



# NEWSLETTER



AUTUMN - 26<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025

UXBRIDGE  
HIGH SCHOOL

It gives me great pleasure, once again, to introduce a newsletter that celebrates how our community continues to shine even brighter.

For regular viewers of the VLOG, this newsletter will be a reminder of the breadth of education the school provides each term. This is what makes my position such a privilege. The strength of our community and the depth of our culture continues to inspire me every day. Over the past year, we have worked tirelessly to ensure every young person feels a genuine sense of belonging. This commitment is now more visible than ever, with staff consistently embedding our values into daily practice. In a society where external pressures on schools remain significant, we focus on our vision which means when we pull together, we create a current strong enough to carry us forward.

We have seen remarkable progress in student achievement, enrichment and wellbeing. Our curriculum offer has expanded further and the impact of enrichment activities has grown significantly, helping students develop character and confidence beyond the classroom. These changes are not just initiatives, they are becoming part of who we are as a school.

Thank you to the parents who have shared their encouragement and praise. Your partnership is central to our success and your alignment with our vision makes a real difference. We believe hope is powerful—and when hope becomes a habit, it transforms outcomes. This newsletter showcases the many successes you and our young people have helped create this term. We hope you enjoy celebrating these achievements with us.

As always, I want to thank our dedicated staff and trustees for their unwavering commitment. Their efforts have enabled us to raise standards further and make our golden expectations visible in every aspect of school life.

Finally, thank you to you and to our students. You inspire us to be the best version of ourselves. Our students continue to amaze us with their resilience, creativity and ambition—they are a credit to you and to our community. We know life is not always about winning, but it is always about striving for gold—and that is exactly what we see every day.

Merry Christmas. Have a restful break and we look forward to an even more exciting year ahead.

*Ms L. Seymour*



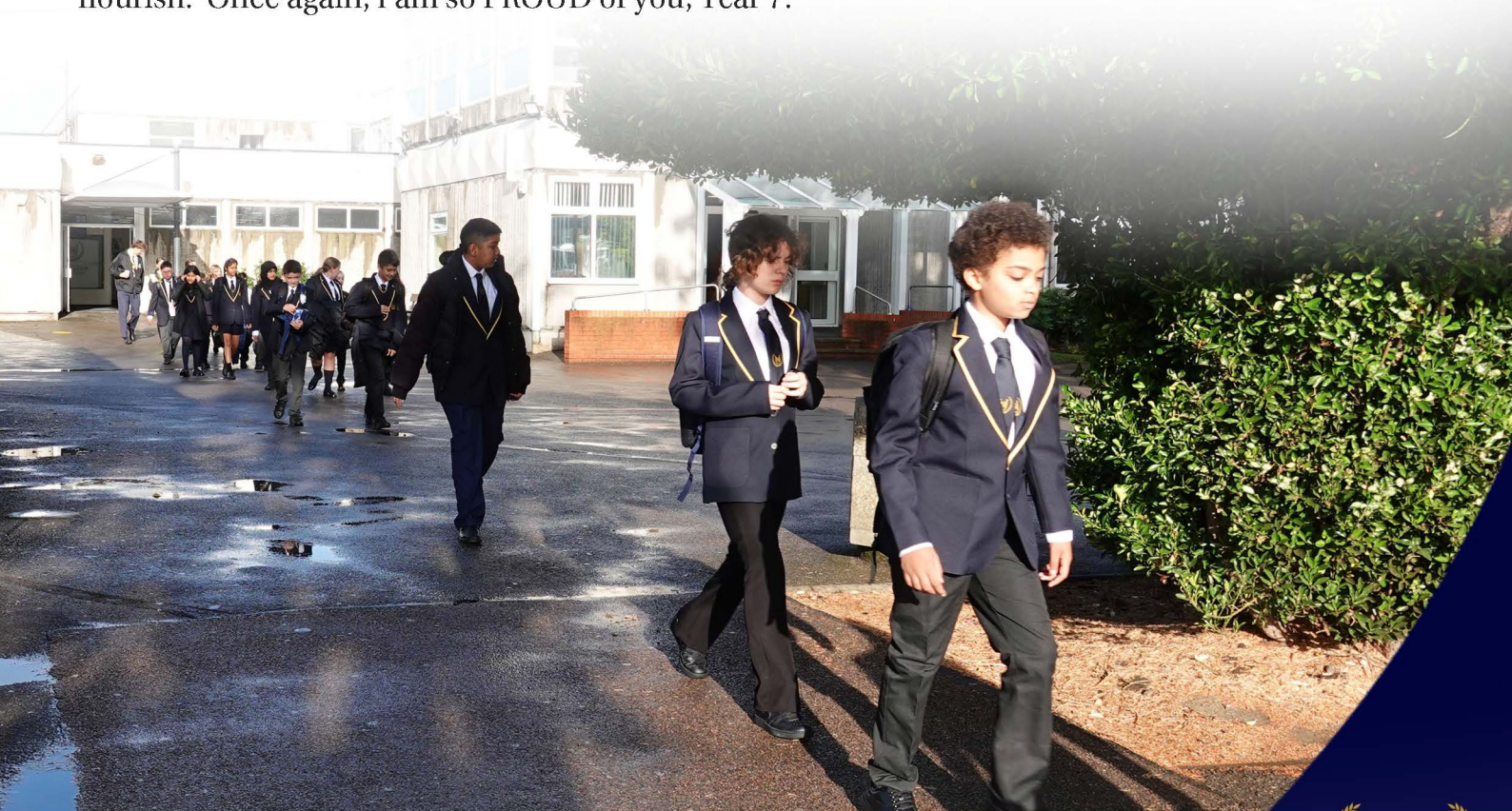
# WELCOME YEAR 7's

As Head of Year 7, I would like to begin by acknowledging how exceptionally well our Year 7 students have adjusted to Uxbridge High School this term. I also want to express how immensely proud I am of our Year 7 students as they have made the transition from primary to secondary education. In truth, “proud” feels like an understatement. This stage represents a pivotal point in their academic journey and they have navigated it with a level of positivity, resilience and open-mindedness that reflects great credit on them as individuals and on the year group as a whole.

From the beginning of the term, we set high expectations for conduct, character and effort, upholding the gold standard that defines our school community through the display of our P.R.O.U.D. values. Year 7 has not only risen to meet these expectations but has, in many cases, exceeded them. Their willingness to embrace new routines, adapt to increased responsibilities and engage fully in school life has been remarkable. It has been particularly encouraging to see them demonstrate maturity, curiosity and determination as they establish themselves within the wider school environment.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to parents and carers for the guidance, encouragement and support you have provided throughout this transition. Your partnership has played a crucial role in ensuring that the move to secondary school has been smooth, successful and positive for our students. Your involvement has helped to create a strong foundation that will enable Year 7 to continue thriving as the year progresses.

Year 7 have made an outstanding start and I look forward to seeing how they continue to develop, achieve and contribute to our school community in the months ahead. I am extremely PROUD and I cannot wait to see the amazing progress they will make as they continue to flourish. Once again, I am so PROUD of you, Year 7.



# CURRICULUM UPDATES

## Business Department

This year, the Business Department at Uxbridge High School has focused on equipping students with the essential skills and knowledge needed to succeed in the modern business world. Through a broad and engaging curriculum, dynamic lessons and valuable real-world experiences, students are encouraged to think critically, work creatively and develop a strong understanding of business in practice.

## CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

### GCSE Business Studies and Economics

Students are introduced to the core principles of business and economics, building a solid foundation in key concepts and decision-making.

### A Level Business and Economics

Students explore advanced topics in greater depth, including marketing strategies, financial management and global trade, developing analytical and evaluative skills.

### BTEC Business and Finance

Students take part in practical, hands-on learning through real-life projects, such as creating business plans and organising enterprise activities.

## TRIPS

### Bank of England Trip & Leadenhall Market

As part of the A Level Economics curriculum, Year 12 students visited the Bank of England Museum and Leadenhall Market to explore two very different aspects of business and economics.



### Leadenhall Market

Students explored one of London's most historic retail hubs, observing independent retailers, pricing strategies, branding, customer experience and the influence of location and footfall on business success.



### Winter Wonderland

Year 12 and 13 students on A-Level Business and BTEC courses visited Hyde Park's Winter Wonderland, gaining practical insights into event management, experiential marketing, and how large-scale seasonal events attract and engage visitors.



# CAREERS AT UHS

Hello, my name is Miss Akgun, I am delighted to introduce myself as the Enrichment & Careers Lead at Uxbridge High School. Alongside teaching Modern Foreign Languages, my role focuses on creating meaningful opportunities that help students build confidence, develop essential skills and explore future pathways.

## What We've Achieved This Term

Enrichment Tuesdays continue to be a highlight of the week, with students eagerly participating in a wide range of activities such as chess club, badminton, crochet, gardening and our school production. These opportunities not only allow students to enjoy themselves but also help them build confidence, develop new skills and discover passions beyond the traditional classroom setting.

Enrichment activities provide students with a wide range of valuable benefits. They offer opportunities to uncover new interests, nurture creativity and develop essential life skills, including teamwork, communication, problem-solving and resilience. These experiences enrich students' overall education while also supporting personal well-being and fostering a strong sense of community, where students can collaborate, make friends and feel a sense of belonging.

To ensure the programme remains engaging and varied, students are given the opportunity to choose a new enrichment activity every half term. This approach allows them to explore different areas of interest, continue broadening their experiences and gain exposure to activities they might not have tried otherwise.

The Enrichment programme is just one of the many ways we support the development of well-rounded, confident individuals who are prepared for the future. Through these activities, students gain practical skills, build lasting friendships and create memories that enhance both their academic and personal growth.



# ENRICHMENT

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# OPEN EVENING

We were delighted to welcome hundreds of visitors to our Secondary and Sixth Form Open Evenings. Students and their families from across the borough explored our subject areas, as well as our Enrichment and Personal Development zones, taking part in a range of engaging activities along the way.

Feedback from parents and carers has been overwhelmingly positive and we credit this to our dedicated staff, student tour guides and student leaders. Everyone who represented the school, exhibited our values of Community, Dignity, Wisdom and Hope with enthusiasm and pride.

Our teachers were impressed by the curiosity and engagement of the Year 6 students who attended and we look forward to welcoming many of them in September.

For those unable to attend the evening, we also hosted a series of Open Mornings.



# YONDR SUCCESS

Well done to all our students for adapting so positively to the introduction of Yondr pouches, helping to make UHS a phone free school.

By reducing distractions during the school day, students are more engaged in lessons, communicate more effectively with their peers and make the most of learning opportunities. We have already seen improvements in behaviour, attitude and readiness to learn, creating a calmer and more purposeful environment across the school.



# SIXTH FORM

This term has been a great success for Sixth Form students and we are PROUD of their success.

## Study Skills Workshops

We were delighted to welcome back Learning Performance, who delivered active and engaging study skills sessions to both Year 12 and Year 13 students. The sessions challenged common myths around learning and introduced students to research informed revision strategies, supporting them to study more effectively and independently.

## Apprenticeships and Career Pathways

Students also benefited from valuable guidance on post-18 options. Brunel University delivered a session on degree apprenticeships, while MARS ran interactive workshops giving students the opportunity to apply for upcoming apprenticeship programmes.

## Unifrog and UCAS Preparation

Unifrog visited our Year 12 students to introduce and explain the platform, helping them begin preparing for their UCAS applications early and confidently.

## Brunel University Support

We were pleased to welcome Brunel once again to provide 1:1 support for Year 13 students working on their UCAS personal statements. We are extremely grateful for our strong partnership with Brunel and the continued support they offer our students.

## Student Leadership Opportunities

This term, we appointed our new Year 12 Subject Leads. The number of applicants and the high quality of interviews were impressive, highlighting the drive, commitment and passion of our students to contribute positively to school life.

## Academic Mentors and Paired Reading

We also recruited Year 12 Academic Mentors who volunteer to support Year 11 students through their GCSEs. In addition, we are excited to relaunch our Paired Reading Programme with Year 7 students, with many Year 12 volunteers already keen to get involved.



# CELEBRATING SUCCESS AT OUR ANNUAL AWARDS EVENING

Our Annual Awards Evening was a wonderful celebration of achievement, bringing together students, families, and staff for an evening filled with pride and shared memories. We came together to recognise the dedication and accomplishments of our exceptional students over the past year and the evening reflected their commitment and perseverance.

We were honoured to host the Mayor of Uxbridge, Philip Corthorne, alongside alumni Dr Amelia Bowman. Their presence added significance to the event and inspired our students as we celebrated ambition and excellence across our school community.

The evening also offered a meaningful opportunity to reflect on the friendships formed and experiences gained during students' time at school. These memories, alongside the lessons learned, will continue to support and motivate them as they move toward bright and promising futures. Congratulations to all award recipients, your efforts and determination have been celebrated.

Musical performances from our talented students added a warm and memorable dimension to the occasion.

Our Awards Evening is also a chance to acknowledge the vital role of parents and carers. Their ongoing encouragement is instrumental in helping students achieve their best and we are extremely grateful for their support.

As a school, we remain committed to nurturing the potential within every student. Events like this remind us of the remarkable talent in our community and reinforce our dedication to providing opportunities and support to help students reach the gold standard we aspire to.



## STUDENT COUNCIL MEETINGS

A huge thank you to our Student Leaders for their continued dedication to representing their peers and enhancing the student experience across the school. Their work on our 75 day priorities is greatly valued and reflects our commitment to listening to the student voice.

As a result of student feedback, we have introduced new charity initiatives chosen by students, including UNICEF and Cancer Research. In addition, following feedback from Year 11 representatives, we are launching Year 11 Time Trial sessions to provide extra support during this important year.



## PARENT COFFEE MORNING SUPPORTS GCSE SUCCESS

We were delighted to welcome parents to our recent Parent Coffee Morning. The session provided a valuable opportunity to explore ways to support students with their GCSE studies at home. Parents received guidance, practical resources and had the chance to ask questions, helping to strengthen the partnership between school and home. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to a productive and engaging morning.



## YEAR 7 ENJOYS INSPIRING POETRY WORKSHOP

Our Year 7 students recently took part in an exciting poetry workshop led by award-winning writer Shagufta Iqbal. During the session, students were guided through the creative process and encouraged to craft their own engaging and imaginative poems. It was wonderful to see their confidence and creativity flourish, with many producing pieces full of originality and expression.

Workshops like this highlight the importance of nurturing artistic talent and inspire our students to explore new forms of writing.



# WINTER MUSIC SHOWCASE

This year's Winter Music Showcase was a memorable celebration of musical talent and community spirit at UHS. The event welcomed a large audience to the activity studio, creating an atmosphere filled with enthusiasm, pride and appreciation for the performing arts.

The showcase featured a diverse programme of performances, demonstrating the skill, dedication and creativity of our musicians. Each performance reflected a high standard of musicianship and a shared passion for music. Behind the scenes, the Sixth Form production team played a vital role in the success of the evening, ensuring the event ran smoothly and professionally while embodying the school's PROUD values.

Throughout the showcase, the music created a warm and engaging environment, bringing together performers, staff, families and guests. The event was more than a concert, it was a celebration of collaboration, confidence, and artistic expression within the UHS community.

We congratulate all performers and support teams for their commitment and contribution to a successful Winter Music Showcase. The event stands as a testament to the strength of our music programme and the sense of pride shared across the school.



# CURRICULUM UPDATES

## DT

Students across all year groups have been busy developing practical skills and creativity through a range of exciting projects.

Year 7 students have been designing and making customised phone stands and model sweet dispensers, achieving some fantastic final outcomes. They have also been learning to use a range of cooking techniques in Food Technology.

Year 8 students have produced imaginative zoomorphic lamp designs, showcasing creativity and thoughtful design work.

Year 9 students have been working on Bluetooth picture frame speaker designs, alongside creating impressive dishes in Food Technology.

Year 10 DT and Engineering students have successfully completed practical skills projects, demonstrating growing technical confidence.

Year 10 and 11 Hospitality and Catering students have produced a range of excellent individual dishes, highlighting their developing culinary skills and attention to presentation.



## APOLLO VICTORIA THEATRE

Our Years 9, 10 and 11 students recently visited the Apollo Victoria Theatre to watch the musical *Wicked*, giving them a valuable opportunity to experience live performance as part of their studies. Seeing a professional production allowed students to deepen their understanding of musical elements, staging and vocal performance, bringing their set work to life beyond the classroom.

The trip supported students' learning by helping them analyse music in context, develop critical listening skills, and appreciate how music, drama and visual design work together to convey powerful themes.



# CURRICULUM UPDATES

## PE

### Boys' Football

Year 7 - The Year 7 team has made an excellent start to the season, opening with a 9-0 win over Oakwood in the County Cup. They followed this with a 12-1 victory against Queensmead and a confident 3-0 win over Rosedale in the Hillingdon Schools League. Before the Christmas break, the team will compete in the last 16 of the Middlesex County Cup against The Heathland School.

Year 8 - After an early setback in the English Schools Cup, the Year 8 team has shown strong resilience. They have progressed to the last 16 of the Middlesex County Cup, where they will face Winchmore School. League wins over Rosedale (3-1) and Queensmead (3-0) have been complemented by a closely contested friendly loss to Turing House School.

Year 9 / U14 - The Year 9 squad has yet to begin league fixtures due to continued involvement in the English Schools and Middlesex County Cups. In the English Schools Cup, they recorded wins over Chiswick School (7-2) and Parmiter's School (3-2) before exiting with a 3-1 defeat to Windsor Boys' School.

In the Middlesex County Cup, the U14s reached the last 16 after a strong 5-2 victory over Greenford High School and are due to face Douay Martyrs in the next round.

All teams have a full calendar of fixtures planned for the new year, with additional friendly matches to be confirmed.

### Year 7/8 Girls' Football

The Year 7/8 girls' football team has made a promising start to the season, with growing attendance at the after-school club and high-energy Monday sessions continuing throughout the term.

In league action, the team has faced tough opposition but shown real determination. An opening 5-0 loss to Queensmead did not reflect an outstanding goalkeeping performance. A more organised display followed in a 4-1 defeat to Douay Martyrs, highlighting clear progress in teamwork and attacking play.

The girls earned their first win in a friendly against Turing House in Twickenham, securing a well-deserved 2-0 victory. With further league fixtures ahead, the team is keen to continue building on their development.

### Girls' Futsal

Year 9 and 10 girls competed in the North Borough Futsal Competition at Haydon School, experiencing futsal for the first time. The team made an excellent start, winning their opening match 10-3 before defeating Haydon 7-2.

These results crowned them North Borough Champions. The team will now progress to the South Borough finals, competing for a place in the London Youth Games to represent Hillingdon in January 2026.

# CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Our annual student Christmas meal was a wonderful celebration enjoyed by all. Culina, our catering provider, prepared an amazing Christmas menu that was both delicious and festive, helping to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere and bringing our school community together to celebrate the season.



# IN THE SPOTLIGHT: OUR STAFF

My name is Miss Latunji Jones, and I teach History and Geography at UHS. I have a genuine love for History, as the past has always intrigued me. Outside the classroom, however, I am also passionate about fitness and wellbeing.

For the past two years, I have taken part in a global fitness race known as HYROX, which combines eight kilometres of running with eight functional workout stations. On 4 December, I competed in a HYROX Doubles Pro race at the London ExCeL Centre. The competition is a demanding test of both strength and endurance, with the aim of achieving the fastest possible time. HYROX is accessible to all, offering solo, doubles and relay race options.



Having competed in five HYROX events both nationally and internationally, I have developed a strong understanding of the competition and its demands. I have always enjoyed being active, from regular gym training to playing padel with friends, and I recognise the many health benefits that come with staying active. However, HYROX takes fitness to the next level by encouraging discipline, determination, resilience and consistent training, as the event requires continuous movement throughout the course.

The skills and qualities developed through HYROX closely mirror those I use in my role as a teacher. I strive to model these values for students, demonstrating the importance of perseverance, commitment and maintaining a positive mindset. Like many staff at UHS, I take wellbeing seriously and believe it plays a vital role in achieving a healthy and balanced work-life approach.

## YEAR 7 SPEECH COMPETITION

The Year 7 Speech Competition, themed "What Does It Mean to Be an Everyday Hero?" was a remarkable display of confidence and communication. Our students delivered powerful speeches with enthusiasm and maturity, reflecting their hard work and development of oracy skills.

The event showcased their courage in stepping up to speak in front of an audience, with each participant offering unique and inspirational interpretations of what it means to be a hero in everyday life. We are incredibly proud of all those who took part and inspired the audience and would like to extend our thanks to parents and carers for their continued support, helping to make the event such a success.

