

# Year 8 Update

See page 2 for a snapshot of upcoming events!



Autumn Term A 2023

Make sure to check out our Autumn Term >>> Enrichment programme! <<<

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Welcome to the first newsletter of Year 8!

The students have had a fantastic start to the year and have engaged all aspects of school and wider community. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know so many of the students as their new head of year and been impressed by the maturity that has occurred over the summer and the role models, they have been welcoming our new Year 7s.

So far this term students have demonstrated their high levels of Serviam and commitment to the school values. A high number of students volunteered to be guides and subject helpers at open evening, a huge number have signed up to be varying student leaders and there was competition for students to put themselves forward as school council representatives. Each form has led a year 7 prayer service in registration, and many have engaged in sporting extra-curricular activities including borough cross country and a netball fixture against Wimbledon High.

Year 8 have contributed to Black History Month in lessons and registrations involving research tasks, assemblies, prayer, and a poetry competition. Students were actively involved in the Gangs against Violence workshops in PSHEC, we had an assembly on World Mental Health Day, reaching out to our supportive wider school community. Teacher appreciation day took place with many students showing their gratitude to staff. We celebrated the feast days of St Francis of Assisi and St Teresa of Avila, with form lunches in the main hall and have St Ursula's to come. On 16th October, Year 8 celebrated the Feast Day of St Ursula in a special Mass with Year 7, St Ursula was the inspiration and role model for our founder St Angela Merici.

I would like to thank those parents that attended the Parent workshop, the engagement was excellent. We are looking forward to our Remembrance Day service, the school production of 'Chitty, Chitty, Bang, Bang', the Christmas Carol service, Christmas tree service, Christmas fairs and 'jump rope for heart' in PE next half term.

Students return to school on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November. Wishing you and your families a restful half term holiday.

Yours faithfully,  
**Ms Torode**  
Head of Year 8

## Students' Achievements

Year 8 Total Rewards: 2047

### 1 - Most Rewards:

- Jewel D (8U)
- Amelia Z (8T)

Congratulations to **8M** who are currently leading the way with **403** Reward Points

### 2 – Highest Attendance:

There are currently **98** students in Year 8 who have **100%** attendance. Congratulations and look after yourself!

Congratulations to **8A** who lead the way with **97.2%**!

### 3 – External Success:

- Congratulations to Olivia M (8B) who raised a huge amount of money through fundraising and competing in a 5K run for GOSH.
- Well done Elisa R (8M) who took part in the Oliver musical production with Edge Hill Players drama company.

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

## Autumn A Highlights

- Open Evening
- Black History Month
- World Mental Health Day
- Gangs against Violence workshop
- Feast day's of St Francis of Assisi and St Teresa of Avila
- Feast Day of St Ursula Mass



Black History Month



GOSH Fundraising

*There have also been some fantastic sports achievements this half term, you can find these on our [school twitter!](#)*

# Year 8 Update



## Upcoming Events

- **Mon 30<sup>th</sup> October:** Inset Day
- **Tue 31<sup>st</sup> October:** Inset Day

## November

- **1<sup>st</sup> November:** Start of Autumn B Term
  - **St Ursula House lunch**
- **9<sup>th</sup> November:** Insieme Day
- **10<sup>th</sup> November: Remembrance Day Liturgy**
  - Inclusive Inter-House Football at Morley Park 2-5pm
- **13 November:** Anti-Bullying week
- **14<sup>th</sup> November:** Borough Netball
- **27<sup>th</sup> November:** Christmas Gift Appeal launch
- **30<sup>th</sup> November:** School Production 6-8pm, School Hall

## December

- **1<sup>st</sup> December:** School Production 6-8pm, School Hall
- **1<sup>st</sup> December:** 8 Inter-House Netball Festival
  - **Christmas Tree Service, 2-3pm**
- **6<sup>th</sup> December:** Borough Basketball
- **15<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Fair
- **18<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Carol Service at Sacred Heart Church, 8-9pm
  - 'Jump Rope for Heart' Skipping Competition Fundraiser
- **22<sup>nd</sup> December:** Christmas Assembly and Last Day of Term (School Day ends: 12.40pm)

## Looking Ahead:

**8<sup>th</sup> January:** Start of Spring A Term

*\*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 Workshops

#### Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November: Supporting Parents of SEND students

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>

### Useful Wellbeing Events:

**Education Wellbeing Service**  
Upcoming Events For Parents & Carers  
Autumn Term 2023  
Supporting your teenager's mental health webinars

- 26TH OR 28TH SEPT** Mental Health During The Teenage Years - An Introduction And Overview  
For all secondary & college parents/ carers
- 12TH OR 18TH OCT** Getting Into School - Common Challenges & Supporting School Avoidance  
For all secondary & college parents/ carers
- 16TH OR 17TH NOV** "I Wish I Looked Like Them" - Helping Teens Navigate Body Image Issues  
For all secondary & college parents/ carers
- 4TH OR 7TH DEC** Understanding and Supporting Teen Sleep & Self-Care  
For all secondary & college parents/ carers

[Click here](#)

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.

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