



**Ursuline**  
**SIXTH FORM**  
WIMBLEDON  
**Belong and Succeed**

# Newsletter

Issue 6: Spring Term 2025

Instagram: [@uhsixthform](https://www.instagram.com/uhsixthform)

## Welcome ...

to our **Ursuline Sixth Form Newsletter**.

***A community where you can truly belong and succeed***



Hello everyone, and welcome back! We hope you all had a restful and joyful Easter break.

As we reflect on the Spring Term, it's been a truly memorable and enriching few months at Ursuline Sixth Form. From cultural celebrations to personal development and unforgettable experiences, we're so proud of what our community has achieved.

Year 12 kicked off the term with an incredible cultural trip to Barcelona – a three-night adventure packed with sightseeing, team bonding, and lifelong memories. From the iconic football stadium to the breathtaking Montserrat Abbey, it was a perfect opportunity for our year group to unite and explore together.

We also marked International Women's Day with an inspiring event, as four of our alumnae returned to Ursuline to share their career journeys and the powerful message of female empowerment. Their talks resonated deeply, especially as they highlighted the strength and ambition needed to thrive in male-dominated fields. A huge thank you to Year 12 for providing delicious homemade bakes to make the day even more special!

A beloved tradition was also revived this term – World Book Day dress-up! The school was bursting with creativity as students and staff alike brought their favourite characters to life. It was heartwarming to see literature uniting all year groups and reminding us of the magic that books bring.

One of our proudest moments this term was helping to organise Culture Day alongside the incredible Culture Team. The school came alive with brilliant colours, traditions, and performances from all around the world. It was a day of celebration, unity, and pride in our diverse community. We're honoured to have played a part in creating such a legacy. Earlier in the term, we were officially commissioned as the Head Girl Team in a beautiful service at Sacred Heart Church. It was a truly special moment for us, and we felt incredibly privileged to speak to the school community for the first time in our new roles.

We've also seen the launch of Year 12 Societies this term, with thanks to Ms Harrison. These groups have offered a refreshing break from academic studies, allowing students to bond over shared interests, explore passions, and develop key skills that will benefit us beyond Sixth Form.

On the sporting front, Year 12 have done an amazing job representing Ursuline in local Netball matches, showing dedication, teamwork, and living out our Serviam values with pride.



## ***A message from the Sixth Form Team: Easter, Values, and Virtues***

As we come to the end of the Spring Term, it's important to take a moment to reflect on the spiritual significance of this season in our school calendar. Lent is a time of preparation, reflection, and renewal – a period that invites us to pause, reconsider our priorities, and embrace growth, both individually and as a community.

In the Sixth Form, we've seen this spirit embodied in many ways: through students' selfless acts of service, their dedication to personal development, and their support for one another. Whether it's through leadership roles, participation in school life or our enrichment programme, or simply showing kindness on a daily basis, our students have truly embraced the values of Serviam. This term, we've also been reflecting on our Sixth Form virtues. For Year 13, our focus has been on gratitude – recognising the importance of appreciating those around us and the opportunities we've been given, especially as this final chapter of school life begins to close. For Year 12, our virtue has been attentiveness – encouraging students to be present, engaged, and mindful in their learning and relationships. These virtues have guided our actions and choices, helping to shape a more reflective and purposeful Sixth Form community.

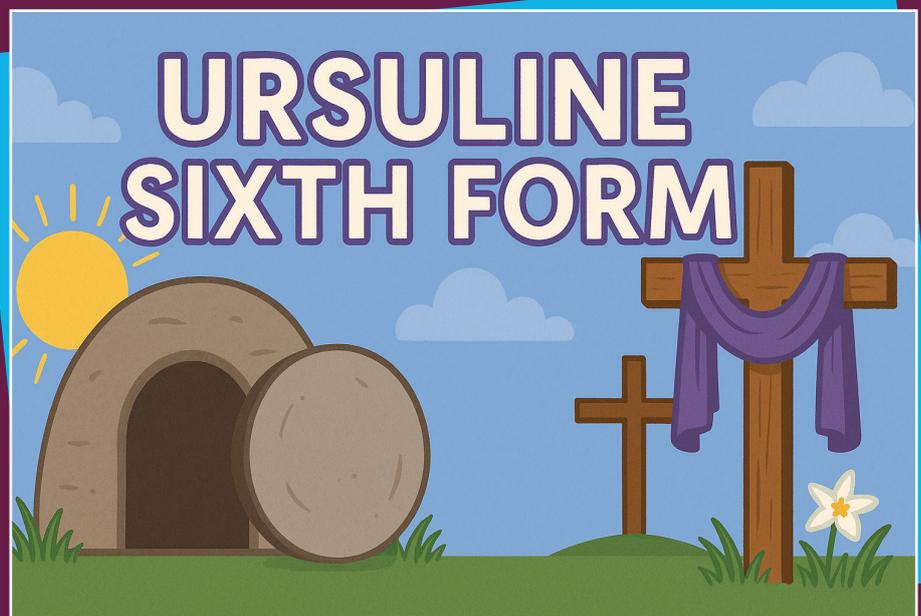
Easter, at its heart, is a celebration of hope and new beginnings. It reminds us that, even in challenging times, there is always the promise of renewal. As our Year 13 students prepare for the final stretch of their journey and our Year 12s continue to grow into their roles as leaders and role models, we carry that message of hope with us.

May the Easter season inspire all of us to continue striving to be our best selves – to lift one another up, to act with compassion, and to keep faith in the journey ahead.

Wishing you all a peaceful Easter and a joyful return for the summer term.

**Mr B Ryan**

**Assistant Headteacher, Sixth Form**



## Why Choose Ursuline High School Sixth Form?

### A Catholic Community Welcoming All

We welcome students of all faiths and none, promoting inclusivity, tolerance, and respect within a supportive, caring community that values diversity.

### Diverse Pathways

We offer A-Levels and T Levels, preparing students for university, further education, apprenticeships, or training.

### Oxbridge & Medics Programmes

Our Programmes includes tailored support, events, speakers, trips, weekly classes, and mock interviews.

### Outstanding Results

In 2024, nearly 30% of all A-Level grades were A\* or A, with 13 students achieving straight A\* or As. Additionally, 88% of T Level students achieved Distinction-Merit.

### Impressive Destinations

In 2023/2024, 36% of our Year 13 students went to Russell Group universities, and 55% went to Sutton Trust institutions.

### Partnership with Wimbledon College

This partnership provides access to more courses and fosters friendships and understanding between students from both schools.

### Comprehensive Curriculum

Our curriculum goes beyond results, focusing on deepening students' knowledge and enabling them to tackle challenging concepts.



**100%**

*of students agree high standards of work are expected by their subject teachers*

\* Sixth form Teaching & Learning survey 2025

100% of Year 13 and 99.6% of Year 12 respondents agreed/strongly agreed

**99%**

*of students agree questioning in class is challenging and deepens their knowledge and understanding*

\* Sixth form Teaching & Learning survey 2025

99% of Year 13 and 98% of Year 12 respondents agreed/strongly agreed

## Why Choose Ursuline High School Sixth Form? cont.

### State of the Art Facilities

We have two dedicated Sixth Form centres, including the newly opened Katherine Johnson building for our T Level students.

### Personal Development

We offer numerous opportunities beyond the classroom, including societies, a prefect system, leadership training, and community service programs.

### Enrichment Opportunities

These include the Duke of Edinburgh Award, Covent Garden Challenge, and Guardian Young Writer's Scheme.

### Dedicated Careers Programme

This supports students with long-term career development.

### Engaging PSHEC Curriculum

Our curriculum prepares students for life in modern Britain and beyond.

### Increased Independence

Facilities include a dedicated common room and two cafés.

### Empowerment and Success

Our aim is for every student to leave feeling empowered and ready to succeed in higher education and their chosen careers.

99%

*of students agree their subjects encourage them to think hard and grasp difficult concepts*

\* Sixth form Teaching & Learning survey 2025

99% of both Year 12 & Year 13 respondents agreed/strongly agreed

99%

*of students agree they are set appropriate and challenging homework*

\* Sixth form Teaching & Learning survey 2025

99% of Year 12 and 98% of Year 13 respondents agreed/strongly agreed



## Enriching Experiences

### **Year 12 Barcelona Trip: A Journey of Culture, Faith and Lasting Memories**

For the third year running, our Year 12 students were given the exciting opportunity to experience life beyond the classroom on an unforgettable international trip to Barcelona - a city rich in culture, faith, and history. Over the course of four days and three nights, students experienced the very best of what this vibrant destination had to offer, creating incredible memories and deepening their appreciation of the world around them.

Day One set the tone for the adventure ahead, as students settled into their accommodation and were immediately immersed in the heart of Spanish culture with a lively Flamenco dancing session. The energy and passion of this traditional art form offered a fun and engaging welcome to Barcelona and gave everyone a taste of the local spirit.

Day Two was a true highlight, as the group travelled to the breathtaking Montserrat Abbey, a site of immense spiritual and cultural significance. Nestled in the Catalanian mountains, this Benedictine monastery offered students a moment of reflection amidst stunning natural beauty. The visit provided not only historical insights but also an appreciation of the enduring religious virtues of faith, peace, and community that the Abbey represents. For many, it was a profound reminder of the spiritual dimension that underpins our school values.



## Enriching Experiences cont.



On Day Three, the group explored some of Barcelona's most iconic locations, including a visit to the legendary Nou Camp Stadium, where students got a behind the scenes look at one of football's most celebrated arenas via their immersive experience. The day continued with free time to explore Las Ramblas, Barcelona's bustling central street known for its shops, food, and lively atmosphere.



The trip concluded on Day Four with a scenic walk through the enchanting Gothic Quarter, followed by visits to the picturesque marina and beachfront. The peaceful beauty of the sea and the charm of historic streets made for a perfect ending to an action-packed trip.

Throughout their time in Barcelona, students enjoyed delicious local cuisine, shared laughs, and forged deeper friendships — all while gaining valuable cultural and social experiences that will stay with them for years to come.

Here's to more journeys, discoveries, and unforgettable memories to come!



## Student Profiles



**Maissa**

One of the things I really appreciate about Ursuline is how much it values experiences beyond the classroom.

From opportunities like **Duke of Edinburgh** to the variety of **enrichment activities**, there's always something to help you grow and challenge yourself. The school also gives you a real sense of **responsibility and independence** - whether it's running a **student society** or taking on a **prefect role**, you're encouraged to lead and make an impact.

I've also loved the **amazing trips** we've had access to - visiting a **law firm**, attending a **politics conference**, and of course, international trips like **Barcelona**.

As someone who joined from another school, I felt so welcomed here. The environment is really supportive, and the teaching helps you push yourself while still feeling encouraged.

— Maissa (psychology, sociology, and politics)



**Ellen**

I study **Chemistry, PE, and Economics**, and I've really enjoyed how each subject is taught here - especially **Chemistry**.

With small class sizes and a high standard of teaching, we're able to properly consolidate our understanding before moving on, which has made a big difference to my confidence and progress.

Outside the classroom, I've loved being part of the new **Sixth Form Netball Team**. It's been a great way to take a break from academic work, and we've had the chance to play in competitive matches, representing Ursuline in a really positive way.

Being a **Sports Prefect** has also allowed me to get involved in the development of sport across the school. It's been a great leadership experience and has supported my learning in **PE A Level** too.

— Ellen (Chemistry, PE, and Economics)



**Danielle**

Hi, I'm **Danielle**, and I study **Biology, Chemistry, and Art**.

Returning to Ursuline for Sixth Form has been such a **nostalgic and positive experience**. I was welcomed back after leaving in Year 9 to move abroad by familiar faces - and it felt like I'd never left. While A Levels can be **challenging**, learning to manage my time has been key, and the support from teachers has been amazing. They've helped me stay on track with both my studies and my **mental wellbeing**.

One of my favourite things about Ursuline is how staff actively encourage everyone to get involved in **volunteering and work experience**. It's such a great way to build our CVs and prepare for the future.

With Ursuline, I genuinely feel like the path through Sixth Form is a great one - and I'm **excited to see where it leads**.

— Danielle (Art, Biology, and Chemistry)

## Sixth Form Highlights: Celebrating Diversity at Ursuline Sixth Form

### A Joyous Multi-Cultural Evening & Day

At Ursuline Sixth Form, we pride ourselves on being a vibrant and inclusive community - and this year's Multi-Cultural Evening and Day were a true celebration of everything that makes our school so special.



Following the **hugely successful Multi-Cultural Evening**, where families, students, and staff came together to showcase the richness of their backgrounds, our **Multi-Cultural Day** continued the celebrations with just as much energy, pride, and joy. From start to finish, both events were a heartfelt tribute to the diversity that lives at the very core of our sixth form.

The evening featured **incredible performances, traditional clothing, and a delicious variety of food** from around the world - all shared in a spirit of unity and mutual respect. It was inspiring to see students confidently take to the stage, representing their heritage through **music, dance, poetry, and storytelling**. Families joined in too, bringing a wonderful warmth to the night as cultures were not just presented, but shared and celebrated.

The celebrations carried into the next day, with **Multi-Cultural Day** transforming the school environment into a colourful and engaging space filled with opportunities to learn and connect. Classrooms and corridors echoed with conversations about different cultures, traditions, and identities, helping to develop a deeper understanding of each other's roots and experiences.



## Sixth Form Highlights: Celebrating Diversity at Ursuline Sixth Form

### A Joyous Multi-Cultural Evening & Day



What stood out most was the **genuine sense of community**. Students of all backgrounds came together not only to represent their own cultures, but to support, celebrate, and learn from one another's. These events are more than just fun - they're a reminder of the strength that lies in diversity, and the beauty of a school community where everyone belongs.

A huge thank you to every student, staff member, and family who took part, performed, cooked, presented, or simply showed up to support. Your contributions made these events truly special.

Let's carry this spirit of inclusivity and celebration with us throughout the year, continuing to embrace the cultures, stories, and people that make Ursuline Sixth Form such an extraordinary place to belong and succeed.



## *Celebrating the Joy of Reading on World Book Day*

### ***Sixth Form Leads the Way in Inspiring a Love for Literature***

What a fantastic celebration of World Book Day 2025 across Ursuline Sixth Form and the wider school community! This special day was filled with energy, creativity, and a shared love for books, as students and staff came together to highlight the importance of reading - not just as a skill, but as a lifelong passion.

Our Sixth Formers truly led the way, acting as role models for younger students and encouraging everyone to explore the joy that comes from getting lost in a good book. From thought-provoking discussions about favourite authors and genres, to light hearted costume moments and book-themed quizzes, the day offered something for everyone.

Beyond the fun, the heart of World Book Day at Ursuline was about reconnecting with reading - understanding how it feeds imagination, sharpens thinking, and opens doors to new perspectives. Whether students were revisiting childhood favourites or discovering new titles, the enthusiasm for storytelling was evident throughout the day.

A big thank you to everyone who got involved. Your creativity and commitment helped make the day memorable and meaningful. Let's continue to celebrate books every day, and keep inspiring one another to read, share, and grow through the power of words.



## Life At Ursuline Sixth Form



### The Importance of Being Earnest

On 2nd April, our English Literature students had the privilege of attending the National Theatre's production of *The Importance of Being Earnest*. From Oscar Wilde's wit to the incredible performances, the fantastic portrayal of Wilde's iconic characters gave our students fresh insights into the themes of identity, social expectations, and satire.



### Sixth Form AI Conference

In January, we welcomed students and staff from seven schools for an inspiring conference exploring democracy, truth, and the impact of AI and social media. With a fantastic lineup of speakers including MPs, local leaders, tech innovators, and communications experts, the day offered a range of perspectives and sparked rich discussion. Special thanks to Loredana Roberts for chairing and TEAM Global for their support.



### Feast of St. Angela

Our school gathered at Sacred Heart Church for a beautiful service celebrating the Feast of St. Angela. It was a time of reflection, prayer, and gratitude for her lasting legacy of compassion and education. The occasion was made extra special as we proudly commissioned our new Head Girl Team!



### Leadership Skills

Some of our amazing Year 12 leaders delivered heartfelt and inspiring assemblies to Year 11, sharing their experiences, insights, and advice. We're so proud of these outstanding young people who truly embody the values of the Ursuline Sixth Form.

## Life At Ursuline Sixth Form



### Apprenticeships Week

We were thrilled to welcome back Grace, one of our exceptional former students, for an inspiring Apprenticeships Week talk with Year 12 and Year 13. Now thriving in a Degree Apprenticeship with Ernst & Young in Tax Accountancy, Grace shared invaluable advice and real-world insights on balancing work and study.



### Celebration of the Arts

Ursuline Celebration of the Arts: A huge well done to our amazing Sixth Form students for their incredible performances during the Ursuline Celebration of the Arts at The Lantern Arts Centre, Raynes Park! Their passion, dedication, and talent lit up the stage.



### Hola Barcelona!

Our Year 12 students had an amazing time on their foreign trip to Barcelona! From exploring the city's rich culture to making unforgettable memories together, it was a fantastic experience all around. What a great way to learn, bond, and see the world!



### Quiz Bowl Competition

Some of our Year 12 students recently had a brilliant day at the Quiz Bowl competition at the American School in London, St John's Wood. Our dedicated team came incredibly close to the semi-finals - missing out by just one point! It was also a joy to connect with the fantastic team from Ursuline Academy Ilford, sharing a wonderful moment of Ursuline sisterhood.

## Life At Ursuline Sixth Form



### Passion For Physics

We were thrilled to welcome back alumna Tishtrya Mehta, who shared her passion for physics and planetary research with our Year 12 STEM students! From exploring the universe to uncovering the wonders of science, Tishtrya's journey is a powerful reminder that curiosity and determination can take you to the stars.



### International Women's Day

Ahead of International Women's Day, our Year 12 students attended a powerful and inspiring conference to mark the occasion. We were honoured to welcome four amazing Ursuline alumnae -from a MasterChef finalist to professionals in law, care, and education. Their stories of resilience and success were truly uplifting. Here's to celebrating women everywhere and empowering the next generation!



### Sixth Form Netballers

Our netballers have been hard at work, putting in the training hours and hitting the court for some great games! Their dedication, teamwork, and energy continue to impress - keep it up.



### BFI Southbank

Our Year 12 Film students had an unforgettable day at the BFI Southbank, diving deep into the art of documentary filmmaking! They explored the blurred lines between fact and fiction, watched Amy - Asif Kapadia's powerful documentary on Amy Winehouse - on the big screen, and had the rare chance to ask questions about the filmmaking process.

## Life At Ursuline Sixth Form



### Careers Fair

Our Sixth Form students had an incredible time exploring career opportunities at the Macfarlanes Careers Fair, celebrating International Women's Day! A fantastic chance to network, gain insights, and be inspired for the future.



### Ursuline Dallas Exchange

Sixth Form Dallas Exchange Adventure: Our Sixth Formers had an unforgettable experience, making new friendships, enjoying great moments, and creating memories that will last a lifetime. It was a fantastic exchange for all - we can't wait for the next chapter in Dallas this October!



### Multicultural Evening

What an incredible night of diversity, community, and culture! From vibrant performances to delicious food, the Ursuline Multicultural Evening was a true celebration of unity in diversity.



**Ursuline**  
**SIXTH FORM**  
WIMBLEDON

**Belong and Succeed**



*A community where you can truly belong and succeed*



**Ursuline**  
**SIXTH FORM**  
WIMBLEDON

**Belong and Succeed**

[www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk/sixth-form](http://www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk/sixth-form)

**Instagram: @uhssixthform**