



Ursuline
SIXTH FORM
WIMBLEDON

Belong and Succeed

Newsletter

Issue 4: Spring Term 2024

Instagram: [@uhssixthform](#) Twitter: [@SixthFormUHSWC](#)

Welcome ...

to our **Ursuline Sixth Form Newsletter**.

A community where you can truly belong and succeed



Welcome to our Spring edition of the Ursuline Sixth Form Newsletter. Reflecting on the Spring Term – it was non-stop!

It started on a high as Year 12 went on the 3-night trip to Barcelona. Unforgettable memories were made, and being in such a brilliant city was a great privilege. The trip included visiting famous landmarks such as monasteries and cathedrals, an immersive football tour, and opportunities to explore an array of incredible shopping areas. The sixth form students were quickly thrown into loads more fantastic activities and events upon their return. From the International Women's Day Conference, where guest speakers reflected upon memory and shared valuable life experiences to help guide the students in their future, to the St. Cecilia concert, where an incredible Orchestra represented the sixth form and the talent it holds. The International Women's Day Conference was a highlight for many; we had so many amazing speakers talking about their individual experiences and how they navigated the world, which has inspired many to follow in their footsteps.

On a personal level, in our newly appointed roles as the Head Leadership team, we also embarked on an exciting journey this term. After being officially commissioned at a lovely service within the school and introducing ourselves to all the members of the Ursuline community, we are proud to take on our new roles and are honoured to address everyone for the first time as the new Head Student Leadership Team; Lara, Clara, Akua, and Josh. Additionally, by collaborating with some spectacular year 10's, we started an amazing project and an exciting introduction to Cultural Day; including fashion, food, and appreciating the world we live in. This project has been so exciting and fun for everyone who took part, and there is lots of hope that it will continue after our Ursuline journeys have ended.

As well as this, we know the Year 10s are making critical steps to their post-GCSE choices, with many looking to stay with us for sixth form and some continuing their journeys elsewhere, we have loved watching them develop into outstanding young people and are always here for support. Year 12 have also been sufficiently preparing for their end-of-year exams. Although there are some nerves floating around, dedication and commitment to academics and success are present within every individual. We wish them all good luck and we know they will do themselves proud. We would also like to wish Year 13 and Year 11 the best in the run-up to their exams and hope the Easter holidays will be restful and focused on upcoming events.

Bring on the summer term!

Head's Student Leadership Team
Lara, Clara, Akua, and Josh



A message from the Sixth Form Team: Sixth Form Virtues

This term marked significant milestones in our students' educational journey. Our Year 12 students have been actively engaged in expanding their academic and cultural horizons through various trips, enrichment programmes, and memorable learning experiences.

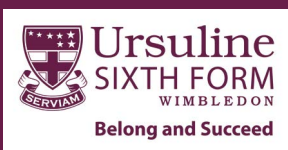
As they navigate through the challenges and triumphs of academic life here at our Catholic sixth form, we ensure we take the opportunity to reflect on the virtues that shape our character and guide our actions. As a sixth form community, we've embraced our spring term virtues, which hold immense significance in the journey of our students: attentiveness and gratitude.

In Year 12, our focus was on attentiveness. This virtue requires us to listen actively and respond thoughtfully. By cultivating attentiveness, our Year 12 students enhanced their learning experiences, deepened their understanding, and forged meaningful connections with their peers and teachers. Gratitude, on the other hand, was our Year 13 virtue. It is the practice of acknowledging and appreciating the blessings, big and small, that grace our lives each day. As they come to the end of their time in the sixth form with us, Year 13 were reminded that gratitude fosters humility, resilience, and a sense of belonging within our community. It reminds us of the interconnectedness of the lives of all our sixth formers and inspires acts of kindness and generosity towards others.

It's a pleasure to see our sixth form students embodying these virtues each day in school.



Mr B Ryan
Assistant Headteacher, Sixth Form



Breaking News Meet Our Guardian Young Reporters!



Our Young Reporters

Every year, we offer sixth form students the opportunity to take part in the Guardian Young Reporters Programme, granting them the opportunity to write for a real live online newspaper. They have been fantastic this year!

Their published pieces have been truly remarkable, and we're eagerly anticipating their potential recognition at the Young Reporters' Award ceremony this summer.

You can check out their stories [here!](#)



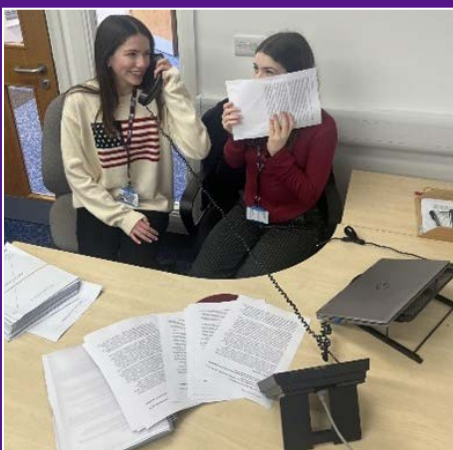
Here's what our Young Reporters had to say...

Liv:

"My time with 'The Young Guardian Reporter Scheme' was an absolute joy! Exploring all things local to London was exhilarating, delving into the city's culture and bringing its stories to life through my writing. I published an article about LGBTQ+ History Month and covering the Diwali festival was a standout moment; interviewing Sadiq Khan provided invaluable insights into the city's multicultural celebrations. Likewise, my conversations with Matt Peacock about 'Arts & Homelessness' and Pauline Milligan's role at 'Positive News' allowed me to champion the Arts for those in need and highlight the impact of positive journalism on local communities."

Isla:

"During the young reporter challenge, we were provided with a framework to guide our article creation process. This included local events, entertainment reviews, and pieces on national days or months. Writing theatre reviews was particularly enjoyable as it encouraged critical thinking and style development. Monthly submissions to 'this is local London' offered a glimpse into journalism realities, broadening our career horizons."



You can find out more about becoming a Young Reporter [here!](#)

Discovering Barcelona:

A Transformative Journey for Year 12 Students

Each year, we hold a foreign residential exclusively for our sixth formers. This year, our Year 12 students delved into the vibrant tapestry of Barcelona, immersing themselves in its rich culture and history over the course of three nights and four days on our annual sixth form foreign residential.

The adventure began with a stroll along the iconic La Rambla, where the bustling energy of the city greeted them with open arms. As they meandered through its lively streets, they soaked in the eclectic mix of street performers, bustling markets, and charming cafes that lined the way.

A highlight of the trip was a day spent high in the clouds, venturing to the majestic Monastery of Montserrat nestled atop the mountain of Montserrat. Here, amid breathtaking views, the students marvelled at the beauty of this stunning abbey of the Order of St Benedictine which is best known for enshrining the image of the Virgin of Montserrat.



Discovering Barcelona:

A Transformative Journey for Year 12 Students (cont)

Another memorable experience awaited them at La Sagrada Família, the iconic basilica designed by the visionary architect Antoni Gaudí. Standing as a testament to his genius, this architectural masterpiece, though still under construction, left an indelible impression on the students. It is the largest unfinished Catholic church in the world and is part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Moreover, our students went on a sightseeing adventure aboard a Bus Tour of Barcelona, delved into the exhilarating world of FC Barcelona through an immersive experience, and wandered through the enchanting streets of the magnificent Gothic Quarter, where the iconic Barcelona Cathedral stands as a testament to centuries of history and architectural grandeur.

As they bid farewell to Barcelona, the students left with cherished memories and new-found friendships that will undoubtedly endure the test of time. We know this trip will be a memorable experience and we hope it has ignited a lifelong love for exploration and discovery.



Focus on T Levels

T Level Success Story - IBM

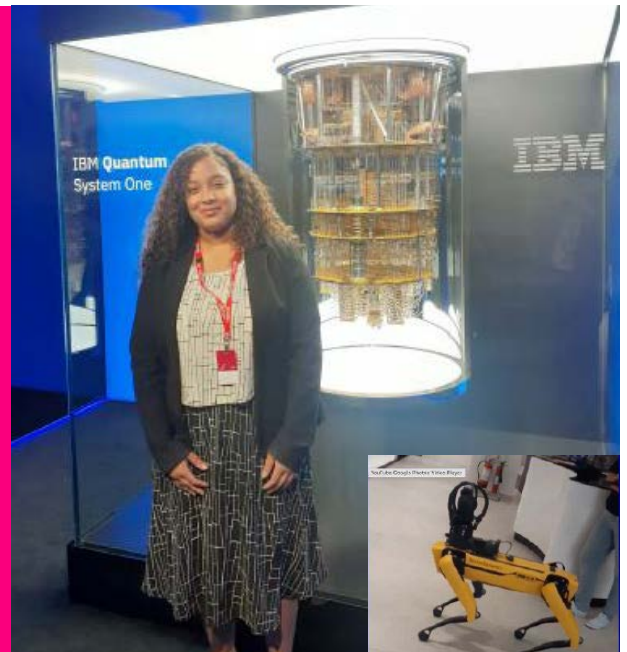
We were delighted to welcome Fernanda back to the sixth form this term. She shared her inspiring journey from T Level Digital Production to her current pursuit of a degree apprenticeship with IBM with prospective T Level students.

During her 9-week T Level work placement at IBM, she forged valuable connections within the company and demonstrated exceptional performance in her assigned tasks. Her T Level experience not only honed her communication skills but also provided her with the opportunity to present to senior members of staff at IBM, culminating in the achievement of a well-paying degree apprenticeship.

Despite being in only the first year of her apprenticeship, Fernanda has already secured a promotion at IBM, offering her the added advantage of graduating without the burden of student university debt.

Fernanda stands as a shining example of how both employers and educational institutions value individuals with practical work experience. As she articulated to the students, "T Levels presented me with the choice to either pursue university education or embark on a degree apprenticeship. Opting for the latter at IBM was undeniably the right decision!"

Congratulations, Fernanda – your presentation to Year 11 was truly inspiring, and we eagerly anticipate the opportunity to welcome you back in the future.



Through T-Levels I was able to:

- o Build my network/connections from a young age
- o Develop my communication skills
- o Was able to present to Seniors at IBM (Impress them)
- o Get a well-paying Degree Apprenticeship
- o Use my creative side with Technology
- o Be able to promote my culture
- o Get a good job where my salary and UNI are paid



My experience as a T-Level student:

- Presentation Skills improved
- The projects helped expand my technical knowledge
- I understand many things about Tech that I didn't
- Helped me understand the world of Tech



Sixth Form Highlights

International Women's Day Conference

On March 5th, we hosted a conference to commemorate International Women's Day 2024, themed **"The Power of Memory: A Celebration and Reflection on the Female Story."** Our lineup featured five inspiring speakers



Our Inspirational Speakers

Shamira Graham: Chief Commercial Officer at Onebright, discussed her extensive experience in mental health research and clinical practice.

Sarah Hussein: a consultant and instructor with a PhD in laser physics, delved into how human brains and memories inspire Generative AI models.

Julia O'Connor: director of a tutoring school and former headteacher, shared her journey from daughter of immigrants to educational consultant in China, Japan, Mexico and Spain.

Katie Chennells: one of the few female London Black Taxi Drivers, shared her journey and offered memory-enhancing cabbie tips.

Jennifer Anafi-Acquah: a seasoned creative producer in television, shared her experiences producing for major networks like BBC, Channel 4, Netflix, and Disney+. She is a UHS alumna (and former head girl!).

Reflecting on the legacy of St. Angela Merici, the visionary founder of the Ursuline order, we celebrated the school's commitment to empowering young women to become leaders of integrity and change-makers. Led by our dedicated Year 12 student leaders, the conference was a joyful celebration of women's achievements. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed guest speakers for sharing their time and wisdom with students.



Life At Ursuline Sixth Form



Oxbridge Success

Oxbridge success for our students. Sophia, who took a gap year this year, will be off to study law Oxford University next year. Well done Sophia! We are all very proud of you.



Tremendous Results

January English and maths saw some tremendous results. Hard work does pay off! Well done to all.



St Angela Merici

Remembering the legacy of St Angela Merici, a trailblazer and visionary who inspired generations. Her teachings on education and empowerment continue to resonate, reminding us to embrace knowledge, kindness, and courage. Today, in the sixth form, we celebrated St Angela Merici's impact and strive to embody the values she championed



Showing Kindness

Our sixth formers are shining examples of kindness, expertise, and leadership. Their willingness to assist others in their academic endeavours truly makes our learning environment richer and more vibrant. Pictured is Karolina speaking to a younger student about taking A Level Portuguese.

Life At Ursuline Sixth Form



Amazing Careers

We were honoured to host the incredible Nicola Williams-writer at our school! Nicola, a British barrister and Crown Court Judge, shared her journey as the first Service Complaints Ombudsman for the UK Armed Forces, fighting against racism in the military.



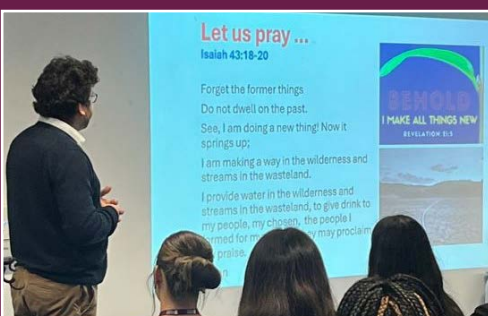
Logiscool Promotion

Our incredible T Level Digital students took the lead in promoting February courses for a local gem in Wimbledon – none other than the fantastic Logiscool, an international coding school!



Crochet Enrichment

Ms. Kosmider has been weaving magic with her crochet enrichment for our talented Year 12 students! Our Guardian Young Reporters got an exclusive peek into their world this week, and wow, the results are absolutely amazing!



Collective Worship

We start every morning off right with collective worship in the sixth form! Pictured is our Chaplain's powerful reminder: patience and prayer have undeniable strength. Let's embrace these virtues and trust that our heartfelt prayers will be heard.

Life At Ursuline Sixth Form



Pablo Gavi

Year 12 met Pablo Gavi ... apparently.



Quiz Bowl

Huge congratulations to our Year 12 and Year 10 students for their brilliant showing at the 'Quiz Bowl' hosted by the American School in London!



Serviam In Action

Year 12 helping out with year 9 Parents' Evening. They are wonderful role models and we are very proud of them.

Serviam in action!



BFI Southbank - Asif Kapadia

What an incredible experience! Year 12 Film Studies had the honour of engaging in a captivating Q&A session with the legendary Academy Award, BAFTA and Grammy-winning director Asif Kapadia.

Life At Ursuline Sixth Form



George Orwell - Panel Discussion

Our Year 12 Literature students were treated to an exclusive event at Thames Christian School. Dr. Nathan Waddell, Dorian Lynskey, and Dr. Lisa Mullen led a captivating panel discussion delving into the life of George Orwell and the timeless relevance of his masterpiece, 'Nineteen Eighty-Four'.



IBM Apprenticeship

We welcomed back the incredible Fernanda, who graced our halls once again with her inspiring journey from T Levels to a degree apprenticeship with IBM!



Sacred Heart Parish Friendship Group

Embodying our spring term virtue of generosity! Three of our Charity Prefects had a wonderful time visiting the Sacred Heart Parish friendship group. They shared a presentation about our school and then enjoyed some tea and bingo with the group.



Henry IV- Wimbledon Theatre

A night to remember! Year 12 and Year 11 students had the incredible opportunity to witness Ian McKellen's mesmerising portrayal of Falstaff and Toheeb Jimoh's brilliant performance as Prince Hal in Robert Icke's new rendition of Henry IV parts I and II at Wimbledon Theatre.

Life At Ursuline Sixth Form



St Cecilia's Concert

Magical moments at our annual St. Cecilia's concert tonight! Saint Cecilia is a revered figure in Catholicism, as the patron saint of music, musicians, and poets. Such stunning performances that left everyone in awe. A privilege we'll cherish for years to come!



S.A.M.E Academy Talk

Grateful for Louie from S.A.M.E Academy! Our sixth formers had an eye-opening session on driving awareness. Such a crucial topic for our young drivers.



UHS Alumnae Talk - Women In STEM

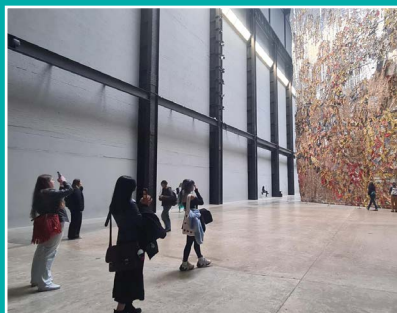
We were thrilled to welcome back our amazing alumna, Isabel! She is currently conquering her final year at Warwick in Engineering as a Woman in Engineering Scholar. Her journey from Ursuline to this remarkable milestone showcases the power of a solid foundation in maths education.



Multicultural Evening & Culture Day

A fantastic Multicultural Evening extended to an incredible celebration of cultural diversity through vibrant dress on Culture Day! Great to see!

Life At Ursuline Sixth Form



Amazing Art

Year 12's were given the chance to explore both the Tate Modern and Tate Britain in order to expand and inspire the themes of their projects.



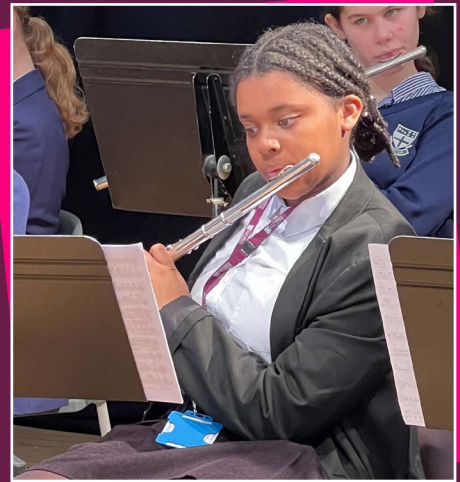
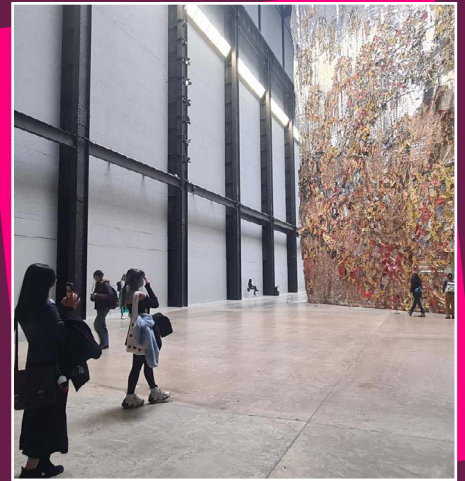
Passion Services

We rounded off an eventful term with our Passion services for the whole school. The theme of our Passion Service this year was "The Eyes Of Mercy" in which we focused on the immeasurable love and forgiveness that Christ has for us.



Ursuline
SIXTH FORM
WIMBLEDON

Belong and Succeed



A community where you can truly belong and succeed



Ursuline
SIXTH FORM
WIMBLEDON

Belong and Succeed

Instagram: [@uhssixthform](#) Twitter: [@SixthFormUHSWC](#)