

NEWSLETTER



UXBRIDGE
HIGH SCHOOL

AUTUMN 1 - 20TH OCTOBER 2023

'All that glitters is not gold'

This is a famous quote from William Shakespeare and infers that the attractive external appearance of something is not a reliable indication of its true nature. We hope our parents and the local community now see the golden potential of this school. This may not have at first been obvious to all, but our strengthening belief means we have an opportunity to share the essence of our brilliant work.

My weekly VLOGs, our messages on social media and these newsletters are designed to ensure you have the same belief in the gold vision of the school that I and all the staff at the school have. We started the year with training for all staff on how we strengthen the school vision. We talked about being emotionally invested, having evidence of success and making the vision visible.

I use this an opportunity to share evidence of our success this half term with you. We had record attendance at open evening and open mornings. We have record attendance figures across all year groups. We have record attendance at wider curricular clubs. We have record logins to DPR and Sparks Maths. We have specialist teachers across all areas of the curriculum. We had an incredible awards evening which we hope to improve on each year. We have a record number of rewards credits being given. The standard of work that students are producing is gold across all abilities and year groups. Students are PROUD to show their teachers, our trustees and the leadership team the progress they are making. We have already had many trips which the teachers and students have enjoyed equally. This will continue throughout the year. Finally we had an Ofsted inspection, which we are PROUD of and will share the success of with students and parents after half term.

We are feeling positive that our inner gold is our true value that we bring to educating the future generation. I am proud to share this message with parents and I am confident that we really do ensure students do better when they attend Uxbridge High School.

Please share that message with the young people as we are determined to make gold visible to you and them. We do this through our assemblies, through or rewards and through finding ways to build them up and let them know they are deserving of excellence in the form of a golden school.

This newsletter celebrates the success of each year group this half term. We hope you enjoy it and as always thanks for your support and we welcome any feedback.

Happy Half Term

Louisa Seymour

CELEBRATING SUCCESS & MEMORIES AT OUR ANNUAL AWARDS EVENING

It was a night filled with pride, applause, and cherished memories as we gathered to celebrate the achievements of our remarkable students at this year's awards evening. Their accomplishments throughout the past year have left us all in awe and we couldn't be more proud of their dedication and hard work.

This special evening served as a moment to reflect on the friendships and memories forged during their time at school. These bonds will undoubtedly stand the test of time and the valuable lessons learned here will serve as a foundation for the bright future awaiting our students. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all those who received awards – your dedication and commitment have not gone unnoticed. It was an honour to host you and your families for this memorable occasion, as we collectively recognised your outstanding achievements.

Adding to the enchanting atmosphere of the evening were the musical interludes provided by our exceptionally talented performers. Their contributions added a unique touch to the event, making it even more unforgettable.

Our annual Awards Evening was not only an opportunity to acknowledge individual student success, but also a chance to connect with the parents and carers who have been instrumental in supporting our amazing students. Their unwavering dedication and encouragement have played a crucial role in our students' achievements and we sincerely thank them.

As we continue to strive for excellence as a school, events like these remind us of the incredible potential that lies within our students. We are committed to nurturing this potential and providing them with the tools they need to reach the golden standard we aim for. Together, as a school community, we look forward to more moments of celebration, growth and success in the years to come.



YEAR 7



MRS N ENEKWA, HEAD OF LEARNING FOR YEAR 7

I am pleased to inform you that Year 7 have had a brilliant first half term. Our fantastic Year 7 team have done their best in ensuring that your child has settled into 'big' school as smoothly as possible. It is our aim to instil the UHS PROUD values into your child's learning and experiences and we are determined that they showcase the best version of themselves in all areas, so that they are proud of their successes.

HIGHLIGHTS

We have stayed at the top of the leader board all term with our attendance currently standing at 96.5% as of 13th October 2023. Our target attendance is 97% which I know is achievable with your ongoing support in making sure your child is in school every day. We want students to get the best out of their education from our excellent and motivational teachers here at Uxbridge High School.

KEY ACTIVITIES

All forms nominated and selected 2 students to represent them at school council, as well as a president and vice president of the year group. In addition to this, all students are currently being encouraged to apply for prefect. This is a brilliant way of demonstrating 'student voice' and for them to step up to share their concerns and thoughts about all aspects of school life and to be heard.

Seeing you at the Year 7 welcome evening on 14th September, was one of the highlights of the school calendar and I want to say thank-you! Your attendance, participation and support of your child's education is both heartening and reassuring.

The uptake in extra-curricular activities and clubs has been good and we are promoting more opportunities for students to engage in the variety available. These activities develop a rounded and accomplished person in addition to their academics.

NOTICES/REMINDERS

Students who have achieved excellence in various areas will be taken on a rewards trip on 19th December. Students have been receiving postcards home as well as positive character credits from their teachers. These all build up to prizes and awards at the end of term. Every student who obtains 50 character credits receives a pin badge for that credit type, which they can wear proudly on the label of their blazer.

YEAR 8



MR J HUMPLEBY, HEAD OF LEARNING FOR YEAR 8

It is a pleasure to reach out to you all and provide you with a summary of Year 8 in the first half term of the year. It is a privilege to look after this year group and give the students the stability and support they need on their journey throughout the year. The Year 8 team and I are determined to give every student the best opportunity to succeed, and your support is equally important in this. Below is just an outline of some of the fantastic events that have taken place this year so far. I look forward to reporting back at the end of the term with many more positive messages and feedback from staff and students before the Christmas break.

HIGHLIGHTS

Year 8 have made a fantastic start to this academic year. Throughout the year, there are a number of areas, which as a year group, to focus on to ensure students maximise their time at Uxbridge High School. We are striving to improve our attendance which as a year group, currently stands at 93.7%. Our target attendance is set at 96% and with your support, this is a very realistic target. Within school, it is vital students are able to enjoy a safe learning environment. Students who are late to lessons or being disruptive and hindering the progress of others, will not be tolerated. Teachers and students are working exceptionally hard to ensure learning is taking place, and I want to ensure this remains consistent throughout the year and heading into Year 9.

KEY ACTIVITIES

We have recently elected form representatives in each form, as well as a President and Vice President of the year group. Their role throughout the year will be to ensure every student in the year group has a voice and is able to share ideas which will improve the school and see changes that they want to see.

It was fantastic to see so many of you at parents' evening on 19th October, discussing some of the amazing progress being made by our Year 8 students and supporting them with the next steps to succeed.

NOTICES/REMINDERS

Our first main event of the upcoming term will be our Your Life You Choose event which takes place on 1st November. This will be a drop down day where students will attend five different workshops covering a variety of topics. These workshops include guest speakers from London Ambulance Service, Daniel Spargo Foundation and Safer Schools, with the main aim of ensuring our students remain safe both in school and in the community.

YEAR 9



MR L MALESCI, HEAD OF LEARNING FOR YEAR 9

I am proud to introduce myself as the Head of Learning for Year 9 since September of this academic year. My journey with Year 9 commenced as the dedicated tutor for 8XOX in the 2022-2023 school year. Subsequently, in April 2023, I assumed the role of Assistant Head of Learning for Year 8, working alongside the then Head of Learning. Now, at the helm as Head of Learning, I bring with me a wealth of experience and unwavering commitment.

Our current Year 9 students are nothing short of exceptional, exemplifying the gold standard at Uxbridge High School. Their dedication and enthusiasm serve as a testament to the excellence we strive for.

Year 9 holds a pivotal place in the secondary school journey as it marks a year of decision-making. In the upcoming year, students will make choices that will determine the qualifications they pursue in Key Stage 4. This year presents numerous opportunities for our Year 9 cohort, including participation in school events, such as trips; clubs; shows and more.

To further enhance our students' experience, I have initiated a renewed focus on recognition and praise, which our Year 9 students have consistently earned since their journey began in Year 7. Our weekly assemblies now feature "Form of the Week" and celebrate the top 5 students in the year group each week, emphasizing those with the highest attendance and sharing important updates.

In addition to this, I have introduced an innovative system called "Milestones." Students who accumulate character credits in multiples of 50 (50, 100, 150, 200) will receive a personalized postcard from me on a weekly basis.

Furthermore, we continue to distribute PROUD badges at the end of each half term, reinforcing our commitment to acknowledging and appreciating hard work.

I firmly believe that dedication and effort should be recognised and celebrated. Here at Uxbridge High School, we encourage our students to aim for excellence and take pride in both their personal achievements and their school. Together, we work to create a vibrant and inspiring educational environment.

YEAR 10



MISS F LATUNJI-JONES, HEAD OF LEARNING FOR YEAR 10

As we approach the end of the first half-term, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've had so far in Year 10. It's an honour serving as the Head of Learning for Year 10, and I am thrilled to share some highlights and important updates with you.

Firstly, I extend my warmest greetings to all parents and carers. Your support and collaboration are vital in fostering a positive learning environment for our students. As the Head of Learning for Year 10, my commitment is to ensure a supportive and enriching experience for each student as they navigate this crucial stage of their academic journey.

At the start of this new academic year, I made it clear to Year 10 that they were embarking on a metaphorical Olympic journey. Over the next 2 years, they would need to work towards 'going for gold' through their efforts in class and beyond. So far, our students have shown resilience, adaptability, and an eagerness to learn.

We've had several exciting events and activities over the past few months. For instance, the Year 10 drama group attended a play called the Woman in Black, which provided them with the opportunity to broaden their knowledge. The recent Gold in Everyone ceremony showcased the academic success and progress of so many Year 10 students who demonstrate our gold standard every day. A massive shout out to Sophia who played her piano beautifully and Jessica who was celebrated in English for writing a novel! With the relaunching of wider curriculum clubs, Year 10s have embraced all the opportunities, most notably football, basketball and netball.

As we approach the festive season, we will continue to support our Year 10s through their hard work and ensure they are able to personally develop as individuals. To keep parents informed, we will be creating our very own information video on GCSEs so keep an eye out for this! More importantly, I would like to take this opportunity to recognise and celebrate the achievements of some outstanding students in Year 10. Their hard work, dedication and commitment to excellence deserve special mention. Congratulations to Paul Ade, Charlie Collins, Illias Damir, Anas Damir, Maria Draguta and Aryan Calvin for their exceptional achievements. Your efforts inspire us all and we are proud to have such bright and talented individuals in our Year 10 cohort.

In conclusion, I want to express my gratitude for your continued support. Together, as a school community, we can make a lasting impact on the lives of our students. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out. Let's make the rest of the academic year even more successful and rewarding for our Year 10 students.

YEAR 11

MR A MORGAN, HEAD OF LEARNING FOR YEAR 11

I can only emphasise how proud I have been with the hard work and dedication that the Year 11s have shown so far, this academic year. They have risen to the challenge of the most important academic year of their lives with grace and perseverance. Please do continue to encourage them to rise further, to work hard, study often, and take care of their physical and mental wellbeing. We have incredibly high hopes for this year group. We as a school and I, as their head of year, feel like this cohort is, and will be, the best year group Uxbridge High School has ever had. Take some time to congratulate them, celebrate them, and let them know how proud we all are of them so far.

HIGHLIGHTS/KEY MESSAGES:

A special congratulations to the 154 Year 11 students who have achieved 100% attendance this academic year. Coming to school, on time, is the most important thing that our students can be doing this academic year. With only 7 months to go before exams begin, it is incredibly important that every student is in school every day. Studies show that even a 5% absence rate will affect the results that Year 11 students receive. This is why we have the golden target of 96% attendance for all our students.

This term, Year 11 elected their student council representatives for their last time at UHS. Bader, Bo, Amiin, Alessio, Salma, Yazu, Salma, Alfie, Furqan, Kinga, Sultan, Srishti, Adam, Jake, Cassidy and Ridwan have taken the responsibility upon themselves to represent the interests of their tutor groups. In the first Year 11 representative meeting, we discussed health and wellbeing in Year 11, Rewards, and elected our Year 11 President, Kenya and our Vice President, Srishti.

RECENT EVENTS/KEY ACTIVITIES:

On 5th October, we held our first ever Gold In Everyone awards evening, celebrating the outstanding achievements our students had the previous academic year. I was astounded at the number of Year 11 students that were awarded both subject and pastoral award for progress, effort and improvement. We were, by far, the most celebrated year group and, in my mind, that is no surprise.

There have been many key events that have occurred this half term, and the Year 11s have embraced these opportunities to adapt, grow and thrive. This academic year we, as a school, have relaunched our wider curricular clubs to great success. Whether it be our various sports clubs, debate, enterprise or chess, Year 11 have been engaging in various activities after school, expanding their minds and skill sets. Select students also got the opportunity to visit the Aylesbury Waterside Theatre to watch the Woman in Black, expanding their cultural capital.

YEAR 12



MR M AHMED, HEAD OF LEARNING FOR YEAR 12

We are thrilled to share with you the extraordinary accomplishments and memorable moments that have defined this term for our Year 12 students. From academic achievements to remarkable extracurricular endeavours, your children have truly excelled, and we couldn't be prouder. Here are some of the amazing things that have been done this term:

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE:

Our Year 12 students continue to shine academically. This term, we have witnessed outstanding performance in challenging subjects, with many students achieving top grades in their exams and assignments. Their dedication to their studies has been commendable. Specifically, students of sociology have done astonishingly with the sociology teacher labelling them as “the most determined cohort” he has come across. Well done!

INNOVATIVE PROJECTS:

Year 12 students have embarked on a variety of innovative projects, demonstrating creativity and problem-solving skills. From science experiments to art installations, their work has been nothing short of inspiring. All projects were successfully showcased on our annual open evening, thank you to all students that were involved.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ MENTORING

Your children have been actively involved in various community service projects. They have volunteered their time and efforts to make a positive impact in the community, reflecting their commitment to social responsibility. This year we had the highest number of volunteers for our paired reading programme. Students in Year 12 have supported younger years in developing their reading skills. Their leadership qualities have been a source of motivation and encouragement for the entire school community. Keep up the amazing work.

SUPPORTIVE NETWORK:

The camaraderie among Year 12 students and the support they offer one another is truly heartwarming. They have created a close-knit network that fosters friendship and mutual encouragement. Our Year 12 students have been diligently preparing for life beyond high school. They have explored different career opportunities, to help build a strong foundation for their future.

YEAR 13



MS C HILL, HEAD OF LEARNING FOR YEAR 13

This first half-term has been an utter triumph for our Year 13 students, who returned in September with renewed vigour and determination to go for gold. Despite the challenges Year 13 poses, our students have remained nothing but positive, and have continued to strive for excellence in all respects. We are **PROUD** to share their fantastic achievements from this half-term:

UCAS UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS:

Following months of hard work, it is with utter delight that we are proud to announce that all 17 of our early entry applications – for those wishing to study at Oxford and Cambridge, and for those wishing to study courses such as medicine and dentistry - were sent off before the deadline. Moreover, our fantastic students are already receiving offers to study at top universities across the country!

This year, we had a record-breaking number of early applicants which is absolute testament to their determination and spirit. This term, to support our students' success, they were offered bespoke support from Oxford and Brunel which they fully engaged with and appreciated. We wish our students the very best with their applications as we begin to prepare them for the next steps.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE:

With PPEs looming, Year 13 students have continued to work incredibly hard toward their studies. Countless learning walks have proven our students to be working diligently in lessons, asking for feedback to support their attainment and completing practice questions to consolidate their knowledge. Students are continuing to make use of the quiet study spaces provided and they have been reading widely outside of the exam specification to extend their knowledge. Teachers are delighted with their progress and their proactive approach to preparing for mocks.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP:

Our senior student leadership team have been working hard to plan wider curricular opportunities such as sport clubs, baking classes and debate society. Furthermore, our team are currently planning our annual charity event in loving memory of ex-student Bilal Khan, which is sure to be a huge success. Those responsible for diversity and student voice continue to seek ways to ensure all voices are heard, while students working on academics and wellbeing are soon to launch academic societies and wellbeing Wednesdays!

Their support extends beyond the sixth form; student leaders have also been working with and supporting Heads of Learning for Years 7-11 on wider curricular, culture and personal development. We are incredibly proud of their commitment to the school!

BRENTFORD:

Our connection with Brentford Football Club continues to build and strengthen. Five of our students have taken up an incredible opportunity to train with Brentford this year. Students attend training throughout the week and have the chance to represent the club in mid-week matches. Despite their dedication to the club, students have not allowed their studies to slip. They continue to prioritise their studies and ensure they uphold the highest of standards in their learning.

UPCOMING PPES:

We wanted to take this moment to remind you of the upcoming PPE mock exams for Year 13 students. Exams will start after the half-term break, although staff and students have already begun to prepare. Please see the below advice on how you can support your child this time:

First and foremost, please ensure your child finds the right balance of work and relaxation. While studies are of upmost importance, students must take time to rest and rejuvenate ahead of the exams.

Do check in with your child and ensure they have everything they need to be successful – Do they have access to revision resources? Can they access the wide range of online platforms available, such as UpLearn? Have they the right equipment and study guides for their courses? Have they access to a quiet study space, free from distractions?

Making studying habitual has been proven to have a profound impact on success. Students will benefit from a study timetable. We suggest they have one timetable for term time and a second timetable which they adhere to over the break.

Students will also benefit from retrieval practice, which is spaced out across the week and completing past papers.

Finally, research suggests students should take regular breaks from studying; they should follow a healthy diet and benefit from regular exercise and fresh air.

As we approach the end of term, we have a lot to celebrate and we know that you will be just as proud as we are of this incredible cohort.

As always, thank you for entrusting us with your child's education; we look forward to making this the best year yet!