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26<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Headteacher's Weekly Roundup Spring A Week 3**

This week marks a very special day in the school calendar as we celebrate the Feast of St Angela Merici. St Angela who first formed the Company of St Ursula in Dezenzano, Italy in 1553. St Angela inspired a movement and a community which is alive and flourishing today across the world and especially for us in this part of South West London. St Angela Feast Day is this Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> January and in preparation for this day we held a series of Masses in our Local Parish Church of Sacred Heart. Thank you to all the staff and students who made this so special.

At this point in the year, we return to our core ethos and mission and consider what is truly distinctive about an Ursuline catholic education. Students were reminded of their pledge at the Commissioning Service and we recall the Mission Statement of the school;

*'Inspired by the life and work of St Angela, our Ursuline School commits itself to education for tomorrow's world within the dynamic tradition of catholic belief and practice. As a Christian community, characterised by a spirit of respect, trust and joy, we promote excellence in every aspect of life, thereby fully developing each individual.'*

### **Highlights of the week**

Thank you to all Student Leaders, Choir and Servers who prepared and participated in the Year Group Masses this week.

Year 11 Parents Evening was exceptional, thank you to all Parents and Carers who attended. The 97% attendance attests to home/school relationship. Responses to the mock and setting targets for the remaining terms ahead of this Summer's Public GCSE examinations.

Well done to the Year 10 students who participated in the Jack Petchey Speak Out challenge on Tuesday which according to Mrs Harrison was the 'best ever' at the school. High praise indeed.

### **Group 1 Winners**

Toni, Aitana, Sophia

### **Group 1 highly commended:**

Naomi and Sofiiia

### **Group 2 Winners**

Maia, Jada and Silvia

### **Group 2 highly commended:**

Selima and Amira

### **Focus areas for next week**

Keeping the area around lockers tidy and not discarding items on the tops of lockers for others to clear away.  
Referring difficulties in friendships to trusted adults in school (form tutors, PSAs and Heads of Year or any staff member) to avoid small conflicts escalating to situations which can be much more complicated to resolve and more challenging to move on from. Restorative Justice is the school approach to conflict management.

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**Voluntary Aided 11-18 Roman Catholic School for Girls**  
**Acting Headteacher: Mr Eoin Kelly**

Crescent Road, Wimbledon, London SW20 8HA  
020 8255 2688 / [www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](http://www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk)

**Some upcoming events & dates**

- Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January - 9 Angela Form Retreat in the Chapel, Period 1-2
- Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January - Years 7 & 8 Merton Borough Competition at Ricards Lodge 3.50-5.30pm
- 9 Bernadette Form Retreat in Chapel, Period 1-2
- Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January - 9 Catherine Form Retreat in the Chapel, Period 1-2
- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February - 9 Francis Form Retreat in the Chapel, Period 1-2
- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February - 9 Margaret Form Retreat in the Chapel, Period 1
- Chinese/Mandarin lessons at Kings College

**News and announcements**

On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> of January at 11:30am the Funeral Mass of our recently retired dear colleague Shirley Ward took place. Shirley’s family were very grateful for the presence of current and past colleagues who attended in large numbers. The School Choir performed beautifully, and the congregation hymn ‘Lord of the Dance’ was very moving at the end of the service.

May she rest in peace.

**Parent Resources**

[Newsletters](#) – school-wide and year group

**Images from the week**

**School Masses celebrating the Feast of St Angela Merici**





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### Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge



**Ursuline had excellent representation at the Surrey Schools Cross Country Competition lead by Merton Sports Partnership this weekend where two of our Year 7s, Beatriz and Sophia were lucky enough to meet Sir Mo Farah who was there to support the event**





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**Our new Volleyball Academy in Partnership with Little Giants Volleyball**



- [Arbor](#) - student records and reports
- [School Calendar](#)
- [CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal](#)
- [Catholic Life & Mission](#)
- [Curriculum Information](#)
- [Newsletters](#) – school-wide and year group
- [Heads’ Student Leadership Team Introduction Message](#)
- [Headteacher’s Weekly Roundups](#)
- [ParentPay](#) - lunch card top ups and other purchases
- [Parent Engagement & Communications overview](#)
- [Parent Portals](#) – Arbor, ParentPay, and Weduc – Parent Guides & FAQs
- [Safeguarding, Health & Well-being](#) (please note that this section is currently undergoing an overhaul).
- [Sancta Familia Consultation](#)
- [Term Dates 2023/2024](#)
- [Ursuline Directory](#)

Wishing you and your family a wonderful day on the Feast of St Angela this Saturday. She tells us *“I assure you that all the graces you ask of God will be given to you.”* (St Angela Merici Introduction to the Counsels.)

Yours faithfully

**Eoin Kelly**  
Acting Headteacher

