



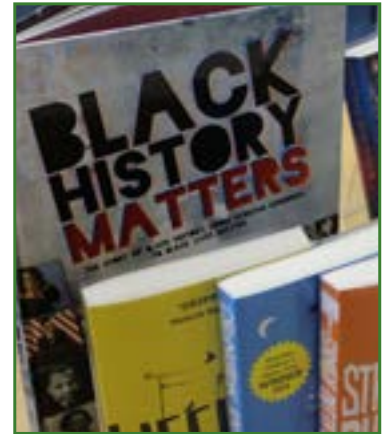
Black History Month 2020!



Fantastic display celebrating black artists in our St Angela's Art Centre!

“The month has made me more aware of the influence of Black people in Britain, as it has highlighted areas of extraordinary work that I never knew as much about before.”

Student



From *Thurs 1st Oct- Tues 20th October* we celebrated **Black History Month** at UHS, with the aim to; *promote black history, culture and heritage, disseminate information about positive Black contributions to British Society and heighten the confidence and awareness of Black people to their heritage.* Throughout the ‘month’ we delivered this programme of events in a variety of ways; through assemblies; where students in Year 10-13 received talks on the 1960’s Bristol Bus Boycott. In lessons; Year 7 History delved into Black Tudors, Year 8 continued with their unit on Black British history, whilst Year 9 looked at the role of *Claudia Jones*, founder of the Notting Hill Carnival. In English, students studied poetry by a Black British female poet in conjunction with **National Poetry Day** (on October 1st). STEM subjects such as KS3 Maths looked at the ‘*Hidden Figures*’ such as Mathematician *Katherine Johnson* and Computing/T Levels expanded this to cover Black female achievements in the field of technology. In Science; Year 7 took part in interviews with scientists via TEAMS and Year 8 completed a research and oracy task on *Mary Seacole*. KS3 R.E spent time studying Black Majority and Black Evangelical churches, while KS4 investigated about *Reverend Rose Hudson Wilkin*- the first Black female Bishop in England.

A particular highlight was author *Patrice Lawrence’s* visit as part of the **Wimbledon Bookfest Final** hosted at UHS. Year 10 students

received an inspirational talk from Patrice on her life growing up as a person of mixed heritage, with a blended family in East Sussex, the books that inspired her when she was younger (*The Wind and the Willows* and *Stephen King* novels being two) and comical excerpts from her newly found ‘teenage diary’- which students found very amusing! Students in POP A received copies of Patrice’s new book **Eight Pieces of Silva**- which they eagerly waited to get signed!

We have also recently ordered an array of books in order to further diversify our library- with both fiction and non fiction texts from Bernadine Evaristo’s *Blonde Roots* to David Olusoga’s ‘*Black and British*’ (see school website/library newsletter for more details).

We had planned to host actor *Fraser James’* talk regarding his art collection ‘*Underexposed*’ on Tuesday 20th October, (unfortunately Fraser had to isolate), however the collection has been showcased in our school hall throughout most of October and looks fantastic!

The events were rounded off with **Show Racism the Red Card Wear Red Day** on *Friday 16th Oct* which raised £350 help fund anti-racism education for young people and adults across the UK!



headlines



Dear Parents and Friends,

Happy Feast of St Ursula!

This week we have celebrated the feast of St Ursula. Students reflected on their image of God and we shared and celebrated the many images of Jesus from different cultures. Ursuline Links have also launched their new website www.ursulinelinks.org where you can learn more about our youth volunteer programme sponsored by the Ursuline Sisters! Year 12 also linked with our sister school in Dallas to discuss the US election while another group of Year 12 engaged with the Ursuline school in Jakarta Indonesia to discuss life under Covid. Students are enjoying the liturgies of the word and the creativity of expression using art and artefacts during the services.

We are all feeling the challenge of the virus as the end of term draws near and we pray when we return we will all have *'the ability to stay present to what is and meet it with wisdom, compassion and encouragement'* [Thomas Keating].

Stay safe and enjoy the small things!

Best wishes
Ms Waters



Virtual 'Train to Teach'



On Wednesday 21st October, **Teach Wimbledon** hosted their virtual **'Train to Teach' Open Evening** from 6.00-7.30pm! The live webinar enabled representatives from the Teach Wimbledon primary and secondary programme (with University of Roehampton course leads) to respond to a number of questions interested teacher training applicants had about joining the very successful 'Train To Teach' programme via live chat and have any questions answered by the Teach Wimbledon team. The event was very well attended reflecting the growing interest in teacher training courses. To find out more about our Teach Wimbledon programme please visit; www.teachwimbledon.com.

Virtual Open Events



This term, we were very excited to introduce our first three very successful virtual open events; our main school **Virtual Open Evening** (September) and **Student Led Sixth Form Virtual Open Evening** (October) concluding with our joint **Sixth Form Open Evening** lead by *Wimbledon College* on (Thursday 8th October). During the events, parents and students were able to access a range of information; a headteachers' talk, individual subject videos, enjoy our fantastic new promotional videos and take part in live Q&A sessions. Our sixth formers particularly enjoyed filming the Q&A in our St Angela's Centre as you can see above.

A massive thank you to all who signed up and we look forward to meeting some of you come September!

What Makes Great Catholic Schools?



"We are so pleased to have been able to finally share this very special book that has come to fruition and thank all our contributing schools for their efforts in making it possible.."

**Ms Waters & Ms Noone,
Avila Partnership**

On Thursday 15th October we virtually celebrated the unveiling of our **Avila Partnership 'What Makes Great Catholic Schools'** publication at *St Philomena's High School* in Carshalton. The book compiles 14 case studies from Catholic schools in south London, Surrey and Kent. The books explore a variety of different issues affecting Catholic schools today and how living out the school ethos is an extremely valuable tool in ensuring the wellbeing and development of our young people. Many thanks to our school contributors; *Bonus Pastor Catholic College, The Holy Cross School- New Malden, The John Fisher School- Purley, Richard Challoner School, St Michael's Catholic College- Bermondsey, St Matthew Academy-Blackheath, The Federation of St Elphege's Catholic Schools-Wallington, Regina Coeli Catholic Primary School-South Croydon, St Teresa's RC Primary School- Malden, St John Fisher Catholic Comprehensive- Chatham, the Archdiocese of Cairns- Australia* and finally *Peter Flew* (Director of the School of Education at *University of Roehampton*) for our forward!

Virtual Careers



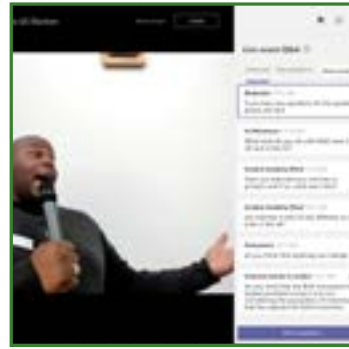
“The presenters were engaging and I really enjoyed the talk on the Creative Sector and TV Production and I now feel like I may want to pursue a job in film and TV.”

Student

On Tuesday 13th October, Year 11 Students attended a **Virtual Careers Conference**. During the conference, students heard from the School's Careers Lead, Mrs Petheram on the impact of COVID on the current labour market, the changing nature of employability skills as we work in an increasingly virtual world and future proofing careers. Then 3 Guest Speakers spoke about their sectors, opportunities for school leavers in their sectors and the skills and qualities valued by employers; *Mrs Devina Paul* (UHS alumni), Founding Partner, Galvanise Capital, (Finance and Media), *Ms Aliyah Gordon*, Clinical Pharmacist, St George's Hospital, University of London (Healthcare) and *Ms Jennifer Anafi-Acquah* (UHS Alumni) Assistant Producer, Nutoxia Medic Production Company (Creative Media).



Top Trumps!



My Story, My Heritage



As part of Black History Month, Year 13 students worked on a film entitled 'My Story, My Heritage' with Ms Harrison, Director of Extended Learning, in students reflected on what it means to be Black and British in 2020! The film can be found on our website [here!](#)

Virtually Technicolour!



Rehearsals have now begun for our 'virtual' but vital school production, 'Joseph and Her Technicolor Dreamcoat'. The aim is to let different year groups tell the various stages of Joseph's story, starting with Year 8 in Canaan and ending with a happy reunion hosted by Year 13 in Egypt. Rehearsals are proving intensive but fun, as we aim to have everything prepared for streaming over the term ahead. Fingers crossed that the positive start is safely sustained over the next few weeks. The performers have thoroughly taken to the idea that this is a semi-televised production, enabling them to explore different scales of expression, from subtle to spectacular. Watch this space for further news of the school production featuring six Josephs!

On Tuesday 19th October, Year 12 took part in their annual (and this year virtual) conference, which this year was entitled '**Will Biden Top Trumps?**' - focusing on the forthcoming US Election. The aim of the conference was to allow students to gain the opportunity not only to understand the United States and its politics better, but also to consider the ramifications of this Election for us in the UK and throughout the world! We were very fortunate to have five speakers contributing to this conference, allowing us to look at the Election from a number of different angles. *Augustine Tanner-Ihm* who looks at the impact on the American people of the death of *George Floyd* at the hands of white American police in May and the **Black Lives Matter** movement which arose in response to it. *Chris Wolf* who examines the Republicans who have formed the Lincoln Project to rebel against their leader while remaining Republican at heart. *Professor Natasha Lindstaedt* looked at Trump's populist style of leadership and its impact on true democracy. We were also led by *Professor Iwan Morgan* to consider how the history of the United States has shaped America and to reflect on how our history resonates in our present. *Michael Johnson*, looked at why this Election matters beyond the US- what does it mean here in the UK and the rest of the world.

Thank you to all our speakers for giving us your time and talent and of course our schools for (virtually) attending; *Raynes Park High School, Wimbledon College, St Philomena's, Mulberry Academy, Ursuline School Dallas, St Angela's Ursuline School, The American School in London, (Harris Westminster), (Ursuline College Westgate) and (The Ursuline Academy Ilford).*

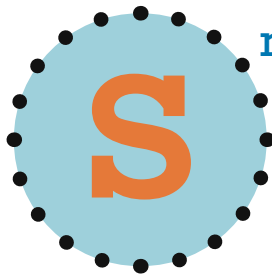
Ursuline Links



Some exciting news was released on the Feast of Saint Ursula. Check out the newly redesigned Ursuline Links website, to learn more about our youth volunteer programme sponsored by the Ursuline Sisters!

Take a look >>>

www.ursulinelinks.org



netball tennis football athletics
 rock climbing cross country
 trampolining basketball hockey
 dance duke of edinburgh award
 wimbledon ball girls cycling

Fun in the Sun!

Fitness Tests and Rounders



We also got Year 10 GCSE P.E's heart rates up with some fitness tests in our sports court!



Students (and the P.E dept) were very happy to be back up and moving outdoors in our fantastic sports areas this half term! Yr11 enjoyed a break from study to play rounders, modified with cones but still a fun stress reliever- much needed at the moment!



Year 7 enjoyed some fun in the sun with some adapted netball. Learning the skills needed to pass and move into space. Watch that footwork!!!

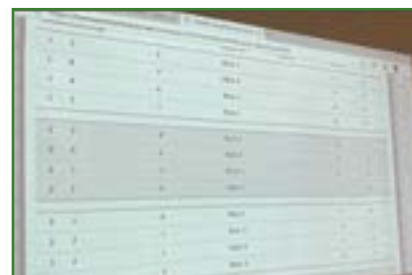
Striving for Equality!



During Black History Month, Year 10 looked at Racism in Football and on a more positive note students looked at Black Female Sporting Icons- such as the Williams sisters and Althea Gibson! Sport is an excellent platform to continue to strive for equality!



Football at Morley Park



Year 8 also enjoyed another fantastic football 'world cup!' You can see their position rankings on your left!

Some excellent football has been occurring at Morley Park (left). The current unit has come to an end so putting all their skills to good use!