



St Ursula's Convent School

The Ursuline News

Week Ending
28 January 2022
Issue Number 09



Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you for continuing to contact us as soon as your child develops any COVID symptoms and keeping us informed as to the outcomes of your child's Lateral Flow and PCR tests. We are fortunate to have been able to manage any absences due to COVID of either students or staff without the need to send any year groups home.

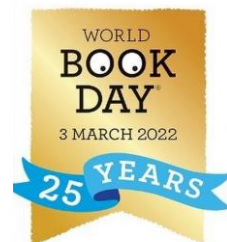
The COVID Immunisation Team were back in school last Wednesday, giving both first and second doses. Please note that children over 12 can also get vaccinated in the community. Please click [here](#) to book your child's vaccine.

As before, please can we encourage you to continue testing twice a week at home and to report all results to NHS Test and Trace.

As you are aware, the Government has changed the guidance about the wearing of masks in classrooms. It is no longer necessary for students to wear masks in classrooms. From Thursday 27th January it will not be necessary for students and staff to wear masks in communal areas. Until then please ensure your child has a mask to wear in the corridors. If staff and students prefer to wear masks beyond the 27th January, they may do so here at St Ursula's. From Monday 31st January, we will reinstate assemblies. This will be continually reviewed in light of guidance from Public Health.

If your child has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, the DfE has confirmed that they are strongly encouraged to take part in LFD testing at home once they have completed their isolation period for their prior infection. If you need more Lateral Flow tests, please do ask your child to come to the main office where they will be able to pick up a box. We are continuing with the 10-day isolation period for any student or member of staff who needs to isolate as a result of COVID. We will, of course, update our procedures when the guidance changes.

As the pandemic is showing signs of easing off, we are looking forward to the term ahead. We are blessed to have such wonderful and committed staff who are working hard to bring additional opportunities and experiences to our students, for example, Number Day (4th February); a range of House competitions; World Book Day (3rd March); International Women's Day (8th March) to name a few.... Ms Stewart will be in touch shortly regarding our clubs and societies offer which we are planning on opening up more fully after the half term break.





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Ms Izard will be in direct contact with Year 11 families with the forthcoming pre public examination timetable. We would welcome your continuing support by ensuring your child is preparing thoroughly at home. For GCSE students, this will involve evening; weekend and holiday work. Revision lists will be shared with students on Google Classrooms by 31st January.

In order to best prepare our students for this shift in day-to-day practice, our pastoral team have been delivering very important looms to our students with a focus on standards and support available at school. I would strongly urge you to also watch them so that you too get a sense of the direction of travel in these very important areas. Here is the link so that you can watch this as a family too:

<https://www.loom.com/share/2e6131765da342afbc8b469548066ed0>

<https://www.loom.com/share/06d53a5bd7394392a03e2dfb85a02041>

All schools have been awarded a day to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We will be marking this day on March 14th. This means that school will not be open on this day.

I want to finish with one of the most important areas of our school life. This coming Thursday is the Feast of St Angela Merici (our foundress). To mark this we will begin the day together as a school community in prayer and reflection. I would like to invite you too, our families and wider community, to take a moment to reflect on the below words from the Ursuline Prayer.



Gracious God,

Let us remain in harmony,

United together all of one heart and one will. Let us be bound to one another

by the bond of love,

Respecting each other, helping each other, And bearing with each other in Jesus Christ. For if we try to be like this, without any doubt, The Lord God will be in our midst. Amen

God bless

Ms Kathleen M Faherty
Headteacher





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Feast day of our Foundress St Angela Merici

On the 27th January, our whole school community will join together to celebrate the life & legacy of our foundress St Angela Merici.

We pray for all our Ursuline sisters around the world and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage. May they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times and inspire others to live the mission of Christ in their own lives.



These are the UEC virtues that we follow in school, they play a huge part in our lives, with each leaf meaning something different but equally significant.

Every term we dedicate one virtue to focus deeply on, this term is **Generous and grateful**.

St Angela Merici showed throughout her life everyone of these virtues.



No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another."

Serviam teaches us how to serve. To think of others and not just of ourselves. We are living in a world where there is a lot of selfishness.

Serviam is a way to remind us where we come from. We are a safe and happy community that help and look after each other.

Serviam helps us to be kind and caring to others every day of our lives. It will become a habit and hopefully we will be able to spread our kindness and charity in every corner of the world.

"Act, move, believe, strive, hope, cry out to him with all your heart for without doubt you will see marvellous things."

St Angela, Prologue to the Counsels, 16-18



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Heavenly Father,

For centuries now, since the very beginning of the Ursuline community our devoted and selfless Sisters have been there; In November 25th, 1535 when the company was first founded in St Ursula's name, they were their to support us, from the very first 28 members to the ones whom are with us today, we are eternally grateful for your support and your faith in this school to the point that you gave up your life and pointed all your goals and efforts towards our School, Serviam, the Ursuline community and God. On St Angela's feast day we do not only think of her and her legacy but also of the hundreds of Sisters which were an integral part of this formidable community.

May God forever bless the Ursuline sisters in Jesus' name we pray,

Amen

From Emma Angel



We should
always aspire to
be like Saint
Angela Merici,
a kind selfless
person.

Dear God,

We thank you for The Ursuline Sisters who have preserved the mission of St Angela Merici. Bless our Ursuline Sisters within our school and across the world. We are thankful for their devotion to bring up and teach young girls to be strong independent women. As it is Saint Angela Merici feast day help us celebrate her legacy through our actions and words.

Amen

From Anna-Belle



Dear Lord,

Thank you for the wonderful life our foundress St Angela Merici lived selflessly serving and looking out for the needs of others

Thank you because of our service this school was established and many girls were able to get an education in a time very few could

We ask that you continue to bless our Ursuline Sisters strengthening their faith throughout their vocation to continue to show serviam always

Amen

9 Elizabeth





Gospel reading - Sunday 30th January

Gospel – Luke 4:21-30

Jesus began speaking in the synagogue, saying: "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." And all spoke highly of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They also asked, "Isn't this the son of Joseph?" He said to them, "Surely you will quote me this proverb, 'Physician, cure yourself,' and say, 'Do here in your native place the things that we heard were done in Capernaum.'" And he said, "Amen, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own native place. Indeed, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah when the sky was closed for three and a half years and a severe famine spread over the entire land. It was to none of these that Elijah was sent, but only to a widow in Zarephath in the land of Sidon. Again, there were many lepers in Israel during the time of Elisha the prophet; yet not one of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." When the people in the synagogue heard this, they were all filled with fury. They rose up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town had been built, to hurl him down headlong. But Jesus passed through the midst of them and went away.



Coming as Saviour to visit his people, Jesus intends to lift their troubles from their shoulders - but effort is needed on their part too. He tells the townspeople of Nazareth that it's not just a question of spectacle, of a show of miracles 'on tap' - a deep change of heart can be needed. Jesus offers healing and help to all of us - but we ourselves must be open to allowing him to act in our lives. Christ must truly be present in our lives.



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Message from the local authority:

Greenwich Local Authority have shared this resource with all the schools in our borough: ['Talking to your child about sexual harassment: a guide for parents/carers'](#). This advice leaflet follows the largest ever survey of children - 'The Big Ask' in which children said they wanted to be able to talk more openly with their parents/carers about sexualised bullying and the pressures of growing up online. This guidance was put together in conjunction with a group of 16-21 year olds who were asked to think back to when they were a bit younger and share what they wish their parents/carers had known. This guidance is their advice to adults on how to tackle this subject. Please remember if your child wants to report sexual bullying or anything else that has made them feel unsafe or uncomfortable, they should speak with Mrs Adams or another member of the safeguarding team.

Music event in the local area:

OPEN SOUND ENSEMBLE
TUESDAY 15 & WEDNESDAY 16 FEBRUARY

Join the London Philharmonic Orchestra's **free** inclusive music ensemble for young people of secondary school age with special educational needs and disabilities and their parents / carers.

Tuesday 15 & Wednesday 16 February
Woolwich Works, The Firework Factory,
Royal Arsenal, London SE18 6HD

Morning group: 10.30am–12.30pm | Afternoon group: 1.30–3.30pm

We will be making music in groups using both traditional and accessible digital instruments, playing alongside friendly musicians from the LPO.

To find out more or to apply, visit
lpo.org.uk/opensound

If you have any questions please
get in touch with us at opensound@lpo.org.uk

Can't make this one?
Put our summer course dates in your diary!
Thursday 4 & Friday 5 August 2022

The LPO Open Sound Ensemble is kindly supported by the Borrowers Charitable Trust, the Boshier-Hinton Foundation, the John Horniman's Children's Trust, the Souter Charitable Trust, the David Solomons Charitable Trust, the John Thaw Foundation, Sir William Boreman's Foundation and The Viney Family.



WELLBEING AND
SAFEGUARDING TEAM



Dear parent/carers

Wishing you all a warm welcome back to the start of the new school year, we do hope you managed to have a restful Christmas break.

Although the SWO (safeguarding and wellbeing officers) have now been a part of the school community for the past couple of years we are aware that not all our parents are familiar with our department, therefore we would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves and explain a little about our role.

We have three members within the department; Ms Ormerod, Mrs Higgins and Mrs Altman (see photos below) and our role focuses on supporting the wellbeing and safeguarding needs of our students; this ranges from: struggling with transition into secondary school life; anxiety/exam anxiety; ongoing friendship difficulties; feeling low; being a listening ear; advice; providing a safe space to share problems; signposting to wider support.

All students can also access our Google classroom 'Keep Me In Mind' for well-being resources and signposting links.



A recent presentation has been shared with our students reinforcing the provision of our role, the route to referral, along with an updated list of our current safeguarding officers (outlined below).

However to ensure our parents/carers are also aware of the referral route please note: students can fill in a SWO appointment request slip; teachers email raising a possible need for SWO support; parent/carer emails/telephone call in, raising their concern - this concern is then directed to the relevant member of staff.

In addition to this provision the school is also fortunate enough to have an onsite counsellor two days a week, for which students can self-refer or ask any member of staff to make a referral on their behalf.

Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact the SWO department.



Ms Ormerod



Mrs Higgins



Mrs Altman



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A Humanities College and Teaching School



*The Designated Safeguarding Team for
St Ursula's Convent School*



Mrs Adams DSL
Ext 103
Ground Floor



Mr Innocent
EXT 104



Mrs Kerr
U5
EXT 105



Mr Nwandison
EXT 104



Ms Ormerod
L1
EXT 119



Mrs Higgins
L2
EXT 111



Ms Cahir
U5
EXT 105



Mr Mandalos
M5
EXT 109



Ms Cushnahan
S3
EXT 108



Mr Fisher
M6
EXT 126



Mrs Altman
L2
EXT 111



Mrs Mariategui
L2
EXT 114

In the absence of Mrs Adams, please contact Mr Innocent on Ext 104