



MONDAY SEPTEMBER 23RD | ISSUE 29

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



**Considerate parking:
please read the
important notice on page
3 of this newsletter.**

Dear students, parents, and carers,

A conversation no headteacher relishes is asking for financial donations to our School Fund. Yet, here I am doing just that. Schools nationwide are grappling with financial challenges. At Nonsuch, we've faced reduced funding to enhance both our facilities and the opportunities we offer inside and outside the classroom.

Parental donations make a significant impact. They fund extra music groups and PE clubs, transport to fixtures, and entries into national competitions. Your contributions have also enabled us to improve site security, create better pedestrian access to the front office, and replace the sports hall floor with a high-quality surface. A new telescope has also been added, benefiting our GCSE Astronomy students.

You can find information on how to donate on our website or in my letter that was sent out this week. Any donation is greatly appreciated.

I'm pleased to share that our Computer Science Department has been recognised by the National Centre for Computing Education through the "I Belong" accreditation, which encourages girls into computer science. Please see later in this newsletter for more details about this impressive achievement.

Finally, our parent information evenings have now started.

I encourage you to attend, even if you've been to many before. They are a valuable opportunity to hear important updates and speak with us directly about any questions or concerns you may have.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Mrs Williamson-Jones

UPDATES FROM MS OSBORNE

Attendance

Being around teachers and friends in school is the best way for pupils to learn and reach their potential. Time in school also keeps children safe and provides access to extra-curricular opportunities and pastoral care. Good attendance is central part of our vision, values and ethos at Nonsuch and as a school, we have high expectations for student attendance and punctuality; we expect our students to be in school, on time to school and on time to lessons.

According to research from the Department for Education (DfE), pupils who performed better both at the end of primary and secondary missed fewer days than those who didn't perform as well. What's more, students who have an attendance figure of 95% or greater will achieve higher grades. Attendance at 90% or below is considered as persistent absence by the government. Over a school year, a student with an attendance rate of 90% that student would have lost 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, either I, your child's form tutor or Head of Year will contact you.

In February, the Government published new guidance for attendance which became statutory in August. This is part of the Government's drive to improve attendance at school. Details of these changes can be found [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 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	99.57	98.85	98.33	98.05	95.22	97.43	96.06	97.59
Authorised	0.43	0.86	1.43	0.63	1.88	1.22	2.96	1.36
Unauthorised	0	0.29	0.24	0.24	1.79	1.26	0.93	0.70

09/09/24 - 13/09/24



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 do not hesitate to contact us at safeguarding@nonsuchschool.org. We are here to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all individuals 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.

Mrs Hart, DSL



Primary Family Support Group Empowering parents to build healthy relationships with their children

When: Wednesdays at 1pm-2pm/2.15pm

Venue: Limes College, Sutton West Site, Robin Hood Lane, Sutton, SM1 2SD

Entrance: Walk down the drive. On the right you will see the family centre and on the left next to a concrete ball court there are some blue gates (directly opposite the family centre) (not the car park gates) The gate is locked so a member of staff will meet you at the gate at 12.50pm/12.55pm to let you in

Dates:

25/09/24: Introductions, ground rules, parenting styles

02/10/24: Parent's mental health and well-being

09/10/24: Promoting positivity in children

16/10/24: Trauma and the developing brain

23/10/24 – No Group, Half Term

30/10/24 – No Group, Half Term

06/11/24: Rules/boundaries, sanctions/rewards, bedtimes etc.

13/11/24: Online Safety

20/11/2024: Attachment

27/11/24: Supporting children's mental health, anxiety, self-esteem /Zones of regulation

04/12/24: Review ending, what next, evaluation

11/12/24: Optional additional session

All welcome

Whilst we know that some parents may not be able to attend every session, we do encourage parents to attend as many sessions as possible. As the group develops with each session, trust and relationships will build and parents will hopefully feel more supported by each other and grow in confidence.

Once you have signed up to the group, we ask that parents contact Elaine or Nibby if for some reason you are unable to

We would like to extend this invite to all parents of a primary aged child in the London Borough of Sutton. We hope to offer parents a safe space to meet other parents in a similar situation to learn more about different topics and explore new ideas that will support your child's social emotional growth and development.

Parents will:
Feel more empowered and confident to trust their own judgements when supporting their children

Build self-esteem and confidence

Share ideas and tips with each other

For more information and to register your interest and to discuss any queries please call or email either: Nibby, Jackie or Elaine

Nibby: 07984 757878
nibby.withers@cognus.org.uk

Elaine: 07736338601
eberriman@thelimescollege.org

Jackie: 07736 338809
jlawrence@thelimescollege.org

Reporting absence

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

SCHOOL NEWS

Community request for considerate behaviour

Unfortunately, we regularly receive complaints from members of our local community about the inconsiderate parking and unacceptable behaviour of some of our parents/carers when they pick up and drop off their daughter at school.

Please respect our neighbours and park users, and be mindful of everyone's safety. Please do not block drives etc in the surrounding area and in the park.



SCHOOL NEWS

Cambridge Biology Challenge

Anisha (Y12) writes: In August, our group - Vidula, Navani, Fanxi, Dhriti and I - participated in the Cambridge Biology Challenge, run by Homerton College.

We pushed each other to do our best and worked together through the highs, the lows and especially all the never-ending Zoom calls throughout the challenge.

After the final round, we were invited to Homerton College where we received an insightful lecture on the concept of alien life. This part was the most interesting section as we discussed what people previously believed about aliens. We also had to solve a series of puzzles in an escape room. After this, we had the award ceremony where the final prizes were announced. To our surprise, we got 10th place out of 486 teams who participated!

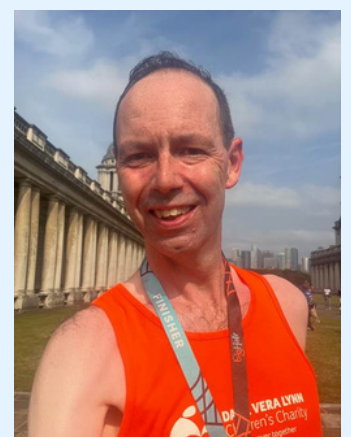
It was an amazing experience and I would recommend this competition to everyone.



Friends of Kipkelion fundraising update

To raise funds for our school-linked charity, Friends of Kipkelion, Miss Humphreys and Mr Coy took part in the "London Big Half Marathon" on August 31st. On a surprisingly hot day, they ran through the Limehouse Tunnel, around Canary Wharf and across Tower Bridge, before crossing the finish line next to the Cutty Sark in Greenwich.

Friends of Kipkelion supports basic healthcare and educational projects in the Kipkelion District of Kenya. The money raised will be spent on running educational courses designed to help young people, in particular those with disabilities, start their own business. Many young people in Kipkelion can't find a job when they leave school, and those with disabilities are not able to take part in the heavy farm work which dominate the local economy. The courses show people how they can earn money through activities such as bee keeping, breeding chickens, mending shoes and they are taught how to make a simple business plan and budget, and then provided with the basic items they need to get going. Each course costs £475 and 15 young people can take part. The fundraising page is still open so if you would like to support the teachers' efforts, please go to [this link at the Justgiving site](#). Thank you!



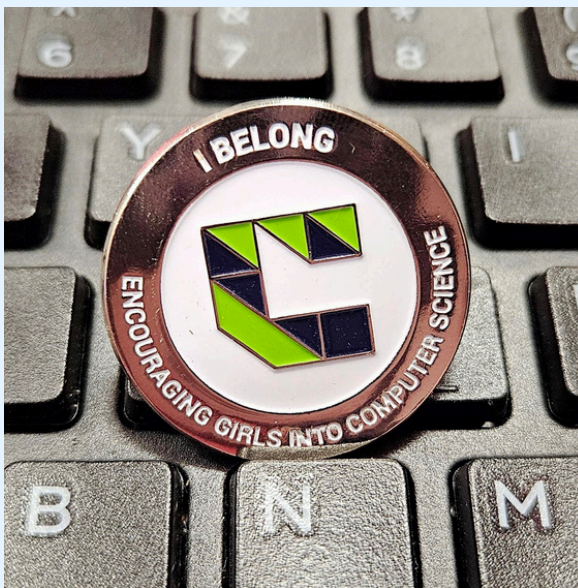
Computer Science

The Computer Science Department are thrilled to be recognised by the National Centre for Computing Education as part of their I Belong: encouraging girls into computer science accreditation program.

This certification recognises the work we do at Nonsuch to raise the profile of Computer Science amongst girls, as well as increasing the diversity of women in and beyond the computing classroom.

National figures show that just 21.9% of girls take GCSE Computer Science and this drops to 17.5% at A-Level. We are thrilled to buck that trend, with 41% of Year 10 joining us for GCSE this year, and we see record numbers at A-level with 20 students choosing to study with us. Both examination groups go on to be empowered, outstripping the national averages in their respective results. We are also excited to welcome an increasing number of students joining us from other schools as we become their first choice of where to study Computer Science at A-Level.

We've made changes made to the Computer Science curricula at all key stages, and implemented a range of extra-curricular clubs which are run and supported by enthusiastic and knowledgeable students. Thank you for supporting our efforts to enthuse our students!



UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Week 2	
Monday 23rd Sept	Year 8 Parent Information Evening – 18.30-19.30
Tuesday 24th Sept	
Wednesday 25th Sept	Year 10 Parent Information Evening – 18.30-19.30
Thursday 26th Sept	
Friday 27th Sept	INSET DAY – school closed for students
Week 1	
Monday 30th Sept	
Tuesday 1st October	
Wednesday 2nd October	Parent Launch of Bronze & Gold D of E – Hall – 18.00
Thursday 3rd October	
Friday 4th October	