# **Year 9 Update**

See page 2 for a snapshot of upcoming events.



## **Autumn Term B 2024**

#### Dear Parents / Carers,

As we approach the end of term, I am delighted to say that Year 9 students have continued their fantastic start to the year. As always, it has been a pleasure witnessing the great work across the year group – both in and out of the classroom and I am proud to see every student living out our core ethos, Serviam in all that they do.

Many students across the year group took part in the school's production of 'Shrek'. This was an astonishing performance, reflecting the hard work and effort of all students involved – both on stage and behind the scenes – and a truly proud moment for them all. Very well done.

In addition, Year 9 students have continued to show great dedication and enthusiasm in their uptake of other enrichment activities including Sports Clubs and School Council to name a few. There will be new activities on offer in the Spring Term, so please do encourage your daughter to get involved and to try something new. As ever, please do let us know if there is something your daughter would be interested in, if it is not currently being offered. Also, it is always a pleasure to hear about your daughters' involvement in activities outside of school so please do continue to share their achievements with me, so that they can be celebrated in school. A huge congratulations goes to Eva T (9M) & Gabriella G (9M) who have both gained places in the prestigious National Youth Choir! Wow! We wish them the very best of luck.

Our Autumn term closes with our expansive Advent Programme to reflectively prepare for the Nativity of Christ including our Christmas Gift Appeal, Christmas tree service, Christmas fundraising fairs, Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Carol Service, Senior Citizens Christmas Party, Christmas Staff and Students' Lunch. See our Autumn term Catholic Life newsletter for further details of other events. The year group ran a very successful Christmas fair, with many haggling at their stalls and others walking around in festive jumpers to attract customers. I am proud to share that year 9 raised an incredible £497.91 for their chosen charities. It's been lovely to hear of the vast array of external successes during Autumn B, please do continue to let us know of any external successes ahead of our next newsletter, we would love to celebrate them.

Spring A will call for students to start to think more seriously about their GCSE options. Please continue to have discussions with your daughter regarding their progress and interests and encourage them to think about the subjects they may wish to continue or take up next year. There will be a Pathways Information Evening for Year 9 parents on 14<sup>th</sup> January (see email from Mr Nichols sent 10<sup>th</sup> Dec). This will be ahead of the GCSE Options Taster Day on 4<sup>th</sup> February, which will provide the students key insight into various GCSE courses, some of which will be subjects not studied at KS3 - so a chance to experience something new.

Wishing you and your families a joyous Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Kind regards

Mrs Torode, Head of Year 9

## **Students' Achievements**

#### 1 - Most Rewards:

- 1. Saffiyah C 61
- 2. Sapphire D 53
- 3. Maja B 51

Congratulations to **9 Teresa** - currently leading the way with **995 Reward Points!** 

#### 2 - Highest Attendance:

There have been **55** students in Year 9 who have 100% attendance so far this year.

Well done! Congratulations to **9 Francis** who

have had the best attendance this year with 96.12%.

### 3 - External Success:

- Congratulations to Imogen for passing her Grade One Piano exam! Great dedication!
- Well done to Lucy and all our Year 9 cadets that attended the Lord Mayors Show and Remembrance Sunday services.
- Esme E (9F) Completed a triathlon in November.
- Eva C (9F) Took part in the London Games Cross country in November. Challenging!
- Willow H (9F) Dance performance show in Southfields with her Max Dance school. Wow!
- Isabella (9F) Won a tennis Competition in Sutton and selected for Ball Girl Trials. Amazing!
- Bethany S (9F) Rugby team won the Waterfall cup (Old Emmanual's). Great news!
- Elsie R (9F) Awarded the most valuable netball player on her Netball Team in Tooting. Wow!
- Sofia S (9F) Won her Dance competition in Claygate. We're so proud of you.

## **Autumn B Highlights**

- Year 9 Christmas Fair
- Shrek the Musical
- CAFOD non-uniform day
- Catholic Children's Society Gift Appeal
- Advent Programme
- Christmas lunch a full roast dinner together.

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



School Production: Shrek: The Musical



Twitter: @uhswimbledon Instagram: @uhswimbledon

# **Year 9 Update**

Virtues: Spring Term: Discerning, Summer Term: United in Harmony



## **Upcoming Events**

### **January**

6<sup>th</sup> – Start of Spring A Term

6<sup>th</sup> – Mass in Chapel – Feast Of The Epiphany

10<sup>th</sup> – UPA Doughnut Day

16<sup>th</sup> – Merton Indoor Athletics Competition

24th - School Council Meeting

29<sup>th</sup> - Year 9 Mass of St. Angela (1:40 - 2:40pm),

Sacred Heart Church

### **February**

3<sup>rd</sup> – LGBT History Month

5<sup>th</sup> - Webinar – Social Media & Gaming, 7.00-7.30pm

6<sup>th</sup> – Merton Borough Basketball Competition

7<sup>th</sup> – Chaplaincy Team Retreat

7<sup>th</sup> - UPA Doughnut Day

7<sup>th</sup> – Inter House Cross Country

11<sup>th</sup> – Women in Science Day

13<sup>th</sup> – Academic Review Day (P5 & 6)

14<sup>th</sup> – Academic Review Day (All Day)

14<sup>th</sup> – Last Day of Spring A Term

17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> – Half-Term

24<sup>th</sup> – INSET Day

25<sup>th</sup> – Start of Spring B Term

#### **Looking Ahead**

12<sup>th</sup> March – St. Cecilia Day Concert 7.30-9.30pm 19th March – Multicultural Evening, 6.00-8.30pm \*Please note this is not a complete event list and is intended to provide a snapshot only. Events may be subject to change.



## School Production: Shrek

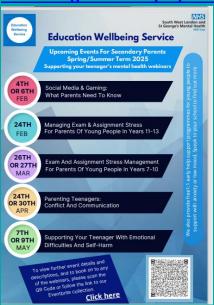
## Wellbeing

## **Free Parental Workshops**

South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS trust are running a number of free wellbeing workshops for parents / carers of secondary school aged children.

Click here for more information and to book:

<u>Secondary/College Parents -</u>
Wellbeing Workshops | Eventbrite



# Laptops & Social media/gaming

Just a polite reminder that school laptops are for school related work only. Please remind your daughters that they are not for accessing social media, gaming or web browsing non school-related content.

## **Additional Support**

Young Merton, Young Minds, Off The Record, Kooth, MindEd, e-wellbeing

Twitter: @uhswimbledon Instagram: @uhswimbledon