



The Gift of Community Giving



“Lives Not Knives would like to express our sincere gratitude to these amazing young women for their incredible work, They truly embodied the spirit of Lives Not Knives and brilliantly conveyed our ethos and mission statement.”

**Lives Not Knives
Ambassador**

We are so proud of **Year 8** for having put their heart and soul into their fundraising for their chosen charities in the **First Give Philanthropy project**. Students start working on this special project in Spring Term, and it is taught across PSHEC, Music and RE lessons with the aim to help our students understand about social justice and live out Catholic Social Teaching. Every year, Year 8 forms select a charity they feel strongly about and then sets about creating a plan as to how to best assist them, raising awareness, and money for their chosen charity. This then culminates in the Grand Final held on *Friday 26th April*, when each class makes a pitch to a panel in order to win an additional £1000 for their charity.

This year the charities selected were **Angela:** Jigsaw 4 U, **Bernadette:** Safer London, **Catherine:** Lives Not Knives, **Francis:** The Royal Marsden, **Margaret:** Hestia, **Teresa:** STEM4, and **Ursula:** Faith In Action.

Students worked extremely hard thinking up a variety of ways to support their charities; including many cake sales in the community, sponsored walks/runs, selling crochet animals and friendship bracelets and a sponsored silence.

Each form group then each created fantastically persuasive pitches as to why their charities would make the best use of the £1000 prize, which they eagerly presented to judges at the Grand final, displaying their hard work, and dedication to the cause over the past few months. It was a very close call, however after much deliberation from the judges **8 Catherine** were deemed winners of the £1000 prize, to help their charity **'Lives Not Knives'**. Their powerful presentation really drove home the message of how knife crime is devastating out communities depicted in a creative animation, and what this amazing youth led charity does to prevent knife crime. In light of the current situation facing our young people we are sure that this will be well utilized.

As a year group, Year 8 have smashed previous year's fundraising, raising a grand total of **£8,200**, with **8 Francis** raising a total of **£2267** (another record)! Amazing. Thank you to all the parents who have helped support the Year 8s in their fundraising. We are very proud of Year 8's passion and perseverance!



headlines



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Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

We reach the mid point of the final school term with public examinations firmly underway. The students in Year 13 and 11 have been role models to all the other years in their preparation and measured approach to the examinations. We continue to support all students in managing this season and continue to keep them in our prayers and wish them well in their preparations for the next papers. All other students in the school are also, either preparing for, or undertaking internal examinations across the Summer Term, already Year 7 finishing their exams at the end of Summer A. We look forward to celebrating the progress and achievements in Summer B and setting targets for next steps improvement in learning. As an Ursuline school alive with the spirit of St Angela we recall her words, "you need not be anxious if you do your best". 5th Counsel, and "I shall be in your midst praying with you". 9th Counsel

There's lots to celebrate and be proud of in the pages of this Inform and each of the Year groups news letters, please take time to read through these to share in the joy and achievements of our incredible community built on the efforts of our students. Whether it be in acts of Worship/Liturgy, Serviam, Sport, Music, Drama, Curriculum, Writing, Leadership or Sporting success, please take time to review this with your daughter (son) to ensure that they are aware, and are availing, of the opportunities and enrichment on offer at the Ursuline high School.

Next term is once again packed with a calendar of events and enrichment opportunities. Note these events and dates in the Year Newsletters and please reach out to the school if you feel they could be more involved and we will assist in monitoring this involvement.

Thank you to you and your families for all your continued support, understanding, prayers and encouragement.

Eoin Kelly

Headteacher



Good Luck Year 11!



Year 11 students received a lovely send off on Friday with our annual clap out by Year 7 and Year 10. This followed on from their **Thanksgiving and Gratitude service** held on Wednesday, and a Friday morning filled with shirt signing, staff well wishes, and



more than a few tears. Thank you, Year 11, for your many contributions to our Ursuline Community over the past 5 years, and wishing you all the best in your exams as they start this week. We're sure **Ursuline Sixth Form** are looking forward to seeing many of you back in September. And we will see you on Results Day for those GCSE grades!

Create and STEM Days

Local primary schools paid us a visit to take part in a **Create Day** on the theme of "Sustainability" this half term. Art, Drama, and Music looked at used materials and the impact of recycling on the environment. A fun and educational day was had by all!

On 17th May, primary school students also took part in a **STEM Day**, with Biology, Chemistry, and Maths departments!



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

Teacher Training

Avila Partnership run the **NPQLT face to face Apply Day** on 30th April with 21 participants from schools across London. The day was facilitated by *Collette Farley* and *Owen Nicholls*, senior leaders at Ursuline High School. The participants found the session



engaging and inspiring. The course is a key driver for leadership development in schools. Avila is also running the **NPQLBC**, **NPQSL** and **NPQH**. The next cohort of courses starts in **November 2024**, and it is advised to [register](#) early for a free place.

Jesus Christ Superstar



On Wednesday 15th May, **Year 7** and **Year 8** students had the opportunity to watch **Jesus Christ Superstar** at the **Wimbledon Theatre**.

A great time was had by all!

Career Workshops



Year 7 students participated a **National Careers Challenge** this half-term where they had to identify local business and propose transition from fossil fuel to hydrogen driven auto transport. At the end of the day selected groups had to present their project in front of judges. Congratulations to the winning team (*Ariella, Bella, Cara, Claudia, Clodhna, and Maddison* (7B) (left).

Year 10 students participated in a **Stocks & Shares challenge** this half-term where they were given particular amount of money to trade on stock market. Second part of the challenge was to work on a project of attracting investors to their fund. At the end of the day selected groups presented their projects in front of judges. Congratulations to the winning team; *Zofia B, Evie H-J, Orlaith L, Sadie R, Rebecca M, Gaia L, Emma C*(10M) & *Lilliana S*(10T) (above) for the best overall presentation.



Young Writer

Congratulations to *Karolina D* 10 who was announced the overall winner of **The Young Writers 'The Glitch' competition** with her fantastic entry. Well done!

Music Workshop



We thank *Grace Feltoe* of **Gloria Dei: The Musica Sacra Project** for providing students with a **Sacred Music Workshop** in our Chapel on **Thursday 25th April**.



Ursuline
SIXTH FORM
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Belong and Succeed



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BOOK FROM
9th July - 19th Sept!

Limited Availability!



Open Events 2024



PLEASE ONLY SIGN UP TO ONE EVENT! NO TICKET - NO ENTRY!

Open Events 2024: Our main school Open Evening will be held at UHS on **Wednesday 25th September 2024** with Open Mornings on **Monday 30th September - Friday 4th October 2024**. This will be an exciting time for prospective parents (and any current parents with Year 5 or 6 children) to view the school and get a taste of Ursuline Education. **Tickets will be available** to book from **9th July -19th September** via our [website](#).

Feast of Ascension

On **Thursday 9th May** we celebrated the solemn **Feast of the Ascension** which accounts for Jesus' ascension into heaven following his crucifixion and Jesus' promise to remain with us always. We marked the occasion with Mass in our chapel, celebrated by **Fr. Matthew of Sacred Heart Parish**.



Ski Trip 2024



Over the Easter Holidays students took part in the annual **Ski Trip to Austria**. Students had an amazing few days. The groups were of mixed ski ability, and after a challenging few days on the slopes, all students came away from the trip with a greater level of knowledge, and skills!

Year 13 Celebration



Year 13 enjoyed an emotional last day on **Wednesday 8th May** with their last official assembly, in which they heard from **Mr Kelly**, **Ms Hollis**, and my Head Leadership Team and were presented with various awards and accolades. Congratulations to **Donita** who was presented with the very special **Serviam Award**. The Year 13's last day was brought to a close with a poignant **Year 13 Leavers Mass** and celebration at **Sacred Heart Church** with our Ursuline Community which was greatly enjoyed by all.



Sea Cadets

Year 12 kicked off the summer term with an inspiring talk from **Mr. Kelly** and **Akua**, highlighting the power of resilience! Resilience is our Catholic virtue focus this term, and we're excited to continue to see how our students embrace its importance. Let's tackle challenges head-on and grow stronger together!



Healthcare

Shining Bright! Our incredible **T Level Health** students thrived during their recent work placements. They've truly made us proud with their dedication and enthusiasm!



Going Overseas!

Huge congratulations to our **T Level** student, **Kyra**, on securing a place at **Harvard Summer School** in Boston to study forensics for a week this summer! This is a wonderful achievement and opportunity. **Kyra**, you should be incredibly proud of yourself. We, as a sixth form, are bursting with pride.

Young Reporter Winner



Congratulations to **Giulia C** (Year 12) has won an award for best sixth-form reporter in the **Guardian Young Reporter** journalism scheme. Giulia has impressed the judges with her array of articles which covered "Galentines' Day" (for the celebration of female friendship).

Balliol College, Oxford



On **Tuesday 14th May** we took 57 **Year 12** and **Year 10's** to visit **Balliol College** in **Oxford**. To give students on the **Oxbridge** and **Outstanding Attainer** programme a taste of what further education at prestigious institutions, such as Oxford is like. Read the full story [here](#).



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

Borough Athletics



A huge well done to our **Year 7-10 Athletics Team** who competed in the **Merton Borough Athletics Competition** at the **David Weir Leisure Centre, Carshalton** on **9th and 10th May**. Phenomenal wins in their 100m and 300m heats respectively, *Iliana* and *Silvia*.

And a Gold Medal for our Junior Girls 4x100m relay team!!!

Overall results:

Y7s: 3rd

Y8/9: 2nd

Y10: 3rd

A great achievement!



A huge well done to our **Year 7-10 Athletics Team!**

Basketball Win



Wednesday Winners 21-38 with our **U15 Basketballers** in action at **Ricards Lodge** on **3rd May**.

Fantastic team work all round from everyone.

Well done.

Player of the Match: Stephanie

Tennis Season Begins!



Smashing start for our **Y9/10 Tennis Team** with a solid 4-8 Win away at **Tiffin Girls School** in the **LTA Surrey Schools Div2D** on **30th April**.

Then on **2nd May**, more brilliant tennis from our **U15 Surrey Div2D** team winning 4-8 away at Priorsfield School. Some excellent rallies played by everyone!! Well done!

DofE Celebrate



A great day at **Buckingham Palace** on **13th May**, celebrating the achievements of young people who competed their **Gold DofE awards**. Including our very own Merton 'gold' student. Congratulations to all those who completed!

Students have also spent time exploring the **North Downs** on their **DofE Bronze** expeditions this half term.

Football Friday!



It was Football Friday on **3rd May!** U15 Squad out for some **Summer League football** away at **Ricards Lodge High School**. Some great play from everyone out there, but a 5-2 loss to finish the week. Goals: Izzy G x2.