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18<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Headteacher's Weekly Roundup Autumn A Week 7**

It has been another packed week of activities and successes in what is an unusually long half-term. This week we welcomed Governors to the school with a focus on the curriculum, which involved meeting and discussing progress with our students.

We were delighted to receive the following message from the Ursuline School in New Rochelle, New York, "Our thanks again for organizing and hosting the AI: Brave New World virtual conference last Thursday. The Ursuline School was honored to be invited and our Global Scholars program students found it to be most valuable. We incorporated our delegates' summary statement into the following e-article that went out to our entire school community this past weekend along with some photos. Also included is a reflective quote from Katie, one of our Seniors". [Examining the implications of artificial intelligence \(AI\)](#)

### ***Did you know we have an active presence on Instagram?***

Do give us a follow to access our visual window into the enriching experiences, accomplishments, and opportunities the main school and Sixth Form students are engaging in. You'll find us [@uhswimbledon](#) and [@uhssixthform](#). Give us a Follow.

### **Highlights of the week**

We are incredibly proud of Ema, one of our amazing Year 12 students! As part of the senior GB development squad for gymnastics, she travelled to Leverkusen, Germany, last week and competed for England. Ema and the GB team clinched **gold!** This was the 47<sup>th</sup> International Leverkusen Cup at the Ostermann Arena, a spectacular event featuring the best Olympic gymnastics athletes. Gymnasts from nine teams across seven nations battled it out in front of 1,200 excited spectators. Well done, Ema! You are an inspiration to us all.



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

Standards of work need to be sustained right up to the end of a very long half-term. Full attendance and punctuality with no drop in standards of application and behaviour will ensure it has been a very successful half-term of work.





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### Some upcoming Events & Dates

School production rehearsals

- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> : Black History Month trip to Wimbledon AELTC – Trailblazers in Tennis - Project looking at Black tennis players who paved the way in their tennis careers at Wimbledon  
T-level University of Kent trip (7:40am to 4:00pm)  
Y7 Showcase Concert in Main Hall (7:00-8:00pm)
- Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> : Early School Closure for Academic Review Day (12:50pm)  
GCSE Maths Resit in K1&K2; Walking Talking Mock (1.30-3.20pm)
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> : Academic Review Day  
English language GCSE Resit in K1 & 2 (9.30-11.30am)

### News and announcements

**Academic Review Days (ARD)** The first ARDs for this academic year will take place next Thursday 24th October (P5&6) and Friday 25th October (all day) and each family will have their meeting during this time. Appointments for Year 7 are in person at school, all other year group meetings will take place online. During both ARDs, students' "normal lessons" are suspended to accommodate appointments for every child and students will be dismissed at lunchtime on Thursday. However, if you would like your daughter to be supervised at school during normal school hours on either or both days, then you may request this. [SchoolCloud](#) opened for Bookings on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October. If you haven't already booked your slot please do so. Further details can be found in the communication sent from Mr Glavina on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October. **Year 7, 10 & 12 Student photographs** purchased through Happy Days Photography at the beginning of term have arrived and will be distributed via tutor groups for students to bring home by the end of next week.

### Parent Resources

We have long-established companies who let our facilities, one of these partners is Playfit. Please see the details below about the evening offer available at the school through this company. PlayFit Sports Club offer after-school volleyball, basketball and badminton classes for children aged 9-18. Experienced coaches will guide students through essential skills, teamwork, and game strategies, helping them to build confidence and stay active. No prior experience is necessary, all skill levels are welcome. For more details and to register, please visit the juniors sports page (<https://playfit.co.uk/w/juniors/>). For adults volleyball, basketball and badminton coaching and games sessions please see details and book on the adults sports page (<https://playfit.co.uk/w/play/>).

### Catholic Life of the School

Last weekend, we welcomed two members of staff from The Ursuline Academy in St Louis, Missouri (USA), a new connection forged as part of the Ursuline Education Network. We look forward to developing more links across the Atlantic as we journey in developing and celebrating our unique ethos and shared values imbued to our Global network by St Angela Merici. Visit our school [website](#) to read more about what we currently do to embed our Catholic Ethos into school life.





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

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



(Left) Year 12 students attended the Day of the Girl Conference at the prestigious *Queen Elizabeth II Conference Hall* in Westminster, in collaboration with the Mulberry School this week.

(Right) Ema who won Gold with the senior gymnastics GB development squad in Leverkusen Germany. recently.



Congratulations goes to our Year 9 Netball Team who are Merton Borough Netball Champions for 2024 after winning the final held at Ricards Lodge this week!  
(Top, left).

U14 Footballers winning 9-0 away at Harrodian School (Surrey Cup Round 1) (Top, right).

U16 Footballers winning 10-0 away at Ashcombe School (Surrey Cup Round 1) (Left).



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Food Preparation and Nutrition students have been learning about gluten formation this week and have made some homemade pasta!



**Quick Links**

- [Arbor](#) - student records and reports
- [Catholic Life & Mission](#)
- [Curriculum Information](#)
- [Newsletters](#) – school-wide, year group, and Catholic Life
- [Headteacher’s Weekly Roundups](#)
- [ParentPay](#) - lunch card top ups and other purchases
- [Parent Calendar 2024-25](#)
- [Parent Engagement & Communications overview](#)
- [Parent Portals](#) – Arbor and ParentPay – Parent Guides & FAQs
- [Safeguarding, Health & Well-being](#) (please note that this section is currently undergoing an overhaul).
- [Sancta Familia Consultation](#)
- [Term Dates 2024/2025](#)
- [Ursuline Directory](#)

Have a restful weekend

Yours faithfully

**Eoin Kelly**  
**Headteacher**

