

A photograph of a large blue sign for Clare Mount Specialist Sports College. The sign features a crest at the top, the college's name in large white letters, and contact information at the bottom. The background shows green trees and a clear sky.

Clare Mount Specialist Sports College

Telephone: 0151 606 9440

www.claremountsports.co.uk



Clare Mount Specialist Sports College NEWSLETTER

Keeping You Informed, Connected and Involved

Edition: Spring 2 Half-Term 2026





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- Head Teachers message
- Cricket success
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- Kenya trip
- Celebrating our previous & current students
- Careers week
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- Science Week
- New & Improved Tuck Shop
- Trips to Dorset, Gravity Max & numerous sports events
- Menu of the month & lots more

KEY EVENTS

- Break up for Easter:
27th March 2026
- Return to school:
13th April 2026
- Bank Holiday: 4th
May 2026

REACH US

- 0151 606 9440
- schooloffice@claremount.wirral.sch.uk



Clare Mount Specialist Sports College

NEWSLETTER

Keeping You Informed, Connected and Involved



“ A MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD TEACHER ”

Mr D. Keefe

Dear Parent /Carer/Reader,

As we come to the end of another activity packed term at Clare Mount, I wanted to thank you for your on-going engagement and support. The educational journey of your child/ward is all about helping them achieve their full potential, and this only works if school, parents/carers and pupils work in partnership to achieve together what otherwise might seem impossible.

I am often asked “what does success look like at Clare Mount”? For me, success means many different things. For some pupils, it is about improving their attendance especially when a child has been anxious about the thought of coming to school, and then together we find either a ‘hook’ or safe person that creates a connection and helps develop that sense of belonging. For others, success is achieving an Award, whether this is academic or otherwise, completing a work experience, learning a new skill or trying something new. In keeping with our vision of our pupils and staff as ‘role models and catalysts for change’ we want to provide the appropriate scaffolding to help our pupils take themselves out of their comfort zone and develop an ‘I Can’ mentality. As you read through our newsletter, you will find lots of examples of our pupils and staff achieving success including 22 pupils in Kenya showing our values such as growth, independence and respect. Other pupils have successfully completed residential experiences in Tattenhall, Dorset and Conway, whilst others have enjoyed experiences at the British Gymnastics Championships and at Manchester Snowdome.



Clare Mount Specialist Sports College

NEWSLETTER

Keeping You Informed, Connected and Involved



A key focus of the new Ofsted Framework focuses on Personal Development and Well-Being. At the **Youth Sport Trust Awards** Clare Mount was highly commended for our enrichment opportunities, and Mr Byrne was recognised for his outstanding Well Schools network leadership. Mr Campbell has established an amazing basketball programme at school which has helped pupils develop both socially and in terms of their skills. This includes helping develop players like Aaron in Year 10 who is currently in Lithuania representing Wales. Rightly, Mr Campbell's effort has been recognised by Basketball England, who recently wrote to us to say:

"It is a genuine honour to share the wonderful news that Clare Mount Specialist Sports College has been awarded the **2025 Education Institution of the Year for the North West Region**. This award recognises the outstanding work you've done in creating opportunities for your students to grow in confidence, develop new skills, and feel empowered both on and off the court. Your commitment to helping young people learn to play, officiate, and believe in themselves has had a remarkable impact, and this recognition is truly well deserved".

Outside school, our pupils do some amazing things. A prime example of this is Zak in Year 8. Zak currently sits on our School Council and is part of the Tranmere Rovers Community Junior Disability Team. For his fundraising and other efforts, he has been awarded a **Community Captain Award** by the Premier League. Please watch the video link of Zak receiving his Award. <https://www.instagram.com/reel/DWECjvzDU-r/?igsh=MWo3cHoweW40cTdtbg==>
We are so proud of both Aaron and Zak who truly are an inspiration to others.

Finally, I am delighted to inform you that in the 2026 Pearson National Teaching Awards, Clare Mount has been selected as a finalist in the **SEND and Inclusive Practice category**. This is testimony to all the hard work, dedication and motivation of our entire Clare Mount community. I will keep you posted with how this develops. Success breeds success and long may it continue. Enjoy your Easter Break.

Best wishes

Dan Keefe





Clare Mount Cricket

"A busy period for the Cricket Academy with the usual training punctuated with 3 tournaments.

Firstly, we hosted the Cheshire mainstream schools under 13s tournament with schools such as Neston High, Mosslands and Woodchurch attending. The group acquitted themselves well and will have gained valuable experience for later years.

We then hosted the Cheshire Under 15s tournament and a bumper collection of ourselves, St John Plessington, Mosslands, St Mary's, Weatherhead, Neston High and Woodchurch. The Under 15s were magnificent and some really resilient bowling performances from George and Reece, Fantastic batting from Jack, Alfie and Matthew and a phenomenal performance behind the stumps by Caidan meant that, against all (external) expectations, the team were unbeaten in their group, unbelievably involved in tied games with both Mosslands and St John Plessington before beating Weatherhead. This meant a game with Neston High and the team valiantly fell short by only 5 runs in a magnificent performance where Alfie, in particular, showed that Cricket has no boundaries.

Finally, we played the Merseyside Indoor Panathlon Cricket Tournament at Leasowe Recreation Centre involving ourselves, Woodchurch, Bank View and IMPACT and won the tournament to be reigning champions of both Indoor and Outdoor cricket for SEND schools in Merseyside. Well done to George, Nathaniel, Matthew, Caidan, Tommy and Oliver on a fantastic effort

Next up is the outdoor season and our debut in the Inaugural Stokes Knight Cup against St Anselm's, Calday, Wirral Grammar and Neston High at Neston Cricket Club. We are very excited for the summer season

Mr Kearney"





Salon refurbishment

We are lucky enough to have had our School Salon updated, creating a new and improved space for pupils and staff to learn and develop their salon skills.

The makeover includes more blow-dry stations, make - up tables and nail desks. We have watched our lovely pupils grow within themselves and also socially, helping each other practice all types of hair styles, nail designs and make up trends!

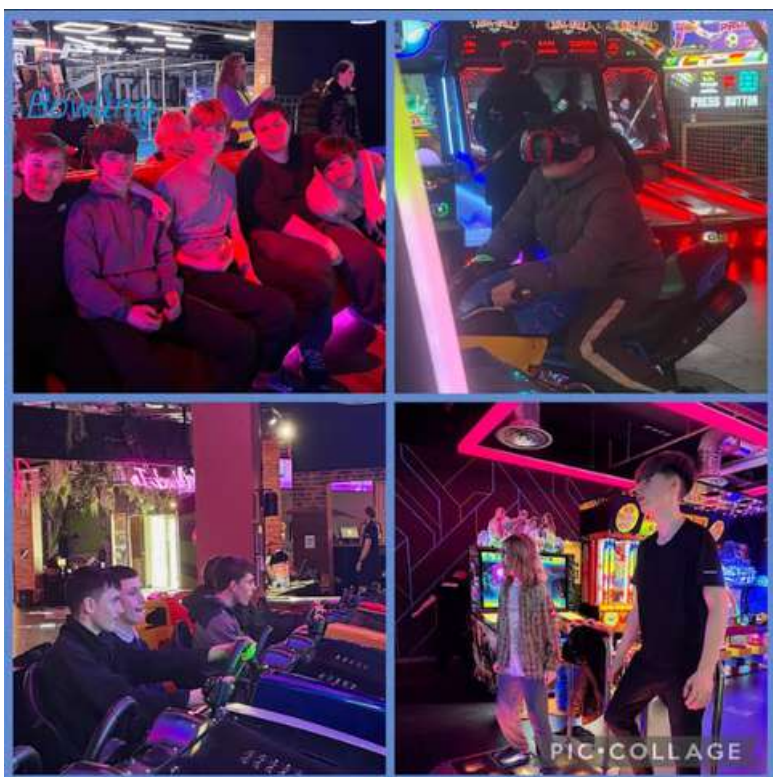
Mrs Shaw, Miss Quinn, Miss Broughton





Year 11 Gravity Max Trip

Year 11 had their final year group outing to Gravity Max. The students have been working so hard preparing for their upcoming exams that we wanted to have some fun and relax before GCSE's officially start. Students spent the day bowling, playing crazy golf and darts, and then had some time in the arcade. Well done Year 11!





GCSE Geography Fieldwork in Dorset

25 Year 10 and 11 geographers had a wonderful three days in Dorset on the Jurassic coast for their GCSE Geography Fieldwork.

We visited Durdle Door and Lyme Regis for field studies as well as having a great time on the ZipLine at the PGL centre At Osmington Bay.

Big thanks to all the pupils for being fantastic ambassadors for Clare Mount and to Mrs Stephenson, Ms Chan, Mr Basey and Ms Petticrew for all the support.

Mr Jones Head of Humanities





Silver Success at the Merseyside Workplace Netball Tournament!



At Clare Mount, our commitment to wellbeing isn't just a policy, it's a practice. We believe that physical activity and mental wellness are the cornerstones of a thriving school community, and there is no better way to demonstrate that than by leading by example.

This month, our mixed netball squad headed to Prenton High School to represent our school in the Merseyside Workplace Netball Tournament.

The atmosphere was electric, filled with energy, laughter, and, in true Clare Mount fashion, a healthy dose of white-knuckle competitiveness. From the first whistle, our team played with incredible heart, navigating a series of matches against some very tough local opposition.

Our students have been buzzing to hear about the competition, and their pride is a testament to our belief that happy staff = happy students. When we invest in our own health and happiness, that positive energy radiates throughout the entire school.

Well done to everyone who took part! We are going for gold next time!





Year 7 & Year 8 DT Designs

Year 7 have been busy exploring different types of wood to make their wooden robots. They have designed and made their products by learning how to use drills, sanders and saws safely in the workshop.



Year 8 have completed their design and build process for mechanical toys. They used lego to investigate movement, gears and pulleys initially, moving on design and then building their designs in wood.





Try-ing Something New: New Brighton RUFC Joins PE!

This term, our PE department has been buzzing with a different kind of energy as we welcomed professional coaching expertise straight from the heart of our community. We have been thrilled to host a guest coach from New Brighton Rugby Club, who has been leading high-intensity tag rugby sessions for our Year 7 and 8 students.

The initiative aimed to introduce students to the fundamentals of the game—speed, strategy, and teamwork—in a non-contact environment that emphasizes fun and inclusion.

The sessions weren't just about physical skills; they focused on the core values of rugby: Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline, and Sportsmanship.

The highlight of this program hasn't just been the sport itself, but the bridge we are building with our local community. By linking up with New Brighton Rugby Club, we are providing our pupils with a direct pathway to continue their rugby journey outside of school hours.

Mr Ritchie





Miss Magnall's College Visits to see past students

I had the pleasure of going to visit students who previously attended our School. They are all loving College life and preparing themselves for Adulthood.



Kayleigh, Lennon, Liam, Oliver, Corbin & Callum





Miss Magnall's College Visits to see past students



Taylor left Clare Mount in 2018 and went to Wirral Met College as a student. She is now 24 and a member of staff at Wirral Met College as a Support Worker & Kitchen Assistant. We are very proud of her success.



Alex left Clare Mount in 2022 and went to Wirral Met College. Alex is now on a Supported Internship with Premier Inn through Wirral Met College. We wish Alex all the best in his Supported Internship.





Miss Magnall's College Visits to see past students



I had a lovely day at Derwen College in Oswestry catching up with Claudia and Elijah. Both have residential places and are studying Performing Arts. They both are loving life at college. They showed me round and I seen the houses they live in. Both have increased so much in independence it was lovely to see!!

Miss Magnall
Career Adviser





Clare Mount's African Adventure 2026



On Monday 2nd February, 22 students and 6 staff went on an adventure of a lifetime to Kenya, East Africa. The group went away for 11 days in total. They stayed in a town called Nakuru, in Kenya. The aim of the adventure was for the students and staff to volunteer in a school, gain new experiences and develop global citizenship.





Clare Mount's African Adventure 2026



The host school was called The Walk Centre Academy, which is a school we have visited once before. This school is a very special, beautiful and happy place. It was built almost 20 years ago, by charities, and in harmonisation with the company African Adventures. The Walk Centre provides education to nearly 400 students. The school is open almost every day of the year, and offers a safe haven to the children in the local community, who sadly live in deprivation.





Clare Mount's African Adventure 2026

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 staff on a special visit, to the homes of the children in the host school. The reason the Headteacher showed staff 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 receive a full-time education from the Walk Centre, despite living in very challenging circumstances, the children are extremely happy to attend school.





Clare Mount's African Adventure 2026

A very special part of the visit includes taking donations to the school, provided by our community on the Wirral. We were able to take 400 new school uniforms, 800 football shirts and numerous other sports kits. Donations also included shoes, toothbrushes, books, pens and pencils, along with many hygiene products – all of the donations were greatly received and are invaluable to the community in Nakuru. – Thank you so much to everybody at home, who made a special donation.



On Tuesday 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 students from both schools spent the day playing, having fun and really getting to know each other.





Clare Mount's African Adventure 2026

Over the following week, the Clare Mount team went to school, to volunteer at The Walk Centre. The students and staff worked in three teams; the building team, the teaching team and the sports team. The building team spent the week creating new chairs and tables for a classroom. They built and painted over 40 tables and chairs – which will last a long time at the Walk Centre – the staff were most grateful and Clare Mount students worked incredibly hard to complete this task.



The teaching team spent the week working directly with the Kenyan students 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.





Clare Mount's African Adventure 2026



The sports team provided many fun games for all of the students in the school. They even hosted a 'Kenya vs UK football match,' – which was so much fun for everyone involved. Students from both schools played football, athletics, ball games and netball. The highlight was playing with a giant, rainbow parachute, which the younger students really enjoyed.





Clare Mount's African Adventure 2026

Mrs Mault, who led the expedition, was incredibly proud of every single pupil who volunteered in the school. The students 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 students never stopped, even when they found tasks challenging. This voluntary opportunity has not only enabled our students to develop new skills, it has also allowed the students to gain further work experience, and prepared them for adulthood. Mrs Mault's highlight was watching Clare Mount students thrive, even throughout challenging circumstances.





Clare Mount's African Adventure 2026

Whilst in Kenya, the group also took the opportunity to visit many wonderful places, and experience the fabulous culture that Kenya has to offer. Students were lucky enough to experience a Safari Day, where they saw many amazing animals, including; rhinos, giraffes, hippos, buffalos and zebras.





Clare Mount's African Adventure 2026

Students 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. Students 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 students even fed the giraffes!





Clare Mount's African Adventure 2026



One 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 students and staff were very grateful to be able to touch the elephants and learn about how they will be reintegrated back into the wild.





Clare Mount's African Adventure 2026

Another highlight of the week was attending the local Church service on the Sunday morning – this was a fantastic cultural experience; the community were singing and dancing to celebrate their week and it was a privilege to attend this service.



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. We would like to say a very big **THANK YOU** to everybody who supported us! Through donations and charitable contributions, Clare Mount Specialist Sports College was able to support our host school, to care for the Kenyan students and provide many resources that they needed. The group were also able to offer food for the community and contribute to some essential health care for the children they met; this was only possible because our school community came together and demonstrated their kindness, in enormous measure.



Clare Mount's African Adventure 2026

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 17 years, and has taken over 10,000 students from the UK to different countries across Africa. However, Clare Mount Specialist Sports College were the first ever special needs school to have attended an 'African Adventure' in 2024, to return in 2026 was a wonderful opportunity. We hope this is something we can continue to do in future years, for many more students at Clare Mount.





Clare Mount's African Adventure 2026

Once again, Clare Mount students 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."**



Congratulations to all of the students who took part!



Slam Dunk Success: Clare Mount Dominates Home Tournament!



The energy in the sports hall was electric this week as Clare Mount Sports College played host to a thrilling four-team basketball tournament. Featuring a lineup of local talent, the event saw our athletes face off against West Kirby School and College and Impact School, alongside a second internal squad from our own ranks.

From the first whistle, the dedication to the Clare Mount Basketball Programme was on full display. Both Clare Mount teams showed incredible tactical awareness and fitness, dominating their respective games and setting a high standard for the competition.

The Path to Victory

It was a day of high drama and fast-paced action. While Clare Mount ultimately secured the title of Tournament Winners, the road wasn't entirely smooth. In a standout performance, an inspired West Kirby team managed to hand Clare Mount their only loss of the day in a nail-biting encounter. However, our players showed great resilience, bouncing back immediately to reclaim their momentum and secure the trophy.

Individual Brilliance

While the victory was a result of fantastic team cohesion, the individual growth of our players was the real story of the day:

Hayden: Delivered a typically dominant display, leading in nearly every statistical category. He rebounded with ferocity, scored willfully from all areas, and provided invaluable assists.

Liv: Demonstrated an incredibly intelligent approach, controlling the ball in both the front and backcourt. She dictated the pace with poise and hit crucial shots during key passages of play.

Isaac: Was his typical impactful self, snatching "monster" rebounds and finding open players with precision feeds and dynamic assists.

Caidan: Played tenacious defense, sparking the attack through lightning-fast breaks and intuitive decision-making.

Holly: Provided essential support in the post. Her defensive poise has developed beautifully, allowing her to act as a fundamental outlet for our transition play.



Slam Dunk Success: Clare Mount Dominates Home Tournament!

Jack: Showcased enviable athleticism and natural flair, at one point running a one-man fast break and sinking one of the most memorable three-pointers this coach has ever witnessed!

Thomas: Despite being a rookie, he played like a seasoned veteran. His assertive defensive play created several dynamic offensive opportunities.

Michael: Displayed great composure throughout his defensive efforts and showed his offensive range by sinking a pivotal basket.

Kenzie: Possibly our most improved player, Kenzie contributed “buckets” with a level of control that predicts very exciting things to come.

Henry: A bundle of energy on the floor, Henry duped the opposition by running the court with indomitable grace and crafty precision.

Warren: Once again displayed an uncanny ability to morph into an assertive big man, snatching rebounds and producing vital scores in the post.

Callum: Our newest recruit showed the composure needed for competitive play, creating turnovers on defense and taking care of the ball like a pro.

A Proud Community & An Exciting Future

Clare Mount is incredibly proud of every single student who stepped onto the court. To see our experienced players lead with such passion and our newest recruits, like Thomas and Callum, step up so confidently is a testament to the culture of our sports programme.

The future of basketball at Clare Mount looks exceptionally bright. With this level of talent, work ethic, and sportsmanship, we are certain there are many more trophies on the horizon.

Congratulations to all participants—you have done the school proud!



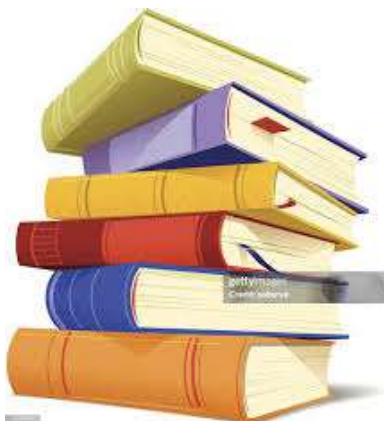


Literacy Week 2026

Pupils and Staff celebrated Literacy Week in style by taking part in several competitions and dressing up for World Book Day. The variety of costumes was fantastic and the creativity and ambition shown was absolutely superb. The costumes continue to get bigger and better every year.

Pupils also demonstrated their artistic side in creating characters from toilet roll tubes or book tokens. Clare Mount's Free Book Shop was a huge success with over 100 titles for pupils to choose from and more than 400 books were taken home this year. We estimate that since we began Clare Mount's Free Book Shop we have given out almost 3000 books!

A huge thank you to all staff, pupils and parents for their support this year.





Unstoppable: Year 7's Crowned Merseyside Kurling Champions

We are incredibly proud to announce a historic sporting achievement for our Year 7 pupils at the Panathlon Merseyside Cup held at Greenbank Sports Academy.

Our team—Arthur (7J), Kadie (7PC), Tommy (7R), and Jess (7C)—put on a masterclass in New Age Kurling, demonstrating precision, strategy, and nerves of steel throughout the day.

The Road to Victory

The competition began with a high-stakes league stage, where our pupils showed their intent early by winning all three of their opening games. This flawless start secured them a well-deserved spot in the Quarter Finals.

As the pressure mounted in the knockout rounds, the team's momentum only grew. They continued their incredible winning streak, refusing to drop a single game all afternoon. Following a tense and exciting final, they were officially crowned Merseyside Champions!

"The teamwork and sportsmanship displayed by our pupils was exemplary. To go through the entire tournament undefeated is a testament to their focus and skill." Mrs Hesketh

What's Next?

This victory means the team has now qualified for the Regional Finals in Bolton, which will take place after the Easter holidays.

We are sure you will join us in wishing Arthur, Kadie, Tommy, and Jess the very best of luck as they prepare to represent Merseyside on the regional stage.

Well done to our Kurling stars!

Mr Jones





British Gymnastics Championships

A group of our Year 7 and 8 pupils recently had the exciting opportunity to attend the British Gymnastics Championships at the M&S Bank Arena in Liverpool. This fantastic event allowed pupils to experience elite-level gymnastics up close and witness the incredible skill, strength, and dedication of top athletes.

Throughout the trip, our pupils demonstrated exemplary behaviour and a positive attitude, representing the school with pride. They were a real credit to our school, and we are delighted to have been able to offer such an inspiring experience.

Mr Freeman





British Science Week 2026: A Week of Wonders!

What a week! Our corridors have been buzzing with the sound of rolling marbles, the glow of distant galaxies, and the smell of... cheese? Our students truly embraced the theme of Curiosity, proving that science isn't just in a textbook—it's in our hands, our food, and our future.



Year 7: The Bionic Breakthrough

Our youngest scientists became biomedical engineers this week! Year 7 designed and built mechanical prosthetic hands. Using a clever system of "tendon" strings and "bone" structures, they replicated the complex grip of a human hand. Seeing a bundle of straws and string suddenly pick up a cup was a true "Eureka!" moment for our rising stars.

Year 8: Master of the Marble Run

Gravity was the guest of honour in Year 8! Students competed to build the most elaborate Marble Runs, calculating potential and kinetic energy to keep their marbles moving for as long as possible. There were loops, jumps, and some very clever uses of friction—engineering at its most frantic and fun!





British Science Week 2026: A Week of Wonders!

Year 9: From Fromage to Plastic?

Year 9 took "kitchen chemistry" to a whole new level by creating plastic out of milk and cheese. By isolating the protein casein, they transformed a snack into a mouldable, hard bioplastic.

As if that wasn't enough, they also took a giant leap into our new Immersive Classroom. They were transported across the light-years for a Solar System Experience, standing on the rings of Saturn and watching Martian dust storms in high definition.



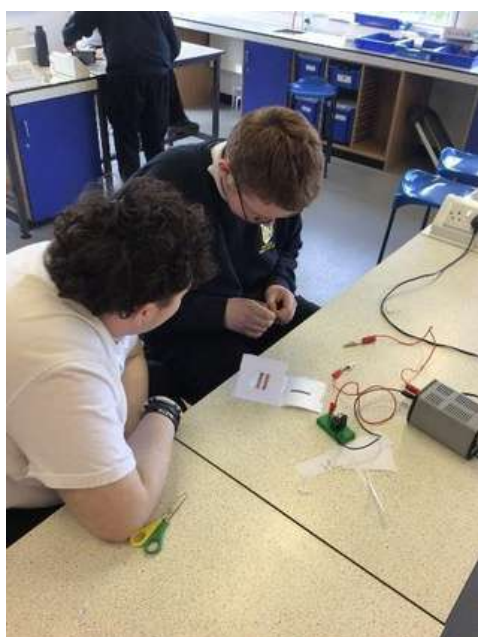
Year 10: The Scientists

Our Year 10s flexed their muscles across all three disciplines with some stunning practical work:

Chemistry: They grew brilliant, deep-blue Copper Sulphate crystals, demonstrating perfect precision in saturation and evaporation.

Physics: Using their knowledge of circuits and resistance, they engineered working pressure pads—the same technology used in modern security systems and smart scales!

Biology: In a masterclass of genetics, they successfully extracted DNA from strawberries. Seeing the actual "blueprints of life" emerge as a white, cloudy substance in a test tube was a highlight of the week.





9K's LED Lights

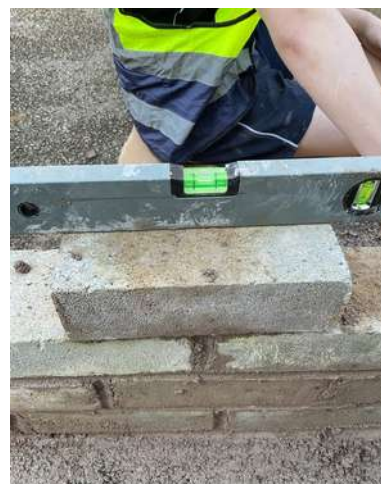
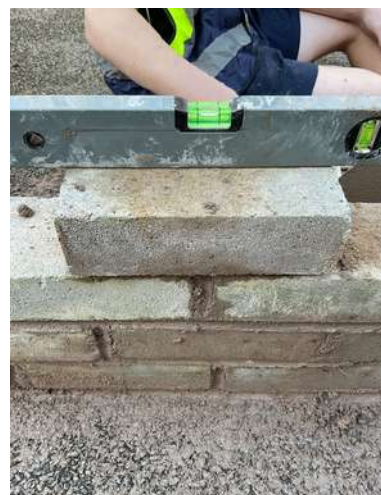
Our designers are currently "beaming" with pride! Using a mix of tech-savvy software and laser precision, they are creating stunning acrylic LED lights. They've mastered the art of manipulating light and images to create something truly "brilliant."





Year 9 Bricklaying

Move over, Master Builders! Our Year 9s have been busy getting "on the level" as they master the art of professional bricklaying. After perfecting their mortar spreads and learning that the spirit level never lies, they are ready for the next big challenge: **Cavity Walls**. It's safe to say they're really "stacking up" the skills this term!





Celebrating our Year 10's



A Special Mention: Maddie's Leadership in Action

We would like to share a huge "Well Done" to Maddie in 10SP. While out with friends recently, Maddie found herself in a challenging situation when one of her peers became unwell. Instead of panicking, Maddie remained remarkably calm and level-headed. She immediately took charge, contacting the student's family to ensure they received the support and medical attention needed.

Maddie, your ability to stay composed and look out for your friends is a testament to your character. You are a true credit to our school community!

Mission Accomplished: Year 10 Prepares for the Future

Our latest Enrichment Day saw students taking a giant leap for their future careers! Tasked with the **Moonspace Challenge**, students didn't just create solutions—they built employability.

By navigating complex team dynamics and presenting their findings under pressure, they demonstrated the "soft skills" that top employers crave:

- Active Listening: Tuning into peer ideas to solve lunar logic puzzles.
- Public Speaking: Finding their voice to pitch ideas with confidence.
- Collaborative Leadership: Supporting and encouraging one another to reach a common goal.

DofE: Resilience in Every Step

A huge "Well Done" to the pupils who took part to complete their **Duke of Edinburgh's** expedition this week! For many, this was a week of "firsts"—from navigating new terrain to the independence of staying away and cooking their own meals.

Living and working together for 24 hours straight is a true test of character, and our students passed with flying colours. The way you supported and cheered one another on through the tired feet and heavy packs was truly inspiring. We saw new friendships bloom and a real sense of "team" take over. We couldn't be prouder of your growth, grit, and teamwork!

Amazing effort Year 10 this term!

Mrs McBurney



Clare Mount Girls Shine at Matball Competition in Liverpool

Six students from KS3 delivered an outstanding performance at a recent Girls' Matball competition held at Greenbank Sports Academy in Liverpool. The event brought together teams from across the region, showcasing impressive skill, teamwork, and determination. Teachers and spectators praised the girls for their commitment and sportsmanship, noting how confidently they represented Clare Mount. Each player contributed to the team's success, supporting one another and showing great enthusiasm for the game.





Upcoming Table Tennis Workshop

As part of our enrichment programme, selected classes will be taking part in an upcoming Table Tennis Workshop led by an experienced player. The session will provide students with the opportunity to develop their skills, learn new techniques, and enjoy participating in a structured sporting activity. We look forward to sharing this experience with the children involved and will provide any relevant details directly to those classes.





Lunchtime Dodgeball Club Brings Energy, Team Spirit, and House Pride

There's a buzz of excitement echoing through the sports hall at Clare Mount every Tuesday lunchtime, and it's all thanks to the ever-popular Dodgeball Club. What began as a simple opportunity for students to stay active during break has quickly grown into one of the most engaging and spirited activities in the school week.

Students from across year groups have been enthusiastically taking part, representing their school houses—Attenborough, Jordan, Ali, and Tajiri—in a fast-paced and friendly competition. The club has created a fantastic platform for students to build confidence, develop teamwork skills, and most importantly, have fun.

Each session is filled with energy as teams strategize, communicate, and cheer each other on. Whether dodging, ducking, or diving, students show impressive determination and sportsmanship. It's been particularly encouraging to see how inclusive the club has become, with newcomers quickly welcomed and supported by their peers.

The house-based format has added an extra layer of excitement, with points, pride, and bragging rights all on the line. Friendly rivalries have blossomed, but always with respect and encouragement at the heart of the competition. Staff supervising the sessions have praised students not only for their enthusiasm but also for their positive attitudes and fair play.

Dodgeball Club is a great example of how lunchtime activities can enrich school life—promoting physical wellbeing, strengthening friendships, and giving students something to look forward to each day.

Well done to everyone involved, and we look forward to seeing which house will come out on top as the term continues!

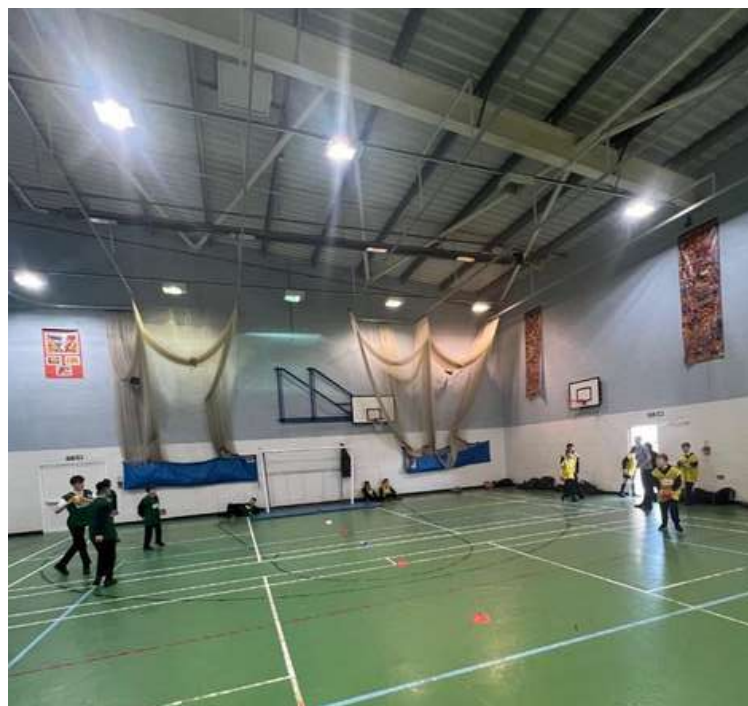




Lunchtime Dodgeball Club Brings Energy, Team Spirit, and House Pride

Inter-house dodgeball competition results

Position	House Name		Win	Draw	Points
1	Ali		6	1	18
2	Tajiri		5	1	16
3	Attenborough		3	0	9
4	Jordan		1	0	3





Clare Mount Pioneers: Supporting Vital Fitness Research

Throughout this academic year, Mr. Jones and Mrs. Shaw have had the privilege of working with pupils across Years 7, 8, and 9 to support significant new physical education research.

This project is part of a PhD study being conducted by our Headteacher, Mr. Keefe in partnership with Liverpool John Moores University. By participating, our students are at the forefront of identifying how we can better support the physical development of young people. The focus of the study is unique in focusing on secondary aged SEND pupils looking at how much, and how well, they move and the impact of this on their physical and mental health. The research focuses on five key pillars of physical competence:

- Strength & Balance
- Coordination & Agility
- Speed

Tracking Real-World Activity

In addition to the BOT Fitness Tests held at school, participating pupils have also been monitoring their daily activity levels. By wearing fitness trackers for a week at a time, they are providing a detailed "real-world" picture of their activity habits.

Building a Long-Term Picture of Health

For those pupils who have consented to the study, this data provides a vital baseline. As these students move up through the year groups at Clare Mount, they will be retested to track their progress over time. This longitudinal data is incredibly valuable, helping the school understand how to best support our pupils' physical health as they grow and mature.

"The pupils involved have conducted themselves admirably throughout the testing process. We are incredibly proud of their focus and can't wait to see the improvements they will make over the coming years as we continue this journey." — **Mr. Jones and Mrs. Shaw**

A huge thank you to all the pupils and families who have consented to take part. You aren't just improving your own fitness; you are helping to shape the future of physical education here at Clare Mount and beyond!



Clare Mount Pioneers: Supporting Vital Fitness Research

To complement this study, Clare Mount has also had another PhD study being conducted by Lauren Clifford which has looked at broader aspects of being a Well School. Whilst Mr Keefe's research has focused on MOVE WELL, Lauren has been conducting interviews and making observations relating to our WELL CULTURE, LEAD WELL AND LIVE WELL themes of the Well School framework, designed and developed by Clare Mount as a Beacon school. Over 1000 other schools have now taken part in a Well Check across the UK as a consequence. In a recent case study focused on what makes Clare Mount's approach to wellness so integral to our educational success, Tim Vernon from Sheffield Hallam University concluded that:

“Clare Mount Specialist Sports College demonstrates what becomes possible when wellbeing and physical activity are **placed at the heart of a school's identity**, when special educational needs are met with **high expectations and scaffolded challenge**, and when every pupil is valued as an individual with unique strengths and needs. The school's guiding principle **"role models and catalysts for change"** is a **lived reality**. What makes Clare Mount's story particularly powerful is its special school context and the magnitude of impact it achieves. Through **scaffolded challenges, relational practice** and **physical activity as regulation**, these young people develop confidence, independence and pride in their capabilities. Clare Mount shows that when a school commits fully to a whole-school approach to wellbeing, when it invests in PE expertise in leadership, embeds movement throughout every day, creates psychological safety as foundation, distributes ownership across staff and pupils, and maintains high expectations with appropriate support, the **outcomes are transformative**. Pupils who arrive anxious, excluded and dysregulated leave confident, capable and ready for adult life”.





Girls Shine at “She Inspires” Event

On Friday, March 13th, the **Liverpool County FA (LCFA)** headquarters in Sefton opened its doors to a group of 14 of our Year 7 and 8 girls for the highly anticipated **She Inspires** event hosted by The Liverpool Foundation. It was a day dedicated to empowerment, activity, and looking toward a bright future.

Building Skills on the Pitch

The day was packed with energy as the girls jumped into various physical activities designed to push them out of their comfort zones. It wasn't just about the sport; it was about the mindset. Throughout the sessions, our students stood out for their:

- **Teamwork:** Working together to solve challenges and support one another.
- **Resilience:** Pushing through difficult drills with a "can-do" attitude.
- **Confidence:** Finding their voices and leading from the front.

Beyond the Game: The Marketplace

When they weren't on the move, the girls visited a specially curated "**Marketplace**." This featured a variety of agencies and organisations dedicated to supporting young women. From career advice to mental health resources, the marketplace provided a space for the girls to see the wealth of opportunities and support networks available to them as they grow.

"The energy at the LCFA headquarters was incredible. Seeing our students engage with the mentors and dive into the activities with such passion was a highlight of the term." Mrs Grayson and Mrs Corcoran.





Girls Shine at “She Inspires” Event

A Truly Inspiring Day

The "She Inspires" event lived up to its name. Our students returned to school with a renewed sense of pride and some great memories. It was a fantastic reminder that with the right support and a bit of grit, there are no limits to what these young women can achieve.

Well done to all 14 students who represented our school so brilliantly!



Foundation

THE CLUB'S OFFICIAL CHARITY





Clare Mount Dominate on the Handball Court

Our Year 11 GCSE PE students delivered a masterclass in handball this week, securing a commanding **16-6** victory against Impact School. The match was a perfect showcase of the hard work students have put into their GCSE practical sessions. From the opening whistle, Clare Mount played with precision, successfully executing the **tactical strategies** and advanced skills they have been perfecting in lessons. Their ability to find space and move the ball fluidly across the court left the opposition struggling to keep pace.

While the attack was firing on all cylinders, the defensive performance was equally impressive. **George** was undoubtedly the star of the show in goal; his performance was nothing short of sensational, pulling off **save after save** to deny Impact School any chance of a comeback.

Congratulations to the entire squad for representing the school with such talent and sportsmanship. A truly outstanding result — well done, Clare Mount!





Clare Mount Leads the Way at National Youth Sport Trust Conference

Four members of the Clare Mount staff recently attended the **Youth Sport Trust (YST) National Conference**, an inspirational event dedicated to the future of PE and school sport.

The day provided a fantastic platform for our team to **network with key sports figures** and educational leaders from across the country. We were proud to showcase our own **good practice portfolios**, sharing the innovative work happening here at Clare Mount while gathering fresh ideas from other top-tier schools to further enhance our provision.

From attending **inspirational workshops** to hearing from world-class **keynote speakers**, the conference offered plenty of “food for thought”. Our staff returned with a wealth of new strategies designed to ensure our students receive the most impactful, high-quality PE experience possible.

By **innovating and tailoring** these national insights to meet the specific needs of our wonderful students, we are excited to implement new ideas that will keep Clare Mount at the forefront of inclusive and engaging school sports.



YOUTH SPORT TRUST



Primary Sports Festivals

This week, we were delighted to welcome pupils from our outreach primary schools to Clare Mount for an exciting Sports Hall Athletics event. Children from Orret's Meadow, Bidston Avenue and Dawpool joined us for an action-packed afternoon of track and field activities.

The event was expertly led by our fantastic Year 7 Sports Leaders, who demonstrated great leadership in organising and delivering each activity with confidence and enthusiasm.

All of the pupils had a wonderful time, developing their sporting skills while also building confidence and enjoying opportunities for social interaction. It was a pleasure to see such positive engagement and teamwork throughout the afternoon.

Mrs Corcoran





Dance at Clare Mount

We are delighted to offer four dance clubs each week at Clare Mount, which continue to be extremely popular with our pupils.

Our dancers are currently working hard in preparation for our annual Dance Festival at the Floral Pavilion, taking place on Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th June. This exciting event will feature over 30 schools and more than 600 dancers across both dates. As hosts, Clare Mount dancers are proud to be performing on both dates.

Tickets are now available via the Floral Pavilion website:

<https://www.floralpavilion.com/event/a-moment-in-time-that-shaped-the-world/#bookings>

Consent letters will be sent home before the end of term. Further information regarding costumes and event arrangements will be shared after the Easter break.

Mrs Corcoran





Making a Splash: Year 7 Swimming Success!

It has been a fantastic term at the pool, and we are incredibly proud of the progress our **Year 7 students** have made during their swimming sessions. From building initial confidence to mastering advanced lifesaving skills, every student has dived headfirst into their challenges. The PE department has been impressed by the dedication and "can-do" attitude displayed by all groups. Here is a look at what each class has been up to:

Group Highlights

- **Mr. Stanley's Group:** This group has taken their skills to the next level by beginning their **Rookie Lifeguard training**. They have been developing vital knowledge and practical skills in water safety and lifesaving techniques—skills that are as important as they are impressive!
- **Mrs. Rain's Group:** The focus here has been on "going the distance." Students have been working hard on **building their stamina** and refining their technique in both **front crawl and backstroke**. The improvement in their physical endurance has been clear to see.
- **Mrs. Grayson's Group:** It has been a term of great bravery and growth for this group. Students have been focusing on **water confidence** and mastering **basic swimming techniques**, ensuring everyone feels safe, capable, and happy in the water.
-

Looking Ahead

We are sad to see this rotation end, but we are very excited to welcome the rest of the Year 7 classes to the pool next term!

Important Note: To ensure students are ready for their first session, please remember to pack full swimming kits on your designated days.

Get in Touch

If you have any questions regarding the swimming program, equipment, or your child's progress, please do not hesitate to reach out.

For all swimming enquiries, please contact:

Mrs. Grayson l.grayson@claremount.wirral.sch.uk





Art Competition

Hi everyone! Just a quick reminder to submit your entries for this terms art competition. Below is a selection of some we have already received if you need a little inspiration. We can't wait to see your masterpieces!





Celebrating our Students

This month, some of our students have been observing Ramadan, a time of reflection, discipline, and community. We've been inspired by their focus and are proud to celebrate the rich diversity that makes our school so special.





Clare Mount Careers

This month we celebrated National Careers Week with a whole host of different events and activities designed to promote Careers.

Guest Speaker Programme

Train Enthusiasts



Our programme of Guest Speakers began with a talk by Mark from Transport for Wales.

Pupils with an interest in trains were able to sign up to attend a presentation from Mark detailing his career path from ticket office, to conductor, to train driver. Mark spoke with enthusiasm about his job and gave our pupils valuable insight into the demands of the job.

Year 7



PC Teresa spoke about the role of a Police Officer and the different roles available for students who want to work in the Police force. She explained how to apply for jobs in the Police and talked about the best parts of the job as well as the more difficult and, sometimes, sad parts of the job.

Year 8 & 9

Matthew O'Connell, ex-Clare Mount pupil, spoke about his experience of leaving Clare Mount, attending college then starting his career in the Sports Industry. Matthew currently works as a Cricket Coach and in a local Leisure Centre.



Clare Mount Careers



Continuing our talk about Careers in Sport, Miss Reid spoke to the group about her experience of being a Professional Hockey Player and competing in the Olympics and Commonwealth Games.

Year 10



Hannah from Wirral Rangers Service came to speak to Year 10 about what the Wirral Rangers do, a typical day in her job and also how to apply for jobs and apprenticeships in this field.

Year 11



Ex-Clare Mount pupil, Dylan, took time off from his studies to speak to Year 11 about his transition to Cheshire College South & West where he is studying Level 3 Performing Arts. Dylan was so enthusiastic about being a college student. He talked about a typical day in college, the new friends he has made and the support available for students.



Clare Mount Careers

As well as hosting a Guest Speaker programme, pupils also had the opportunity to participate in different Careers activities throughout the week.

Year 7 pupils worked through lots of Careers problem solving activities.



Picture This

Look at the pictures of these workers and see if you can identify what job they each have.



Riddle Me

Solve the riddles to guess the occupations. Use the word bank to help you.

I solve mysteries with clues and keen sight, Finding answers hidden in the dark of the night.

Who am I?

I use a brush to paint with flair, Creating colours everywhere!

Who am I?

I make the glass clear with every swipe, Up high I work, no fear of height.

Who am I?

I craft adventures with words and ink, Creating stories for you to think.

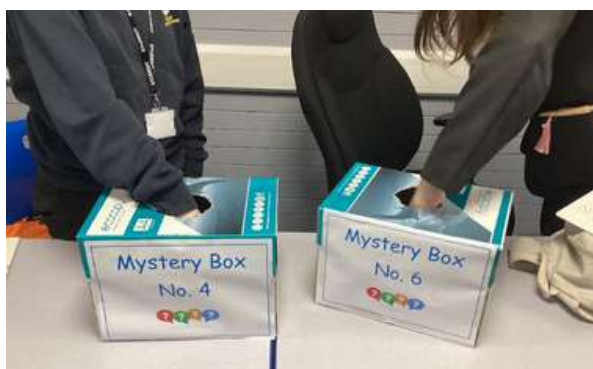
Who am I?





Clare Mount Careers

During National Careers Week, our Mystery Boxes were a hit with the pupils! Six boxes contained different items relating to different jobs. Pupils had to guess what was inside each box and then work out which professional would use them.

**Mystery Box Number 1**

2 x Paintbrushes, Paint bucket, Roll of tape, Sandpaper

PAINTER AND DECORATOR**Mystery Box Number 2**

Rubber gloves, Duster, Scrub Daddy, Minky Cloth

CLEANER**Mystery Box Number 3**

2 x Planks of wood, Hammer, Set of Spanners

BUILDER**Mystery Box Number 4**

Frying pan, Spatula, Wooden Spoon, Whisk

CHEF**Mystery Box Number 5**

Football, Shin Pads, Cones

PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLER**Mystery Box Number 6**

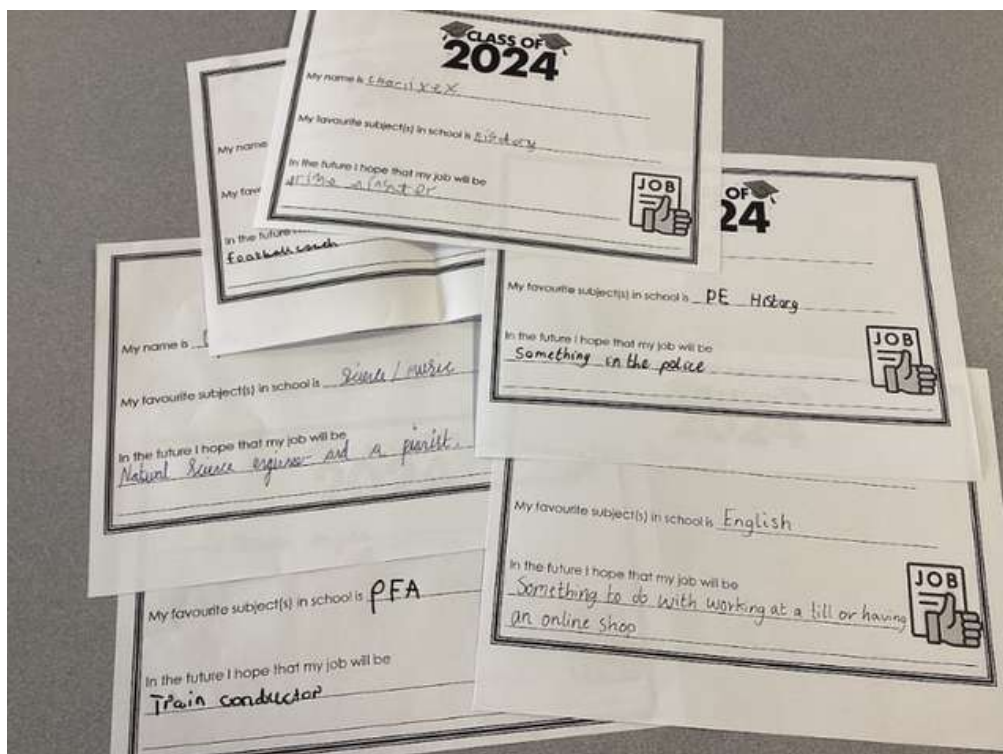
Head of hair, Mirror, Comb

HAIRDRESSER



Clare Mount Careers

Year 7 and 8 have now all added their 'Career Hopes' to a special Time Capsule. We will keep all of their answers locked away and bring them back out in Year 11. It will be fun to see whether they have changed their mind about their future job hopes.



This year, during National Careers Week, over 80 of our staff took part in our Teacher Treasure Hunt. Staff created door posters to show all of the jobs they have done in their lives. Pupils were given a list of 20 different questions about staff and had to find the answers using the information on the door posters.



Clare Mount Career's Quiz 2026

Name _____ Form _____

1. Which Maths Teacher was a football coach in Bolton, USA?
2. Which T.A. was on a TV show called 'Putty and Proud' with her Dance school?
3. In 2004 Miss Field won a bronze medal in the Commonwealth Games in which country?
4. Which Science teacher worked on the Railway line?
5. Which PE Teacher worked as a Life Guard at a Leisure Centre?
6. Which Teacher on the Humanities corridor volunteered as a Street Pastor in Chester helping the homeless community?
7. Which English Teacher was a Receptionist in Specsavers in Salford?
8. Which member of SLT has been a Muppet in a number of different bands?
9. Which DT Teacher worked as a Midwife at Aintree Park Hospital?
10. Which Teacher on the Humanities corridor worked as Cabin Crew for British Airways?





Clare Mount Careers

At Clare Mount we are pleased to be working closely with Autism Together to enhance the support we provide for students with autism. This half term, Amy and Collette from Autism Together visited the school and spoke to staff about the wide range of services they offer, including day centres, supportive living and their newly developed Pathway to Work scheme. In the summer term, we have dates planned for our sixth form students to visit the Autism Together sites and learn more about what is on offer. In addition, more staff members will have the chance to visit the sites and further develop their understanding of the services on offer.



Day Services



Our Day Services offering autistic adults a person-centred and support-led service, with opportunities to input and design their own support journeys. We offer a range of activities to get involved in, including:

Activities

- ✓ Animal Handling
- ✓ Horticulture
- ✓ Arts & Crafts
- ✓ Media & Photography
- ✓ Music, Dance & Performing Arts
- ✓ Café work
- ✓ Cooking & Life Skills
- ✓ Woodwork & Ceramics
- ✓ Community Excursions
- ✓ Gym & Exercise

[Learn More](#)



Triathlon Update March 2026



Championing the "Tri" Life: Our New Partnership with British Triathlon

We are thrilled to announce an exciting new partnership between our school and **British Triathlon**. This collaboration isn't just about elite sports; it's about bringing our students, families, and the wider community together through the power of swimming, cycling, and running.

By working closely with the national governing body, we aim to make physical activity more accessible, inclusive, and—most importantly—fun for everyone.

What's Coming to Our School?

We have a busy roadmap ahead to get everyone moving. Here is a look at what we are launching:

- **Weekly Running Club:** Starting soon, we will host a weekly running club right here on school grounds. Whether your child is a budding sprinter or just wants to enjoy some fresh air with friends, all abilities are welcome.
- **The Family "Go Tri" Event:** Mark your calendars for the Summer Term! We are planning a special community event where families can have a go at triathlon elements together in a relaxed, non-competitive environment. It's a fantastic way to bond and try something new.
- **Wheels for All & The Community Cafe:** Looking further ahead, we are incredibly excited to integrate our local community cafe with **Wheels for All**. This incredible charity focuses on inclusive cycling, ensuring that people of all abilities and ages can experience the joy of being on two (or three!) wheels.

Why Triathlon?

Triathlon is unique because it offers variety. If you aren't a fan of running, you might love the water; if you find swimming a challenge, you might find your rhythm on a bike. By promoting these three disciplines, we are providing our students with a "toolkit" for lifelong health and resilience.

"Our goal is to build a community where physical activity is a shared family experience, breaking down barriers to sport and making fitness feel like a natural part of our daily lives."

Get Involved!

We want this partnership to reflect our community's needs. Whether you are a parent who wants to volunteer, a local business looking to support our events, or a student ready to lace up your trainers, we want to hear from you.

Keep an eye on our upcoming newsletters for specific dates and sign-up links for the Running



Pedal Power: Bikeability Training is Coming To Clare Mount!

We are excited to announce that we will be hosting **Bikeability Training Days** at school on **April 27th, 28th, and 29th, 2026**.

Bikeability is the 21st-century version of cycling proficiency, designed to give children the skills and confidence to ride their bikes safely and enjoyably. Whether your child is just starting out or looking to navigate local roads, we have a course for them.

Level 1: Learn to Ride

- **Who it's for:** Pupils who are not yet confident on two wheels or are brand new to cycling.
- **What they'll learn:** This level takes place entirely on **school grounds**. Instructors focus on balance, pedaling, and basic bike control in a safe, traffic-free environment. It's all about building that initial spark of confidence!

Level 2: Road Awareness & Safety

- **Who it's for:** Students who can already ride a bike and are ready to take their skills to the next stage.
- **What they'll learn:** This is where the real-world skills kick in. Students will head out into the **local community** to learn:
 - How to start and stop safely on the road.
 - Correct road positioning and signalling.
 - How to use bike paths effectively.
 - Understanding priorities at junctions and how to cross roads safely.

We already have a list of willing volunteers for the Level 2 course, but there is some space available for those who want to learn to ride. Details will be available after Easter.

This training is a vital step in our partnership with **British Triathlon** and our commitment to active travel. By learning these skills now, our students are gaining independence and a healthy habit for life!!



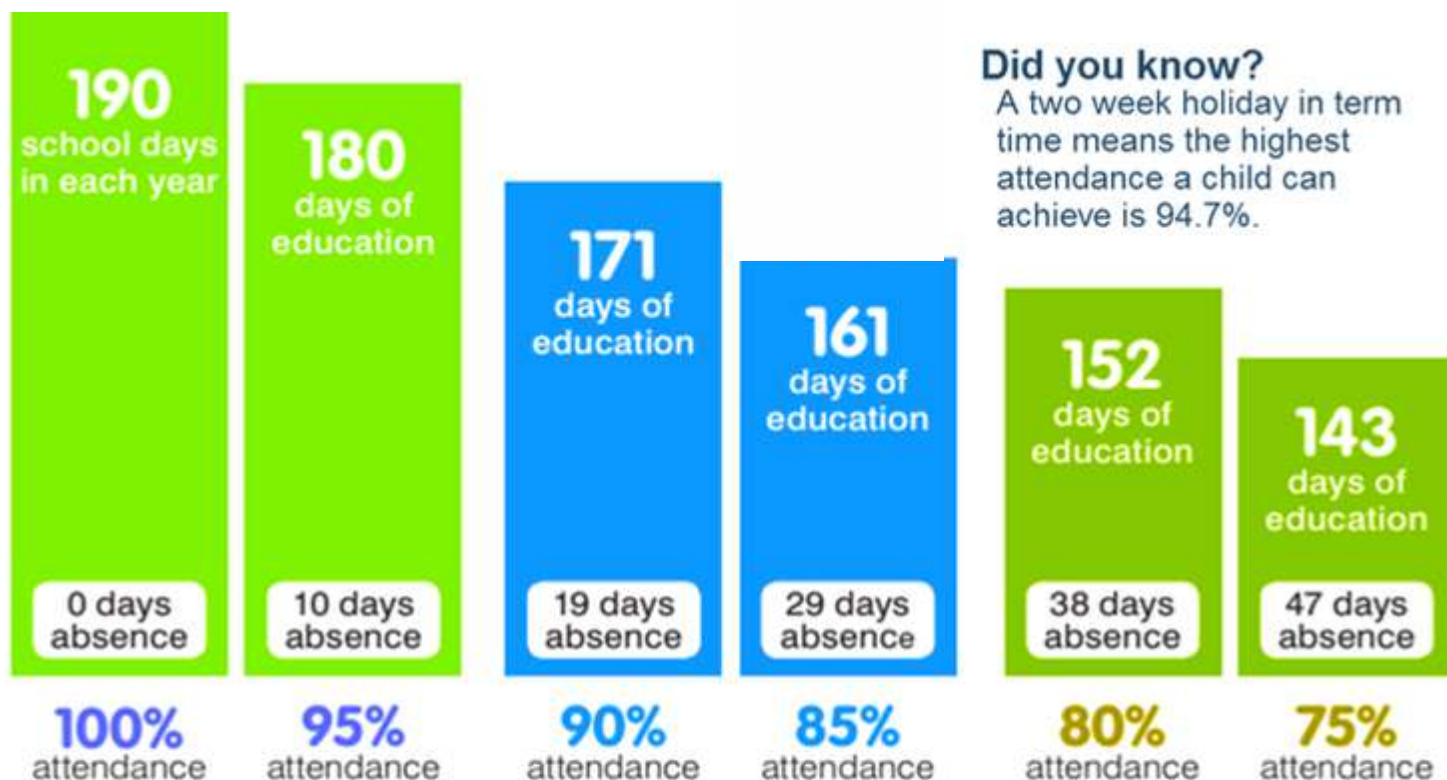


Every Day Counts



Our overall attendance at Clare Mount is good however this could be improved. Reminder - When collecting your child for a medical appointment, please provide a copy of the appointment letter. This helps us ensure the absence is correctly authorised in our records. Thank you for your support.

If your child is experiencing emotional barriers to attending school please ensure you talk to the relevant people in school to see how we can support.



"Well Done"

"I'm worried"

"I'm seriously concerned"

Best chance of success

Poor attendance—less chance of success

Very poor attendance—serious impact on education and reduces life chances



Bite Back: A Fresh Start for Our Tuck Shop

Our school tuck shop has undergone a delicious transformation thanks to the **Bite Back** campaign. We've waved goodbye to ultra-processed "energy zappers" like Monster Munch and Chewits, making **smart swaps** for fresh, seasonal snacks that are fuelling our success.

Why the Swaps Matter

The old snacks were high in refined sugars, causing a rapid "spike and crash" in blood sugar levels. This rollercoaster leaves us feeling tired and irritable by third period. By switching to **seasonal fresh fruit**—like crisp apples, juicy tangerines, and bananas—alongside **high-protein savoury snacks**, we are giving our bodies sustained energy.

- **Fibre** in fruit slows sugar absorption, keeping blood sugar stable.
- **Protein** helps us feel fuller for longer, preventing that mid-morning slump.

A Resounding Hit!

It has been wonderful to see the tuck shop buzzing with students choosing healthy options. Whether it's grabbing a "delicious apple" or a protein-packed snack, the change has been a "massive success story". Even students who bring their own snacks are starting to follow suit, packing more fruit and fewer crisps.

Calmer Classrooms, Ready to Learn

The most impressive impact has been in the classroom. Teachers have noticed that we are returning from break calmer and more ready to learn. Research shows that replacing ultra-processed foods with minimally processed ones can improve:

- **Concentration:** Students are up to 18% more likely to stay "on-task" when they eat nutritious food.
- **Behaviour:** Improved nutrition has a direct link to fewer negative behavioural incidents, with studies showing a reduction in aggression and disruptive behaviour.
- **Mood:** Stable blood sugar means less irritability and "boredom," leading to a more positive school atmosphere.

This campaign isn't just about food; it's about giving every student the best chance to succeed. Let's keep biting back!





EMPOWERING
PARENTS
EMPOWERING
COMMUNITIES



Free Parenting Course: EPEC Being a Parent

For parents and carers of children
aged 2-11 in Wirral.

Are you looking for ways to:

- **Feel more confident as a parent?**
- **Manage family stress more effectively?**
- **Build stronger relationships with your child?**

Scan to



Sign up today!



 **WIRRAL**



Join the FREE EPEC Being a Parent Course!

This 8-week course is designed to support you with practical tips and real-life tools to help your family thrive.

When: Term time only

Duration: Up to 3 hours per week

Where: Local family hubs and schools across Wirral

Cost: Completely FREE!

What You'll Gain:

- Positive behaviour management strategies
- Tips for managing stress for you and your family
- Tools for understanding and handling emotions
- Better communication, listening, and play skills
- Stronger parent-child relationships

What Makes This Course Different?

The Being a Parent Course is run by trained parent volunteers who've been where you are. They use their own experiences to create a friendly, supportive environment where you'll feel heard, understood, and encouraged.

- No lectures
- No judgement
- Just real conversations, practical advice, and support from people who get it

Who Can Join?

If you're a parent or carer of a child aged 2–11 living in Wirral, this course is for you!

Sign up today!

Email: familyhubs@wirral.gov.uk

Call: 0151 666 3559



Empowering Parents, Empowering Communities (EPEC)
Helping families grow stronger-together.



Menu of the Month

Ingredients




200g Strong Flour
(We used 100g white and 100g granary)




1 tbs oil 1 tsp sugar
We used brown




1 tsp yeast 1/2 tsp salt



200ml warm water



1 dsp of raisins
or
Dried cranberries
Or
Chocolate chips
or
Easter flavours
or



1 tbs runny honey + 1
tbs hot water to brush
over the baked buns



Hot Cross Buns

Turn on Oven  1. Preheat the oven to 200°C (Gas Mark 6)	 2. Weigh and measure the dry ingredients (NOT the Bircarb)	 3. gradually add the warm liquid to form a soft dough Caution You may not need all the water	 4. Knead the dough for 5-10 minutes to make it soft and pliable. We use oil to keep the mixture soft
 5. Leave on the plastic plate with the mixing bowl over the top to keep the heat in. Let it relax for up to 1 hour	 6. Knead in the raisins (or Divide into 6 and shape into rounds Turn up the oven temperature to 200°C	 7. Divide the dough into 6 equal portions	 8. Mix plain flour and water together to make a paste similar to icing. Approximately 2 tbs flour and 8 tbs water) put into a piping bag
 9. Pipe the cross on top of each bun and put into the oven. Turn the heat up to 200°	 10. Bake for 15 – 20 mins Make a glaze of equal quantities honey and water	 11. When the buns are a golden brown, remove from the oven and brush the tops with honey glaze	Can you explain what any of these key terms mean? • Whole grain fibre • Kneading, • Proving • Shaping • Nutritional profile • Bake • Gut bacteria • Allergen/ Intolerance • Food Security

Skills;
Selecting equipment, measuring, dough making, kneading proving, portion control, shaping and forming, poaching, baking, time management, nutritional knowledge application hate waste

Dietary Information: Allergens :eggs, **Gluten**,

Nutrients



Equipment



(Mixing bowl)



Plastic plate



measuring jug



Round bladed knife



Table spoon



Teaspoon



Baking tray



Cooling rack



(pastry brush)



Deliciously Edible Food Art

We have been making Botanical Focaccia in some of our Food Lessons to enter in the Art Departments Spring Challenge. Can you spot your design?





Year 11 Drama

A huge well done to the Year 11 Drama students who have just performed their final scripted pieces in front of the examiner. They performed extracts from 'Teechers', 'Kindertransport' and 'Our Day Out'. They have worked very hard and put in lots of rehearsal time and showed a real positive attitude. Well done to everyone!





Year 10 Drama



The Year 10 GCSE drama group recently performed two fantastic plays that they had devised themselves. Their stories were based on individuals who went from 'zero to hero' and had transformed themselves by the end of the play. They performed to the Year 7's. Some of their comments were....."It was sooo funny!" and "My favourite part was the chase which was very dramatic".





Art & Design Clay Workshops

Recently, we welcomed students from John Moores University who are currently undertaking their Art and Design PGCE. They delivered engaging clay workshops for some of our Year 7 and 8 pupils, during which the pupils created beautiful coral inspired tiles. Both the university students and our pupils thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon.





Term Dates

Autumn Term 2025

Open

Monday 1st September to Friday 24th October 2025

*School closed to students Monday 1st September (Inset day).

Year 7 & 6th Form commence Tuesday 2nd Sept

Years 8 to 11 commence Wednesday 3rd Sept

October Half-term

Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October 2025

Open

Monday 3rd November to Friday 19th December 2025

NSET- School closed to students Friday 28th November 2025

Christmas holiday

Monday 22nd December to Friday 2nd January 2026

Spring Term 2026

Open

Monday 5th January to Friday 13th February 2026

NSET - School closed to students Monday 5th January 2026

February half-term

Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026

Open

Monday 23rd February to Friday 27th March 2026

Easter and Spring break

Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April 2026

(Includes Easter Bank Holidays Friday 3rd April and Monday 6th April)

Summer Term 2026

Open

Monday 13th April to Friday 22nd May 2026

May Bank Holiday - Monday 4th May 2026

May Bank Holiday and half term

Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026

Open

Monday 1st June to Monday 20th July 2026

NSET - School closed to students Friday 3rd July 2026

NSET - School closed to students Monday 20th July 2026

Summer holiday

Tuesday 21st July to Monday 31st August

INSET DAYS (school closed to students):

- Monday 1st September 2025
- Friday 28th November 2025
- Monday 5th January 2026
- Friday 3rd July 2026
- Monday 20th July 2026

