

NONSUCH HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Weekly Newsletter 20 November 2020



Dear Parents/Carers

Assembly to share the school's Diversity and Inclusion timeline

On Monday there will be a whole school PSHE assembly webinar led by myself and two of the professionals working on the school's Diversity and Inclusion taskforce. The aim is to ensure that all members of our school community can see the journey we are on and how our training, education and stakeholders work together to deliver on the Anti-Racism strategy's aim of ensuring our school is one in which all members feel equally valued and cherished. Following the assembly, the information will be sent to students and staff and the timeline will be published in next week's newsletter and on the school website.

Ewell Road

I am really pleased that the matter of road safety I had discussed with Year 8 school council reps last year and with local police, councillors, neighbours and Transport for London (TfL), has resulted in implementation of some of the road safety measures we were seeking.

As of Monday 16th November, changes to the speed limit through Cheam Village (from the Park Lane, off Cheam High Street to Anne Boleyn's Walk/Nonsuch Girls School) have come into force with the limit revised from **30 mph** to **20 mph**.

These changes will be supported by a series of revisions to the road space including the placement of a new multi-directional chevron on the bend of the road to help raise awareness of the turning and reduce speed to approaching vehicles.

We will continue to monitor these changes over the coming months and further assess their impact through monitoring. We had argued for a speed camera and pavement widening and will continue to do so though the obstacles to these changes are considerable we are told.

If you have any thoughts or observations on these measures please let us know by emailing the office with the words "Ewell Road" in the subject line so that I can feed back on concerns raised to the Local Communities and Partnerships contact at TfL.

COVID related absence

Please remember that if any member of your family has any COVID symptoms or is awaiting the result of a test, you should not send your child to school. If a COVID test comes back as positive, all other members of the household should isolate for fourteen days. We produce a list of COVID-related absence twice weekly, and work will be set by staff either on FROG or via email. Please see the attached quick reference guide for further information.

Face Masks

Students and staff are now wearing face coverings in communal areas around the school (corridors, offices etc.) This includes the canteen, where a face covering must be worn until students are seated. Hands also need to be washed and sanitised regularly throughout the day; there are sanitisers outside very entrance to the school and in the canteen. If your child is exempt from wearing a mask, please ensure the Head of Year is informed.

Please remind students that face coverings must be worn on trains as well as buses and whilst waiting for public transport.

Rewards and sanctions

We continue to promote our House competitions and to award house credits for academic and social contributions to school life and embodiment of our school values: Positivity, Respect, Integrity, Courage and Endeavour.

We are also reintroducing a socially distanced after-school detention for repeated lack of work, major uniform infringements and infringements of our mobile telephone policy. The detention is on Thursday afternoon from 2.30 to 3.30 for Years 7 to 10 and from 3.30 to 4.30 for Years 11 to 13. In most cases detentions are 30 minutes long. Parents will be informed by letter at least 48 hours in advance if their child is in detention. In more normal times, a second infringement of the mobile phone rules would mean that parents/carers are asked to come into school to collect the phone. Given the current measures, it will instead lead to an after-school detention. The phone will then be returned.

Room Temperature

The Government advice is to keep all indoor spaces well ventilated and so staff will be ensuring that windows and doors are open during the school day in teaching rooms and the corridors. Our heating is running overtime to compensate, but you

may wish to invest in thermal tee-shirts for particularly cold days. Staff have also been instructed to allow students to wear their coats indoors if the weather is particularly cold.

After-school provision

Students in years 7 and 8 who go home early on alternate Tuesdays and who have to wait for up to an hour for their bus home will now be supervised between 1.30 and 2.30 p.m.. The details are:

Year 7: Tuesday week 2 Room 103

Year 8: Tuesday week 1 Room 207

Please note that this provision is only for those who cannot get home at the earlier finish time.

Prayer Room provision

Our designated prayer room is closed to avoid cross contamination of year group bubbles. However, students who wish to pray may now do so in their form room at the start of their lunch hour. They should then go outside in common with the rest of the school to eat their lunch. Please let the school know (via Form Tutors) if your child would like to be allowed to pray inside the school building.

Re: Travel over the Christmas Period

Finally, whilst we wish everyone a peaceful holiday break at the end of term, we must clarify the school's position with regard to overseas travel. We strongly discourage travel over the Christmas period to countries which require a period of quarantine on return to the United Kingdom. Such enforced absence will represent a further interruption to your child's education after a period of disruption since March 2020. Absence due to self-isolation following travel to countries already on the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's list of affected countries will count as unauthorised.

Thank you for your understanding during a challenging time in which we are working together to keep our students and your families, safe.

Best wishes,

Ms Cavilla

Dropping off and Collecting Students by Car – Polite Reminder

Could we ask all parents who drop off and collect their daughters by car to be considerate to staff, other students, the general public and our neighbours when doing this. We would request that if you drop your daughter in the park in the morning you drop them in the car park and not by the path that leads to the back gate of the school. This is for the safety of all students and other park users and eases congestion coming in to and out of Nonsuch Park. We would also ask that if you pick up or drop off your daughter in the surrounding roads you are respectful of our neighbours and do not block their drives or park in a way that could be dangerous to pedestrians and other road users. Could we also request that if you are waiting for your daughter in the surrounding residential roads you turn your engine off as idling engines cause pollution of the local area. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Letters/Notices attached to this email:

All Years – EU Settlement Notice

All Years – Stranger Danger and School Safe Booklet

All Years – Secondary School Bullying Booklet

All Years – Knife Crime Booklet

All Years – PTA Newsletter

Important Dates Autumn Term 2020	
2 - 24 November	Yr 12 GCSE exams
25 November	Yr 7 Virtual Parents Evening – (surnames A – L)
1 December	Yr 7 Virtual Parents Evening – (surnames M – Z)
8 December	Yr 11 Virtual Parents Evening – Information to follow
18 December	Break up Christmas Holidays, school closes at 1pm
Important Dates Spring Term 2021	
4 January 2021	Return to school – week 2
12 January 2021	Yr 9 Parents Evening
26 January 2021	Yr 13 Parents Evening
Monday 1 – Friday 12 February	Yr 11 Mock Exams
12 February	Break up half term
Monday 22 February	Inset Day – School closed to students
Tuesday 23 February	Return to school, week 1

Interhouse Cross Country Week

The week commencing Monday 2 November saw every student in years 7-11 take part in Nonsuch's first ever Interhouse Cross Country Event!

Students donned their running shoes during one of their PE lessons to compete for their house. We were very fortunate with the weather, with it mostly being glorious sunshine and a few misty mornings. Students commented on how nice it was to run on a sunny autumnal day. All students were enthusiastic and motivated to take part and there were some excellent displays of students being encouraging and supportive of their peers. Lots of House Credits were given out for determination and positivity!

Years 7-9 ran individually, whereas, years 10 and 11 ran as a team. As it was an interhouse competition, scores were submitted for all runners and points were awarded to each house. There were some outstanding runs and we have outlined the final results and the fastest 3 runners in years 7, 8 and 9 below. A huge well done to everyone for taking part!

When I took part in my first interhouse competition, I was excited just the idea of being able to represent my house motivated me so much. In our competition, we had to do the cross-country run. Even though it was extremely tiring, everyone in my year didn't give up. Once we had finished the run, we were exhausted but proud that we had completed our first ever house competition. I can't wait for our next one!!

Preethy 7 Jemison

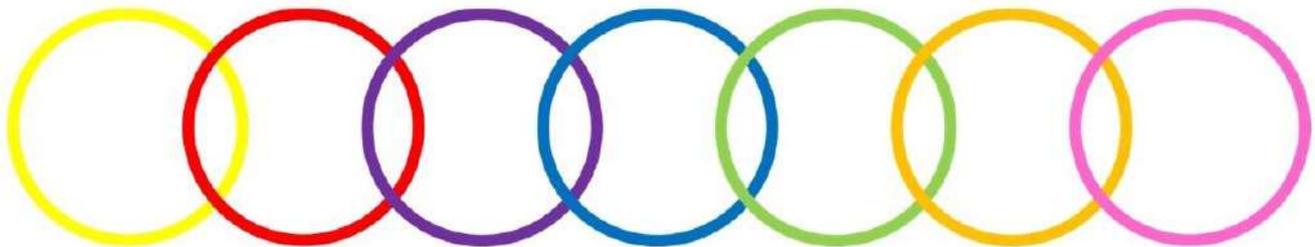


Results

Year	Winning House	Top 3 students
7	Mercury	1 st - Eva (7CH/Mercury) 2 nd - Tamilore (7J/Jupiter) 3 rd - Evie (7J/Jupiter)
8	Mercury	1 st - Florence (Saturn) 2 nd - Emily (Jupiter) 3 rd - Daisy (Mercury)
9	Venus	1 st - Ye Sung (Venus) 2 nd - Sophia (Saturn) 3 rd - Annabel (Saturn)
10	Mercury & Pluto	-
11	Mercury	-

I absolutely loved the cross country challenge. It was mostly as I got to represent my house in it. The only flaw in it was that my heart started pounding after the first lap and when I was done, I felt like sleeping. But, after 10 minutes, I was alright. My legs stopped hurting and it was like I never did the race. But, the excitement will live with me for as long as I will remember it.

Manali, 7 Jemison



Interhouse Cross Country Week

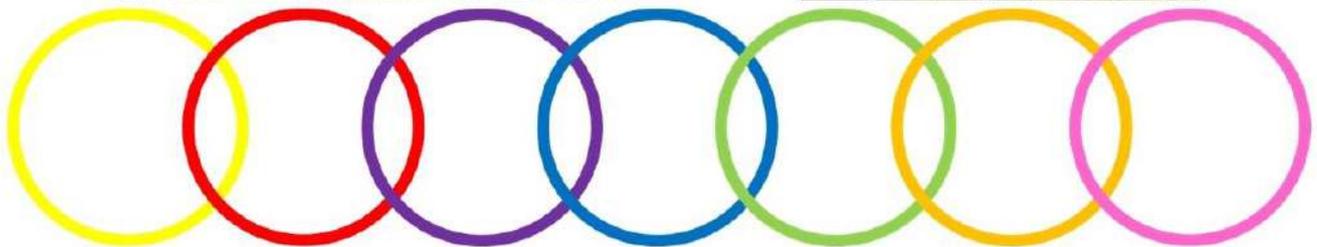


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Recently, I did cross country and to be honest I felt as if I would faint of exhaustion! Every time I finished a lap, I would be met with a group of people (including my teacher- Mrs Simpson) who would cheer me on and encourage me to keep going. It didn't help that I had a stitch the whole time... My heart was pounding as I approached the finish line and my brain was thinking "don't give up now!" The moment I crossed that line was a great achievement for me as normally I have great difficulty with cross country. Nonsuch pushed me to keep trying and I really appreciate it. Overall, I am really glad that I did it!

Aurora, 7 Jemison





Year 7 Halloween Noticeboard decorating competition

Year 7 Forms contain students from a variety of Houses, so in addition to the Halloween House Competitions, Year 7 had a separate competition to decorate their noticeboards.

The results were:

1st: 7 Johnson

2nd 7 Cannon

3rd 7 Bell Burnell

Highly Commended 7 Sharman

Winning forms were given a certificate and chocolate treats to enjoy.



1st – 7 Johnson



2nd – 7 Cannon



3rd – Bell Burnell



Highly Commended – Sharman



Y13 Oxbridge Interview Preparation Underway

In response to feedback from last year's Y13 cohort, and in line with the universities' guidance, Nonsuch is taking a modified approach to Oxbridge interview preparation. Whilst a formal one-to-one interview steady nerves, many students last year felt these did not fully prepare them for the subject-heavy, exploratory conversations they had in reality - involving 2 or 3 specialist academics. Interestingly, the Oxford and Cambridge online conference in April, echoed by current Cambridge website guidance, prioritises high-level discussion of academic topics over other preparation. The Oxford site has a useful list of questions by



subject area. Accordingly, at Nonsuch Mr. Key is running a series of student seminars supervised by teachers. Students prepare short topics to explore or even just raise questions, after which their fellow students use higher-order question templates to challenge each other to develop and articulate their ideas. In short, all interviews from STEM to Humanities, seek to test candidates' abilities to work through data, problems, texts and interpretations, out loud, explaining their thinking as they go. This is because the teaching method at Oxford and Cambridge functions in the same way - 1-to-1 or 1-to-2 discussions based on that week's research. Y13 Oxbridge candidates have engaged so far with gusto. Further details of remaining sessions will be emailed to them in due course.

<https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/applying/interviews/how-should-i-prepare>
<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/applying-to-oxford/guide/interviews>

Royal Academy of Dance – Step into Dance Free Taster Workshop

YOU'RE INVITED!
Create & Perform

Free Taster Workshop | Sun 6 December | 3-4.30pm
Royal Academy of Dance, 36 Battersea Square,
London, SW11 3RA

All you need to bring is yourself and a positive attitude!

Explore your creative talents, build your confidence and find new ways to express yourself through choreographic techniques and dance styles. Develop your own movement and work with others to create and perform a new dance work together.

Scan to join us:

STEP INTO DANCE

Photo: Foteini Christofilopoulou

3:00- 4:30pm: Create & Perform is led by Iona Brie, and focuses on choreography and different dance styles, giving dancers the opportunity to create a new dance piece together.

If dancers enjoy the workshop and the RAD think they would be a good fit for the company, they will be invited to join sessions every Sunday starting in January, 2021.

The taster workshops will run on Sunday 6 December at the Royal Academy of Dance Headquarters.

Please see the promotional post card. Scan the QR code at the bottom of the post card to access the taster session sign-up form. More information about the taster session is also available here: <https://www.royalacademyofdance.org/our-dance-projects/step-into-dance/step-companies/join-the-step-companies/>

Please download the School Gateway App

<p>We are writing to ask you, if you haven't already done so, to download School Gateway - a parent engagement app to improve communications with the school and stay up to date. The school will also save money as messages via the App are free.</p>	
	<p>Reporting illness and medical appointment</p> <p>We would request that you use this App to report your child's absence for illness or medical appointments</p> <p>Reporting other absences</p> <p>If reporting absences e.g. music exam, interview, extra ordinary leave, this should be requested in writing via the attendance email or website</p>
<p>The procedure to follow within the App to report your child's absence is:-</p> <p>Click on your child's name - Click on Reporting - Click on Attendance - Click on 'Advise of Future Absence' - Complete the information</p>	
<p>To download the App, just search School Gateway in your App store and download, it is free.</p> <p>Apple iPhone users, download the app here: schoolgateway.co.uk/iosdownload</p> <p>Android phone users, download the app here: schoolgateway.co.uk/androiddownload</p> <p>Your login details will be automatically generated using the contact information Nonsuch already has, so please make sure the details we hold for you are up to date. You can check and change these details by sending an email to rsvp@nonsuchschool.org</p> <p>If you have any questions or would like some more information, please see the School Gateway site here: https://schoolgateway.co.uk/.</p>	

Nonsuch High School for Girls
☎: 020 8394 3400
Website: **www.nonsuchschool.org**
Contact Us: office@nonsuchschool.org
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NonsuchHSG>



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