



## Decisions, Decisions, Decisions!



“This has been a fantastic resource to aid students in their career decisions!”

On Wednesday 19th October, we held our annual **Careers Fair** at UHS! Students across Years 10 -13 had the opportunity to receive seminars and key advice from a variety of different professionals and university partners. These included; **St Raphael's** on Volunteering for Work Experience, Dr Gaby Tamura Rose and Nurse Maura Flint who spoke on the personal reward of the care field, **Birmingham University** with 'Top Tips for Personal Statements', **Love Wimbledon** promoting local opportunities and a talk from **Schlumberger Cambridge** research, on engineering and attracting girls to STEM subjects. Additionally, there was a Osteopath career talk from the **NHS, Royal Holloway** presented on 'What's It Like To Be A University Student?' and a **London Fire Brigade** talk from Molly Brown, who also spoke on the benefits of cadets in regards to students personal statements. Molly also turned down an impressive unconditional university offer to study History, and chose to instead pursue her dream to be a fire-fighter- she stated the skills learnt in cadets helped significantly in receiving her offer!

Our very own Safer Schools Police Officer PC Gunn was on hand with police colleagues, to speak on the rewards of a career in the police force. This was rounded off with a UCAS and Apprenticeships application panel, which was offered to students and their parents- in order to provide some extra help for what can be a tricky time period to navigate in regards to next steps.

Throughout the day there were career stalls stationed in the school hall to provide extra information to students, these included; **University of Reading, Kingston University, Cardiff University, Roehampton University, University of Bath, University of Kent, Teach Wimbledon, ASK Apprenticeships, Cambridge Research**, and finally, our very own **T Level** stand, to promote the work experience benefits that choosing these Level 3 qualifications at Ursuline Sixth Form will provide, and explain to students how beneficial this is to their future careers! It was a very insightful day!





# headlines



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Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

We have all enjoyed the first Autumn half term, this has been reflected in the brilliant attendance of students, 96.7%. Well done to all students and their families. Our Progress 8 score for GCSE 2022 indicated that students gained on average  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a grade higher in each subject at UHS, than students do nationally. 43% of all grades were at 7-9. Well done to Year 11 2021/22.

This week, students raised over £1000 for Period Poverty Charity in Zimbabwe as part of Show Racism The Red Card. Our Ursuline collaborations are growing stronger, with Year 10s planning future joint activities between Ursuline schools in England. We continue to strengthen our links with Ursuline schools worldwide, with students on an exchange at Ursuline Academy in Dallas this week, while last month we hosted a sixth form student from St Angela Merici High School in Slovakia.

We joyfully celebrated the life of Sr Anne Beynon, former Headteacher at Ursuline, with our choir singing beautifully at her funeral. During the summer holidays past students gathered in school to pay their respects and celebrate the life of Chelsea Mazava-Madaka, who died unexpectedly at the age of 21. Chelsea had many friends in school and was well known. We extend our prayers and condolences to Chelsea's family, and all our families who have lost loved ones this year.

A huge thank you to the UPA for their £7,000 donation, this will gratefully be used towards equipment for the newly refurbished vocational building, which includes T Level Nursing and Business.

We are continuing to run our half term Holiday and Activity Food Programme for students, if parents haven't yet signed up for students places, please contact Mr Glavina.

I wish your family and friends a relaxing half term and thank you for your continued support.



Ms Waters  
BSc (Hons) MA Headteacher

## UEC Students Day



On Monday 10th October students took part in the **Ursuline Education Committee day in Desenzano House, Ilford**. It was the first meeting of the student reps from five Ursuline schools who looked at the Ursuline Student Profile and discussed ways of sharing the values with their peers. It was really fun to bring the students together and they enjoyed collaborating on the project. They are looking forward to their next meeting next term!

## Coffee Morning

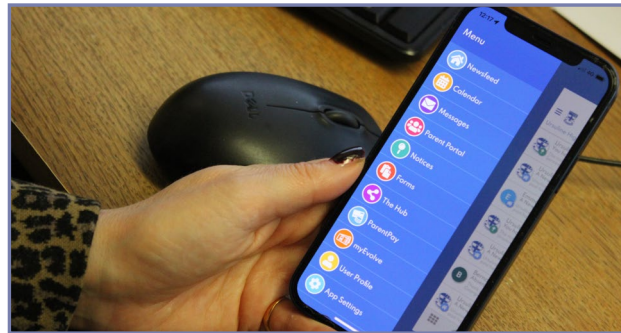


On Friday 30th September our staff took part in the annual **Macmillan Coffee Morning**.

We are pleased to announced we raised a grand total of

**£290!**

## Communications



The Ursuline High School is committed to effectively communicating with our parents/carers and has a communications strategy that includes a wide range of mediums.

We communicate with our primary and secondary parents/carers where we have a valid email on records, and the parent/carer has parental responsibility. To ensure you are receiving communication from us, please ensure you notify us of any changes to contact details.

### Weduc

If you're not already enrolled on our app/web portal and would like to, please email: [ITHelpdesk@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk](mailto:ITHelpdesk@ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk)

For more information re. our Communications Strategy and Weduc, please see the Parent Communications page of our website.

## Welcome Year 7!



It has been fantastic to see our new Year 7's have been getting into the swing of secondary school life and enjoying our school facilities, in particular making use of our school library at lunchtimes!

## Christmas Carol



We are pleased to announce that this year's winter school production will be **'A Christmas Carol'**. More information about how tickets can be purchased for this event will be available after half term.

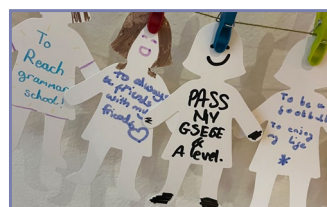
## Dallas Trip



Residential trips are (finally) back!

Students are very excited to currently be in the USA, visiting **Ursuline Dallas**, part of our **Ursuline Education Network** of schools. Students are having a great time, they return at the end of half term, and we look forward to sharing more trip details with you in the next edition!

## God Loves You!



Students have been putting their hopes and dreams on a prayer line during **Bible Club** this half term.

We particularly liked the prayer 'to enjoy life'- priorities!



# Bookfest Winners



On Friday 30th September, students attended Wimbledon Bookfest to hear from authors attending, these included; Sita Brahmamkar author of *Artichoke Hearts*, who gave the talk 'From Page to Stage', detailing the journey her book took to becoming a stage production, and a Writing Workshop with Manjet Mann, author of *The Crossing*. Congratulations also goes to our Young Writer winners for 2022 (pictured top right).

## Black History Month



We celebrated **Black History Month** this October with a range of events; launching with a Black and Great assembly by author Rene Germain. Year 10 and 11 talk from Tosin Babasola on the importance of mathematics! Year 7/8 received an inspirational and engaging talk from author **Katherine Hamilton** regarding her novel '**Rising Warrior**'!

Students also participated in **National Wear Red Mufti Day!**

## Chessington



On Monday 17th October, Year 8 were excited to finally have their Fest Week trip, which was delayed due to the severe heatwave we had over the summer. Students spent the day at **Chessington World of Adventures**, and as you can see from the big smiles, they all had a great time!

## Mental Health Day



Monday 10th October was **World Mental Health Day**, we marked it with assemblies across all year groups emphasising the importance of getting help when you are struggling and where students are able to do so, both in and out of school. Did you know singing is very good for your mental health? Warm up those vocal cords!

## Macbeth



On Tuesday 11th October and October Year 11 students enjoyed the opportunity to watch **Macbeth** as part of their English GCSE studies at the Studio, **New Wimbledon Theatre**. It was an abridged version of the play and all parts were played by only 3 people- which made for an interesting, if not confusing watch for our students!



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## Open Events



On Thursday 6th October we hosted our **Ursuline Sixth Form Open Evening**. It was a great evening and it was fantastic to welcome Year 11 students to really showcase what makes Ursuline Sixth Form such a great place to be. Parents and students alike were impressed with our T Level block and new T Level Subjects in Business and Nursing.

Want to apply? Find out more on our [sixth form website](https://www.ursuline.ac.uk/sixth-form-website).

## Road to Success!



Viv Grant, was invited to speak to our sixth formers about her career journey to success, and, as an author, former headteacher, and current director of Integrity Coaching (left).

Inspired by the conference led by our **Afro-Caribbean society** last year, our wonderful Year 12 students have set up their own **Black and Great Society**. Great to see them building on the work of the previous year and enjoying Rene Germain's book (bottom, left).

A Level History students received a talk about local Black history at William Morris House



## Day Of The Girl



To celebrate **International Day of the Girl** on Friday 11th October we took six students to the **WOW(Woman of the World) Foundation's** event on the Southbank. They took part in speed-mentoring event on the **London Eye** and then saw **Radio 1 DJ Clara Amfo** being interviewed by WOW's president **Jude Kelly**. Clara said that you had to work to achieve your dreams and that girls need role models because "you need to see it to be it". She spoke of her own role models as a black girl growing up in south London, and encouraged the students to seek inspiration from women who have succeeded and fought against discrimination of various kinds from gender to race to class. It was a great day and our students found it really encouraging.

**"Women of the World event has inspired me to be confident and proud as a woman as well as to be passionate about what I enjoy."**

**Year 12 student**





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

## Cross Country



Our **Cross Country** team dominated the **Merton School Sports Partnership** at the **Surrey Schools Cross Country Trials** at **Morden Park** this half term!

### UHS Qualifiers:

Year 7: Raffaella 2nd  
Year 8/9: Halili 1st, Karla 2nd  
Year 10/11: Zoe 1st, Eleanor 2nd

Top team effort and support of each other!

## Football



It's been a football frenzy this half term, and we've been blessed to do it with lots of lovely sunshine, well done to all classes finishing their football units off! We had a fantastic 6-5 win by our **U16's** in the **Surrey Girls Cup** away at **Teddington School**. Some great debut performances from Ellen, Sophie, and Gabbi, and goals from Muna and Christabel (middle pic). **U14's** put in a great start too, with a 3-1 away at Greenshaw High School. Brilliant team performance all round and goals from Maia-Rose, Lillie Belle and Adriana. Well done all!

## DofE Bronze Expedition



It's been a time of exploration as **DofE** starts back up for another year, with another cohort of students ready for a challenge! The **Bronze Award** students have been busy with their Bronze Assessed Expedition this half term in **Box Hill**.

**Silver Award** Expedition have been completed their practise training day and are now doing final prep for their practise expedition this coming weekend!

## Wimbledon BBG Taster Event



Brilliant session at our first **Wimbledon Ball Girls** taster event with our new Year 7's and visiting Primary Schools. A great opportunity!

Roll on Wimbledon next year!

## Year 9 Netballers



Amazing job from our Year 9 Netballers at both Club and **Merton School Sports Partnership Championships** this half term! Great to have so many of you out playing, competing and supporting each other!

We return as proud Silver medalists!