

MONDAY MARCH 24TH | ISSUE 47

NONSUCH NEWS

Our weekly newsletter for the school community



WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Messages from Mrs Williamson-Jones
- Updates from Ms Osborne
- Safeguarding and wellbeing
- Community notices
- School news
- Upcoming dates for your diary

MESSAGES FROM MRS WILLIAMSON-JONES



Dear students, parents, and carers,

As we have now gone past the halfway point of the term, I would like to reflect on what has been an incredibly busy and successful few weeks! From RAG Week to International Women's Day (IWD) celebrations and our annual Nonsuch Book Week, our school has been filled with exciting events, and I am very grateful to our dedicated staff for their enthusiastic participation and support. The warmth and spirit within our community have been outstanding, and it's wonderful to see everyone coming together to make these occasions so special.

In addition to these events, we have seen some fantastic achievements. Our KS3 badminton team has qualified for the national finals in Milton Keynes on March 29th. I am also thrilled to announce that our Year 12 chemists performed exceptionally well in the Chemistry Olympiad, earning 38 bronze medals, 12 silver, and one gold! A huge thank you as well to the History Department for organising another successful battlefield trip last week. And last weekend, a group of students participated in the Model United Nations, where they represented the school brilliantly.

Our Senior Student Leadership elections have also taken place recently, and it was such a lovely experience to listen to so many students speak so warmly about the school and their hopes for the future. It was inspiring to hear their passion and commitment to making a positive impact. We also enjoyed a wonderful GCSE and A-Level music recital, and next week, we are looking forward to our Gym and Dance Display.

Huge thanks to our staff for providing such a wide range of opportunities that allow our students to explore, excel, and thrive.

As we approach the end of the month, I would like to wish all those celebrating Eid al-Fitr a joyful and peaceful holiday. May this time bring you happiness and reflection.

Mrs Williamson-Jones
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 Schoolgateway app 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	Y12	Y13	All
Attendance	98.29	98.00	96.14	96.26	92.87	98.10	91.95	95.88
Authorised	1.62	1.95	3.05	3.65	6.83	1.81	6.60	3.71
Unauthorised	0.10	0.05	0.81	0.10	0.30	0.10	1.26	0.39
Persistent absence >=10%	19	22	30	35	71	18	63	258

17/03/25-21/03/25

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

ClassCharts for parents

A reminder that our presentation on ClassCharts for parents can be found on the [parent portal](#) of our school website.

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.

Schoolgateway absence reminder

We have noticed an increased number of absence messages that are not being received in the attendance area of the Schoolgateway. If absences are not reported following the route below the Attendance Officer is not automatically notified and your daughter's reason for absence will not be recorded. Even when replying to a text, please follow the route below.

Please also note that attachments cannot be sent via the Schoolgateway. Therefore, if you are required to supply any evidence for an absence, please email attachments to office@nonsuchschool.org. Please refer to the PDF sent with this newsletter for a reminder of absence reporting either side of a school holiday.

Unfortunately, this is due to the set-up within Schoolgateway and is unavoidable.

The route is:

- Click on your child's name
- Click on Reporting
- Click on Attendance
- Click on 'Advise of Future Absence' - Complete the information not overwriting your daughter's name and tutor group

You need to be a priority 1 parent/carer to be able to download and your email address and mobile number must be up to date. Please email office@nonsuchschool.org if you need to update us. Download the app [here](#).

First Aid

Please advise [First Aid](#) of any recently-diagnosed medical conditions/allergies.



Making Life Better Together

Emotional Wellbeing and Ramadan

Ramadan is a holy month in the Islamic calendar. During this month, millions of Muslims around the world dedicate themselves to their faith, practice gratitude, kindness to self and others, giving to charity and connecting with loved ones.

1 Look after Yourself



It's important to look after yourself by practising self-compassion and self-care. Doing activities such as walking, reading, spending time outdoors and making time for the things that are important to you.

2 Stay Connected



Making meaningful connections are vital to our emotional well-being. Healthy connections with friends, family and others can support our mental health and well-being. Stay connected by going on walks together, doing fun activities (such as board games, going to look at the Ramadan lights at the West End etc.) and sharing meals. Here are some community events taking place this Ramadan you could attend:

Eid in the Square 2024 | London City Hall
<https://thebigiftar.co.uk/#about-us>

Community Activities & Groups | Sutton Council's Cultural Services

3 Routine



Achieving the goals you've set yourself for this month and doing things that you enjoy, such as spending time with your loved ones is great. It's important that you work on building a routine that works for you as it can help you to feel balanced and relaxed.

Who We Are?

Educational Wellbeing Practitioners are available in primary and secondary schools throughout Wandsworth, Sutton and Merton.

We offer evidence-based support programs for secondary school students dealing with anxiety and low mood, as well as guided self-help programs for parents of primary school children experiencing anxiety or behavioural challenges.

For more information please get in touch with the mental health lead at your school.

Education Wellbeing Service YouTube Channel. Videos cover a range of topics about child and adolescent emotional wellbeing.



Education Wellbeing Service - SWLSTS - YouTube

4 Acts of Kindness

Ramadan is a time for kindness and giving back to others. Simple acts of charity, like helping your parents around the house, preparing iftar with your family, or checking in on neighbours are great. Being considerate, whether through kind words, sharing, or lending a helping hand reflects the meaning of Ramadan.

Here are some volunteering ideas:

<https://www.mcwas.org/whats-on/-/ramadan-food-pack-drive-hot-meals>

<https://www.muslimaid.org/opportunities/volunteers/ramadan-campaign/>

Further Support

Muslim Youth Helpline
Provides faith and culturally sensitive support for young Muslims.
Online chat service available during opening hours.
Home - Muslim Youth Helpline (myh.org.uk)

South West London 24/7 Mental Health Crisis Support Line on 0800 028 8000

Childline: Call 0800 1111 (available 7:30am - 3:30am, seven days a week)

Samaritans: Call 116 123 or email jo@samaritans.org (available 24/7)
Shout: Text SHOUT to 85258 (available 24/7)

SAFEGUARDING AND WELLBEING

Upcoming support webinars for parents

The Education and Wellbeing Service have a range of helpful webinars for parents. You may find the following sessions helpful:

- Parenting Teens - Conflict & Communication - Thu, Apr 24
• 1:00 PM and Wed, Apr 30 • 6:30 PM
- Supporting Your Teenager with Emotional Difficulties and Self-Harm - Tue, May 13 • 7:30 PM and Thu, May 15 • 12:30 PM

Parents can sign up [here](#).



COGNUS LIMITED PRESENTS...

AUTISM

Family Event

FRIDAY 11 APRIL 1-3.30PM

Join us for a fun, family event to celebrate Autism Acceptance Month

SCAN HERE

BOOK NOW

Young people

- Chilled activities e.g. decorating tote bags
- Sensory sessions
- Board games
- Calm room
- Musical activities
- Early years activities

Parents & Carers

- Chat to education professionals
- Advice and information
- Refreshments and a chance to sit down!

To attend, please complete the sign-up form

Cognus Limited, Cantium House, Railway Approach, Wallington, SM6 0DZ



APRIL 2025: SUTTON'S AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

Ever felt like people just don't 'get' you?

Now's your chance to tell them what you wish they knew about being autistic!

Create a digital poster, poem, animation or video to share with members of the public across Sutton.

Please include a few sentences on who you are e.g.
Ray, 12, autistic male in secondary school or K, autistic mother of 2 autistic children.
theautismservice@cognus.org.uk

Cognus Sutton

House Eid Celebration

Please join us in celebrating Eid with this house competition. See the poster for details of how to enter.



Eid Mehndi Decorations

1. collect a sheet from the library or find one online to print, colour and decorate your self.

2. create a hand design and send it to the library by your name and postal address.

You can colour it more than once but points will only be awarded once. All designs will be displayed in reception.

House Celebration
5HP in Respect for submissions

Monday 17th March to Monday 31st March
(closing date for submissions)

Upcoming PE fixtures

Date	Time	Sport	Against	Team	Location
27/03/25	15:30pm	Tennis	Putney High		Nonsuch
27/03/25	15:30pm	Netball	Wallington	SNR	Wallington
31/03/25	14:00pm	Badminton	Gordons	KS3&4	Nonsuch
02/04/25	15:30pm	Hockey	Sutton	U14	Nonsuch
02/04/25	15:30pm	Netball	Wallington	U15AB	Wallington
03/04/25	15:30pm	Trampolining	Local schools	GCSE	Nonsuch

Visit from award-winning author Sara Barnard

We were fortunate to have award-winning YA author Sara Barnard visit Nonsuch in early March to speak to Year 10 during PSHE about her work as a writer and the value of reading for wellbeing. Sara also delivered writing workshops and ended her visit with a packed lunchtime talk where students heard about her career as a professional writer and author. It was particularly prescient for Sara to visit us, ahead of Nonsuch Book Week and World Book Day, which took place this year on Thursday March 6th.



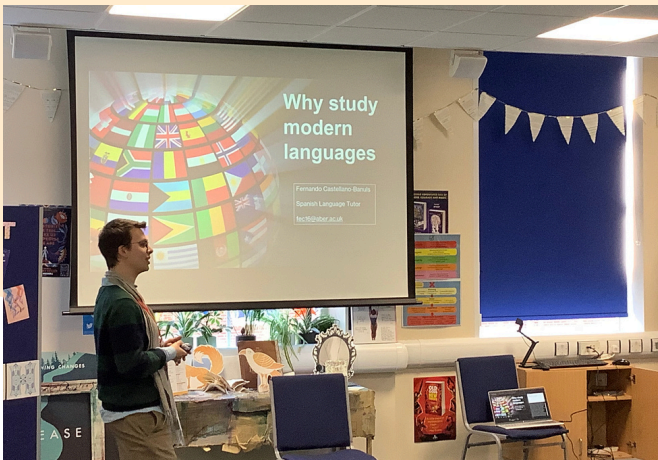
SCHOOL NEWS

Lunchtime speakers in the library

Last week the library hosted a series of lunchtime talks for students to find out more about a diverse range of topics. We were delighted to welcome Lucienne Davies, charity founder and activist, to Nonsuch on Monday March 3rd to speak to our students about her important work raising awareness of Downs Syndrome.

As well as author Sara Barnard delivering a talk on Wednesday in the library, we also welcomed lecturers from Aberystwyth University on Thursday, who gave mini lectures on their subject specialisms to encourage students to think about a degree in humanities.

Thank you to all our visitors for giving their time so generously to inspire our students!



SCHOOL NEWS

Surrey SATRO

On Thursday 13th March 18 students from Years 9 -Year 13 headed to St Philomena's to compete in the Surrey Satro Problem solving competition. Each team competed against others teams in the same age category.

After hearing the brief and opening their challenge folders, the three teams began planning. The energy was high and the teams showed incredible teamwork turning their ideas into model form. With their models finished, they headed to the judges' table to present what they had made and were given two attempts to complete the challenge. Nonsuch placed as follows:

KS3: 3rd place

KS4: 2nd place

KS5: 2nd place

We were incredibly impressed with the teamwork and innovative ideas from the students. Well done to all who took part: Nishka, Naethrathi, Anushka, Aabha, Nila, Yamee, Anvi, Shruthi, Natali, Vidula, Sophie, Parinaya, Ashvika, Intisaar, Akruiti, Yathra, Anjali and Dila.



Student spotlight

Well done to Grace in Y7 for passing her piano exam with merit! Congratulations!



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.

SCHOOL NEWS

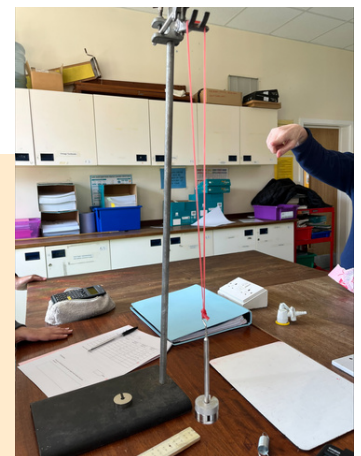
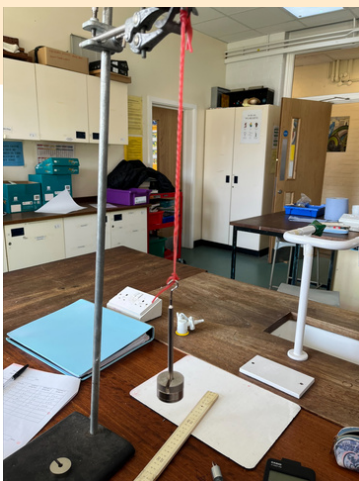
CyberFirst celebration

Najibah, Bernice, Vash and Yui in Y8 write: "We attended the Cyberfirst celebration event last weekend at the Jodrell Bank Centre for engagement. Throughout the day, there were various talks and activities about the work that they do there regarding the exploration of space. In addition, we were able to talk personally with the staff and learn more about their jobs. It was interesting to see the progression of research in the centre. In the evening, we attended a gala celebration event. The attention to detail during this was immaculate, and we especially enjoyed the tricks shown to us by the magician. The atmosphere during the prize giving ceremony was amazing, and we are very grateful to have had the opportunity to attend. Overall, it was an unforgettable experience and we would like to thank Mrs Andrew and Miss Tuttolomundo for coming with us – we could not have done any of it without them - thank you!"



Physics

Year 10 have been investigating how force is related to extension of various materials. A clear favourite was strawberry laces that showed almost no elastic behaviour but deformed with massive amounts of plastic deformation before breaking.



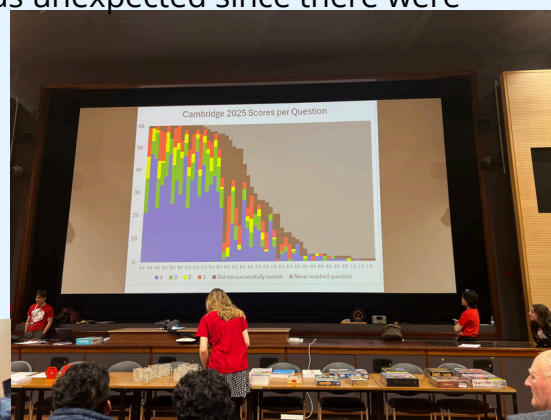
SCHOOL NEWS

Cambridge Chemistry Challenge

Jenny, Candice, Barbara, Manasi and Vishmayaa in Y13 write: "To prepare for the challenge, and on top of our chemistry revision leading up to the Year 13 mock exams, we met for a few lunchtimes to discuss past questions and discussing tactics for the chemistry race. Our journey to Cambridge was a lovely part of the trip. The train journey itself and touring the Cambridge city and colleges was exciting, especially when looking at the architecture and grabbing some ice cream too!

The challenge consisted of a seemingly never-ending stream of chemistry-related questions, for which we were given two hours to complete as many questions as possible.

We managed to tackle some of the more challenging questions, arriving at the correct answer for our first attempt (which gained us 4 out of 4 points for those questions). We were really pleased with the result we achieved in this challenge, which was unexpected since there were many strong teams from other schools as well."



Student spotlight

Well done to Gabriella in Y7 who has recently been awarded a Gold Certificate for securing second place in a creative writing competition. Congratulations!



Gold Certificate 2nd Place

AWARDED TO

GABRIELLA

for writing a wonderful story in the
Bright Light Education
Creative Writing Competition 2025
for 7-13 year olds.

Charlotte
Charlotte Badenoch
CO-FOUNDER

Danielle
Danielle Okumura
CO-FOUNDER

 Bright Light
EDUCATION



SCHOOL NEWS

PE

Our teams have been very busy recently - check out all the photos from their fixtures via a school email address [here](#)!

U14 Hockey v Rosebery

Our U14 hockey squad had an amazing game against Rosebery last week which ended in a 3-0 win! They all showed great tactics and play throughout the pitch, as well as showing tremendous determination and teamwork. A special well done to our players of the match: [Isabella and Aashvi](#).

U16 Hockey v Croydon

Our U16 hockey squad had a match against Croydon on Tuesday March 18th. There were many moments of brilliance throughout the game, including the fight back every time the opposition gained momentum and our defence who worked tirelessly to keep the score close. Though we didn't come away with the win, we would like to say a big well done to all the players, and in particular, our player of the match: [Mia](#).

U15AB Netball v Wallington

We had our U14AB squads playing against Wallington last week. It was great to see all their hard work and practice from training pay off in some great matches. Both games were very close and although we ended in defeat everyone left with their heads held high. A big well done to our players of the matches: [Ria and Siya](#).

Badminton Regional Competition

On Wednesday March 12th, our KS3 and KS4 badminton teams travelled to St Helens in Northwood for the Regional Badminton Round. Both teams played extremely well and won an amazing number of matches against our competitors. Our KS3 team came first in the competition and are moving onto the National Round in Milton Keynes! KS4 team were so close but came third in the competition so missed out narrowly on moving onto the next round. A huge congratulations to both teams and good luck to the KS3 team in the next round!

KS4 Badminton v Gordons

On Monday March 17th our KS4 badminton team travelled to Gordons school. The squad played a combination of single and double matches, and Nonsuch achieved an overall win. It was great to see our students putting all their skills and practice into play. The PE Department are very proud of our KS4 team - well done to all the players!

Year 9&10 Netball End of Season Tournament

We attended Overton's End of Season Netball Tournament on Tuesday March 18th with our Year 9&10 A teams. Each team played three games against other local schools. Not only did the squads show off their technical abilities, but they also all demonstrated amazing teamwork, supporting one another and always staying positive, no matter the situation. Our Year 10 squad came first in their pool which is amazing news. Our Year 9 team also played fantastically and came fourth in their pool. Well done to all the players!

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week 1	
Monday 24th March	Gym and Dance Dress Rehearsal – Sports Hall Wilsons Maths Circle Lecture - Wilsons School – 16.00-17.00
Tuesday 25th March	Gym & Dance Display – 19.00 Governors’ Day
Wednesday 26th March	PTA Donut Sale – 12.20 - Hall Gym & Dance Display – 19.00
Thursday 27th March	Year 10 Netball & Hockey Interhouse – P3-4 Year 13 Parents’ Evening – 16.00-18.30
Friday 28th March	
Saturday 29th March	National Badminton Competition – Milton Keynes
Week 2	
Monday 31st March	
Tuesday 1st April	
Wednesday 2nd April	Year 9 N+H Interhouse P2&3
Thursday 3th April	
Friday 4th April	Early Finish – timings to follow
Tuesday 22nd April	Summer Term begins