

Clare Mount Specialist Sports College

No. 146



Newsletter April 2020

WWW.CLAREMOUNTSSC.CO.UK



@ClareMountSSC

Photo on front page.

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to the Rotary Club for donating and planting over 100 crocus bulbs one very rainy afternoon last year. We have enjoyed the beautiful blooms as a symbol of youthfulness and cheerfulness during this challenging half term.

Dear Parents/Carers

This has been a bittersweet half term for everybody within the Clare Mount community as we have all been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The announcement last week from the Government re 'the safest place is indoors and at home', meant that almost all of our pupils have stayed away from school. This has been very sad, but we all recognise the necessity to keep everybody safe and well. It is a must that your child stays indoors and if possible with you until all this is over and it is safe to return to school.

As always our pupils have done us proud with their home-based efforts with some fantastic creative projects and independence skills being learned and put into practice, as you'll see in some of the photographs later on in this newsletter.

Equally our talented and dedicated members of staff have risen to the challenge of supporting and teaching/entertaining children based at home. They have been contacting parents/pupils and uploading work to the school website every day to interest and hopefully appropriately challenge pupils.

The mental health and well-being of our pupils is of paramount importance and whilst we would ask parents and carers to encourage children to complete any work set, this should only be carried out if it does not cause distress at home. If you would like tips for pupils on working from home please see our school website or contact the form tutor.

In line with Government guidelines school has remained partially open for those children whose parents are working in vital roles on the front line and many members of our Teaching, TA, Office and Domestic staff have volunteered to come into school to support them. I cannot thank them enough.

Over the Easter Break staff who have been contacting you over the last two weeks, will be taking a well-earned Easter break and will be back in touch with you on Monday 20th April 2020.

The start of this term things were, of course, very different and pupils were able to participate in some amazing residential trips in the Lake District and on the isle of Anglesey, as well as taking part in some great sporting events.

We have also been able to celebrate further outstanding successes as Clare Mount Specialist Sports College was shortlisted for awards by the Youth Sports Trust and the National Autistic Society. Both these nominations are testament to all we do as a school to work together and to give the very best support to our pupils.

Finally I would like to wish you and your families a safe and healthy Easter and hope with all my heart that we can welcome everyone back to school as soon as it is safe to do so.

Kim Webster

Headteacher, April 2020

Our incredible 6th form students are making every second count of their extended time at home. Whether it's Harry out running, Luke walking the dog and preparing meals, Jordan practising his writing skills, Tristan knuckling doing the washing and taking on practical Maths and English through a game of Monopoly, Matthew training to be a teacher or Troy helping out in the garden; they are being put through their paces by their wonderful families! Keep it going guys!!

Mrs Cooper-Shone & Miss Vicars



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If your child is eligible for free school meals, earlier this week you will have received an email from TESCO, containing an e-voucher. The voucher is back-dated to Monday 23rd March and covers the period up to and including Friday 17th April. (The final working day of the Easter Holiday)

From the 20th April onward we hope to have a new system in place offering parents more choice and we will keep you updated as we bring in this new system.

The e-voucher has been sent to the email address you have supplied to us. Please check that you have received it (and remember to check your 'Spam' folder too!)

For any enquiries or concerns about the vouchers, please email fsmvouchers@claremount.wirral.sch.uk and we will endeavour to respond to you as soon as possible.

Mrs Egan

The logo for BBC Bitesize, featuring the letters 'B B C' in white on an orange square background, with the word 'Bitesize' in white below it.

B B C
Bitesize

Beginning Monday 20 April, BBC Bitesize will publish daily online lessons for all ages. They will also have a new dedicated TV channel full of learning content, podcasts on BBC Sounds and loads of educational video on iPlayer.



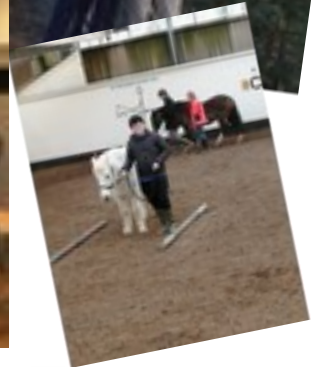
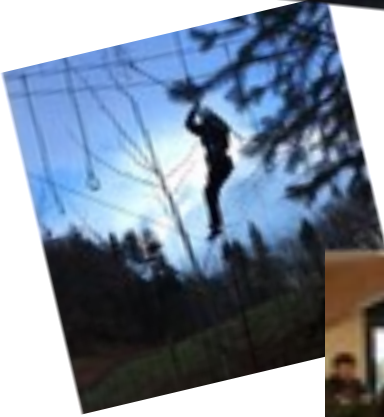
Monday 10th February 32 students and 7 members of staff went on an outward bound activity holiday to the Calvert Trust, Lake District for a week of activities. We had lots of mixed types of weather, so we had Snow, hail, wind and rain what a week we had with the types of weather!

On Monday night we all got to go in Calvert's amazing swimming pool, and we all had a great time. After a good night's sleep, we started our very first day of activities for the week and each of the Clare Mount groups dealt with the change of the activities because of the weather. Each of the groups, 'Barf', 'Dodd', 'Skidds' and 'Grizdale' used teamwork, resilience, determination, trust and friendship. After a good first day of the week we all went into the games room to chill out after a first day of activities and at 6 O'clock we had our dinner/ tea from the amazing chefs Dave, Gaz, Tony and Abi and we ate the whole lot. In the mornings we had our rooms inspected to see if our rooms were tidy and clean. Then at 9:30 we met our instructors and then we set off for the day's activities. The last night we had a Calvert disco when everyone got dressed up and had fun and laughs and lots of singing to keep memories of the week of Calvert and a massive thank you to Jordan B , Harry A and Jordon S for doing the music and setting up the disco for us to have fun.

The Calvert trip wouldn't have gone on without Miss MacLean, Mr Whyte, Mr Money, Miss Vicars, Mrs Cooper Shone, Mrs Booth and Mrs McLeod.

And a massive thank you also goes to Mr Taylor for doing all the paperwork behind the scenes for us to go to Calvert.

Written by Amelia



In Food Studies classes were busy making batches of Welsh Cakes to celebrate St David's Day, March 1st, with some delicious results!

Mrs Badzire



Science Week

The week beginning 9th March saw, once again, Science lessons being taken over by British Science Week. This meant lots of fun mixed in with learning. Each year group did different activities. Year 7's looked at custard (a non-Newtonian fluid) and investigated bubbles Year 8's made 'Mars Mission Landers' and some made and tested bridges Year 9's did the ever popular Bouncy Balls and Elephants Toothpaste Year 10's Made nylon, soft cheese, extracted DNA and recreated a face from genetic codes Year 11's used the electronics kits, constructed towers and took part in forensic investigations .

Mrs Nokes





#OnlineSafetyAtHome

From Thinkuknow



The CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) centre have been working hard to create a package to help you to support children and their families over the coming weeks and months and have now launched #OnlineSafetyAtHome.

These are fortnightly #OnlineSafetyAtHome home activity packs for use by parents and carers. Each pack will contain simple 15-minute activities parents can do at home with their child using our Thinkuknow resources, available on the school website.



This year, every Friday morning during term time, we have provided parents and carers with an opportunity to have a coffee in our Community Café and to have a chat with Mr Vasey, to share ideas about support, develop understanding and help each other.

It was also a weekly chance for our 6th Formers to meet parents and carers and to share their experiences while helping to run the café.

Come and join us and school reopens to all! We usually have cake too!

Mr Vasey



**YOUTH
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On 27th February Mrs Webster, Mrs Grayson and Mr White attended the annual Youth Sport Trust (YST) Conference, at The Ricoh Arena, Coventry, as Clare Mount was nominated for the 'Outstanding School' Award for the YST's 25th Anniversary.

To have been shortlisted is a HUGE honour, since the YST work directly with over 4000 schools in the country and the nomination came from the Trust themselves!

Mr Byrne



Autism Professionals Conference

27 and 28 February 2020, Birmingham



Clare Mount was also shortlisted for the prestigious 'Award for Inspirational Education Provision' at the annual Autism Professionals Conference in Birmingham at the end of February, where the school was represented by Mrs Croucher and Miss Hanley.

Mr Byrne



Special Educational Needs & Disability
ACHIEVE YOUR POTENTIAL

We were delighted earlier this term to be attend the National SEND Employment Forum Conference in Leeds. The destinations of our students once they leave Clare Mount is hugely important to us and we were particularly interested to hear more about 'supported internships;' a route by which we hope more and more of our wonderful students will find rewarding careers in future. For more about the NSEF please head to click here: www.nsef.co.uk/

If you would like to know more about supported internships, please check out the information on: www.preparingforadulthood.org.uk/downloads/supported-internships

Mrs Cooper-Shone



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Expressive Arts



Pupils have watched a beautiful digital animation of a collaborative piece of work by Maxim Shkret and Philipp Pavlov found on Colossal.



It is a piece showing the gradual blooming of a Lion using repeated patterns and hues of similar colours. Students have been exploring gradients of colour and similar leaf shaped patterns to build up an image in a similar way.

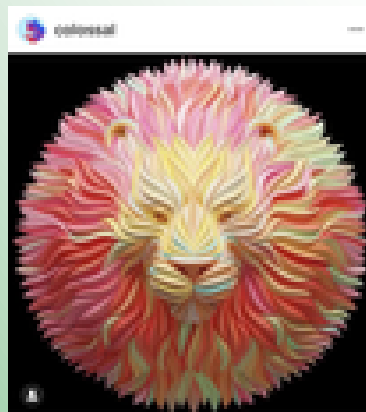
The images that our students created were linked to nature, meeting requirements for both ASDAN and The John Muir award.



These images are of the stimulus, The Lion and the start of pupils creations. We will keep you updated on progress and look forward to sharing the finished work with you.

Well done everyone!

Miss Vicars





The Year 9's attended a three day residential to the Conway Centre in Anglesey. It was a fantastic trip, enjoyed by all. During the three days pupils had a chance to experience many new things, such as: kayaking, zip wires, climbing, abseiling, sea traverse, mountain biking and even how to safely make a fire! It was also a lovely experience for the staff, who got to watch the pupil's widen their horizons and experience something new. Year 9 completed many team building activities and worked together to overcome many challenging tasks. Each evening was finished off with a spooky night walk in the woods, and a chance to toast marshmallows on the campfire. The pupils slept in a big lodge with all their friends and also enjoyed many opportunities to play football on the beach and enjoy each others company. As the Head of Year 9, it was an absolute pleasure to take the pupils on this residential.

Ms Mault



Kat and Georgia, two fantastic coaches from The Sale Sharks Community team, worked with a group of year 9 students on Thursday mornings during PE lessons.

The sessions offered a combination of brilliant rugby coaching and information and guidance about mental health and emotional well-being. The sessions have been absolutely brilliant and the skills and understanding shown by the students have been fantastic. The

Our partnership with Sale Sharks will also mean the opportunity for our students to watch some professional rugby matches later in the year.

Mr Byrne





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Charity No: 1177155

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