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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](http://www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk)

17<sup>th</sup> January 2025

## **Headteacher's Weekly Roundup Spring A Week 2**

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we had two very important events in school, the Year 9 Options Evening on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January and the Year 13 Parents' Evening on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January. I wish to extend our school community's thanks and gratitude for the outstanding attendance and engagement in these crucial meetings. I enjoyed speaking directly with parents and carers and getting your direct feedback at these events. A reminder that the links to the presentations from the Year 9 Option Evening can be found on the Links section below.

### **Highlights of the Week**

Brown Envelope Day on Tuesday: our Year 11s received their Mock Exam results, replicating what will happen on August Results Day. Congratulations for all the hard work and effort which went into preparing for this. See the pictures of celebration and consideration below.

On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January I had the privilege of welcoming and opening our conference 'Democracy and Truth' in a world of AI and Social Media. Students from seven secondary schools across London attended this remarkable conference organised and hosted by the school and made possible with the support of the English Speaking Union who were also in attendance. Please take time to look thought the incredible programme of guest speakers which included, Paul Kohler MP for Wimbledon (Liberal Democrats), Siobhan McDonagh MP for Mitcham and Morden (Labour Party) and Lord Ahmad, Prominent Conservative Party politician and Life peer in the House of Lords. [Sixth Form AI Politics Programme](#)

### **Focus Areas for Next Week**

Pride in books at Key Stage 3, Year 7, 8 and 9. Book reviews and quality monitoring in school has indicated a concern that some students are not taking sufficient pride in the presentation of their exercise books. Staff are being directed to support and challenge students to ensure that this issue is addressed which will include sanctioning if not corrected. We ask parents and carers to support by asking your daughters to show you the standards of presentation at home. These relate to basic standards. Clear plastic covers on books, titled and dated work, underline neatly, sectioned off work, glued-in sheets, personal trackers for grades and targets filled in and attached to the inside cover of the books, and finally general appearance and pride.

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Feast of St Angela Masses begin next week to mark her Feast Day on 27<sup>th</sup> January, this begins with the Year 7 Mass at the Sacred Heart parish church on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January. We look forward to celebrating this very special date in the school year with reverence and participation.

### Some Upcoming Events & Dates

Year 7 & 8 Cumulative Assessment Week

Year 9 & 10 Test Assessment Week

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January: Year 11 Parents' Evening, 3:50-6.30pm

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January: King's School - Witness for the Prosecution performance trip Year 10, 12:40-5:30pm

### Parents News and Announcements;

The Governors of the school remain on track for the school to convert on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025 into the Catholic Academy Trust **Sancta Familia**. For more information on this exciting new opportunity for the future direction of the school and securing the future of Catholic education in this area of the diocese please look up.

[Sancta Familia Catholic Academy Trust](#)

### Parent/Carer Communications:

#### Term dates 2025-2026

Some parents and carers have contacted the school for more detail on the term dates for the next academic year. We are currently finalising these and once governors have approved, we will communicate them.

**Academic Review Day.** At the end of this term, we are proposing to change the format of previous academic review days for the year groups involved in Spring ARD, on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> February. ARD will be held on those dates for all Years 7-10 and Year 12. You should have received communication from Mr Glavina on this on Wednesday. In a change from previous years, students will be expected to be in school on both days but will leave in the afternoon to make appointments.

### Online Safety and Well-being

I am delighted to say that we have updated our suite of online safety parent guides. Our library, which will be maintained, is expansive and can be found [here](#). Thank you in advance for your support.

### Educating children on spending and saving

Managing money can be a difficult skill to master, even for adults. As such, it is incredibly important for children and young people to learn all they can before they reach an age at which they will be responsible for their own finances. Teaching strategies for saving and responsible spending early on can be a huge help to youngsters, in a way that will stay with them for the rest of their lives. This free guide suggests how best to teach children and young people healthy spending habits and useful strategies for saving money. The resources linked and attached provide expert advice on how to educate children and young people on both spending and saving their cash.

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### [When and How Should You Handle Pocket Money?](#)

Top Tips for Educating Children on Spending & Saving - National College

### [The best money and finance books for teens](#)

### [Money for beginners](#)

### **Additional Resources**

Our fantastic Pavilion at Morley Park has some availability for hiring. Anyone in our parent and 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](#)

### **Autumn B Newsletters**

You can find the links to our latest Inform newsletter and Head of Year Updates [here](#).



Brown Envelope Day finally arrived for Year 11 on Tuesday 14th January- where students received their mock results from Mr Creasy in the Old Gym. There were mixed emotions as students absorbed their results, but with every student having a firm understanding of any improvements they need to make, ahead of sitting their actual GCSEs in the summer.





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Congratulations to Maia H-M (Year 11), who competed in South of England Championships at Lee Valley last weekend. Maia placed second in the indoor 60m and 3rd in the 200m final also getting a great PB! Fantastic work- well done!



On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January I was delighted to open our Sixth Form Conference, on the topic of Democracy and Truth in a World of AI and Social Media. It was a very thought-provoking conference, our schools and speakers were very welcome, and we thank everyone for their contributions.

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Some of our sixth formers have also been busy participating in the Warhammer club! Painting the models which will be used in the strategy-based game.

The club has proved popular with students!

#### 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](#)

[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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