



St Ursula's Convent School

The Ursuline News

Week Ending
22 October 2021
Issue Number 04



Dear all,

Welcome to our fourth edition of the Ursuline News - the final one for this half term.

It has been an eventful half term with numerous opportunities for our students to enjoy additional enrichment opportunities. We are blessed to have so many wonderful places to explore! I would encourage families to take advantage of this during the half term break. To get you started, here is a link to the Top 26 free museums in London
<https://www.visitlondon.com/things-to-do/sightseeing/london-attraction/museum/free-museums-in-London>.

All of our students will also receive homework to complete over the break. For Year 11, this will be preparation for their mock examinations. Please do ensure that all work is completed and (if possible) take the time to talk about the work. Research has proven that parental involvement in their child's education has a significant impact not just on academic success, but this is also very important for wellbeing.

I have been impressed by FOSTUR who have supplied our students with equipment to use in the playground (skipping ropes and hula hoops). They also provided items to upgrade the toilet facilities for our students. This is a group I would thoroughly recommend all parents to join, but especially Year 7 parents. You can contact FOSTUR at fosturatse10@gmail.com.

I am looking forward to the next half term already! It has been wonderful that we have all had time to reacclimatise to life moving around the building to various lessons. Following the break, I expect all students to be on time for each of their lessons. Failure to do so will result in appropriate sanctions. In the meantime, I would welcome your support by asking you to remind your child of the importance of arriving at every lesson in a timely fashion, keen and eager to learn.
/...





I hope your children shared their experiences of Black History Month with you. You can see our [Cultural Celebration](#) presentation on the website.

Finally, many have been enquiring about the long-standing future of our school. Some have asked if we are joining a Multi Academy Trust (MAT). Currently, we have no plans to do this. Our Governing Body will establish a focus group to explore options available to us, and this will be done in a carefully considered manner. The focus group will be established by February 2022 and there will be opportunities for staff and families to be involved too. So in the meantime, the news is that there is no news.

Wishing you all a good half term break. God bless,

Ms Kathleen M Faherty
Headteacher

Twice weekly testing over the October half-term

Thank you for your continued support with Covid-19 home testing.
We know how important it is for you to be able to send your children to school.

You should encourage your children to continue testing and report results twice a week, at home, throughout the October half-term school holiday and make sure your child takes a test before returning to school. All results should be reported, even if your result is negative or void.

Your children should have enough test kits for the half-term break. You can help them to take the test and report their results. Testing is free of charge.
If you do still require more home testing kits to continue testing over half term, you can also order more online through gov.uk or collect from your local pharmacy.

By testing your child twice a week over half term, you will help us to reduce transmission of Coronavirus, keep children in school at St Ursula's and the [name of setting] open to minimise disruption to their education and to you and your household.



Black History Month activities

On **Wednesday 20th October**, all our KS3 students participated in the **Eastside Online's KS3 Black History Month Livestream Workshop**. They joined other classes around the country to participate in an exciting **live streamed** creative experience with Poet Eastside facilitators to celebrate Black History Month. Students were guided through short interactive tasks which explored mental health and wellbeing. They were encouraged to add their ideas to the live online whiteboard. We are looking forward to lots of wonderful, creative and interesting ideas from our students.





World Mission Sunday 24th October 2021



World Mission Sunday is celebrated in every Catholic community in the world. It's a moment of grace to express solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Christ who are living in situations of poverty, violence and oppression. Every parish, school and community is invited to join this special event, and every penny, pound and prayer you give to Missio helps missionaries everywhere continue their work.

This World Mission Sunday, get inspired by women reaching out across religious divides to heal their community.

The Women's Interfaith Council is supported by Missio and features in our World Mission Sunday campaign this year

<https://youtu.be/iWDFh4WWGIk>



Prayer for Peace Between People of All Faiths

Father of all goodness, mercy and love;

You have brought us, your children - Muslims, Christians and traditional worshippers - to live and work together to make your Kingdom reign on earth.

As we dialogue for the good of all, make us instruments of your peace, sow in us the seed of your love for all.

Cast away the spirit of division and make us one in your love.

Cast away the darkness of hatred and unforgiving spirit from us.

Create in us the spirit of understanding, acceptance, and respect for one another irrespective of our differences.

May your light shine in our lives and to all we meet and encounter.

Every act of violence in our world between me and another destroys a part of your creation.

Stir within my heart a renewed sense of reverence for all life.

Give me the vision to recognise your spirit in every human being, however they behave towards me.

Make possible the impossible by cultivating in me the fertile seed of healing love.

May I play my part in breaking the cycle of violence by realising that peace begins with me.

O God! Show us the truth, and nothing but the truth and give us the courage to follow the truth and abstain from the path of falsehood.

Amen.





Gospel reading - Sunday 24th October

Mark 10: 46-52 -Jesus heals blind Bartimaeus

'As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him, 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road'.

Reflectin

A relationship with Jesus allows us to have the courage to believe in times of need and in times of fulfillment. Bartimaeus is a blind man seeking to be able to see again. He confides in Jesus to make that happen. He shows his faith by stepping up and calling for Jesus to heal him. He shows courage in being able to approach and ask for something so grand. He shows that he believes in a higher power and he trusts that he will be taken care of.

In this passage, we learn about the importance of having the courage to ask for help. Asking for help in a time of need takes courage and risk. In this passage, Bartimaeus could have stayed quiet and could have just let the presence of Jesus escape him; he could have let his opportunity to ask for help pass. Jesus, at the end of the passage, lets him know that his faith saved him. It's important to believe in your faith and believe in receiving help or asking for it. Doing so does not make you weak and does not make you seem selfish. It allows you to be open to your faith and believe in something.



Jesus is the way of light, and of healing, so that nothing inside ourselves can block us from receiving the light of God, the light of his love. Lighten our burdens lord, and enlighten our darkness and may we walk in your ways.



The Saturday Royal Greenwich Music Centre

9:30am – 12:30pm



Come and learn from the best at Royal Greenwich Music Centre!

Join us every Saturday to learn new techniques, make friends and develop your musical abilities!

Students play and sing alongside expert tutors, with rehearsals being as true to real life as possible, providing a real insight into the lives of professional musicians.

This music centre is just the start – eventually you will be able to join in with activities at new music centres across the borough. There are big bands, rock bands, music technology clubs, a gospel choir – and we're developing even more.

For more information or to request an application form please email:
music-centre@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**





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Location: Plumstead Manor School

Who can join?

- Singers and Instrumentalists from Year 4 and above who have been learning their instrument for at least a year

Fees

- £100 per term for children and young people that either live or attend school in the Royal Borough of Greenwich
- £200 per term for those outside of the borough
- Fully subsidised for those in receipt of free school meals
- Sibling discount available

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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



23/90 Oct 2021



REMEMBER!

Pupils are responsible for bringing any additional equipment with them each day.

Some exams for example may require calculators, pencils, a ruler or maths equipment.

Make sure you have checked with your teacher what you need for each exam.

Answers should only be written in black pen unless the exam paper instructs otherwise.

Pupils must bring at least **TWO BLACK PENS** with them to each exam.

GOOD LUCK EVERYONE!

PPEs for Year 11s starting Monday 1st November until Friday 19th November 2021

The PPE timetable is available on the [school website](#) and a paper copy was provided to all students this week. This timetable sets out the day and time of each exam including any practical assessments in the first week back after half term.

Year 11 pupils should be aware of our expectations for the PPEs following their exams assembly with Mr Mandalos. If you or your child has any questions, please do contact the school. It is very important that we run these exams in line with the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) [Information for Candidates for Written Examinations](#). This information should be studied carefully by all students, parents and carers to ensure that the rules and regulations of the PPEs are fully understood. More information, including a video highlighting standard JCQ rules and regulations in examinations, is available on the exams section of the [school website](#).

PPEs will be held in the Sports Hall and students not in exams will be in silent study in their normal lesson classrooms. Any students with access arrangements will have these in place and will be spoken to separately by Mrs Ferreira (SENCo) or Mrs Taylor (Exams Officer) to ensure they understand their arrangements.

The JCQ rules include:

- Pupils must be on time for all exams
- Pupils must not take watches, notes, mobile phones, iPods, MP3/4 players, smartwatches into the exam room
- Pupils must not talk, try to communicate with, or disturb other pupils in the exam room
- Any pencil cases must be completely clear and see through
- Small, plastic water bottles must be completely clear with any labels removed and contain water only.





coping with exam pressure

a guide for students

how to feel more confident about exams

What are negative beliefs?

Many people with high exam anxiety can't stop worrying about failing or the consequences of failing. For instance, 'If I fail my GCSEs my whole life will be a failure'. These types of beliefs focus on what you can't do rather than what you can.

Replacing negative beliefs with positive beliefs

Find a positive, realistic belief that can replace the negative belief. For instance, if your negative belief is 'I am rubbish at maths' a positive, realistic alternative could be: 'Even if I will never be the best at maths, I will do better if I have a revision plan and stick to it'.

The **key things to remember** are that:

- if you suffer from anxiety, replacing negative beliefs can help
- some people find it helpful to keep a record of their beliefs
- you can become a more confident person with a 'can do' attitude

ofqual

LIVERPOOL
JOHN MOORES
UNIVERSITY

Stress can be a great

motivator for some students, giving them the 'get up and go' that they need to succeed

Other students are **indifferent to stress**; they can float along without getting affected by stress in a good or bad way

Stress can be a bad thing for some students, when exam pressures become overwhelming

The **key things to remember** are that:

- stress is nothing to be scared of
- anxiety is not inevitable
- you can learn how to cope more effectively

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In English Black History Month and National Poetry Day are being celebrated. Ms Cahalane's Year 9 class studied the wonderful Maya Angelou poem, 'Still I Rise', and wrote their own poetry, inspired by Dr Angelou's work. Here is one poem, to inspire us all, by Doris U:

Still I Stand

You Step on me with your pointed heels
And spread me across the hot yellow sands but
Still, like a soldier, I stand

You may look at me in awe and in envy and
Use your hot-hearted comments to command me
But like a penguin amongst the cold, I stand

Does my identity by itself cause violence?
And do you hate to see me shine?
Like a sunflower in its natural habitat, I stand

Like a bird amongst trees, I stand

Like one proud woman that stands
With all others like me, tall, long, proud and suave,
I stand, I stand, I stand.

By Doris U (9F)



The Ursuline News



MFL Stephen Spender Translation competition.

Well done to all the students who submitted an entry for this competition back in the academic year 20/21 (Before the summer).

We had entries from students in Y7, 8 and 9.

Entries were made for poems in French, Spanish, Italian, Polish, Yoruba and Japanese, showcasing a huge passion for a range of different languages in our school.

WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED NEWS FROM THE COMPETITION THAT 2 OF OUR ENTRIES MADE THE COMMENDEES LIST!

This means their names will appear in the Prize's booklet and also on the Trust's website (www.stephen-spender.org).

This is an amazing feat as this was a global competition with A HUGE AMOUNT OF ENTRIES!



Rebecca C (8U) -
Polish Poem



Matilda G (8C) -
Italian Poem

If you would like to join the virtual celebration of this event, you can sign up at :

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/stephen-spender-prize-celebration-event-2021-tickets-191035390997>



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Thanks to the wonderful baking of some very talented Y9/10/11 students we raised a **MASSIVE £266** for Macmillan's! The treats went down so well that I didn't even get a chance to take photos however they flew off the tables, with some definite favourites amongst the students!



Picking the winners was super hard! Our local baker was very impressed and we thought all your creations were winners! However the following 4 students really stood out with a mixture of effort, cultural representation and decor. Please come and see Miss Painvin next week for your prizes.



- 1st** - Chimamanda E (Y9)
2nd - Maria R (Y9)
3rd - Chelsea E (Y11) & Jaiden S (Y11)

PS - A MASSIVE THANK YOU TO ALL THE LANGUAGE LEADERS WHO WERE ABSOLUTE STARS AND THE Y11 STUDENTS WHO GENEROUSLY GAVE UP THEIR BREAK TIME TO SERVE YOU ALL CAKE! YOU ARE ALL AMAZING!

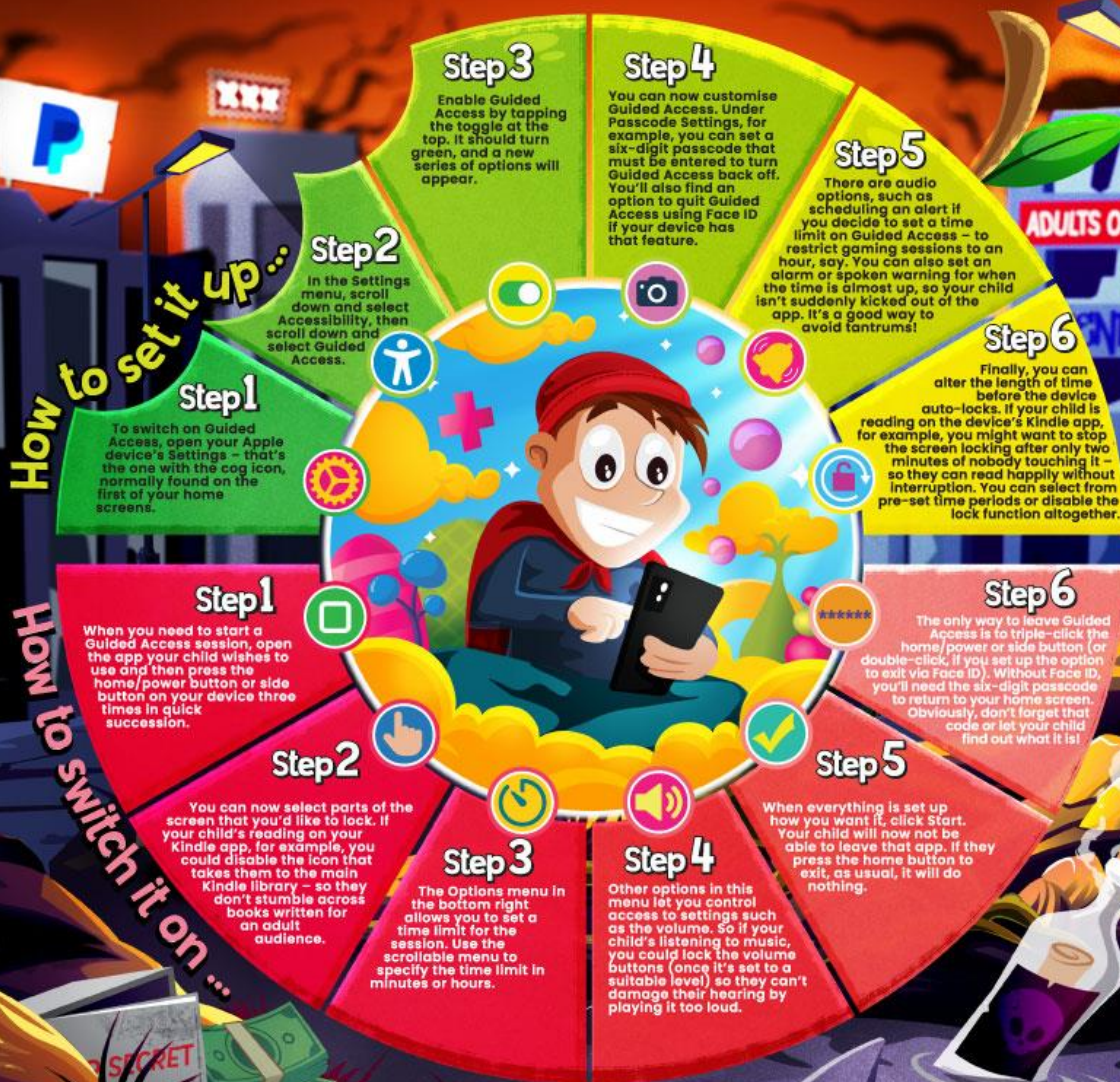


At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents and Carers Need to Know about APPLE GUIDED ACCESS

iPhones and iPads don't offer separate user accounts. So when you hand your Apple device to a child to play a game or watch a video, you're also handing them access to your email, the web, messaging and numerous other apps through which they could accidentally do something regrettable.

Apple Guided Access solves this potential problem by letting you restrict the iPhone or iPad to one particular app whenever your child uses the device. If they try and leave that app, they will be asked for a password or Face ID, meaning they can't access anything they shouldn't elsewhere on the device. Here, we show you how to find and set up the Guided Access feature, so you can confidently let your child borrow your iPhone or iPad.



Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and the *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and has written regularly about internet safety issues.



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#WakeUpWednesday

SOURCES: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT202012>



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



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FREE!

Connecting Communities

DANCE FESTIVAL

25-29 OCTOBER 2021

MONDAY 25 OCTOBER 7-8:30PM
Community performance from TARU
Hosted by Adisa
Greenwich West Community Centre, 141 Greenwich High Road, SE10 8JA

TUESDAY 26 OCTOBER 7-8:30PM
Community performance from Dynamix Dancerz
Hosted by BREIS
Thomas Tallis School, 154 Kidbrooke Park Road, SE3 9PX

WEDNESDAY 27 OCTOBER 7-8:30PM
Community performance from UK Latin Community
Hosted by Andre Bright
Slade Hall Community Centre, Pendrell Street, SE18 2PL

THURSDAY 28 OCTOBER 7-8:30PM
Community performance from Afro Praisers
Hosted by Adisa
Middle Park Community Centre, 150 Middle Park Avenue, SE9 5SD

FRIDAY 29 OCTOBER

6:30PM FESTIVAL PARADE
Royal Arsenal Gate, No 1 Street, Woolwich

7-9PM FESTIVAL FINALE
Performances from all headliners
Hosted by Adisa and Andre Bright
Woolwich Works, 11 No 1 Street, SE18 6HD

For more information:
[royalgreenwich.gov.uk/
connectingcommunitiesfestival](http://royalgreenwich.gov.uk/connectingcommunitiesfestival)

KAUMARTS

ROYAL GREENWICH
BLACK HISTORY 365

ROYAL borough of
GREENWICH



Junior Leadership Team update

Hello, and welcome to our second JLT section of the newsletter! This past week has been busy, but it's just about settled as we all work towards the exams that are to come. Masterclasses, practice questions, study timetables - it's enough to stress anyone out, and it can have an impact on our mental health. It's important that everyone knows how to take care of their mind, and most importantly know that you are never alone - and that is why we wore yellow on Thursday the 8th!

The turnout was amazing, with everyone coming to school wearing something yellow, whether it be a scarf, headband or paper crown! It was comforting to all of us students to know that so many people cared about mental health, and reassuring to know that it is something that *everybody* deals with, and we are there as a community to support each other. We'd like to remind everyone that the SWO's office is open to all those who need it, as well as the R&R room. For students who feel as though they need extra support, Kimberly (our school's designated counsellor) is also a viable option. To contact her and book an appointment please go through the corridor where the premise office is located, there you will find a grey box addressed to Kimberly where you can submit your qualms and worries! Be sure to add your full name, house and year group so that she can contact you ASAP! Please remember that you never have to go through rough times alone.

Friday the 9th was Enrichment Day, and each year group were able to engage in a plethora of different activities, from theatre workshops to trips to art galleries and football stadiums. Enrichment days give us an opportunity to expand our education to things we wouldn't normally learn or do as well as a general break from the usually stressful school week or month, in a fun environment with our friends. I hope we can speak for us all when we say that we all enjoyed enrichment day very much. The Year 11 trip was amazing, as we walked where we have only seen footballers on TV! Olivia K in Year 10 who went on a trip to Hayward Gallery told us about how she "found the enrichment day super fun [...] the gallery had some amazing pieces of artwork and it was very impressive! The boat trip was also really fun as well as I was with my friends [...] It was so nice to be out and about in London with my year!" She says she "can't wait for future enrichment days!"

Wednesday was the Year 7 settling-in evening, and we hope it was helpful to students and parents alike. Year sevens - you're almost at the end of your first half-term at secondary school, congratulations! We hope you're enjoying what St Ursula's has to offer, and if not, we are here to listen to your concerns and make a change.

Ultimately, it's been an exciting week, and a time when we have learnt a lot of new things. As we write this, it is the feast day of the Blessed Carlos Acutis, the youngest contemporary person to be beatified. On this day we reflect on all of his loving acts of kindness, and aspire to be like him, using our knowledge and skills to help others.

The JLT



Summer Writing Competition Winners!



'THE IS NOT WHAT I EXPECTED' WRITING COMPETITION WINNERS

Miss Deegan and Ms Cahalane launched a Flash Fiction competition at the end of summer term, with the rule that the line *'This is not what I expected'* had to appear in the text in each entry!

Many pupils entered and the quality of writing was phenomenal, but Miss Deegan and Ms Cahalane have now reached a decision!

The winners are....

1. Lily G. 9C
2. Wemi A. 9A
3. Nicole S. 11U

The pupils who have earned a place on the shortlist and will all earn 3 house points are....:

Anna-Belle A. (8) and Gabrielle F. (11)

Well done to all who entered!

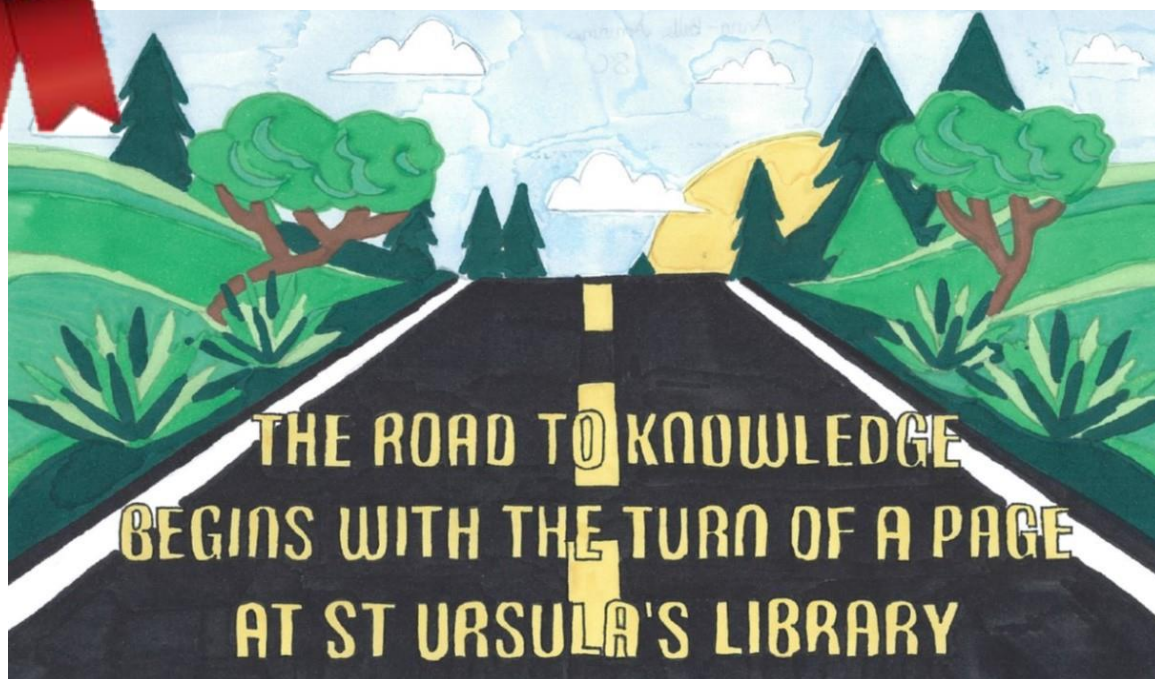


Library Poster Competition Winners

Over summer Miss Deegan held a library poster competition. The entries were amazing and pupils put copious effort into their designs. The time has come to announce the winner!



1st: Anna-Belle A. 8C!



Also, congratulations to

2nd: Louisa C. 9U

3rd: Grace T. 9U



New Library Assistants

This term, Miss Deegan advertised for 2 library assistants from each year. She had 66 applications, and competition was so fierce that Miss Deegan has decided to hire 3 pupils per year, and in year 11 even more!

Your new Library Assistant Year Teams are...

YEAR 7:

Olivia N. 7U
Deborah S. 7U
Mirabelle 7C

YEAR 10

Jeslyn O. 10A
Anne-Mei O. 10U
Susannah H. F. 10C

YEAR 8

Anna-Belle A. 8C
Emma Angel S. 8C
Maisy A. 8U

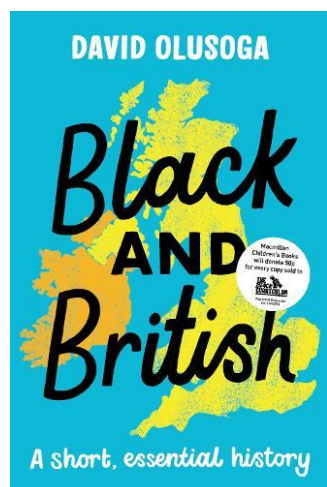
YEAR 11

Veronika P. 11U
Seun I. 11A
Victoria A. 11U
Gabrielle F. 11A
Keira Apedo 11C

YEAR 9

Praise N. 9A
Nomshu J-J 9E
Esther A. 9E

For those who did not get the role, well done on your application, and Miss Deegan will be contacting people who made her shortlist about the newly created position of 'Reading Ambassador' soon...



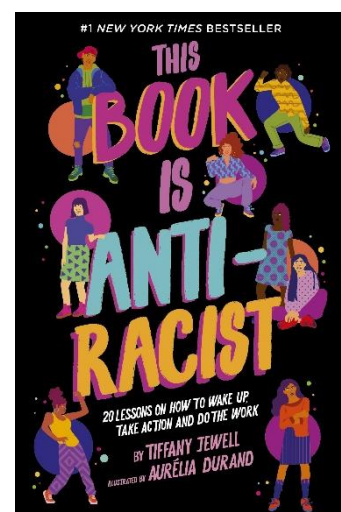
Library Highlights

Black and British: A Short Essential History **David Olusoga, Non-Fiction.**

When did Africans first come to Britain? Who are the well-dressed black children in Georgian paintings? Why did the American Civil War disrupt the Industrial Revolution? These and many other questions are answered in this essential introduction to 1800 years of the Black British history: from the Roman Africans who guarded Hadrian's Wall right up to the present day.

This Book is Anti-Racist by Tiffany Jewell; **illustrated by Aurélia Durand. (2020)**

Who are you? What is racism? Where does it come from? Why does it exist? What can you do to disrupt it? Learn about social identities, the history of racism and resistance against it, and how you can use your anti-racist lens and voice to move the world toward equity and liberation. Gain a deeper understanding of your anti-racist self as you progress through 20 chapters that spark introspection, reveal the origins of racism that we are still experiencing and give you the courage and power to undo it. Each chapter builds on the previous one as you learn more about yourself and racial oppression. Exercise prompts get you thinking and help you grow with the knowledge.

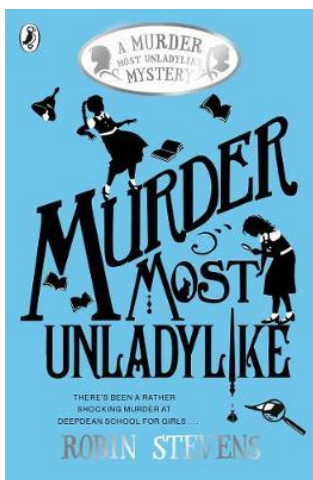


Black History (365) **Fiction and Non-Fiction** **Reading List:**

<https://tinyurl.com/yjbwrd9r>



Most Popular Novels this Term



Murder Most Unladylike by Robin Stevens

When Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong set up their very own deadly secret detective agency at Deepdean School for Girls, they struggle to find any truly exciting mysteries to investigate. But then Hazel discovers the Science Mistress, Miss Bell, lying dead in the Gym. She thinks it must all have been a terrible accident - but when she and Daisy return five minutes later, the body has disappeared. Now the girls know a murder must have taken place - and there's more than one person at Deepdean with a motive.

A Place Called Perfect by Helena Duggan

Violet hates living in Perfect. Why does everyone have to wear special glasses to stop them going blind? What are the strange noises in the night and why is Mum acting so weird? Then Dad disappears and Violet is determined to uncover the truth with the help of the mysterious Boy. But returning normality to Perfect is a battle they never imagined.



The School for Good and Evil by Soman Chainani

Every four years, two girls are kidnapped from the village of Gavaldon. Legend has it these lost children are sent to the School for Good and Evil, the fabled institution where they become fairytale heroes or villains. Sophie, the most beautiful girl in town, has always dreamed of her place at the School for Good while her friend Agatha, with her dark disposition seems destined for the School for Evil. But when the two are kidnapped they find their fortunes reversed.



ROYAL BOROUGH OF GREENWICH
DIRECT SERVICES TO SCHOOLS



RBG Poetry Competition

In celebration of National Poetry Day on October 7th, we are inviting all students from Greenwich borough schools to enter our poetry competition.

The theme for National Poetry Day is: **CHOICE**

Pupils can write any type of poem that you like inspired by the theme of choice. Maximum number of lines is 20.

Pupils must include your full name, year, and school in your entry.

There will be a winner and runner up for each key stage. Key Stages 1-5 can enter

Pupils must sign up to this Google Classroom and submit their entry there if they would like to participate!

CODE: **c3i2cly**

DEADLINE: Monday 8th November

Miss Deegan will then email the entries to the competition! Good Luck!



STU Online Library

Every pupil at St Ursula's has access to our wonderful online library system and eBook platform. Pupils can search online for books to pick up in person or reserve, and also to read online. There are thousands of books to choose from and curated reading lists to assist book choice!

Oliver Library System

<https://stursulas.oliverasp.co.uk/library/home/news>



ePlatform Ebooks

<https://stursulascscs.eplatform.co/>



An instruction manual on how pupils can access all online content is available (along with all other library links) on the library padlet page:

<https://padlet.com/stulibrary/klnusczmsjd3qta>

Pupils should also join the Library Google Classroom Bulletin Board to receive service updates and ask questions. They must use their School Google Account to join: **n4wa3ii**

DOWNLOAD THE EPLATFORM APP FOR MOBILE READING!

In addition to the ePlatform website, pupils can download the ePlatform eBook reader as an app to their home device and read on a tablet, smartphone or mobile computer, and they can also download content to read offline!

<https://stursulascscs.eplatform.co/help/apps/eplatform-app>



OVERDUE AND LOST BOOK FEES



The library does not charge overdue fees; however, some books have been overdue for more than a year, and over 1,000 in total are overdue. Pupils have been given printouts of any books that are overdue by more than 30 days. If the book has been lost or irreparably damaged, it should be paid for on ParentPay in the 'Library Fee' section. The cost of the books are on the printout. Arrangements for book swaps can be made if necessary upon request.

A 'Library Fee' section is available in ParentPay and it will show as "£1-£75" on your ParentPay account; this is not a charge, but simply a facility for you to enter your own amount should your child have lost one of the books on the overdue notice. No action is required until you are contacted. You can also use this facility to donate towards the library for book-buying.