

Year 9 Update

Autumn B Term 2023

See page 2 for a snapshot of upcoming events.

See page 3 for staff contact details.



Dear Parents / Carers,

As we approach the end of term, we are delighted to say that Year 9 students have continued their fantastic start to the year. It has been a real pleasure witnessing the great work across the year group – both in and out of the classroom and we are proud to see every student living out our core ethos, Serviam, in all that they do.

Many students across the year group took part in the school's production of 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang'. This was an astonishing performance, reflecting the hard work and effort of all students involved – both on stage and behind the scenes – and a truly proud moment for them all. Very well done.

In addition, Year 9 students have continued to show great dedication and enthusiasm in their uptake of other extra-curricular / enrichment activities; Wimbledon Ball Girl Trials, Sports Clubs and School Council, to name a few. There will be new activities on offer in the Spring Term, so please do encourage your daughter to get involved and to try something new. As ever, please do let us know if there is something your daughter would be interested in but is not currently being offered. It is always a pleasure to hear about your daughters' involvement in activities outside of school so please do continue to share their achievements with us so these can be celebrated in school.

One of the big events of this half term has been the Christmas Fair. The year group had a fantastic time, with many haggling at their stalls and others walking around in their inflatable Santa costumes to attract customers. Year 9 selected an incredibly well-deserved charity 'The Downs Syndrome Association' for whom they raised an incredible £864.52.

Spring Ais the term for students to start to think more seriously about their GCSE options. Please continue to have discussions with your daughter regarding their progress and interests, encouraging them to think about the subjects they may wish to continue or take up next year. There will be a Pathways Information Evening for Year 9 parents on 16th January (more details to follow).

Our Autumn term closes with our extensive Advent Programme to prepare for the Nativity of Christ. This period includes our Christmas Gift Appeal, Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Carol Service (see highlights), Senior Citizens Christmas Party and Christmas Staff and Students' Lunch. Wishing you and your families a joyous Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Guiheen and Miss Smith
Heads of Year 9

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

Students' Achievements

1 - Most Rewards:

1. Giorgia M 9B
2. Pola M 9M
3. Juliana T 9B

Congratulations to 9M who are currently leading the way with 955 Reward Points!

2 – Highest Attendance:

There are currently 46 students in Year 9 who have 100% attendance. Please do keep up the good work!

Congratulations to 9B who lead the way with 96.78% attendance!

3 – Additional Successes:



Year 8/9 Christmas Netball Festival



Congratulations Wimbledon Bookfest Winners: Lottie 9U, Honor 9U



Congratulations to Bella 9F and Elena 9B for securing places in the National Youth Choir - WOW!

Autumn B Highlights

- **Year 9 Christmas Fair** – Year 9 raised a total of £864.52 for The Downs Syndrome Association. 9 Bernadette raised the most, with a total of £204.80.
- **Christmas Gift Appeal**
- **School Production- Chitty Chitty Bang Bang**
- **Christmas Carol Service**



Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Production



Year 9 Christmas Fair

Year 9 Update



Virtues: Autumn Term: Integrity, Spring Term: Discerning, Summer Term: United in Harmony

Upcoming Events

January 2024

- 8th January – Start of Spring A Term
- 16th January – Martin Luther King Day
- 16th January – Year 9 Pathways Information Evening
- 17th January – Year 9 Computer Science careers day
- 26th January – Options Pathways Taster Day
- 24th January – Mass for the Feast of St Angela, Sacred Heart Church- Parents welcome
- 27th January – Feast of St Angela
- 27th January – Holocaust Memorial Day

February 2024

- 1st February – LGBT+ month
- 5th February – Children's Mental Health Week
- 9th February – Mid-Year Serviam Celebration
- 9th February – Last Day of Term
- 19th February – Start of Spring B Term
- 21st February – Year 9 Parents' Evening – School Hall

Looking Ahead

- 8th March – Deadline for Year 9 Pathway Options
- 13th March – St. Cecilia Day Concert, 7.30-9pm
- 20th March – Multicultural Evening
- 26th March – Passion Service
- 6th April – Ski Trip to Austria

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

Wellbeing

Parental Workshops

- 15th or 24th Jan: Understanding & supporting your teen with Autism Spectrum Condition
- 6th or 7th Feb: Social media & gaming- what parents need to know
- 26th or 27th Feb: Managing exam & assignment stress
- 11th or 13th Mar: Parenting teenagers with characteristics of ADHD

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.

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 9 Update



Dear parent(s)/carer(s),

Parent Communications:

At the Ursuline parental communication is really important to us. We have listed below a reminder of the correct person you should contact for a particular enquiry:

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

9 Angela	Ms Thomas	paula.thomas@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
9 Bernadette	Ms Taylor	geraldine.taylor@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
9 Catherine	Ms Kearney	seoighe.kearney@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
9 Francis	Ms McNichol	georgia.mcnichol@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
9 Margaret	Mr Tyler	jacob.tyler@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
9 Teresa	Mr Preastuin	ronan.preastuin@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
9 Ursula	Ms McColgan	caroline.mccolgan@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

Heads of Year (Miss Guiheen / Miss Smith) or Mrs Eloff (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.

paige.smith@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

erin.guiheen@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

karlin.eloff@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

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 0203908 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](#)

Kindest regards,

Miss Guiheen and Miss Smith