

# Year 8 Update

See page 2 for a snapshot of upcoming events!



Summer A Term 2025

Make sure to check out our Summer Term >>> **Enrichment Programme** <<<

## Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

The season of Easter, which has coincided with Summer A, is a time of great joy for Christians. It is a season of great joy, marking and celebrating the resurrection of Jesus, and the victory of light and hope over darkness and despair. The call of any Christian community is to share the light of Christ with others, and this is a challenge that I believe Year 8 have firmly risen to – both in the year to date, and in Summer A specifically – through their constant enthusiasm and embodiment of Serviam, using their gifts and talents for the good of others.

The Philanthropy Project Final on Friday 2 May was a resounding success, marking the culmination of the students' efforts in raising awareness of, and money to support, the work of their forms' charities towards their selected social issues. I was blown away by the quality of each form's presentation, and certainly did not envy the judges' task in selecting the winners. Congratulations to the eventual winners - 8Ursula - whose work in supporting the Dons' Local Action Group was rewarded with the additional £1,000 prize money for the charity. Thank you to all students, parents, and members of the wider community who supported this year's Philanthropy Project fundraising. The total amount of money raised by the year group was £6,304.06 – amazing! I strongly encourage all students to consider ways in which they might continue to support their charities moving forwards.

On 15<sup>th</sup> May, Students and staff gathered in the chapel for 'Our Lady of the Roses' service, a fitting service honouring Our Lady through prayer, music, and reflections.

There have been numerous opportunities for engagement in extra-curricular activities so far this term, including the Summer enrichment programme, clubs, and trips. It was an absolute pleasure to accompany the Year 8 students who attended the ski trip over the Easter holidays, and I especially thank the students in my ski group who on more than one occasion had to wait patiently as I skied behind them at a more leisurely pace. A great time was had by all. I have also enjoyed seeing so many Year 8s take part in the school's sports clubs this term – including cricket, rugby, and tennis – and I look forward to seeing this continue into Summer B. On Thursday 22 May, 40 Year 8 students went to see Matilda the Musical in London's West End – a final highlight for this term. If your daughter has not been involved with our extra-curricular activities so far this term, I wholeheartedly encourage her to do so in Summer B. Talking of musicals, I am delighted to announce that our next school production will be Hairspray and further details regarding how students can be involved will be released in due course.

As we move into Summer B, the immediate focus must switch to the end of year exams – with the Year 8 exams taking place between Monday 2 – Friday 6 June, immediately after half-term. Students have been preparing for these exams in recent weeks, and I have been impressed by the focus and dedication I have seen from Year 8 students towards their revision, thus far. I know that the exam week may be extremely daunting for many students in the year group and would like to remind them again that all we can ask of them is that they do their best. Please encourage students in their final preparations and ensure that they take opportunities over half-term for rest and recreation – and that they do not spend the whole break revising. Enrichment activities and clubs will run as normal during the exam week, and we fully encourage students to attend as part of their self-care towards their mental and emotional wellbeing.

There is a lot to look forward to in Summer B, including: Sports Day, Debates, Fest Week, Celebration and Serviam Assemblies, and more. For details of these events, please see the second page of this newsletter. Wishing you and your families a wonderful half-term!

Mr Roberts, Head of Year 8

There have also been some other great achievements...  
Check out our [Instagram](#).

## Students' Achievements

**Year 8 Total Rewards: 10323**

### 1 - Most Rewards in each Form:

• 8A – Flavia G	52
• 8B – Maddison H	65
• 8C – Hind K	78
• 8F – Lena AB	84
• 8M – Danica C	91
• 8T – Mienke E	117
• 8U – Laura A	82

Congratulations to 8T, leading the way with **2,132** Reward Points!

### 2 – Highest Attendance:

There are currently 24 students in Year 8 who have 100% attendance, and 52 who have 99% attendance or higher. 132 students in the year group have 96% or higher.

Congratulations to 8T who lead the way with **96.88%**!

### 3 – Sporting Success:

- Congratulations to all students who are part of the U14s Football Team for your progress to the final – very best of luck!
- Congratulations to Amy B in 8C, who recently represented Tolworth Gymnastics at an international competition, winning many individual and team medals!

Please do let us know of any external successes ahead of our next newsletter. We would love to be able to celebrate them!

## Summer A Highlights:

- Year 8 Philanthropy Project Final
- Year 8 Trip to Matilda the Musical
- School Ski Trip (Easter Holidays)
- 'Our Lady of the Roses' Service



# Year 8 Update



**Virtues:** Summer Term: Faith-filled

## Upcoming Events: Summer B

- 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Summer B Term Begins
- 2<sup>nd</sup> June - Year 8 End of Year Exam Week
- 5<sup>th</sup> June- Parental Workshop KS3- Relationships and healthy lifestyles in USFC
- 27<sup>th</sup> June - Sports Day parents / carers welcome all day at Weir-Arches Athletics & Fitness Centre (Formally Kingsmeadow) Kingston KT1 3PB (email to follow)
- 30<sup>th</sup> June - 13<sup>th</sup> July- Wimbledon Championships
- 30<sup>th</sup> June - Student Leadership Celebration in the School Hall
- 1<sup>st</sup> July – Summer Concert, Hall
- 4<sup>th</sup> July – Sports Awards Dinner
- 8<sup>th</sup> July – Yr8 Debates
- 8<sup>th</sup> July – Yr8 celebration, 1.35-3.10pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> July – UHS Fest Week
- 18<sup>th</sup> July – End of term - Summer Holidays

*\*Please note this is not a complete event list and is intended to provide a snapshot only. Events may be subject to change.*



*'Our Lady of the Roses' Service*

## DONS Local Action Group



*Philanthropy Final Winners:  
8Ursula. Well done!*

## Wellbeing

**Cost of living crisis:** please use the link to check if you qualify for the governments Free School Meals scheme:

<https://self.merton.gov.uk/service/Pupil Premium and Free School Meals application>

## Additional Support



[Young Merton](#)

[Young Minds](#)

[Off The Record](#)

[Kooth](#)

[MindEd](#)

[e-wellbeing](#)

## THINK

Before you speak

**T** – is it **True**?

**H** – is it **Helpful**?

**I** – is it **Inspiring**?

**N** – is it **Necessary**?

**K** – is it **Kind**?

# Year 8 Update



## Health and well-being Services Directory and Resource Library

### Health and Wellbeing

The teenage years can bring about many well-being and mental health challenges for teens and their families. At the Ursuline High School, we fulfil our school values through our outstanding pastoral care. We understand that young women need to have the best view of themselves and the world around them to succeed.

We really do care for each one of our students and we ensure that their individual needs are known and met. Students have a variety of support available that they can access in school to support them, with any worries or anxieties students may have about school or outside of school.

Our focus on well-being is further supported by being part of the South-west London Mental Health Trailblazer. This partnership provides mental health support teams that work with students and their parents with the aim of ensuring they are well equipped to have healthy and honest conversations about emotional well-being – as well as connecting them to local services. This has enabled us to develop the services we have on offer at the Ursuline including a clinical psychologist, nurse and educational well-being practitioners.

If you or your daughter have a concern, then in the first instance please speak with your daughter's form tutor or pastoral support assistant. See the Year 9 list [here](#).

### Safeguarding

At the Ursuline High School, the well-being and the safety of young people in our care is paramount. We recognize our duty to ensure arrangements are in place for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. If you have a concern regarding a student please [contact the Safeguarding team](#).

### Parent/Carer Support Services Directory

Explore our [Directory](#) for a list of charities and other parenting experts sharing practical strategies, and powerful insights that can help to inform your conversations at home.

### Online Safety, Smart Devices and Social Media

Our [extensive online safety library](#) hosts our Smart Devices & Social Media Statement and other recommended resources related specifically to online safety. From social media and gaming to online challenges and conversation starters, our library is expansive.

### Girls' only Education

The [On educating Girls': Creating a World of Possibilities' podcast](#) produced by the International Coalition of Girls' Schools (ICGS) is a robust global conversation among experts who are passionate about the education and healthy development of girls. Tune in for practical strategies, and powerful insights that can reshape your conversations at home.