

# Year 8 Update

See page 2 for  
a snapshot  
of upcoming  
events!



## Spring Term B 2023

### Dear Parents / Carers,

Year 8 has had an excellent half term, and students have continued living out Serviam, accumulating 1,189 Serviam passport entries between them – a phenomenal demonstration of their commitment to the school's core values. We were also thrilled to see the large number of Year 8s taking part in the St Cecilia Concert, a wonderful occasion and the students sung beautifully. Thanks to the many parents who came to support.

Ash Wednesday marked the beginning of the liturgical season of Lent and our Lenten programme, starting with students receiving their ashes at our Ash Wednesday Service. During this liturgical season, Christians focus on 3 key areas: Prayer, Repentance and Giving and Year 8 students have been participating in various activities in the last 4 weeks to live out these areas: students were offered the opportunity to take part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, supported the Wimbledon Foodbank, recognised and gave thanks to those people in our school community who support and help us by writing messages to them, and took part in a "digital detox" where lessons did not incorporate their laptop. Students have ended Spring B with their Easter liturgies, in which they behaved with the upmost reverence and respect.

The Year 8s are also doing well with their Philanthropy Project. Each class has now met with their charity representative to learn more about their chosen charity, and they have started to run initiatives and raise lots of money. For example, 8 Francis are supporting a charity which works with homeless people and gives them opportunities in the arts. The students took part in the charity's "share a smile" project and drew postcards to send to the homeless centre we work with locally. They drew some wonderful pictures of hope. Some students in 8 Catherine braved a cold day to have a cake sale in their local park, Amelie A, Chloe, Vittoria, Alicia SD, and Keira (8 Catherine) did a sponsored 7 mile walk in Richmond Park, while Abi B in 8 Ursula has been busy baking and raising lots of funds for the Royal Marsden. There are lots of other fundraising activities going on, with 8 Francis currently in the lead. Well done everyone for engaging so well with the needs of others in our local community. You're all living out Serviam wonderfully.

We were delighted to see so many students participating in Multicultural Evening, where many cultures were celebrated through dance, singing and the sharing of delicious food. It was lovely to see so many Year 8s – and their families - celebrating their cultures together. We were pleased to see so many parents engaging in our Academic Review days as our term has come to an end, we hope you have found them informative. Congratulations to Year 8 on a brilliant Spring Term! We look forward to what the Summer Term brings with many more events and activities scheduled including the 132<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the school, as well as UHS Fest and Sports Day planning in the works.

We wish you and your families a healthy, happy, and blessed Easter, and look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April. Thank you as always for your continued support.

Kind Regards,  
**Miss Guiheen & Miss Smith**  
(Heads 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](#)!*

## Students' Achievements

**Year 8 Total Rewards: 11841**

### 1 - Most Rewards:

1. Georgia H: 91
2. Bethany M: 89
3. Shannon M: 85

Congratulations to **8A** who are currently leading the way with **2252** Reward Points

### 2 – Highest Attendance:

There are currently **18** students in Year 8 who have **100%** attendance. Please do keep up the good work!

Congratulations to **8M** who lead the way with **95.82%** attendance.

### 3 – External Success:

Congratulations to **Elizabeth S** who was recently recognised through the Police cadets and attending an awards ceremony for her excellent bravery in alerting the police and waiting at the scene when witnessing a traffic incident. A massive well done from all of us and we cannot be prouder of your achievement.

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

## Spring B Highlights

- The start of Lent and Ramadan
- St Cecilia Concert
- Start of Philanthropy Project
- Multi-Cultural Evening
- School Council



**Philanthropy Fundraising**



**St Cecilia Concert**

# Year 8 Update



## Upcoming Events:

### April

- 1<sup>st</sup> April – Ski Trip to Austria
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Holidays
- 17<sup>th</sup> April – Return to School: Start of Summer A Term
- 18<sup>th</sup> April – Year 8 Parents' Revision Evening for Internal Exams
- 27<sup>th</sup> April – Year 8 Parents' Evening
- 28<sup>th</sup> April – Year 8 Philanthropy Grand Final



### May

- 1<sup>st</sup> May – School Closed for May Day Bank Holiday
- 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Year 8 Learning Conference
- 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Polish Constitutional Day
- 5<sup>th</sup> May – World Portuguese Language Day
- 8<sup>th</sup> May – Bank Holiday for King Charles III Coronation
- 10<sup>th</sup> May – Mental Health Awareness Week
- 18<sup>th</sup> May – Voluntary Mass for the Feast of the Ascension
- 19<sup>th</sup> May – Key Stage 3 Performance Showcase
- 29<sup>th</sup> May - 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Half Term

### Looking Ahead

- 5<sup>th</sup> June – School Returns
- 5<sup>th</sup> June – Year 8 End-of-Year Exam Week
- 5<sup>th</sup> June – World Environmental Day
- 30<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day
- 4<sup>th</sup> July – Year 8 Serviam Assembly; Hall
- 11<sup>th</sup> July – Year 8 Celebration; Hall
- 13<sup>th</sup> July – End of Year Concert
- 14<sup>th</sup> July – Sports Awards Dinner; Hall
- 17<sup>th</sup> July – Year 8 Residential / Choir Trip to Valkenburg
- 17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> July – UHS Fest Week
- 21<sup>st</sup> July – End of Term - Summer Holidays

*\*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

- 8<sup>th</sup> June: KS3 Relationships & Healthy Lifestyles Parental Workshop
- 19<sup>th</sup> June: Parent Workshop to support 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](https://self.merton.gov.uk/service/Pupil%20Premium%20and%20Free%20School%20Meals%20application)

### Additional Support



[Young Merton](#)

[Young Minds](#)

[Off The Record](#)

[Kooth](#)

[MindEd](#)

[e-wellbeing](#)

# 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 find helpful

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

- 8 Angela – [paula.thomas@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:paula.thomas@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk)
- 8 Bernadette – [geraldine.taylor@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:geraldine.taylor@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk)
- 8 Catherine – [gareth.davies@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:gareth.davies@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk)
- 8 Francis – [georgia.mcnichol@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:georgia.mcnichol@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk)
- 8 Margaret – [jacob.tyler@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:jacob.tyler@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk)
- 8 Teresa – [ronan.preastuin@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:ronan.preastuin@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk)
- 8 Ursula – [caroline.mccolgan@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:caroline.mccolgan@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk)

## **Heads of Year (Miss Guiheen / Miss Smith) 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.

[paige.smith@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:paige.smith@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk)

[erin.guiheen@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:erin.guiheen@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk)

[sarah.maccourt@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto: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](mailto:ITHelpdesk@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk) – for IT/Weduc/progresso/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 / Miss Smith