



No.108 Feb/Mar 2023

#EmbraceEquity Through Leadership!



"I appreciated the inspirational and motivational words to let me know that I can be successful by being me" Student

On Wednesday 8th March we held our Year 12 Sixth Form Conference to celebrate International Women's Day, which this year, was themed around "Embracing Equity". Our conference explored this theme through the lens of leadership,

We were fortunate to be joined by three excellent speakers- **Dona Reddiar, Sonya Barlow** and **Lucy Kane**- who between them covered a range of career backgrounds from medical research to journalism, radio presenting and career networking. The conference was led by our wonderful student leaders **Esther**, **Rukevwe**, **Sinead**, **Laurenne** and **Franchesca**.

The feedback from the conference was very positive. One of the speakers said "It was great to see the engagement and the vivacity of the girls".

The students themselves said;

"Everything was amazing, I enjoyed the student interaction and the pace of the talks were good. Thank you so much for this conference I really enjoyed it."

"I really liked how approachable the speakers were after their presentations- they were very easy to talk to and gave good advice"

#EmbraceEquity





Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,



Join our growing social community! Instagram: UHSWimbledon Twitter: UHSWimbledon



Communications

The Ursuline High School is committed to effectively communicating with our parents/carers and has a communications strategy that includes a wide range of mediums.

We communicate with our primary and secondary parents where we have a valid email on record, and the parent/carer has parental responsibility.

For more information regarding our Communications Strategy visit the Parent Communications page of our website.

For information regarding our Parent Portals visit the Portals page of our website.

Are your details correct? To ensure you are receiving relevant communications from us, please ensure you notify us of any changes to contact details.

Best wishes.

Ms Waters BSc (Hons) MA Headteacher





Flame 2023



We had the joy of accompanying a cohort of students to Flame 2023 at Wembley arena, this half term. Flame is the largest Catholic youth event in England and Wales. It was a full day of inspirational speakers, powerful music and reflective prayer. The theme was "Rise Up", in which we were encouraged to rise up, like Mary, the mother of God did, to respond to the call of our time.



On Friday 3rd March Year 9 took part in their **Taster Day**, students were provided with the opportunity to experience a snapshot of GCSE lessons ahead of making their GCSE choices this term. From familiar lessons such as Maths, English, Science, History and Design Technology, to a variety of new subjects studied at KS4+ including Computer Science, Sociology, and Health and Social Care. Students found

Year 9 Taster Day



We are delighted to announce the Governors have appointed Mr Eoin Kelly to the role of Acting Headteacher for the academic year commencing in September 2023, following the sad retirement of Ms Waters in August this year. It is difficult to do justice to the transformative changes introduced and embedded by Ms Waters during her leadership over the past two decades, however, we have every faith in the leadership of Mr Kelly, and our community can also have every faith in the continuity and continued excellence in leadership that Mr Kelly will provide our school moving forwards. If you're reading this online, you can view the full Governors letter on our website here.

Multicultural Evening

On Wednesday 22nd March we held our Multicultural Evening a fantastic evening for foodies, with an array of delicious dishes and some spectacular entertainment on display from students! If you're reading this online view full story on our Instagram here!

Catholic Life

We have recently made some updates to our website to provide our community with a deeper understanding of the Catholic Life of our school, featuring some lovely galleries depicting our school life and mission, collective worship and insight into our Chaplaincy and religious education. If you have not yet taken a look it is on the main toolbar of our website entitled 'Catholic Life'. We have also updated our former Chaplaincy newsletter to 'Catholic Life', and the first edition will be released at the beginning of Summer Term!

Philanthropy





Year 8 have certainly been busy with their Philanthropy project this half term, in which they work with charity First Give to select a **local charity** to support by planning ways to raise money and highlight their chosen charities work. More information can be found in the latest edition of the Year 8 Update. If you're reading this online you can find it here.

Fountain Opening

On *Tuesday 7th March* students attended the official unveiling of the restored **Toynbee Fountain** at the top of *Wimbledon Hill Road*.

On the day they also had a private visit to <u>Wimbledon Museum</u>. and learnt about the history of **Wimbledon!** (Photo right: Simran cutting the ribbon. The women to the right of the fountain are Toynbee's great granddaughters)



Offer Day

On 1st March Year 6 students received their secondary school offers for September 2023. We are sure our current Year 7 parents remember this day all too well! We look forward to welcoming our parents at our New Intake Parents' Information Evening on Thursday 20th April and our new students for their Induction Day on Wednesday 5th July.

If you are a current Ursuline parent with a child transitioning to Year 7, we can't wait for them to join the Ursuline Community, they have a wonderful experience ahead of them.

A reminder that a variety of helpful transitions information is available on our **Transitions Hub** on our website. If you're reading this online visit our <u>Transitions Hub</u>.



Mayor's Visit



We visited the **Mayor of Merton** this half term.

Avila Lambeth



On Monday 13th March the Avila Partnership launched Avila Lambeth an exciting new partnership with Bishop Thomas Grant and Corpus Christi Primary School. BTG and Corpus Christi are the lead schools facilitating a cohort of 28 aspiring Senior leaders on the NPQSL (National Professional Qualification in Senior Leadership). Further information is available on the 'News' section of our website, if you're reading this online click here.

St Cecilia Concert



On Tuesday 14th March, we held our **St Cecilia Concert**, with students sharing a wonderful array of musical gifts and talents. From a Year 8 choir performance of **Happy** (Pharrell Williams) and solo of **Hallelujah** (Leonard Cohen), to a pianist performance of **Mazurka in G Minor** (Chopin), (pictured, left). Thank you to our community for your attendance!

Jack Petchey Regionals

Ezile (10 Ursula) and Emma (10 Teresa) have been chosen to represent the school at the Jack Petchey "Speak Out" Challenge Regional Final on Tuesday 28 March! If you're reading this online view full story on our Instagram here!



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T Level Opening



On 10th February we celebrated the official opening of our **T Level** buildings; **St Anne's** and **Katherine Johnson-** which are a wonderful addition to our **T Level facilities**! It was a great morning! If you're reading this online view full story on our Instagram https://example.com/here/

Sylvia



Students got the chance to see **Sylvia** at **The Old Vic** this half term! The production famously tells the revolutionary story of activist **Sylvia Pankhurst**. A must watch!

Merici Choir!



Our amazing Year 12 Merici Singers put on some great performances at the St Cecilia Concert this half term! We particularly loved the rendition of I Can't Help Falling in Love With You (Hugo Peretti, Luigi Creatore and George David Weiss).

Peldon Rose



On Wednesday 8th March Year 12 T Level students and some Year 10 students enjoyed a trip to local engineering, construction and interior design company; Peldon Rose. Students had an insightful day and the company have offered apprenticeship and internship programmes to apply for once students finish Year 13.

Creative Change Conference!



Year 12 student leaders loved the "Creative Change Movers for Challenging Times" youth conference held at Mulberry High School for Girls this half term. An inspiring panel of speakers provided and thoroughly engaging workshops. Thank you for the opportunity Mulberry!

Sixth Form Transitions

We held our **Sixth Form Transitions Evening** for **Year 10** on

to provide students and parents with clear insight into the process of applying to our **Sixth Form**, and more importantly, why they should do so!

Hola Barcelona!



Over half term, **Year 12** had the opportunity to visit **Barcelona** in sunny Spain. They had an action packed trip, including visiting the **Camp Nou stadium**- the home of **FC Barcelona** football team (pictured, left), and the **Montserrat Monastery**, If you're reading this online, view more pics on our <u>Sixth Form Instagram!</u>



netballtennisfootballathletics

- rockclimbingcrosscountry
 trampoliningbasketballhockey
 dancedukeofedinburghaward wimbledonballgirlscycling

Rock Climbing





Fantastic work from our GCSE PE students at their final rock climbing session before their moderation. Thank you to all of the instructors at White Spider Climbing Centre for all of their help. (pictured, left).

Good bit of practice on the climbing wall this afternoon with our Year 11 GCSE **PE students** getting prepped and ready for our **Pearson Edexcel Moderation** (pictured right).

Netball



Amazing work from our **Year 7 Netball teams** on 9th March playing **St** Cecelia's!

Two close games but unfortunately losing both in the end. Terrific play and teamwork from

Players of the Match: Georgina and Pietra

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