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8th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Headteacher's Weekly Roundup Autumn B Week 1

Thank you for all the feedback received on the Academic Review Day Evaluations. We will reflect on these and use them to continue to strive to ensure that the link between parents and carers and your daughter (son in Sixth Form) is supported and communication is open. We will follow up with the points of conversation and targets in the current term.

This week, we welcomed back our Year 11 exchange student delegation visiting the Ursuline High in Dallas Texas. The feedback was once again fantastic, and we look forward to receiving the return delegation in Spring 2025. Thank you to the staff and students involved.

Highlight of the week

On Wednesday we formally recognised the end of the transition period for our new Year 7 students at our annual Commissioning Service. They promised to uphold the values of the school, to support each other and to live out Serviam and were presented with their school badges. A very proud moment for parents, carers and staff alike!

Inspired to act; driven by a spirit of charity.

Celebrating our incredible Year 12 student, Natacha, who is raising money to support victims of Portugal's devastating wildfires. Almost £600 raised at the moment! Sadly, many cities in northern and central Portugal have been struck by traumatic wildfires, leaving hundreds without homes, cars, clothes, and, heartbreakingly, loved ones. Firefighters fought these blazes for days, and some of these heroes even sacrificed their lives to save others. Natacha truly embodies what makes our Sixth Form exceptional – virtuous and moral individuals who not only talk about values but act on them. SERVIAM truly in action.

Autumn A Newsletters

If you missed our Newsletters last half term please do take the time to look through Autumn A [Inform Newsletter](#). The newsletter captures highlights, celebrations, and photos from the Autumn A half-term.

Our Year Group Updates can be found on the [website](#).

Parents News and announcements

Reminder that parents and carers should not send their daughter or son to school with any form of medication (including over counter medications). Student Services hold any medications required or submitted with instructions on medical plans. Please contact Student Services for support.

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Our UPA are always on the lookout for a helping hand and are seeking more willing volunteers so please get in contact with Mrs Potts if you are interested in supporting. We also need prizes and items for raffles etc. If you, or your company, are able to donate any gift, vouchers or tickets please contact Mrs Potts via email

UPA@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

Focus for next week

We will focus on uniform and jewellery this term given the very high level of confiscations last half term. Administering and communicating this is an unnecessary use of our Pastoral Support staff time and could be better deployed in supporting students so we ask parents and carers to support in ensuring students arrive for the start of term fully compliant with the expectations set out in the Policy and School Planners.

Join our growing social community on Instagram

Do give us a follow to access our visual window into the enriching experiences, accomplishments, and opportunities the Main school and Sixth Form students are engaging in.

You will find us [@uhs Wimbledon](https://www.instagram.com/uhs Wimbledon) and [@uhs sixth form](https://www.instagram.com/uhs sixth form).

Parent Resource

Parenting a teenager with Autism – Webinar

The Mental Health Teams in School webinar on Parenting a Teenager with Autism takes place on 11th November, online at 6:00pm – 7:30pm. This 90-minute webinar will look at the common difficulties found in families of teenagers with autism. The session will cover strategies for sleep, sensory, food and the use of visuals/social stories. As a brief webinar we will aim to provide you with resources, websites and ideas for you to continue exploring further if any of these strategies are useful. Sign up [here](#) or refer to the email from Ms McCourt dated 6/11/2024.



This November, we recall with the Church all the Holy Souls who have died and mark their remembrance. We marked Holy Souls Day with our own Memorial Mass of The Dead with Fr Matthew of Sacred Heart.



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On Wednesday, we celebrated the transition of our Year 7 students from primary to secondary school with our Commissioning Service. Students were very excited to receive their Serviam badges I presented.



Celebrating our incredible Year 12 student, Natacha, who is raising money to support victims of Portugal's devastating wildfires. Currently almost £600!

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Some of our students visited one of our fellow Ursuline schools in Dallas, USA, during the half-term. They had a wonderful time.



Some quality play from our senior Basketball team out in action at Harris Wimbledon on 6th November. Well done on everyone's contribution to the win & we are looking forward to the next one. (Top, right)

A huge well done to our Year 7 Netball A&B Teams who came join second at the Merton Schools Competition at Ricards Lodge on 5th November. (Top & bottom left)

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Quick Links

[Arbor](#) - student records and reports
[School Calendar](#)
[Parent School Calendar 2024-25](#)
[Term Dates 2024-25](#)
[Catholic Life & Mission](#)
[Curriculum Information](#)
[ParentPay](#) - lunch card top ups and other purchases
[Parent Engagement & Communications](#)
[Parent Portals](#) – Arbor, ParentPay & FAQs
[Safeguarding, health & wellbeing](#)
[Ursuline Directory](#)

Well done to all our Year 13 students who sat T Level exams and A Level Mock exams this week and to our Sixth Form students re-sitting GCSE Maths and English, we wish them well for the remainder of these scheduled exams.

Wishing you and your families a relaxing weekend and thank you for your continued support and co-operation.

Yours faithfully



Eoin Kelly
Headteacher