

# Ursuline Links Newsletter



Royal Albert Hall – OnSide Awards 2019

# Welcome

Welcome to the Autumn Newsletter. The year has started off really well and we're already finalising our projects and beginning to select our volunteers from each of the schools.

We have had a little change around in roles here at Ursuline Links. Hannah

Also, thanks to a volunteer staff member we have even managed to keep a young Ursuline Links project going in Ursuline Academy, Ilford.

Another exciting development this term is that work is finally finished on the top floor of the Desenzano house.

## “We’re finalising our projects and beginning to select our volunteers”

Wood left us in the summer and is having an amazing time travelling at the moment and making us all jealous with her sunny pictures.

Cleo Gammon is working an additional day so that between herself and Sr. Kathleen all our schools were covered for the monthly meetings. These meetings are well underway with lots of amazing students anxious to offer their help in summer 2020.

We have two additional shower rooms so we can now continue our residential programme.

We hope you enjoy reading about our news; it's likely to be an amazing year ahead.



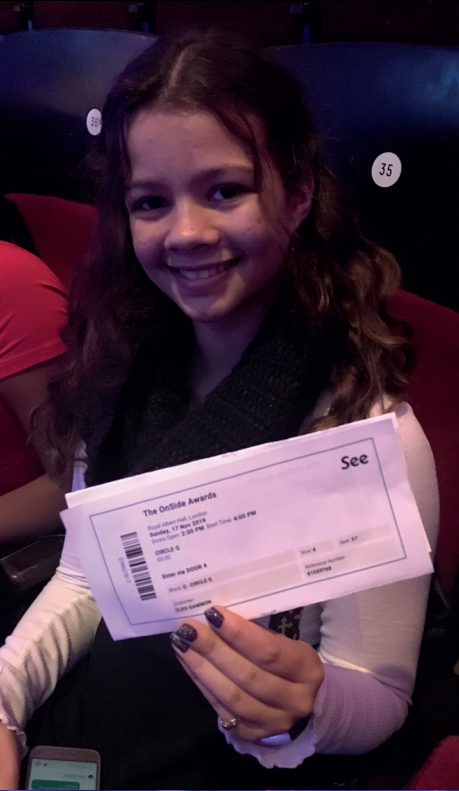
# Royal Albert Hall – OnSide Awards 2019

The OnSide Awards, 2019 was a spectacular occasion, bringing together the whole of the OnSide community to recognise the amazing achievements of young people, volunteers and staff from OnSide Youth Zones. Young people from across the OnSide network competed for a place to perform on the day and these incredibly talented

young stars brought the show to life! The prestigious OnSide Awards were presented to young people who have made a real difference in their community, have breakthrough talent or have overcome the most challenging of circumstances. It was a moving and inspirational event.







“On Sunday 17th November, 3 members of staff, 6 other Ursuline Links students and I met at Ilford Train Station and then made our way to the Royal Albert Hall for the very first OnSide Awards. We found our seats at the top of the Hall with a great view of the stage. There was a very big audience, many people, many schools and many youth zones from all around England came to watch. There was a DJ on deck playing music for the time being before it all started.

Harry, the Script and many other famous people. There were various awards to young people and many good performances that included singing and dancing. It was quite inspiring to see young people getting recognised for their effort and participation”.

Pooja, Year 10 Student

“On the 17th November, The Jack Petchey Foundation extended an invitation to Ursuline Links, to watch the

“Many young people were rewarded for their achievements and their talent inspired all of us”

At 4pm, when it all began two presenters came on stage and announced the beginning of the show. My favourite act was the first one, a group of amazing young dancers, called D.I.C.E, performed for us and it was mind-blowing. There were around 12 acts overall made up from different singers, rappers, dancers etc... between each act an Onside prize would be awarded to the winner of the nominated challenges. One of the awards was even presented by HRH Prince Harry himself. It was a great experience for all of us and we hope to repeat it again next year.”

very first annual OnSide awards, to which myself and other members of Ursuline Links had the privilege of attending. Many young people were rewarded for their achievements and their talent inspired all of us. One of the awards was even presented by HRH Prince Harry, who gave a moving speech about mental health and wellbeing. The awards ceremony was spotted with amazing performances, from 9-year-old Kai playing guitar and singing, to guest performers The Script, John Newman and Ms Banks. I would like to say a huge thank you to The Jack Petchey Foundation and Ursuline Links for this amazing opportunity and I cannot wait until next year”.

Wiktorija, Year 8 Student

Nicole D, Year 10 Student

“On Sunday, we went to the Royal Albert Hall, to the OnSide Awards. We had a really good day and saw Prince





## St. Ursula's Year 11 Social Justice Project

An exciting new venture this year is our year 11 project at St. Ursula's in Greenwich. Due to St. Ursula's not having a sixth form, they have never been able to take part in our summer projects although they have been extremely supportive of Ursuline Links.

So this year, we decided to hold monthly meetings and training days for year 11 in St. Ursula's and organise a Social Justice Project just for them. We plan on running this after their exams in June and they are very excited by it. Watch this space!



## Ursuline Academy Ilford second monthly meeting

This was the second monthly meeting for our Ursuline Links Volunteers from Ursuline Academy Ilford and the group had grown. Our theme was "United in Harmony" and the girls had the opportunity to reflect on

a reading from Romans as well as an inspiring quote from St. Angela. We ended the session by reflecting on our hopes and fears for the projects which will be revisited in the months ahead. Exciting Times!!!



“My last word to you, by which I implore you even with my blood, is that you live in harmony, united together, all of one heart and one will. Be bound to one another by the bond of charity, esteeming each other, helping each other, bearing with each other in Jesus Christ.”

A Reading from St Angela's Last Counsel

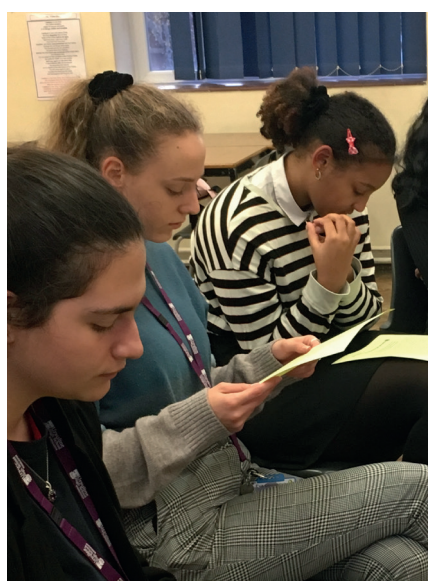




## Wimbledon first monthly meeting

It was a pleasure to meet the girls at Wimbledon Ursuline for our very first session. Our theme was Serviam and the girls reflected on what it means to serve in their everyday lives at home, in school and out and about.

As well as reflecting on Scripture and an inspirational quote from St. Angela, the girls were also challenged to wake up each morning and say "Serviam – I will serve" reminding them to serve others daily.

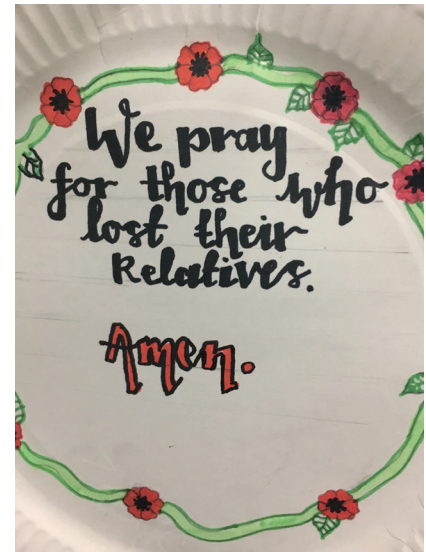
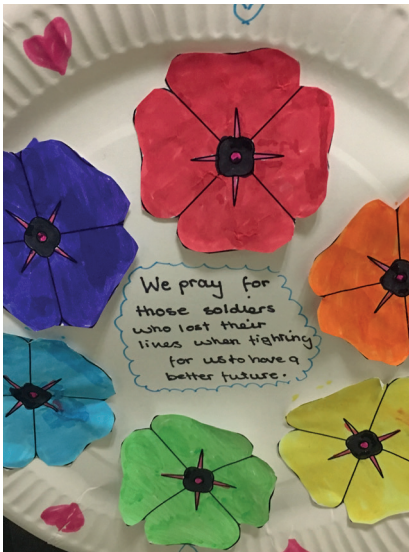


The 2020 projects were explained and all the girls went away feeling inspired about serving others next summer.

The same pattern of monthly meetings has been used in our other schools in Ilford, Westgate, Brentwood, Greenwich and Forest Gate.



# Ursuline Academy Ilford November Remembrance



November began with two beautiful days the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls.

Ursuline Academy Ilford Young Ursuline Links group created a display, with the assistance of some year 10s, to help the school to remember and pray.

"November is traditionally the month where we remember all of those who have died so In Young Ursuline Links we all made paper poppies, we stuck them on a plate and wrote a nice remembrance message or prayer. The display was

put up in reception for everyone to view. It encouraged students and visitors to take some time out to reflect and pray. One of the prayers read... We pray for those soldiers who lost their lives when fighting for us to have a better future.

I think it is nice to wear poppies and remind people of what the soldiers did for us but also to remember all the other people who have died and those who mourn them."

Zahra, Year 8 UAI



## St Angela's first monthly meeting

Wednesday 27th November marked our first monthly meeting in St. Angela's, Forest Gate. We met in the beautiful school chapel and I was greatly impressed with the huge number of students wanting to volunteer. We even had some male volunteers which would be excellent!

Discussing future projects as well as the theme "Serviam" the students enjoyed sweet treats while sharing random facts from discussion cards.



## Additional shower rooms at Desenzano House

Another exciting development this term is that work is finally finished on the top floor of the Desenzano house.



# Ursuline Links Newsletter



## Thank you

As always, it would not be possible to do what we do without the generosity of so many people. The following organisations and people have helped contribute to the work Ursuline Links is doing this term – thank you:

- Asper's Westfield
- George and Louise Trapp
- St Antony's Parish at Durning Hall
- Sr. Catherine's marmalade sales
- The Jack Petchey Foundation
- Ursuline Prep, Wimbledon
- Anonymous donations

If you are interested in learning more about the work Ursuline Links does or would like to make a donation, please contact us at [cgammon.ursulinelinks@gmail.com](mailto:cgammon.ursulinelinks@gmail.com)