

A sunset over a tidal flat. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a golden glow across the sky and reflecting on the wet sand. The tidal flat is covered in dark, wet sand with patches of seaweed. In the distance, a line of wind turbines is visible on the horizon.

*Clare Mount  
Specialist Sports College*

*Newsletter*

*May 2025*

Front page: Meols beach.

Photograph courtesy of Mrs Davies, School Admin Team



[WWW.CLAREMOUNTSSC.CO.UK](http://WWW.CLAREMOUNTSSC.CO.UK)



YouTube



@ClareMountSSC



@ClareMountSSC

Dear Parents/Carers,

Once again our summer term has got off to a flying start with a steady stream of events including drama productions, sports tournaments and residential trips!

The GCSE exams are now underway and pupils and teachers alike are working hard to make sure the results reflect the potential of each and every one of our pupils who are sitting exams. Exams can be stressful for our students (and their families) so please ensure your child balances their revision and recreation time. We wish all our students the very best of luck!

Many of our Year 7 pupils headed off this term for the annual residential trip to Barnstondale and our Year 8 pupils spent a few days at the Conway Centre. Once again, the children had a fabulous time, enjoying the wide range of activities on offer as you will see later on in this newsletter.

Looking forward, next term promises to be a busy but exciting few weeks with our 6th Form and Year 11 leavers visiting colleges and holding their Prom night. Next **year's Year 7 will be visiting us, we will have two days of Culture and Creativity** and further exciting trips. Our fantastic Summer Fair will take place on Saturday 5th July, so please do join us.

I hope you enjoy the half term holiday and I look forward to seeing the pupils come back into school on Monday 2nd June.

Kim Webster  
Headteacher  
May 2025



On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 61 members of our Year 7 cohort arrived at Clare Mount, ready for an adventure! There was an air of great enthusiasm and excitement as everyone boarded the coach to Chester Zoo for part one of the trip.



We were all able to explore different sections of the zoo, including the **brand new 'Heart of Africa' exhibit, seeing the Giraffes, Zebras, Flamingos and an Ostrich in their new home.** Amongst other animals, we saw Tapirs, Painted Dogs, Snow Leopards, Orangutans, Monkeys, Lions, and the Penguins. The weather was very kind to us, ensuring we enjoyed a picnic lunch at the Islands area. We saw lots more animals in the afternoon and enjoyed time on the play area, before meeting back at the exit to re-board the coach and venture on to Barnstondale.

On our arrival at Barnstondale, we went for our well-earned evening meal and then to the cabins to settle into our rooms. For the rest of the evening, we played games including football and had fun on the play area before retiring to bed.





Our second day was spent doing archery, climbing, abseiling, **shooting, 'wildwood'** – forest school activities and crossing the stream using ropes. We had a picnic lunch and then all enjoyed the Barbeque in the evening. Later on, there was chance to enjoy the play area and play football in the glorious evening sunshine, or watch a film. Finally, the end of the evening was spent by the camp fire, eating toasted marshmallows and drinking hot chocolate, before bed.

On our final morning, we awoke to another sunny day, enjoyed a cooked breakfast, packed our belongings and cleared our rooms. The morning was spent working in teams to complete any of the **previous day's activities not yet done. We had another picnic lunch** and then headed back to school.

We all had a wonderful time and made memories which will last forever. This trip was partially funded by Pupil Premium.

Thanks to the Year 7 pupils and staff who brought enthusiasm, positivity and light-hearted attitudes, enabling fun to be had by all!

Mrs Croucher - Head of Year 7



# Clare Mount Specialist Sports College

## Summer Fayre

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2025

10 am - 1 pm

Refreshments  
Raffle Prizes  
Entertainment  
Tombola



Bric-a-brac  
Bottle Store  
Cakes  
Games

**Stalls available to hire!**

**ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL AGES**

*Clare Mount SSC, Birket Avenue, Moreton CH46 1RA*

Our Year 9 students recently enjoyed an unforgettable residential trip to Boreatton Park in Shropshire, where they embraced adventure, challenged themselves, and made lasting memories.



Students took part in a wide range of exciting activities, including climbing, archery, axe throwing, kayaking, trapeze, and survival skills. Each challenge was met with enthusiasm and determination, with many stepping out of their comfort zones to try something new.

The students were brilliant throughout the trip and made the school proud. Staff were especially impressed by how well they worked together, supported each other, and showed great teamwork and spirit.



Mrs McNamara





This term, 8Ha have been diving into the fascinating world of Viking settlers—right here in the Wirral! The class have been exploring the history of Norse migration to the area and learning how Viking culture shaped local history, language, and place names.



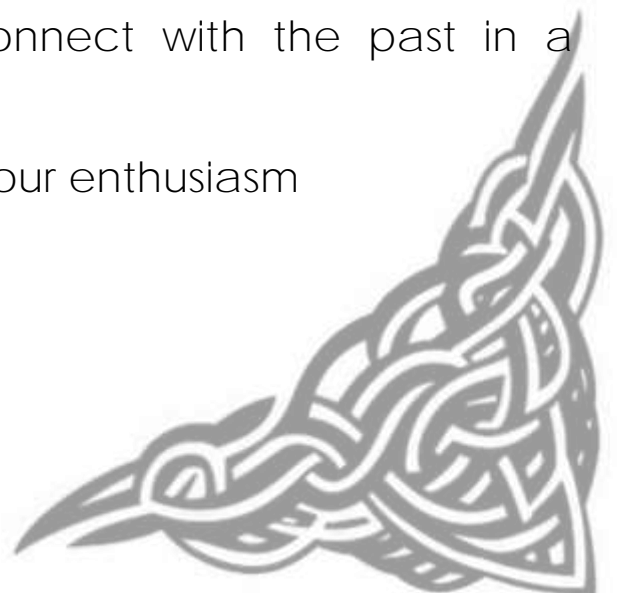
To bring the topic to life, pupils got creative with a hands-on project: making their very own Viking rune stones out of clay. Each student designed their rune with care, carving symbols that reflected what they had learned about Viking writing and storytelling, as well as adding some symbols that were important to them. The finished rune stones looked fantastic and really helped the class connect with the past in a memorable way.



Well done, 8Ha, for your enthusiasm and creativity!



Miss Petticrew



# Alternative Curriculum

## Delamere Forest

A group of pupils from the Alternative Curriculum class have been taking their learning far beyond the classroom walls – right into the heart of Delamere Forest. As part of an outdoor learning initiative, the students have been exploring the forest's diverse landscape while developing practical skills in map reading, trail navigation, and resilience in the face of nature's challenges.

Led by staff, the sessions were designed to help pupils build confidence, teamwork, and independence. Pupils have navigated a series of trails through the forest, learning to interpret contour lines, identify key symbols, and make decisions based on terrain and route options.

Pupils also faced a variety of weather conditions, from cool spring showers to sunny spells, learning to adapt their gear and mindset accordingly. The ever-changing environment gave them the opportunity to test their perseverance and problem-solving skills in real time.

The initiative is part of a broader Alternative Curriculum programme that supports pupils who thrive with a more hands-on, experience-based approach to education. Teachers and staff have reported improved engagement, attendance, and behaviour among the pupils taking part.

With plans already underway for future outdoor activities, the Delamere Forest experience has left a lasting impression—not just on the students, but on the staff who witnessed their transformation.

Mrs Willis



# Alternative Curriculum

## Bowling

Pupils from our Alternative Curriculum class have been taking part in exciting weekly bowling sessions at Cheshire Oaks, offering a unique opportunity to step outside their comfort zones and enjoy learning in a new environment.

The trips, which take place each week, are more than just fun—they're a valuable part of the pupils' personal and social development. Travelling a little further than usual has given the students the chance to experience a new setting and build their confidence in a public venue.

The bowling alley staff have been incredibly accommodating, creating a welcoming and supportive environment tailored to the needs of our pupils. This has helped make the experience both enjoyable and accessible for everyone involved.

Each session gives the pupils the opportunity to improve their bowling technique, while also learning the importance of teamwork, patience, and positive sportsmanship. Whether they're lining up their own shot or cheering on a classmate, every student is encouraged to participate, support one another, and celebrate each other's progress.

The sessions have quickly become a highlight of the week for many pupils, combining physical activity, social interaction, and life skills in a fun, relaxed setting.

We're proud of the way our students have embraced this opportunity and are grateful to the Cheshire Oaks bowling team for their continued support. The smiles, high-fives, and strikes speak for themselves—our pupils are definitely on a roll!



# Alternative Curriculum

## Tag Arena



As part of our Alternative Curriculum provision, we take some of our learning beyond the classroom. We aim to improve teamwork and communication skills and tie this in with physical activities that help us to keep our bodies healthy.

The Tag sessions are designed to help pupils to work both independently and as a team. Pupils are challenged to communicate effectively in order to achieve the most points on the course. Coloured buttons are placed around the arena ( in high and low places) and pupils must navigate the arena to tag these in order to build points for themselves and their teams. The buttons that are more difficult to find or to reach are worth more points, encouraging pupils to go ' the extra mile' to reach the top of the leader board. This element of 'healthy competition' is so lovely to see!

Our pupils can choose to work independently or as a team, which means that all can achieve success in this exhilarating arena. Each week, we look forward to going and come back to school ready to return again!

Here pupils can build on a wide variety of skills, from: communication to problem-solving to time-management and decision-making— all important for life beyond academia. Teachers have reported how much our pupils have gained from this experience and in the plethora of varied experiences that are offered to pupils beyond the classroom. We hope to continue this and to offer more opportunities as we move through the rest of the academic year.

With plans already underway for future outdoor activities, the Delamere Forest experience has left a lasting impression—not just on the students, but on the staff who witnessed their transformation.





Clare Mount is getting ready to take the Big Screen by storm! For the last few years, we have participated in the Shakespeare Schools Festival on stage. This year, for the first time ever, we are creating a short film, adapting the tragedy Coriolanus.

Written around 1608 by William Shakespeare, Coriolanus was originally the story of a Roman military general. Students at Clare Mount are re-telling the story, with a contemporary setting that swaps the battlefield for a conflict between social media personalities and what they stand for.

Rehearsals for the film began in January, with pupils meeting at lunchtimes to go over their parts, before we began to film the scenes.

When we began filming for the Shakespeare Film Festival, students performed exceptionally well during all shoots. They listened carefully to instructions, and took on our feedback professionally when asked to do things a little different.

Stay tuned for information about our gala premiere of Coriolanus: The Viral Saga when it has been edited.

Mrs Courtney





# Clare Mount Specialist Sports College

# Talent Show



Do you have a special talent,  
that you would like to share  
with others?

Collect a form from the  
Performing Arts  
Department

THE SHOW WILL BE AT THE  
END OF THE SUMMER TERM



# CRICKET

Big plans for the cricketers this summer start with "The look"

The summer term is upon us and this means the Alder and Warrington tournaments and defending their titles is imminent for our cricketers. Allied to this, several players are playing in the Cheshire set up now which means that they can progress their skills further.

We have organised 2 invitational tournaments at Upton Cricket Club on Thursday 26th June and Thursday 10th July and we thank chairman Jez Lamb for allowing us use of the facilities to further the cricketing development of the players

We took delivery of new hoodies for the players to allow them to further feel part of our development here and there was also an opportunity to welcome Mr Jones into the coaching set-up formally as his shirt has been sent. All of this style has been developed by Richard Bourne at Sportsville and his unwavering support for our journey.

It is exciting times here at the Clare Mount Cricket Academy.

Mr Kearney



# GREAT BIG SCHOOL CLEAN



During the month of March, students joined hundreds of other schools across the country in the 'Great Big School Clean' pledging to collect 20 full bin bags of rubbish as part of the #BigBagChallenge. Students learnt how to collect rubbish safely and then scoured the perimeter of the school, closely monitoring the different types of litter and how long it has been there.



“If every child who attended school in the UK pledged to pick up just one bag of litter during the Great Big School Clean, we could remove 10.3 million bags of litter from our natural environment.”



# CARD CRAFT

Card craft club have been busy during  
lunchtimes.

Mrs Stephenson & Mrs Booth



# Year 9

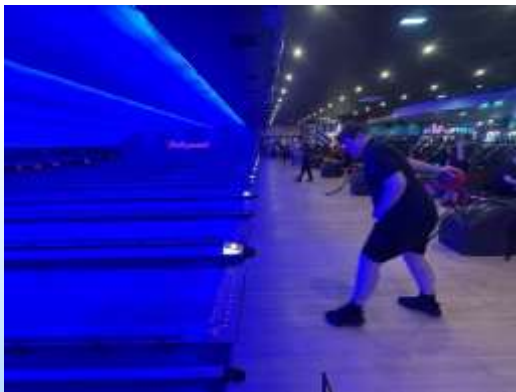
Year 9 have been working with Mr Mearns on a continuous line wire project in art. They have been looking at artist such as Alexandra Colder, Pablo Picasso and Shantell Martin. They have produced some fantastic work.

Mrs Booth



**Clare Mount's 10-pin bowling team** proudly represented Merseyside at the North West of England finals after finishing 2nd in the Merseyside regional competition. The team competed on May 10th against 12 other schools from across the region and delivered an outstanding performance to win the event. Ethan, George, and Kieran each scored over 100 points, showing great skill and consistency, while Roman delivered a crucial strike just when the team needed it most. It was a fantastic team effort and a well-deserved victory!

Mr Ritchie





**Mrs Courtney's Arts Award students are currently working on Part C - Arts Inspiration.**

The students have researched filmmakers and studios and decided upon a film style.

They are creating characters out of clay, making sure they keep within the aesthetic of the filmmaker.

Mrs Courtney





For Autism Awareness week, 8Ho created a collage display to embrace our differences. Each of them, together with their teaching staff, coloured in their own frame and their photo was attached.

Mrs Holt





Rugby in the community. Pupils from Clare Mount have enjoyed the opportunity to access a taster session at New Brighton Rugby Club this Term as part of the Star Scheme programme, hopefully giving them the confidence to consider accessing sessions at the club in future after meeting coach Sean. Similarly, pupils from Year 9 and 10 enjoyed an end of season trip to watch Sale Sharks beat Bristol Bears to boost their chances of a play off places. Pictures below of pupils at New Brighton and with ex-England and Lions rugby player turned commentator Ben Kay, as well as Sale Sharks players Aaron Reed, Tommy Taylor and Will Addison.

Mr Keefe





At Clare Mount School, Active Play plays a vital role in supporting children's development by offering a wide range of engaging activities that promote both physical and mental growth. Through games such as swing ball, skipping, badminton, and paddle, students build coordination, balance, and overall fitness, while activities like chess, Jenga, Connect 4, and darts enhance concentration, problem-solving, and fine motor skills. Social skills and teamwork flourish during group games like table futsal, air hockey, and Twister, creating a fun and inclusive environment for all abilities. The addition of an outdoor table tennis table, thanks to funding secured by Mrs McBurney, means the programme is continuing to grow—offering even more exciting opportunities for pupils to thrive, stay active, and develop confidence through play.

Mrs Kearsley



# EXTRACURRICULAR SPORTING OFFER



At Clare Mount, we've always prided ourselves on offering a wide range of extracurricular clubs—but true to our spirit, we're never content to stand still. Thanks to valuable pupil voice and feedback, we've taken things a step further and introduced even more exciting opportunities for students to get active and involved.



New lunchtime and after-school clubs now include trampolining, handball, netball, and inter-house dodgeball—each one proving to be a huge hit with students. The energy and enthusiasm around school are infectious, with pupils eager to try new sports, challenge themselves, and enjoy friendly competition.



Once again, Clare Mount has shown that by listening to our students, we can continue to grow, improve, and offer something for everyone.

Mrs Kearsley





## Clare Mount Students Serve Up Success at Wallasey Manor Tennis Club

Thanks to the strong and growing partnership with Wallasey Manor Tennis Club, Clare Mount students are enjoying an exciting new opportunity to develop their tennis skills with the help of specialist coaches.

A group of fifteen Year 9 and fifteen Year 8 students have been taking part in morning coaching sessions at the club as part of their PE lessons—and the results have been fantastic. With expert guidance and access to top-quality facilities, students have already made impressive progress in their technique, confidence, and overall gameplay.

These sessions will continue until the end of the school year, and we're now looking forward to organising some friendly matches to put their new skills to the test in a competitive setting.

We're also hopeful that this inspiring experience will encourage students to attend the club independently outside of school hours—building a lifelong interest in tennis and strengthening community links even further.

Mrs Kearsley



## Year 8 Students Thriving at Venture Boxing Club



As part of an exciting addition to their PE curriculum, Year 8 students have been attending sessions at Venture Boxing Club, and the experience has been a resounding success. The pupils are fully engaged, embracing the opportunity to develop their stamina, strength, agility, and fundamental boxing skills in a dynamic and supportive environment.

Under the expert guidance of a specialist boxing coach, students are not only building physical fitness but also gaining confidence, discipline, and resilience. The sessions provide a unique and challenging way to keep active while learning a new sport.

This popular programme continues to be a highlight for Year 10 students as well, who remain enthusiastic participants. Their ongoing involvement demonstrates the lasting impact and value of this initiative, which continues to grow from strength to strength.

Mrs Kearsley



handball



# Learning Through Friendly Competition

Students in Years 7 - 10 at Clare Mount have been enjoying a series of exciting handball sessions, featuring friendly games designed to introduce them to the rules and competitive spirit of the sport. These matches provided a great opportunity for pupils to build their understanding of handball while actively engaging in teamwork and healthy competition. Throughout the sessions, students developed key skills such as passing, shooting, spatial awareness, and strategic thinking, all while improving their fitness and having fun.

Mr Jones



# CLARE MOUNT STRENGTHENS STAFF WELLBEING OFFER



**At Clare Mount, we're not only committed to the wellbeing of our students—we also recognise the vital importance of supporting our dedicated staff. A happy, healthy team creates the best environment for everyone, and our staff wellbeing offer continues to go from strength to strength.**

Building on the success of our long-standing after-school yoga sessions on Wednesdays and our popular Friday staff sports nights, **we've recently expanded the programme to include even more** ways for staff to unwind, stay active, and connect with colleagues. New additions include a Hyrox fitness session on Mondays and a staff netball club, both of which have been enthusiastically received.

These sessions offer a fantastic outlet for staff to relieve stress, have fun, and foster teamwork outside of the classroom. Many have described the experience as rewarding, energising, and a great opportunity to bond with colleagues.

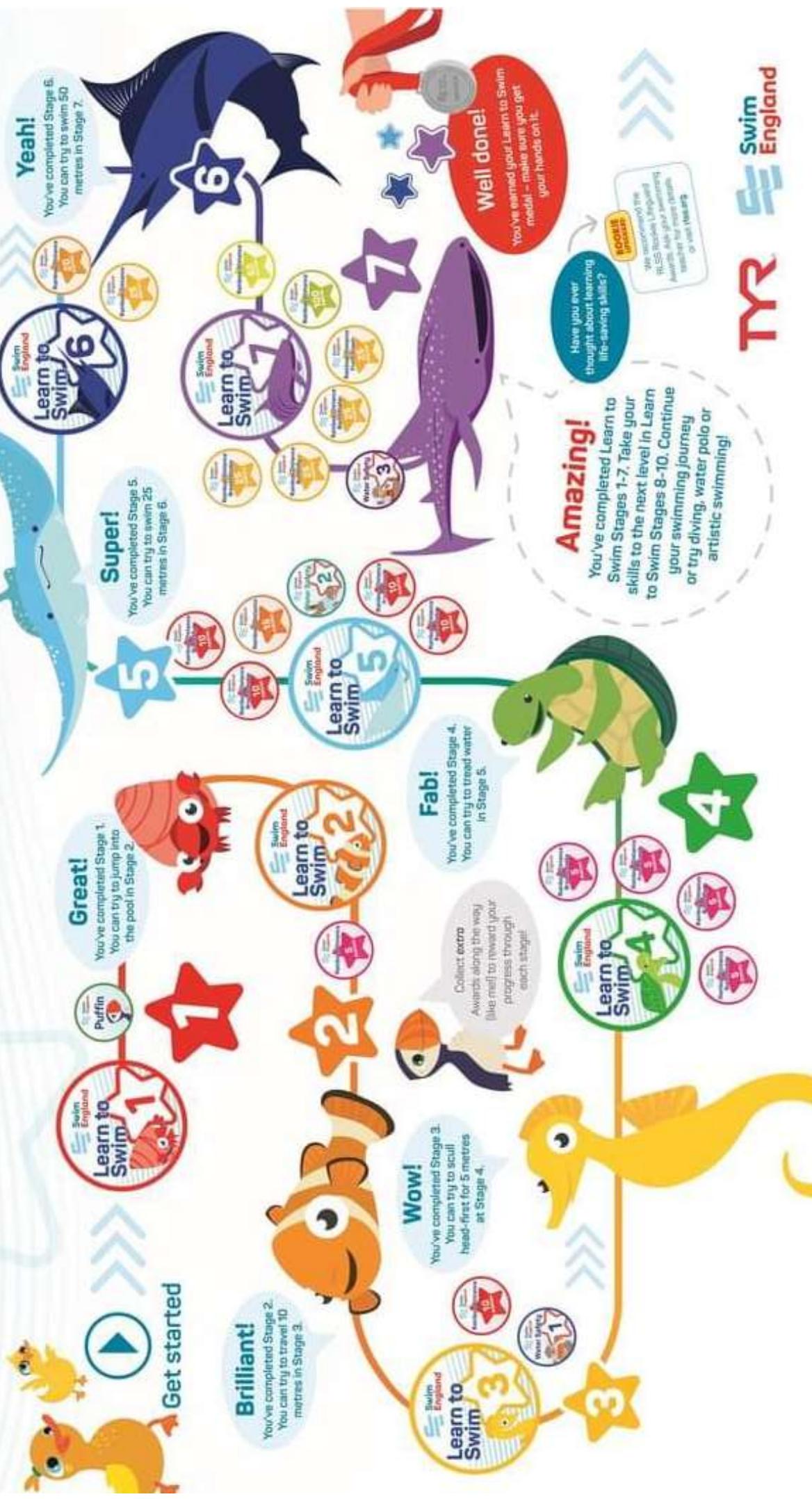
**There's truly something for everyone—and, true to Clare Mount spirit, we're always open to new ideas to make our wellbeing offer even better.**

Mrs Kearsley

Journey through Swim England's

# Learn to Swim Framework

For learners aged 4-11



## Year 7 Swimming

Swimming is an important life skill, and it is the only sport that saves lives. With one in four children still leaving primary school unable to swim, we feel here at Clare Mount it is a vital part of our Year 7 curriculum. We are now on to our last group of swimmers for this academic year. **Mrs Grayson's group are focusing on water confidence, aquatic breathing and streamline positions within the water. Mr Freeman's group are focusing on skill definition and building their water fitness. Mr Stanley's group are** focusing on refining their swimming techniques across the different strokes, and building stamina within the water. **As a department we have been so pleased with all the pupils' progress over the course of this year.**

Mrs Grayson  
Swimming Co Ordinator



## Clare Mount Triumphs at WISSA Key Stage 4 Dodgeball Tournament

Clare Mount recently hosted and competed in the WISSA Key Stage 4 Dodgeball Tournament, welcoming teams from a range of schools—including mainstream settings—for an evening of friendly yet fiercely competitive action.

Our students rose to the challenge with determination, teamwork, and impressive skill. Drawing on their well-developed dodgeball abilities, they played with focus and passion throughout each match, demonstrating great sportsmanship along the way.

All their hard work paid off as Clare Mount emerged victorious, winning the tournament overall! A huge congratulations to Team Clare Mount—your commitment and performance were outstanding.



Mrs Kearsley





# AWESOME WALLS

LIVERPOOL



## GCSE PE Students Reach New Heights at Awesome Walls

GCSE PE students have been taking on an exciting and challenging new activity as part of their practical assessment – indoor rock climbing at Awesome Walls in Liverpool. Housed in a beautifully renovated former church, the centre offers a unique and inspiring setting for students to test their physical and mental limits.

Throughout the sessions, students have faced their fears head-on, showing remarkable determination and resilience. Each week has brought noticeable progress, with many climbing routes that once seemed impossible now well within reach.

Their hard work and commitment have been outstanding, with every student pushing themselves to achieve the best possible practical grade. Most importantly, they are thoroughly enjoying the experience and gaining skills that go far beyond the climbing wall.

Mrs Kearsley





# Sports Leaders



Our Year 10 Sports Leaders at Clare Mount recently had the opportunity to work with Year 1 pupils from Leasowe Primary School, delivering fun and engaging multi-sports sessions. The Clare Mount students taught the younger children fundamental skills and physical training activities tailored to their age and abilities. They participated with great enthusiasm and showed real maturity throughout the sessions. The primary school children had an amazing time and picked up key skills in coordination, teamwork, and movement. In the process, our Clare Mount students also developed their own leadership skills, including communication, organisation, patience, and the ability to motivate and guide others—qualities that will benefit them both in school and beyond.

Mr Jones

# FREE

## Junior Rugby Taster Sessions



### All abilities welcome

Ages 6 to 16

Males and females

Beginners/played before

### Dates

June:

1st/8th/15th/22nd

July: 13th/20th

---

10am to 11am



**Scan to register your  
place**

**Or turn up on the day**



For further info message Sean on  
07596567275



New Brighton Rugby Club, CH46 3RH



## Proposed Term Dates 2025-2026

<b>Autumn Term 2025</b>	
<b>Open</b>	Monday 1st September to Friday 24th October 2025
<b>INSET</b>	School closed to students Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2025
<b>October Half-term</b>	Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October 2025
<b>Open</b>	Monday 3rd November to Friday 19th December 2025
<b>INSET</b>	School closed to students Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2025
<b>Christmas holiday</b>	Monday 22nd December to Friday 2nd January 2026
<b>Spring Term 2026</b>	
<b>Open</b>	Monday 5th January to Friday 13th February 2026
<b>INSET</b>	School closed to students Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
<b>February half-term</b>	Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026
<b>Open</b>	Monday 23rd February to Friday 27th March 2026
<b>Easter and Spring break</b>	Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April 2026 (Includes Easter Bank Holidays Friday 3rd April and Monday 6th April)
<b>Summer Term 2026</b>	
<b>Open</b>	Monday 13th April to Friday 22nd May 2026
<b>May Bank Holiday</b>	Monday 4th May 2026
<b>May Bank Holiday and half term</b>	Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026
<b>Open</b>	Monday 1st June to Monday 20th July 2026
<b>INSET</b>	School closed to students Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2026
<b>Summer holiday</b>	Tuesday 21st July to Monday 31st August
<b>INSET</b>	School closed to students Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026

WHY  
CARE  
ABOUT

UNIFORM

We care about  
**UNIFORM** because:

We care about **EQUALITY**

We care about **PREVENTING BULLYING**

We care about **STANDARDS OF  
PRESENTATION**  
(and so do employers)

We care about **BELONGING**

We care about **PRACTICALITY**

We care about **BETTER BEHAVIOUR**

We care about **RULES**

We care about **DOING THINGS RIGHT**

We care about **STANDARDS OF WORK**

We care about **IDENTITY**

WHO  
REALLY  
CARES?

**WE DO**

