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Voluntary Aided 11-18 Roman Catholic School for Girls
Headteacher: Mr Eoin Kelly

Crescent Road, Wimbledon, London SW20 8HA
020 8255 2688 / www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

7th June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Headteacher's Weekly Roundup Summer B Week 1

We welcomed all the students back to school this week for the final run of this academic year. Year 8 have been exemplary in their application and effort in preparing and performing in their end of year exams. Well done and they deserve a good rest this weekend.

On Thursday we had an unscheduled Fire alarm at the start of lesson one. The students in the school were exceptional in their response and evacuation. The timing of this was unfortunate as it coincided with the 9am start time of public examinations in A' Levels and GCSEs. Thankfully, the whole school community of students and staff were 100% focused on the students in their exams and this reflected the ethos and culture of the school focusing on helping others.

I was delighted to hear the recollections of the students in Year 9 and 10 who went to Largenté on the French students exchange programme: staying with families, experiencing French school and getting an in-depth cultural experience. The highlight was the trip to Lourdes which was an excellent lead into the theme of 2024-25 being the Year of Pilgrimage in the Church. It appears we are in a period of peak exchange as we also welcomed the students from the Ursuline Academy in Dallas, USA. This exchange benefits not only the students directly involved in hosting and participating but also all the students in the school who get to meet and know Ursuline students from across the world.

Highlights of the Week

Attendance this week across all year groups has been excellent, so thank you to parents and carers in supporting this most important priority for your children's education.

I met one of the students this week who attended the HAF programme we offered over half-term and she was so effusive about the experience. 30 students were led by staff at school, there was a boat trip on the Thames, a visit to the cinema and then all participants enjoyed a meal in a restaurant together. We are really fortunate to have the staff in school to ensure that students get these exceptional cultural enrichment experiences in holiday times.

Focus areas for next week

Students are being asked to be much more considerate about how they leave their belongings down before entering the Dining Hall. Students in a rush to get to the front of queues at break times are not being careful or considerate in how they do this and bags are being dropped or dumped with little consideration either for the contents and resources contained inside the bags or where they are being dropped and this impacts on others. We have spoken about this specifically in assemblies and tutor time. Students who leave bags in an unsafe place, such as a doorway (trip hazard) will have them removed and sanctions issued.

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Some upcoming events & dates

Monday 10th June : Year 10 mock orals/Year 13 T Level Work Placements until Friday 5th July

Tuesday 11th June : KS5 French Trip to South Kensington 12:45-9pm/Year 9&10 Merton Borough Rounders at Morley Park 2-5pm

Thursday 13th June : Year 12 Sociology Trip to Buddhist Temple Wimbledon

Friday 14th June : Year 12 Business T-Level work placement dates; Fri 14th June-Thurs 11th July

News and announcements

Our fantastic modern pavilion at Morley Park remains available for hire on Monday, Tuesday and Friday nights due to the withdrawal of one of our hirers. If you know anyone who is looking for a facility to host classes, dancing, Pilates, meetings, etc., please direct them to this facility for them to get in touch. We can discuss flexible letting arrangements to meet the needs of any interested individual, business, group or community organisation.

Please follow the link to: [Morley Park Playing Fields Lettings](#)

Newsletters

[Newsletters](#) – school-wide, year group, and Catholic Life

Parents and Carers Resources

Catholic Life of the School

As a Catholic school it is important that we share with our parents, carers, and wider community, how our Catholic Ethos is embedded in school life, and engage in dialogue with you about how you can become more involved in the mission and direction of Catholic education through our charism of Ursuline Education. Visit our [website](#) to read more about what we currently do to embed our Catholic ethos into school life.



Year 12s enjoyed an inspiring trip to Bath University on 4th June, providing students with a glimpse of life beyond sixth form in further education

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Students had a great time on their French exchange programme in Largenté over the half-term!



Well done to our U15 Cricketers, who even with a mildly depleted team beat Raynes Park High School in the straight final at the Merton Borough Competition on 5th June! Fantastic work.





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We have enjoyed the company of our fellow Ursulines from Ursuline Academy Dallas this week. Staff and students have been showing our guests around central London and the local vicinity. Dallas students created presentations on life in Dallas and their Ursuline traditions to give our students a taste of daily life there. Students have been fascinated by the differences in the British and American educational system.

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Quick Links

[Arbor](#) - student records and reports

[School Calendar](#)

[Catholic Life & Mission](#)

[Curriculum Information](#)

[Newsletters](#) – school-wide, year group, and Catholic Life

[Headteacher's Weekly Roundups](#)

[ParentPay](#) - lunch card top ups and other purchases

[Parent Engagement & Communications overview](#)

[Parent Portals](#) – Arbor and ParentPay – Parent Guides & FAQs

[Safeguarding, Health & Well-being](#) (please note that this section is currently undergoing an overhaul).

[Sancta Familia Consultation](#)

[Term Dates 2023/2024](#)

[Term Dates 2024/2025](#)

[Ursuline Directory](#)

Wishing you and your family a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully

Eoin Kelly
Headteacher

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