



NEWSLETTER

January 2018

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Headmistress's Message

The Spring term has already got off to a busy start. Year 11 pupils will be relieved to have completed their mock exams, and will be using the feedback from their teachers to help them prepare for the GCSE exams in the Summer Term.

The 11+ entrance exams took place last week and were once again well attended. We are now in the process of interviewing all candidates before finalising our offers of Year 7 places for September.

I welcome the opportunity this term for the school to share feedback with you on your child's progress at parents' evenings, and to hear your ideas on how we can continue to improve as a school at the round of coffee mornings with myself and Mr Hagger.

As well as all these events, we have had numerous trips both local and further afield, two art exhibitions and of course much learning in and out of the classroom.

The annual school production is always a highlight of the Spring Term. Rehearsals for Charlie and the Chocolate Factory are well under way, and I look forward to seeing the hard work of all those involved come to fruition in the final performance on Tuesday 13 March.

I hope to see many of you at the various events taking place this term.

With my best wishes

Mrs Claire Osborn

Headmistress

Kindergarten Visit Belgique



Kindergarten had a wonderful time on a recent visit to Belgique on Station Road. As a special treat for snack, the children got the chance to enjoy a hot chocolate and a biscuit.

The children sat beautifully and were fantastic ambassadors for Normanhurst School. You can clearly see how much they enjoyed the hot chocolate!





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Still Life Art in Reception

Reception Fisher spent an afternoon learning how to draw and paint in the style of still life.

They chose a colourful bunch of tulips to draw, using charcoal for the outline. The children then went on to use watercolours to paint the tulips with lots of care and attention to detail. Some of the finished paintings were included in the recent Loughton Young Artists Exhibition.

Well done to all our budding artists.



Year 1 Visit to Tesco

During the first week back at school Year 1S took a trip down to the local Tesco with some change to help them understand how to make totals using a variety of coins. It was a fun way to learn about the value of money in the real world. The children even got to have a photo with some police officers who double-checked to make sure they all had their receipts!



Kian Entertains Year 5

Year 5 pupil, Kian, was keen to entertain his class with a rendition of 'When the Saints Go Marching In' on the trumpet, which he had recently learnt. Star in the making Kian agreed to a brief interview for this publication!

How long have you been learning the trumpet? Since 2016.

What pieces do you like to play? 'When the Saints Go Marching In' and 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star'. I also can't wait to learn to play 'Seven Nation Army'.

Why did you choose to learnt the trumpet? I wanted to play the trumpet because it looked cool. It's sort of hard to play but I really enjoy it.



Year 3 Investigate Friction

In Science lessons, Year 3 have been investigating which surfaces cause different amounts of friction. They created a fair test, which involved rolling a toy tractor down a ramp onto different surfaces three times. This was to conclude which surface produced the most of amount of friction, and which one would allow the tractor to travel the furthest.

It was an interesting learning experience. Roni said "It was great to see the different distances the tractor travelled, and we even predicted correctly!"





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Spun Candy Trip

Years 3 and 4 had a fascinating trip to 'Spun Candy' to take part in a sweet workshop. They learnt about the ingredients needed to make a spiral lollipop and then had the opportunity to make their own.

Charlie T. said, "The smell was amazing!" and Charlie C. commented on how he enjoyed the taste test the most. The children loved making their lollipops into their own shapes, including a twister, a heart and even a snail!

The pupils were able to bring away an enormous custom-made 'Normanhurst School' lollipop, which will be raffled by the NSPA to raise funds for the school.



Year 5 Learn about the Mayans

Year 5 pupils researched the Mayans as part of their Christmas homework. During their first History lesson back, they presented the information they had gathered to the class. There were a lot of power-point presentations, a few hand written projects and even a home-made board game which could be used to test everyone's knowledge of the Mayans.

Pupils enjoyed presenting their work to the class and playing the board game. The class are looking forward to more lessons on the Mayans, learning new things and even trying a few different types food that the Mayans ate!



Junior School Council

As part of their work to improve school life, the Junior School Council asked for donations for Wet Play for Kindergarten to Year 6. They also asked for donations to make a Fancy Dress Role Play Corner in the playground for Years 1-6.

We would like to say a VERY big thank you to everyone who donated. We have received bags upon bags of toys, fancy dress clothes, activity books and even a complete sand pit! As a school we are very grateful and the School Council are very pleased with the changes that have been made to make play times better. If there are any remaining donations please can you hand them in to Miss Stone before the February half term.



You've Got a Friend in Me

Year 5 have been working very hard putting together an interesting and informative assembly about friendship and the importance it holds in our lives.

The children presented the assembly to the rest of the pupils using a well put together power point presentation. Thank you Year 5 for sharing your knowledge.





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'Stars' Trip to Madame Tussauds

On Friday 12 January, Years 2, 3 and 6 went on a trip to Madame Tussauds in London as a reward for earning the most lining up stars in the previous school year. They were very excited to go and look at the various models and replicas of some very famous and well known people. For Year 2, meeting the Royal family was lots of fun but the main attraction was the Marvel Studio 4D Experience!

The Year 3 and Year 6 pupils expressed their enjoyment of the occasion in their own words:

"I really enjoyed going on the taxi ride. Some of it was scary but most of it was really fun and enjoyable. I learnt a lot about London's history!"

Bobby, Year 3

"I had a really good day at Madame Tussauds, it was a really fun trip, and it was my birthday too! My favourite part was watching the 4D film and going on the taxi ride." **Zachary, Year 3**

"It was a really fun day, I loved seeing Shrek, and we all took a photo with him. We also took a photo with the Queen!" **Paige, Year 3**

"It was magical because it was like being in another world with wax figures. I really enjoyed the Marvel 4D experience. I liked how there were air conditioners under our seat so we could feel the blast."

Michaela, Year 6

"It was interesting because there were loads of current famous people and historic ones. My favourite wax work was Ronaldo because I've always looked up to him. The statues were really realistic."

Archy, Year 6

"I loved the way that they made the statues the exact height. There was a statue in which you could press a button on a phone and it would take a picture of you with the statue!" **Queenie, Year 6**



Max Swims in County Finals

On Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 January, I went to the Essex County Finals to race against my age group (13 year olds) at Basildon Sporting Village. Soon it will be at the London Aquatic Centre (both 50m pools).

On Saturday I did a 100m front crawl gaining a personal best in long course of 1:10.36. This converted into 1:09 which is good for me.

On Sunday, I did 200m backstroke and didn't get a personal best, but it was a very hard race. Later that day I raced 100m backstroke getting a long course personal best. I thought I didn't do very well but I came in as overall 7th in the heats and made the final against top people in the county.

In the final I came 8th, but had a minor injury. I won my first pennant, hopefully there will be more to come.

By Max, 8T



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Hestia Christmas Toy Donation Charity

Before Christmas Malachi in Year 7 launched a charity project with pupils at Normanhurst to donate toys for the children from a domestic violence refuge. Malachi launched the project in a school assembly and spoke to the pupils about the charity and how it would support children who have been victims of domestic violence.

The response from the pupils was outstanding and over the Christmas holiday, Malachi, along with his friend Xyon, delivered the toys donated by the pupils to the refuge centre. The staff at the centre were overwhelmed by the kindness and generous donations by everyone involved.



Loughton Young Artists Exhibition

On the evening of Friday 19 January, friends and family were treated to a stunning private viewing of artwork produced by GCSE pupils at Normanhurst and Braeside Schools. The exhibition formed a part of the Loughton Young Artists competition which is a showcase for outstanding artwork produced by schools in the area.

The GCSE exhibition took place in Loughton Gallery and featured artworks in a range of media produced by pupils of both schools. Also included in the exhibition were two artworks produced by younger Normanhurst pupils; both pieces won 1st place prizes in the National ISA Art Competition.

The private viewing was well attended by both parents and pupils and was a wonderful way to celebrate the creative talents of the pupils.

The GCSE exhibition was then open to the public in the gallery until Friday 26 January. Later in February there will be a prize-giving ceremony at the gallery where a panel of judges will award prizes to the best artworks in the Loughton Young Artists Competition.



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Year 10 Careers Day at Forest School

On Thursday 25 January Year 10 had the exciting opportunity to look into potential future schools during their Careers Day. We visited Forest School which was filled with stalls, each stall representing a different college or university. Many other schools were also taking part.

As we approached the stalls, we were introduced to the different opportunities at the given school, and encouraged to think about studying there in the future. We learnt about the different things the colleges offer, what we need to achieve in order to be able to get into the college, and how it would benefit us if we went there.

Some of the schools being represented were Royal Holloway University, Brunel University, University of Glasgow, ELAM, Loughborough University, London Metropolitan University, Liverpool Hope University and many more.

On almost every stall, pupils were presented with booklets and leaflets providing more information on the school. Everyone had the opportunity to look further into their interests and passions, while at the same time thinking about their future.

I think most, if not all, pupils greatly enjoyed this visit. It's very important to have your future somewhat planned out, as it could save you a lot of worrying. It was an amazing experience, and definitely very helpful for everyone. Year 10 would like to thank Mr Botha for organising the visit and Miss Wren for accompanying us.

Katy, Year 10

Oak-Tree Art Exhibition

To coincide with the week-long GCSE Art Exhibition, the Oak-Tree group hosted an amazing exhibition showcasing artwork from pupils across all four schools. This event was held at Lopping Hall in Loughton on Saturday 20 January.



The artwork represented all age groups across Braeside, Coopersale Hall, Oaklands and Normanhurst Schools. It featured work in a wide range of materials including textiles, painting, ceramics, collage and printmaking. The exhibition was very well attended and visitors were extremely impressed by the high standard and diverse range of artworks on display.



The exhibition was a hugely exciting opportunity for pupils to showcase their artwork, and for the Oak-Tree community to celebrate the diverse and exciting work being created.



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Drawing Lab Workshop with Artist Jeanette Barnes

Years 10 and 11 GCSE Art pupils from Normanhurst and Braeside Schools, together with four Gifted and Talented pupils from Year 9, took part in an immersive drawing workshop on Friday 26 January. The session was under the instruction of renowned artist and Royal Academician Jeanette Barnes, and the group were able to develop an understanding of her methods and approaches.

Pupils were encouraged to work to create a series of charcoal drawings based on stories and collages of photographs. This was designed to challenge the group to explore new ways of working.



Normanhurst Sports Report

Clubs news Please take a look at this term's extra-curricular sports clubs as there is a lot of availability in Senior squash on Wednesdays and Senior badminton and volleyball on Thursdays. If pupils or parents have any suggestions for clubs they would like to have in school then please speak to the PE team and we will look into the possibility of some new clubs.

Junior High 5 Netball The Year 6 High 5 Netball team recently competed in the borough tournament at Redbridge Sports Centre. They had been preparing for the games throughout the Autumn Term by attending netball club and taking part in some practice matches at Chingford C of E School.

They played confidently in the group matches winning four out of five games. This qualified them for the semi-final which they won and then finished 2nd overall. Congratulations to the team on this impressive result.



Year 2 Tri golf Competition Last week, eight pupils from Year 2 attended the Tri-Golf Competition where they had the opportunity to try out the game of golf in a fun carousel of games. Activities included putting and chipping and aiming at various targets to score points for their team. Our pupils worked excellently together and demonstrated some talent for golf. Well done Year 2!

Upcoming events ISA cross country is due to take place shortly. We would like to wish our team the very best of luck and hope the weather is kind! Other upcoming fixtures include:

Years 7/8 Borough Netball Tournament at Redbridge on Monday 5 February.

Boys Years 9/10 Borough Volleyball Competition on Thursday 8 February.





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Social Networking



Website

Go to the School Calendar page for upcoming events and our [News](#) page for all the latest news and lots more photographs.



App

Keep up to date with the latest news, calendar dates, and much more by downloading the new Norman Hurst School App.



Instagram

Follow us on Instagram for regular photo updates! Search for [normanhurstschool](#) to find us, then click follow!



Twitter

Follow us [@NormanhurstSch](#) on Twitter to get the latest updates.



Facebook is our newest form of Social Media. Like us on Facebook to get news, photos, events and updates posted straight to your newsfeed.

Norman Hurst School Parents' Association

Dear Parents

We start 2018 with good news. We have passed the half-way mark in terms of our fundraising target to purchase 36 iPads which will enhance our children's learning experience. It is a great validation of our work which is to bring the school community together and do something meaningful - whilst having fun at the same time. To continue fundraising, we have another schedule of excellent events this coming term.

The Mini Disco is a calendar highlight. It was a complete sell-out last year and there are only a few tickets remaining for this Friday's event. The 'movers and groovers' from Lower Kindergarten to Year 3 will be donning their glad rags and shaking out their best moves in what promises to be another fun-packed (noisy) evening.

Years 4, 5 and 6 are invited to the popular pizza and film night on Friday 23 February. It will be a (semi) chilled evening where the children can hang out with their friends in a safe environment. Onesies are optional and the film is still to be decided - we are open to ideas.

On Sunday 18 March we see the return of the great 'Egg Hunt'. This year, we are extending the walk so that the children get more than a fifteen minute sprint around the forest! We will depart from the school gates at 11:30, head to Connaught Waters and return to the hall for hot cross buns and a drink or two. Along the way, the children will need to solve puzzles in order to win their treats. This event is open to families from Kindergarten to Year 6. Tickets are limited so please register your interest ASAP.

Further events will be announced for the Summer Term, but do please note the following:

Monday 5 March - next meeting of the NSPA. Please do come along.

Saturday 23 June - the Annual Summer BBQ

We look forward to seeing you at these and other NSPA events throughout the year.

The NSPA Committee

