



St Ursula's Convent School

The Weekly

Week Ending
Friday 13th March 2020
Issue Number 308



Message from the Headteacher

We are in very uncertain times and we are closely monitoring the situation with the COVID-19 virus and following the advice we are being give by Public Health and the Government.

We are of course taking every precaution in school; we have hand sanitiser in corridors plenty of hand soap in the toilets, signs informing of how the girls to wash their hands and general advice the government is giving about signs and symptoms and what to do if the have any concerns.

All of our first aid staff are fully aware of what they need to look for and we will not hesitate to call home if we think it is necessary.

Please continue to send your daughters into school as usual.

"If you see one faint hearted, encourage her"

**St Angela Merici
2nd Counsel/8**

School News / Updates

In the event of school closure, adverse conditions; weather i.e. snow, please check the school website to see if the school is closed before your daughter starts her journey:

www.stursulas.com/school-information/unexpected-school-closure

Thank you.

In the meantime, we will continue to put our priorities into educating your daughters.

Thank you as always for your continued support.
I wish a you all a healthy weekend.

God bless
Ms Hamilton



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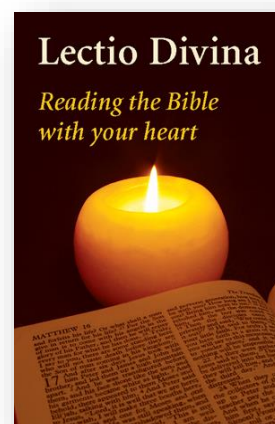
In our form groups this week we have been reflecting on the theme of forgiveness; in particular, on the example the Mizen family who, since the murder of their son, Jimmy, in 2008, have travelled across the world visiting prisons, school and conferences to speak about forgiveness rather than revenge. At times it can be very difficult to both forgive and to ask for forgiveness. Yet that is what we are asked to do – over and over again, since the Lord never tires of forgiving us. In these uncertain times may we respond to others with gentleness and mercy, thus growing in God's love and breaking the cycle of hatred and anger.



During Lent we are encouraged to pray, fast and give. This week saw the first of our *Lectio Divina* lunchtime prayer sessions in the school chapel. These are opportunities to be still and quiet, allowing the Scriptures to inform and shape our hearts and minds. This week's Scripture passage was Mark 4:35-41, the calming of the storm.

"Scripture is at the centre of everything the Church does. The word of God shapes our prayer and worship. The Bible shows us how to understand the world, how we are called to live and relate to each other."

(Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales)





Well done to Year 11 for completing four weeks of written exams, food practicals, NEA preparation and speaking exams

It is essential that pupils arrive well before their exam or assessment is due to start. The school puts the PPEs in place to allow pupils to experience what the summer exams will be like. If your daughter is late for GCSE examinations, this has to be reported to the Awarding Body, and they make a decision as to whether your daughter's exam is marked. This will not be a decision that the school can influence. We expect that parents will support the school in making sure that pupils arrive on time for their examinations.

The GCSE timetable and all other information about the summer examinations is available on the school website.



**Year 11 PPE 2
Results Day is
Tuesday 31st
March 2020**

Updated statement on coronavirus from Ofqual, JCQ and Awarding Bodies:



"We recognise that students, parents, schools and colleges will be concerned about the possible impact of coronavirus on the 2020 summer exam series. Our advice at this time is to continue to prepare for exams and other assessments as normal.

We will continue to work closely with exam boards, other regulators and the Department for Education and we have met to plan for a range of scenarios, as the public would expect. Our overriding priorities are fairness for students this summer and keeping disruption to a minimum.

It is still many weeks until exams start and we will issue updated advice if necessary, giving schools and colleges as much notice as possible."

6th March 2020

Year 11 parents and carers are reminded of the importance of students remaining available until Wednesday 24th June 2020. This is a JCQ contingency that is in place every year. Examinations may be rescheduled, up to and including this date, in the highly unlikely event that there is national disruption during the Summer 2020 exam season.



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School Calendar

2020

Currently under constant
review

Wednesday 18th March 2020

CANCELLED - Enrichment Day

Friday 20th March 2020

CANCELLED - Year 9 trip to the Globe

Monday 23rd March 2020

CANCELLED - Year 10/11 trip to the Globe

Wednesday 1st April 2020

Year 7 Parents Evening

Friday 3rd April 2020

Easter Masses

Monday 6th April – Friday 17th April 2020

Easter Holidays

Monday 20th April 2020

Back to school

8.40am Uniform check

Tuesday 21st April 2020

Good Samaritan Mass, St. George's
Cathedral

UNITED KINGDOM MATHEMATICS TRUST (UKMT) INTERMEDIATE MATHS CHALLENGE (YEARS 9, 10 and 11)

In February 2020, 90 students from Years 9, 10 and 11 were invited to take part in a National Maths Competition called the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge held at St Ursula's. Over 250,000 students nationally took part in this prestigious annual competition which involved solving very challenging questions set in unusual contexts. It was a non-calculator, multiple choice paper where the questions became increasingly more difficult but with the added twist that points were deducted for incorrect answers to discourage guessing! The top 6 % in the country received a Gold, the next 13 % a Silver and the next 21 % a Bronze certificate.

Particular congratulations go to Emilija V as best student in Year 11 (Silver) and also best student in School. The following girls were all best in Year 10: Jessie N, Rachel F and Alice TL. (Bronze).

Congratulations also goes to Dolapo A as best in Year 9 (Silver).

Well done girls!

Mr Fapetu

The following students will receive their certificates in the Achievement Assemblies:

SILVER

Year 9

Dolapo A
(Best in Year)
Isabelle E

Year 11

Emilija V
(Best in School)
Maja T
Oluyemi O

BRONZE

Year 9

Natasha O
Nicole S
Sofia T

Year 10

Thalia R
Toyosi D
Zahrah

Year 11

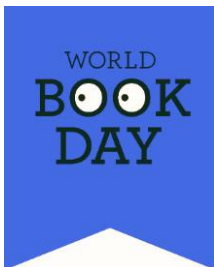
Daniella O
Joeline M

Year 11

Awele AO Nia B
Chidera N Rebecca M
Ciara F Scarlett M
Ella M
Lucia M



World Book Day!



We celebrated World Book Day last week with a number of literary events and activities to stir the imagination! Thank you to all the World Book Day volunteers who helped things to run smoothly – both staff and pupils!

STAFF COSTUME COMPETITION

Staff got into the literary spirit on Friday and came as some of their favourite literary characters!

(Left: Ms Adams as 'Willy Wonka' Miss Deegan as 'Rebecca' by Daphne du Maurier, Ms Dias as Shakespeare's 'Juliet', Dr Woodward as 'Medusa' and Ms Gomez as 'Alice in Wonderland'.



Congratulations to Dr Woodward (Drama/English) who won the staff costume competition with a display of wonderful technical make-up skill!



WORLD BOOK DAY PUPIL COSTUME RAFFLE!

All pupils wearing costumes on World Book Day received a raffle ticket for the chance to win one of five available stationery set prizes!

There were many wonderful costumes, but the luck of the draw has out winners as...



Aliyah as Mary Poppins, Arabella as Lee Scoresby from His Dark Materials, Zara as Elphaba, Esther as Mary Poppins, and Amanda as Hermione!

All outstanding World Book Day donations must be made on Monday 16th March!



Year 11

Library Book Returns 2020

The summer exam season is fast approaching, please see details of [library book return deadlines](#) below!

ALL library **fiction** books must be returned by the first day of the exams (all reservations also expire):

Monday 11th May 2020

Revision guides must be handed in **on the day** of the exam!

The last day for **ALL** returns is:

Friday 12th June 2020

Lost books must be **refunded** or **replaced**. Fiction books and revision guides in decent condition are accepted in exchange for lost books.

If you owe books, you cannot collect your Prom ticket!

Donate your revision guides!

Last year the library received **290** guides and set texts from year 11! This amounted to around **£2,204** of revision material that has been of great benefit to our current year 11!

Pay it forward and donate!

Good luck to all of year 11 for the summer term!