



MONDAY MARCH 10TH | ISSUE 45

NONSUCH NEWS

Our weekly newsletter for the school community

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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MESSAGES FROM MRS WILLIAMSON-JONES



Dear students, parents, and carers,

It was lovely to see so many parents at the Year 10 Parent-Teacher Consultations last week and the positive atmosphere that was created around the building. These meetings are a valuable opportunity to discuss progress, celebrate achievements, and ensure that every student is supported in their learning journey.

It has been another incredibly busy week in school, as we celebrated International Women's Day with a fantastic week-long range of events organised by our CARE Committee, including a screening of 'Hidden Figures', a scavenger hunt and a lively staff vs students quiz on Friday. We also welcomed Lucienne Davies, founder of charity Get on Downs, and enjoyed a visit from award-winning YA author Sara Barnard, who both delivered engaging and inspirational talks to students about their work. We are pleased we were able to secure Sara's time ahead of Nonsuch Book Week which starts today - our annual celebration of reading which comes around the time of World Book in early March.

On Tuesday, we welcomed over 300 people to our Oxbridge Evening, providing valuable insight and guidance for those considering applications to Oxford and Cambridge. Meanwhile, our mathematicians took part in the UKMT Maths Challenge, showcasing their problem-solving skills, and our Year 10 students competed in the finals of the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge.

Finally, as we move further into March, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the families in our community who are observing Ramadan. This is a time of reflection, generosity, and togetherness, and I hope it brings peace and strength to those taking part. We appreciate the dedication of our students who are balancing their studies alongside their observances.

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	98.05	97.95	96.86	96.35	94.87	97.24	92.56	96.23
Authorised	1.62	2.00	2.29	3.30	3.46	1.62	5.95	2.91
Unauthorised	0.33	0.05	0.86	0.34	0.47	0.38	0.74	0.46
Persistent absence >=10%	17	18	24	33	41	23	56	212

03/03/25-07/03/25

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.

Education Wellbeing Service Making Life Better Together NHS South West London and St George's Mental Health

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:
Fid 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.
- 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/>

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.

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)

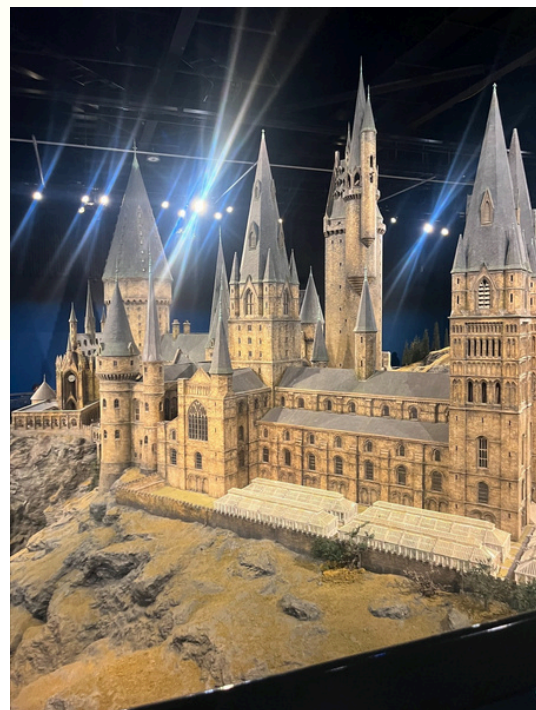
Education Wellbeing Service YouTube Channel. Videos cover a range of topics about child and adolescent emotional wellbeing.
Education Wellbeing Service - SWLSTG - YouTube

SAFEGUARDING AND WELLBEING

DT trip to the Harry Potter Studio

On Wednesday February 26th, 58 students visited The Warner Bros tour of Harry Potter Studio. The day started with a lesson on set design showing us how the ideas go from discussion, to paper, to models and finally creating the real product. We also got to know some behind-the-scenes secrets and witness first hand a giant Hagrid costume worn in the films. It was incredible to see how much work goes into the set.

We finished our lesson and moved on to the tour of the studios starting with The Great Hall and Hogwarts classrooms. Students could witness the trickery used to create the on-screen magic such as the Invisibility Cloak and Harry's flying acceptance letters. We then took a walk through the Forbidden Forest to visit Platform 9¾, The Knight Bus and Privet Drive. After lunch, we finished our day in the Masks and Goblins room, Diagon Alley, Gringotts Bank and the gift shop. Overall a brilliant day enjoyed by all with lots of secrets learnt about how the world of Harry Potter was created.



SCHOOL NEWS

Upcoming PE fixtures

Date	Time	Sport	Against	Team	Location
17/03/25	8:00am	Badminton	Regional	KS3&4	St Helens
17/03/25	15:00pm	Badminton	Gordons	KS4	Gordons
18/03/25	15:30pm	Hockey	Croydon	U16	Croydon
19/03/25	15:30pm	Netball	St Phils	SNR & U16AB	St Phils
20/03/25	15:30pm	Hockey	Croydon	U14	Nonsuch
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

SCHOOL NEWS

Music

Please come along to the GCSE and A Level Recital on Thursday March 20th. This is an opportunity to hear our talented GCSE Music students and listen to our incredible A level performers. Please note, the concert will be recorded as part of their coursework so may not be suitable for young children.

Please enlarge the poster to scan the QR code or complete this [form](#) to join us.

We look forward to seeing you there.



CCF - Feb half term camp

This half term, 100 cadets from CCF attended the annual February Competition Camp on the Isle of Wight. Over the course of four days, eight sections of cadets competed to win the prestigious Ken Russel Shield. Each section worked extremely hard, engaging in a variety of activities, including Laser Tag, Military Planning Exercises and Orienteering, culminating in the annual drill competition. Each evening, cadets either participated in a night exercise or a 'taskmaster'-style competition, both of which contributed to the overall competition. Cadets also had the opportunity to fire on a live range. Congratulations to Tanvi in Y12, who won the shooting cup, and to Alyssa in Y9, who won cadet of the camp due to her consistent cheerful attitude.

Overall, the camp was a huge success, and we'd like to congratulate the members of Charlie Section, for winning the Ken Russel Shield. We can't wait to see you all in the summer term for the 105ths' final camp!



Physics - Y10

Year 10 have been applying their knowledge of principles of physics to Jenga blocks and Pringles. Here are two stunning creations from Laura in Y10!



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.



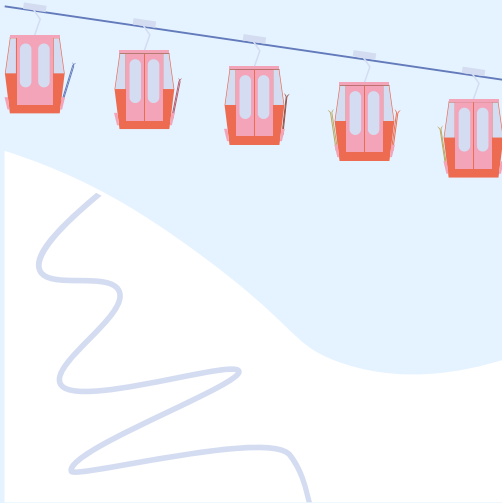
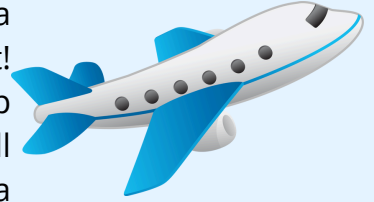
SCHOOL NEWS

Ski trip - Austria 2025

See all the photos from the trip [here](#) - remember it can only be accessed by a school email address.

Four students give a brief overview of their action-packed and fun-filled week on the slopes.

Ananya starts: "We all arrived at school bright and early to set out on a trip that would be so memorable and exciting, we just didn't know it yet! We made our way through the airport and it had finally hit us, the trip we had been anticipating for months was finally here, and I think we all definitely made the most of it. From a stressful security check-in to a three-hour coach journey to Austria, we made it to the hotel and speedily unpacked our bags. We made our way to the boot fittings and a special feeling had sunk in - we were finally going skiing!"



Gigi continues: "From struggling to put our skis on the first day to safely making our way down a blue slope, a lot of people learned something new! On Day 1, many of us were near the nursery slope, trying to not fall, to safely stop (or 'pizza'), or ourselves to food up in the mountains. Meanwhile, some groups were already up in the mountains, skiing their way down the blue/red slopes! For the next few days, a lot of us went down the nursery slope, became pros, and got the gondolas up to another mountain. There, we were above the clouds and enjoyed the fresh air while skiing down. By the time we came back, our shins were hurting! Skiing was something new for a lot of us and I know for many it won't be the first and last time!"

Lucy carries on: "From the first day to the last, the daily routines that our teachers planned out for us became essential to make the most of our exciting time in Austria. Waking up at 6.30am was definitely a challenge for some, as well as throwing on our salopettes and other pieces of ski gear in order to make it to breakfast for 7am. However, all of us were ready for another day of skiing as we boarded the coach that would take us to the slopes. From our morning lessons on the beautiful mountains of Salzburg, lunch and then another session of skiing, we would head back for two hours of free time in our rooms. Dinner would follow, then the extremely entertaining evening activities, and at around 9.30pm we would go back up to our rooms to have a much-needed and well-deserved night's rest."

Eirin concludes: "The evenings were some of the funniest parts of the trip. We got to do loads of different activities, share stories that had happened from that day while skiing and eat dinner all together while catching up. We all enjoyed watching 'Moana' while eating all of our snacks, a quiz that involved picture rounds, teacher rounds, general knowledge rounds and much more, a karaoke that made everyone laugh, an interpretive dance which made us get to know new people and remind ourselves of all the things that had happened that week through the moves, our personal favourite game of speed walking up to our rooms to fetch an item in a certain category and an awards night which showed how much everyone had improved!"

Huge thanks from all the students to the teachers who accompanied them on such a wonderful trip!

Right Respecting Schools Steering Group

March 8th was International Women's Day (IWD), a day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The theme this year was "For ALL Women and Girls: Rights. Equality. Empowerment", challenging stereotypes and pushing for equality. IWD links to Article 2 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) which outlines the right of children to non-discrimination.

The origins of IWD dates back to the early 20th century and was rooted in the suffragette and labour movement. In 1908, 15,000 women marched through New York City, demanding equal pay, shorter hours, and the right to vote. A year later, the American Socialist Party declared the first National Womens Day. In 1910, Clara Zenkin raised the idea of IWD at an International Conference of Working Women in Copenhagen, which was unanimously backed, and was celebrated for the first time in 1911.

To honour this day, many countries around the world consider it a national holiday, such as in China, where the women are given a half-day off work. In Nonsuch, many events took place around school last week, such as a screening of the film, 'Hidden figures', or listening to talks from inspirational women in the library. On Friday, you might have worn purple, green, or white, but did you know what they represent? These are the colours of IWD, with purple signifying justice, dignity and loyalty, green symbolizes hope, and white represents purity. These colours stem from the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) in the UK in 1908 who campaigned for women's right to vote.

Recent global events have emphasised the continued struggle of women's rights, e.g. women's reproductive rights, protection against gender-based violence, and equal pay. IWD remains a powerful platform for advocacy, and empowerment - serving as a reminder of women's greatness and endless capabilities.



Student spotlight

Well done to Vedaanshi in Y7 who recently received a Six Year Award (Trophy and Record of Achievement Certificate) at Stagecoach Performing Arts. Vedaanshi started Stagecoach when she was four years old. She says: "I have learnt many things over these years and I am grateful for this opportunity to learn so many skills at one place. I have also made some very good friends outside of my school life." Congratulations!



UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week 1	Nonsuch Book Week
Monday 10th March	Year 12 Politics Conference – Westminster College House Masterchef Final – T1 – 12.20 Y3/4 Racket Pack Festival – 15.30-17.30
Tuesday 11th March	Year 12 Parent-Teacher Consultation – 16.00
Wednesday 12th March	Late start for students 9.55am Year 7 Netball + Hockey Interhouse P2&3
Thursday 13th March	Year 10 Historians Battlefields trip (60 students + staff) Book dressing up day - staff and students GCSE Drama External Performance Exams (8.30 - 4pm) Surrey Satro Competition – St Philomena School – 14.50
Friday 14th March	Year 10 Historians Battlefields trip (60 students + staff) Rag Week Fashion Show – 12.20- Hall
Week 2	Rag Week (Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday)
Monday 17th March	Year 8 Netball & Hockey Interhouse P1&2 Year 11 Netball & Hockey Interhouse P3&4
Tuesday 18th March	Careers Fair – 19.00-21.00 – virtual meeting
Wednesday 19th March	Y5/6 Quick sticks – 13.00- 16.00 PTA movie night – 15.30-18.00 Careers Fair – 19.00-21.00 – virtual meeting
Thursday 20th March	GCSE/A-Level recital concert – 17.30-20.00
Friday 21st March	