



Not Goodbye, See You Soon!



“I am extremely proud to have been Head of Year to such determined, resilient, kind and caring students. I am excited to see what the future brings for you all!”

Ms Donohue, Head of Year 11

On *Friday 6th May*, it was the end of an era for Year 11, as they rounded off five whole years at secondary school with their special Mass in the school hall and were presented with their Ursuline 2022 hoodies and enjoyed a shirt signing session. This was followed by our traditional (and loud) clap out from our very, (very) enthusiastic Year 7 students (check our Instagram for the video). The youngest seeing out the eldest in the main school was a sweet sight to behold and there were certainly a few tears ahead amongst the joyous faces of our Year 11 students, as they went off on their official study leave.

Then on *Thursday 12th May*, Year 11 were invited back to their formal **Celebration Evening**, and they certainly attended dressed to impress. The evening began with a gathering in the quad, prior to a presentation of awards and speeches from staff in the hall, including **Ms Waters** and their **Head of Year; Ms Donohue**,

alongside tutor videos created by each form group, speaking on their memorable experiences over the years!

The evening was then rounded off with a lovely celebration buffet in our school hall, where students enjoyed further opportunity to pose for photos and spend time with each other as an official year group one last time.

Well done Year 11, it has been a difficult few years with a great deal of uncertainty and you have all coped magnificently! Lots of luck with your exam results in August, we are confident all your hard work and perseverance will ultimately pay off. Looking forward to welcoming many of you back into our **Ursuline Sixth Form** in September- in your smart new sixth form attire! To few leaving us, wishing you every success in your next steps. It's not goodbye, it's see you soon!

headlines



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

We are finally getting back to feeling normal again. Year 8 Parents' Evening felt so good to be able to meet with you face to face! We hear loud and clear the desires of students for all our school trips to return. There will be opportunities in our July Fest Week, with more overseas trips next year.

Archbishop John Wilson has written to us with an [invitation](#) to return to our Parish communities at Pentecost on June 5th. He said our church communities are poorer without you and your children. So if you haven't yet returned there will be a big welcome awaiting!

There is much to hope for and look forward to. Ursuline High School has joined the Ursuline Education network in the USA which will bring further opportunities for students and staff enrichment. Our partnership with our Deanery Catholic schools grows closer on transitions and with our Sixth Form outreach programme. We have also been growing our partnership with both Primary and Secondary Catholic school leaders in our delivery of leadership programmes across the Diocese. This term will see the 600K refurbishment of the entrance and top floor of V block.

Since Easter we have had 4 new Ukrainian students join Ursuline. Students and staff are delighted to welcome them. Next half term we continue to celebrate the achievements of our students. A full list of Year 11 prize winners can be found [here](#). Well done to all Year 11 and Year 13 on their learning and prep for exams.

I look forward to meeting you in person again, either at Parents' Evenings and Celebration afternoons.

Ms Waters

BSc (Hons) MA Headteacher

In response to feedback, our Chaplaincy newsletter will move to termly and our Pastoral newsletter will close, and instead a suite of [resources](#) and [information](#) will be made available on our website which we are confident is the right medium for this information.



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Happy Birthday Us!



This half term was particularly special as we celebrated our **130th anniversary**. We commemorated this momentous occasion with a special Mass at **Sacred Heart Church** (above) and another memorable moment was our "Black and Great" author event (see sixth form section).

Kings College



A group of Year 9 attended a workshop with members of the **Globe Theatre** production company. They learnt dramatic techniques and evaluated the themes in Macbeth.

Artichoke Hearts



Selected Year 7 students got the opportunity to take part in a book workshop with 'Artichoke Hearts' author Sudha Bhuchar this half term. Students were asked to read the book in their own time prior to enjoying a great discussion session with Sudha- our Year 7's articulated themselves fantastically! The book is currently being turned into a theatre production and our Year 7's are eagerly anticipating its arrival!

International School Animal Farm



We were proud to be presented with the **International School Award Intermediate Certificate: Developing Internationalism** by the British Council this half term. The International School Award celebrates the achievements of schools that do exceptional work in international education. This award reflects the work that we do in order to bring the world into our classroom! Excellent news!



We are excited to be presenting you with our **KS3 School Production of Animal Farm**, based on the book by George Orwell next half term.

Evening performances will take place on 29-30th June and more information on booking tickets will be relayed to you next half term!

As part of their GCSE unit, **Year 10 Geography** students enjoyed two day trips to Juniper Hall in Surrey this half term. They spent the first day investigating river characteristics on the **River Tillingbourne** and the second day looking at Urban changes, opportunities and challenges in **Leatherhead**. The best thing? We can't see any rain!

Surrey Scenes



Philanthropy



On **Friday 29th April** we hosted our **First Give Philanthropy** final in the school hall. In which our Year 8 students gave persuasive presentations on why their chosen charity deserved to win the £1000 prize money up for grabs. and most importantly, what they planned to spend it on. A memorable part of the presentations is always the charity song and 8 Francis's vibrant and punchy rap by **Maia** (right) ended up in the judges declaring 8Francis, and their premature baby charity **Born Too Soon**, as this years winners. Well done to all of our Year 8 philanthropy teams for their hard work and dedications in supporting this years fantastic charities- over 5,400 was raised in total!



Polish Constitution Day



On **Tuesday 3rd May** we celebrated **Polish Constitution Day**. Ms Hoyles worked with students and they cooked up a traditional Polish lunchtime feast for their friends. The deliciousness included some yummy apple cake and fried chicken. Students commented that it was really nice to share foods they eat at home with their friends at school. A great idea!

Attain!



On **Tuesday 24th May** we welcomed **St Marks Academy, Mitcham** for a Teaching and Learning review as part of **The Merton Schools Partnership Attain programme**.

It was a very productive and insightful day! St Mark's students enjoyed their tour of the school.

We look forward to visiting St Mark's next half term!

It's All In The Game!



On **Monday 23rd May** our **STEAM Academy** students took part in a Gaming workshop by [Gaming Parties.co.uk](http://GamingParties.co.uk), the students were first told about how the gaming business work and how the business was set up and now managed, before students got to the fun part- testing out those

Year 10 Parliament

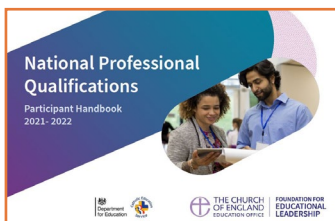


As part of our **Aspirations Programme**, a group of Year 10 students met MP **Stephen Hammond** for a Q & A session, then had workshops on debating and then went on a tour of the Houses of Parliament!

A busy day but very interesting day for everyone!

Aspiring Leaders

We are currently running the **National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership programme (NPQSL)**, fantastic new course for aspiring leaders, in partnership with **St Philomena's, Church of England** and the **Catholic Education Service**, which launched in Feb 2022. We are looking to extend our provision of NPQ's in November and are looking for candidates who would be interested in taking part, either as a student or facilitator/coach. See our school website for full details.



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Year 13 Leavers



On **Friday 6th May**, Year 13 had their **Leavers Mass** at **Sacred Heart Church** followed by a celebration in the Fountain Quad. Year 13 look forward to their official Graduation Evening and reception evening on 1st July. It's been a whirlwind of a two years and our Year 13's have dealt with it like troopers.

Lots of luck with your exams and future steps!

Year 12 Leavers Ceremony!



Year 12 Level 2 students enjoyed their **Leavers' Ceremony** in the Chapel on followed by refreshments in the LRC! Everyone seemed particularly excited by the news of cheesecake and chocolate cake! Lots of luck to you all and see some of you back in sixth form in September for Level 3 courses!

Black and Great



Our **Year 12 Afro-Caribbean Society** presented the book launch of Rene Germain's careers manifesto "**Black and Great**", in partnership with Wimbledon Bookfest this half term. The event, hosted in our school hall, focused on the black experience in the workplace and involved 180 students from seven different schools. Such an uplifting book Rene! Thank you for your inspiring visit!

Small Island



Year 12 English Literature students enjoyed a trip to see the production of **Andrea Levy's** prize-winning novel, "**Small Island**" at the **National Theatre** this half term!

T Level Getting Technical

Our Year 13 **Digital Production, Design and Development T-Level** students are currently on industry placement at the Sound Bank in London, working on bespoke projects with **Sound Bank** that includes a digital seminar to mark the company's first anniversary. Invaluable experience of the workplace!

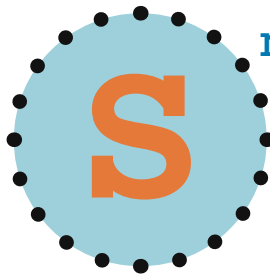


Mark Envision Foundation



On **Wednesday 26th May**, **Alex Walsh** from the **Mark Envision Foundation** spoke to Year 12 students, sharing it's mission of personal development through taking up challenges!





netball tennis football athletics
 rock climbing cross country
 trampolining basketball hockey
 dance duke of edinburgh award
 wimbledon ball girls cycling

Tennis



Excellent efforts from our **U15 Tennis Team** this half term in their **Surrey School's** match away at **St Catherine's**. A 5-4 defeat but plenty of positives to take away from the day! (see top, left)

Students also took part in the **Play Your Way To Wimbledon Tournament** this half term! (see top, right)

DofE Bronze



Our **DofE Bronze** expeditionists have been progressing well as they were out and about **East Grinstead** recently!

All 61 of them.
 They all returned safe and well back to camp!

Amazing Athletics



What a fantastic performance demonstrated by our athletics team at the **Merton School Sports Partnership** this half term. Those medals just kept on coming! A huge well done to you all.

Final results: **Year 7s Joint 1st Place!! Year 8/9s 3rd Place! Year 10/11s 1st Place!!**

Looking forward to some extra special races at spots day now..

Volleyball



Some excellent practice games have been occurring this half term with our **U15 Volleyballers**. Fully focussed on getting these serves right and learning the full rules of full games play!

Football



A huge thank you **Ricards Lodge, Raynes Park High School** for joining us at **Morley Park** on 17th May for the **Year 9/10/11 Merton School Sports Partnership Borough Football**.

Full credit for our UHS teams taking 3rd & 4th place.

Congratulations Raynes Park High School on their 1st place beating Ricards Lodge 1-0 in the final!