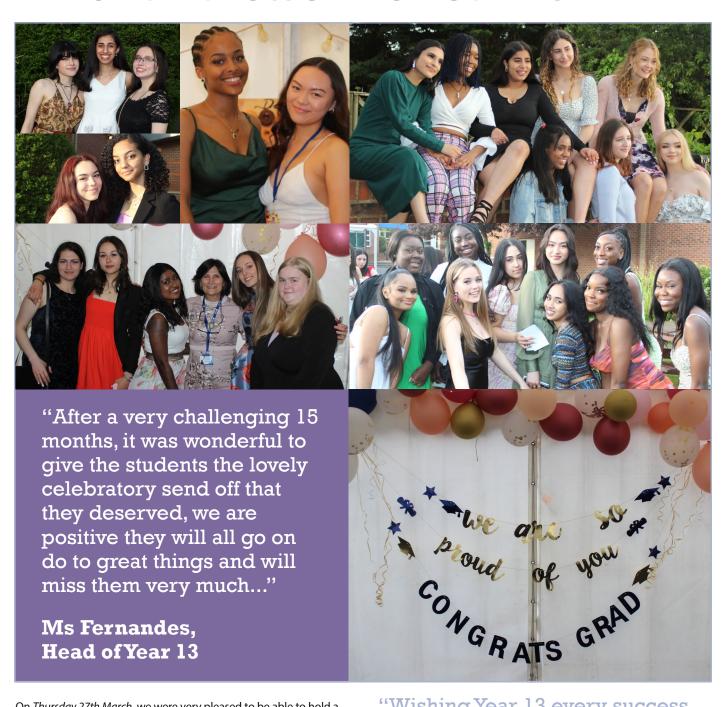




No.96 Apr/May 2021

#### A Fond Farewell To Year 13!



On Thursday 27th March, we were very pleased to be able to hold a special **celebration evening** for our wonderful Year 13 students. The evening started with a presentation ceremony where students were awarded subject, form and character prizes with **Serviam** (awarded to **Phoebe M)** and **Overall Achievement** (awarded to **Ellen L**) awards presented by Ms Waters in the school hall. This was followed by a lovely BBQ and celebration in our marquee- complete with a photo booth- which was in constant use by students all evening!

It was fantastic to send our students off in style and a great time was had by all! A full list of the awards and winners from the evening (as well as more photos) can be found on the website.

"Wishing Year 13 every success and happiness with their future endeavours. We look forward to hearing how they all get on and the wonderful things they go on to achieve in the future. Wishing them all the very best!" Ms Waters



**Dear Parents and Friends** 

# headlines







This year we have seen important changes in our school. These have been a result of greater dialogue and listening between members of our Ursuline Community.

Instagram: <u>UHSWimbledon</u> Twitter: <u>UHSWimbledon</u>

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We have made significant inroads in implementing our Equity Diversity and Inclusion strategies however there is so much more to do.

- 1. Our new leadership structure in Special Education Needs Faculty has improved the experience and provision of students 2. Our Racial Justice Strategy has improved our understanding of all forms of racism. Our community is more able to call out racism. Students perspectives and experiences are more reflected in our curriculum.
- 3. Our LGBTQ+ week celebrated the careers of LGBTQ+ women supporting students' understanding of the opportunities available to all our students.
- ${\bf 4}.$  Our work on combatting Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence has just begun.

The gospel speaks to us always of love. If we listen we can respond with empathy, respect and understanding. Fr Michael Gallagher says 'the deepest denial of God is a refusal to love' In the these changing and challenging times our faith is leading us into action.

Fr Richard Rohr reminds us we need to bring our hearts and mind into the actual suffering and problems of the world. 'It means engagement, social presence and a sincere concern for justice and peace for others beyond ourselves'

Thank you for the support of parents, Governors, students and the wider community in helping us address all the challenges we have faced this year.





Best wishes Ms Waters

#### **India Masterclass!**





Take a look at *Lilliana S* (Year 7) amazing mango kulfi- Yum!

Take a look at the chickpea curry made by *Laura F* in Year 12

Monday 17th-Friday 21st May was India Week. The aim of the week was to celebrate and further inform our students about Indian culture and heritage.

As part of the week students were able to take part in a range of lessons with this focus in mind. For example in History, students looked at the history of the sari, in D&T students took part in a 'design your own sari' competition (congratulations to the winners; *Michelle 7F, Chisom, 7A* and *Sophia, 7T*). *Mrs Grant* also ran a discussion session alongside Jan and Alex in Year 12, where students spoke about their own Asian heritage. Students were encouraged to raise money for the *Ursuline Sisters* in India to help with the Cornavirus pandemic, by paying £1 to wear accessories in the colours of the Indian flag. Further details on the money raised will be available on our website after half term!

Additionally, the **Year 12 Global Food Society** hosted the event on Teams this half term. *Laura F* (supported by *Holly H* and **Shina H**) presented a master class in how to cook Chick Pea Curry, Rice and a lovely desert of Mango Kulfi live on Teams and several students who were given the ingredients the week before opted to join in and upload photos of their dishes at the end. It was a huge success and the students involved thoroughly enjoyed it, saying that they would love to do this sort of thing more often! The winners of the competition are: **Lilliana S 7A**, **Aitana T 7A**, **Catherine B 7C**, **Veronica S 7F**, **Clara B 9F and Molly H 9F**.

#### Happy Birthday To Us!



Monday 26th April, marked our school anniversary on the Feast Day of Our Lady of Good Counsel.

**Ms Waters** gave a **special assembly** to all students in that week regarding our the importance of community in our school and the friendship and support that is key in making our school thrive. **Ms Waters** reminded students that our faith is based on friendship and asked students to consider what is a true friend and ways in which they can become a better friend to others!

## ICT Events



Students received a great deal of talks regarding 'tech' this half term- coordinated by our Director of Digital Learning; *Ms Bhayat*. Year 11 **Computer Science** students received a talk on Al (Artificial Intelligence), working as a Data Analyst as a woman, the power of being a woman and moving on from computer science and had the opportunity to create a website and Year 10 attended ladies in teach event. Fantastic for our **STEM** provision!

Bookfest! WIM BOO Young Writers'





Over the last half term students have taken part in **Wimbledon Bookfest's Young Writers' Competition**. The theme for this year's competition was 'My Name Is...' and students thought about names and what they mean to them as the inspiration and starting point for their story or poem. The English department were really inspired by how our students interpreted the theme. Some took this as a chance to come up with wonderful and wacky names, while others created mystery tales of mistaken identities. Overall, this was a great opportunity for our students to delve deeper and explore their identity!

### Year 9 Retreat!



On we held our **Year 9 Retreat** in May on the topic of **'Human Dignity**'. Students explored personal dignity, the importance of showing dignity to friends, the community and the wider world. As part of the day students were split into groups and allocated a scenario from a particular part of the world, they then had to bid on items in order to ease that particular countries concerns. (Bid in motion in pic on left!)

#### Last Day In Year 11!







"Year 11 its been an amazing 5 years, thank you for the challenge and inspiration you have provided me with over the past 5 years, for the care and support you have given one another... May St Angela watch over you all the days ahead" Ms Waters

On Friday 28th March Year 11 rounded off their final week at school with the first of two celebrations marking their 5 years at Ursuline High School Wimbledon. They spent a fun final period with their friends in the old gym, enjoying some food, participating in the much anticipated shirt signing event, and hearing lots of lovely video messages of positivity from staff and a lovely message from our Year 8s- with words of encouragement for their future. This was rounded off with our traditional clap out at the school gate (see above)!

Year 11 will receive their formal **Celebration Evening** on *Wednesday 16th June* and we look forward to welcoming them back to celebrate, before many return for **Sixth Form** in September. We wish them all the best on their journeys moving forward!

#### Merton College





It was an amazing insight into not just the study aspect of Oxford, but also into student life. **Year 12 Student** 

On *Tuesday 25th May* 24 Year 12s on the **Oxbridge Programme** went up to *Merton College Oxford* for the day. The students had the chance to listen to talks on university application, what makes Oxbridge distinct, and to hear from three student ambassadors who spoke of their experiences of applying and studying at Oxford. After tours of the college and lunch in hall the students had a tour of Oxford and enjoyed seeing the sights! We are very grateful to Merton College for hosting us and funding the trip!





URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL & WIMBLEDON COLLEGE SIXTH FORM



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#### **Careers Pathway Day**



On the *Tuesday 25th May*, Year 12 students went through a day of discovery beyond sixth form with an intensive introduction to all things **UCAS** and alternative destinations. Although the day was delivered by the careers team, virtually through Teams into Form rooms, feedback suggests that the students were very engaged and motivated by the experience. Included was an inspiring talk from *Birmingham University* on applying for competitive universities and an opportunity for students to experience different degree, apprenticeship and careers research tools to enable them to make informed choices. Culminating in an opportunity for the students to join the UCAS hub and set up their applications ready for Yr13.

#### Transition To Year 12!







During the last two weeks of half term, Year 11 took part in their **Sixth Form Transition Programme!** Throughout the 2 weeks students attended seminars and taster lessons to give them a sense of what they have to look forward to in the Sixth Form come September. Examples of lessons students had the opportunity to try include; **Geography, Maths, Economics, Lab Science T Level, English Language, Chemistry, Drama, Spanish, Sociology, Physics and History** (pictured above).



netballtennisfootballathletics

- rockclimbingcrosscountry
- trampoliningbasketballhockeydancedukeofedinburghaward
  - wimbledonballgirlscycling

#### Year 13 Sports Afternoon



We had a wonderful Sporting send off for our Year 13 students with 95 of them coming to Morley Park for one final competition!

It was lovely to see them all out again, trying to beat each other in rounders / cricket & some bench ball. The weather held off long enough for us to enjoy a fun filled afternoon with some great sporting performances on show – they hadn't forgotten their skills. Best of luck to all 2021 leavers & we hope to hear your university sports stories in the near future.





We were pleased to see **DofE** start back in full swing this half term! The Urban DofE expedition went well in Wimbledon, Richmond Park and Kingston on the 22nd and 23rd May

Students also had a fantastic day out in Box Hill on 24th April training prior to the expedition

#### **Crazy About Cricket**



During India Week P.E spent time looking at Cricket as a sport and students across Year 7-10 had an opportunity to continue to develop their cricket skills and learn more about the importance of it in India. Students spent time developing their batting and fielding skills in lessons across Summer A.

## **Year 7 Summer Sports**

#### Afternoons!



As soon as we were allowed all back to play our new Year 7s were super keen to get into their Ursuline Sport. Friday afternoons of Morley Park have been hugely successful with half the year group turning up regularly to play football / athletics and cricket.

Our link with AFC Wimbledon has been really successful with many students looing to play outside of school & join the club. Our Year 7 football team will be a strong one so looking forward to getting some fixtures for summer B!

## Level Up Your **Future Career!**

Spaces are still available for our Digital T Level and BRAND NEW Lab Science T Level starting in September.

Most options for young adults in higher education lack any form of work experience, an invaluable tool for students in today's working world. T-Levels aims to break away from this by introducing a 45-day work placement with a leading employer so that students can get hands-on experience to learn what it takes to meet the needs of a business and prepare for a career in the industry.

The Digital Production, Design & **Development** course is perfect for those looking to pursue a digital-based career.

If you enjoy Biology, Chemistry or Physics, Ursuline Wimbledon's Laboratory Science T-Level course will give you the opportunity to continue your studies at an advanced level!

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#### **Digital T Level**



#### Lab Science T Level

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