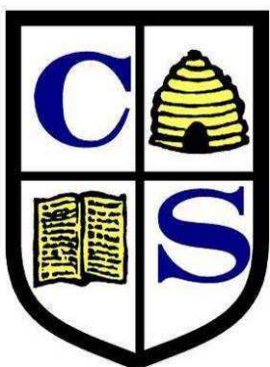


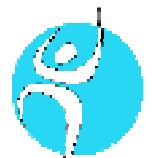
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CLARE MOUNT

SPECIALIST SPORTS COLLEGE



Newsletter
No. 129
May 2017



**SPORTS
COLLEGES**



**SEN SPECIALIST
SCHOOLS**

Front Cover

Year 7 have a fantastic time at Barnstondale.

See inside for more

‘Wake Up’ with Zumba

What better way to start the day?

Every Tuesday and
Friday morning at 8.40am



Morning Zumba club is very popular across all year groups at Clare Mount Specialist Sports College. Students are active and engaged throughout, taking part in lots of upbeat dance routines from cultural world dances to street dance and hip hop. The session is a great way to add active minutes to our day and exercising first thing in the morning helps to focus our mind ready for a day of learning ahead.

Zumba has been so popular that we now have some fantastic Zumba/dance leaders who lead part of the session. Some of them have even created their own Zumba routines and have also set up lunch time Zumba sessions.

Transport

Rob Smith (Co-ordinator, Wirral Integrated Transport Unit) has asked us to remind parents/carers of SEND pupils who receive transport to return their 2017-18 transport application forms.

Not every family will have been sent one but they currently have 90 outstanding and reminders have been sent.

Return to School for Students

Monday 5th June 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Once again our summer term has got off to a flying start with a steady stream of events: fundraising activities, sport tournaments and inter school competitions, residential trips, exams, British values Day tea party and once again another award ceremony.

Annual Reviews for students in Sixth form down to Year 7 have been on-going since Christmas and they are almost complete now. A big thank you as it has been great to see so many parents in attendance in school.

April, into the Easter holiday, saw an international trip for four of our students, Harry, Michael, Kyle and Marcus, who were accompanied by Mr Stanley and Mr Atkins to the World's School Sport Education Games in Greece. An opportunity of a lifetime and the boys were incredibly proud to represent England and of course Clare Mount Specialist Sports College.

GCSE exams are underway and students and teachers alike are working hard to make sure the results realise the potential of each and every candidate. Good luck to all students sitting exams! Just do your best!

Many of our Year 7 students headed off this term for the annual residential trip to Barnstondale. Yet again the children had a fabulous time, enjoying the wide range of activities.

Well done to Mrs Robinson on gaining the 'Listen to me' Award at an Award Ceremony in Birkenhead Town Hall, having been nominated by Ryan. It is a fabulous achievement, recognising all her hard work and commitment.

Our Community Café is slowly drumming up customers on a Wednesday afternoon. Just a reminder we are open 1:30pm – 3:00pm and would love to see you and your family/ friends there. Please do come along and be waited on by our very own sixth form and enjoy some of the scrumptious cakes on offer.

This term a very successful Numeracy Week saw students problem solving and cracking some tricky quiz questions, not only in Maths lessons but across the whole curriculum, helping students see the practical application of the subject in daily life.

Olympic field hockey player Sam Quek joined us to officially open the new MUGA on 27th April and then kindly volunteered her time to spend the afternoon with our girls and those from several local primary schools. Her enthusiasm and support was an inspiration to all.

Our thanks also go to the 'Morgan Foundation' and 'Smile for a Child' charity who, through their generosity, have given us the fantastic new MUGA facility to enable students to participate further in all the sporting opportunities on offer.

Lastly, I am delighted to report that Clare Mount Specialist Sports College has been shortlisted in the TES Awards, within the category of 'The best alternative provision'. The ceremony is being held at the Grosvenor Hotel in London on 23rd June 2017, when we will be informed of the outcome. It is a real honour to be nominated and a huge achievement to have been shortlisted down to the final four schools. Fingers crossed for our success and we will of course keep you informed of the outcome!

Hope you enjoy the half term holiday and I look forward to seeing the students come back into school on Monday 5th June for what already promises to be a busy but exciting 7 weeks.

Kim Webster
Headteacher
May 2017

-----ooOOoo-----

Community Sports Night

Community Sports Night has been running again this last half term with lots of new, fun, exciting sports on offer.

The students attending have been enjoying an array of different sports this term including Netball, Dance, Trampolining, Table Tennis, Basketball, Fitness, Cycling, Zumba, Tri Golf, Tennis, Paralympic Sports, Kwik Cricket and Football. We have had many students attending including students from Hayfield and Orrets Meadow to help with transition into Clare Mount. If you are interested in trying any of these sports then please contact school – the more the merrier.

The aim of Community Sports Night is to get active, socialise but most importantly have FUN, FUN, FUN! The final Community Sports Night will be on Wednesday 12th July when we will be hosting a Family Sport Night so please come along with your child and join in the laughter – ALL WELCOME!

Barnstondale 2017

On Wednesday 3rd May, almost every member of Year 7 arrived at Clare Mount with a heavy bag, a light-hearted attitude and a smile! There was an air of great excitement as everyone put on their orange T-shirts and boarded the coach to Chester Zoo for part one of the trip.



The sun shone down on us all day, ensuring we enjoyed ice-creams and slush drinks along with a picnic lunch. We began our adventure at the Islands section of the Zoo, with many of us appreciating the gentle boat trip around the area.



After seeing the Orangutans, Mrs Croucher was happy and we were all able to explore the Zoo more widely before meeting back at the exit to re-board the coach and venture on to Barnstondale Camp.

On our arrival at Barnstondale, we went to the Dale and Orchard Cabin to settle into our rooms. After a well earned meal, we spent the evening by the camp fire, eating marshmallows, before bed.



Our second day was spent on the beach, kayaking and in the woods. Some of us learnt how to light a fire without matches and others learnt to build shelters.



On the final day, we did archery, climbing, abseiling and worked in our teams to problem-solve.



Eire and Matthew got to the top of the climbing wall!

We all enjoyed the Barbeque in the glorious sunshine before we came back to school.



Certificates were awarded to seven students who showed particularly strong skills within the Olympic and Paralympic Values of Respect, Excellence, Friendship, Courage, Determination, Inspiration and Equality.

We all had a wonderful time and made memories which will last forever.

This trip was partially funded by Student Premium. Grateful thanks also to Happy Days for helping out with the financial aspect of the trip.

Mrs Croucher, Head of Year 7

-----ooOOoo-----

Youth Connect 5 Healthy Happy Homes

Clare Mount School have led the way in running a new parenting course to support the well-being of our families. This course has been really well attended by some of our parents and carers and we have received some really positive feedback: *“Lots of fun”, “really enjoyed it; company was lovely”, “Great tutors. Great group”, and, “has really helped me to understand how my child is feeling and how this could be linked into behaviour”.*

We have really welcomed the parents to the group and hope it has been enjoyed by all. We will be starting the course again in September, so please remember - all are welcome.

Mrs Robinson & Mrs McCannon

-----ooOOoo-----

Civic Awards

The Civic Awardees have been EXTREMELY busy organising a massive collection for the Charles Thompson Mission for the homeless in Birkenhead. We asked for all sorts of donations and the generous community of Clare Mount did not disappoint. We were literally overwhelmed with donations of toiletries, bedding, clothes and goodies - they filled both my classroom and the corridor!! 7S and 7WA spent the whole afternoon packing lovely 'Help Parcels' for the homeless and people in need. Big thanks to our governor Mrs Robertson who helped wrap our parcels too.

I delivered the boxes (which filled the big mini bus!) to the Charles Thompson Mission and they were amazed at how much we had collected. They wanted to give everyone a big THANK YOU for your love and kindness.

Mrs Cooper-Shone and the Civic Awardees

Eco Art Update

In February a group of Year 8 students took part in the Wirral wide Eco Art project 'Making Waves' at Wallasey Town Hall. The aim was to highlight the problem of plastic in our oceans.

Initially the artwork was displayed at Williamson Art Gallery and was very well received by visitors. The whole project has been relocated now to the community art exhibition at Marine Point in New Brighton (near Morrison's) where everyone has the opportunity to see it. Eventually it will be broken up and returned to the schools involved to be displayed.



This was an amazing opportunity for Clare Mount students to be involved in something that everyone can enjoy and share. If you find yourself in New Brighton, it is definitely worth a visit!

Mrs Fogarty



British Values Week

and the Queen's birthday celebration

Clare Mount dedicated the first week back from our Easter holidays to British Values Week, which culminated in a street party to celebrate the Queen's birthday.

During the week commencing 19th April we promoted 'British Values' in the students' Life Skills, PSHE and PSD lessons.

The primary focus was on appreciating and valuing the life and freedoms that being a British citizen gives us all, as well as understanding our unique British Values, which helps us to be a proud, tolerant, democratic and respectful nation.

Students created their own street party placemat, as well as designed their own head band for the forthcoming 'Street Party'.

It was a fantastic week, culminating in an indoor Street Party for students and staff, which was highly enjoyed by all.

Mrs Boyle



Introducing Daisy and Jane

This half term, Clare Mount welcomed our Pet Therapy couple Daisy and Jane.

Daisy is a King Charles Cocker Spaniel. During their visits, Daisy has enjoyed lots of cuddles and strokes from our students whilst they practice their literacy and communication skills. It is a lovely way to relax ready for the weekend break.



If you would like to meet Daisy but haven't yet returned your consent form, please ask Mrs Badzire or the office staff for a new form.

-----ooOOoo-----

Master Chef at Clare Mount

On Tuesday 16th May a group of our budding Chefs from Year 10 and the Sixth Form, took part in a cookery master class with Alex, the Head Chef at the Monro Gastropub in Liverpool.

Alex picked a selection of dishes from the A la Carte menu and students cooked Confit of Chicken Leg, Chicken and Wild Mushroom Risotto and Chocolate Fondant with Honeycomb and Sour Cherry Compote.



The final dishes were served up to children and staff. Everyone learnt lots of high level technical cookery skills and found out what it takes to be a Master Chef. Well done everyone who took part, you impressed Alex and made me feel very proud!

Mrs Badzire

Year 11s Cook Up a Storm

Sixteen guests were invited to sample the final show pieces of their GCSE Hospitality Coursework. The menu was cooked from scratch, using fresh ethical food produce.

Staff and special guests were served up a feast of:

Pea and Mint Amuse Bouche (prepared by Sam)
Free Range Stuffed Chicken Breasts wrapped in Parma Ham (prepared by Siobhan)
Mushroom and Leek Lasagne with Homemade black pepper pasta (prepared by Kyle and Ella)
Thai Salmon Filo Parcels (prepared by Kyle)
Home made Ravioli (prepared by Ella),
Fresh herb Tabouli Salad (prepared by Paige)



Followed by desserts:

Baked Lemon and Raspberry Cheesecake (prepared by Sam)
Chocolate Roulade (prepared by Bethan)
Profiteroles with hot chocolate sauce (prepared by Siobhan)
Fresh Cream meringues (prepared by Bethan)
Lemon posset (prepared by Shannon)



As you can imagine, it was very hard to choose which dessert to have because they were all amazing, so what did the staff and guests choose?

EVERYTHING! They ate them all.



As a thank you, everyone was sent home with a goodie bag filled with homemade fudge and Chocolate truffles (prepared by Paige and Shannon)

Thank you very much to Trudie, Mandy and Chris from Cash for Kids for joining us for our celebratory lunch.

Well done everyone - I am a very proud teacher!

Mrs Badzire

Eco Garden

In school we have been trying to attract local wildlife. The area around our school pond is now firmly established as a wildlife haven for all sorts of creatures including newts, frogs and toads.

We are trying to garden organically and keep human contact in the area to a minimum. In a bid to extend this area, Eco Group and some of Year 11 have been working hard to build a bug hotel from recycled materials.

This will hopefully attract bees, butterflies and ladybirds which will benefit the plant life in and around the school. The long term plan is to clear unused beds and plant insect friendly species of wildflower.

Mrs C Fogarty



Keyhole Garden Project

In the coming weeks a group from Hayfield will be joining some of our Year 11 D of E students as they build and plant up a Keyhole Garden.

The idea behind a keyhole garden is to actively involve the composting with the garden itself so that the ground is self-fertilising which means it needs no additional chemical fertiliser added. Originally these gardens were developed in Africa to help poorer families grow their own vegetables with a minimal amount of water.

Our version will be made out of materials found around school to keep the ecological impact to a minimum. When it is built we will be planting vegetables which will be used in school cookery lessons. Suitable food scraps from the kitchens, and even coffee grounds, will be added to the compost to complete the cycle.

Mrs Fogarty



Year 10 visit Moreton Travel Agents

The Year 10 BTEC Travel and Tourism group made a visit to the Thomas Cook Travel Agents in Moreton to find out more about the role of a Travel Agent and the different services they provide for their customers.

We were fortunate to be able to meet an Air Stewardess, who talked to the students about the different aeroplanes she had worked on.



"It was exciting. I enjoyed looking at the brochures especially the wedding ones"
Taylor

"It was interesting listening to the Air Stewardess about what she did"
Samantha

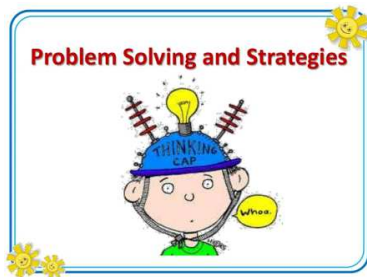
"I was surprised how much the Travel Agent did for their customers"
Travis

"I was blown away by all the things I found out and I enjoyed it when they told us how they would book a holiday"
Lewis

"It was interesting finding out what the Air Stewardess was allowed to do and not allowed to do for their job"
Mia

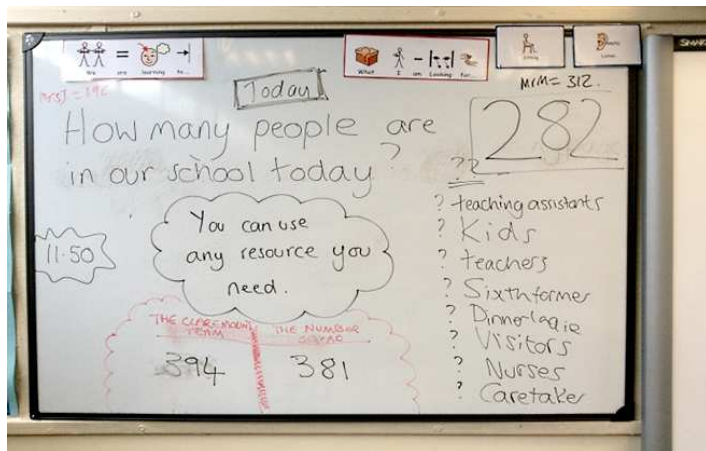
Cross Curricular Numeracy Week

24th – 28th April 2017



We had a fantastic week in school with lots of fun activities, problem solving and investigations right across the curriculum. Thank you for all students, staff and parents/carers for taking part and making our week such a success!

Plenty of enthusiasm was on show in the competitions with a stand-out effort from Mrs Cooper-Shone's group in their "Big Questions" activities.



They certainly put Mrs Webster on the spot. Well done to all in 7C!

Year 7 also did particularly well in the competitions and prizes, with Joe from 7P winning "Guess the sweets!"



Also represented in our prize winners from our written competitions were Joe from Post 16, Mary from 10N, Rebecca from 9P, Ryan and Jess from 7Wi and Summer from 7P.



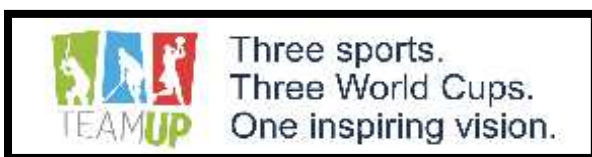
A really enjoyable week was had by many; thank you again to all who participated from the Mathematics Department.

Mr W Blessing
(Head of Mathematics)



MUGA Opening

In April 2017 Clare Mount celebrated the opening of our new MUGA (multi-use games area) with the launch of TEAM UP – a programme to promote the fact that the Women’s cricket, hockey and netball World Cups will all be held in this country very soon. For further information see <https://www.teamupengland.com>



The MUGA was opened by Olympic Hockey Gold Medallist Sam Quek and The Morgan Foundation Trustee Vincent Fairclough and Chris Read from A Smile for A Child, both of which generously funded the facility.



The event involved 50 girls from our local primary schools listening to an inspirational talk from Sam Quek before taking part in tasters of the three sports.



All the girls in Clare Mount then had the chance to have the same experience.

Sam, Jess, Lewis (Cheshire Cricket) and Miss Webster were expertly helped to deliver the event by our Year 11 BTEC sports leaders.



Merseyside Boys' Cricket Tournament

Eight of our boys travelled to Alder Cricket Club to take part in the Merseyside Schools' Cricket Tournament. We opened our group games against Sandfield Park, the team coming up against an experienced side who hit the ball a long way. The team were not fazed and worked hard to show their cricketing skills. Some great fielding from the debutant Frankie and also Liam were the highlights as the boys fell short of their target.



Second game we came up against a very good Alt Bridge side who, again, were older than our boys. The boys batted exceptionally well with some big sixes from Michael and Liam, some super shots from Kieran and Reeve and an absolute champagne sweep shot from Sam for 4. The boys set a competitive total which seemed enough but, despite excellent bowling from Kieran and great work in the field from Dennis, the opposition passed the total in a haze of extras.



Onto the third game against Woodchurch after lunch and the boys batted first. There were some great shots from Kieran and a big six from Michael which meant the boys set a competitive total for the Woodchurch team.



The boys fielded brilliantly with Frankie starring with a run out and a catch but ultimately events contrived to go against us and we fell to defeat.

It was a wonderful day where the boys mixed with all schools and was a magnificent social event. Thanks, as ever, to Mr White for his unwavering support and I am, as always, so very proud of the boys. We have a new motto, 'Be Like Sam', who did everything with a smile on his face and kept us all happy.

It's not all about the boys though!

Upton Cricket Club hosted a Girls' Cricket tournament recently and our girls acquitted themselves well against Pensby. The girls hit some hard shots when setting a competitive total with Amelia and Mollie starring with the bat. All five girls, Caitlyn, Vicki and Samantha in addition to the aforementioned, fielded and bowled well but the total was passed by Pensby.

So much promise was shown even in the space of one game and there is much more to come with the squad being strengthened in time for our June games. Thanks to Mr White for his brilliant support and coaching.

Mr Kearney

-----ooOoo-----

Clare Mount Sponsor Sportswoman

Clare Mount are proud to announce they will be sponsoring a Welsh International Lacrosse player at the Women's World cup tournament in Surrey this July.

Jocelyn was welcomed into school last year to lead a lacrosse session with some of our students and has now been selected to play in the Welsh international team. We wish the team all the best for the World cup and await the results this summer.

Jocelyn plays wearing number 9 and will be wearing the school Logo on her shirt.



Sale Sharks Tag Rugby Festival

Nine students attended the Sale Sharks Tag Rugby Festival at Woodchurch High School on Friday 12th May 2017.

Students were divided into two teams and played a series of matches against students from Hilbre High School and Woodchurch High School. All students were fully involved in the games and some outstanding running and passing was seen by Michael from Year 11 and Luke from Year 7.

All students observed the Rugby World Cup Values of Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship. Michael carried on his good form to win a ball at the end of the morning by winning the tag bulldog game. He needed some time to recover afterwards too!

Congratulations to all those involved in the squad: Michael, Marcus, Kyle, Reeve, Michael, James, Kieran, Liam and Luke.

Mr Stanley



On Your Starting Blocks



Classes from across the school enjoyed an introduction to Starting Blocks in May 2017 when thirteen trainee teachers from Liverpool John Moores University came to Clare Mount to deliver a series of literacy, numeracy and physical activity challenges linked to the World Championship Athletics to be held in London in the Summer for the first time.



We are delighted that twenty students from Clare Mount will have the honour of being kit carriers inside the Olympic Stadium as part of the World ParaAthletics and World Athletics Championships in July (19th – 23rd) and August (4th – 8th) respectively.



This opportunity is in keeping with our vision of our students as 'role models' and 'catalysts for change' and follows similar volunteering experiences at London 2012, The British Golf Open 2014 and The Rugby World Cup 2015.



Extreme Sport Hub Launched

Over 100 youngsters from Clare Mount, Bebington and four partner primary schools have enjoyed working with World In-line Skating Champion Jenna Downing, European Skateboarding Champion Neil Danns and cycling coach Dave Cutts over three different events this term.



Students have accessed expert coaching to help them try a new sport and have been tasked with inspiring another student as a 'buddy' to have a go at an extreme sport. Another event will be held in early September 2017.

Feedback from Bebington High: "Another great opportunity provided by Clare Mount. Overall each and every student overcame a fear but also the laughter and enjoyment was a joy to see and hear. They would all like to go back".



School Year

2016 – 17

Open	Monday 5 th June 2017
<i>Closed to Students</i>	<i>Friday 23rd June 2017</i> <i>(not May 15th as previously advised)</i>
Close	Tuesday 25 th July 2017

Final staff training day shown.

Advance Warning for 2017-18 & 2018-19

<i>Open (Staff only)</i>	Monday 4 th September 2017
<i>Open (Students)</i>	Tuesday 5 th September 2017
<i>Closed to Students</i>	Friday 29 th September 2017
<i>Close for half-term</i>	Friday 20 th October 2017
<i>Open</i>	Monday 30 th October 2017
<i>Closed to Students</i>	Monday 4 th December 2017
<i>Close for Christmas</i>	Friday 22 nd December 2017
<i>Open</i>	Monday 8 th January 2018
<i>Closed to Students</i>	Friday 2 nd February 2018
<i>Close for half-term</i>	Friday 16 th February 2018
<i>Open</i>	Monday 26 th February 2018
<i>Close for Spring Break</i>	Thursday 29 th March 2018
<i>Open</i>	Monday 16 th April 2018
<i>Closed (May Day)</i>	Monday 7 th May 2018
<i>Close for half-term</i>	Friday 25 th May 2018
<i>Open</i>	Monday 4 th June 2018
<i>Closed to Students</i>	Friday 22 nd June 2018
<i>Close for Summer Break</i>	Tuesday 24 th July 2018
	<i>(2017-18 showing all Staff Training Days)</i>
<i>Open (Staff only)</i>	Monday 3 rd September 2018
<i>Open (Students)</i>	Tuesday 4 th September 2018
<i>Close for half-term</i>	Friday 19 th October 2018
<i>Open</i>	Monday 29 th October 2018
<i>Close for Christmas</i>	Friday 21 st December 2018
<i>Open</i>	Monday 7 th January 2019
<i>Close for half-term</i>	Friday 15 th February 2019

Return to School for Students

Monday 5th June 2017

Congratulations

...to Henry in the Sixth Form and former student Liam who have been selected to play for the Sale Sharks inclusive rugby team at the Worcester Warriors.

