

# Year 8 Update



## Spring Term A 2026

Make sure to check out our Spring Term  
>>> **Enrichment programme!** <<<

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

The end of Spring A marks the mid-point of the school year, and for Year 8 students in particular, the mid-point of their Key Stage Three journey. I have been delighted to see the students' continued outstanding progress through the year and am pleased to share some of the highlights below.

The Year 8 Spring Term virtue is 'Compassion' – caring about others, being attentive to their needs, and wanting to help. Students have been living out this virtue through their excellent participation in the 'Philanthropy Project' in PSHEC, which they will continue to work towards in their RE lessons in Spring B. So far, this has involved students identifying social issues that are prevalent in their local communities and then identifying and voting for a charity that they will be supporting in their tutor groups. The selected charities are as follows:

- 8 Angela: Mind Kingston
- 8 Bernadette: St Mungo's
- 8 Catherine: STEM4
- 8 Francis: Faith in Action
- 8 Margaret: Wimbledon Guild
- 8 Teresa: Dons Local Action
- 8 Ursula: Sunshine Recovery Cafe

Students will now focus on engaging in social action to raise awareness of their selected social issues and the work of the above charities, as well as raising money for the charities. One group will be selected to represent each form group in the final, where they will compete to win an additional £1,000 for their form's charity. I look forward to seeing the fruits of their efforts in Spring B.

On Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January, Year 8 students joined Year 13 at Sacred Heart church for the Mass of St Angela – marking the feast day of our patron, two days earlier. The students' behaviour was exemplary, and Sr Dorothy from the parish commented on how uplifting it was to see the students joining together in this celebration, and their wider living out of the school's ethos, and commitment to *Serviam*.

This half-term, students have completed cumulative assessments in all of their subjects. These have given students an opportunity to demonstrate their learning over the longer-term, to practise their assessment skills, and to reflect on their next steps for improvement and progress. The results of students in Year 8 have been excellent, with staff commenting positively on their attainment, progress and effort. A very well done to all students and thank you to all parents and carers for your support.

We have lots to look forward to in the Spring B half-term, please see 'Upcoming Events' on the next page. Half-term itself brings with it the start of Lent – a period of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving for Christians. Throughout Lent, students will be provided with opportunities to reflect on and engage with these themes through their RE lessons and collective worship during registration. I am sure that all students will contribute meaningfully towards this.

School resumes for Year 8 on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

Wishing you and your families the very best for half term.

Miss Smith, Head of Year 8

## Students' Achievements

**Year 8 Total Rewards: 6412**

### 1 - Most Rewards in each Form:

• 8A – Stephanie IC	44
• 8B – Reem H	63
• 8C – Sarah G	35
• 8F – Taleah JB	30
• 8M – Karolina K	46
• 8T – Clodagh I	41
• 8U – Maeve K	49

Congratulations to **8B** who currently lead the way with **1,216** Reward Points!

### 2 – Highest Attendance:

There are currently **51** students in Year 8 who have **100%** attendance.

Congratulations to **8M** who lead the way with **96.39%**!

### 3 – External Success:

- Congratulations to Poppy A 8T, who has been selected to attend a swimming training camp in Spain!
- Congratulations to Savanna B (8T) who recently got woman of the match three times in her netball matches.

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

## Spring A Highlights:

- Mass of St Angela
- Philanthropy Project Launch
- Chattertocks Workshop



Chattertocks Choir



Mass of St Angela

*There have also been some other great achievements this half-term, you can find these here:*  
[UHS Instagram](#)  
[UHS PE Instagram.](#)

# Year 8 Update

**Virtues:** Spring Term: Compassion, Summer Term: Faith-filled



## Upcoming Events

### February

16<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> – Half-Term  
23<sup>rd</sup> – INSET Day  
24<sup>th</sup> – Start of Spring B Term

### March

Lent Programme  
1<sup>st</sup> – St David's Day  
5<sup>th</sup> – World Book Day  
8<sup>th</sup> – International Women's Day  
11<sup>th</sup> – Year 8 Bank of England Talk; Main Hall  
11<sup>th</sup> – St. Cecilia Day Concert, 7.00-9.00pm  
18<sup>th</sup> – Multicultural Evening, 6.00-8.30pm  
19<sup>th</sup> – Cultural Day  
23<sup>rd</sup> – KS3 and KS4 Drugs Parental Workshop  
24<sup>th</sup> – Joint Concert with Wimbledon College 7.00-9.00pm  
24<sup>th</sup> – Feast of St Oscar Romero  
27<sup>th</sup> – Passion Services  
27<sup>th</sup> – End of Spring B Term



**Welcoming Milo –  
Our Therapy Dog!**

### Looking Ahead

13<sup>th</sup> April – Summer Term A Begins  
4<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> April – Ski Trip 2026; Alpendorf, Austria  
14<sup>th</sup> April – Joint Year 8/9 Parent Revision Evening (6.00-7.00pm)  
22<sup>nd</sup> April – Year 8 Parents Evening, Hall, 3.50-6.30pm  
24<sup>th</sup> April – Grand Final for the Y8 Philanthropy project  
25-29<sup>th</sup> May – Half-Term  
1<sup>st</sup> June – Year 8 End of Year Exam Week  
19<sup>th</sup> June – School Sports Day at Weir Archer Kingsmeadow Athletics Track  
*\*Please note this is not a complete event list and is intended to provide a snapshot only. Events may be subject to change.*



**Borough Football 2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

## Wellbeing

### Free Parental Workshops

South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS trust are running a number of free wellbeing workshops for parents / carers of secondary school aged children.

Click here for more information/to book:

[Secondary/College Parents -  
Wellbeing Workshops | Eventbrite](#)

wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust

**Upcoming Events For Secondary Parents Spring Term 2026**

Supporting your teenager's mental health webinars

We also provide free 1:1 early help support programmes for young people to support with anxiety or low mood. Speak to your school to find out more.

**16TH FEB 26 7 PM - 8 PM** Supporting your teenager with Exam Stress (Years 11-13)

**17TH FEB 26 1 PM - 2 PM**

**9TH MAR 26 1 PM - 2 PM** Conflict, Communication and Compromise - the teen years

**12TH MAR 26 7 PM - 8 PM**

To view further event details and descriptions, and to book on to any of the webinars, please scan the QR Code or follow the link to our Eventbrite collection.

[Click here](#)

Making Life Better Together

## Laptop / Social media

Just a polite reminder that school laptops are for school related work only. Please remind your daughters that they are not for accessing social media, gaming or web browsing non-school-related content.

The age restriction on WhatsApp in the UK is 13 years old. Snapchat's age requirement is 13 years old. Please support us with this, we are dealing with a lot of issues.

# 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 8 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](#). Our webpage has details of who to contact during school and out of school hours.

### 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.