

Year 9 Update

See page 2 for a snapshot of upcoming events!



Summer B Term 2023

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

Dear Parents / Carers,

This half-term has brought with it much cause for celebration: sporting achievements (both in and out of school); displays of academic brilliance; outstanding commitment to Serviam and living out the school's values; a host of exciting end-of-year events; and much, much more. Firstly, the professionalism with which students in Year 9 conducted themselves during exam week must be commended. Attendance was at a record high (99%), with students enthusiastic about demonstrating their learning. This is excellent practice for the public examinations that they will face in the coming years, and I am sure they will rise with equal valiance to these challenges when they come. They have done so well, and we are very proud of their achievements. Please do take some time out to go through their report and actionable feedback.

Many students in the year group have taken up opportunities to represent the school at conferences and inter-school events this half-term, including the recent Ursuline Jubilee celebrations in Ilford which was attended by ten Year 9 students; and the Mass for retiring headteachers at St George's Cathedral, Southwark, at which the Year 9 choir sang. Our recent Serviam and Celebration assemblies provided a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the excellent work and effort shown by Year 9 this year, and I would like to take this moment to again congratulate all our prize winners – some of which are listed in the coming pages. A particular mention to Evie H-J (9M) who won our Serviam award this year and Orlaith L (9M) who achieved our Student of the Year award. Congratulations to 9 Francis who were again victorious at Sports Day, winning the trophy for the third consecutive year. Will anybody ever beat them? Thank you to all students who showed their support as I took on the staff 100m race, winning the silver medal. Well done to Mr Dunne, former co-tutor of 9 Francis, who took the gold.

Congratulations to Jada T (9A) and Simran S (9U), whose Wimbledon Bookfest Competition entries both received commendations from the judges – a great achievement, and to Sophie M-B (9U), Charlotte P (9M), Orlaith L (9M), Shreya F (9T), Eva F (9U), Hiba U (9T), Helena D-N (9T), Emma C (9M), and Gaia L (9M), who all had work displayed at the Merton Civic Centre as part of the Meaning of Windrush competition. The Year 9 Debates on 14 July were much enjoyed by all in attendance – with the following subjects debated: 'do electric cars have much impact on the environment?'; 'do social media influencers have too much power?'; 'will technology save the world?'; and 'does social media do more harm than good?'. Congratulations to the winning Houses, with 9 Catherine receiving the highest overall score from the judges, proposing the motion that social media does more harm than good.

In the final week, students in Year 9 enjoyed Fest Week. Some students visited Normandy, while those who had been due to attend the cancelled choir trip to Valkenburg enjoyed some alternative trips (a special thanks to our friends at the **Lantern Arts Centre** for hosting on Monday). Those in school enjoyed an alternative sports day on-site, a curriculum day on the topic of climate justice, an activities day in school, and a trip to the London Docklands Museum. It has been a truly great year. I am proud of how much they have all matured - personally and academically, since being their Head of Year in Year 8 and I am delighted to continue to be their Head of Year next year.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to say farewell to Ms Waters and thank her for her dedication, leadership, and unwavering support throughout my time at the Ursuline. I look forward to working under the Headship of Mr Kelly and supporting him as he leads the school, sustaining and building upon Ms Waters' legacy. I wish you, the students, and your families a wonderful summer holiday; and I look forward to welcoming students back for Year 10 on Wednesday 6th September 2023.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Roberts, Head of Year 9

Students' Achievements

1 – Celebration Award Winners:

- Serviam Award: Evie H-J (9M)
- Achievement Award: Orlaith L (9M)
- Year 9 Virtue Awards: Emma C (9M), Maia H-M (9F), Charlotte P (9M)

2 - Most Rewards:

1. Hannah M (9M) - 124
2. Silvia G (9T) - 118
3. Simran S (9U) - 112

Congratulations to 9C, who finished the year with **2095 Reward Points**; and to 9T who finished close in 2nd place with **2092**.

3 – Highest Attendance:

There are **8** students in Year 9 who finished the year with **100%** attendance. A fantastic achievement!

Congratulations to 9U who lead the way with **96%** attendance!

4 – External Successes:

- Naomi M (9B) – part of Team Merton in the London Youth Games netball final on 1 July, finishing 2nd and bringing home the silver medal.
- Tallulah C-P (9F) – part of Team Merton in the London Youth Games Hockey final.
- Dorothy W and Lila P (9U) – selected again to be part of a prestigious summer dance school in Rome.
- A number of Year 9 students performed as part of the Lantern Youth Choir at the Lantern Arts Centre on Saturday 1 July. Congratulations!

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

Summer B Highlights

- **Sports Day** – 9 Francis were victorious again; with 9 Teresa in second, and 9 Angela in third (see winners photo on next page).
- **Ms Waters' Celebration Mass** – Representatives from each form attended Mass to celebrate Ms Waters' service to the school and to education of outstanding young women.



Sports Day



Ms Waters' Celebration Mass

Year 9 Update



Upcoming Events:

September

- **6th Sept** – School returns for Year 10
- **Mon 11th Sept** – Mass of the Holy Spirit
9.40-11.45am, in the school hall (parents welcome)
- **Thurs 26th Sept** – Year 10 Information Evening
6.00-7.00pm, in the school hall

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



Congratulations to 9 Francis on their Sports Day victory! Lifting the trophy.. again!

Year 9 Virtue: Summer Term

United in Harmony

You accept someone as they are, you care for them, and care what happens to them and you want to share your life with them. You always think about another person rather than thinking about yourself. When you love you put into practice the “golden rule”, to treat others with the respect and kindness that you want for yourself.

“Live in harmony, united together, all of one heart and one will” St Angela Merici – Last Counsel/1

Wellbeing

Parental Workshops

Autumn A

28th Sept: Parent Webinar on how to support teenage mental health

11th Oct: KS3 Parental Workshop on Online Safety & Social Media

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](https://self.merton.gov.uk/service/Pupil%20Premium%20and%20Free%20School%20Meals%20application)

Additional Support



[Off The Record](#)

[Kooth](#)

[MindEd](#)

[e-wellbeing](#)

Year 9 Update



Celebration Assembly Winners



Top, Left Photo: Serviam Award: Evie H-J, 9M. Student of the Year: Orlaith L, 9M

Top, Right Photo: Head of Year Awards: Passion for Challenge to Success: Sara S, Achievement in Challenge to Success: Sofia D, Resilience through Difficult Challenge: Anabelle Brown, Passion for Reading: Toni A, Most Rewards: Hannah M. Attendance and Punctuality: Erin O'B, Chilean C and Lucia S. Year 9 Virtue Awards: Integrity: Emma C, Discerning: Charlotte P and United in Harmony: Maia H-M.



Above, Left Photo: Passion Awards: P.E: Atusa G, German: Emily M-D, Spanish: Isabella D, French: Simran S, Computer Science: Karolina I-D, Drama: Helena D-N, Food Technology: Emma S, D&T: Gaia L, Art: Chisom C, Music: Emily D-L-C, Geography: Aitana T-M, History: Sophia D, Religion: Emily O, Science: Isabella T, Maths: Anastasia T, English: Silvia G.

Above, Right Photo: Achievement Awards: P.E: Sophia J, German: Harriet S-G, Spanish: Letizia L, French: Martha H, Computer Science: Sophia R, Drama: Nicola G, Food Technology: Keira R, D&T: Rachel C, Art: Charlotte K, Music: Nancy K, Geography Orla D, History: Sophie T, Religion: Sandra M, Science: Olivia C-S, Maths: Sarah G-M, English: Catherine B.

Year 9 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 find helpful

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

9 Angela – poppy.rushforth@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

9 Bernadette – ian.chiswa@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

9 Catherine – agnieszka.ciechanowska@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

9 Francis – laura.grant@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk / john.lester@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

9 Margaret – rachel.oneill@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

9 Teresa – jason.ching@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

9 Ursula – serena.sidaway@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

Head of Year (Mr Roberts) or Mrs McCourt (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.

james.roberts@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

sarah.maccourt@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

Ms Young and Mrs McCourt – Attendance and punctuality/lateness (please report student absence before 9.30am).

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,

Mr Roberts