students have settled into secondary school really well and are getting used to moving between lessons with the right equipment!

*Mr F Carr, Tutor 7L*

### 7S

- Highest attendance in first half term
- Highest House Points in first half term
- Second in Numeracy Challenge
- Nancy Brill spoke in front of all the prospective pupil/parents during Open Evening
- Chloe Boyle is about to get her Brown Belt at Jujitsu
- Georgia Collins plays Rugby for Newbury and the school team
- Ethan Corrans is an Academy footballer in partnership with Bournemouth and plays for the school team
- Alex Murray plays and trains four times a week at Tadley Rugby Club and the school team
- Achira Mendis plays Cricket for Mortimer
- Rosie Stockwell is an amazing netballer and plays for the school team
- Isla Freire-McKinnell is a gymnast
- Henry Gibbons is a swimmer
- Blake Cotton plays tennis every week
- Daisy Andrew loves to run
- Anais Willgoss loves to surf
- Charlotte Lee fosters unwanted dogs and currently has five
- Sonny Moore loves Crossfit
- Keaton Mathlin and Cal Holmes are into You Tube / internet / all things on-line
- Callum Crawford wants to be an actor
- Lily Bradley is an AC/DC fan and loves to dance

*Mr M Marzetti, Tutor 7S*



## 7C

What a great start 7C have made at the beginning of their time at The Clere. Everyone has settled in well and are enjoying learning new topics, having spent the first few weeks of the year finding their way around school.

We have learned to work as a team during our Bonding Day, students described the day as “exciting” “great to work in teams together” and “a good way to know lots of people”.

In school, members of 7C have been busy representing the school as part of the Year 7 football team and taking part in School Council meetings.

The tutor group have been making a real effort to gain points on their passport to success, with standout performances from Bertie Chard, Ryley Fulbrook and Anna Van Der Giessen.

*Mr E Dyke, Tutor 7C*

## Year 8

As students waved goodbye to Mr Finnegan at the end of the Summer Term, I agreed to take his Year Group on and lead them into Year 8. Summer Reports ended on a high and it was clear that students had shown they had made good progress throughout Year 7.

We are nearly at the end of the Autumn Term and the majority of Year 8 students have shown great progress and maturity as they faced new challenges.

A handful of great opportunities have been up for grabs for Year 8s. Many have taken it in their stride in becoming ambassadors for The Clere School. Students have got involved in providing support and assistance as Tour Guides and helping out at our Open Evenings and Open Mornings. All students who have been involved in these should be very proud of themselves.

Year 8s have also been allocated the role of Student Receptionist. This role is to assist the School Receptionists and staff with various duties. Those who have completed the role so far have done an excellent job in showing great maturity, commitment and support towards staff, parents and their peers.

I have seen a great many House Points issued to Year 8s this term. The top two pupils from each Tutor Group each week are given a jump the queue pass for the canteen. However, I often see the same students receiving the award, I would now like to see more students pushing themselves harder to receive House Points that they rightly deserve.

The House Point system has seen Year 8s doing well in comparison with the rest of the school. Currently Ladle are in first place with a total of 6110 points, Cottingham in second place with 5570, Sidown in third place with 5451 and Beacon in fourth place with 4778. Our top 10 students in Year 8 have received the highest % of points over Year 7 and Year 9.

The top 10 students for Year 8 with the most House Points are: Sophie Knox - 395, Tayaah Payne – 389, Mya Bluck-Moodhoo – 374, Aleksa Smith – 370, Nayi Munowenyu – 362, Matthew Gracey – 358, Daniel Brooks – 351, James Ayton – 349, Tyler Arbon-Trickett – 347, Oscar Thompson – 344

A big congratulations to all of the above students and to the rest of the Year Group for their hard work in achieving a high amount of House Points across the school.

As we move into the New Year, I would like to see a significant increase in the Year 8 attendance. Although there have been a few bugs lurking around in recent weeks, Year 8 must strive to keep their attendance high. Whilst Year 8 girls find themselves in second place with improved attendance, Year 8 boys do not place as well across the school. I hope to see a continued increase in attendance between now and the end of this school year. Your child's attendance is so important and all students should be aiming to maintain 95% attendance throughout the academic year.

I look forward to seeing what the future holds for Year 8s. There will be lots of new and exciting opportunities that will become available and I hope to see many, if not all, of Year 8 continuing to progress further as we move through into the New Year.

I wish you and your family a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Kathryn Waye  
Head of Year 8*



## Year 9

As another term ends, it is good to reflect on the achievements and events Year 9 have been involved in this Autumn. Year 9 have continued to push forward and make the most of their time in class and their extra curricular activities are the best attended in the school, both Miss King and Mr Dyke are very impressed with their commitment to football, netball and in lessons, the girls dance troupe. Miss King has praised Year 9 girls in general for their excellent attitude and progress during their PE lessons this term, which is always great to hear. Four lucky Year 9s also came with us to the England v Montenegro match at Wembley and despite being the youngest in the group, behaved impeccably and were an absolute pleasure to be with.

Auditions are currently being held for The Clere Christmas Show, which is always presented on the last day of term and is a lovely way to end the term. It really does put us in the mood for celebrating and Year 9 always make a brilliant effort for this.

A highlight of November was the way Year 9 rose to the challenge of fundraising for the annual Children in Need event. I am constantly amazed at their ingenuity and imaginative ideas. Highlights included an extremely taxing quiz from 9S, blindfolded drawing by 9B which Reece Austen was fantastic at, a treasure hunt and target game by 9L and 9C did Tin Can Alley, the Lemon Challenge and Play Your Cards Right. These wonderful challenges encouraged many to donate to this fantastic cause.



During the last week of November, some Year 9s had the opportunity to visit the Good Food Show in Birmingham with Ms Wheeler - an excellent trip that she runs most years. Hopefully those who went will be inspired to help with the Christmas lunch over the holidays!



At the time of writing, Fred Teague is in Tokyo at the Trampoline, Tumbling and DMT World Championships and came 16th in the world in the Male Tumbling Competition. You may remember in the last newsletter I mentioned that he was competing in Portugal where he also picked up the silver medal. His dedication to the sport is highly commendable and he should be deservedly proud of his achievements. WELL DONE FRED!

January 2019 is on the horizon and I am sure there will be more opportunities for Year 9 to get involved in extra-curricular activities and go on school trips next year. There will definitely be a Year 9 reward trip in July so students need to make sure their attendance is as high as possible and that their positive house points far outweigh any negative behaviour points they have collected to ensure they get invited in the summer term.

My very best wishes for the Christmas Holidays and the New Year ahead.

Heidi Fowler  
Head of Year 9





## Year 10

It has been a real pleasure to return to The Clere after being away for nearly 25 years. As an ex-student, returning as a teacher has been an interesting and rewarding experience. Having been a Head of Year for many years in different schools, I was looking forward to taking on the role of Head of Year 10 here at The Clere.

The year group have welcomed me to the school; it has been a real pleasure getting to know the students and their personalities.

The start of Year 10 saw students moving from KS3 to KS4 where their timetable is now made up of a combination of core subjects and their options. This has allowed students to study the subject that they enjoy the most and in some cases a brand new subject like Photography, Business Studies and Citizenship.

Year 10s undertook their first round of mock examinations this term with students now having a clearer idea of the challenges the GCSE examinations will bring. Discipline and attitude during the mocks have been excellent, and the students took the experience very seriously.

Year 10 have already had the benefit of attending the Careers Fair that was held this term. In the New Year we have several career related activities lined up for the year group to assist the students in considering the future. This, along with students all attending careers interviews, should help students come up with ideas for their work experience which will take place later in the school year.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the New Year at the Parent Consultation Evening.

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Rebecca Vaughan*  
*Head of Year 10*



Congratulations to Amandi Mendis who competed at the ISTD Grand National Finals in Ballroom and Latin, held at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool on the 2nd November.

Amandi was placed 4th in the Ballroom couples and was in the two quarter finals (top 24) and one quarter final (top 12).

## Year 11

I cannot believe how quickly this term has gone! We have started the year with excellent attendance. As the winter kicks in, it is important to maintain this, to ensure students do not create gaps in their knowledge.

As we break up for Christmas, Year 11 have completed a large number of mock examinations. I hope they have taken on board the strict exam regulations which they will need to adhere to during real exams.

When we come back to school in January, Year 11 will have only 15 school weeks before the start of the exam season. Extra revision sessions will be offered and more details of these will follow next term.

Reviewing and revising should continue to be a priority, although students should also find time to enjoy themselves over the Christmas holiday. Creating a revision plan and getting organised are both important to ensure a great start to their penultimate term. We look forward to helping them build on their learning in the weeks to come.

Year 11 have continued to attend valuable careers appointments with Michael Stockwell, our Careers Advisor, guiding them through their post 16 options. As well as this, they visited our annual Careers Fair in November.

I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### College Open Events

<i>Andover College</i>	Thursday 6 February 2020 4.30 – 7.30
<i>Basingstoke College of Technology (BCOT)</i>	Monday 10 February 2020 4.30 – 7.00 Monday 11 May 2020 4.30 – 7.00
<i>Newbury College</i>	For further information contact 01635 845000 or email info@newbury-college.ac.uk
<i>Queen Marys College (QMC)</i>	Thursday 23 April 2020 5.30 – 8.30
<i>St. Barts Sixth Form</i>	For full information on the many Sixth Form courses at St Bart's, please download their 2020/21 Course Guide from the Sixth Form page at <a href="http://www.stbarts.co.uk">www.stbarts.co.uk</a>
<i>Sparsholt</i>	Saturday, 1 February 2020 10.00 – 2.00 Booking essential

*Please check the college website for further information*

**Gary Tanner**  
Head of Year 11



## STEM Returners Programme with Fluor in Farnborough

Have you taken a career break from an engineering or a technical sector and wish to return? Are you working below your experience in a different sector? Do you have an engineering or technical degree that you aren't using? Do you just wish to transfer sectors but don't have any experience? If so, this could be the opportunity for you!

We are currently sourcing candidates for the FLUOR 'STEM Returners' programme, a 13 week, fully paid and supported return to work programme starting in April 2019 in Farnborough. All candidates will also have the opportunity to obtain a permanent role at the end of the programme. No career break is too long, register to return to STEM today!

For more information please visit [www.stemreturners.com](http://www.stemreturners.com) or email [hello@stemreturners.com](mailto:hello@stemreturners.com).

Further information on the programme is also available here: <https://www.stemreturners.com/2018/12/18/new-year-new-returner-opportunities-fluor-hampshire/>





## The Clere Remembers

Nathan Sidwell and Emily Rogerson, our Head Boy and Head Girl were very proud and privileged to have been invited to lay a wreath at the Basingstoke War Memorial during the annual Remembrance Service on Sunday 10th November, to commemorate the service and sacrifice of the Armed Forces and veterans of both world wars and other conflicts.



The Mayor Cllr Diane Taylor led the tributes at the War Memorial outside the Civic Offices, Basingstoke. A service conducted by the Mayor's Chaplain took place after which the Mayor laid a wreath on behalf of the borough. The parade then processed through the Top of the Town to the end of London Street.



*Mr G Tanner, Head of Year 11*



"We will never forget them"



## Dates for your Diary

### **Christmas Holiday**

Monday 23 December 2019 - Friday 03 January 2020

### **Spring Term**

#### **January**

- |             |   |  |
|-------------|---|--|
| Thursday 09 | - | Year 10 Work Experience Evening                |
| Thursday 16 | - | Year 8 Parent Consultation Evening             |
| Monday 20   | - | Primary Sports Athletics Event (13.00 - 15.00) |
| Thursday 30 | - | Year 10 Parent Consultation Evening            |

#### **February**

- |                       |   |                               |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Tuesday 04            | - | Dance Showcase (18.00)        |
| Monday 17 - Friday 21 | - | Half Term                     |
| Monday 24             | - | Year 11 Mock Examination Week |

#### **March**

- |                        |   |  |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Monday 02              | - | Year 11 Mock Examination Week              |
| Thursday 12            | - | Year 11 Examinations Information Evening   |
| Saturday 21            | - | Duke of Edinburgh Practice Walk            |
| Monday 23 - Tuesday 24 | - | Year 11 Interviews (Peter Symonds College) |

#### **April**

- |                       |   |                        |
|-----------------------|---|------------------------|
| Friday 03             | - | School closes at 15.00 |
| Monday 06 - Friday 17 | - | Easter Holiday         |

## Condolences

### Mrs Lorraine Gibson

We were truly sorry to hear of the very sad loss of Lorraine, a former Head of History and Pastoral Leader at The Clere School.

Lorraine sadly passed away earlier this year and we send our condolences to her husband and family at this very sad time.

## Performing Arts Showcase and Christmas Sing-a-long

**Wednesday 18th December 6.00pm.**

You are cordially invited to a live performance of our Year 11 GCSE Performing Arts students as they perform their Unit 2 exam piece, 'Inform, Educate and Entertain' followed by a Christmas singalong.

Year 11 students have chosen to create and perform pieces that raise awareness of the dangers of drug abuse, cyber bullying and social injustice and this has informed the content of their productions.

We look forward to seeing you there.



For the latest news and information, please follow The Clere School @TheClereSchool on Facebook.