

# Clare Mount Specialist Sports College

No. 161



## Newsletter October 2022



[www.claremountwwc.co.uk](http://www.claremountwwc.co.uk)



YouTube



@ClareMountSSC



@ClareMountSS

Photo of rainbow over Clare Mount 2 Site—courtesy of Mrs Garner

**Dear Parents/ Carer,**

**I would like to start by extending our congratulations to our Year 11 and 6th Form students on their excellent summer exam results. The high standards are a reflection not only of the dedication and effort that the staff and pupils put into their work, but also the support parents and carers give, working in partnership with school. We send our best wishes to those students who have successfully moved on to their chosen college courses and warmly welcome back those who have returned to our 6th Form.**

**Our new Year 7 students have made a great start to their academic and social life at Clare Mount. The transition to secondary school can be difficult and this year has seen the challenge of the school being split across two sites. Despite this, it has been lovely to see so many settle in so quickly and get involved in the things we have on offer.**

**We have held several parent/ carer meetings this term, including Annual Reviews, Welcome Evenings for Years 7 and 6th Form and an IEP evening for Years 8, 9 and 10. The turnout for these events was excellent and provided staff and parents/ carers with the opportunity to share information.**

**Many of our students have taken part in the numerous trips and sporting opportunities organised both within and outside school and we have welcomed a range of visitors from Olympic gymnasts to Reverends, all enriching our curriculum. I have been particularly proud of how well our students have represented our school, their behaviour has been praised by professionals outside our school on several occasions this term.**

**Our fundraising has also demonstrated how generous our students and parents/ carers are, as our Harvest Festival donations were bountiful this year.**

**We have had several new members of staff commence with us this half term: Mr Weights (Head of DofE and Learning Outside the Classroom); Mrs Garner (Teacher of 6th Form); Mrs Price (Teacher Across the Curriculum); Mrs Holt & Mrs Bell (Teachers of Mathematics); Mrs Hargreaves (Teacher of Science); and Mr Keefe, who returns as Deputy Headteacher. Our congratulations go out to Mrs Perry this week who gave birth to baby Orla on Monday. We wish the family health and happiness.**

**Next term promises to be as busy as ever with our students participating in the Shakespeare Festival, Bingo Night fundraiser and the Christmas festivities planned. In the meantime, I wish you a relaxing half term holiday and look forward to welcoming children back into school on Monday 31st October.**

**Kim Webster**

**Headteacher, October 2022**

## Visit from Reverend Joe Smith Vicar of St Oswalds Church, Bidston.

Joe visited 8C RE to talk about the work he does and to show the students some of the symbols and artefacts which are important to Christians.



Callum and Harry looking at the artefacts used in Holy Communion.



Abbie , Katie , Luke , Wisam and Jessica listening to Joe as he tells them about the work that he does and asking lots of questions to find out about his Church.

Great contributions also from Scarlett and Ellie; sharing information about the things which are important to them. Daniel showed a fantastic understanding of Christian beliefs, which he shared with the class.

Well done 8C!

Mrs Spracklen



This term, Year 9 have been looking at different festivals which are celebrated around the world.

Last week we explored the festival of Sukkot which remembers the time when the Jews lived in the desert, following their escape from Egypt. They had to build shelters to protect themselves from the hot sun. Today, Jewish families build sukkah's in their gardens and Synagogues to remember this time. It is great fun for the children as they camp out in the sukkah and eat their meals in it, celebrating with family and friends.



From 9J, Logan and Nick enjoyed making their sukkah with Lucy helping to decorate it.



In 9K, Alfred amazed us with his design. He was helped to create it by Daniel , Seth and Charlie .

Mrs Spracklen

# Year 7

In September, we welcomed our biggest ever cohort of pupils into Year 7 at Clare Mount. Half of the year group have become some of the first students (along with 6<sup>th</sup> Form) to make Clare Mount 2 on Birket Avenue their new school. The other half are with the rest of the school at Clare Mount 1 for the time being. Although I am based at CM2, I am visiting the Year 7 pupils at CM1 for their year group assembly every Wednesday morning.

We are extremely proud of how our Year 7 group have begun their transition into life at Clare Mount. They are working on our year group target of following instructions to enable them to feel 'safe and settled'. Transitions of any kind can be quite tricky but all of our Year 7s are doing exceptionally well with adapting to their high school environments.

This half term, Class 7C won the European Day of Languages whole school competition and all of Year 7 wrote poems to celebrate National Poetry Day on 6<sup>th</sup> October. Some of these poems have been added to the school Twitter page and both of the poets who inspired the poetry writing commented on how good the poems were! Praise indeed!

Well done to all our Year 7 students on their very successful first half term at Clare Mount.

Mrs Croucher

Head of Year 7





Red Panda Kening  
 I thank YOU Red Panda  
 For all you do  
 you are always such a...  
 calm maker  
 leaf eater  
 tree hider  
 smile maker  
 tree walker  
 With you red panda I would  
 be happy!

Natural Poetry day  
Tree Kening  
 I thank you tree  
 For all you do  
 you're always such a...  
 paper maker  
 leaf changer  
 sun seacher  
 forest builder  
 food provider  
 Without you tree, we would not be

mammoth kening  
 snow - stomper  
 mountain - climber  
 ice - motivator  
 wool maker  
 glass - shaker  
 leaf - whistler  
 elephant - chestnut  
 mammoths were ki

# Year 7

We praise you for all the things  
 you have done for us  
 you are such a...  
 paper maker  
 leaf changer  
 sun seacher  
 forest builder  
 food provider  
 Without you tree, we would not be



# HARVEST FESTIVAL

## Harvest Festival at Clare Mount



We held a non-uniform day last Friday and asked our students to donate towards our Harvest collection. Our Harvest Assembly was taken by Reverend Joe Smith from St Oswald's Church, Bidston.

As always, you were very generous in your donations and Forum Housing and Wirral food Bank were delighted with how much they received. Forum Housing said that it would be distributed from four depots across the Wirral to support young people.

Thank you for all your wonderful donations to support our charities. It's amazing how working together can make such a difference in our community.

Mrs Spracklen



An update on our Guide Dog Puppies.

Mills went into training in June and was making good progress. Unfortunately, during a routine health check he was diagnosed with an eye problem, which means he cannot continue with Guide Dog training. He is now being reassessed to see if he could become a Buddy dog for a visually impaired child.



Our current puppy, Robbie is progressing well with his initial training and loves coming into school to meet everyone. Last week he visited our new site and met our new Year 7 students.

Mrs Nokes



Clare Mount is gearing up for a big performance next March when they tackle Henry V as part of a nationwide School's Shakespeare Festival.

This exciting story is being rewritten by the students and tells the story of King Henry leading his troops into battle against the French. After an insult from France, King Henry invades France to claim the throne he believes should be his. Henry stops an assassination plot, gives powerful speeches, and wins battles against the odds. In the end, he woos and marries the Princess of France, linking the two nations.

Students are already getting into their characters and devising their performances. This exciting show will be performed at New Brighton Floral Pavilion on Tuesday 7th March next year!

Mr Gore





## Money collected for Ukrainian Crisis



Hello! I wanted to let you know what we did with the money that was collected last year for the Ukrainian Crisis. I am heavily involved with supporting Ukrainian guests and UK hosts, initially throughout the country, but now mainly on the Wirral and in North Cheshire West.

Through my networking, I met and continue to work with, Sally Becker, who is known as the 'Angel of Mostar' for her work in the Bosnian War in the 1990s (google her name). She is an internationally known humanitarian and she started the charity 'Save a Child'.

In August, she helped rescue a group of 40 Ukrainian refugees, woman and children, some orphans and their guardians and flew them into the UK for a new life after the Steve Morgan Foundation stepped in to help pay for all their flights, as they couldn't get an airline to support the mission.

Another 24 refugees arrived in September, completing a four-month campaign by Sally to bring desperate refugees to the UK.

Clare Mount raised £212.00 and the money has been given to Sally's charity, 'Save a Child'. Clare Mount can feel proud that they have had some involvement in this rescue mission. Well done Clare Mount!



Mrs Boyle

# DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Year 8 have been designing and manufacturing their wooden robots. They completed an introduction on health and safety learnt how to operate the bench drill and fret saw.



7F, getting to grips with the workshop. They have been learning about how to work safely in the workshop and demonstrating their skills using the bench drill, fret saw and selection of hand tools.



# DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY



7PG have had great fun working in teams trying to get the ping pong ball from side of the hall to the other, without dropping it. We then designed and made our own marble runs, testing and evaluating our ideas.

Mrs McBurney



# Forest School



Despite the weather, Forest school has been a great success this term, with pupils developing resilience due to the wet conditions and learning campfire cookery skills. Declan can make a great bacon on toast, while the others have been helping maintain and develop other areas on our site. well done to Josh, Jamie, Tom, Declan, Jacob and Leon.

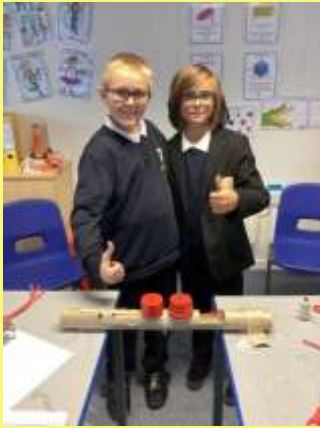
Mr Jones



# Angelou

Children in Angelou have been using all their understanding from Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in their weekly challenges. They have a challenge with a selection of resources available to them. They have shown teamwork, resilience and creativity in finding solutions to their challenges. They have built bridges to hold a heavy weight, protection cages for a fragile object and a boat to hold the largest weight with only tinfoil.

Mrs Price



# Summer School 2022



# Summer School 2022





**Coming soon...**

To Clare Mount Specialist Sports College  
**Firework week!**

Flame tests

Sparklers

Safety!!



History and traditions of Bonfire night



Fireworks in other cultures

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022



...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!

## 6th Form



Our Sixth Form are having a great start to their work experience placements on a Wednesday. They are gaining new skills, building in confidence and preparing for their next steps. I am very proud of how well they are doing, keep up the good work!!!

Miss Magnall



Alfie at  
Bake & Butty



Joel & Max –  
at Leasowe  
Castle Hotel



Xander at  
Stanley  
School



Ben at  
Merseyside Car  
Hospital

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What a beautiful day the Sixth Form had a few weeks back, as part of their work experience. Lots of horticulture, weeding, cultivating soil and planting herbs. In the afternoon, they brushed up the driveway at Tam O'Shanter Urban Farm and collected a bucketful of acorns to feed to the pigs. Students helped each other out all day and encouraged each other to try new jobs.

Miss Vicars



Photographs courtesy of JKB, taken as part of his engagement in work experience

6th Form



Work experience is the jewel in Sixth Form's crown. Mrs Garner's group are currently working with the Park Ranger at Royden Park. Steve has been helping us to learn all about the different habitats that our parks and woodlands serve to countless creatures. In these photos we are learning how to identify different trees, watching how to create a bird box (we will be collecting wood and making our own soon) and doing the vital job of litter picking. Litter can not only pollute the environment, but can create hazards to people enjoying the park and create a lethal threat to wildlife. Please pick up your litter and take it home after you have enjoyed the park.

Mrs Garner



6th Form



Our 6th Form have been taking part in weekly work experience at Woodchurch farm and Tam O'Shanter's. This provides our students with opportunities to gain and develop skills and qualities. This work also supports Preparation for Adulthood, employability and ASDAN modules.

Students have been absolutely brilliant. They have completed horticultural tasks such as weeding and planting. They have also been fantastic at cleaning the living spaces of sheep, pigs and goats. The students are increasingly aware of which tools to use, and health and safety around the farms. Our 6th Form has been successful in working in groups to achieve their workload.

One student even takes photos for our twitter page!

Well done 6th Form farm group. Your hard work is appreciated.

Miss Vicars



## 6th Form



Luke is doing really well on his alternative work experience placement, at Reynolds Timber, as a Warehouse Assistant. He is building his skills ready for his next steps after school.

Miss Magnall

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Photographs taken during work experience pre-visit to allow our new 6th Form students to become familiar with the surroundings.

We bumped into ex-pupil Joe who now works at the farm three days a week!



There have been lots of improvements made to Tam O'Shanter's urban farm and we are looking forward to helping make even more progress.

Miss Vicars & Miss Magnall



Clare Mount is very proud to have been nominated for the Nasen Awards 2022 in the category of 'Specialist Provision'.



# Clare Mount Community



The Bungalow, Clare Mount School, Fender Lane, Moreton

Open Wednesday & Friday mornings

9.30 to 11.45

An informal warm and friendly place to meet up with parents  
& school staff for the best value barista coffee on the Wirral  
and delicious home-made cakes

Wednesdays

Pop in for a relaxing place to chat & make new friends

Fridays

Community links and connectors to help you find  
support for some of life's challenges

Friday 21st October

Welcoming

**THE POSITIVITREE IS A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE**



The Positivitree works to improve the mental wellbeing of  
families with children who have additional health or care needs.

Most Fridays, we are joined by our very friendly and  
knowledgeable neighbourhood team from



Who can connect you to a wide range of support agencies

# FORM

It's been a fantastic start to Sixth Form in our new building, affectionately called 'Clare Mount 2'. It has been a bit of a change for us all, but in true Sixth Form fashion we have cracked on and got out and about - business as usual! This half term has seen us visit all the different Wirral Met campuses - Wirral Waters, Twelves Quays, Conway Park and The Oval. Some of our new Year 12 students have had a taste of college life and are thinking about their next steps.

We have had many visitors this half term; Cat - a tutor from Wirral Met, Ste Reid to deliver Personal Finance to a group from 6G, Kate to teach the Mental Health group Yoga, Harriet and her colleagues from the Department for Work and Pensions to deliver Employability to the whole of Sixth Form every Monday, our Governor Pam who is supporting reading each week, Dan Purvis British Gymnast and Amy Hardcastle to deliver Rugby. PHEW! Work Experience has also got off to a flying start. Royden Park has been a new project for us this year but with the excellent feedback the students have received already - they have been asked to go for a second day each week!! Woodchurch farm have also given us rave reviews about our students' work ethic, Bake 'n Butty love having Alfie to help on a Wednesday, Leasowe Castle are made up with Joel and Max, in fact I could go on all day as ALL our employers are super happy!! Well done to both staff and students - what a team!

In our lessons we have had food tasting in French, singing in English, witchcraft in English, film making, debates about religion, a walk to the Green Hut and the shops for money skills, oh and a major Batik Art Project (as well as our normal lessons). We never sit still do we? Big shout out to our YR 7 Swimming helpers, door holders and bus line organisers Jason and Xander too. Sixth Form continue to make us all proud every day. Our exciting news is that our vocational classrooms are now complete too! Hair and Beauty, ICT, Craft and Enterprise and Home skills rooms will be ready for action after half term - look out for an invitation closer to Christmas. Have a great half term break!

Mrs Cooper-Shone

# FORM



# FORM



Royden Park is full of colours, even though it's no longer summer. Sixth Form always find time to take in the colours and shapes of the park when they are not busy doing a day's work as park rangers and horticulture assistants. Mrs Garner says 'I am so proud of the Sixth Form at Royden Park. We have received so many compliments from members of the public who appreciate the work they do to make the park clean, safe and tidy for the public, as well as a cosy place for creatures to live.' They have been clearing leaf litter from the public paths this week, so that people can enjoy a safe walk in the park without slipping. The Leaf litter is then used to make leaf mould which is excellent fertiliser for soil, and for hedgehog hibernation stations in the hedgerows. Sixth Form challenge you to spot as many types of fungi as possible before winter comes!

Mrs Garner



# FORM

Miss Magnall caught up with Katie & George recently, who began courses in Creative Media at Wirral Met College, Twelve Quays this term. Keep up the good work! We are all very proud of you!

Miss Magnall



It was lovely to catch up with ex-student Jordan, during the 6th Form visit to Twelve Quays College recently.

Miss Magnall



# FORM



We visited the historical village of Port Sunlight this half term. Unfortunately for us, the Art Gallery was closed. We enjoyed a lovely stroll round the rose garden and observed the different types of houses and facilities built for the village.

Mrs McLeod

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Post 16 students have taken part in active English lessons with Miss Vicars this term. They are studying 'The Crucible' by Arthur Miller. Students used oversized images of characters and chose some small props to create frozen images. These images tell the audience the key parts of act one scene one. Brilliant participation from each student.



# FORM

6th V have been completing the emergency part of the ASDAN Workright booklets. They walked around the building finding fire exit signs and noticing the labels on fire extinguishers. They then annotated the photographs as evidence for their booklets.



A small group created some tie dye art using foil, felt tips and paper. They experimented with colour and found the session relaxing with comments like "I could do this all day Miss".

Miss Vicars



# FORM



We love Fridays in Sixth form! Every week we have a mystery activity. Can you tell what it is? If you guessed 'Giant Marble Run' you would be correct. Pupils were given empty boxes, string and tape, and were tasked with working as a group to make a giant functioning Marble Run which went down the stairs!

Mrs Garner

Sixth Form enjoy visiting colleges on a Friday. It provides us with the information that we need to make choices about our future. Here, some of our Sixth Formers are looking at the 'wet trades' at Wirral Met. We all agreed that some of the activities looked like lots of fun, even if they weren't the courses that we ultimately wanted to do. We later went to the Oval in Bebington to see what Sports courses were on offer and learn what we need to prove we can meet the criteria for the uniformed services course.



Mrs Garner

# FORM

What on earth are sixth form up to now? That's right, we are making a Frog hotel - or Hibernaculum to be exact. In the winter months, snakes, lizards, newts and frogs need a nice underground habitat to hibernate in, so sixth form thought as it is clearly getting colder, it was a good idea to help out and build one! We used lots of things that we found laying around and even had a donation of drain pipe from the builders, which is now the entrance and exit to our hibernaculum. You can see it outside of CM2 on the front garden, next to the pond (which is next on our list of things to do!).

Mrs Garner





On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022, Clare Mount was delighted to welcome Olympic Gymnast Dan Purvis to school. The visit was organised to coincide with the World Gymnastics Championships taking part on Liverpool from the end of the month. Visiting both Clare Mount 1 and Clare Mount 2, Dan spoke about his career and how he got involved in gymnastics from an early age. He spoke of his ups and downs, as well as some of the resilience he needed to show at times. We were also treated to a demonstration of some of his amazing gymnastics skills, including Dan holding a handstand on a pommel horse, doing a backflip, walking on his hands, and jumping over some pupils and staff, leading into a forward roll.

The motto of the World Championships is "Greatness Awaits" and we hope that our pupils will achieve great things as they too show the right attitude and determination in all they do.

The visit was funded by the School Charity Council and facilitated through Sports for Champions UK.

Mr Keefe

To coincide with the Rugby League World Cup taking place in the UK for the next 5 weeks, Clare Mount worked in partnership with Ahead of the Game – a scheme that combines playing rugby league with getting pupils to ‘help a mate’ by talking about, and recognising, signs of mental ill health.

Pupils in Year 8 to Year 10 enjoyed taking part in a session at Clare Mount 1 on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2022 led by ex-Leeds, England and Great Britain legend Keith Senior. Whilst pupils in the 6<sup>th</sup> form worked with Amy Hardcastle on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October to cover the same topics. Amy plays for St. Helens and is part of the current England squad, competing in the Women’s World Cup event which is taking alongside the Men’s and Wheelchair events, making it the most inclusive competition ever.

Special mention needs to be made of C.J. in Year 11 who joined the session on Monday proving to be an outstanding leader and role model to the younger pupils.

Mr Keefe





The road to the Special Olympics World Games Berlin 2023 started in Wirral at Beechwood Recreation Centre, on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2022. Clare Mount Sports College students Alfie, Gabriel and Hayden and former student and team manager Sophie Coyne won the gold medal at the Special Olympics Wirral basketball competition, organised by Hoylake Wildcats Basketball Club.



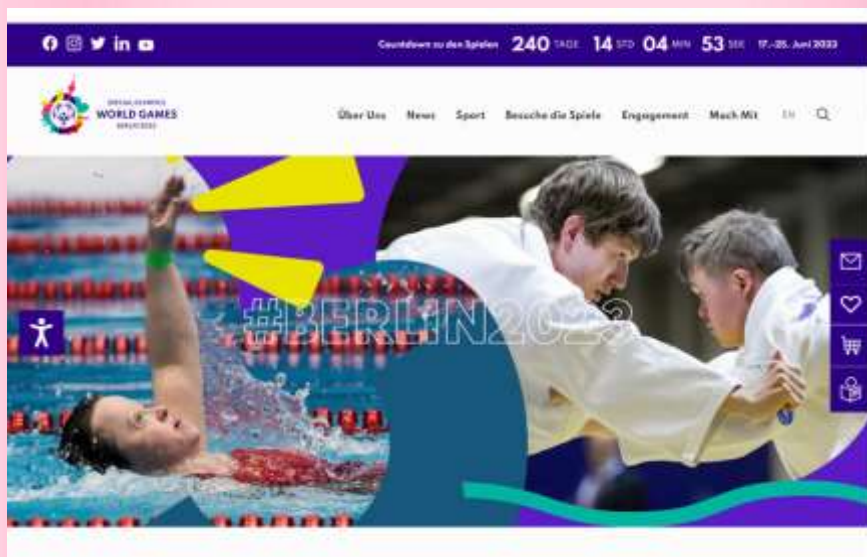
<https://www.specialolympicsgb.org.uk/athletes/become-a-special-olympics-gb-athlete>

To register with Special Olympics GB please follow the above link.

To train with Hoylake Wildcats please connect with them through Facebook ([m.facebook.com/100007661580095/](https://m.facebook.com/100007661580095/)) or see Mr White and Mrs Ryan at school.



Basketball is one of the top sports at Special Olympics. Players take it up at all ages and at all abilities, from young players learning to handle the ball and keep it under control while dribbling to older, more experienced players who have the moves and know the strategies to play challenging ball.



**Scan the QR code to find out more about the Berlin Games:**



# Eat Out For Less This October Half Term

**ASDA**

Children can eat for just £1 at Asda Cafés

**TESCO**

Kids Eat For Free All day, every day with any purchase at The Café when you use your Clubcard.

**Morrisons**

Only one free meal from the kids menu with any one adult meal with a value of £4.99 or over.

**M&S**

Pick up a FREE main, snack + drink from our Kids' Munch Menu when you spend £5 in the Café.

**IKEA**

Kids Pasta with Tomato Sauce and a soft drink for 95p or any other Kids Meal for £1.50. Available every day from 11am at IKEA.

**Bella Italia**

Kids three courses & a drink for £1 from 4-6pm Monday - Thursday With purchase of every adult main meal.

**PAUSA Dunelm**

One Free Kids Menu With Every £4 Spent. Monday To Friday After 3pm.

**SIZZLING**  
PUB+GRILL

For every adult Sizzling meal, you'll also get a kid's main meal for £1. Monday-Friday 3pm-7pm

**Harvester**

**TOBY**  
CARVERY

We recommend downloading Harvester & Toby Carvery Apps both have offers and regularly include kids Eat For £1 Offers!

## Term Dates 2022-2023



Autumn Term 2022	
Open	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> September to Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2022 <i>*School closed to students Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September (Inset day) &amp; Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September (Transition day). Please refer to starting day letters sent to parents/carers</i>
October half-term	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October to Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
Open	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October to Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2022 <i>*School closed to students Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December (Inset day)</i>
Christmas holiday	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2022 to Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023
Spring Term 2023	
Open	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January to Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 <i>*School closed to students Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January (Inset day)</i>
February half-term	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
Open	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023 <i>*School closed to students Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February (Inset day)</i>
Spring Break	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April to Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2023 (includes Easter bank holidays)
Summer Term 2023	
Open	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April to Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2023
May Bank Holiday	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2023
Half-term	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2023
Open	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June to Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July <i>*School closed to students Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June (Inset day)</i>

### Inset days (school closed to students):

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022 (& exceptional closure Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022)  
 Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022  
 Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
 Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023  
 Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023

