

Year 8 Update

Autumn B Term 2023

See page 2 for a snapshot of upcoming events.

See page 3 for staff contact details.



Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

What another wonderful half term we have had. Year 8 have moved forward as fantastic student leaders across all areas of the school, demonstrating our outstanding efforts in Serviam. We have also been active in school council and plenty of sporting fixtures against schools in the borough and further afield at Holy Cross and St. Cecelia's including netball, football, and basketball. Some students have been attending the 'golf groove' on a Monday after school and learning about golf techniques whilst playing interactive games. Students have been active in the wonderful production of 'chitty, chitty, bang, bang', which was a huge success. Congratulations to the students and staff involved.

Year 8 have continued to support the ethos of the school by raising money for CAFOD's Israeli - Palestinian Crisis Appeal with the non-uniform day, you're your support, students have also generously donated to the Catholic Children Society's Christmas gift appeal. We have also raised £648.40 for Cancer research, a charity voted for by the year group, in our successful, sugar fuelled Christmas fair. Well done to 8A who raised the most money!

Other activities include Year 8's have promotion Thursday Lunchtime Book Clubs in the LRC, many have attended to support their reading and share their love of books. We also celebrated mass for the feast of All Saints, praying and remembering lost loved ones and writing in our 'Memorial Book' during November. Year 8s have contributed to the Christmas tree service, the Carol concert, enjoyed Christmas lunch and advocated for Anti-bullying week. A special well done to the following students who have been doing a great job helping in the Mary Garden this half term; Freya M, Evie T, Emily O'S, Florence P, Gilia F – Angela, Grace B – Bernadette, and Isabella S, Eva C, Florence D – Francis.

Looking forward, we are starting our Philanthropy project in PSHEC, LGBTQI+ history month and the Feast of St. Angela. Students return to school on Monday 8th January. Wishing you and your families a wonderful break. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Yours faithfully,
Ms Torode
Head of Year 8

There have also been some other great achievements this half term, you can find these on our [Twitter](#), [P.E Dept Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)!

Autumn B Highlights

- Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Production
- Christmas Tree Service
- Carol Service
- Christmas Fair
- Christmas Gift Appeal
- Anti-bullying awareness



Year 8 Christmas Fair



Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Production

Students' Achievements

Year 8 Total Rewards: 4,447

1 - Most Rewards:

- Amelie N (8T)
- Giada C (8T)

Congratulations to **8T** who are currently leading the way with **906** Reward Points

2 – Highest Attendance:

There are currently **54** students in Year 8 who have **100%** attendance. Congratulations and look after yourself!

Congratulations to **8A** who lead the way with **97%**!

3 – External Success:

- Well done to Isabella B 8C played the Khim as a member of the Thai Music Circle at the Wimbledon Temple as part of the Loy Krathong celebrations.



- Florence D in 8F is currently in the top 3% of Duolingo's GLOBAL top leaderboard for German learning- in the Obsidian League! Well done for your dedication & commitment & German skills!



If your daughter participates in sport or other activities outside of school, do encourage her to let us know.

Year 8 Update



Virtues: Autumn Term: Listening, Spring Term: Compassionate, Summer Term: Faith-filled

Upcoming Events

Looking Ahead:

January 2024

- 8th – Start of Spring A Term
- LRC Launch of 24 books for 2024 challenge
- 15th – Hispanic Heritage Week
- 16th – Launch of the Give First Philanthropy Project
- 17th: Launch of BBC Young Reporter Competition – Developing Research & Communication Skills – P Milne
- 24th – Mass of St Angela at Sacred Heart Church
- 25th – Ks3 Racial Trauma Safe Space Group in M8 Year 8 Sports hall Athletics, 3.30-5.30pm.
- 26th – International Holocaust Remembrance Day (actual day the 27th)

February 2024

- LGBTQI History month
- 2nd – Mid-year Serviam Celebration during Registration- online
- Inter-House Cross Country at Wimbledon Common, 2-4pm.
- 5th – Children's Mental Health Week
- 9th – Last Day of Term
- 19th – Start of Spring B Term
- 20th – Lenten Reflection for parents in the chapel, 6-7pm

Looking Ahead

- 13th March – St. Cecilia Day Concert 7.30-9pm
- 20th March – Multicultural Evening, 6-8.30pm
- 27th March – Academic Review Day, 1.35-3.10pm
- 28th March – Academic Review Day, all day

**Please note this is not a complete event list and is intended to provide a snapshot only. Events may be subject to change on our school website.*

Wellbeing

Parental Workshop

Thursday 18th January: Ks3 Drug Parental Workshop with Daniel Spargo (Online)

Useful Wellbeing Events:

Education Wellbeing Service
Upcoming Events For Parents & Carers
Spring/Summer Term 2024
Supporting your teenager's mental health webinars

- 15TH OR 24TH JAN** Understanding & Supporting Your Teen With Autism Spectrum Condition
For all secondary & college parents/ carers
- 6TH OR 7TH FEB** Social Media & Gaming- What Parents Need To Know
For all secondary & college parents/ carers
- 26TH OR 27TH FEB** Managing Exam & Assignment Stress
For parents/ carers of Young People in Years 11-13 & college
- 11TH OR 13TH MAR** Parenting Teenagers With Characteristics of ADHD
For all secondary & college parents/ carers
- 24TH OR 25TH APRIL** Managing Exam & Assignment Stress
For parents/ carers of Young People in Years 7-10
- 14TH OR 16TH MAY** Supporting Your Teenager With Emotional Difficulties & Self Harm
For all secondary & college parents/ carers

To view further event details and descriptions, and to book on to any of the webinars, please scan the QR Code or follow the link to our Eventbrite collection. [Click here](#)

We also provide free 1:1 early help support programmes for young people to support with anxiety or low mood. Speak to your school to find out more

South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust

Cost of living crisis: please use the link to check if you qualify for the governments Free School Meals scheme:

<https://self.merton.gov.uk/service/Pupil Premium and Free School Meals application>

Year 8 Update



Dear parent(s)/carer(s),

Parent Communications:

At the Ursuline, parental communication is really important to us. I have listed below a reminder of the correct person you should contact for a particular enquiry, which I hope you will find useful.

Form tutors – general enquires about the Ursuline, friendship issues, organisation, homework, clubs/enrichment, uniform, equipment, travelling to/from school, punctuality, trips/calendar events.

8 Angela	Ms Williams	rachel.williams@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
8 Bernadette	Mr Panchins	francois.pachins@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
8 Catherine	Ms Hawkins	rosamund.hawkins@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
8 Francis	Ms Laura McHale	laura.mchale@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
8 Margaret	Mr Chiswa	ian.chiswa@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
8 Teresa	Mr Gibson	georgina.gibson@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
8 Ursula	Ms Surbey	carys.surbey@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

Head of Year, Assistant Head of Year, or Pastoral Support Assistant – Mental health, bullying, safeguarding, online safety, absence request forms, request for your daughter to receive school counselling/educational well-being practitioner, financial support/free school meals.

Anne-Lise.Torode@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk Head of Year

Karlin.Eloff@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk Pastoral Support Assistant

Ms Young – Attendance and punctuality/lateness. All absences and lates must be reported via email or Weduc, or phone no later than 8.45am. Bernadette.young@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk 0203 908 3144

IT Issues

ITHelpdesk@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk – for IT/Weduc/Arbor/laptop related enquires.

Subject specific enquiry – please contact the subject teacher, all staff contact details can be found on our Ursuline directory below.

[Staff Contact Details - Ursuline High School](#)

Yours sincerely,

Ms Torode