



Worthy Words of Wisdom



“I really enjoyed listening to Patrice, I already reserved my copy of her book *New Daughters of Africa*.”
Year 10 Student

“The fake news journalism talk was very entertaining while also teaching us about fake news in real life!”
Year 12 Student

Students certainly reaped the benefits of **Wimbledon Bookfest** at Wimbledon Common this year. Our highlights included; over 50 students in Years 8 and 9 attending the **Prize Winners' Event** on **Wednesday 18th September**, **Madeleine** (Year 10) was presented with her prize as overall winner of the Bookfest's competition. She was commended for her writing on the theme *"The Island"*, which explores dementia and its isolating effects. Before the presentation, students enjoyed hearing author **Malorie Blackman** (bottom, middle) being interviewed by ex-Blue Peter presenter **Konnie Huq**. We were honoured to host award-winning author **Patrice Lawrence**

(top), on **Wednesday 2nd October**, Patrice came to speak with Year 10 students from Ursuline and **Ricards Lodge** about her new book **Rose, Interrupted**. Patrice introduced students to her body of work as well as the aspects of her life and her identity which influence her writing. She gave a powerful presentation and many students were openly struck by her message on representation in Young Adult novels and how she seeks to diversify voices in YA literature, so that more students can find a character who they can identify with. Students were excited to have the opportunity of a meet and greet where they discussed their own sources of inspiration and ideas. The event was organised in conjunction with Ursuline's **Global Reading Project** launched last year.

Year 12 students had the opportunity to attend a Politics talk with **Wimbledon College** hosted by **Tatton Spiller (Simple Politics)**, the **Critical Minds Conference** run in conjunction with the **University of Roehampton**. This aimed to give sixth formers a taste of what studying at university would be like, with **TED** style talks on specialist subjects. Many sixth formers signed up to volunteer at the fest- putting their organisation skills to the test. What amazing experiences!





headlines

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Dear Parents and Friends,

Year 9 ended the term with the first of three conferences exploring their role as stewards of our environment. Our Leavers' Profile now includes a special reference to students' understanding of the environment. Ms Murphy and Mr Creasy are working with students on Cafod's Live simply Award. We look forward to making further improvements in our school environment and as a community taking care of what we have.

Students have enjoyed a whole host of extra curricular activities this term. Please encourage your daughter to join in; enjoying being part of something bigger than your self helps support everyone's emotional wellbeing.

Thank you for your support this half term
Have a relaxing half term.

Best wishes

Julia Waters

Julia Waters BSc (Hons) MA
Headteacher



Mental Health Matters



We celebrated **Mental Health Day** on *Thursday 10th October* with a week of activities to raise awareness of mental health and promote positive emotional wellbeing. Students have made pledges for their own emotional wellbeing, experienced a mindfulness meditation and taken part in a whole school quiz hoping to win the most points for their house. We have also developed a wellbeing area in our library (top) and hope to build on this throughout the year.

On Mental Health Day itself, we welcomed wellbeing speaker **Matt Pepper** (left) to give a talk to Years 8 and 10 on mental and emotional wellness and how to implement the '7 ways to life changing happiness'. Matt is also the author of the successful book; **Happiness: The Inside Job** available from various online book providers.

We concluded the week with a **UHS Mental Health Mile** (bottom, left) open to all staff and students with the aim to support mental health awareness and raising some money for mental health charity **Young Minds**.



Ada Lovelace



"I am surprised to find out that a women started technology... especially programming" Student

Ada Lovelace day was a wonderful day to celebrate **STEM**. Students received special Ada stickers and enjoyed a Ada club at lunch. We celebrate this day not just to remember her but all things STEM that were generated from her.

Schools for Success!



"I am delighted that UHS has been recognised for its work on progress of all students..." Ms Waters

Ursuline High School, Wimbledon has been awarded a certificate of recognition for our exceptional work in sharing good practice (we have been in the **top 1% of schools nationally for value added** and **top 10% for students progress for four consecutive years**) and helping to boost education for all Londoners.

It was celebrated at the **'Schools for Success' Awards Ceremony** on *Friday 27th September*, hosted by Deputy Mayor for Education and Childcare; **Joanne McCartney**.

Two of our students couldn't wait to pose with our framed award of success above!

See the school website for more details!

Day of the Girl



"WOW has inspired me to be confident and proud as a woman.." Student

To celebrate **International Day of the Girl** we took six students to the **WOW** Foundation's event on the Southbank. They took part in speed-mentoring event on the London Eye and then saw **Radio 1 DJ Clara Amfo** being interviewed by WOW's president **Jude Kelly**. *See the school website for more details!*

Garry Hollihed



“We got to taste the dish.. it was amazing” Student

We were delighted that **Garry Hollihed** (3 Michelin star chef) was able to join us for the official opening of the Ursuline’s new canteen. He did a demonstration for a group of **Year 11 Food Preparation and Nutrition students**. Making Roasted cod, served with a fricassee of Cornish mussels, fresh borlotti beans, girolles, served with a sea to earth volute. Many thanks to Garry for taking the time to provide our students with the experience and our Governors for attending. A fitting way to officially open our new dining hall and canteen.

Avila Catholic Formation Programme



The **Avila Partnership** welcomed eighteen Catholic Primary and Secondary Schools for the **‘What Makes Great Catholic Schools’** first seminar at *etc.venues, Pimlico* on **Thursday 19th September**. The programme will have five seminars over the course of the academic year ending with a publication on what makes great Catholic schools. It began with guest speaker, **Professor Tina Beattie** from *Roehampton University* opening the series of seminars with a talk on Catholic Social Teaching, giving the delegates much to discuss.



My Future....



Year 11 had a motivational day focusing on themselves and their futures as part of their Careers programme – the morning featured their **My Future... Conference**, looking at their skills, qualities and experiences and hearing from a fabulous array of inspiring speakers. Their afternoon involved writing up their CV in preparation for work experience, research and applications and also preparing for their personal guidance careers interview later this term. With thanks to our speakers; **Jennifer Anafi-Acquah**: Assistant Producer at *Studio Ramsay*, **Ellie McGregor**: Mental Health Social Worker, **Natalie Michalski**: UX Consultant at *Capgemini*, **Aghogho Akponah**: Innovation Consultant at *Capgemini* and **Annette Tony-Fadipe**: APPRENTICEHIPS - ASK Adviser at *Education Development Trust*.



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Stephen Hammond MP!



Year 12 Business and Economics students had an insightful visit from **Stephen Hammond** (Conservative MP for Wimbledon, Raynes Park, Morden and Motspur Park) this half term. Students enjoyed quizzing Mr Hammond on a variety of issues of concern to them, including social housing, the NHS as well as how he makes sure he represents his diverse array of constituents- particularly young people. Many thanks to Mr Hammond for attending!

Leading The Way



Girls’ Schools Conference at *Westminster Central Hall* on **Friday 4th October**.

The focus of the day was looking at the heart of girls’ state school education and the challenges facing young women today. Speeches heard included **Baroness Harrison**, our Director of Learning, Supreme Court and other leading women- inspiring!

Two Year 12 students, **Georgina** and **Emily**, accompanied **Polly Hale** President of the **Association of State** leading women- inspiring!

Open Evening



Many thanks to all parents, carers and students who attended our **Sixth Form Open Evening** on **Thursday 10th October**. We hope you all enjoyed finding out more about the vast array of opportunities our sixth form has to offer!

Year 13 Celebrate



We were delighted to welcome **Priscilla Li** Head of Applied Digital Innovation at *Capgemini* to speak to the current Year 13 at their **Celebration Evening** this half term for all they achieved in Year 12. Students were inspired by the talk and An enjoyable evening was had by all Congratulations to all the award winners!

See the school website for more details!

Oxford!



We were delighted with a visit from **UHS Alumnae Vanesa** who was supported by the **Ursuline’s Oxbridge Programme** and is currently in her 2nd year studying German at Oxford university! She is hoping to study in Vienna or Berlin in her 3rd year!



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

Fantastic Football at Morley Park!



This term we hosted the **KS3 and KS4 Merton Borough Football Tournaments at Morley Park** with Schools such as *Ricards Lodge, Harris Academy Merton, Harris Academy Wimbledon and Raynes Park High Schools* coming to play at our new fields for the first time. Both tournaments displayed some excellent Football by all teams and both of our KS3 and KS4 Teams finished in Second Place. Well done to all who played!



Our first Round draw in the **Surrey Cup U14s** category saw us play last year's finalists, *Greenshaw*, in a closely fought game. No goals could separate the 2 strong sides until late into the second half when a fierce shot from Muna (8A) was spilled by Greenshaw's keeper, giving Emily (8M) the perfect opportunity to follow up and slot home the 1-0 winner from a tight angle. The team will face the winner of *Woodcote High School or Blenheim High School* in the next round next half term!

PGL Trip



As you can see from the photos above, Year 7 students had a fantastic time on their **PGL** residential trip to **Liddington** this half term.

Students enjoyed spending time with their new found friends and had their endurance skills put



to the test with a jam-packed few days of activities including; raft building, zip-lining, campfires, a sensory trail, rowing, archery, climbing and a variety of other survival skills. An action packed adventure was had by all!

Rugby



A fantastic first half term of progress for our **Rugby Club**. Tackles galore and players not afraid to hold on, run the ball or pass. Quick thinking on their feet as well. Excellent work everyone!

Cross Country



Well done to our borough **Cross Country Team** who completed at *Merton Park* this term. A **1st and 2nd** place in **Year 7, 3rd place in Year 8** and **2nd place in Year 10!** Well done

notepad

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Sun 27th Oct | Dallas Trip Returns |
| Mon 28th/ Tues 30th Oct | INSET DAYS |
| Weds 30th Oct | SCHOOL RETURNS |
| (All Week) | Mock Oxbridge Interviews |
| (8.45-9.35am) | Year 9 Drug Awareness Conference |
| (12.40-1.35pm) | Lunch for St Ursula House Feast Day |
| Thurs 31st Oct | (All Day) |
| (All Day) | Year 13 Academic Review Day |
| (8.45-9.35am) | A Level Spanish Trip; BFI |
| | Year 10 Drug Awareness Conference; Hall |
| Fri 1st Nov | Remembrance Book in the Foyer |
| (All Day) | Year 7 Maths Trip to British Museum |
| (1.00-1.35am) | All Saints Day Mass, Chapel |
| Mon 4th Nov | Parliament Week |
| (10.30-10.55am) | Lighting of Candles & Prayer for the Deceased; Chapel |
| (10.55-11.45am) | Year 9 Tycoon Enterprise; Hall |
| Tues 5th Nov (Y12: 8.45, Y13: 9.40) | Year 10 Learning Conference; Hall |
| Weds 6th Nov (7.00pm) | Creative Arts Speaker Talks |
| (3.15-4.30pm) | Year 7 Commissioning Service, Hall |
| Fri 8th Nov (All Day) | Generations Together Forum; USFC |
| (10.30am) | Year 7 Battle of Hastings Trip |
| Mon 11th Dec (12.40-1.25pm) | UPA Doughnut Day |
| Tues 12th Nov (8.45-10.30am) | Remembrance Service; Chapel |
| (10.55-12.40am) | Year 12 & 13 Head Girl Hustings |
| Weds 13th Dec (10.55-11.45am) | Year 7 Back to School Event (POP A) |
| (3.30-5.30pm) | Year 9 Curriculum Project Day 2; Hall |
| (10.55-12.40am) | Year 10 Learning Conference, Hall |
| (10.55-11.45am) | Year 7 Back to School Event (POP B) |
| (1.00-2.00pm) | Year 10 Learning Conference; Hall |
| Thurs 14th Nov (All Day) | Year 12 Berkley Homes Visit |
| (1.00-2.00pm) | Generations Together Forum; WC |
| Fri 15th Nov (2.00-3.45pm) | Year 12 Construction Challenge; Covent Garden Challenge; Hall |
| (7.00-9.00pm) | A Level Art Gallery Visit |
| Mon 18th Nov (10.00-2.00pm) | UPA Quiz Night |
| (Until Weds 26th Nov) | St Angela's Forest Gate Visiting For Insieme Day |
| Weds 20th Nov (All Day) | Year 13 Mock Exams |
| (6.00-7.00pm) | St Angela's Forest Gate Visiting For Insieme Day |
| Thurs 21st Nov (All Day) | Covent Garden Challenge Final; Hall |
| Fri 22nd Dec (All Week) | Drug and Alcohol Awareness Parents' Evening; Hall |
| Mon 25th Nov (All Day) | A Level French Trip; BFI |
| (REG & P1) | INSET DAY |
| Tues 26th Nov (10.00am) | Head Girl Interviews |
| Weds 27th Nov (1.25-3.10pm) | Year 13 Business Studies Pitch to Year 7 Why School Matters to Your Extraordinary Future; Dining Hall |
| Thurs 28th Nov (7.30-10.00pm) | Year 10 An Inspector Calls Theatre Trip; New Wimbledon Theatre |
| Fri 29th Nov (10.55am-12.40pm) | Primary School Production Performance |
| (2.00-2.30pm) | Year 13 STEM Career Paths Talk |
| (7.30-10.00pm) | School Production: The Sound of Music; Hall. <i>Ticketed Event.</i> |
| Mon 2nd Dec (Y12: 8.45, Y13: 9.40) | A Level French Trip; BFI |
| (Until Tues 17th Dec) | Year 9 Christmas Fair |
| Weds 4th Dec (12.40-1.20pm) | Christmas Tree Service; Chapel |
| Fri 6th Dec (10.55-12.40am) | School Production: The Sound of Music; Hall. <i>Ticketed Event.</i> |
| (2.00pm) | Year 12 & 13 Healthcare Panel |
| Tues 10th Dec (8.45-10.30am) | Year 11 Mock Exams |
| Weds 11th Dec (1.35-4.00pm) | Lunch and Learn Career Talk; Finance Sector |
| Thurs 12th Dec (2.30-2.00pm) | Year 13 Social Sciences Trip |
| Fri 13th Dec (10.55am-12.40pm) | Year 8 Christmas Fair |
| Mon 16th Dec (8.00-9.00pm) | School Council Meeting; SFCR |
| (1.30-3.00pm) | Human Rights Day |
| Fri 20th Dec | Year 8 Assembly and Careers Speaker; Dining Hall |
| Mon 23rd Dec- Fri 3rd Jan | Year 12 & 13 Christmas Fair; USFC |
| Mon 6th Jan | Christmas Netball Festival |
| | A Level German Trip; BFI |
| | Christmas Lunch |
| | Year 12 & 13 Physics in Action |
| | Year 7 Christmas Fair |
| | Joint Christmas Carol Service with WC; Sacred Heart Church |
| | Christmas Party for the Retired Members of the Community |
| | Christmas Assemblies |
| | TERM ENDS |
| | CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS |
| | SCHOOL RETURNS |