



No.120 March 2025

International Women's Day 2025























Café Hope-inspiration for the journey from our Ursuline Alumnae

with guest speakers Lauren Wilmott, Rhoderline Osafo, Chanelle Owusu-Tuffour and Shirley Forest

A Celebration of International Women's Day Ursuline High School- 4 March 2025

The theme of **International Women's Day** this year is **#AccelerateAction** and in the Catholic Church it is the year dedicated to the Pilgrimage of Hope. We celebrated International Women's Day on *Tuesday 4th March* by hosting our own "Café Hope"!

Ursuline Sixth Form heard from four Ursuline alumna, welcoming speakers; *Lauren Wilmott*- a private chef specialising in bringing restaurant-quality dining into people's homes, *Rhoderline Osafo* - a dedicated social worker and qualified esthetician, *Chanelle Owusu-Tuffour (Miss OT)* - Teacher of Art and Design and an ESOL teacher and the owner of Hagan Studio, and *Shirley Forest*-a trainee Solicitor specialising in commercial law, legal tech, telecommunications, and construction.

During the event, our speakers shared on their own journeys, what gives them drive, what challenges they have had to overcome, and how they consider girls can "accelerate action" to make a positive change in the world.

"I really was inspired by how the Ursuline has shaped them to stay true to their values and become successful entrepreneurs and role models." Student

As part of the International Women's Day celebrations, Sixth Form also attended Macfarlanes Careers Fair, it was an incredible time exploring career opportunities! A fantastic chance to network, gain insights, and be inspired for the future.



headlines







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Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

The term is ending, and as Pilgrims of Hope 2025 we complete our preparations for Easter. As usual, it has been a busy and very successful term, with the Year 11 and Year 13 students preparing and working hard for their upcoming public exams. I have been so impressed by their commitment and fortitude, I hope they manage to feel the support of the whole school as we keep them in our prayers, thoughts, and actions in the next few weeks. Next term is once again packed with a calendar of events and enrichment opportunities. Please note the key dates in the Updates from Heads of Year and encourage your daughter (son in Sixth Form) to get involved and avail of this incredible provision, which supports the outstanding learning and progress in lessons.

Throughout Lent our young people have been preparing for Easter in our liturgies and collective worship. They have taken part in the school Lenten programme which involved reflection, Eucharist Adoration, confession, prayers, and charity.

This Lenten journey will continue to build over the holidays into Holy Week and the start of the Easter season. Cardinal Basil Hume once said, 'The great gift of Easter is Hope'.

We take this hope in the Holy year of pilgrimage into next term, and continue to teach the importance of love for each other, of being kind, and taking the time to truly listen to one another. Our young people are praying and working for a better and compassionate world.

optimism and hope which arises from the Easter message in the resurrection and enjoy

Take care and thank you for your continued support and co-operation.

Eoin Kelly, Headteacher

As we finish for the Easter break ahead of the Summer term, may you embrace the the time together with your families and friends.



Celebrating Culture!



On Wednesday 19th March we held our Multicultural Evening. A fantastic evening for foodies, with an array of delicious dishes and some spectacular entertainment on display from students!

This was followed by Multicultural Day, on Thursday 20th March, where students could attend school in their cultural dress. If you're reading this online view full story on our Instagram here!

MFL Events



and to each other.

It's been a busy week or two in the **MFL** Dept. On Wednesday 19th March, a German speaker from Goethe Institute inspired Year 9 and Year 10 Germanists. While Year 11 took part in an online CEO working lunch Q&A about working with German. On Friday 21st March, Year 8 took part in an online German music workshop in USFC. We also welcomed French exchange students from our partner school of Largenté, in Bayonne-France. They had a great week.

Ash Wednesday

On Wednesday 5th March, we hosted our wholeschool Ash Wednesday services which invited all staff and students to take our first steps on our Lenten pilgrimage embracing the call to be **Pilgrims of Hope** in this Jubilee Year. Through the prayer and reflections led by the Chaplaincy Team, we reminded ourselves that Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of this journey of renewal, drawing us closer to Christ



On Thursday 27th March, students attended the Oscar Romero Mass at St George's Cathedral. Recently, students also visited the Shree Ganapathy Hindu Temple in Wimbledon.





"Speak Out" Regionals

On Tuesday 1st April, we were delighted to host the Jack Petchey "Speak Out" Challenge Regional Finals. Our Year 10 students; Sabia O, Agathe L, Ellie H, and Sophia B proudly represented the school with brilliantly executed speeches. Ms Smith and Ms Guiheen commended all of our Year 10s for their passion in speaking about their chosen topics and their excellent delivery.

Congratulations to Agathe L (10F) who was awarded 2nd place with her speech: "This and That" - the struggles of being a young mixed-race person in society. Find out more.

St Cecilia Concert



On Wednesday 13th March we held our St Cecilia's Concert. Thank you to everyone who attended we hope you enjoyed it!

See our full concert programme listing from the evening <u>here</u>.

Celebrating the Arts



Ursuline Celebration of the Arts! A huge well done to our incredible students for their outstanding contributions to the Ursuline Celebration of the Arts at The Lantern Arts Centre, Raynes Park this half-term! Our students showcased their passion, dedication, and talent in every performance. It was truly a night to remember!

Careers Award



On Monday 3rd March, we successfully completed first phase of Quality in Careers Standard, and we're moving to the second stage which we're planning to complete by the end of this academic year.

SSAT Award



Ursuline High School Wimbledon has been recognised in this year's Educational **Outcomes Awards!**

Receiving awards for being in the top 10% of schools nationally for student progress and in the top 10% of non-selective schools for student attainment in the 2024 end of KS4 exams. Find out more here.

Tate Modern





Some of our Year 10 and 11 Art students visited the Tate Modern on Monday 24th

Offer Day



Year 6 students received their secondary school offers for September 2025. We are sure our current Year 7 parents remember this day all too well! We look forward to welcoming our parents at our New Intake Parents' **Information Evening** on *Thursday* 24th April and our new students for their Induction Day on Wednesday 2nd July. If you are a current Ursuline parent with a child transitioning to Year 7, we can't wait for them to join the Ursuline Community, they have a wonderful experience ahead of them. A reminder that a variety of helpful transitions information is available on our Transitions Hub on our website. If you're reading this online visit our

Ursuline **Belong and Succeed**



Join our growing digital community! Instagram: @uhssixthform Twitter: @SixthFormUHSWC

Barcelona!







Over February half-term, some of our Year 12 students visited Barcelona! They had a great time, take a look at our website for further details on this fantastic experience..

Arts Award



Our Arts Award students just finished their amazing original stories this half-term and we couldn't be prouder!

Creativity, imagination, and hard work all came together in some truly inspiring work.

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Well done, everyone!

World Book Day



World Book Day 2024 was celebrated on Thursday 7th March. Thank you to everyone who took part it was lovely to see all of the costumes around the school - such imagination and creativity:

Congratulations to our World Book Day costume winners: Olivia M, Royanne, Bianka K and Ruby-Rose L, and Mr Glavina.









Ones To Watch!



Our talented student photographers were busy behind the lens during Culture Day, capturing the energy, colour, and spirit of the celebration. Their stunning visuals will keep the memories alive for years to come! Thank you- great photos! They also created a lovely reel here.

Quiz Bowl



Recently, students competed in a Quiz Bowl competition at the American School in London (ASL) in St John's Wood. We did pretty well- we only missed getting into the semi-final by one point! And we enjoyed meeting up with the Ursuline Academy Ilford (see left) where we enjoyed a good moment of Ursuline sisterhood!

T&L Survey Results 2025



We are delighted with the results of this year's Sixth Form Teaching & Learning survey.

Highlights include: 100% of students agree subject teachers expect high standards of work from them. 99% of student agree subject teachers use their knowledge to help them understand the course content in a way that helps them apply that knowledge. 99% of students agree questioning in class is challenging and deepens their knowledge and understanding. Read more.

Ursuline Dallas Visitors





We were pleased to host **Ursuline Dallas** staff and students on week beginning 10th March, as they received a taste of school life at Ursuline Wimbledon. Among many things, they shared a presentation about life in the USA, completed a thorough historical walking tour of Wimbledon - including centre court, and distributed food bank donations to those in need. We hope they enjoyed their vivist

BFI Trip



Our Year 12 students had an unforgettable day at the BFI Southbank this week, diving deep into the art of documentary filmmaking this half-term! They explored the blurred lines between fact and fiction in Exploring Amy. Students watched Amy - Asif Kapadia's powerful documentary on Amy Winehouse—on the big screen, and had the rare chance to ask questions about the filmmaking process.



netballtennisfootballathletics

- rockclimbingcrosscountry trampoliningbasketballhockey dancedukeofedinburghaward wimbledonballgirlscycling

Cross Country



An incredible turn out from our Y7-10 Cross Country Runners at out trials session this half-term. Everyone working hard for a place in one of our school Mini London Marathon spots!

Basketball



Year 11s took the winning basketball trophy in the **Merton** qualifiers for the new NBA 3v3 League. We progress to London Regionals in June.



Year 10/11 Basketballers were in action at Ricards Lodge this half-term and won! Great effort everyone. Well done!

Surrey FA Schools' **Cup Finalists!**



Surrey FA Schools' Cup Finalists!! Our U14s enjoy a hard earned 4-0 wins Vs Cheam High School in the Semi Final at Morley Park this half-

Goals from Leia, Tallulah, Clara & Sophia. Player of the match voted as: Leia.

Football Trials



A huge turnout of Year 7 students at Football trials with Westside Football Club, with selectors for the London Youth Games Merton Team also.

Sixth Form Netballers





Our Sixth Form netballers were out on court at Tiffin School this half-term, sharpening their skills and putting in the hard work ahead of their match against Cardinal Vaughan. Sport at UHS is all about teamwork, resilience, and pushing for success! They also competed in the Merton & Kingston Senior Tournament