



Normanhurst School

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HEADMISTRESS

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5 February 2018

Headmistress's Letter

Dear Parents

Thank you to all those parents and children up to Year 3 who supported the NSPA 'Mini-Disco' last Friday. It was lovely to see so many families there. The NSPA have two further events before Easter: the Years 4, 5 and 6 film night on Friday 23 February and 'The Egg Hunt' on Sunday 18 March.

Feedback from Parents

It has been good to meet with many parents on Monday mornings this term to discuss school life and to hear your feedback. Mr Hagger and I have the final meeting with senior parents in the week after half term. I hope you have found these meetings useful.

Thank you also to all those families who completed the recent online parental survey. Every three years or so we send out a questionnaire to help us see what our parents think about the education we are offering. This then feeds into our strategic development plan for the school. Your views are very important to us. We will now analyse the questionnaire responses and Mr Hagger and I will be writing to parents to share the feedback with you.

Parking and Road Safety Reminders

May I politely request that parents do not park on business properties along Station Road when dropping or collecting their children, nor block in other cars which are already parked. We aim to have harmonious and positive relationships in the locality, so I ask for your cooperation please.

I appreciate that parking can be difficult, but please would parents also stop letting children out of their cars in front of the school while they are still in traffic. This is potentially dangerous and sets a poor road safety example.

Karate Club on Fridays

Karate club is an extremely popular extra-curricular club on a Friday. We now have a member of the After School Club team assisting on a Friday in the first session with the younger, less experienced children. The assistant will help with taking the children across to the toilets if needed during the class.

Staff News

Unfortunately one of our Science teachers, Miss Leeuwner, has had to return to South Africa immediately to be with her family due to a medical emergency. We are very sorry to see her go, and our thoughts and prayers are with her and her family at this difficult time.

11+ Exams for Senior Entry

We had a large number of applicants for places in the seniors at Normanhurst this year. I am in the process of interviewing the applicants and I have been privileged to meet many lovely potential pupils. The admission process finishes before half-time and offers and scholarships are sent out in the holidays. Our own Year 6 pupils were excellent ambassadors for Normanhurst on the examination day. They welcomed the prospective pupils warmly, as well as approaching the exam papers with maturity, determination and focus. I was very proud of them.

Year 11 Easter Academy

Year 11 should now be committed to working towards their GCSE exams in May. They have received their mock examination results and full reports. We are providing as many opportunities as we can for our pupils to make progress and succeed, but as I am sure you appreciate, there is no substitute for hard work and persistence.

As always we will be offering revision days as part of our annual Easter academy programme, as well as extra 'masterclass' sessions for English and Maths. I urge all parents to make every effort to ensure that their children attend the revision classes on offer. Teachers voluntarily give up their time, even at weekends and in school holidays to provide opportunities to support the students in revision and it is essential that as many pupils as possible attend.

The programme for the Easter Academy is being finalised and will be released after the half-term break.

Dates for the Forthcoming Term


Tue 6 Feb	11:45 – 15:30	Year 5&6 trip to British Library
	09:00 – 15:15	Year 2 trip to Colchester Zoo
	16:00 – 18:30	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Wed 7 Feb	08:45 – 09:00	Year 3 Assembly to parents
Mon 12 – Fri 16 Feb		Break for Half Term
Mon 12 Feb	09:00 – 15:30	Year 11 English Super Learning Day
Mon 19 Feb	08:45 – 09:00	Seniors Coffee Morning
	09:00 – 10:30	Year 9 DTP injections
Tue 20 Feb	17:00 – 18:00	Year 9 Options Evening
Thu 22 Feb	18:00 – 19:00	GCSE Drama Component 3 Exam, Redbridge Drama Centre
Fri 23 Feb	18:30 – 20:30	Year 4-6 NSPA Junior Film Night
Tue 27 Feb	16:00 – 18:30	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Wed 28 Feb	08:45 – 09:00	Year 2 Assembly to parents
Thu 1 Mar	13:00 – 17:00	Year 11 GCSE Drama trip to Woman in Black
Mon 5 – Fri 9 Mar		Junior Assessment week
Mon 5 Mar	19:15 – 21:00	NSPA meeting in hall
Tue 6 Mar	16:00 – 18:30	Year 7 Parents' Evening
Wed 7 Mar	08:45 – 09:00	Year 1 Assembly to parents
	09:00 – 15:00	WE Day
Fri 9 Mar	09:15 – 10:30	Open Morning
	17:00 – 18:00	Kingswood Residential trip parents' meeting
Sat 10 Mar	09:00 – 13:30	DofE Training Session
Mon 12 Mar	09:00 – 15:30	School Production Tech & Dress Run, Redbridge Drama Ctr
Tue 13 Mar	19:00 – 21:00	School Production Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Wed 14 Mar	09:30 – 13:00	13+ (any extra 11+) Entrance Exams
Sun 18 Mar	11:00 – 14:00	NSPA event: Easter Egg Hunt and Lunch
Tue 20 Mar	16:00 – 18:30	KG-Year 6 Parents' Evening (Specialist staff in hall)
Wed 21 Mar	08:30 – 15:45	Year 3&4 Hadleigh Park trip
	10:00 – 12:30	Year 5&6 History of Chocolate workshop
Fri 23 – Wed 28 Mar		Book Fair
Mon 26 Mar		Year 7-11 Short Reports published
Wed 28 Mar	12.00	End of Term Easter Break

Form tutors, members of the leadership team and I are always happy to meet parents, so do ask for an appointment if there are any issues you would like to discuss with us.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely



Claire Osborn
Headmistress



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