



MONDAY JANUARY 13TH | ISSUE 39

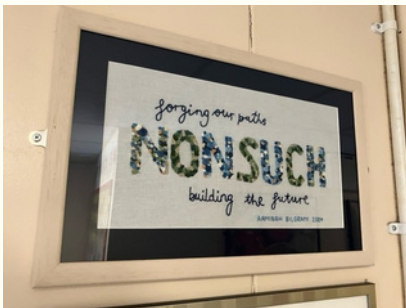
# NONSUCH NEWS

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,

Welcome back to the start of a new year and a new term. I hope everyone in our school community had a restful and peaceful holiday. It was an extremely unusual end to the autumn term, when I had to make the difficult decision to close the school due to the water issues affecting the local area. As staff, we were deeply disappointed not to be able to complete the planned House Challenge Day and our Celebration Assembly, which is always a wonderful way to close the term. Additionally, the disruption impacted our Year 11 NEA mocks, and we are working to ensure students complete these exams this week.

Looking ahead, we have several exciting events happening over the next couple of weeks. Highlights include trips for Art students and the Combined Cadet Force (CCF), as well as our "Day in the Life of a Sixth Former" event for Year 11 students, which will help them gain valuable insight into their future pathways.

As we return to school, I will be speaking to all students to remind them about the high expectations we uphold at Nonsuch and the importance of maintaining these standards in shared spaces, including public areas such as school toilets. I would greatly appreciate your support in reinforcing this message at home.

Thank you for your continued partnership. I look forward to a productive and positive spring term 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	98.63	97.68	97.38	96.88	92.05	94.42	90.06	95.22
Authorised	1.07	2.08	2.32	2.57	7.63	3.99	9.13	4.19
Unauthorised	0.30	0.24	0.30	0.55	0.27	0.41	0.81	0.41
Persistent absence >=10%	9	22	25	26	59	27	62	230

06/01/25-10/1/25

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 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.

## Reporting absence

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

## First Aid

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

## Reminder for Year 9 parents

Please complete the consent form for the DTP/MEN Vaccination – closing date Friday 31st January.

# SCHOOL NEWS

## EPQ visit to University of Southampton December 2024

Prisha (Y12) writes: Last month, the Year 12 EPQ elective class was privileged to participate in the Learn with Us Transition programme at Southampton University. This was an invaluable opportunity in giving us practical insights into how to enhance and hone our research and critical thinking skills.

The first part of the day focused on effective methods for sourcing dissertations and articles relevant to our chosen topics, with a particular emphasis on the use of Boolean operators. We were fortunate to gain access to Southampton's extensive online database of research papers, enabling us to download professional-grade publications that would otherwise be unavailable to us.

Following this, we toured the Highfield Campus, exploring fascinating areas such as the wind tunnel, where engineering students test Formula One cars. At lunch, we had the opportunity to explore the campus more for ourselves and gain an insight into what it might be like for a university student.

Our afternoon was spent in the Hartley Library, home to five floors of academic resources, where we delved into materials pertinent to our topics, mirroring the research practices of university students. Thank you so much to Mrs McGullion and Ms D'Souza for organising such a useful day for us and allowing us to expand our knowledge on how to research effectively which is undeniably useful not only for our EPQ, but also for developing skills which are necessary towards preparing ourselves for our future career aspirations.



University of  
**Southampton**



## Rights Respecting School Steering Group

The first in a series of articles written by the Rights Respecting Schools Steering Group.

### What is the UNCRF?

Just under a third of the global population are aged 18, and therefore are protected under the United Nations Convention of the Rights of a Child (UNCRF), adopted in 1989. It is the most widely ratified human rights treaty in history. It has 54 articles, which cover the political, civil, economic, social, and cultural rights to which all children around the world are entitled.

### What is this week's focus?

This week, the focus is on Articles 28 and 29. These concern children's Right to Education – ensuring that all children have access to education of a suitable quality, and that this aims to promote “development of the child's personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential.”

### Why does education matter?

Access to education is paramount for all children. A good quality of schooling allows young people to learn skills and access resources which they may not have access to otherwise. It empowers women and those from less advantaged backgrounds, giving them opportunities to break through social barriers.

Around the world, children have differing experiences of education. In the Western world, the challenges faced in education are not so much to do with rates of education, but its quality. The UK education sector is facing a workforce crisis, funding for supporting students with additional needs does not reach the level of need, and the attainment gap is rising rapidly between students from disadvantaged backgrounds and their more affluent peers.

### What can we do?

The most important thing that we, as students, can do to tackle the growing crisis around the provision and quality of education in the UK is to make the most of the incredible opportunities which our education system provides us. Although the state of education is not perfect, we must remember how privileged we are in the UK to receive government funded schooling until 18. We must try to take an active role in improving our education system, as well as raise awareness of children around the world that do not have access to the same opportunities that we do.



## Student spotlight

Congratulations to Gabby in Y7 who received the certificate below for talent in writing. Gabby writes: I received the certificate because I participated in a poetry competition and my poem was selected to be published in a book where it will stay in the National Archives of the British Library forever.



# SCHOOL NEWS

## Upcoming PE fixtures

Date	Time	Sport	Opponent	Team	Location
20/01/25	15:30	Indoor Athletics	Borough	Y7	Nonsuch
23/01/25	15:50	Netball	Wallington	SNR	Nonsuch
29/01/25	15:30	Netball	Downsend	U12AB & U13AB	Downsend
05/02/25	15:30	Netball	Wallington	U12ABCD	Nonsuch
11/02/25	15:00	Netball	Sutton High	U13AB	Nonsuch
12/02/25	15:30	Netball	Wallington	U13ABCD	Wallington
26/02/25	15:30	Netball	Wallington	U14AB	Wallington
12/03/25	15:30pm	Netball	St Phils	Y7ABCD	St Phils
19/03/25	14:00	Netball	St Phils	U16AB	St Phils

## Admissions consultation

In accordance with the School Admissions Code, please follow this [link](#) to the draft admission arrangements for entry to Nonsuch High School for Girls in September 2026-2027. The consultation period lasts from Friday 13th October 2024 to Friday 31st January 2025 inclusive and all responses must be received within this time period. In your response, please include your full name, title and contact details. Responses can be sent by:

**Post to:**

**Trust Admissions Manager  
Girls' Learning Trust  
Nonsuch High School for Girls  
Cheam Road  
Sutton  
SM3 8AB**

**Email to:**

**[ap2026consultationnhsg@nonsuchschool.org](mailto:ap2026consultationnhsg@nonsuchschool.org)  
(with the subject 'Admissions Arrangements  
Consultation 2026-2027')**

The main changes proposed are:

- Clarification of language around Pupil Premium, changing "in receipt of Pupil Premium" to "eligible for"
- The addition of 'young carer' as a category as part of the prioritisation for Sixth Form places and an additional Supplementary Information Form to submit supporting evidence.
- Clarification of when offers to Sixth Form are made.
- Clarification of the process about mid-term admissions to years 10 and 11.

The [Consultation Admissions Policy and Arrangements for 2026 - 2027](#) are available on the school's [website](#).

## Student spotlight

Esther writes: I was really pleased to win the Manchester Junior Gold 2024 squash tournament in the GU15 category last month. This is my first Gold tournament of the season and I am very proud of my achievement.  
Well done, Esther!



## 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.

# UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>Week 2</b>	
Monday 13th January	
Tuesday 14th January	Year 9 parent-teacher consultation evening - 16.00-18.30
Wednesday 15th January	Year 13 Art Mocks Early finish for students – 12.30 Year 9 parent-teacher consultation afternoon – 13.10-16.00
Thursday 16th January	Year 13 Art Mocks
Friday 17th January	Year 13 Art Mocks KS3 & KS4 Badminton Competition – all day – Tiffin Girls
<b>Week 1</b>	
Monday 20th January	Day in the life of a Sixth Form student (Year 12 not in school) Royal Courts of Justice Trip U13 Surrey Floor & Vault – Putney High
Tuesday 21st January	Year 12 Higher Education and Careers evening – 19.00-20.00
Wednesday 22nd January	Year 12 Houses of Parliament Politics trip
Thursday 23rd January	GCSE Rock Climbing 13.00-16.00
Friday 24th January	
Saturday 25th January	Year 12 Mock Trial Regional Heat - Inner Crown Court Southwark
Sunday 26th January	ECF St Catherine's semi-finals