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Ursuline
High School
WIMBLEDON

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

17th May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Headteacher's Weekly Roundup Summer A Week 5

It's with sadness that we learned that Sr. Frances Oakley died peacefully last Saturday, 11th May. May she rest in peace. Sr. Frances had been an Ursuline for more than 60 years. She had been provincial from 1991 - 1997 so would have been Chair of Governors /a Governor in each of your schools. Please keep her in your prayers.

The school is in full examination season now with the start of A Level written papers. Students appeared confident and determined this week, which is indicative of the hard work and diligent preparation. We continue to wish them well and keep on the message, 'answer the question as requested.'

Highlights of the Week

Giulia (Year 12) won the Best Reporter of the Year award in the Guardian Young Reporter Journalism Scheme. This is part of our Sixth Form enrichment offer which runs from September to May each year. The students submit a monthly article for the Guardian's online newspaper. Giulia has impressed the judges with her array of articles which covered "Galentines' Day" (for the celebration of female friendship) through to interviewing the Italian entrepreneur behind a new chain of Italian delicatessens "Prezemole & Vitale". The programme is open to students across the country and hundreds of students take part each year. Well-done to Giulia for standing out in this high-level competition."

Alumnae, Aggie Beever-Jones, was selected to represent England, claiming the Number 9 shirt in the Senior Squad. Aggie plays for Chelsea as a Professional Footballer and this week she has been recognised in her selection for the Lionesses. An amazing role model for our students, Aggie balanced the demands of completing her A Levels alongside exceptional training demands. She excelled in both.

[England Women's player profile: Aggie Beever-Jones](#) | [England Football](#)

Focus areas for next week

Good luck to all our Year 7s who sit their Year 7 examinations next week. They are primed and ready with revision and all they have to do now is to continue to do their best. Their best is always good enough.

We continue to insist on the need for silence in and around the exam halls in consideration of the students sitting Public Exams.

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Some upcoming events & dates

Year 7 End of Year Exam Week

Monday 20th May 6pm - Online Teams meeting for the parents of students hosting Dallas students.

Polly Harrison & Debra Beale

Tuesday 21st May 6pm - School trip to Largenté departs 21st & Returns 26th/

Year 10 Parents' Revision Evening for Internal Exams

Wednesday 22nd May 2-5pm - Year 9/10 Merton Borough Cricket at UHS 2pm-5pm. at Morley Park.

News and announcements

Our fantastic modern pavilion at Morley Park has become 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 and 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

As if you didn't know already, The Guardian ran an article this week on the value of girls' education. Please take a look;

[Girls do better in exams at all-girls schools than mixed, research finds | Schools | The Guardian](#)

Growth Mindset: The Power of Believing You Can Improve

We all know that students who have a certain mindset, or attitude to learning, are more successful in school and happier in their learning. Leading Psychologist, Speaker and Author, Carol Dweck, summarises it as follows: "In a Growth Mindset, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work. They reject that talent alone creates success — without effort." This [Ted Talk by Carol Dweck](#), whilst it was recorded almost 10 years ago, remains 100% relevant today.

How can parents and carers support?

Carol and other experts say that "Understanding Growth Mindset and then making small, yet significant, changes in the way we talk to young people will have a lasting impact. Praise that emphasises a young person's efforts, actions, and strategies yields greater persistence and better performance over the long term. Praise that focuses on intelligence or talent promotes significantly less persistence and performance."

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Giulia (Year 12) who won the best reporter of the year award in the Guardian Young Reporter journalism scheme. Congratulations Giulia!



Sr Francis Oakley OSU. Sadley passed away on Saturday 11th May 2024. May she rest in peace.

Aggie Beever-Jones selected by Sarina Wiegman to join the England squad for the 4 Euro qualifying games this Summer.



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Year 10 and 12 students attended Balliol College, Oxford, for a campus tour and talk on Tuesday 14th May.



A huge well done to our Year 7-10 Athletics Team who competed in the Merton Borough Athletics Competition at the David Weir Leisure Centre, Carshalton. A particular well done to *Iliana* and *Silvia* with phenomenal wins in their 100m and 300m heats. And a Gold Medal for our Junior Girls 4x100m relay team!!!

Overall results:

Y7s: 3rd , Y8/9: 2nd , Y10: 3rd.

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Year 7 & 8 Trip to see Jesus Christ Superstar at Wimbledon Theatre on Wednesday 15th May.



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Local primary schools paid us a visit to take part in a STEM Day with Biology, Chemistry, and Maths departments today.



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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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