



# NEWSLETTER

March 2018

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## Headmistress's Message

I am regularly amazed and impressed by the pupils at Normanhurst School. They have wide-ranging talents, a real enthusiasm for learning and a very positive attitude towards the activities that make up school life.

Science Week has been a highlight this term, with an 'experimental assembly' led by Miss Wren and a plethora of science related activities through the week in the Juniors, including the Science Dome, which a number of our parents also enjoyed.

I am very grateful to the Borough of Waltham Forest Town Council for hosting our School Council last week. Our pupils had the opportunity to talk to the mayor and to councillors, and also to see the chambers and experience the formalities of a council meeting. They were wonderful ambassadors for the school.

And of course, we had the delights of the school production: 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. What an amazing performance it was! Actors performed with real flair, the set design was imaginative and clever, the production team fantastic and the atmosphere on the night was excellent. I am hugely grateful to all who took part, staff and pupils alike. It was a very special evening.

May I wish you all a happy Easter. I look forward to seeing you on Thursday 19 April for the start of the summer term.

With my best wishes

**Mrs Claire Osborn**

## Reception Classes Assembly

Reception did an amazing job retelling the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' for their class assembly. They also shared their learning about life cycles with their friends from the Juniors. They looked fantastic in their different costumes,



dressed as butterflies, bees, rabbits and more. Reception finished their assembly with a brilliant rendition of 'Zip-a-dee-doo-dah'. Well done everyone!



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## Mad Hatters and March Hares

On Monday 19 March Years 1 to 6 participated in a story and drama workshop all about Alice in Wonderland. They were audience members as well as little actors who were able to get into role as characters and re-enact parts of the tale.

Everyone had a fantastic day and it was a great end to the many World Book Day celebrations.



## Year 1 Take Flight

Year 1 are learning all about the 'History of Flight' and famous Aviators in History this term.

On Wednesday 21 March, following a lesson about Orville and Wilbur Wright, 1S became little engineers and built straw gliders. They then had lots of fun testing them in the playground.

On Thursday 22 March former pupil and First Officer Eren Nasib came back to speak to Year 1 about his career as a pilot.

Mr Nasib told the children about how he learnt to fly planes, what happens inside the flight deck and how planes have numbers, according to how big they are.

The children were then able to look at model aeroplanes and wear the headphones Mr Nasib would wear while in flight.

The children were all very excited to ask questions and speak with Mr Nasib during his visit. They were so impressed that he was also a pupil here at Normanhurst and did some of his learning in the very same classroom!



## Hadleigh Country Park Trip

Years 3 and 4 travelled to Hadleigh Country Park to learn more about their History topic (Year 3 – Stone Age/Iron Age and Year 4 – Romans). The children had the opportunity to become archaeologists as they dug up interesting artefacts that taught them more about the historic era they were from. Some children found bits of pottery, parts of weapons and even bones!

After looking at some of the pottery dug up from the ground, the children were then able to make their own clay pots. They learnt a lot about the Celts and Romans with a detailed talk inside a roundhouse.

Mr. Grant and Miss Sulliman even dressed up as Celtic and Roman warriors to help the children imagine the type of armour they wore and the weapons they had. Lastly, the children learnt all about army drills and formations, then had the chance to battle each other with shields and swords. Both children and teachers had a fantastic day!





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## Spring Chickens!

On Tuesday 6 March there was great excitement in the Early Years Department as the eggs and incubator arrived ready for the annual hatching of the chicks. By the weekend we were the proud parents of a clutch of nine fluffy little chicks.

Over the following week everyone was able to come and visit, hold the chicks or simply observe their antics in the carefully remodelled water tray.

It is always sad to say goodbye but we are already looking forward to next year's arrivals.



## Science Week in Year 2

Year 2 had a fantastic Science Week, with lots of excellent experiences. They enjoyed the Dome Experience and were able to learn all about the stars. Everyone thought the Virtual Reality Workshop was fantastic and were able to travel to space and learn about all the different planets.

During the week the class focused their learning on a story called 'Back to Earth with a Bump'. The story followed a little boy called Hal, who had been sent on a mission to find the sun. The class were able to do lots of writing and other activities in connection with the story, such as packing a backpack to take to space, designing their own planets and writing postcards to their friends and family. They also learnt about why we have day and night and how the planets orbit the sun.



## Making Learning Fun in Year 6

Year 6 pupils have been enjoying some novel experiences in the classroom recently.

**Area and Perimeter** Year 6 learnt how to find the area and perimeter of rectangles by creating their own rectangles on the floor. They then measured the sides and used the measurements to calculate the area and perimeter of the shapes. Working in pairs, they practised their teamwork as well as their Maths.

**Virtual Reality Workshop** As part of Science Week, pupils were fortunate enough to travel to space via a visiting virtual reality workshop! They enjoyed learning about the different planets and moons, and experiencing what it is like to be in space!

**Oreo Phases of the Moon** Following on from the virtual reality workshop, Year 6 learnt about the different phases of the moon and the recreated them using Oreo cookies! They had to demonstrate they understood the difference between a waxing moon, waning moon, full moon and a new moon, which they were able to do in a delicious way!







# NEWSLETTER

## School Councillors Meet the Mayor

The School Council Representatives from Years 2-9 had a wonderful opportunity to meet our local councillor, Nick Halebi, and the Mayor of Waltham Forest, Yemi Osho, at the Town Hall. Here is what Esta from Year 6 and Hashim from Year 9 have to say about the trip:

"Firstly, we walked into the Town Hall and a councillor showed us to the room where they make all the big decisions. We spoke to the councillor and we asked him some tricky questions, he was able to answer them all. He told us that when the Mayor comes in we all have to stand, this is something we have to do and it has been around for years. When the Mayor came in, she had a big gold necklace on and she said that it represents Waltham Forest. After we had finished our chat we went and had some fruit. It was really nice. I had watermelon and grapes. Then the Mayor invited us to her office and it was huge, there was soft wood on the walls, it looked amazing. My favourite bit was talking to the Mayor about how many meetings she had and also eating the delicious fruit." **Esta – Year 6**

"On Tuesday 20 March 2018, the School Council of Normanhurst School went on a trip to meet the Mayor of Chingford. We firstly discussed the role of being a councillor with our local councillor. He also took our questions. Shortly after that the Mayor walked in and everybody stood up. She took the School Council's questions. After she took our questions we were taken to her office where she showed us what she had in her office including her robe. Overall, the trip was very enjoyable and I would love to go again!" **Hashim - Year 9**



## Visiting Chocolate Workshop

On Wednesday 21 March Years 5 and 6 went to the chocolate workshop. We went to the Year 6 classroom to do the workshop. Our teacher was Jennifer and she wanted to teach us the interesting and fascinating history of chocolate and where it came from. After Jennifer introduced herself to us she taught us the process of making chocolate. First the coco beans (which you can eat) are planted. After a year the tree should have formed these big rugby ball sized fruit. After that they get the coco beans and dry them out. Then they dry out all the coco beans on mats outside in the sun. After that they use a special machine to crush the coco beans and pour them into moulds.

There are different types of chocolate, some examples are milk, white and dark. Jennifer taught us how to taste chocolate properly, like at the awards. I found it very fun and enjoyable. Our workshop taught us how the Mayans enjoyed and used chocolate and how they made hot chocolate. I enjoyed learning about its history and I learnt how it is made. We also learnt that the Mayans were not the first people to discover chocolate and that it dates back to 3500BC. People in history have used the coco bean for medicine, fruit and even currency!

**By Margarida, Year 5**



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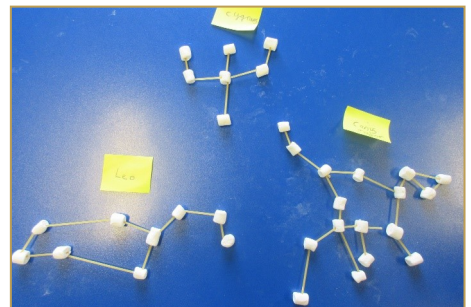
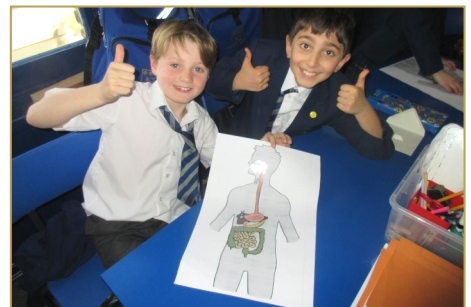
## Learning is Sweet in Year 4

**Learning about Perimeter** To put their learning on perimeter into action, Year 4 were given photographs of themselves and had to measure around the sides in order to calculate the perimeter. They then used this information to help them carefully measure and cut out borders to frame the photos ready for display on Open Morning. They were given a variety of shaped photos such as hexagons, parallelograms and trapeziums, making the task slightly more challenging for some. In addition to this, they were also working with decimal measurements. The children collaborated really well to produce both accurate and creative Maths work.

**The Digestive System** This term Year 4 started their new Science topic 'Animals Including Humans'. The class were able to construct the digestive system and name all the key parts, which included some challenging vocabulary such as the 'oesophagus' and 'duodenum'. Following this, they then wrote their own storyboard about a piece of food and its journey through the digestive system, one of the characters they came up with was 'Captain Corn' who started his adventure at the terrifying teeth – you can ask the children if you want to know where his adventure ended!

**Making Constellations** After learning about some of the famous constellations, Year 4 carefully recreated them using raw spaghetti sticks and mini marshmallows. Some of the constellations such as Leo and Canis Major were quite tricky to make, but lots of the children succeeded! Following this, they learnt about the different star signs and their constellation patterns. Some children decided they believed in what their star sign said about them, whereas others weren't too convinced!

**Year 4 use Space Themed Confectionery in Maths** In line with the theme of 'Space' in Science Week, Year 4 used sweets and chocolates named after Space related elements (Mars, Galaxy, Milky Way, Starburst and Starmix) to help them with their learning in Maths. The starter of the lesson was for children to find out the meaning of or facts about the different space features by using a dictionary or what they had learnt from earlier on in the week. After this, they then had to find out how many grams of sugar was in each packet. They used these decimal figures to answer worded problems asking them to find the total amount of sugar in all the sweets put together and finding the difference between the most and least sugary. Although lots of children were shocked about the amount of sugar in the treats, it did not stop them from eating them after the hard work had been done!







# NEWSLETTER

## Year 5 Share their Learning

Year 5 have had an exciting time in lessons this half term. Miss Stone and the pupils are keen to share what they have been doing with our readers.

**Special Books** In RE, we are learning about Sikhism and their special book, the Guru Granth Sahib. We learnt that Sikhs show it great respect as they believe it is the Sikhs' last Guru, which means Great Teacher. We thought about the different special books in our own religions and heard about other people's religious books and how those special books are treated. We then shared with the class a little speech about a book that is special to us and why and how we treat it. We learnt a lot about different religions and thought about why books are so special.

**RE Visitors** Year 5 Pupil Laila, and her parents Mr and Mrs Beint, spoke to us about Ayyám-i-Há, which is a multiple day Baha'i festival that is celebrated in countries all over the world. It typically falls around the end of February and beginning of March. Ayyám-i-Há is a period dedicated to socialising, being hospitable and giving generously to the poor and needy. Afterwards, Mrs Beint read us a story, and Laila gave an origami demonstration, after which the class produced beautiful origami bookmarks. We really enjoyed having this opportunity to share the festivals and stories from other religions.

**World Book Day** Like the rest of the Juniors, Year 5 celebrated World Book Day on Thursday 1 March with a range of interesting activities. We dressed up as our favourite book characters and then staged a photoshoot to record our wonderful costumes. We read to each other using facial expressions and body language to enliven our readings, having first watched a video on how to tell stories. Later the class walked to Chingford Library to enjoy the range of books there, and also to enjoy the snow on the walk there and back. We finished the day by making World Book Day celebration posters. Some of the Year "I like World Book Day because you get to dress up as a book character and it's fun." – **Atila**

"I enjoyed World Book Day because you get to do fun activities, for example making posters." – **Chioke**

"I enjoyed World Book Day because I got to do fun activities with my friends." – **Jordan**

"I like World Book Day because we get to read loads of books at the library and we get to wear a costume." – **Isabelle**





# NEWSLETTER

## Year 5 Share their Learning, continued

**Art and Design** Year 5 have started their Under The Sea topic in Art and Design by learning how to use cross stitch. We used the full cross stitch method and added it to our cardboard sea creatures. The pupils are now looking forward to seeing what the rest of the topic brings.

"I liked cross stitch, it was very hard but it was fun to do and I would advise anyone of any age to try it." - **Jordan**

"I like cross stitch. Even though it was very frustrating I finished it and I would recommend it for anyone." - **Kian**

'I liked cross stitch because it is very fun, however it is very fiddly, but in the end it looks beautiful.' - **Shaunella**



## Year 8 Pupil Receives Jack Petchey Award

On Monday 8 March I received the Jack Petchey Award, which is an award given to people from the age of 11-24 and young leaders! The award night was an opportunity for young people to be recognised for their great achievements, as well as earning additional funding for their group or club.

The night started with the guest speaker of the night who was Danny Crates. Danny Crates is a former Paralympic world record holder in 800m who won gold medals in several international competitions, including the Paralympic Games, European Championships and World Championships. He spoke about when, at the age of 21, he lost his right arm in a car accident. After his accident he was motivated to take on athletics; he even said that the car crash made him more inspired to pursue his dreams!

After his speech I had to go and collect my award from Danny Crates. I was so nervous as they called my name, not knowing I had to go on stage first. The feeling of holding a Jack Petchey Award was surreal!

I was given the award for great perseverance and progress during the season, and for attending training sessions when I was injured! The quote from the night which I will carry everywhere I go is, "IF YOU THINK YOU CAN YOU CAN"! It was a great night and I would love to do it all over again!

**By Nicole, Year 8**



## Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Training

On Saturday 10 March, Year 10 DofE participants took part in their first expedition training with Ben and James from Badger Adventures. Pupils were taught what to pack, how to pack their bags, how to use a Trangia, and how to read maps.

All participants did extremely well and left feeling better informed for their practice expedition in May.







# NEWSLETTER

## Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

This year's school production at Redbridge Drama Centre of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, adapted by Richard George and directed by Mrs Kazim, was a huge success. Pupils performed their roles convincingly creating many moments of laughter and surprise. The audience were left in awe watching Violet Beauregarde, played by Olivia L (Year 7), inflate into a giant blueberry. Equally, they were in stitches of laughter at Mrs Gloop, played by Hope (Year 7), trying to rescue her son Augustus, played by Hasan (Year 9), from drowning in chocolate, with both actors using convincing German accents. The Oompa-Loompas were busy at work decorating the chocolate room with sweets, teleporting Mike Teavee and dancing at the end of each scene.

The costume, set and props designed by Mrs Parrott and created by the Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award (DofE) participants, was spectacular. It highly complemented the style of the play with such additions as the giant colourful sweets, rotating boards, the glass elevator with operational lights, and giant walnuts!

The stage hands, also DofE volunteers, worked tirelessly behind the scenes before, during and after the show in addition to having directed alongside Mrs Kazim! All the cast and crew worked really hard in creating a jaw-dropping performance.

Well done to all involved and thank you to all staff and parents for their support.

"I really enjoyed taking part in the school production. This was my first performance at Normanburst School and it gave me much confidence."

- Hope, Year 7 (Mrs Gloop)



## The Woman in Black Trip

On Thursday 1 March, Year 11 GCSE Drama pupils saw The Woman In Black at the Fortune Theatre in London in preparation for their written exam in May.

The performance was full of tense moments successfully created by the convincing performance of the actors, Terence Wilton and James Byng, along with the clever use of set, lighting, costume and sound. Pupils were on the edge of their seats throughout anticipating the dreaded appearance of the Woman in Black!

The Year 11 pupils thoroughly enjoyed the performance and left with ideas of key moments they would like to write about.







# NEWSLETTER

## Go-Karting Trip

A group of Normanhurst pupils tried their hand at Go-Kart racing at the Edmonton track on Wednesday 7 March. All pupils from Years 9 and 10 had to go through a safety brief before they were able to get onto the track, where they then went through a practice kart control activity. As soon as they were able, all pupils put their foot down and were flying around the track. The centre became very noisy as they tried all forms of overtaking manoeuvres, some legal and some not so! This was a very enjoyable extra-curricular event which certainly got the adrenaline flowing.



## International Women's Day Assembly

On 8 March Normanhurst School celebrated International Women's Day with an assembly looking at the history of the feminist movement. The presentation, led by Ms G Parry (Head of Senior English) covered the three waves of the feminist movement, looking at the start of the movement at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, moving through the last 100 years and ending on what feminism means in our modern world.

As a part of the assembly Yasmine in Year 11 took part in a Q & A session with Miss Parry in which she spoke about a teenager's perspective on the idea of Feminism.



## Year 11 Geography Field Trip

On Tuesday 13 March, Year 11 Geography pupils embarked on an insightful day to the heart of a new east London – the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. In conjunction with the Field Studies Council, pupils took part in the 'Challenges in Cities' course, an urban geography course focused on regeneration in line with their syllabus requirements for urban fieldwork.

The class set off from the Aquatic Centre on foot to compare two areas, the more deprived area of Carpenter's Estate, and East Village as a regenerated area. The Year 11s undertook the task by collecting primary data through various fieldwork techniques. This included pupils taking photographs of housing, transport links, and social aspects of the areas as a log, and keeping a tally of services such as schools, health centres, etc, present in the sample area. Splitting into smaller groups using a random sampling map for East Village, they conducted a building quality survey and crime index.

Pupils were able to develop a case study of Stratford, London, gaining an overview of the scale and structure of a major city. They investigated ways of life and contemporary challenges that affect urban change including deprivation, housing, transport, infrastructure and development. Their experience on the day enabled them to consider the location, including connectivity and importance to the City.





# NEWSLETTER

## Science Week

To celebrate National Science Week Miss Wren and Miss Razzak held a Science assembly with an interactive quiz looking at everything from broccoli to cocktails under the microscope!

All pupils were introduced to the National Science Poster Challenge – an opportunity for pupils to engage with the topic of 'Exploration and Discovery'. The top five entries will be submitted to the competition at the end of the term.

Finally, what everyone was waiting for – an experiment. Miss Wren created a purple explosion using Potassium Permanganate and Glycerine, followed by a crowd pleasing show of burning a five pound note in a mixture of Ethanol and Water. Don't worry, the money wasn't damaged by the pyrotechnic charade!



## GCSE Drama Performance Exam

On Monday 26 February, Year 11 GCSE Drama students performed their scripted play to an invited audience and examiner from AQA at Redbridge Drama Centre. Group 1 performed extracts from 'My Mother Said I Never Should' by Charlotte Keatley and Group 2 performed extracts from 'Lilies on the Land', a verbatim theatre by The Lions Part.

Both groups performed their extracts with conviction, successfully using a variety of acting skills. We hope the examiner was just as impressed as the audience was.

Well done to the Year 11s and good luck with their results in August!



## 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 Normanburst School App.



### Instagram

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



### Twitter

Follow us [@NormanburstSch](#) 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.



# NEWSLETTER

## Normanhurst Sports Report

**Indoor Athletics** Pupils from Years 7-10 have been taking part in this year's indoor athletics competition in the Borough Winter Athletics League. Approximately every four weeks, events have been taking place at the Lee Valley Athletics Centre and on completion, the results are as follows:

Year 7 boys finished in 5th place with the girls coming 6th.

Years 8/9 boys were 4th, with the girls finishing 2nd.

Years 10/11 boys finished 3rd and the girls completed the competition with 4th place.

Sadly we were unable to compete in all events which limited our opportunity to score points. However, we would like to thank all the pupils that came out on the cold and dark nights to compete. WELL DONE! Last but not least, congratulations to Jesse Mugabe who broke the Year 10 school high jump record!



**5-a-Side Football** Woodford Green Prep held the annual 5-a-side tournament at their school on Wednesday 14 March. This competition is always well attended by the local independent schools with plenty of good football being played in a very sporting manner. Normanhurst were drawn in a group that included Chigwell, Loyola, Daiglen and WGP B side.



Normanhurst started well with a good result against WGP B, but were brought back to reality with a heavy defeat against Loyola. This gave us the wake up call that was needed, and we went on to beat Daiglen and put ourselves in the position of having to win our last game to proceed to the semi-finals. However it was not our day, and we were defeated by Chigwell who proceeded to the semis. We would like to thank all the pupils who took part in the competition. Well done!

**Gymnastics Competition** Last week the Junior gymnasts took part in the LBWF Key Steps Gymnastics for Key Stages 1 and 2. Our pupils have been practising in gym club and lessons for the past few weeks. The event took place at Parkside school and consisted of three elements: a floor routine, body management and a vault. The routines gradually increase in difficulty along with the age of the participants.



Everyone took part to the best of their ability and there were many excellent performances. We will get the results of the competition soon as there will be another event for the Waltham Forest schools in the south of the borough. All participants were awarded a certificate for being part of their school team. Well done to everyone who practised so hard at school and at home.

**Hockey** The Year 6 hockey team went to the Olympic Park hockey centre to play in the LBWF hockey tournament. On a very cold day our pupils played with skill and determination, winning all but one of their group matches. The team progressed to the afternoon and the knockout stages of the tournament. They comfortably won the first match and went through to the semi-final against Green Leaf School. Despite playing well, Green Leaf went ahead but Normanhurst fought back and drew level. Unfortunately, Green Leaf scored just before the whistle.







# NEWSLETTER

## Normanhurst Sports Report continued

**Inter-House Netball** The last inter house netball competition for some of our Year 6 children was played at Peter May, and Warren emerged victorious beating Connaught 13-0. The standard of netball was excellent and the progress that this group of pupils has made is amazing. They are all now able to play any position confidently. Well done girls. You have made me very proud!

**Mrs Taylor**

**Extra-Curricular Clubs** There will be a new list of sports clubs after the Easter holiday so please take a close look at the clubs list when its released during the Easter break. We have tried to offer something to each age group and would like to see lots of pupils at our Summer term sports clubs.



## Normanhurst School Parents' Association



Dear Parents

We will finish the Easter term in great spirits having raised over 60% of our annual fundraising target. The Summer term sees us hosting some exciting events and your continued support will help us achieve our goal of purchasing 36 iPads to enhance our children's learning experience.

On Sunday 18 March over thirty of our families braved the Mini Beast from the East for the annual Egg Hunt. It was a fantastic morning with the children decorating Easter bags before venturing out to solve clues and win chocolate treats in the treasure hunt around the forest. We would like to thank the valiant helpers who stood in the freezing cold to dish out the clues and treats and make it a special day for all. The hot chocolate and Percy Ingles treats were most welcome on return to the school hall.

Please put a note on your calendar for the Annual Summer BBQ which will take place from 4pm on Saturday 23 June. This is the biggest event of the NSPA calendar and we would love to see all of you there. This year we will be enjoying an afternoon 'beside the seaside' with beach themed fun and games including an 'end of the pier' talent show, the return of the cake competition, an Ibiza DJ set and lots of activities for children and adults alike. Let's just hope that we get the sunshine to match ...

We will also be supporting the summer concert. Think Glyndebourne comes to Chingford or Proms in the Playground. More information soon. The next Phil the Bag will be announced when we return from the break.

Have a great Easter.

**The NSPA Committee**