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Ursuline
High School
WIMBLEDON

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

30th January 2026

Headteacher's Weekly Roundup 2025-2026 – Spring A, Week 4

Dear Parents/Carers,

Tuesday 27th January marked a special day in the school calendar as we celebrated the Feast of St Angela Merici. St Angela first formed the Company of St Ursula in Dezenzano, Italy, in 1553. St Angela inspired a movement and a community which is alive and flourishing today across the world and especially for us in this part of South West London. All students celebrated Mass during the school week in our Local Parish Church of Sacred Heart. Thank you to all the staff and students who made this a special celebration.

Highlights of the week

Some exceptionally good news to celebrate: all nine of our nominated Wimbledon Ball Girls who attended trials at AELTC last Sunday 18th January have been successful in selection. This is the first time that we have 100% conversion rate from our own trials through to AELTC selection. The girls now begin their full training with AELTC from 10th February onwards and we wish them the best of luck with the training for the Championships this summer.

The Arts were in full performance mode this week with an incredible LAMDA Showcase (Acting and Public Speaking Performances) at Lantern Arts Centre showcase. Thank you to all the parents/carers, staff and most importantly students involved. Last night, a few students took part in the Wimbledon College organised 'Battle of the bands', I'm sure this will be the first step for some to a life of engagement in the Arts.

Focus areas for next week

On Wednesday, the education secretary, Bridget Phillipson, wrote to Headteachers urging all schools to implement a mobile phone ban. The government are also consulting on a social media ban for under 16s. The Ursuline high Schools policy on mobile phones is very well established and clearly communicated: turned off before entering and stowed in lockers. Any student, including those transiting to and from their lockers at the start and end of the day with a mobile phone will have it immediately confiscated. Our school policy has the full support of School Governors, Sancta Familia Catholic Academy Trust and National Government and will be rigorously implemented. If you have any concerns, please direct to your daughter's Head of Year.

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Important Notices

In celebration of the Feast of St Angela Merici, we return to our core ethos and mission and consider what is truly distinctive about an Ursuline Catholic education. Students were reminded of their pledge at the Commissioning Service, we recall the Mission Statement of the school: *'Inspired by the life and work of St Angela, our Ursuline School commits itself to education for tomorrow's world within the dynamic tradition of catholic belief and practice. As a Christian community, characterised by a spirit of respect, trust and joy, we promote excellence in every aspect of life, thereby fully developing each individual.'*

Academic Review Days (ARDs)

The next round of ARDs for **Years 7-10** takes place during Periods 5 & 6 on **Thursday 12th and Friday 13th February**. In last week's Roundup, I mentioned an email had already gone out about this, apologies for the confusion: you will receive a communication from Mr Glavina on Monday 2nd February with further information and booking instructions. **Bookings open on Tuesday 3rd**. Students will be expected to be in school on both days but will leave in the afternoon to make it home in time for their appointments.

Parent/Carer Communications:

Term dates 2026-2027

Please see dates [here](#).

Spring A key dates

Refer to our [Calendar](#) for academic year events but here are some significant upcoming dates for this half-term:

February - LGBTQ+ History Month Assemblies

2nd February – Holocaust Memorial Day Assemblies across the week.

2nd February – Children's Mental Health Week

6th February – Year 9 Options Taster Day

9th and 10th February – Year 11 GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition NEA2 Practical

12th February – Academic Review Day Years 7-10 – students dismissed at 12.50

13th February – Academic Review Day Years 7-10 (exc. Years 11, 12 & 13) – students dismissed at 12.50

13th February – Year 11 GCSE English Language Day

23rd February – INSET day (Year 13 A Level Mock exams start)

24th February – Return to school for Spring B

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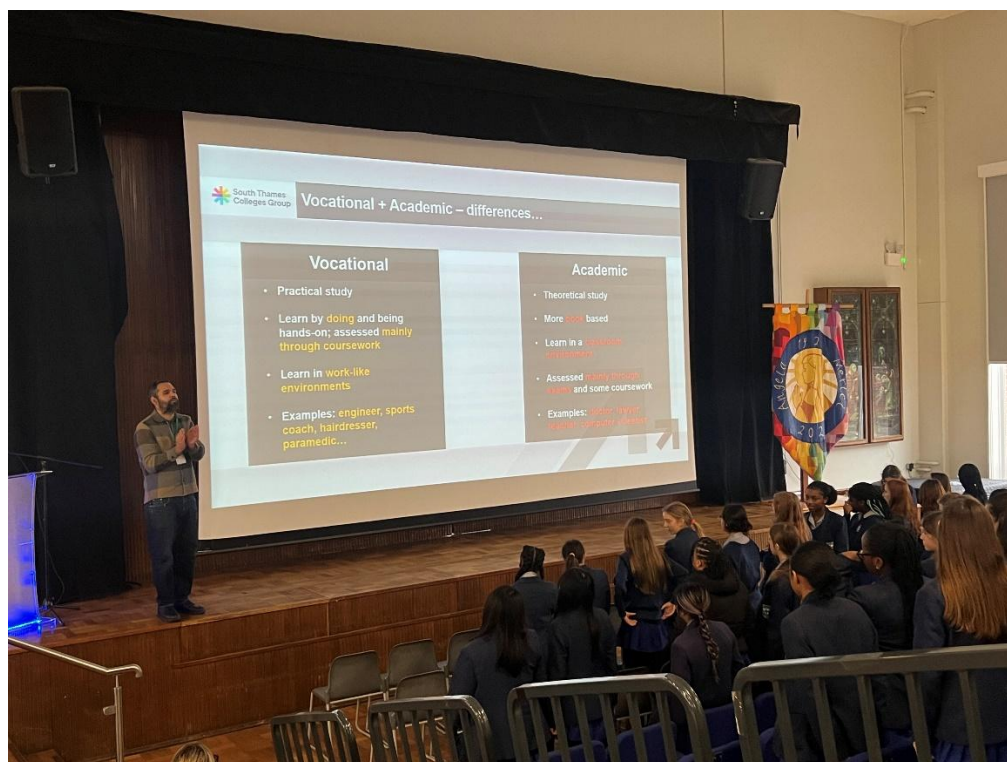
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Resources

Education Wellbeing Service Parent Webinars: During the Spring Term, the Education Wellbeing Service is hosting a series of parent/carers webinars on a variety of topics including exam stress, siblings with SEND, teens with Autism and screen time. For information regarding topics and dates please refer to the email from Ms McCourt sent to all parents on 5th January. Details can also be found on our [website](#).

Visit the '[Keeping Safe Online](#)' page of our website to read our [Smart Devices and Social Media Statement](#) and access our expansive library of recommended online safety resources.

News



Year 9 received a Post 16-18 Speakers Talk from Sarah Pitman and Richard Fisher discussing Colleges, T- Levels and Apprenticeships on Tuesday.

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We celebrated our patron St Angela with Masses for all year groups at Sacred Heart Church this week.



Some of our students who made it to the Surrey Schools Cross Country running for Merton. Resulting in an impressive 3 of the qualifying for English Schools Cross Country.

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A great effort from all our basketballers involved on Tuesday.

7/8 team came 3rd

9/10 team came 2nd

Loads of smiles and excitement from them all!



Congratulations to all 9 of our new Wimbledon Ball Girls who were successful at their trial's session at AELTC earlier this term. They now begin a strict training schedule to prepare them for their involvement in The Championships this summer.

Best of luck!

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Quick Links

[Arbor](#) - student records and reports

[School Calendar](#) 2025-2026

[Catholic Life & Mission](#)

[Curriculum Information](#)

[Headteacher welcome & promotional video](#)

[Headteacher's Weekly Roundups](#)

[Newsletters](#) – school-wide and year group

[ParentPay](#) - lunch card top ups and other purchases

[Parent Engagement & Communications overview](#)

[Parent Portals](#) – Parent Guides & FAQs

[Safeguarding, health & wellbeing](#)

[Sancta Familia Catholic Academy Trust](#)

[Online Safety](#)

[Term Dates](#) 2025-2026

[Ursuline Directory](#)

Wishing you and your family a happy and restful weekend.

Yours faithfully

Eoin Kelly

Headteacher

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