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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

7th February 2025

Headteacher's Weekly Roundup Spring A Week 5

Dear Parents and Carers

This busy week culminated with the Year 9 Options Taster Day on Friday 7th. Students in all classes in Year 9 had the opportunity to select and attend KS4 subjects to find out more about the content and structure of the courses ahead of making their choices. Students grasped the opportunity to ask all sorts of questions to the teachers delivering and the experience today will help make informed decisions about GCSE.

On Monday, we welcomed 'FutureCoders' into the school to meet with our Year 13 and Year 12 T Level Digital students. The experienced professional coders ran a series of workshops supporting students with their projects and assessments.

This week, I had the chance to take a look into some of the extensive enrichment opportunities outside of the timetabled curriculum. I have been impressed by the progress being made with the 23 students attending the Chinese Club on Friday afternoons and also from the impact testimony of the Sixth Form students involved in outreach work at Perseid School Morden, Merton Faith in Action, three local catholic primary schools, local supermarkets, and Kings Wimbledon Imagineering. The students involved are really contributing to the work of these organisations as well as personally benefitting from these opportunities to 'Serve'.

I also had the pleasure of speaking to Isabella T (Year 11) again this week. As joint-chair of Merton Youth Parliament, Isabella is seeking to find 11–18-year-olds to act in a Merton community film. Isabella is also asking for nominations for the London Youth Achievement Awards – if you know any young people who have demonstrated leadership skills get voting. Find out more on both below.

[Merton Youth Parliament Call for Actors](#)

[London Youth Achievement Awards](#)

Highlights of the Week

The Sixth Form trip to the theatre in Finsbury Park on Thursday 6th to see *Antigone*. Students studying History, Drama and Religious Studies took the opportunity to experience this excellent production.

Martyna in Year 12 is now a published author! Martyna came to see me this week to show me the chapter she had written and contributed to a book entitled *Krsonowice Dawne Rankowo*. Martyna explained that this book was written to capture the experience and remarkable history of the town her family originate from. Much of her extended family still reside there and the remarkable history of this town and its recovery after the war and reunification of Europe captures a global history in microcosm. Martyna's family have proud history of involvement in the fire service. A copy of the book has generously been donated to school library for our Polish language students to access and enjoy.

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LGBT+ History month 2025

We will be acknowledging LGBT+ History month over the next few weeks to consider the LGBT+ community and its history through Catholic Social Teaching. The theme this year is Activism and Social Change. We hope students will have:

- a greater awareness of the issues that LGBT+ individuals have gone through to have a more inclusive society
- an understanding of how historic and current LGBT+ figures in society are role models and the journey they have gone on to bring about equality and change
- To know how to respond to bullying around issues of LGBT+.

Focus Areas for Next Week

Attendance and punctuality remain a priority up to and including the final day of the half-term, Friday 14th February. Students need to consider their key targets for improvement and further progress in the second half of the academic year. Tutors will guide the meeting and we look forward to productive conversations during the ARD afternoon appointments.

Some Upcoming Events & Dates

INSET day on Monday 24th February. Reminder no school - except for the Year 13 students sitting A Level Mock examinations.

LGBT History Month and Assembly Week

Monday 10 th February:	Year 10 King's College University Trip (8.30am - 3.30pm)
Tuesday 11 th February:	Why the Arts Matter showcase - Lantern Arts, 8, Tolverne Road, London SW20 8RA (Student arrival: 4.45pm, Show from 6.30-7.30pm)
Thursday 13 th February:	Year 12 Barcelona Trip until Sun 16 th February Year 10 Trip to Kings College Hospital (12.30-6pm) Early School Closure (12:50pm) Academic Review Day for Year 7, 8, 9, 10,12. (P5 & P6 only) MHTS Webinar-Parenting Teenagers: Conflict and Communication; Online (6.30-7pm)
Friday 14 th February	Early School Closure (12:50pm) Academic Review Day for Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 12. (P5 & P6 only)

Parents and Carers News and Announcements:

On 1st February 2025, the school converted into the new Catholic Academy Trust **Sancta Familia**. For more information on the Catholic Academy Trust **Sancta Familia**, please click [Sancta Familia Catholic Academy Trust](http://www.sanctafamilia.org.uk)

Term dates 2025-2026

Please see the dates [here](#).

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Parent/Carer resources

Misinformation and fake news

While misinformation and 'fake news' are well-known concerns online, it is also the case that scammers and other cyber-criminals can try to utilise this phony material to manipulate, frighten or otherwise persuade their victims into cooperating. With constantly evolving scams and such a high volume of misinformation online, it is vital that parents and educators know how to safeguard the children in their care against these kinds of tactics. This guide breaks down the most prominent ways in which scammers attempt to use 'fake news' to their advantage, as well as how to protect children from being manipulated by such techniques. [WUW Fake News Guide](#)

Parent/Carer Support Services & Resources

You can access our expansive online safety library [here](#).

Surrey Cricket SACS Programme 2026 - Current Year 10 Students

The SACS application process for September 2026 is now open for current Year 10 students to join the Cricket Academy. Thank you to those parents and carers who have already completed this form. If you would like your daughter to sign up please click on the link: SACS Application form 2026: <https://forms.office.com/e/mfMMUBNhvZ>.

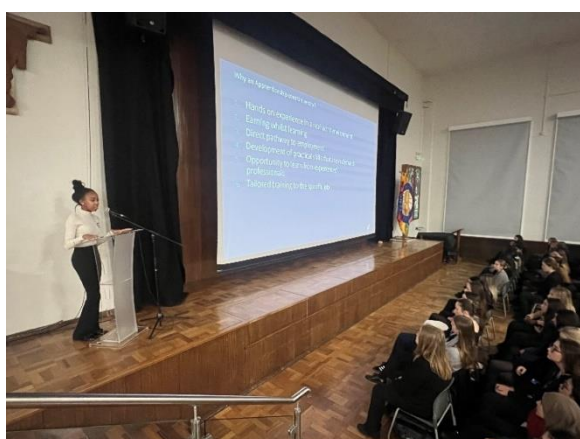
For further information please contact Rachel Corrigan, Director of Sports rachel.corrigan@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

Additional Resources

Our fantastic Pavilion at Morley Park has some availability for hiring. Anyone in our parent/carer or wider community interested in securing this facility for an excellent rate, please look at the flyer below. The opportunity has become available due to one of our lettings moving out of the area. Look and book now to avoid disappointment. The venue is perfect for running evening classes.

[Morley Park Playing Fields Pavilion Lettings](#)

[Morley Park Playing Fields Lettings](#)



In light of **Apprenticeship Week**, next week, **Year 12 and 13** students received an insightful talk this week from Ursuline Alumnae Grace, who is currently completing a 4-year **Degree Apprenticeship** with global accounting firm **Ernest and Young**. Find out more [here](#).

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Year 12/13 T Level Digital students took part in a Future Coders Python Workshop using Visual Studio Code this week.



U16 Footballers have made it to the Surrey Cup Quarter Finals after an impressive 2-6 win away at Raynes Park High. Goals from Adriana, Izzy, Daisy and Lily Belle.



U16 Basketballers also win 10-55 away at Raynes Park High in a friendly. Player of the match voted as Holly.

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Year 7 Indoor Athletes competed at the London Youth Games Regionals and came 6th.



Isabella (Year 11) who is co-chair of Merton Youth Parliament calls for 11-18 year olds to feature in community short film: [Merton Youth Parliament Call for Actors](#)



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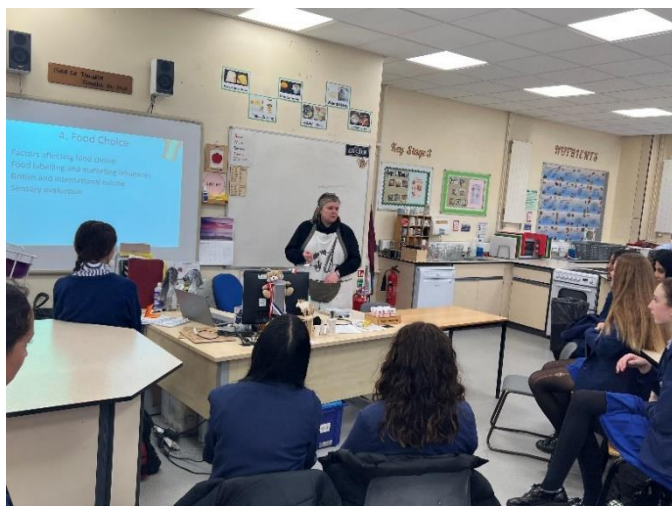
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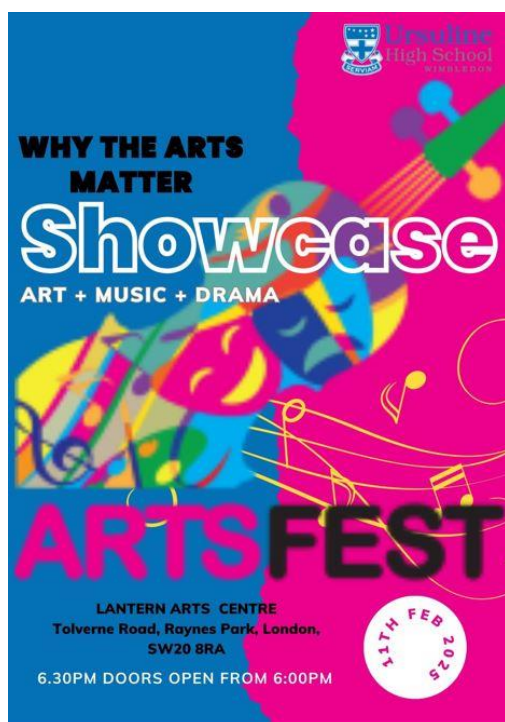
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Year 9 Enjoyed taking part in their Taster Day today, with the opportunity to experience GCSE subjects, ahead of choosing their options.



The Arts Faculty are putting on a Showcase of performances from Upper School A Level, GCSE and Lamda students called Why the Arts Matter? Please come along to support!

Performance Details:

Date: **Tuesday 11th February 2025**

Student arrival: **4.45pm**

Doors open: **6pm**

Show starts: **6.30pm**

Show ends: **7.30pm approx**

Venue: **Lantern Arts, 8, Tolverne Road, London SW20 8RA.**





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Quick Links

[Arbor](#) - student records and reports

[School Calendar](#)

[Parent School Calendar 2024-25](#)

[Term Dates 2024-25](#)

[Term Dates 2025-26](#)

[Catholic Life & Mission](#)

[Curriculum Information](#)

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

[Parent Engagement & Communications](#)

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

[Safeguarding, health & wellbeing](#)

[Sancta Familia - Sancta Familia Website](#)

[Ursuline Directory](#)

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

Yours faithfully

Eoin Kelly
Headteacher

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