

# Year 8 Update

See page 2 for a snapshot of upcoming events!



Autumn Term A 2022

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

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Welcome to our first Year 8 newsletter of the academic year!

It has been such a brilliant start to the year, and we have been so impressed with how well they have transitioned from Year 7. Our year group has been in the lead with reward points this half-term which is testament to their hard work, determination, and unwavering commitment to their studies.

This half term also saw our trips go ahead which brought a lot of joy! We tested our team building skills at Go-Ape and faced our fears at Chessington. Everyone got stuck in, behaved impeccably and most of all had a lot of fun. It was heart-warming to see the amazing friendships that are growing and how the year group works as a community.

Students really enjoyed our Black History Month celebrations, the theme this year being 'Black and Great.' In particular, the Year 8s enjoyed listening to our guest speaker, Ms Hamilton, the author of the novel 'Rising Warrior.' She inspired our students to think about the importance of understanding and reading different cultural genres.

Even at this early stage of the year, our year group has demonstrated SERVIAM in all that they do. We had our very own Ursuline representative at our late Majesty the Queen's funeral, paying her respects. So many of the Year 8s also did a fantastic job at open evening, helping as tour or subject guides.

We have lots to look forward to in the Autumn B term including the National Grid Energy Challenge and 'Jump Rope for Heart' skipping competition fundraiser. Rehearsals for the school production of 'A Christmas Carol' will be in full swing, preparing for the first live night on November 24<sup>th</sup>. Year 8 will also have sports fixtures, including netball, a Christmas Tree Service, and Carol Service.

Yours faithfully,  
**Miss Smith and Miss Guiheen**  
Heads of Year 8

*There have also been some fantastic sports achievements this half term, you can find these on our [school twitter!](#)*

## Students' Achievements

Year 8 Total Rewards: 5053

### 1 - Most Rewards:

1. Michela M (8B) – 35
2. Shannon M (8T) – 35
3. Abigail B (8U) – 35

Congratulations to **8B** who are currently leading the way with **901** Reward Points

### 2 – Highest Attendance:

There are currently **90** students in Year 8 who have **100%** attendance. Please do keep up the good work!

Congratulations to **8B** who lead the way with **98.02%**!

### 3 – External Success:

- Congratulations to Keira (8C) who sung with her stagecoach choir for Children in Need!
- Well done to Honor (8U) who graciously represented the school at our late Queen's funeral.

*If your daughter participates in sport or other activities outside of school do encourage her to let us know.*

## Autumn A Highlights

- Open Evening
- Go Ape
- Chessington Trip (left)
- Black History Month – Author talk- Ms Hamilton (far right)
- World Mental Health Day



# Year 8 Update



## Upcoming Events

### November

- 31<sup>st</sup> October Inset Day
- 1<sup>st</sup> November: Inset Day
- 2<sup>nd</sup> November: Start of Autumn B Term
- 7<sup>th</sup> November: Book week
- 8<sup>th</sup> November: Maths Challenge Trip (Pop A)
- 15<sup>th</sup> November: Maths Challenge Trip (Pop B)
- 15<sup>th</sup> November: Year 8 Borough Netball
- 22<sup>nd</sup> November: Year 8 Benchball
- 24/25<sup>th</sup> November: School production 'A Christmas Carol'
- 25<sup>th</sup> November: Christmas Fair (Year 9 selling to Year 8)
- 25<sup>th</sup> November: Christmas Tree Service

### December

- 2<sup>nd</sup> December: Christmas Fair (Year 8 selling to Year 9), Year 8 Inter-House Netball Festival
- 7<sup>th</sup> December: Year 8 Basketball
- 8<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Drink and Mince Pie Evening
- 9<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Fair (Year 7 selling to Year 8)
- 12<sup>th</sup> December: 'Jump Rope for Heart' Skipping Competition Fundraiser
- 12<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Carol Service, 8.00pm, Sacred Heart Church
- 16<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Assembly and Last Day of Term
- 3<sup>rd</sup> January: Start of Spring A Term

## Looking Ahead

- 15<sup>th</sup> June – Chaplaincy Retreat to Desenzano House
- 31<sup>st</sup> March – Ski Trip to Austria
- 2<sup>nd</sup> November – British Museum Maths Challenge
- 6<sup>th</sup> February – Mosque Visit

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

## Wellbeing

### Parental Workshops

- 7<sup>th</sup> Nov: Students with SEND
- 10<sup>th</sup> Nov: Emotional regulation
- 17<sup>th</sup> Nov: Emotional regulation

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>

**NHS**  
South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust

**Education Wellbeing Service**

**Upcoming Events For Secondary Parents 2022/23**  
Supporting your teenager's mental health webinars

**22ND, 26TH OR 27TH SEPT**  
Mental Health during the teenage years - an introduction and overview  
For year 7 & year 8 parents

**9TH, 10TH OR 15TH NOV**  
Supporting your teen through emotional storms - emotion regulation skills and strategies  
For all secondary school parents

**26TH, 30TH OR 1ST JAN/FEB**  
Understanding and supporting anxiety during the teenage years  
For all secondary parents

**13TH, 16TH OR 17TH MAR**  
Supporting and managing exam and assignment stress: top tips and ideas for parents  
For all secondary parents - year 11 and 13 focus

**4TH, 9TH OR 11TH MAY**  
Understanding and supporting teen sleep: an overview of the research and recommendations  
For all secondary parents

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.

Scan QR code with your phone's camera to sign up for free via eventbrite or search:  
[www.eventbrite.com/cc/secondary-parents-nhs-wellbeing-workshops-725989](http://www.eventbrite.com/cc/secondary-parents-nhs-wellbeing-workshops-725989)