

Normanhurst School

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HEADMISTRESSMRS CLAIRE OSBORN MSc., B.A. (HONS), PGCE

April 2018

Headmistress's Letter

Dear Parents

I hope you and your families are enjoying the Easter holiday so far. As you know, the Summer term begins on Thursday 19 April; I am looking forward to a busy and productive term, which culminates in our Speech Day and Prize Giving in July, as well as House Trips, the Sponsored Walk and the Junior Outing.

As always, you are welcome to join us for Speech Day as well as a number of other special events this term when we celebrate our pupils' efforts and achievements, including Sports Day, the NSPA Summer Barbecue, the Early Years' Celebration, and the Summer Concert. Dates and times can be found on the school website, app and at the end of this letter.

Class Photographs Friday 27 April

The school photography company will be taking class and team photographs on Friday 27 April. Weather permitting they will be taken outside, or alternatively, in the school hall. The photographs will be available for parents to order before the half-term break.

All pupils should be in full school uniform including blazers, girls with hair tied back; junior pupils should wear their summer uniform as usual for this term.

Summer Uniform

Juniors

When junior pupils from Reception Class up to Year 6 return to school for the summer term they should wear the summer uniform as described in the uniform lists in the parents section of the school website. In summary:

Boys from Reception to Year 4 should wear regulation *short grey trousers* with the school *knee length grey socks* and short sleeved shirts, jumper if required and **blazer**. Shorts are optional for boys in Years 5 and 6. In the summer term boys in Kindergarten may also wear grey shorts if preferred.

Girls from Reception Class to Year 6 should wear the school *summer dress* with a navy cardigan or school jumper, **blazer** and *white ankle or knee-length socks*. White tights may be worn under the dress on cooler days. Girls from Reception to Year 2 also wear the school straw boater. Girls in Kindergarten may wear the summer dress, if preferred.

Although pupils return to school after the summer holidays in their winter uniform, the summer uniform may be worn in the first half of the term on hot days, if preferred.

For a complete list of the summer uniform click on the link to Forest Casualwear, the school's uniform supplier: http://www.forestcasualwear.co.uk/acatalog/Normanhurst.html

Seniors

Even in the summer term pupils should *always* wear their blazers for school; a jumper should not be worn in place of the blazer. Girls should wear *navy opaque tights* ('body sensor' cool tights or 40 denier). On hot summer days, girls in Year 7 and 8 may wear navy *knee-length* socks with a *knee-length* skirt, if preferred. Girls should not come to school with bare legs or skirts shorter than the knee.

Shoes should be plain leather and polishable for girls and boys, canvas shoes should not be worn. Please avoid 'trainer-styled' shoes for boys.

Moving Up Day in the Juniors Wednesday 27 June

The annual 'Moving Up Day' will take place on Wednesday 27 June. Pupils from the Foundation Stage up to Year 6 will spend all day with their new class teachers and parents will have the opportunity to come into the class in the morning to drop off the children and meet the teachers. There will also be time to meet the teachers in the hall from 3.00pm in the afternoon. Our experience is that helps our parents to feel involved in the transition and to share the experience with their children. We will provide more information about the format of the day before the half-term break.

Year 7 and New Pupil Induction Day

The Year 7 Induction Day will also be held on Wednesday 27 June. Our current Year 6 pupils will join the new senior starters and they will spend time with their form tutors, have some taster lessons and go offsite for a team building afternoon led by the PE department. More details of the programme will be sent before half-term.

Pupils joining either Year 8 or Year 9 following 13+ exams will also have an induction day on 27 June, meeting their new forms and following the normal timetable for the day.

Year 11 and GCSEs

Barnaby Lenon, the ISC Chairman, has offered pupils his top revision tips. His article is very helpful, and ties in with the advice that we have been giving our Year 11 pupils in school.

Mr Lenon said: "Good exam results are made in the Easter holidays. Now is the time to start planning effective methods for learning all that work you have done in the past two or more years.

Public exam results are important. They can determine the course of your life. Other students will be working hard. So it is worthwhile sacrificing your holidays. Your exams will be finished in June and you will then have about two months holiday. The best GCSE and A-level results don't go to the cleverest students – they go to those who revised in the Easter holidays."

If you would like to read the whole article, which includes some practical advice about revision, it can be found here:

https://www.isc.co.uk/media-enquiries/news-press-releases-statements/good-exam-results-are-made-in-the-easter-holidays/

Year 11 have an Easter Academy programme again this year and there are five days of revision activities in school. The pupils are in lessons until Friday 11 May and Study Leave begins on Monday 14 May. The examination timetable has been prepared by Mr Christou and has been given to pupils and parents. It is also available to view on the parent portal and the website. Teachers will continue to be available throughout the examination period for revision help and support. Pupils may revise in school if they would prefer, ensuring that they sign in at the school office on arrival and sign out when they leave.

The final GCSE exam is on Friday 15 June. Friday 22 June will be Year 11's last day in school with the traditional Leavers' Assembly, followed by their book return in the hall when we ask pupils to return all text books they have from their GCSE courses, and any books from earlier on in their school life that have not yet been returned. The Leavers' Prom is being held in the evening on Friday 22 June at Chigwell Hall and I hope that all of Year 11 will be able to attend. I would like to thank the Parents' Association for contributing to the cost of the event.

May I take this opportunity to wish each and every member of Year 11 the very best for their final examinations. All plan to move onto further education and there have been a pleasing number of sixth form offers from highly competitive independent and state schools. I hope the pupils return to school having spent quality time preparing for the exams and with confidence, determination and a firm sense of purpose. Our students have considerable potential and I look forward to seeing all that they will go on to achieve in these public examinations and beyond.

Year 11 are expected to take part in Speech Day on Thursday 5 July at Chingford Assembly Hall, when a number of them will receive school prizes. Please do not book holidays over this time, if at all possible, and do join us for this special event.

Sports Day Thursday 24 May

The annual Sports Day will be held at the Lee Valley Athletics track on Thursday 24 May for all classes up and including Year 10. As usual the senior sports day will be in the morning from 9.30am and the juniors will be in the

afternoon from 1.00pm. The pupils will compete in their Houses and the junior and senior sports shields will be presented. Pupils are practising the field and track events in their Games lessons.

All pupils up to Year 10 come to school in their sports kit on the day and should bring sun block with them; juniors should wear their school caps. Parents of junior aged pupils may take their children home directly from the track at the end of the afternoon; alternatively all pupils will return to school by coach to be collected from school or from After School Club.

All parents, families and friends are most welcome to join us for the event, which is a real highlight in the school calendar. Your support is much appreciated by the children; lots of cheering and clapping is a real encouragement for them! The Parents' Association will be providing refreshments for the pupils all day, so they only need to bring a water bottle with them.

NSPA Summer Barbecue Saturday 23 June

The Summer Barbecue is a definite summer highlight at Normanhurst. The Parents' Association are already planning a fun-filled family event, so please do earmark the date in your diaries and join us on Saturday 23 June.

Speech Day and Prize Giving Thursday 5 July

The annual Speech Day and Prize Giving takes place on Thursday 5 July at the Chingford Assembly Hall. This is a compulsory school event for all pupils from Year 1 upwards. Parents are invited to join pupils and staff for this important celebration of the year.

As usual on Speech Day, school finishes early at 2.00pm for all pupils from Year 1 upwards. Junior pupils must be collected at 2.00pm from the front of school. There will be no After School Club for children in Year 1 upwards. Pupils are expected to arrive at the Assembly Hall at 5.45pm so that everyone is seated and registers taken by 6.00pm when the event begins.

Children in the EYFS can remain in school until 3.30pm and there is after school provision for children in the Kindergarten and Reception classes, as usual. Early Years children are not expected to attend Speech Day.

Staff News

Mr Paul Murphy joined us just before the Easter break, teaching Maths in the seniors and he will be with us until the end of the summer term. Mr Murphy has taken over the classes previously taught by Mr Nouchin. Mr Murphy has already met the classes and Mr Christou has ensured there is an effective handover.

Miss Jenny Amini will be moving on from Normanhurst at the end of the summer term to take up an Assistant Headship at WGPS. She began her teaching career at Normanhurst four years ago and we wish her the very best for the future. I am delighted that Mr Serdar Dograr will be joining the junior team and he will be the new Year 6 teacher from September. Mr Dograr is an experienced Year 6 teacher who has been teaching at Thorpe Hall School for the last four years.

Mrs Megan Taylor also joins the junior team as a Year 1 teacher from September teaching one of the Year 1 classes with Miss Smith teaching the other. Mrs Taylor has been teaching at Chase Lane School for the last seven years.

Both of the new junior teachers have been into school already and I will be inviting them to join us for the Moving Up Day in June, which will give parents an opportunity to meet them as well.

Finally, after more than eight years at Normanhurst as Head of Art and Design, and more recently Head of Seniors, Mr Payam Beint will be leaving at the end of the summer term. Mr Beint and his family are relocating to Edinburgh to be close to family and because he is returning to university. He has won a prestigious place to study for a Fine Art Masters degree at the Glasgow School of Art. We are, therefore, recruiting a new Head of Seniors to join us in September to build on all the excellent work Mr Beint has done. I am delighted that Miss Parrott, who has been the second in Art and Design for the last two years, will become the Head of Department from September.

Important Dates for Summer Term 2018 (including sports events)

| Thu 10 Apr | illilei Terrii 2016 (ii | |
|---|-------------------------|---|
| Thu 19 Apr | 4430 4600 | Pupils return to School |
| 5:20.4 | 14:30 – 16:00 | Year 7&8 Tennis Match Chingford Tennis Centre |
| Fri 20 Apr | 09:30 – 15:30 | Year 1 Emirates Aviation Experience Museum trip |
| Tue 24 Apr | 15:45 – 18:00 | Year 9-11 Girls Borough Athletics |
| Wed 25 Apr | 09:00 – 15:45 | Year 10 French trip to BFI Southbank |
| | 12:00 – 16:00 | Bancroft's Swimming Gala |
| | 14:00 – 15:30 | Year 8 HPV 2 nd injection |
| Thu 26 Apr | 15:45 – 18:00 | Year 7&8 Boys Tennis Match |
| | 15:45 – 18:00 | Year 9-11 Boys Borough Athletics |
| Fri 27 Apr | 08:30 - 11:30 | Class Photos |
| Tue 1 May | 15:45 - 18:00 | Year 9-11 Girls Borough Athletics |
| Thu 3 May | 09:00 - 15:30 | Year 3 trip to British Museum |
| | 15:45 - 18:00 | Year 7&8 Boys Tennis Match |
| | 15:45 - 18:00 | Year 9-11 Boys Borough Athletics |
| Fri 4 – Sun 6 May | | Year 5-7 Kingswood Residential trip |
| , | 09:00 - 12:00 | Year 3&4 Tennis at Connaught Tennis Club |
| Tue 8 May | 15:45 – 18:00 | Year 7&8 Girls Borough Athletics |
| Thu 10 May | 15:45 – 18:00 | Year 7&8 Boys Borough Athletics |
| , | 15:45 – 18:00 | Year 7&8 Boys Tennis match |
| Fri 11 May | 09:00 – 15:30 | ISA Athletics Bedford |
| Sat 12 – Sun 13 May | | D of E Practice Expedition weekend |
| Mon 14 May | | Year 11 Study Leave commences |
| Tue 15 May | 09:00 - 10:30 | Year 10 Morrisby Profile test |
| | 13:00 – 15:30 | Year 5&6 Tennis at Connaught Tennis Club |
| | 15:45 – 18:00 | Year 9-11 Girls Borough Athletics |
| Thu 17 May | 10:15 – 16:00 | Morrisby Profile interviews |
| , | 15:45 – 18:00 | Year 9-11 Boys Borough Athletics |
| Tue 22 May | 08:30 - 09:00 | KG-Year 6 Parents' Drop In session |
| , | 15:45 – 18:00 | Year 7&8 Girls Borough Athletics |
| Thu 24 May | 08:30 – 15:30 | Sports Day |
| Fri 25 May | 09:00 – 15:30 | Year 3-6 Quad Kids at Waltham Forest Feel Good Centre |
| , 28 May – 1 Jun | | HALF TERM |
| Tue 29 May | 09:00 - 13:00 | Year 11 English Super Learning day |
| Mon 4 – Fri 8 Jun | | Year 7-10 Internal Exams |
| Tue 5 Jun | 15:45 – 18:00 | Year 7&8 Girls Borough Athletics |
| Thu 7 Jun | 09:00 - 15:30 | Year 5&6 Girls Cricket Leyton Sports Ground |
| | 15:45 – 18:00 | Year 7&8 Boys Borough Athletics |
| | 17:00 – 18:00 | International Food Evening charity event (hall) |
| Fri 8 Jun | 09:00 – 15:30 | U11's Mixed Tag Rugby Championships, Bancroft's |
| Mon 11 – Fri 15 Jun | | Year 1-6 Internal Exams |
| | 13:00 – 15:30 | Year 5&6 Tri Golf Peter May Sports Centre |
| Tue 12 Jun | 15:45 – 18:00 | Year 7-11 Girls Borough Athletics Heats/Finals |
| Wed 13 Jun | 11:15 – 14:45 | Year 6 Crucial Crew trip |
| Thu 14 Jun | 15:45 – 18:00 | Year 7-11 Boys Borough Athletics Heats/Finals |
| Fri 15 Jun | 08:30 - 09:00 | Year 1-6 Father's Day Breakfast |
| | 09:00 – 15:30 | Year 1&2 Quad Kids at Waltham Forest Feel Good Centre |
| Sat 16 – Sun 17 Jun | | D of E Qualifying Expedition Weekend |
| Mon 18 Jun | 14:30 - 17:00 | Year 5&6 Cricket (mixed) at Norfolk House School |
| Tue 19 Jun | 09:00 – 15:45 | ISA National Athletics Competition |
| Wed 20 Jun | 18:00 – 20:00 | Summer Concert TBC |
| Thu 21 Jun | 09:00 – 15:30 | Year 5&6 Quicksticks Hockey Festival Olympic Park |
| = 2.7411 | 14:30 – 16:30 | Year 3 Cricket (mixed) against Norfolk House Sch at Peter |
| | | May |
| Fri 22 Jun | 19:00 – 22:00 | Year 11 Leavers' Dinner |
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| Sat 23 Jun | 16:00 – 20:00 | NSPA Summer Barbecue |
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| Mon 25 – Fri 29 Jun | | Year 10 Work Experience |
| Wed 27 Jun | | KG-Year 6 Moving Up/Y7 Induction day |
| Thu 28 Jun | 09:00 - 15:30 | Year 2 Value Games at Peter May Sports Centre |
| | 14:00 - 16:30 | U11's Oak-tree Rounders Tournament at Peter May |
| Fri 29 Jun | 09:00 - 15:30 | LAMDA exams |
| | 09:00 - 15:30 | Year 5 Value Games at Peter May Sports Centre |
| | 09:00 - 15:30 | Year 7-11 Mixed Borough Athletics Finals Day |
| Mon 2 Jul | 14:00 - 15:30 | EYFS Celebration URC Church |
| Tue 3 Jul | 08:15 – 15:30 | Year 10 (selected) Forest School Academic Challenge Day |
| | 09:00 - 15:30 | Year 4&5 Hockey Festival at Lea Valley |
| Thu 5 Jul | | Speech Day |
| Fri 6 Jul | 09:00 - 15:30 | Year 10 Careers Day and Mock Interviews |
| Mon 9 Jul | | KG-Year 10 Full Reports published |
| | 10:00 - 15:30 | Year 10 end of year house trip to Harlow Activity Centre |
| Wed 11 Jul | 12:00 | End of Term |
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I am looking forward to seeing you at the school events or class assemblies this term. As always, please contact the school office, or email, if you would like to talk to a member of staff about your son or daughter's progress or to share information with us.

Thank you, as ever, for your continuing support.

With my best wishes

Claire Osborn Headmistress



