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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

6 March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Headteacher's Weekly Roundup 2025-2026 – Spring B, Week 2

Well, the sun was out this week, life is appearing in the flower beds round school and the students have been making the most of the opportunity to get outside. The entire school community embraced the World Book Day celebrations on Thursday with some remarkable costumes bringing joy and participation to school.

We welcomed Year 10 parents and carers into the school on Tuesday to begin the process of transitioning into the Sixth Form. Parents and carers were presented with the academic programme alongside the pastoral and enrichment offers available to students, as well as the timeline of events to transition into our outstanding Sixth Form. The evening fully brought to life our Sixth Form motto, 'Belong and Succeed.'

On Tuesday, we also hosted the International Women's Day conference presenting to Year 12 on the theme of Redefining Strength. Our keynote speaker was Rosephine Fernandes, a former Art teacher and Head of Year at the Ursuline, who now works nationally with Beyond Equality, supporting a wide range of institutions: from schools and universities; to sports teams and workplaces - all to build safer and more inclusive cultures. Our second speaker was Ursuline alumnae, Shakira Halid, who spoke about her degree in International Relations and Business, and her work with Disney, DASH Water, and now with Suntory Beverage and Food, the UK's third largest soft drinks manufacturer and proud owners of iconic brands including Lucozade and Ribena. The Year 12s really enjoyed it (they rated it 4.8 out of 5!). Some of their comments included: "It encouraged me to do more networking", "It was really insightful into life after sixth form" and "It emphasised the importance of doing what you truly love".

The only Year 12s absent were those who attended a Psychology conference in Paris, they all returned to school on Wednesday after a great trip combining academic in-depth presentations and a cultural, fun trip.

Highlights of the week

All Year 8 and Year 9 German students had the chance to see a live performance by the Onatti Theatre Company on Thursday morning. They had a fantastic time and were delighted to realise that they were able to watch a show in German for one hour, without a word of English being spoken. When the actors needed a volunteer to come on stage, Isabel R (8U) did brilliantly and stole the show! Well-done, and thank you to Ms Harriott for organising the performance.

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Maeve in Year 11 visited the Houses of Parliament on Tuesday. She was invited by the London Youth Games Team Manager to speak publicly about her experiences representing Merton through the London Youth Games Squash team, her journey in sport locally, and the wider impact that school sport has had on her development. Maeve took the opportunity to speak directly with Caroline Cooper-Marbiah, Cabinet Member for Sport in Merton. She spoke incredibly confidently and was a fantastic ambassador not only for Merton sport, but she also embodied the skills and attributes of an Ursuline student.

Focus areas for next week

Litter is being left behind after breaks. Students will be encouraged in the context of the school virtues programme to be considerate of others. Students sitting in groups too often this week stand up on the bell and leave without looking over their shoulder to ensure nothing is left behind. Students are encouraged (and at times directed) to pick up the litter or mess left behind where they sit as a group, regardless of whether this is their own.

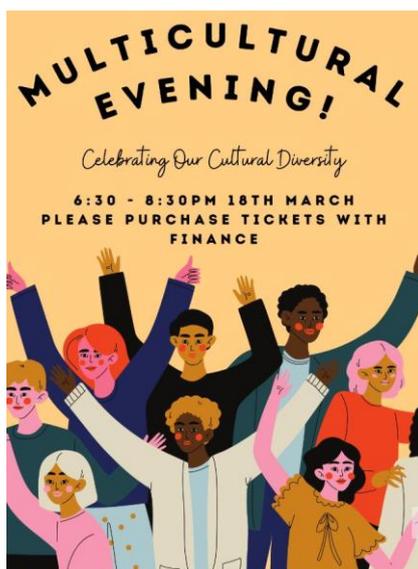
Important Notices

St Cecilia's Concert: Wednesday 11th March, 7.00pm

Tickets are still a number of tickets available to purchase from the Finance Office for £7 (cash only). Students can buy the tickets or parents and carers can pop by (The Downs entrance).

The Merton Immunisation Team will be visiting school on Monday 9th March to deliver Year 9 vaccinations. If you would like your child to have these vaccinations in school please complete the consent form link <https://cypcis.kingstonandrichmond.nhs.uk/dtp/2025/merton>.

Please note this is for YEAR 9 students ONLY.



Multicultural Evening: 18th March, 6.00-8.30pm

We are delighted to be hosting yet another Multicultural event, one of the highlights of the school year. With many student performances planned along with great food, this celebration of our community's rich diversity is not to be missed! Tickets are now available on Arbor (Select 'School Shop').

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Arbor Payments Reminder

The school successfully migrated Payments from ParentPay to Arbor during half term and parents/carers must now use Arbor to manage all school-related payments including catering, equipment and trips. The school no longer uses ParentPay. For further information refer to the emails from Mr Glavina sent on 4th and 24th February.

Term dates academic year 2026-2027

Please see dates [here](#).

Spring B key dates

Refer to our [Calendar](#) for academic year events and below for significant upcoming dates for this half-term:

Lent Programme will run throughout the term.

8th March: International Women's Day

11th March: St. Cecilia's Concert, 7.00-9.00pm. Tickets available from the Finance office @£7.

11th -12th March: GCSE Geography Fieldwork to Battersea Power Station

18th March: Multicultural Evening, 6.00-8.30pm

19th March: Cultural Day

24th March: Y10 Parents Revision Evening; Main Hall (6.00-7.00pm)

24th March: Joint Concert with Wimbledon College 7.00-9.00pm

27th March: Passion Services

27th March: End of term

Parent/carer Resources

The government published its promised consultation on action to protect children from the risks of social media following the under-16 social media ban in Australia. It seeks views on measures which include setting a minimum age and what age would be right. The consultation closes on Tuesday 26 May. More information is in the government [press release](#) and this is the link to the [consultation](#).

[Catch 22](#) is hosting a free webinar on **Youth Vaping on Tuesday 17th March at 6pm**. For more information and to sign up please refer to the attached flier and/or the recent email sent from Ms McCourt. To support the workshop, our [parent/carer communication](#) on the subject of Youth Vaping includes a summary of the available research and recommended resources for parents/carers to aide conversations with their young people.





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The Education Well-being Service is hosting a series of parent/carer Spring term **webinars on a variety of topics including Conflict & Communication, Exam Stress, Siblings with SEND, Teens with Autism and Screen Time.** For information regarding topics and dates please refer to the emails from Ms McCourt. Details can also be found on our [website](#).

News



On Tuesday, we celebrated International Women's Day with a Year 12 Sixth Form conference on Redefining Strength.

We were delighted to welcome back Ursuline alumni Rosephine Fernandes who worked at the school previous as an art teacher and previous student Shakira Halid.





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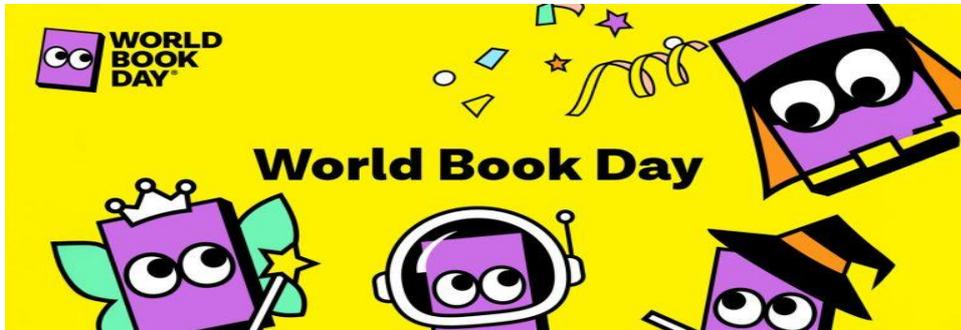
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On Thursday we celebrated World Book Day - our Ursuline community were encouraged to dress up as a literary character, book, or author - with a £1 donation going to CAFOD. The competition winners will be announced on Monday.





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We also welcomed the Onatti Theatre company into school to perform a play in German to our Year 8, 9 and 10s currently studying the language. Isabel who is also interested in drama played a starring role. Read more [here](#).



And we hosted a Teach Wimbledon ECT Advice Session Event for our teacher trainees.



Congratulations to sixth formers Emma, Natalie, and Shaila for their presentation at Rutlish for the Inter-Faith project recently.

They prepared their presentation on what they learned from visiting Wimbledon Synagogue very well and articulated it brilliantly. Well done!





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Our Year 9/10 Footballers represented Merton in the London Youth Games Futsal finals at Crystal Palace National Sports Centre this week.

With 2 wins, 2 draws and 2 losses, they were unfortunate not to progress to the playoffs, but their overall performance and teamwork together was outstanding.



This week 20 Year 9's visited The Globe for a workshop on the play Romeo and Juliet.

This was followed with a visit back there the next day for the Theatre Performance of the play.





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Congratulations to Maeve G (10M) who was recently invited by the London Youth Games Team Manager to speak at the Houses of Parliament. Maeve spoke about her experiences representing Merton through the London Youth Games Squash team, her journey in sport locally, and the wider impact that school sport has had on her development.

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

[Safeguarding, health & wellbeing](#)

[Sancta Familia Catholic Academy Trust](#)

[Online Safety](#)

[Term Dates](#) 2025-2026

[Ursuline Directory](#)

Wishing you and your family a happy and restful weekend.

Yours faithfully

Eoin Kelly,
Headteacher

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