



## #EmbraceEquity Through Leadership!



“ I appreciated the inspirational and motivational words to let me know that I can be successful by being me” Student

On Wednesday 8th March we held our **Year 12 Sixth Form Conference** to celebrate **International Women's Day**, which this year, was themed around **"Embracing Equity"**. Our conference explored this theme through the lens of leadership,

We were fortunate to be joined by three excellent speakers- **Dona Reddiar, Sonya Barlow** and **Lucy Kane**- who between them covered a range of career backgrounds from medical research to journalism, radio presenting and career networking. The conference was led by our wonderful student leaders **Esther, Rukevwe, Sinead, Laurene** and **Franchesca**.

The feedback from the conference was very positive. One of the speakers said *"It was great to see the engagement and the vivacity of the girls"*.

The students themselves said;

*"Everything was amazing, I enjoyed the student interaction and the pace of the talks were good. Thank you so much for this conference I really enjoyed it."*

*"I really liked how approachable the speakers were after their presentations- they were very easy to talk to and gave good advice"*

**#EmbraceEquity**





# headlines



**Follow us!**  
Join our growing social community!  
Instagram: [UHSWimbledon](#)  
Twitter: [UHSWimbledon](#)

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

I am delighted to congratulate Mr Kelly on his appointment as Acting Headteacher from September, wishing him every success in his role.

St Angela spoke to her followers about building community wherever you go. This term we have enjoyed celebrating the richness of our one, but diverse, community at Multicultural Evening, where students and families shared their food, music and dance. The evening raised over £1600. £1,000 was donated towards computers for a girls school in Sierra Leone; the Bysee project.

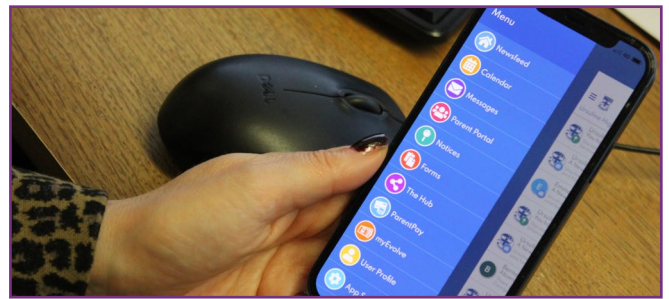
We hosted the Ursuline Education Conference this half term, welcoming our Ursuline Education Community schools in the UK and Ireland, to come together to enrich and deepen our understanding of our mission.

We also enjoyed the musical gifts and talents of our choirs, orchestra, instrumentalists and soloists at our annual St Cecilia's day concert with a final communal singing of "What a wonderful world".

The school has much to give thanks for, and we were all able to send individual 'thank you's' as part of our weekly focus in Lent last week. So a special thank you to parents and friends for your support and the sacrifices you make as we break to celebrate Easter 2023.

Best wishes.

Ms Waters  
BSc (Hons) MA Headteacher



## Communications

We are committed to effectively communicating with our parents/carers. To read more about our Communications Strategy visit the [Parent Communications](#) page of our website.

Are your details correct? To ensure you are receiving relevant communications from us, please ensure you notify us of any changes to contact details;  
[bernadette.young@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:bernadette.young@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk)

## Flame 2023



We had the joy of accompanying a cohort of students to **Flame 2023** at *Wembley arena*, this half term. Flame is the largest **Catholic youth event** in England and Wales. It was a full day of inspirational speakers, powerful music and reflective prayer. The theme was "**Rise Up**", in which we were encouraged to rise up, like **Mary**, the mother of **God** did, to respond to the call of our time.

## Mayor's Visit



Year 10 students visited the **Mayor of Merton; Madame Mayor Joan Henry** this half term, in the Council Chamber at the **Civic Centre** in Merton to celebrate the **World Day of Social Justice!**

## Acting Headteacher



We are delighted to announce the Governors have appointed **Mr Eoin Kelly** to the role of **Acting Headteacher** for the academic year commencing in **September 2023**, following the sad retirement of **Ms Waters** in August this year. It is difficult to do justice to the transformative changes introduced and embedded by Ms Waters during her leadership over the past two decades, however, we have every faith in the leadership of Mr Kelly, and our community can also have every faith in the continuity and continued excellence in leadership that Mr Kelly will provide our school moving forwards. If you're reading this online, you can view the full **Governors letter** on our website [here](#).

## Multicultural!



On **Wednesday 22nd March** we held our **Multicultural Evening** a fantastic evening for foodies, with an array of delicious dishes and some spectacular entertainment on display from students! If you're reading this online view full story on our Instagram [here!](#)

## Catholic Life

We have recently made some updates to our website to provide our community with a deeper understanding of the **Catholic Life** of our school, featuring some lovely galleries depicting our school life and mission, collective worship and insight into our Chaplaincy and religious education. If you have not yet taken a look it is on the main toolbar of our website entitled 'Catholic Life'. We have also updated our former Chaplaincy newsletter to '**Catholic Life**', and the first edition will be released at the beginning of Summer Term!

## Year 9 Taster Day



On **Friday 3rd March** Year 9 took part in their **Taster Day**, students were provided with the opportunity to experience a snapshot of GCSE lessons ahead of making their **GCSE choices** this term. From familiar lessons such as Maths, English, Science, History and Design Technology, to a variety of new subjects studied at KS4+ including Computer Science, Sociology, and Health and Social Care. Students found the experience very beneficial.

## Philanthropy



**Year 8** have certainly been busy with their **Philanthropy project** this half term, in which they work with charity **First Give** to select a **local charity** to support by planning ways to raise money and highlight their chosen charities work. More information can be found in the latest edition of the **Year 8 Update**. If you're reading this online you can find it [here](#).





# Fountain Opening

On **Tuesday 7th March** students attended the official unveiling of the restored **Toynbee Fountain** at the top of **Wimbledon Hill Road**.

On the day they also had a private visit to **Wimbledon Museum**, and learnt about the history of **Wimbledon!** (Photo right: Simran cutting the ribbon. The women to the right of the fountain are Toynbee's great granddaughters)

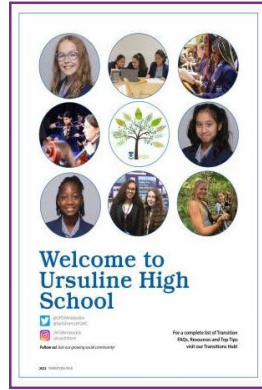


**Follow us!**  
Join our growing digital community!  
Instagram: [@uhssixthform](https://www.instagram.com/uhssixthform)  
Twitter: [@SixthFormUHSWC](https://twitter.com/SixthFormUHSWC)

# Offer Day

On **1st March**, **Year 6 students** received their secondary school offers for September 2023. We are sure our current Year 7 parents remember this day all too well! We look forward to welcoming our parents at our **New Intake Parents' Information Evening** on **Thursday 20th April** and our new students for their **Induction Day** on **Wednesday 5th July**.

If you are a current Ursuline parent with a child transitioning to Year 7, we can't wait for them to join the Ursuline Community, they have a wonderful experience ahead of them. A reminder that a variety of helpful transitions information is available on our **Transitions Hub** on our website. If you're reading this online visit our [Transitions Hub](#).



# T Level Opening



On **10th February** we celebrated the official opening of our **T Level buildings; St Anne's and Katherine Johnson**- which are a wonderful addition to our **T Level facilities!** It was a great morning! If you're reading this online view full story on our Instagram [here!](#)

# Sylvia



Students got the chance to see **Sylvia** at **The Old Vic** this half term! The production famously tells the revolutionary story of activist **Sylvia Pankhurst**. A must watch!

# Sustainability!



**Year 5** students from **Merton** primary schools; St Thomas of Canterbury, St John Fisher and St Teresa's, took part in **Creative Arts Day** at our school this half term. Students participated in a variety of activities in Drama, Art and Music on the theme of **'Sustainability'**- looking at used materials and the impact of recycling on the environment!

# Merici Choir!



Our amazing **Year 12 Merici Singers** put on some great performances at the **St Cecilia Concert** this half term! We particularly loved the rendition of **I Can't Help Falling in Love With You** (Hugo Peretti, Luigi Creatore and George David Weiss).

# Peldon Rose



On **Wednesday 8th March** **Year 12 T Level students** and some **Year 10** students enjoyed a trip to local engineering, construction and interior design company; **Peldon Rose**. Students had an insightful day and the company have offered apprenticeship and internship programmes to apply for once students finish Year 13.

# Avila Lambeth



On **Monday 13th March** the **Avila Partnership** launched **Avila Lambeth** an exciting new partnership with **Bishop Thomas Grant** and **Corpus Christi Primary School**. BTG and Corpus Christi are the lead schools facilitating a cohort of 28 aspiring Senior Leaders on the **NPSL (National Professional Qualification in Senior Leadership)**. Further information is available on the 'News' section of our website, if you're reading this online [click here](#).

# Creative Change Conference!



**Year 12** student leaders loved the **"Creative Change Movers for Challenging Times"** youth conference held at **Mulberry High School for Girls** this half term. An inspiring panel of speakers provided and thoroughly engaging workshops. Thank you for the

# St Cecilia Concert



On **Tuesday 14th March**, we held our **St Cecilia Concert**, with students sharing a wonderful array of musical gifts and talents. From a Year 8 choir performance of **Happy** (Pharrell Williams) and solo of **Hallelujah** (Leonard Cohen), to a pianist performance of **Mazurka in G Minor** (Chopin), (pictured, left). Thank you to our community for your attendance!

# Sixth Form Transitions



We held our **Sixth Form Transitions Evening** for **Year 10** this half term. The event provided students with clear insight into the process of applying to our **Sixth Form**, and why they should do so!

# Jack Petchey Regionals

**Ezile** (10 Ursula) and **Emma** (10 Teresa) have been chosen to represent the school at the **Jack Petchey "Speak Out" Challenge** Regional Final on **Tuesday 28 March!** If you're reading this online view full story on our Instagram [here!](#)

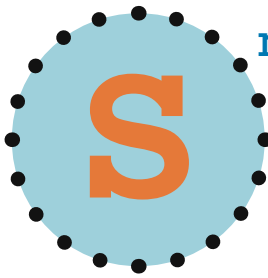


# Hola Barcelona!



Over half term, **Year 12** had the opportunity to visit **Barcelona** in sunny Spain. They had an action packed trip, including visiting the **Camp Nou stadium**- the home of **FC Barcelona** football team (pictured, left), and the **Montserrat Monastery**, If you're reading this online, view more pics on our [Sixth Form Instagram!](#)





netball tennis football athletics  
 rock climbing cross country  
 trampolining basketball hockey  
 dance duke of edinburgh award  
 wimbledon ball girls cycling

## Rock Climbing



Fantastic work from our **GCSE PE students** at their final **rock climbing session** before their moderation. Thank you to all of the instructors at **White Spider Climbing Centre** for all of their help. (pictured, left).

Good bit of practice on the climbing wall this half term with our **Year 11 GCSE PE students** getting prepped and ready for our **Pearson Edexcel Moderation** (pictured right).

## Netball



Amazing work from our **Year 7 Netball teams** on **9th March** playing **St Cecilia's!**

Two close games but unfortunately losing both in the end. Terrific play and teamwork from all.

**Players of the Match:**  
 Georgina and Pietra



## DofE Silver Expeditions



**DofE** planning with our **silver qualifying groups** has been going well this half term. Above, students were hard at work route planning for their forthcoming expedition in the Easter holidays - with *Wimbledon College, Ricards Lodge, and Rutlish* schools! Enjoy everyone!

## Cheer Fest



On **Tuesday 28th March**, students took part in a **Cheer Fest** with *St Ursula's Convent School, Greenwich*. Students spent the afternoon practising a variety of cheerleading routines and taking part in a stunt workshop. They all had a great time and we were impressed at the level of skill students have shown! Cheer-tastic!

## Bike-ability



We noticed some bike activity on Crescent Road this half term! **Cycle training** a part of our **P.E curriculum** and it is so important- as not only is it great for fitness and mental health, but it equips our young people with a great life skill, and enables them to cycle more safely, and confidently, on London's roads.