

MONDAY FEBRUARY 19TH 2024 | ISSUE 9

NONSUCH NEWS

Our weekly newsletter for the school community



WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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MESSAGES FROM MS CAVILLA



Dear parents, carers and students,

Welcome back after the half term break. It was not a break for all staff as the half terms are the busiest times for our site and IT teams to carry out maintenance. Also we had the ski trip and a CCF Camp so it was a very active half term for many students, including those who came into school on Monday February 19th to carry out Duke of Edinburgh expedition preparation.

All these experiences are enriching for our students in terms of them getting to know themselves, making new friends, developing new skills including soft skills and creating lifelong memories.

On Monday, staff from across all schools in our Trust met to collaborate and share expertise.

As of today, we get back to the more usual business of school but it is a shorter day to ensure that parents can speak with as many teachers as possible at the Year 10 Parent Teacher Consultation meetings.

There are two extra attachments to this newsletter besides the pastoral updates. One is for the attention of students so that they can access the server and the programs they need for their computing lessons; the other is for parents about how to help keep young people safe online - a must-read. Access to mobile phones in schools has hit the headlines yet again recently. The key danger however, is not the device itself but unfiltered, unmonitored access to social media.

This next half term will see us mark mental health awareness week, World Book Day, International Women's Day and our Raising and Giving Week in which students get creative in finding ways to raise funds for our school charities: Friends of Kipkelion, The Disasters Emergency Committee and Sutton Young Carers.

Best wishes,
Ms Cavilla

UPDATES FROM MRS WILLIAMSON-JONES

Attendance

A reminder that as we approach half term we may ask for medical evidence for illness that is recorded in either the week preceding or straight after a school holiday. This is in line with our school policy. We value open and transparent conversations about school absence so please do let us know if your child needs to be absent from school for any other reason than illness or a medical appointment.

Every day in education counts. Missed lessons leads to missed understanding and in an academically selective school such as Nonsuch this can lead to added pressure placed onto the student. Data suggests that those students who have an attendance figure of 95% or greater will achieve higher grades academically. Attendance at 90% or below is considered as persistent absence by the government and over a school year that student would lose 95hrs of learning time.

Thank you for your continued support to ensure your child attends school.

You can monitor your child's attendance data through the Schoolgateway app and ensure that it remains at 95% and above. If there is anything that we may be concerned about, your child's form tutor, Head of Year or myself will contact you.

Year group	Attendance (%)	Authorised (%)	Unauthorised (%)	Persistent absence >=10%
Year 7	98.20	1.40	0.33	4
Year 8	97.68	1.72	0.60	7
Year 9	97.01	2.39	0.52	7
Year 10	96.28	2.94	0.72	18
Year 11	95.50	3.80	0.69	15
Year 12	95.89	3.04	0.96	16
Year 13	94.15	4.60	1.25	33
All years	96.38	2.84	0.73	100

Session attendance summary (4/9/23 to 5/02/24)



Reporting absence

Please report absences via Schoolgateway. Download the app here: [Nonsuch High School for Girls - Reporting Absences](#).

Class Charts for parents

A reminder that our presentation about the launch of class charts to parents can be found on the Parent portal of our school website [Nonsuch High School for Girls - Portals](#). You should have received an email on Friday with a code that allows you to log into your child's account.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Shore - a safe space for teenagers worried about sexual behaviour

The Shore service provides teenagers with information, guidance, and discreet assistance regarding their own or others' sexual thoughts and actions.

Shore offers anonymous guidance and assistance to teenagers or individuals seeking help in handling anxious thoughts and gaining knowledge about secure practices in both online and offline. Their services ensure anonymity.



There's also a topic library for teenagers to learn about a range of topics and get answers to questions that they might not feel comfortable asking friends, family or teachers.

To access their services and find additional information, please visit [Shore](#).

Internet safety - please see attached information for parents and carers

MAKING SURE YOUR HOME DOESN'T HAVE AN OPEN DOOR TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSERS:

A guide for parents and carers.

Although online child sexual abuse is not a recent issue, its prevalence continues to increase at an alarming rate. Abusers consistently adapt and modify their approaches, constantly seeking methods to evade detection. This comprehensive guide which we have included with this newsletter aims to assist parents and carers in gaining a better understanding of online child sexual abuse, offering practical advice that can effectively safeguard children. Furthermore, it provides guidance on how to handle situations where there may be suspicions or knowledge of a child being subjected to online sexual abuse.



IT news for students

Please see the attached information from the IT Dept for students which outlines how to access your school account and work remotely.

SCHOOL AND DEPARTMENT NEWS



PE - U15 Hockey

Our U15 hockey team played their second fixture against Sutton High this season. There was great improvement in this match with playing the ball out and faster attacking play into the shooting circle. The team lost 3-1 but with many great take-aways! POM was awarded to Raiya for amazing coverage across the pitch and creating lots of attacking opportunities.

PE - U13 Cricket

The U13 Cricket team competed in a fixture at Sutton High on January 31st. They played extremely well and worked together brilliantly. Overall, we came second in the competition after losing a match to Dunnington but winning both matches against Sutton and Woldingham. The team should be very proud of themselves, well done!



Robotics

Our Robotics students continue to go from strength to strength as recent articles in the newsletter have shown. We're therefore delighted to have been involved with the EEP Robotics Challenge for five years.

We love to celebrate students' extracurricular activities/achievements outside of school. Please complete [this link](#) so we can share as many of these as possible with the Nonsuch community.

SCHOOL AND DEPARTMENT NEWS

School production - buy your tickets now!

Students have been working very hard to put together this year's school production which is 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. Please do support them by coming to one of the performances on **Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th February**. Tickets are available on ParentPay, as shown on the wonderful poster. There was a House contest for students to enter their poster design, with this winning artwork from Isabella (Y8) now promoting the production.



Chinese New Year celebrations



Students really enjoyed making Chinese New Year lanterns for a House contest this half term. Their designs were displayed in Reception all week before half term. The school library also celebrated and raised awareness of the work of East Asian authors.

Both displays have been very popular and brightened up everyone's day around school.

SCHOOL AND DEPARTMENT NEWS

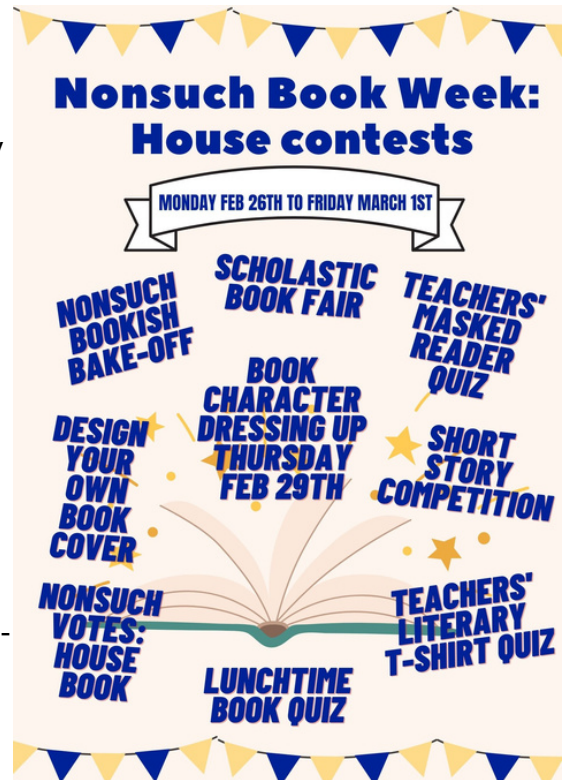
Nonsuch Book Week - Monday 26th Feb to Friday 1st March

Excitement is mounting for the annual Book Week in school. We have many competitions and activities planned for students, including a Scholastic Book Fair in the library, dressing up as a book character on Thursday February 29th and the return of the very popular Teachers' T-shirt quiz.

The Book Fair is a fundraising effort, as Scholastic will award points for every purchase made by students for us to then redeem to buy new books for the library. We hope to raise at least £500 to buy new books for our students to borrow and enjoy.

The week is a celebration of reading for pleasure and sharing our love of books and writing.

Please check the forthcoming letters to parents/carers about the Book Fair and ways to pay, and about the non-uniform day.



HOUSE CONTEST

NONSUCH BOOK WEEK 2024

Dress as a book character

WINNERS RECEIVE AMAZON VOUCHERS!

1. Register your entry in the library 8:15am onwards - House Points for positivity for all registered entries
2. Come back to the library at break or lunch if you want your photo taken to be put on Sharepoint



**THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 29TH 2024**

HOUSE CONTEST
- win a £5 voucher to spend at the school Book Fair



THE GREAT NONSUCH BOOKISH BAKE-OFF 2024

- Make or bake something with a literary theme
- Upload a photo of it with book caption to Sharepoint/Houses/Bookish Bake Off 2024
- House Points for all entries with a £5 book voucher for the school book fair for five winners
- Miss Hicks to judge the winners - we are looking for creativity and presentation skills
- Opens Monday February 5th to Wednesday February 21st



ENJOY MAKING AND EATING YOUR CREATION!

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week 2	
Monday 19th February	INSET Day Bronze, Silver & Gold D of E training day
Tuesday 20th February	School ends at 12.25 for all students Year 10 parent-teacher consultation afternoon – remote
Wednesday 21st February	Year 10 parent-teacher consultation – 16.00 – remote Bronze D of E parents briefing – 18.00 – online
Thursday 22nd February	
Friday 23rd February	
Week 1	Nonsuch Book Week
Monday 26th February	Scholastic Book Fair (all week) - library
Tuesday 27th February	School Production – 15.30 (performance for students and the local community)
Wednesday 28th February	School Production – 19.00
Thursday 29th February	School Production – 19.00
Friday 1st March	Year 9 DTP & Meningitis Vaccination