

# Year 8 Update

See page 2 for a snapshot of upcoming events & page 3 for contacts!



## Spring Term B 2024

### Dear Parents / Carers,

Year 8 has had an excellent half term, and students have continued living out Serviam, accumulating 2,315 Serviam passport entries between them – a phenomenal demonstration of their commitment to the school's core values. We were also thrilled to see the large number of Year 8s taking part in the St Cecilia Concert, a wonderful occasion and the students sung beautifully. Thanks to the many parents who came to support.

During this liturgical season, Christians focus on 3 key areas: Prayer, Repentance and Giving and Year 8 students have been participating in various activities in the last 4 weeks to live out these areas: students were offered the opportunity to take part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, supported the Wimbledon Foodbank, recognised and gave thanks to those people in our school community who support and help us by writing messages to them. Students have ended Spring B with their Easter liturgies, in which they behaved with the upmost reverence and respect.

Year 8s raise over £8,200 for their Philanthropy Project!

We are so proud of year 8 for having put their heart and soul into their fundraising for their chosen charities in the Philanthropy project. As a year group they have raised over £8,200 which is the most any year group has ever raised. The project aims to help our students understand about social justice and live out Catholic Social Teaching. It is taught across PSHEC, Music and RE, and will culminate in the Grand Final on Friday 26 April when each class will make a pitch to win an extra £1000 for their charity. Thank you to all the parents who have helped support the year 8s in their fundraising. You should be very proud!

We were delighted to see so many students participating in Multicultural Evening and for the first time this year cultural day! Many cultures were celebrated through dance, singing, fashion shows and the sharing of delicious food. It was lovely to see so many Year 8s – and their families - celebrating their cultures together. We were pleased to see so many parents engaging in our Academic Review days as our term has come to an end, we hope you have found them informative. Congratulations to Year 8 on a brilliant Spring Term! We look forward to what the Summer Term brings with many more events and activities scheduled including UHS Fest and Sports Day planning in the works.

We wish you and your families a healthy, happy, and blessed Easter, and look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April. Thank you as always for your continued support.

Kind Regards,  
**Ms Torode**  
Head of Year 8

*There have also been some other great achievements this half term, you can find these on our [P.E Dept Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)!*

## Students' Achievements

**Year 8 Total Rewards: 6814**

### 1 - Most Rewards:

1. Giada CG
2. Elizabeth S

Congratulations to **8T** who are currently leading the way with **1456** Reward Points

### 2 – Highest Attendance:

Congratulations to **8A** who continue to lead the way with **96.9%** attendance.

### 3 – External Success:

Students involved in the gardening group have had huge success.

Philanthropy fundraising has been exceptional.

**Evie M & Jasmine S** won the netball league for their club (Tiffin) at the weekend.

They also competed with **Georgina N** in a dance competition.

**Georgia K** and **Georgia B** also performed in Legally Blonde at the weekend as part of their theatre group!



*If your daughter participates in sport or other activities outside of school do encourage her to let us know.*

## Spring B Highlights

- The start of Lent and Ramadan
- St Cecilia Concert
- Start of Philanthropy Project
- Multicultural Evening
- School Council



**Multicultural Evening & Culture Day**



**Passion Service**



**St Cecilia Concert**

# Year 8 Update



## Upcoming Events:

### April

- 6<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> April- Ski Trip
- 15<sup>th</sup> April – Return to School: Start of Summer A Term
- 16<sup>th</sup> April – Year 8 Parents' Revision Evening for Internal Exams
- 25<sup>th</sup> April – Year 8 Parents' Evening
- 27<sup>th</sup> April – Year 8 Philanthropy Grand Final



### May

- May – School Closed for May Day Bank Holiday
- 7<sup>th</sup> May – Mental Health Awareness Week
- 9<sup>th</sup> May – Voluntary Mass for the Feast of the Ascension
- 17<sup>th</sup> May – Key Stage 3 Performance Showcase
- 27<sup>th</sup>– 31<sup>st</sup> May – Half Term

## Looking Ahead

- 3<sup>rd</sup> June – School Returns
- 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Year 8 End-of-Year Exam Week
- 28<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day
- 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Year 8 Serviam Assembly; Hall
- 9<sup>th</sup> July – Year 8 Celebration; Hall
- 11<sup>th</sup> July – End of Year Concert
- 5<sup>th</sup> July – Sports Awards Dinner; Hall
- 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> July – UHS Fest Week
- 18<sup>th</sup> July – End of Term - Summer Holiday

\*Please note this is not a complete event list and is intended to provide a snapshot only. Events may be subject to change.

## Year 8 Virtues

Spring Term: Compassionate

Summer Term: Faith-Filled



Students presenting assembly St John Fisher Primary



Philanthropy Cake Sale Fundraising



Year 8 Trip to Morden Mosque

## Wellbeing



**NHS**  
South West London and  
St George's Mental Health  
NHS Trust

### Merton Education Wellbeing Service

#### Who We Are...

We are Education Wellbeing Practitioners (EWPs) working with the parents of children who are experiencing heightened fears and worries or who are experiencing common behavioural difficulties.

We are an early intervention service, providing evidence-based programs and preventative support for families who are experiencing these common challenges.

#### What We Do...

We offer two programmes; one for parents who would like support with managing their child's anxiety and one for parents who would like support with managing their child's everyday tricky behaviour.

Both programmes consist of 8 sessions. We offer sessions via video call, telephone or face to face.

Sessions aim to empower parents/carers by helping them understand their child's difficulties and by providing tools and strategies they can start using right away with their child.

#### How will it help?

Anxiety sessions give parents/carers techniques to use with their child to help manage their anxiety and develop resilience –

"There was clarity to the approach, it was easy to put in place" (Primary Parent)

Behaviour support sessions aim to strengthen family relationships and enable carers to feel more confident in responding to their child's behaviour –

"You respected how I was feeling and gave me hope" (Primary Parent)

\*100% of parents in Summer 2021 who engaged made progress on their own personalised goals

#### Who We See...

Parents and carers of children who are:

- 4-11 years and often feel worried (e.g. shy, panicky or fearful of specific things, such as attending school or social situations).
- 3-8 years and are experiencing any of the following common family difficulties: not listening or following instructions, difficulties at bedtime, tantrums, being rude to parents.

\*We are unable to see children who are currently open to social care or are being seen by CAMHS.

#### What you need to do?

It's easy and you can contact us to find out more. Parents can self-refer by emailing the one page 'parent wellbeing application form' available from your schools pastoral team to [infoMertonWP@ewlstn.nhs.uk](mailto:infoMertonWP@ewlstn.nhs.uk) or email with any questions. Teachers can complete the form together with parents.

We will then set up an initial call with the family to find out more about the concerns and think about working together or any other support options. Next, we will arrange weekly sessions with you as parents. We work mostly with the parents but may ask the child to attend part of the sessions if it is helpful. Teacher's may be invited to share their views.

Cost of living crisis: please use the link to check if you qualify for the governments Free School Meals scheme:

<https://self.merton.gov.uk/service/Pupil Premium and Free School Meals application>

## Additional Support



# Year 8 Update



Dear parent(s)/carer(s),

## **Parent Communications:**

At the Ursuline, parental communication is really important to us. I have listed below a reminder of the correct person you should contact for a particular enquiry, which I hope you will find useful.

**Form tutors** – general enquires about the Ursuline, friendship issues, organisation, homework, clubs/enrichment, uniform, equipment, travelling to/from school, punctuality, trips/calendar events.

8 Angela	Ms Williams	<a href="mailto:rachel.williams@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk">rachel.williams@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk</a>
8 Bernadette	Mr Panchins	<a href="mailto:francois.pachins@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk">francois.pachins@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk</a>
8 Catherine	Ms Hawkins	<a href="mailto:rosamund.hawkins@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk">rosamund.hawkins@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk</a>
8 Francis	Ms McHale	<a href="mailto:laura.mchale@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk">laura.mchale@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk</a>
8 Margaret	Mr Chiswa	<a href="mailto:ian.chiswa@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk">ian.chiswa@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk</a>
8 Teresa	Mr Gibson	<a href="mailto:georgina.gibson@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk">georgina.gibson@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk</a>
8 Ursula	Ms Surbey	<a href="mailto:carys.surbey@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk">carys.surbey@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk</a>

**Head of Year, Assistant Head of Year, or Pastoral Support Assistant** – Mental health, bullying, safeguarding, online safety, absence request forms, request for your daughter to receive school counselling/educational well-being practitioner, financial support/free school meals.

[Anne-Lise.Torode@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:Anne-Lise.Torode@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk) Head of Year

[Karlin.Eloff@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:Karlin.Eloff@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk) Pastoral Support Assistant

**Ms Young – Attendance and punctuality/lateness.** All absences and lates must be reported via email or Weduc, or phone no later than 8.45am. [Bernadette.young@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:Bernadette.young@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk) 0203 908 3144

## **IT Issues**

[ITHelpdesk@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:ITHelpdesk@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk) – for IT/Weduc/laptop related enquires.

**Subject specific enquiry** – please contact the subject teacher, all staff contact details can be found on our Ursuline directory below.

[Staff Contact Details - Ursuline High School](#)

Yours sincerely,

Ms Torode