



MONDAY NOVEMBER 10TH | ISSUE 65

# NONSUCH NEWS

Our weekly newsletter for the school community



## WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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

## MESSAGES FROM MRS WILLIAMSON



Dear students, parents, and carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term. I hope everyone enjoyed a restful and well-deserved break. As we look ahead to the next seven weeks, the run-up to the Christmas holidays promises to be an especially busy and exciting time in school life.

Last week saw our Year 8 students out on their Geography field trips to Wisley, and our annual RAG Week brought fantastic energy and enthusiasm across the school. The Kipkelion Fair, run so efficiently by Year 9, was a real highlight full of teamwork and fun. The week also included a wonderful mix of activities, from benchball and karaoke to our much-loved annual Fashion Show, which once again showcased our students' confidence and flair. Students also enjoyed a non-uniform day. RAG Week is a great way for students to think of others, have fun and fundraise for our school-nominated charities.

This week, I am very much looking forward to judging the Nonsuch Young Musician final on Tuesday evening, which is always a real celebration of our students' talent and dedication. We are also pleased to be welcoming parents to our Year 7 Tutor Consultation Day and to our Key Stage 5 Open Evening on Thursday.

Our Year 11 students begin their practical mock exams this week in Art, Photography, and Textiles, and I know staff and families will join me in wishing them the very best.

I look forward to hearing about and celebrating all our students' hard work, achievements, and successes over the coming weeks.

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 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                 | 98.81 | 98.23 | 98.00 | 98.23 | 97.30 | 93.45 | 96.16 | 97.10 |
| Authorised                 | 0.43  | 1.24  | 1.48  | 1.24  | 1.96  | 3.07  | 2.84  | 1.78  |
| Unauthorised               | 0.76  | 0.53  | 0.52  | 0.53  | 0.74  | 1.72  | 0.38  | 0.76  |
| Persistent absence<br>≥10% | 8     | 20    | 22    | 18    | 28    | 44    | 31    | 171   |

03/11/25-07/11/25

| 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## 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.

## 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

The SWLSTG Education Wellbeing Service is offering lunchtime and evening parent webinars across the year to help you 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 can pick up an application form from the pastoral office or speak to your child's Head of Year.

**Education Wellbeing Service Webinar**

**Healthy Habits in Teenagers with Autism**

A 1.5 hour long webinar dedicated to look into how healthy habits can be implemented at home to improve the wellbeing of teens with autism.



**DATE / TIME**  
Monday 3rd November  
6.00–7.30pm



Scan the QR code or [click here](#)

**LOCATION**  
Online - Hosted on Teams  
Sign up to either event for free on Eventbrite by scanning the QR Code.  
You can also check out our other events by [clicking here](#)

**DATE / TIME**  
Wednesday 4th February  
12.30–2.00pm



Scan the QR code or [click here](#)

wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

**Education Wellbeing Service Webinar**

**Understanding and Supporting Teen Sleep**

This webinar will look at some of the research and science around sleep hygiene, teenage sleep and thinking together about the challenges with some options for supporting from the perspective of parents or carers.



**DATE / TIME**  
Tuesday 11th November  
1.00–2.00pm



Scan the QR code or [click here](#)

**LOCATION**  
Online - Hosted on Teams  
Sign up to either event for free on Eventbrite by scanning the QR Code.  
You can also check out our other events by [clicking here](#)

**DATE / TIME**  
Tuesday 11th November  
7.00–8.00pm



Scan the QR code or [click here](#)

wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

# SCHOOL NEWS

## Celebrating Black History Month at Nonsuch

First established in the USA, Black History Month (BHM) made its way to the UK in October 1987 thanks to the efforts of Ghanaian journalist and campaigner Akyaaba Sebo. Witnessing first-hand the way young Black Britons were made to feel ashamed of their cultures, he aimed to highlight the Black community's contributions to world civilisations throughout history. Overcoming racist stigmas and celebrating heritage that has been overlooked or dismissed, are both central tenets of BHM, making this year's theme of 'Standing Firm in Power and Pride' especially poignant.

This year's events included Nonsuch's first BHM Essay Competition, in which students chose one of five questions to showcase their writing skills. Well done to our runners-up, Sumedha (Y9) and Nishka M (Y10), and congratulations to Mawara (Y7) and Mithuna (Y11) for winning the KS3 and KS4 categories! Their winning essays will be published in the school magazine. We were overwhelmed by the number of students who took part, so thank you all for your submissions; you should all be extremely proud.

Alongside the essay competition, our Jeopardy Quiz was a big success, with a huge audience coming to watch teachers and students go head-to-head and test their knowledge of Black History. The staff were victorious in what proved to be an exhilarating contest.

The canteen staff cooked a wonderful Caribbean and African inspired lunch which included for example: jerk chicken & wedges, rice and peas and puff puff for dessert. Thank you to Mrs Kite and her fantastic team in the canteen!

Students also had the chance to learn more about Black history by taking part in our annual scavenger hunt. Well done to everyone who discovered the wise and very relevant words of Nelson Mandela: 'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.'

The week culminated in the staff and students wearing red, which was part of the campaign: Show Racism the Red Card.

Thank you so much to everybody who supported our events and those who took part!



# SCHOOL NEWS

## House Pumpkin Contest

The whole school enjoyed the many pumpkins entered by students at the end of last half term for our annual House Pumpkin Contest. We had an unprecedented number of pumpkins in the Quad and students reported that they really enjoyed decorating and carving their creations.

The House Team spent some time judging the entries and the winners are as follows:

1st place = **Vistuthy** Y8 (20HP)

2nd place = **Nomana** Y7 (15HP)

3<sup>rd</sup> place = **Elif** Y7 (10HP)

Honourable mentions also go to **Hania** and **Adriana** in Y7 for their pumpkins.

Congratulations to our winners and a big well done to all who entered!



## Geography - Y10 fieldwork at the Olympic Park in Stratford



# SCHOOL NEWS



Please scan the QR code to book your free tickets to the Nonsuch Young Musician Final on Tuesday, November 11th.  
Please could you add that parents should enter via main reception from 3.15pm. The concert starts at 3.30pm.



Nonsuch Young Musician Final -  
Tuesday 11th November 2025

## Upcoming PE fixtures

| Date     | Time  | Sport      | Opponent         | Team        | Location        |
|----------|-------|------------|------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 11/11/25 | 15:45 | Football   | Carshalton Girls | U14         | Nonsuch         |
| 11/11/25 | 15:45 | Netball    | Wallington       | Y7ABCD      | Wallington      |
| 18/11/25 | 15:45 | Netball    | Overton          | U12A & U13A | Overton         |
| 20/11/25 | 8:00  | Gymnastics | Surrey Schools   | U19 & U15   | St. Catherine's |

# SCHOOL NEWS

## PE - Borough Cross Country success

| Date      | Sport         | Opponents     | Age          | Result   |
|-----------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------|
| 15/10/25  | Cross-Country | Borough       | Year 7       | 2nd      |
|           | Cross-Country | Borough       | Year 8 & 9   | 3rd      |
|           | Cross-Country | Borough       | Year 10 & 11 | 1st      |
|           | Cross-Country | Borough       | Senior       | 3rd      |
| 4/11/2025 | Badminton     | Epsom College | KS4          | 7-5 Loss |

Before half term, our Cross-Country team competed in the Borough Schools tournament. Everybody ran their hardest and worked to contribute valuable points to the standings. Nonsuch won the overall girls' competition – well done everyone!



# SCHOOL NEWS

## Student success at the Wimbledon Young Writers' Competition

In early October, 40 excited Year 7s had the great opportunity to see celebrated children's author Emma Carroll speak at the Wimbledon Book Festival. The students boarded the coach to Wimbledon Theatre to hear Emma speak about her new book and where she draws her inspiration from as a writer. After her talk, there was a prizegiving ceremony for the Young Writers' Competition where we were delighted to see two of our Year 13s, Max and Aanya, receive prizes for their work. Max won the KS5 short story category and Aanya was runner-up in the KS5 poetry section. It was a very positive experience for all, and incredibly inspirational for our younger students to cheer on and see the achievements of Max and Aanya as writers. Each Year 7 student also received a free copy of Emma's new book, called 'Dracula & Daughters'.



The students represented Nonsuch with maturity at the theatre and were a credit to the school and to themselves. Huge congratulations too, to Max and Aanya. We are very proud of you both.

## House Diwali Charity Bake Sale

We rounded off last half term with a very busy Diwali Bake Sale - an annual fundraising event organised by the House Team. Students and families were incredibly generous with their contributions and we are delighted to announce that in just half an hour we raised £300 for our school-nominated charities.



Students and staff thoroughly enjoyed the treats on offer. Thank you to everyone who contributed. It was particularly lovely to hear that students had enjoyed making their treats with family to bring in to share with the rest of the school community. All students who contributed a treat for the bake sale receive 5HP.

# SCHOOL NEWS

## Student spotlight

**Kaitlyn** (Y10) writes: "I'm excited to share that I recently took part in the British Ice Skating October Qualifier event in Sheffield, where I placed first in the Short Program and second overall. This result means I've qualified to compete at the British Figure Skating Championships 2025, where I'll have the opportunity to skate alongside some of the top skaters in the UK. I'm really grateful for this achievement and for all the support I've received. I also recently competed in the Cambridge Classic Figure Skating Competition 2025, where I achieved one gold medal and one bronze medal. I was very pleased with my performances and the results, especially as I achieved personal best scores in both programs."



This was a wonderful opportunity to showcase the progress I've made through my training this season. I'm now focusing on refining my routines and continuing to improve as I prepare to compete in the British Figure Skating Championships 2025 at the end of November." Congratulations, Kaitlyn!



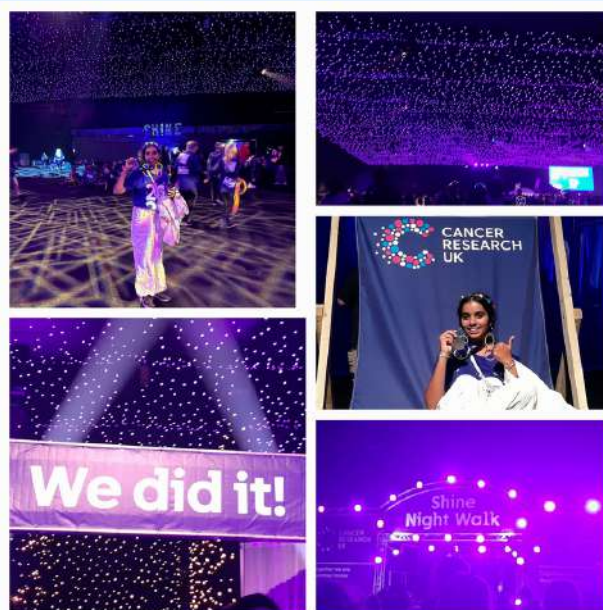
## Student spotlight

**Amelia** (Y7) (right) recently took on her very first charity race, the Race for the Kids, raising funds for a new children's cancer center at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH). She maintained her energy and pushed right through to the end. Well done, Amelia!



## Student spotlight

Well done to **Smitakshi** (Y10) for completing the recent Shine Walk in London!



# SCHOOL NEWS

## Student spotlight

Congratulations to **Jacqueline** (Y8) who competed at the London Regional Women's Athletics Gymnastics Championships competition at the end of September.

Jacqueline won three gold medals; first place on overall, first place on floor, first place on beam and a judge's pin for her beam. First overall is a big achievement, well done! We are very proud of her dedication and hard work!



## Student spotlight

**Khushi** (Y7) writes: "I am delighted to have been selected for the Surrey Swimming Development programme 2025-26. It's a prestigious programme and a first phase of Swim England talent pathway." Congratulations, Khushi!



# UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| Week 1                  | Year 11 Art/Photography/Textile Exams                                                                    |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday 10th November    |                                                                                                          |
| Tuesday 11th November   | Nonsuch Young Musician – 15.30-17.30 (School Hall)                                                       |
| Wednesday 12th November | Year 10 & 11 Parent talk 19.00 -20.30 (School Hall)                                                      |
| Thursday 13th November  | Sixth Form Open Evening 17.00 -20.00                                                                     |
| Friday 14th November    | Year 8 London Transport Museum DT trip                                                                   |
| Week 2                  | Year 11 Mock Exams 17th – 28th November                                                                  |
| Monday 17th November    | Y13 History Conference                                                                                   |
| Tuesday 18th November   | Year 7 Tutor Consultation Day & Year 7 Careers Day                                                       |
| Wednesday 19th November | Senior Kangaroo UKMT Maths Competition - Period 4<br>British Mathematical Olympiad round 1 13.15 – 16.45 |
| Thursday 20th November  | Year 13 Guidance Meetings<br>U19&U15 Gymnastics, St Catherine's 08.00-15.00                              |
| Friday 21st November    | Y12/13 A-level Philosophy Conference                                                                     |