



**St Ursula's Weekly**  
**Issue 297**  
**Friday 6 December 2019**



**Message from the Headteacher**

“God alone  
knows what  
you need,  
and can and  
wants to  
provide for you



St Angela Merici

Cf. Rule 10/17

We are busy getting ready for the Advent Service on Sunday which we are very much looking forward to and hope to see as many of you there as possible. It is a lovely service and it is always a poignant start to the Christmas celebrations.

Key Stage 3 and Year 10 pupils have their week of exams next week, so I know they have been preparing for these in lessons and hope they are doing their final revision at home.

Thank you to everyone who has donated so generously to the Foodbank so far. Next week the focus is for packets and tins (pasta, rice, beans, tomatoes, soup, tea, coffee. Please keep them coming in!

Thank you

Ms Hamilton

*Advent Carol Service*  
*8 December 2019*  
*Our Ladye Star of the Sea,*  
*Greenwich*  
*Seated by 4'oclock*  
  
*Followed by refreshments*  
*in Hilltops*



Our chef and his staff will be providing the students and staff a Christmas meal on Wednesday 18 December. It will cost £2.50. Please ensure that your daughter has enough money on her card to pay for her meal. It'll be a cracker !



# *Advent*

*Hope · Love · Joy · Peace*



*Advent Carol Service*

*8 December 2019*

*Our Ladye Star of the Sea, Greenwich*

*Seated by 4'oclock*

*Followed by refreshments in Hilltops*

# St Ursula's General Election results 2019

The votes have been counted (and recounted and re-recounted!) and we can announce that the general election results are as follows...

1st **Labour** – 461 votes

2nd **Liberal Democrats** – 73 votes

3rd **Green Party** – 27 votes

4th **Conservatives** – 26 votes

5th **Brexit Party** – 8 votes

**Total – 595 votes**

In our own general election (done a week earlier than the real one due to exam week) **Labour** have once again won in the St Ursula's constituency, winning a massive **461 votes (78%)**. Similar to results in the 2015 Mayor of London, 2016 EU Referendum, and 2017 General Election, the students here at St Ursula's have come out in force once again to support Labour. In something of a surprise considering recent school elections, the **Liberal Democrats** have swept to second, gaining **73 votes (12%)**, more than doubling their vote from last time. The Green Party have fallen slightly, dropping to third place with **27 votes**, but with **5%** have more or less maintained their vote share from 2017. The **Conservatives** were agonisingly close to the Greens, coming in fourth with **26 votes (4%)**. Finally, the **Brexit** party came in fifth with **8 votes, (1%)** of the total. We had a massive 595 people voting this year – the most the school has had since records began (2016).



*One of the many votes cast!*



*Year 8 agonise over voting options.*

Well done to all those who took part and thank you very much to all of the helpers; we could not have done it without you! If you helped out in St Angela's, or with the vote counting, please come and see Mr Mandalos at the end of the day on Friday to collect your prize! This is a fantastic example of 'SERVIAM' and the whole process was carried out perfectly. All students who took part are a credit to themselves, their families and the school.

It will be very interesting to see what happens next week on Thursday 12 December 2019 in the real election, but the most important thing is that you encourage your friends and family to go out and vote and make sure that their voices are heard.

Some current students in St Ursula's will be eligible to vote for real in the next general election (at the current rate this will be in 2021!), so it is vital that you familiarise yourself with the process now. We hope that you enjoyed it and that you learnt something, and we look forward to the next one (although hopefully not too soon).

Finally, thank you to all the support from staff. Please find a statistical breakdown on the next page as well as previous results. Now we just have to wait for next week's results!

Mr Mandalos



*The fantastic volunteers who helped out. Not pictured: Mr Mandalos breathing a sigh of relief that it's finally over.*

# St Ursula's General Election results 2019

\*votes for other candidates not included in overall % (2%)

Party	2016 Mayor of London		2016 EU Referendum		2017 General election		2019 General election	
	No. of votes	% of vote*	No. of votes	% of vote	No. of votes	% of vote	No. of votes	% of vote
<b>Labour</b>	341	64%	n/a	n/a	379	80%	461	78%
<b>Conservative</b>	65	12.3%	n/a	n/a	34	7%	26	4%
<b>Lib Dems</b>	35	6%	n/a	n/a	24	5%	73	12%
<b>Green</b>	67	12.7%	n/a	n/a	28	6%	27	5%
<b>UKIP</b>	18	3%	n/a	n/a	9	2%	n/a	n/a
<b>Brexit Party</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8	1%
<b>Remain</b>	n/a	n/a	365	79%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Leave</b>	n/a	n/a	95	21%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Total no. of votes</b>	<b>526</b>		<b>470</b>		<b>474</b>		<b>595</b>	



## UPDATE

Thank you for all you kind and generous donations so far but we still need more!

This week our focus is:

**W/c 9 December**

**Packets and tins (pasta, rice, beans, tomatoes, soup, tea, coffee etc.)**

Remember there are those out there who won't have enough food this Christmas, let alone presents for their families and we can help! Please.



## General Election 2019

### Message from the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales

*The Lord Jesus said: 'I have come so that they may have life  
and have it to the full.' (John 10:10)*

This General Election is profoundly important to the United Kingdom. Catholics cannot simply "watch from the balcony."<sup>1</sup> Conscious of the common good of every person and our society as a whole, we ask everyone to engage with the election and vote.

Honest political activity depends upon integrity. We urge all in public life to recognise that telling the truth, not making vindictive and abusive comments or unattainable promises, are essential.<sup>2</sup>

The question of the United Kingdom's place in Europe continues to dominate political discourse. In whatever way our future relationship with our closest neighbours develops, Britain must be committed to a positive engagement as a key international partner in promoting peace, security and responsible stewardship of the planet. As Pope Francis reminds us, "good politics is at the service of peace."<sup>3</sup>

Citizens have a duty to emphasise and help shape a politics rooted in the service of human rights and peace. The test of any policy should be its impact upon human dignity, particularly for the most disadvantaged in our society. In making judgments about how to vote, please consider carefully the following and ask your candidates how they would uphold:

- The innate dignity of every human being; defending both the child in the womb, the good of the mother and an understanding of the immeasurable good of a child not yet born?
- The dignified care for those who are terminally ill and dying while resisting the false compassion of assisted suicide or euthanasia?
- The needs of those who are frequently neglected or discarded by society such as people with disabilities, Travellers, older people, those who are homeless, those in prison and those trapped in modern slavery?
- The process of integration of migrants and refugees who have made their homes here<sup>4</sup>, challenging the global rise of xenophobia and racism that is so radically incompatible with our faith<sup>5</sup>?

---

<sup>1</sup> Pope Francis: Address to the Community of Christian Life – Missionary Students' League of Italy (30/4/15)

<sup>2</sup> Cf. "loving the truth means not only affirming it, but rather living it, bearing witness to it in your work." Pope Francis: Audience with National Council Order of Journalists (22/9/16)

<sup>3</sup> Pope Francis: Message for the 52<sup>nd</sup> World Day of Peace (1/1/19)

<sup>4</sup> Pope Francis: Message for the 104<sup>th</sup> World Day of Migrants and Refugees (14/1/18)

<sup>5</sup> World Council of Churches and Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development: Message from the conference on Xenophobia, Racism and Populist Nationalism in the Context of Global Migration (20/9/18)

- The rights of those in our own communities and overseas who “can see no end to the tunnel of extreme poverty,”<sup>6</sup> providing them with assistance and confronting the structural injustices that compound their suffering?
- Care for our common home and tackle the climate emergency which threatens the future of our entire human family and is already having a profound impact upon the world’s poorest people?<sup>7</sup>
- Freedom of religion and belief, ensuring that everyone has the right to exercise their conscience and practise their creed freely without fear?
- The cherishing of marriage, recognising the essential place of the family in the service of life and of society?
- The right of parents to educate their children in accordance with their faith and support the work of Catholic schools in their contribution to society and their promotion of the common good?

Jesus tells us “I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.” Informed by the work of our parishes, schools and charities, we should all approach this election as an opportunity to promote life, dignity and human flourishing for all.

We call on all Catholics to pray for the wellbeing of our society. May the Holy Spirit guide our choice as we seek together, and for all, “life to the full.”

---

<sup>6</sup> Pope Francis: Message for the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Day of the Poor (17/11/19)

<sup>7</sup> Pope Francis: Address to meeting on the energy transition and care of our common home (14/6/19)



# Scholastic Book Sale Success!



The Scholastic Half-Price Book Fair was in school over the last week and every class had the opportunity to visit, browse the books and stationery, and make purchases. Pupils enthusiastically participated and we have had our most successful year to date! We as a school receive 10% of what we earned back as rewards in order to get free books from Scholastic! This year was even more successful than the last, which earned £1148.16, letting us receive £114.81 in rewards. This year our current total is...



**SALE PROFIT:**  
**£1,566.82!**  
**10% REWARDS :**  
**£156.68!**

Miss Deegan asks that all outstanding money for books be given to her by Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Any books that are not paid for will be assimilated into the library.

Books orders will be arriving by post over the next two weeks, please keep an eye on your registers at form time for notifications of when to pick up purchases!

**MOST POPULAR BOOK (Fair copies and orders combined):**

**'A Good Girl's Guide to Murder' by Holly Jackson**

**MOST ORDERED BOOK:**

**Dork Diaries: Spectacular Superstar by R. R. Russell**

Thank you to all the staff and pupils who made the book fair a success and supported the love of reading!

## Foodbank Christmas 2019

During Advent, therefore, we will be collecting donations for our local Foodbank: toiletries (w/c 2nd December); packets and tins (pasta, rice, beans, tomatoes, soup, tea, coffee – w/c 9th December) and finally Christmas treats (biscuits, chocolates, cakes – w/c 16th December).

The Food bank are coming to collect the donations on:

**Wednesday 18 December 2019**

So please make sure you get your donation in before then.

Thank you for your generosity in helping those less fortunate than ourselves.

### Charity Money reminder

Following Charities Day in October, we still have a number of students who still haven't paid in their charity money.

Please can we ask that families pay their money in as soon as possible please.

**ON THIS OCCASION ONLY to aid the process** we will accept cash at the Main Office. **BUT ONLY FOR THIS ONE TIME FOR CHARITY MONIES.**

Thank you for your prompt response.  
It will go to help those on desperate need



As you know, here at St Ursula's we have a no phone policy. We do this so that students have time to talk to each other and time to concentrate on their studies and to be aware of the world around them. Please find linked this article on the BBC News website about mobile phone usage and its effects on mental health.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-50593971>

# Squares

The Police have informed us that young people are being approached, asking them to store money in their bank accounts for a small fee.

This is in effect money laundering and is a criminal offence. Please do talk to your daughters about the need to keep their personal details safe and never give their bank details, cards or pin numbers to anyone else.



Please ensure that your daughter does not bring their bank card to school.

Thank you for your support as always.

The Safeguarding Team



**NSPCC**

**Speak out.  
Stay safe.**

## School Calendar



### **Sunday 8 December 2019**

4pm - Carol Service

Our Ladye Star of the Sea Church

### **Wednesday 18 December 2019**

Christmas Lunch

### **Friday 20 December 2019**

Christmas Liturgies – last day of term

### **Christmas Holidays**

**Monday 23 December 2019 –**

**Friday 3 January 2020**

### **Back to school**

**Monday 6 January 2020**

8.40am – Full uniform check



**Christchurch  
Priory**

### **Christchurch, Eltham Confirmation 2020**

A reminder to parents to hand in your child's completed application to the Priory office.

The office is open Monday-Friday 9am-3.30pm.

The deadline for receiving applications is Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019.



**FO  
ST  
UR**

FRIENDS OF  
ST. URSULA'S



# Join FOSTUR after the Carol Service

66 CROOMS HILL , HILLTOPS

SUNDAY,

**8th**

DECEMBER

**After the service, come along to Hilltops via the gate at 66 Crooms Hill for a chance to chat and socialise with warming mulled wine and mince pies.**

We'll also be running our annual Christmas raffle! Tickets will be available at the event.

**We look forward to seeing you all there!**

**FO  
ST  
UR**

FRIENDS OF  
ST. URSULA'S



## Make your Christmas shopping count with easy fundraising

When you shop online, your purchases can automatically give a donation to FOSTUR. It's easy to join the cause:

- 1** Download the Easy Fundraising APP from AppStore or Google Play.
- 2** Select Friends of St Ursula's Cause, click on Support.
- 3** Continue signing up and create your account.
- 4** Follow the instructions and select the retailer.
- 5** You'll be redirected to the retailer website, continue buying as you normally do.

Website access also available at:

[easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofstursulas](https://easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofstursulas)

+3700 retailers to shop with...