

Year 8 Update

See page 2 for a snapshot of upcoming events!



Autumn Term B 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are thrilled to say that Year 8 have had a fantastic half term. They continue to lead with reward points this half-term which reflects their commitment to the school, Serviam and all other school values, inside and outside the classroom. This half term, Year 8s were involved in the mathematics trip to the Science Museum where they gained great insight into the impact of mathematics on the world. Not only did they learn a great deal, but their behaviour was recognised by the staff at the Museum as the best school group they had ever seen. We're proud of them.

All students have also been engaging with at least one extra-curricular, student leadership or enrichment programme offered by the school – including sports clubs, school council, and the recent 'A Christmas Carol' school production, to name a few. Our Year 8 Netball team came 3rd in the Borough tournament – a fantastic achievement! We have also had several Year 8s starting Homework Club. For those yet to join, it really is a great opportunity to receive support in completing homework, with staff and sixth-form students on hand. This club will run again next term, until 4pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If your daughter would like to attend, please encourage her to email us.

Also, we were overjoyed to see so many of our students take part in 'A Christmas Carol'. It was a wonderful event, where students showed their commitment and talents whilst getting everyone ready for the Christmas festivities! It was lovely to see some many parents there to support their children and the school.

Our term closes with our extensive Advent Programme to reflectively prepare for the Nativity of Christ, including our Christmas Gift Appeal, Christmas Tree Service, Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Carol Service, Senior Citizens Christmas Party, Christmas Staff and Students' Lunch. Year 8 raised £841.81 at their Christmas fundraising fair, with proceeds going to Solidarity for CentrePoint and a school in Sierra Leone- we are so proud of their efforts!

We have lots to look forward to in the Spring A term including Form Retreat Days, trip to the Mosque, and the launch of the NHS Competition. To end on a very exciting note, Year 8 will have a Residential Trip to Grosvenor Hall in Fest Week to look forward to (more information to follow nearer the time).

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

Yours faithfully,

Miss Guiheen and Miss Smith
Heads of Year 8

Students' Achievements

Check out our [student achievement](#) page for pics!

Year 8 Total Rewards: 7322

1 - Most Rewards:

1. Halili W (8B) – 55
2. Shannon M (8T) – 55
3. Georgia H (8T) – 53

Congratulations to **8B** who are currently leading the way with **1366** Reward Points

2 – Highest Attendance:

There are currently **56** students in Year 8 who have **100%** attendance. Please do keep up the good work!

Congratulations to **8B** who lead the way with **98.09%**!

3 – External Success:

- Congratulations to **Tilly & Nancy (8C)** who raised money doing a sponsored walk and raised money for Wimbledon food bank.

If your daughter participates in sport or other activities outside of school do encourage her to let us know.

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

Autumn B Highlights

- A Christmas Carol Production
- Christmas Tree Service
- Carol Service (far, right)
- Christmas Fair (right)
- Maths Challenge Trip
- Christmas Gift Appeal
- Year 8 Borough Netball
- Anti-bullying awareness



Year 8 Update



Upcoming Events

January

- 3rd January – Start of Spring A Term
- 9th January – 8 Angela Form Retreat
- 10th January – 8 Bernadette Form Retreat
- 12th January – 8 Catherine Form Retreat
- 13th January – 8 Francis Form Retreat
- 16th January – Martin Luther King Day / 8 Margaret Form Retreat
- 17th January – Year 9 Pathways Information Evening / 8 Teresa Form Retreat
- 18th January – Launch of NHS Competition
- 19th January – 8 Ursula Form Retreat
- 24th January – Mass for the Feast of St Angela, Sacred Heart Church
- 26th January – Year 8 Merton Indoor Athletics Competition
- 27th January – Feast of St Angela
- 27th January – Holocaust Memorial Day
- 30th January – Children's Mental Health Week

February

- 1st February – LGBT+ month
- 6th February – Year 8 Mosque visit
- 7th February – Mid-year Serviam Passport Celebration Assembly
- 11th February – Last Day of Term
- 21st February – INSET Day
- 22nd February – Start of Spring B Term

Looking Ahead

- 15th June – Chaplaincy Retreat to Desenzano House
- 31st March – Ski Trip to Austria
- 17th July – Year 8 Residential / Choir Trip to Valkenburg

**Please note this is not a complete event list and is intended to provide a snapshot only. Events may be subject to change.*

Wellbeing

Parental Workshops

- 19th January: KS3 Drug Awareness Parental Workshop
- 8th June: KS3 Relationships & Healthy Lifestyles Parental Workshop
- 19th June: Parent Workshop to support parents of SEND students

Cost of living crisis: please use the link to check if you qualify for the governments Free School Meals scheme:

[https://self.merton.gov.uk/service/Pupil Premium and Free School Meals application](https://self.merton.gov.uk/service/Pupil%20Premium%20and%20Free%20School%20Meals%20application)

Secondary Parents 2022/23
Supporting your teenager's mental health webinars

- 22ND, 26TH OR 27TH SEPT** Mental Health during the teenage years - an Introduction and overview For year 7 & year 8 parents
- 9TH, 10TH OR 15TH NOV** Supporting your teen through emotional storms - emotion regulation skills and strategies For all secondary school parents
- 26TH, 30TH OR 1ST JAN/FEB** Understanding and supporting anxiety during the teenage years For all secondary parents
- 13TH, 16TH OR 17TH MAR** Supporting and managing exam and assignment stress: top tips and ideas for parents For all secondary parents - year 11 and 13 focus
- 4TH, 9TH OR 11TH MAY** Understanding and supporting teen sleep: an overview of the research and recommendations For all secondary parents

Scan QR code with your phone's camera to sign up for free via eventbrite or search www.ursulinehigh.com/secondary-parents-the-wellbeing-workshop/

We also provide free 1:1 early help support programmes for young people to support with anxiety or low mood. Speak to your school to find out more.

Year 8 Update



Dear parent(s)/carer(s),

Parent Communications:

At the Ursuline parental communication is really important to us. I have listed below a reminder of the correct person you should contact for a particular enquiry which I hope you find helpful

Form tutors – general enquires about the Ursuline, friendship issues, organisation, homework, clubs/enrichment, uniform, equipment, travelling to/from school, trips/calendar events.

- 8 Angela – paula.thomas@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
- 8 Bernadette – geraldine.taylor@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
- 8 Catherine – gareth.davies@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
- 8 Francis – georgia.mcnichol@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
- 8 Margaret – jacob.tyler@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
- 8 Teresa – ronan.preastuin@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk
- 8 Ursula – caroline.mccolgan@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk

Heads of Year (Miss Guiheen / Miss Smith) or Mrs McCourt (Pastoral support assistant) –

Mental health, bullying, safeguarding, online safety, absence request forms, request for your daughter to receive school counselling/educational well-being practitioner, financial support.

Ms Young and Mrs McCourt – Attendance and punctuality/lateness (please report student absence before 9.30am).

ITHelpdesk@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk – for IT/Weduc/progresso/laptop related enquires.

Subject specific enquiry – please contact the subject teacher, all staff contact details can be found on our Ursuline directory below.

[Staff Contact Details - Ursuline High School](#)

Kindest regards,

Miss Guiheen / Miss Smith