



MONDAY FEBRUARY 3RD | ISSUE 42

NONSUCH NEWS

Our weekly newsletter for the school community

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MESSAGES FROM MRS WILLIAMSON-JONES



Dear students, parents, and carers,

It has been another incredibly busy week at school, full of enriching experiences and successes. We are extremely proud to share that our chess team finished third in the English Chess Federation semi-finals, securing a place in the national finals - an outstanding achievement! Last week also saw students taking part in interviews for the prestigious Arkwright Engineering Scholarships, which support aspiring engineers, computer scientists, and technical designers. On Saturday, a group of students visited the Cambridge University Chemistry Department to compete in a national competition, while earlier in the week, our Year 12 students attended a Holocaust memorial event in Sutton - a deeply moving and important experience.

In addition to these events, we held our Year 11 Parent-Teacher Consultations last week, and next week marks the start of Year 13 mock exams. We wish our students the very best in their preparations.

Finally, a plea to parents who collect their daughters at 4:30 pm. The congestion at the front of the school can have a significant impact on traffic along the main road. If you are able to collect later or park on the gravel area, this will help ease congestion and improve safety for all.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to another exciting week ahead!

Warm regards,
Mrs Williamson-Jones

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.

New guidance on attendance

In February, the Government published new guidance for attendance which became statutory in August. These changes reflect amendments to the law and are part of the Government's drive to improve attendance at school. Details are [here](#), along with links to wider guidance on supporting your child's attendance. The full guidance is [here](#).

A reminder that the Government has an [attendance hub](#) which can help parents make informed decisions about attendance. The Government also provides parents with guidance 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	97.62	98.24	96.90	95.86	94.11	94.67	84.79	94.55
Authorised	2.24	1.29	2.48	3.84	5.25	4.90	12.84	4.73
Unauthorised	0.14	0.48	0.62	0.30	0.64	0.43	2.28	0.70
Persistent absence >=10%	21	12	27	36	57	46	104	303

27/01/25-31/01/25

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.

Reporting absence

Please report absences via Schoolgateway. Download the app [here](#).

First Aid

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

SCHOOL NEWS

Upcoming PE fixtures

Date	Time	Sport	Team	Location	
03/02/25	12:15	Dance	Borough	KS4	Sutton High
04/02/25	16:00	Netball	Tournament	U12	Nonsuch
05/02/25	15:30	Netball	Wallington	U12ABCD	Wallington
05/02/25	15:30	Hockey	Croydon	U16	Croydon
06/02/25	16:30	Hockey	Croydon	U14	Nonsuch
11/02/25	15:00	Netball	Sutton High	U13AB	Nonsuch
11/02/25	15:30	Football	Wallington	U12 & U14	Nonsuch
12/02/25	15:30	Netball	Wallington	U13ABCD	Wallington
12/02/25	12:30	Cricket	Area Round	U13	Nonsuch

SCHOOL NEWS

Attention all future engineers and architects!

On Wednesday February 12th, we will be joined by two senior engineers from TFL to host a lecture about women in STEM. The contents of the lecture will include:

- How to get into engineering/architecture in general and within TFL
- Day in the life TFL engineers and architects
- Salary
- Routes into engineering/architecture including degree apprenticeships and graduate schemes.
- Career progression
- Reference will also be made to the growing use of CAD.

This is an opportunity to ask industry professionals more information about careers in these areas. Attendance to this lecture would be a great addition to any UCAS, degree apprenticeship or Arkwright applications.

If you are interested in attending, please complete the MS form sent by Miss Hobart by 4pm on Friday February 7th. The lecture will start at 3:30pm and should be finished by 5pm. It will include a Q&A session. We look forward to seeing you there.



Enter the Royal Academy Young Artists' Summer Show



The RA Young Artists' Summer Show is an exciting opportunity to potentially have your artwork shown in the Royal Academy in London. It is open to all year groups and there is no specific theme to the artworks. Judges want to see originality and imagination, so have fun with your entry!

If you'd like to see some of the artwork from last year's show for inspiration, visit [Young Artists' Summer Show | Royal Academy](https://www.royalacademy.org.uk/young-artists-summer-show).

The deadline is March 5th. If you have any questions, or a piece of work you'd like to submit, please speak to one of the staff in the Art Department.

SCHOOL NEWS

Chess success

Last weekend, two U19 chess teams from travelled to St Catherine's in Bramley to take part in the English Chess Federation National Schools Chess Championship semi-finals. The championship was a hive of activity with 46 teams in the U19 event, and 66 teams in the U11 event. Nonsuch Team A consisted of Maya on board 1, Tiara on board 2 and Leia on board 3. The team won 11 out of 15 games and came in third place, which has secured them a place in the final in early April.

We are also extremely proud of our B team, where two of them, Joshitha and Sabeeka, were taking part in their first chess tournament, winning against some tough schools along the way.

The B team was captained by Joanna, who has returned to chess competitions, having last played in primary school.

Congratulations to both teams - we are incredibly proud of the students' resilience and determination Thank you to the parents who supported the full day event.



PE - U12BC & U13BC Netball v Downsend

On Wednesday January 28th we had a four-team tournament against Downsend School. Our U12BC and U13BC teams took part, all showing fantastic skill and teamwork. They worked really hard on their shooting and attacking skills. We defended players effectively and regained possession often after we had lost it. We had some very close games with the U13C winning but sadly the other three games resulted in defeat. Some special mentions to the POMs below. Well done to everyone!

U12B = 12-2 POM: **Suria**

U12C = 10-7! POM: **Eliza**

U13B = 22-3 POM: **Sophia**

U13C = 10-4 POM: **Amarachi**



Bar Mock Trial Competition

Issy (Y12) writes: "Last weekend, I had the incredible opportunity to be one of twelve students in the Nonsuch team competing in the London Regional Heat of the Young Citizens Bar Mock Trial Competition. There were 12 teams in the competition.

In the lead up to it, we attended many practice sessions in school, analysing witness statements and rehearsing speeches to deliver persuasive courtroom performances. It was amazing to take on a range of different roles throughout the day in the Inner London Crown Court in Borough. This setting challenged us to uphold the conduct expected in a legal environment. The first case involved an alleged assault by a security guard, in which I stepped into the role of Defence Barrister. The second centred around a professional cyclist accused of possessing a performance-enhancing drug; I had the unique challenge of being the Defendant, and was glad to receive a "not guilty" verdict! Finally, I served on the jury for the last case, collaborating with others to deliver a fair and balanced decision as the spokesperson. Other members of our team acted as clerks and ushers, ensuring a smooth running of proceedings as they managed the courtroom professionally. This experience was invaluable in sharpening our public speaking, critical thinking, and teamwork skills, and a Q&A with actual judges at the end deepened our understanding of the legal system."



NONSUCH HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Presents GYM AND DANCE DISPLAY 2025



Pieces Inspired by Tourist Attractions & Places

AUDITIONS:
WEDNESDAY 26TH FEBRUARY
THURSDAY 27TH FEBRUARY

Lunchtime in the Sports Hall!

Maths Challenge

The afternoon of Wednesday January 29th was abuzz with 133 students sitting the UKMT intermediate challenge, which is for Y11 and below.

This year we were full to capacity and we look forward to supporting students who make it through to the follow-on rounds - the Kangaroo and Olympiad. Well done to everyone who took part!



Right Respecting Schools Steering Group - Children's Mental Health Week

2025's Children's Mental Health Week (CMHW) begins on Monday, February 3rd. This week is dedicated to encouraging young people to have open conversations regarding their mental health. This year's theme is "Know Yourself, Grow Yourself", emphasising the importance of expressing ourselves and understanding what makes us unique, such as our fears, hopes, and dreams. Since its launch in 2015, CMHW aims to empower, equip and give a voice to every child. It has now become a nationally-celebrated event in schools across the UK. The week celebrates children and young people, encouraging them to build resilience, develop self-awareness and to help form strong connections with others.

With 85% of GCSE students reporting 'exam stress' and with 1 in 5 young people now having a probable mental health condition, it is even more important to be aware of and to understand how to develop mental wellbeing

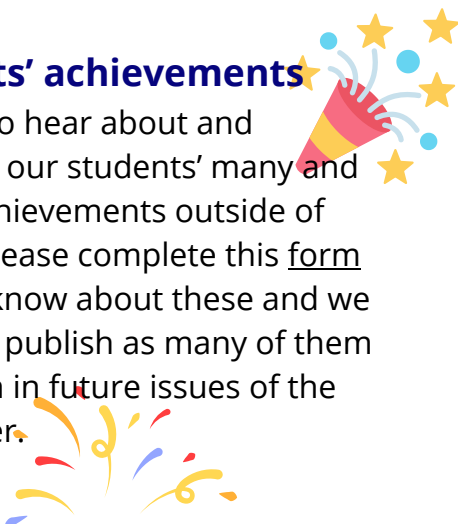
The UNCRC outlines Article 24 - The Right to Health (including access to mental health support) and Article 31 - The Right to Relax, Play, and Take Part in Cultural and Artistic Activities. By raising awareness, young people are empowered to seek help when needed, and to prioritise self-care.

You can take part in Children's Mental Health Week by engaging in activities to boost your wellbeing, such as doing mindfulness exercises, having group discussions, carrying out acts of kindness, and more. So, although you may feel burdened by the stress, anxiety, or unhappiness that you face, always remember that you are not alone, and that there are always people ready to help you.

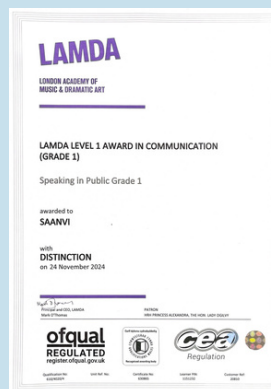


Students' achievements

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.



Student spotlight



Congratulations to Saanvi (Y7) for achieving a Distinction in her LAMDA - Level 1 Award in Communication: Speaking in Public. Well done, Saanvi!

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week 1	Year 13 Mock Exams
Monday 3rd February	House contest - Lunar New Year closing date KS4 Mixed Dance Competition – 12.00- 16.00 – SHS Year 7 Dance Interhouse – 12.30-13.00 – Sports Hall
Tuesday 4th February	Year 8 Dance Interhouse – 12.30-13.00 – Sports Hall
Wednesday 5th February	Late start for students - registration 9.55am Year 9 Dance Interhouse – 12.30-13.00 – Sports Hall
Thursday 6th February	Year 11 Guidance Meeting Year 10 Dance Interhouse – 12.30-13.00 – Sports Hall
Friday 7th February	Year 9 DTP Immunisation – All day – Room 150 Year 11 Dance Interhouse – 12.30-13.00 – Sports Hall
Saturday 8th February	DofE Training Day - Bronze, Silver & Gold - WHSG
Week 2	Year 13 Mock Exams
Monday 10th February	D of E Parent Briefing – Bronze – online – 18.00
Tuesday 11th February	
Wednesday 12th February	U13 Indoor Cricket Area Round (H) – 12.30-16.00 TFL Engineering Lecture - Y9-12 – 16.00-17.30
Thursday 13th February	Love Languages Competition Austria Ski trip 13-19 Feb
Friday 14th February	Austria Ski trip 13-19 Feb
Saturday 15th February	CCF Camp 15-18 Feb
Monday 17th – Friday 21st February	HALF TERM
Monday 24th February	INSET DAY