



20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers.

## Headteacher's Weekly Roundup Summer B, Week 3

The external examinations for GCSEs, A Levels and T Level exams have now finished.

On Thursday, despite the suffocating heat, we enjoyed a wonderful evening of celebration in the school marking the completion of KS4 by the Year 11 students. The sun was out and the students and their families enjoyed the reception and then formal prize giving marking this momentous occasion at the end of the GCSE exam season. The atmosphere was joyful and was hosted skilfully by our student leadership team, a student led event by and for students. The highlight of the evening was a most inspirational speech by one of our alumnae and ex-Head Girl Tishtrya Mehta-Jamooji who discussed her pathway as she explored her passion for mathematics and astrophysics into the field of solar astronomy and data analytics in public service.

I opened the evening speaking to parents and carers saying "first of all - these students, your daughters, you should be very proud as we are, because this group have been, brave, resilient and committed. They have trusted their teachers and followed their advice and tonight we celebrate this together ahead of the summer results". School memories are punctuated with milestone events and this felt like one for everyone present.

Thank you to all the staff who worked hard behind the scenes and stayed late into the day to make this such a fantastic evening.

The school is now gearing up for their transition day next Wednesday as well as making all the necessary arrangements for the post-examination support and enrolment.

## Highlights of the week

On Monday, a Year 12 delegation attended a prestigious Wimbledon Bookfest event with Jacinda Ardern as keynote speaker. Fiona Razvi, the Festival Director, emailed me saying, "it was so good to see the staff and the UHS students at the event with Jacinda Ardern and to have Erin [UHS student] open the panel discussion- a very special event". Bookfest received really strong feedback from the panel on how excellent out student engagement was.

#### Focus areas for next week

Students are not allowed to "gather" after school. The agreement of expectations is very clear and unambiguous. Students are expected to go directly home to and from school, not to get something to eat, go to shops or meet friends. The school policies and expectations apply to the travel part of the student day and any behaviour which contravenes this expectation will be sanctioned. If students behaviour or activities bring the school into disrepute, the sanctions are significant.

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It has been evident from the school's investigation into some poor behaviour, that some parents and carers may be unaware to the risks posed to students in assembling and gathering outside of school. Some parents and carers have been shocked at the levels of danger and risks their children may be exposed to when they are not being adequately supervised outside school.

## **Upcoming events & dates**

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June
9am-4.45pm, Yr 12 Orbtys Project at Wimbledon High School
4.45-5.45pm, Information Evening Normandy Trip
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June
1.35-3.20pm, Year 8 Wimbledon History Walk
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June
9.30am-2.30pm, Sixth Form Transition Day and Taster Lessons
3.50-6.30pm, Year 10 Parents Evening in the Hall
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June, Year 12 Trip to Southampton University
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June, Year 7-10 Sports Day at Weir Archer Athletics Track, Kingston (Year 12 lessons as normal)

# Parent and Carer Engagement

Keep an eye out for any vacancies available with us. We have successfully recruited several parents and carers onto both teaching and support staff roles. We will have some positions coming online this term so please follow the link to our website <u>Current Job Opportunities – Ursuline High School</u>

## Newsletters

Newsletters and updates at the end of Summer A Read them here.

## **Parenting Resources**

## Ofcom's Children and Parents: Media Use and Attitudes Report

With children embracing social platforms and livestreaming from increasingly younger ages, Ofcom's recently launched <u>report</u> highlights some critical areas of concern – including online exposure, peer interactions and content-sharing habits.

Whether it is the rise in unsupervised screen time, the popularity of gaming with strangers, or the emotional toll of negative online exchanges, the 2025 findings are a timely reminder of the risks that continue to evolve in children's digital spaces. The <u>report</u> highlights the key statistics to help you navigate this complex landscape, stay on top of emerging trends, and identify where to focus your online safety efforts.







### Selection of images from the week

Recently a contingent of students attended the French Exchange to Largenté in South West France. During their visit the Ursuline students took the opportunity to visit Lourdes, a wonderful opportunity in the Pilgrimage year of Hope.





GCSE and A Level artists with work on display for the Arts Exhibition in St Angela's Centre this week. I was personally struck with the optimism of the themes and incredible range of techniques behind all the art pieces.

We also had our Year 10 sketchbooks on display which were outstanding; the Art Department are very excited to see what these students develop into their Year 11 projects next year with natural themes apparent.

Well done to all the artists not only for the grades these pieces will be rewarded with but also from enriching everyone with your talent.



Year 10 enjoyed taking part in the National Grid Workshop on Wednesday!





























We are delighted to invite our Ursuline community to our summer concert! **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 7pm** (start time) in the main hall. Tickets can be purchased via MS Form.

40 of our Year 12 students heard Jacinda Ardern in conversation with Afua Hirsch at Wimbledon High School for Wimbledon Bookfest this week. Erin H, was lucky enough to be on the student interview panel and got to ask her questions to Jacinda. An inspiring day! A powerful reminder of leadership, resilience and purpose. "Optimism is expecting the world should be better, optimism is expecting that your leader should do a better job than they're doing now and optimism is what keeps hope alive". Jacinda Ardern













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With the GCSEs coming to an end, we held a wonderful celebration evening for Year 11 on Thursday. Students, staff, and parents/carers gathered in the quad for drinks, nibbles, and Year 11 ensured they captured those all-

important dress photos – before the awards ceremony in the hall. Well done Year 11.









SCHOOL AWARD





















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Wishing you and your family an enjoyable weekend. Yours faithfully,

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Eoin Kelly Headteacher













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