Clare Mount Specialist Sports College

No. 171

GCSE Geography Fieldtrip to Osmington Bay, Dorset

May 2024

WWW.CLAREMOUNTSSC.CO.UK

@ClareMountSSC

YouTube

@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, residential trips and, of course, exams!

Students and teaching staff are working hard to make sure the year 11 and 6th **Form examination results reflect our students'** hard work. 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 pupils have benefited from going on residential experiences this term developing their teamwork and **independence skills. Inside this newsletter you'll read about our** epic Kenya trip, trips to Anglesey, Barnstondale and Dorset, as **well as our visit to Young Sports Leaders' camp and and so much** more!

This term we said a heartfelt thanks and farewell to 6th Form teacher Miss Vicars, who leaves us after 16 years at Clare Mount, also Receptionist Ms Morris, who was with us for almost 3 years. We wish them both the best of luck in their new adventures.

Looking forward, next term promises to be a busy but exciting **few weeks with our leavers visiting colleges and next year's year** 7 visiting us, Culture and Creativity days and many exciting trips out. Our Summer Fair will be held Saturday 6th July so please do **join us, as this will be our first fair to be held at our 'new' school** site.

I hope you enjoy the half term holiday and I look forward to seeing the pupils come back into school on Monday 3rd June.

Kim Webster
Headteacher, May 2024

We are delighted to announce that Sculptor Emma Rodgers is working collaboratively with our school community on a fantastic wall of art running from the school entrance to the hall, which will incorporate elements of our school's badge, including the skep (bee hive) and bees to symbolise teamwork, hard work and generosity.

In her career, Ms Rodgers has been commissioned to create several important public sculptures, including 'Salford Firsts', as a symbol of Salford's regeneration; a statue of 'Cilla Black' which has become a permanent fixture outside the iconic Cavern Club in Liverpool and a sculpture of 'Elaine Morgan', as part of The Monumental Welsh Women campaign to rectify the absence of female statues in Wales.

Parent Governor, Dr Innes, kindly ran the London Marathon last month, raising almost £5,000 for the project.

Ms Rodgers visited school recently to meet with our DT teacher, Mrs McBurney, and Art teacher, Mrs Rain. She has kindly offered to support our students in creating a sensory corridor.

The whole school community is incredibly excited by the projects and cannot wait to see what is created.

Certificate of Appreciation

Awarded to

Clare Mount College

Friday 1st March 2024

Sparkle Day

Thank you for changing a child's life

By participating in Sparkle Day you raised a fantastic: **£500.00**

Joanna Duggan
Director of Fundraising

newlife
THE CHARITY FOR DISABLED CHILDREN

Together, we **will** make life better for children with disabilities or terminal illness

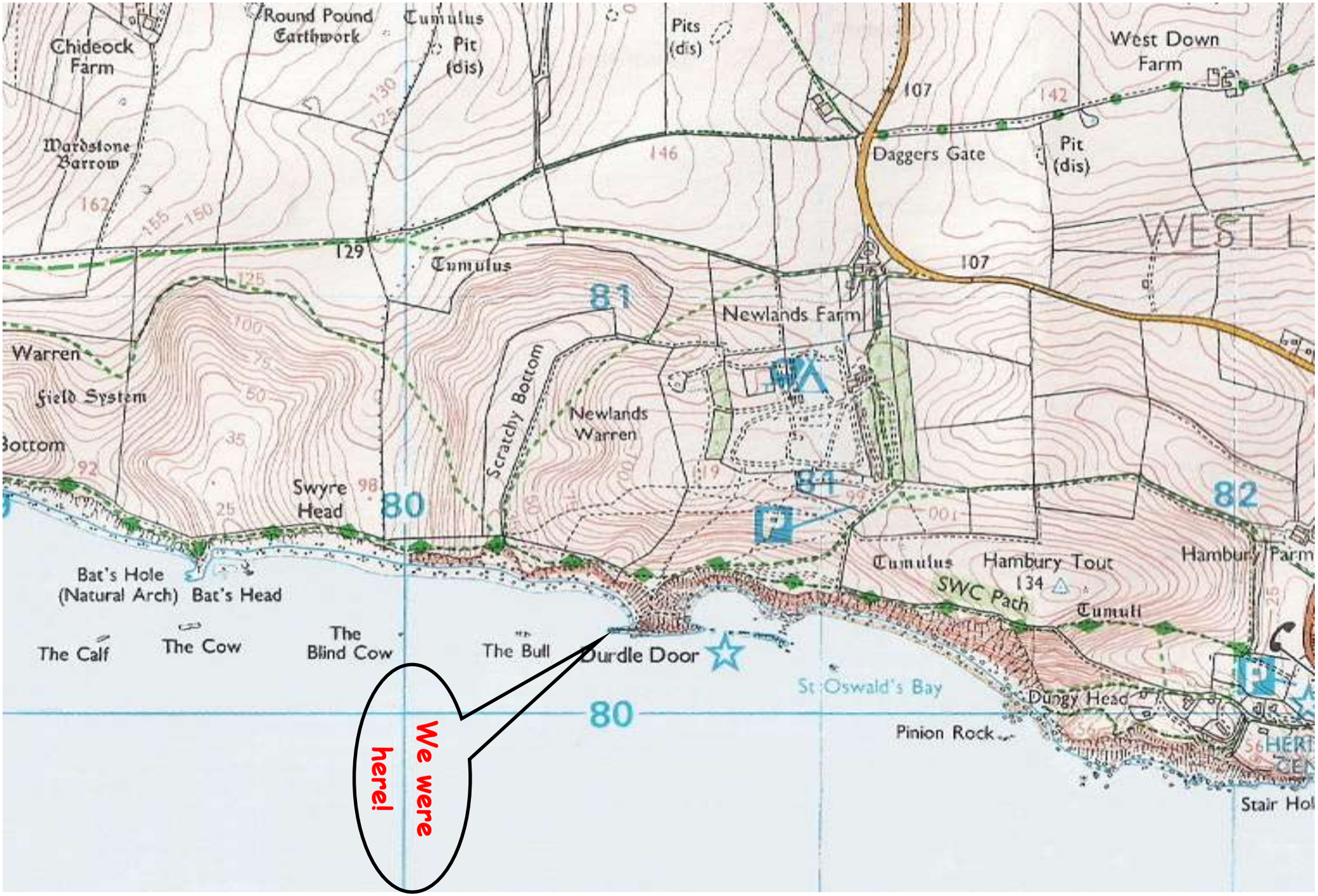
Newlife the Charity for Disabled Children - Registered Charity Number: 1170125 in England & Wales

Following our 'Sparkle Day' non-uniform and disco, our students presented 'Newlife Charity for Disabled Children' with a cheque for a fantastic £500. Members of Newlife staff visited us to say thank you, bringing their mascot dog, much to the delight of students and staff alike!

GCSE Geography

Year 10 and 11 GCSE geography pupils had a fantastic time on their Geography fieldwork trip to sunny Dorset. The pupils looked at coastal features including the spectacular Durdle Door and looked at the impact of tourism in Weymouth and Lyme Regis. They stayed at a PGL centre and had enjoyed activities including orienteering and rifle shooting. On the Monday we went fossil hunting and had lots of great finds, including 150 million year old ammonites!

Mr Jones


Round Pound
Earthwork
Tumulus
Pit
(dis)
Pits
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West Down
Farm
Chideock
Farm
Wardstone
Barrow
Daggers Gate
Pit
(dis)
WEST L
Tumulus
Newlands Farm
Warren
Field System
Scratchy Bottom
Newlands
Warren
Swyre
Head
Bottom
Bat's Hole
(Natural Arch)
Bat's Head
Tumulus
Hambury Tout
134
SWC Path
Tumuli
Hambury Farm
The Calf
The Cow
The
Blind Cow
The Bull
Durdle Door
St Oswald's Bay
Dungy Head
Pinion Rock
Stair Hol
We were
here!

SHAKESPEARE SCHOOLS FESTIVAL

SHAKESPEARE SCHOOLS FESTIVAL

"WE ARE SUCH STUFF AS DREAMS ARE MADE ON"

The Tempest
by Clare Mount Specialist Sports College
at Floral Pavilion, 22nd March 2024
appraised by Lisa O'Hanlon

CLARE MOUNT SPECIALIST SPORTS COLLEGE

Congratulations Clare Mount Specialist Sports College for your fantastic reimagining of The Tempest as part of the Spring 24 Shakespeare Schools Festival. It was a thrilling night of theatre, and I'd like to shine a spotlight on some aspects I really loved.

Firstly, congratulations on a fantastic re-write. Your modern adaptation was excellent proof that you really understood the text, the characters and themes in the play. You successfully got to the essence of the story and managed to add a lot of extra humour and comedic moments... which the audience and I clearly enjoyed!

Your character work was excellent; I loved the strength and power of Prospero alongside his three Mirandas - his very sassy daughters! The relationships between characters were also clear, including the master and servant dynamic between Prospero and a very disgruntled, enslaved and vocal Caliban. All actors gave 100% to their roles and remained committed and focused, resulting in a compelling and dramatic piece of theatre. Fabulous work!

I noticed your strong and expressive voices from the outset and along with your clever use of gesture and physical theatre skills your ensemble produced some beautiful visuals and sounds - wonderful treats for our eyes and ears! I particularly loved: how you manipulated the blue voile fabric for the storm; how the crew of salty sea dogs told the story through a sea shanty (accompanied by a drum) and how your shipwreck movement sequence really captured the chaos and fear of those on board.

Other memorable highlights include; the beastly puppetry sequence; a wonderful team of spirits who added the magical and mystical element to Prospero's Isle; The Three Stooges style relationship between Caliban, Stefano and Trinculo and the Monty Python-esque ensemble reactions throughout your play. Plus the three Mirandas were Swifties - inspirational! Your company wrote and performed an excellent piece and you deserve to be very proud of your work.

A terrific and very comedic The Tempest by a characterful, expressive and dedicated company.

We're thrilled to have reimagined Shakespeare with you this year and have loved being with you on your journey from classroom to stage. We can't wait to work with Clare Mount Specialist Sports College again in the next Festival!

A TERRIFIC AND VERY COMEDIC THE TEMPEST BY A CHARACTERFUL, EXPRESSIVE AND DEDICATED COMPANY.

coram SHAKESPEARE SCHOOLS FESTIVAL

Clare Mount's African Adventure, 2024

On Saturday 16th March, nine pupils and five staff went on an adventure of a lifetime to Kenya, East Africa. The group went away for nine days in total. They stayed in a town called Nakuru, in Kenya. The aim of the adventure was for the pupils and staff to volunteer in a school and gain new experiences. The host school was called The Walk Centre Academy. This school is a very special, beautiful and happy place. It was built fifteen years ago, by charities, and in harmonisation with the company African Adventures. The Walk Centre provides education to over 350 pupils. The school is open nearly everyday of the year, and offers a safe haven to the children in the local community, who sadly live in deprivation.

70% of Kenyan families are classed as chronically vulnerable. This is due to nutrition, water supply and preventable disease. The majority of the children in The Walk Centre live in a nearby area called the Hilton Dumpsite. The Headteacher of the school took Clare Mount pupils and staff on a special visit, to the homes of the children in the host school. The group were all very moved and saddened to observe the living conditions in this area. The group provided as many food parcels and donations as they could. The reason the Headteacher took the group to this area, is so that they could understand how important school is in this part of the world – as it provides a lifeline to the young people who attend.

The children at The Walk Centre Academy, have very few resources; their homes are made from plastic, cardboard and metal found on the dumpsite. A large number of people live in each home, in a very confined space. Food and clean water are hard to find, and the children and adults have very few belongings. The average life expectancy of a male, is 30-34 years old. People die every day from preventable illnesses. For the children in this community, school is everything. The children who attend The Walk Centre get two hot meals every day whilst in school, and there is clean water to drink. The children are given a uniform, and they receive a full-time education. Despite living in very challenging circumstances, the children are extremely happy to attend school.

THE WALK CENTRE
NAKURU, KENYA

On Monday morning, when the Clare Mount team arrived, they were greeted by the most beautiful and joyous songs. The host school sang a song called 'Jambo Bwana' which means 'Hello, welcome.' It was an emotional first day, and the pupils from both schools spent the day playing, having fun and really getting to know each other.

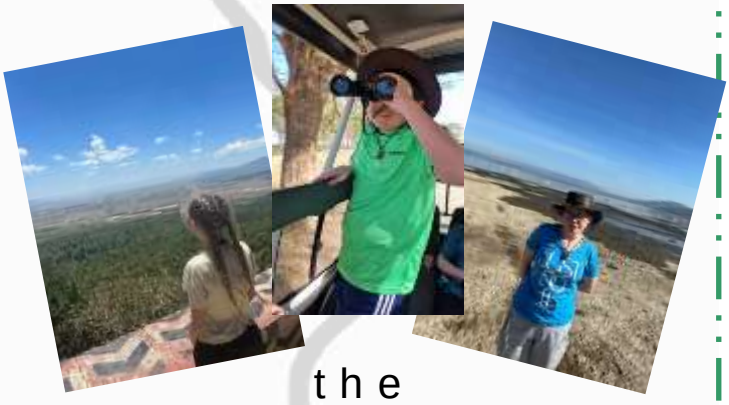
Over the following week, the Clare Mount team went to school, to volunteer at The Walk Centre. The pupils and staff worked in three teams; the building team, the teaching team and the sports team. The building team spent the week creating a new classroom floor. They worked incredibly hard smashing up the old floor, emptying trucks of soil, mixing concrete, levelling, relaying the concrete and finally painting the new floor. At the end of the week the team were incredibly proud of the safe, new classroom floor that they had created – which will last a long time.

The teaching team spent the week working directly with the Kenyan pupils in the classroom. They taught a variety of different subjects and had lots of fun teaching and learning. The highlight was singing songs together and reading stories. The sports team provided many fun games for all of the pupils in the school. They even hosted a 'sports day' which was so much fun for everyone involved. Pupils from both schools played football, athletics, ball games and botcha. The highlight was playing with a giant, rainbow parachute, which the younger pupils really enjoyed.

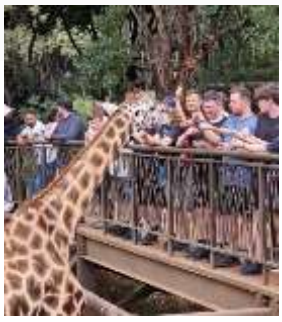
Mrs Mault, who led the expedition, was incredibly proud of every single pupil who volunteered in the school. The pupils demonstrated many key skills, including resilience, empathy, hard work, determination and understanding. The Clare Mount team worked extremely hard, in very hot weather, and gave it their all. The pupils never stopped, even when they found tasks challenging. This voluntary opportunity has not only enabled our pupils to develop new skills, it has also allowed the pupils to gain further work experience, and prepared them for adulthood. Mrs Mault's highlight was watching Clare Mount pupils thrive, even throughout challenging circumstances.

Whilst in Kenya, the group also took the opportunity to visit many wonderful places, and experience the fabulous culture that Kenya has to offer. Pupils were lucky enough to experience a Safari Day, where they saw many amazing animals, including; lions, rhinos, giraffes, hippos, buffalos and zebras. Pupils went on a trek to a beautiful waterfall, and after a long hike they all dipped in the water to cool off! The group went to the Equator line, where they did some really cool Science experiments. Pupils were able to stand with one foot on either side of the Equator!

The team also went to the top of a volcano, where they saw some incredible views of the beautiful landscape. At the end of the week the group went to visit a giraffe sanctuary, where they got up, close and personal with these beautiful animals. Many brave pupils even fed the giraffes!



A highlight of the week was a visit to an elephant orphanage. The group were able to meet lots of elephants and learn about their stories. The pupils and staff were very grateful to be able to touch the elephants. Whilst on this visit, the team also met a beautiful baby Rhino called Raha. The pupils fell in love with Raha because she was such a cutie, so Mrs Mault adopted her, and now she is our school pet! School will receive updates on Raha's progress and the money we provided will go towards her care at the orphanage.



It is safe to say that Clare Mount's African Adventure was a trip of a lifetime! The memories and experiences will be treasured forever by those who attended. This adventure was made possible, because our whole school community contributed to many fundraising events. As a school community, we raised £38,140. We would like to say a very big THANK YOU to everybody who supported us.

A lot of this money was able to support our host school, to care for the Kenyan pupils and provide many resources that they needed. The group were also able to offer food for the community and contribute to some pupil's essential health care. Along with financial support, our school community came together and demonstrated their kindness, in enormous measure. The staff took 19 spare suitcases, filled with school stationary, over 800 football kids, sportswear, children's school shoes and a large amount of sports equipment, that they were able to donate to the school. This was donated largely by school staff, parents and carers, friends of Clare Mount school, and some exceptionally kind sponsors in our local community... Thank you all for being so kind. It was vastly appreciated by us, and by the Headteacher at the Walk Centre, who was very emotional to receive our donations.

African Adventures offers once-in-a-lifetime experiences for young people. The mission of the company is to change lives through volunteering. Their aim is to provide life-changing trips for young people... and they certainly did that on our school adventure!

This company has been running for over 15 years, and has taken over 8000 pupils from the UK to different countries across Africa.

However, Clare Mount Specialist Sports College are the first ever special needs school to have attended an 'African Adventure'. This is something that our staff are exceptionally proud of. Once again, Clare Mount pupils have demonstrated there are no boundaries to what they can achieve…

"In special education, hard work, persistence and confidence prove a label is only a means of receiving the tools and resources needed to **reach maximum success."**

Thank you to Mrs Webster and the Governing Body, for supporting this adventure.

Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising events.

Thank you to the very kind sponsors in our local community.

Thank *you to everyone who gave us donations.*

Thank you to the staff who attended and worked incredibly hard.

Thank you to the parents and carers of the pupils who attended, for supporting us.

Thank you to all of the reps at African Adventures.

Thank you to the wonderful staff and children at The Walk Centre Academy, for having us.

Finally, a huge CONGRATULATIONS to every pupil who attended, I have never been prouder of a cohort of pupils. You amazed me every single day! You demonstrated so many wonderful skills and qualities – you are all delightful young people.

I am so proud of every single one of you – Well done!

I will remember and treasure this experience forever,

From Mrs Mault x

Music

Year 7 have been exploring the instruments of the orchestra. They have enjoyed trying the instruments and making some beautiful music!

Mr Gore

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

Ness
BOTANIC GARDENS

K3P travelled to Ness Botanic Gardens as part of Forest School Activities with local artists and sculptors. They took part in a flower painting workshop and willow sculpting. They created fantastic natural works of art!

Mrs Price

Chester Zoo and Barnstondale Trip

April 2024

On Monday 29th April, 60 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 seeing the new Snow Leopards, Orangutans, Giraffes, Bats, Tigers, Monkeys, Lions, Penguins and the Jaguars. The weather was pretty 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 to the cabins to settle into our rooms. After a well-earned meal, 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 and crossing the stream using ropes. We had a picnic lunch and then all enjoyed the barbeque in the glorious evening sunshine. Later on, there was chance to enjoy the games room, play football, go on the play area and then spend the end of the evening by the camp fire, eating toasted marshmallows, 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 and Happy Days Charity.

Thanks to the Year 7 pupils and staff for their enthusiasm and positive attitudes.

Mrs Croucher - Head of Year 7

Barnstondale

Year 7

CHESTER ZOO

The Clare Mount school community got to enjoy the opportunity to play on the pitch at Prenton Park, home of Tranmere Rovers FC, in May.

First, our staff were invited to play against West Kirby School and College (and Legends) to celebrate their centenary. Clare Mount won 6-0, a result made all the more remarkable by the fact that our opposition included 4 former Tranmere Rovers players. The event also raised over £1000 for charity and was well supported by up to 250 pupils and parents / carers from across both schools.

More recently, our pupils in Year 8 to Year 10 got to also play a match at Prenton Park. The pitch is one of the largest in the football leagues so we played 12 v 12 in the first half and 13 v 13 in the second. Pupils involved have been regular attenders at our Football Academy running on Monday's after-school and / or have represented the school previously.

Clare Mount All Stars were led by Lewis C (Capt) and Troy L (Vice Capt) against CCB (Community Capacity Builders) Rovers led by Seth D (Capt) and Charlie E (Vice Capt), who selected two evenly matched teams. The led changed places on a number of occasions, with some amazing performances and moments of magic from all players. The final score was 10-8 to CCB Rovers. We hope to make this an annual fixture in our calendar. Massive thanks to parents/carers for collecting pupils, the PE staff and Tony and Steve from CCB.

Mr Keefe

West Kirby 0
Clare Mount 6

TRANMERE
ROVERS

TRANMERE
ROVERS

TRANMERE
ROVERS

Design & Technology

Year 9 have been busy exploring how to recycle and reuse HDPE just a small section of their wonderful work.

Mrs McBurney

Design & Technology

Amazing effort from 8W this term, getting to grips with the workshop. They have worked brilliantly supporting one another while designing and making their mechanical toy.

Residential trip

We had an unforgettable experience building up resilience and learning to work as team and plan ahead. We were so proud of how our students helped and encouraged each other to overcome barriers. Special thanks to the Henry Smith Charity for their generous grant of £2750 which ensured that some pupils in Year 7 and 8 were able to attend the residential experience.

Mr Keefe

The Henry Smith Charity

founded in 1628

The Henry Smith Charity

founded in 1628

Residential trip

The Henry Smith Charity
founded in 1628

Year 8 Residential trip

Year 8 students had an unforgettable time at The Conway Centre on their residential trip. Their enthusiasm was evident as they eagerly participated in various activities, including cycling, canoeing, and paddle boarding. The students showcased teamwork and resilience while building rafts and fires, and their adventurous spirit shone brightly as they bravely jumped into the Menai Strait. The teachers were very proud of the students' fantastic behaviour and willingness to embrace new challenges, which made the trip a resounding success.

Mrs McNamara

ConwayCentres

Year 8 Residential trip

#EVERYDAYCOUNTS

...every school day counts!

But, if your child is not able to attend school, please call our school office to let us know: 0151 606 9440.

Thank you!

Clare Mount Youth Club Hub

Year 8 to 6th Form

Thursdays 5-7pm

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Scan the QR code to sign up!

GREAT BIG SCHOOL CLEAN

During the month of April, students in years 7, 8 and 9 joined hundreds of other schools across the country in the 'Great Big School Clean' pledging to collect 15 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.

On the 16th April Mr Freeman and Mr Rain accompanied four of our Year 9 pupils on the first ever Youth Sport Trust Multi-Sport Young Leader camp. This was a national initiative with pupils attending from schools across the UK.

During their time on camp at Kingswood Activity Centre in South Yorkshire the pupils took part in a variety of practical and theory workshops that aimed to develop their skills as Young Sports Leaders with the aim of coming back to school to deliver a Sports Club for the pupils at Clare Mount.

After two days of informative workshops and fun practical team building activities, the final day was about planning their Sports Club and delivering a presentation to the YST staff, the other pupils on the camp and their teachers. We where very proud of our pupils for doing this and the way they represented our school throughout the camp, the where fantastic ambassadors for Clare Mount.

Well done to Roman, Luke, George and Zak – and a very special mention to Roman who was recognised for his achievements throughout the camp and picked up an individual award from the Youth Sport Trust.

Mr Freeman

YOUTH SPORT TRUST

Colour Fun Run!

All pupils and members of staff are invited to join our Colour Fun Run, to raise funds for our school charity. Please keep a look out for the permission slips and sponsorship forms coming home this week.

Mrs Mault

27th June 2024

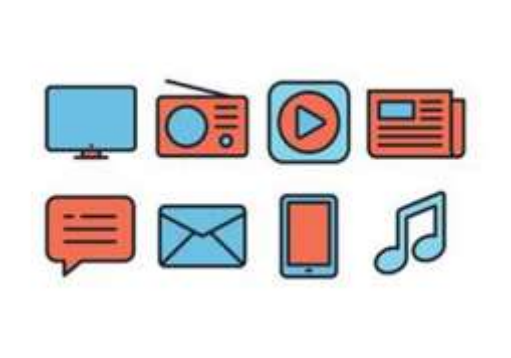
6FORM

In the coming weeks, approximately 20 students from the 6th form will finish their time with us and will move on to the next step in their career.

Some of our students will be attending Coleg Cambria in North Wales, where they will study Animal Care. Many of our students will be attending Wirral Met College, where they will study courses ranging from Engineering, Sport, Catering and many more.

Despite those students moving on they will always be 'our students' and we will follow their progress with interest – we are proud of them all.

Mr Rice

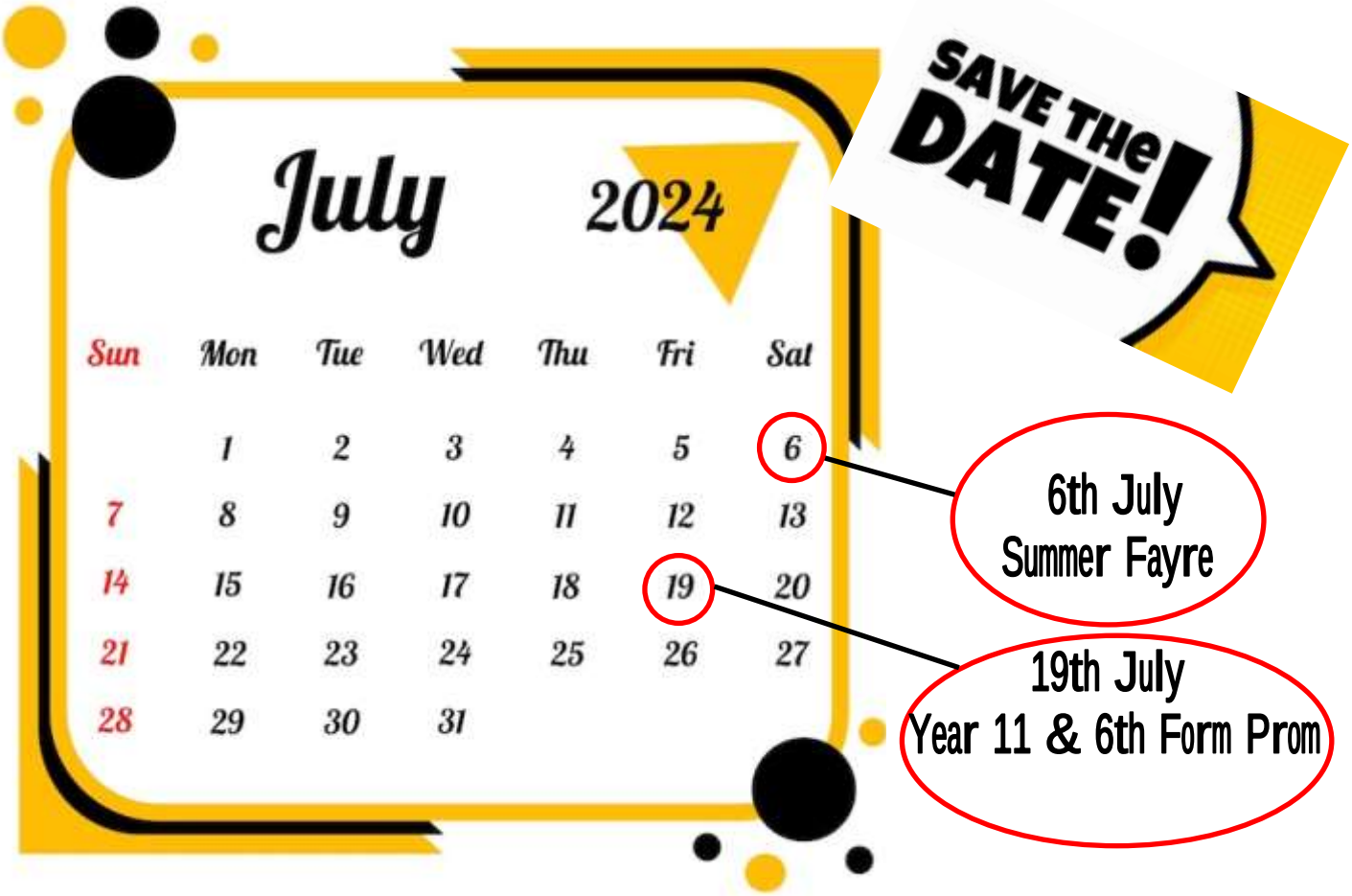


Creative Media

The Sixth Form Creative Media class have been working on their graphic design skills. This half term we have been using the green screen to pose in front of and using camera skills to take photos.

They have been using software to remove backgrounds and manipulate the images and superimposing themselves on different backgrounds to create film posters.

Mrs Courtney



Library Club

Visit your school library at lunchtime, with a friend, or on your own.

It is a friendly, welcoming area to relax and read from a selection of books, for pleasure, curiosity or information about hobbies and interests.

***Why don't you come along** and say hello, we welcome suggestions **of** books that you would like to read, if we do not stock them at the moment.*

Clare Mount Specialist Sports College

Summer Fayre

Our first fayre at our Birket Avenue site!

Saturday 6th July 2024, 10am-1pm

ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL AGES

Refreshments

Raffle Prizes

Entertainment

Tombola

Cakes

& much more!

Year 7

This half term, we have been learning how to describe clothes. We designed our own outfits and had a real life French fashion show , where the pupils enjoyed describing each other's outfits and showing them off!

Year 8

Our Year 8s have been learning how to have a café conversation in France and have been acting out ordering from a menu and tasting French delicacies.

Year 9

Pupils have also been learning about food and have been expressing their opinions in French. They tried out some French food and were able to say what they thought of each item.

Mrs Hoey

INVIGOR8 ACTIVE KIDS

ACTIVE WIRRAL
STRONGER HEALTHIER HAPPIER

LGBTQ+ Support Group

Are you a young person who identifies as LGBTQ+?

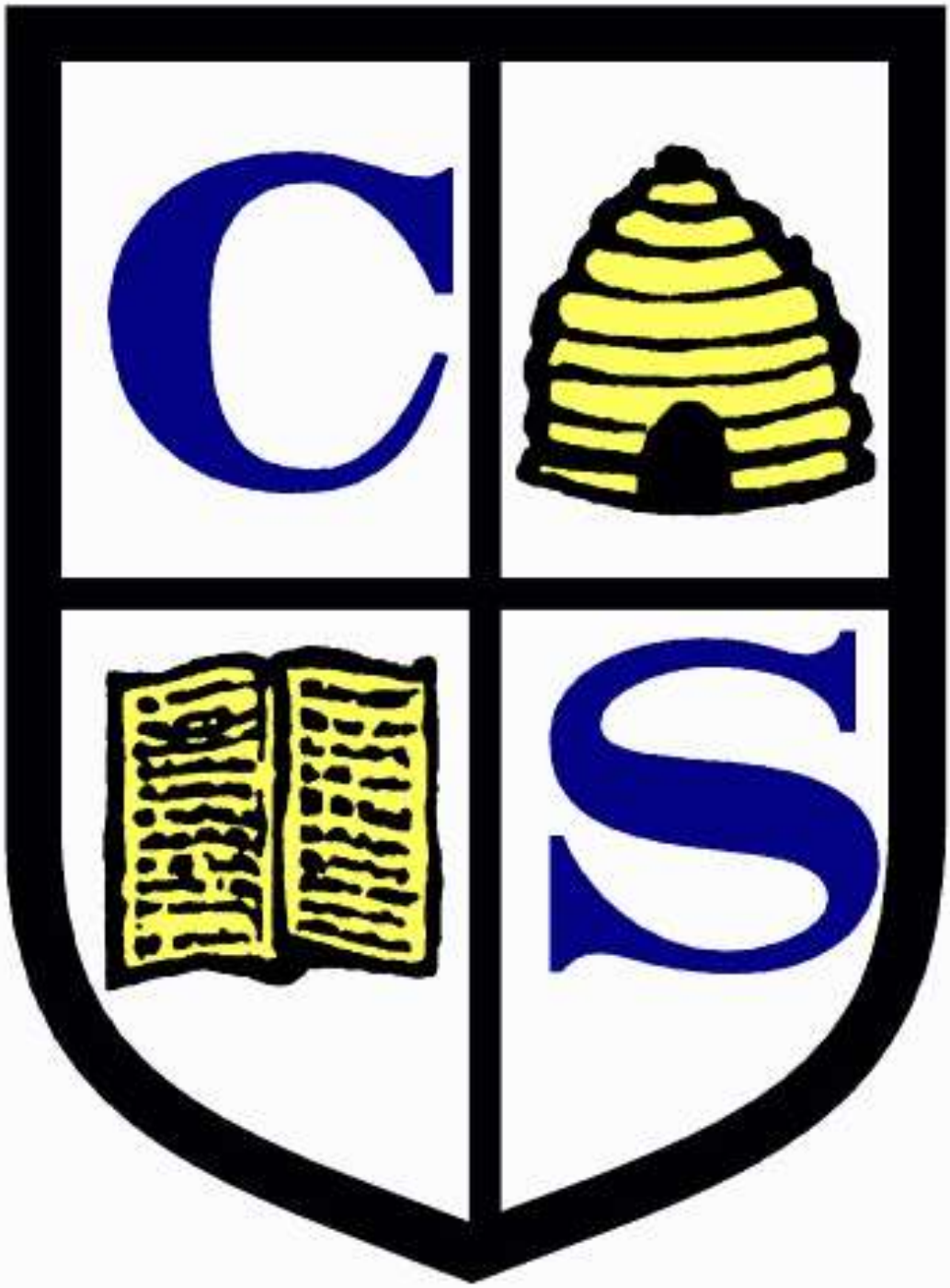
Did you know that there is a weekly LGBTQ+ Support Group session at The Hive?

If you would like to come along please email LGBTQ@thehiveyouthzone.org

brook

If you are not a Hive member but you are interested, please also email

hive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