



MONDAY MARCH 23RD | ISSUE 79

NONSUCH NEWS

Our weekly newsletter for the school community



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MESSAGES FROM MRS WILLIAMSON



Dear students, parents, and carers,

As we approach the end of Spring Term and look forward to a well-deserved April break for everyone in the school community, it is always good to reflect and take stock of what has been an exceptionally busy half term. As usual, we have seen our students excel in all areas of school life, both in and out of the classroom.

This week, we look forward to the Eid picnic at lunchtime in the Quad and the celebration assembly on Friday, where we see the outgoing Student Leadership team hand over to the new Y12 team. It is always a bittersweet moment to say goodbye to our Y13 leaders, who have been exceptional ambassadors and role models for younger students. However, the nature of school is to see and encourage students grow in confidence and embark on the next stage of their lives and we know our outgoing leaders will use their leadership experience at Nonsuch wherever life takes them after they leave. Happily, we still have our exam years of Y11 and Y13 for a few more weeks in Summer Term before they embark on study leave and their formal exam periods.

We are very much looking forward to working with our new Y12 student leaders and seeing them take the legacy of previous student leaders forward. Congratulations to them all!

On a housekeeping note, please do not use the nursery parking bays by the canteen for any reason. These bays are only for parents of very small children or babies who attend the nursery. Thank you for your understanding.

The Summer Term will start on Monday April 13th. I wish you all a restful April break and look forward to welcoming all students back then.

Mrs Williamson
Headteacher

UPDATES FROM MS OSBORNE

Attendance

Attending school every day can help your child to achieve their aspirations, and the aspirations you have for them. School attendance is also important for giving them the enrichment opportunities that can help support their social and mental wellbeing.

The research on the link between attendance and attainment is clear; the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best GCSE and A Level results.

We appreciate that it can be difficult to know whether your child is too ill to attend school. However, NHS guidance is clear that it is fine to send them in with a minor cough or common cold, provided they don't have a temperature.

We aim for all our students to have an attendance rate of 95% or above. You can monitor your child's attendance data through the Arbor parent portal and ensure that it remains at this rate. If there is anything that we may be concerned about, your child's form tutor, Head of Year, or I will contact you.

Guidance on attendance

Details of the Government's drive to improve attendance at school can be found [here](#), along with links to wider guidance on supporting your child's attendance. The full guidance is [here](#).

The Government has an [attendance hub](#) which can help parents make informed decisions about attendance and it also has advice for parents around illness and attendance at school. This [guidance](#) helps parents make informed decisions about their child's health and attendance.

All in %	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11
Attendance	98.12	97.33	97.26	97.1	95.47
Authorised	1.41	2.12	2.26	2.33	3.76
Unauthorised	0.47	0.55	0.48	0.57	0.76

16/3/26-20/3/26

Yearly Attendance	Yearly Days Missed	Yearly Learning Hours Missed	Learning Hours Missed Over 5 Years
100%	0	0	0
97%	6	30	150
95%	10	50	250
90%	20	100	500
80%	40	200	1000
50%	100	500	2500

Students' achievements

We love to hear about and celebrate our students' many and varied achievements outside of school. Please complete this [form](#) to let us know about these and we will try to publish as many of them as we can in future issues of the newsletter.

SAFEGUARDING AND WELLBEING

Safeguarding email

If you have any concerns or questions regarding safeguarding or child protection, please contact us at safeguarding@nonsuchschool.org. We are here to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone within our community, and we take any reports or enquiries seriously. Your email will be treated confidentially and promptly addressed by our dedicated safeguarding team.

Changes to reporting your daughter's absence

Now that all parents have access to our new information management system, Arbor, all daily unplanned absence must be reported through either on the Arbor website or the Arbor app. Absences should be reported each day and any subsequent days preferably before 8.30am, and by 9.00am at the latest. If there is no communication from parents, then this absence will be automatically recorded as an unauthorised absence.

To report on-the-day absence:

1. Log into the Arbor App or Parent Portal:
2. Click on the Quick Actions button on the Portal or the Quick Actions menu (three lines in the lower left-hand corner) and then click Attendance.
3. Click the green Log Absence button.
4. Input the start and end time for the absence and type in the reason for the absence. By default, the absence start and end times reflect the student's full day, but these can be adjusted as needed. Once you have filled in this data, click Log Absence. This will then be visible to school staff.
5. Once this has been logged, school staff can accept or reject the absence. Approved absences appear in the Attendance tab of the Parent Portal or Arbor App.
6. It is not possible to edit an existing absence request, so if you need to make any changes, you should delete the absence request and create a new one. To delete the absence, click on it and then click Cancel Change Request.

PLEASE NOTE:

It is not possible to delete an absence **once it has been approved by us**. If you need to make any changes after this has happened, please contact the school office.

For full details on how to report absence, please go to our website [Nonsuch High School for Girls - Reporting your child's absence from school](#)

First Aid

Please advise First Aid of any recently-diagnosed medical conditions/allergies.

Hayfever Medication

If your child suffers from hayfever/allergies, please ensure that they take any medication needed in the morning before leaving for school. If you would like us to hold any medication in school can you please send it in a clearly labelled, original packaging/box. You will also need to complete a 'Permission to Administer Medication' form which can be found on our website or a hard copy can be collected from Main Reception.

Epipens

If your daughter carries her own epipen, please ensure that she is carrying it in her school bag every day she comes to school.



Please note, due to staff training on Thursday March 19th, no PSHE sessions ran for students. The pastoral newsletter will resume in the new term.

Education Wellbeing Service

wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk South West London and St George's Mental Health NHS Trust

Upcoming Events For Secondary Parents Summer Term 2026

Supporting your teenager's mental health webinars

We also provide free 1:1 early help support programmes for young people to support with anxiety or low mood. Speak to your school to find out more.

21 ST APRIL 26 7 PM - 8 PM	Managing Exam and Assignment Stress (Years 7-10)	23 RD APRIL 26 1 PM - 2 PM
10 TH JUNE 26 1 PM - 2 PM	Supporting your teenager with emotional difficulties and self-harm	18 TH JUNE 26 7 PM - 8 PM

To view further event details and descriptions, and to book on to any of the webinars, please scan the QR Code or follow the link to our Eventbrite collection.

[Click here](#)

Making Life Better Together

The SWLSTG Education Wellbeing Service is offering lunchtime and evening parent Webinars across the year to help support your child's wellbeing and mental health.

You can sign up to any of their free webinars [here](#):

If your child is interested in 1:1 sessions with our in-school NHS Wellbeing Practitioners to help with worries, low mood or anxiety, they should speak to their Head of Year.

Please see the poster for details of the upcoming webinars.

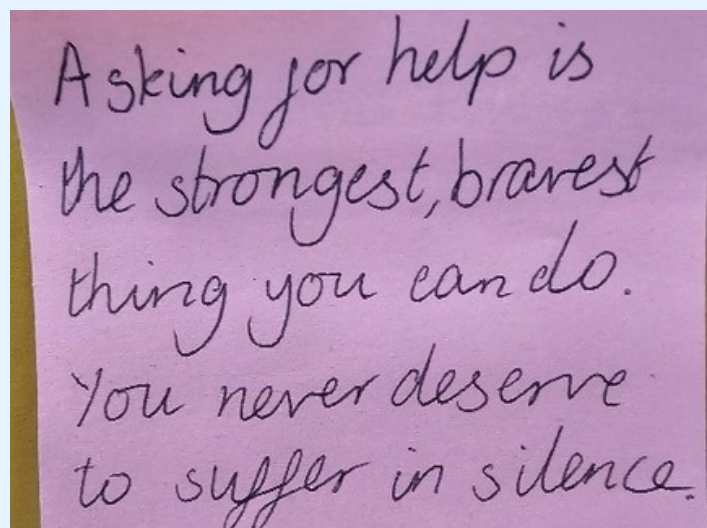
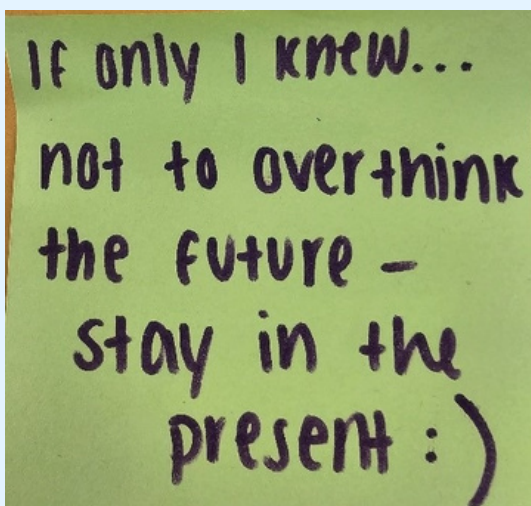
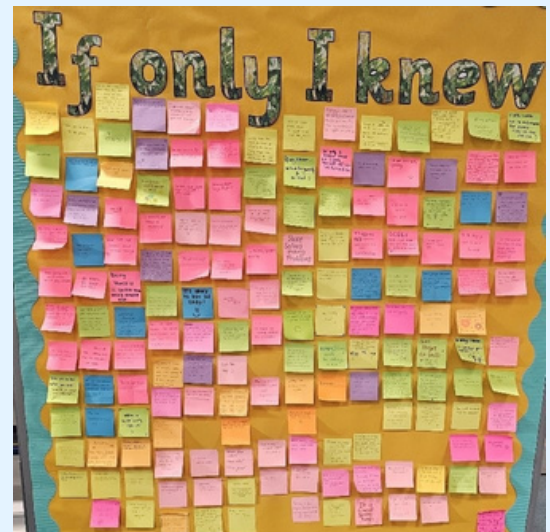
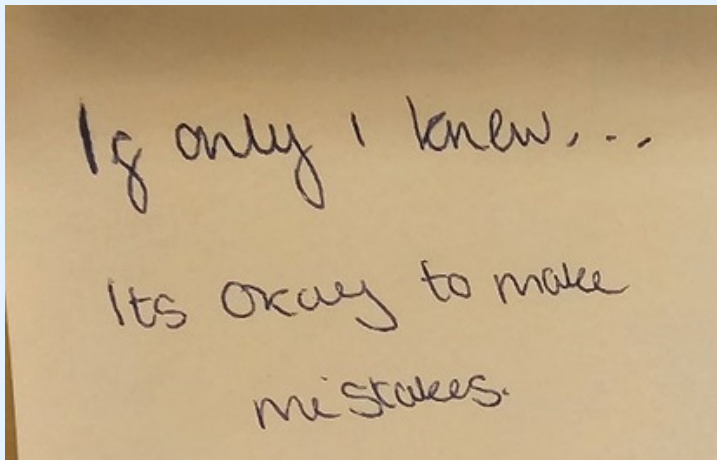
Children's Mental Health Week 2026

The theme of this year's Place2Be's mental health week was 'This is My Place' which is based around belonging and how we can feel and help others feel like they belong. To raise awareness of the importance of having a sense of belonging two of our year 13 students delivered an Educational

Talk to the rest of the school about why belonging matters, how can we help others feel that they belong and how can you improve your own sense of belonging.

During the week our sixth form students created post-it notes to add to our 'If only I knew' board, sharing experiences of overcoming challenges and messages of advice and reassurance to our main school students. The board has been on display in the library this month for our students to come and read.

Congratulations to Najibah (Y9) who won our Children's Mental Health week competition. The competition involved sending in a creative piece about the theme of belonging. Najibah submitted a fantastic essay highlighting the importance of belonging for our mental health. Well done!



SCHOOL NEWS

Surrey Satro success!

On Thursday March 12th, three teams of six students attended the Surrey Satro first heats. They were tasked with designing and making a vehicle that could transport a container of 'liquid nitrogen' at least one metre in the shortest amount of time. They were given limited materials and had to decide how best to power and motorise their vehicle either by battery or elastic bands. All teams showed excellent teamwork, creativity and problem-solving skills and by the end of 90 minutes they all had a prototype ready to be tested.

We are proud that our Key Stage 5 team won their heat, with their vehicle travelling one metre in three seconds! They are through to the final which will take place at Air Products head quarters in Chertsey next month. Well done to all students who took part!



Sustainability at Nonsuch

Saturday March 28th is Earth Hour in which people across the globe are invited to switch off lights and spend 60 minutes doing something positive for our planet. Organised by the WWF, Earth Hour has been taking place since 2007, starting out as a lights out event in Sydney, Australia. It inspires individuals, organisations and governments to take action for the environment and drive legislative change by harnessing the power of the global community. The one-hour lights out event has now become a symbol of a broader commitment towards nature and our planet.



Art

Well done from the Art department to all the students whose work was chosen to be submitted to the Fourth Plinth Schools Award competition! Their artworks, which focused on themes of Identity and Environmental Justice, have been entered to the competition, and if they are successful, they may get the chance to have their work exhibited in London's City Hall. Please explore the online gallery of the 49 selected students' work here: [Fourth Plinth Schools Awards 2026 gallery](#) | [London City Hall](#)

Upcoming fixture

Date	Time	Sport	Opponent	Team	Location
26/3/26	3.45pm	Netball	Borough	Y9A & 10A	Overton Grange

PE fixture reports

It's been a busy couple of weeks in the PE department. At the start of the half term, our U12 and U13 Hockey Teams played Croydon High. They showed great improvements in their attacking play and used the wide spaces with increasing efficacy. Congratulations to both teams for their hard work and determination.

Our U12 and U14 Football Teams played brilliantly against Harris Sutton, with our U14 team winning 6-0. Congratulations to both teams for making it through to the borough semi-finals!

Our U14 Hockey Team worked ,incredibly hard against a strong Sutton High team, showing determination and courage, and managed to score two excellent goals.

Our Year 7&8 Netball teams played excellently at the end of season tournament, with our Y8s winning the plate, and our Y7s coming second in the cup. Congratulations to both teams.

Our U16 Hockey Team played well against a tough opposition in their fixture against Croydon High, showing good communication and attacking movements.

On March 11th, our KS3 & 4 County Badminton Teams went to St Helen's School for the Regional Finals of the National Schools Tournament. Our KS3 team stormed to victory, and will now go through to the National Finals later this month. Our KS4 team fought valiantly against tough opposition, chasing every point for the whole morning. We are so proud of the effort they put in throughout the morning. Good luck to our KS3 Team in the National Finals!

Also on March 11th, our U15 Indoor Cricket team (pictured) took part in the Indoor Cricket County Finals. The team showed wonderful team spirit, supporting each other and working well as a team. Their fielding was excellent, and their batting improved throughout the afternoon. The team finished third after a nail-biting final game, and we are incredibly proud of this achievement!



SCHOOL NEWS

Fixture results

Date	Sport	Opponent	Team	Result
25/2/26	Hockey	Croydon High	U12AB & U13AB	Loss
25/2/26	Football	Harris Sutton	U12 & U14	U12: 1-1 U14: 6-0 Win
4/3/2026	Hockey	Sutton High	U14	4-2 Loss
10/3/2026	Netball	End of Season Tournament	Year 7 & Year 8	Year 7 – 2nd in the Cup
11/3/2026	Hockey	Croydon	U16	Loss
11/3/2026	Badminton	Regional Finals	KS3 & KS4	KS3: Won KS4: Loss
11/3/2026	Indoor Cricket	County Finals	U15	3rd Place

Student spotlight

Shaanvi (Y8) achieved first place in the woodwind category of Coulsdon and Purley Music Festival in the 12 and under age group. Well done, Shaanvi!



Student spotlight

Raaga (Y7) won Gold medal in mixed, silver in singles and silver in ladies doubles in U12 badminton championship at Surrey level. Bravo, Raaga!



Student spotlight

Smitakshi (Y10) says: "We were selected to perform in our band at the Sound Lounge in Sutton High Street, along with a few other young musicians." Well done, all!



Special student spotlight: Life as a London Philharmonic Orchestra Junior Artist



London Philharmonic Orchestra

Evelyn (Y13) writes: "The LPO Junior Artists programme has given me a deeper understanding of what life as an orchestral musician is really like. I've been incredibly lucky to be mentored by Karen Hutt, one of the finest orchestral percussionists in the country.

I've played percussion since Year 3, and my dream has always been to become a professional orchestral percussionist. I was also fortunate to have a mentoring session with Andrew Barclay, who teaches at both the Royal Academy and the Royal College of Music.

One of my highlights was taking part in a film music concert with the LPO. It was a lovely surprise to find out that my school's GCSE Music class had attended! Another special moment was performing in a showcase, where both Karen and Andrew happened to sit beside me. It was so special to share that stage with both my mentors, knowing how much they had shaped my journey.

I am now delighted to have received offers at both Trinity Laban and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama to study music.

Working with professional musicians has completely changed how I think about orchestral playing. I've learned to listen carefully, to balance, and to blend in rather than stand out. Karen once told me something that stuck: even when a composer writes a long, loud snare drum roll, you can often ease back a little — because, realistically, no one wants to hear just the drum! That kind of subtle orchestral awareness is something you can only learn by playing in an ensemble.

Another favourite moment was performing Debussy's Petite Suite. I'd already played two of its movements on piano, so hearing how they transformed in the orchestral version was fascinating.

Being part of the LPO Junior Artists has opened doors, expanded my view of the industry, and connected me to incredible people. For anyone considering applying, my advice is simple: focus on the process. Whether you get in or not, preparing for the audition is an invaluable experience that builds both your playing and your confidence. And if you're curious, come to the upcoming LPO Overture Day — details are on the LPO website.

This experience has completely reshaped my view of music and musicianship. I've seen the orchestra at work in ways recordings could never show. It's been inspiring, humbling, and life-changing.

To apply, visit the [LPO website](#) - the deadline is Monday April 13th 2026.

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week 2	
Monday 23rd March	
Tuesday 24th March	Young Carers' Meeting Junior UKMT Maths Team Competition Interhouse Y10 P4 & 5
Wednesday 25th March	Careers Fair
Thursday 26th March	GCSE PE Moderation
Friday 27th March	School finishes 12:30pm
Saturday 28th March	FIRST Tech Challenge Regional Finals, Harris Academy 08.30-17.30 Bronze DofE training expedition, Surrey Hills RESIDENTIAL 28th-29th March ECF Schools Girls Team Chess Finals 28th-29th March
Week 1	Easter Holiday Monday 30th March – Friday 10th April
Monday 13th April	
Tuesday 14th April	Interhouse Y7 P4&5 HODs and HOYs
Wednesday 15th April	
Thursday 16th April	UCAS Discovery Event, Brighton
Friday 17th April	