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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

21 November 2025

Headteacher's Weekly Roundup 2025-2026 - Autumn B, Week 3

Dear Parents/Carers

Having been out from school at the Southwark Archdiocese Headteachers Conference in Ashford this week, it was great being back in school today to see the excitement building towards the school production of 'Hairspray.' The set arrived at 7am this morning and lots of staff came down to help get it all in ready for the weekend rehearsals. Archbishop Wilson led a reflection to the Headteachers gathered at the conference on Thursday and I was struck by the message from morning prayers "What you are is God's gift to you, what you become is your gift to God." This is a message for everyone in our community.

I am sorry to report that the School Production is now SOLD OUT. With two daytime and two evening performances scheduled for next week, the students are primed once again to produce one of the academic year highlights.

Congratulations to all our Community Student Leaders! I was pleased to hear that they have been invited to Parliament to meet with our local MP, Mr Paul Kohler, to discuss their concerns about climate change. They wrote emails to Mr Kohler as one of our CAFOD Live Simply Award Actions and he has forwarded their emails to The Chief Executive of Merton Council and The Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, Ed Miliband. There will be a further update once their visit to Parliament has taken place.

Highlights of the week

Too many things to mention but highlights include a Year 9 trip to Othello at the Theatre Royal Haymarket, Covent Garden Challenge semi-finals, Head Girl Team interviews, Year 12 Politics conference at Ursuline Ilford, Mock Oxbridge interviews and the Student Rewards recipient breakfast celebration.

The most notable thing I want to share with you this week was an act of kindness which had significant impact. Angelica and Chloe, two students from Year 11 were attentive and noticed a small boy distressed on the bus in the morning on the way to school. The bus was packed, and no one else noticed nor took action. They noticed, and it turns out he was lost, after being separated from an older brother boarding the wrong bus and didn't know what to do or where he was going. They brought him with them to school, and we were able to identify him after contacting his school. The police had already been alerted, his parents were frantically looking for him, and everything was put right by these responsible and kind students. Well done girls and thank you.

-1-





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Focus areas for next week

The focus remains on the effort to maintain full attendance as described last week in my update. We will continue to follow up individually with absences to ensure all year groups report excellent attendance in line with other year groups and other schools locally.

Important Notices

Hairspray School Production, 27th – 28th November SOLD OUT

As already mentioned, this year's School Production is now sold out. For those lucky enough to secure tickets please note that the performance will start at 7pm sharp on both nights. Doors will be open from 6.30pm and there will be drinks and snacks available for sale by our UPA in the canteen.

Autumn B events & key dates (Refer to our [Calendar](#) for academic year events but here are some significant upcoming events for this half-term):

November:

- **24th November:** Christmas Gift Appeal begins
- **27th & 28th November:** Hairspray School Production
- **28th November:** Christmas Fair; Y8 selling to Y7
- **1st December:** Advent begins
- **5th December:** Christmas Fair; Y9 selling to Y8
- **12th December:** Christmas Tree Service
- **12th December:** Christmas Fair; Y7 selling to Y9
- **15th December:** Christmas Carol Service (8.00-9.00pm); Sacred Heart Church
- **16th December:** Christmas Fair; Y12 & Y13
- **19th December:** Christmas Assembly and Last Day of Term (School Day ends: 12.50pm)

Parent/carer Resources

Our [parent/carer Support Services](#) webpage hosts our Support Services Directory, Library of Resources, information on parent webinars, and other valuable resources.

Our Online Safety specific resources can be found [here](#).

-2-





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News

Some members of staff (including Mr Cunliffe, Mrs Valentine and Mrs Farley) completed the first 7 miles of the River Wandle Walk last weekend. Well done to them.



On Tuesday, some of our Year 9 students attended the Royal Haymarket Theatre to see the production of Othello. Students were nominated by their teachers for outstanding work in English - as tickets were so limited due to the show selling out. The English Dept called it the "Shining Stars" awards.

More action from our Year 8 Netballers out at fixtures Vs St Cecilia's on Wednesday. Disappointed to lose both, but practice makes perfect and it was a good opportunity to mix up our positions a bit and experiment some different set plays.



-3-





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On Wednesday, we held our Covent Garden Business Challenge semi-final. Where 70+ Year 5 primary school students worked in teams with guidance from our sixth formers! Their task was to come up with a new business idea with the potential to be sold at Covent Garden Market. Congratulations to the semi-finalists, who will attend the Final in Covent Garden soon. We'll keep you updated.

-4-





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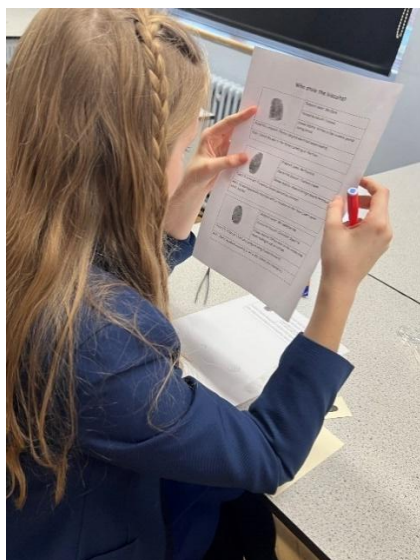


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Science Club went all Cluedo this week, as there was a 'biscuit theft' - luckily there were fingerprints on the wrapper accidentally left behind! Students had fun investigating the 'crime' analysing fingerprints under magnifying glasses to try and figure out the culprit.



Our production rehearsals continue, as we prepare for our upcoming Hairspray performances!

-5-





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This morning, we ran a celebration breakfast for 36 students across KS3 and KS4! The event was organised to recognise the students who made the most progress in Autumn A term and those who have received the most rewards and have contributed the most towards Serviam. They had a delicious breakfast and were awarded their certificates.



Well done to Angelica and Chloe – who helped a little boy called Dwight. Serviam at its finest!

-6-





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Quick Links

[Arbor](#) - student records and reports
[School Calendar](#) 2025-2026
[Catholic Life & Mission](#)
[Curriculum Information](#)
[Headteacher welcome & promotional video](#)
[Headteacher's Weekly Roundups](#)
[Newsletters](#) – school-wide and year group
[ParentPay](#) - lunch card top ups and other purchases
[Parent Engagement & Communications overview](#)
[Parent Portals](#) – Parent Guides & FAQs
[Sancta Familia Catholic Academy Trust](#)
[Safeguarding, health & wellbeing](#)
[Online Safety](#)
[Term Dates](#) 2025-2026
[Ursuline Directory](#)

Wishing you and your family a happy and restful weekend.

Yours faithfully

Eoin Kelly
Headteacher

-7-

