



NEWSLETTER

May 2018

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Headmistress's Message

This edition of the newsletter gives a flavour of the many learning activities the junior pupils have been enjoying so far this term.

The seniors have also been busy. Our GCSE Fine Art and Graphic Design pupils enjoyed an enrichment day at the Tate Modern, and there have been a number of sports competitions taking place within the Borough and within ISA.

Years 5, 6 and 7 enjoyed an excellent activities weekend at Kingswood over the May Day bank holiday. I particularly enjoyed seeing our pupils take courage in both hands as they took 'The Leap of Faith'!

Our Year 10 D of E group had their practice expedition last weekend. They had to walk through persistent rain all day on Saturday, set up their tents in the rain and sleep through a wet and rather cold night. We were very relieved to see a brighter morning for the second day of the hike on Sunday. Pupils remained in good spirits throughout and did extremely well.

Finally, our Year 11 pupils are now on study leave and have begun their final GCSE exams. We wish them all every success. Many of the pupils in other years will be preparing for their end-of-year exam week, which begins on Monday 4 June after the half-term break. I wish all our pupils the very best for their exams.

Mrs Claire Osborn
Headmistress

Hunting for Mini Beasts

The Early Years have been looking at 'teeny, tiny things' as part of their topic this term. On their recent weekly forest walk, they went in search of some woodlice following a brilliant story that Mrs Fisher had read called 'Once Upon a Slime'. Unfortunately, the children did not find any woodlice, but did find lots of other creepy crawlies, including a worm. Sienna was not too impressed when she held the worm though!



Reception also enjoyed a trip to Chingford Library. They went in search of books about 'teeny, tiny things' and had fun scouring the shelves for different books. Everyone enjoyed using the local community as part of their learning.





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Learning with Fruit

Year 2 made fruit skewers in Science recently. The lesson was a great success with the experience helping the class learn more about healthy eating, which is a part of their new Science topic, 'Take Care'.

They used a variety of fruit and also talked about where different fruit comes from, which they have been looking at in Geography.

The children had a great time threading the fruit segments onto the skewers and eating lots of different tasty treats.



Posy for a Princess

Wedding fever has started at the Spinney care home! Pupils were invited to join the residents for their 'Posy for a Princess' event. The residents had been busy working with a florist creating and making posies fit for a princess. This was a competition to be judged by the Mayor of Waltham Forest. Unfortunately she was unable to attend due to a last minute commitment, and the Right Honourable Judge William stood in for the Mayor instead.

16 Junior pupils attended the event, and had fun chatting with the residents. Some even made posies and then helped with the judging and handing out of the flowers.

It was an honour to be invited to share this occasion at the Spinney, and lovely to see the children interacting so well with the residents. As always they were on their best behaviour and a credit to the school.



Year 3 Trip to the British Museum

On Thursday 3 May, Year 3 took a trip to the British Museum to extend their learning about Ancient Egypt. They were very excited to see the Rosetta Stone and actual mummies! They also took part in a workshop, 'Excavation in Egypt', where they became archaeologists for the day and learnt how archaeologists in modern times use different tools and techniques to find out information about ancient Egypt.

Kayce - "Seeing the mummies in real life was really exciting as I'd never seen them before and it was amazing that they are still here to see!"

Callan - "During the workshop we got to see archaeologists find a new tomb in Egypt, and see some of the artefacts that were found. It was fantastic to see the artefacts!"





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Year 1 Pupils Become Aviators

On Friday 20 April Year 1 enjoyed their trip to the Emirates Aviation Experience and cable car ride. The children learnt all about the Emirates Airbus A3080, the largest passenger plane in the world! Their tour guide, Rebecca, taught them about the how the plane is powered, how many passengers the plane can hold and how many different countries around the world Emirates fly people to.

After lunch they were able to experience being a pilot using the simulators, and to end the day they had a 360 degree round trip on the cable cars.

It was a wonderful day, enjoyed by the children and teachers, with fantastic weather to top it all off.



Mini Sports Day

Years 3 – 6 took part in a Mini Sports Day to have some extra practice for Sports Day on 24 May. They took part in a range of different events spread around the playground including a hurdle race, obstacle race and standing long jump, as well as practising their throwing techniques.

The children were split into their houses and competed against each other to see which house would be the winner across all the different sports. It was a very close contest, with each house having their own strengths. We saw Warren winning the obstacle and hurdle races, and Connaught aiming high with their bean bag throwing technique!

Overall, Warren were the champions, however Connaught displayed good sportsmanship and showed the best support for their team.

Everyone had a great morning and are now more prepared than ever for Sports Day!



Year 5 River PowerPoints

Year 5 created PowerPoint presentations over the Easter holidays on 'Famous Rivers'. Each pupil chose their own river and used their research to create slides. All the presentations were very well put together, using transitions, animations, pictures, word art and videos, some even had sound!

Each of the pupils had to present their research to the class. Some of the rivers that the class heard about included the Nile, Thames, Jordan, Berg, Mississippi, Tagus, Zambezi and the Amazon. All the children were very prepared and took a lot of time and attention to produce some great pieces of work. Miss Stone was very impressed with the standard of work presented. Well done Year 5!

Kian - "I enjoyed making my presentation and presenting it to my class."

Margarida - "I enjoyed showing my work to my friends."





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Year 4 Have Fun Learning about the Digestive System

Year 4 got very 'hands on' with the digestive system as they used everyday items to help recreate the different digestive parts.

In groups, the children used their hands and a fork to act as the teeth breaking up and chewing a banana and crackers. They then mixed in some water, which represented the saliva and they mixed this around with a spoon, which was the tongue. Following this, the children imagined the food going down the oesophagus as they spooned the mixtures into a food bag, which represented the stomach.

Once inside the bag, they added orange juice which acted as the stomach acid and the children took it in turns to squeeze the bag, mimicking the stomach muscles contracting and breaking down the food even further.

Then things started to get really messy when the children poured this mixture into the leg of a pair of tights! As they watched liquid come out, they learnt that the role of the small intestine was to squeeze the nutrients back into the body, while it held onto the waste. This then travelled to the large intestine, represented by a tea towel. The children patted the remaining waste dry as they understood that the large intestine absorbed excess liquid and nutrients.

The lesson was a fantastic way to get the children learning and understanding the digestive process. It was definitely memorable for everyone involved!



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.



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Solid, Liquid or Plasma?

Year 5 had a tricky Science lesson recently. Miss Stone had been 'shopping' and needed to know if her shopping list items were solids or liquids. Unfortunately, she did not have time to work it out and during the lesson she was unavailable to help, so Year 5 had to lead the lesson themselves.

The pupils had items such as slime, jam, mousse, shaving foam, cream cheese, Nutella and many other things. They realised that the items had properties that belong to a solid and a liquid, so they were working out which they had more in common with.

The Year 5's did really well without the help of their teacher and were great scientists, using all their senses to work out which category the items would fit into. They also learnt that there is a fourth state of matter called 'plasma'.



Mallow & Marsh Workshop

On 23 April Junior pupils were able to take part in an exciting (and tasty) workshop run by the account manager at Mallow & Marsh confectionary. Miss Crorkin explained how the company was formed and how they decided their target audience as well as their brand image.

The children were then invited to use the information they had learnt about operations and sales to design their own product, and consider how they would market it to a wider audience.

Finally, they were able to sample a variety of delicious Mallow & Marsh products! It was a wonderful experience for the children, and they were able to learn about a career path they may not have previously considered.



Year 5 Magnetic Investigations

Last week, Year 5 took to the playground to investigate materials for their Science lesson on magnets. They first learnt about the different poles and how magnets can repel and attract. They then looked at the different properties of metals and learnt that not all of them are magnetic. The class put this theory to the test by exploring in the playground. As you can read below, the pupils enjoyed the hands-on approach in the fresh air.

Alfie - "It was really fun going into the playground and using magnets to find magnetic objects."

Chioke - "I enjoyed the lesson because we got to go into partners and find and write down magnetic objects."

Finley - "I liked the lesson because it shows that we can learn a lot in a few simple minutes whilst having some fun. I found out that not all metals are magnetic."





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Kingswood Residential Trip

Friday On Friday 4 May, Years 5, 6 and 7 went on the Kingswood residential trip in Kent. We all had to bring suitcases so we could bring everything we needed; shirts, trousers, sun cream, toiletries etc. Everybody put their suitcases in the corner of the classroom and it looked like a jungle of suitcases!

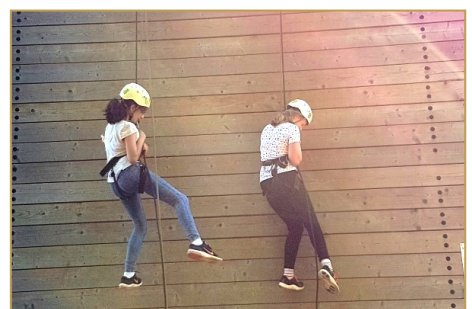
We arrived at 2:30pm and we had a mini-tour of Kingswood. Before we went to dinner we got to know our leaders, Taz and John, and we played splat and animal splat in Hendon Square. After dinner we went back to Hendon Square and had our first activities. We were split into different groups and mine did Laser Tag first - I was so excited! At laser tag we were split into red and blue, I was in red; I had so much fun even though blue won. Then we did a scrap challenge with the rest of the groups. We had to see who could build the tallest tower then we had to build a protective layer around a water balloon. John threw them off a flight of stairs, the groups whose balloons did not burst were able to throw them at John and Taz!

Saturday I woke up early (we had to get up at 6:30am) and the first thing we did was have breakfast, then we went to Hendon Square. Groups 3 and 4 did orienteering first. We had to locate numbers around Kingswood; my group did a lot of running to get to the numbers – I was so tired. After that we did Mini Olympics. We did some silly races and then it was time for lunch. After lunch, we did the Aerial Zipwire - I was so excited! We had to have a safety briefing and then put on our harnesses and helmets and got onto the zip wire, it looked a lot higher when I got up there. I almost pulled out but then I thought "It's going to be fun" so I did it! It was much more fun than I expected! Next, we did the Leap of Faith. It looked so scary! Eventually it was my go and I started climbing the 10 metre pole. I began shaking, it started to get harder. I almost let go but I kept on climbing and managed to get onto the platform, and then did the leap of faith and caught the trapeze! When I got down I was so happy! Everybody felt a feeling of accomplishment. Then we went for dinner which was pizza. Then we went to do Aeroball, which was a game in which we had to throw a ball into other people's nets while jumping on a trampoline. It was really fun, but soon it was time to have a hot chocolate and then go to bed.

Sunday On Sunday, we had breakfast and then sadly had to pack our suitcases. After we packed our suitcases we went abseiling! I felt really worried again because when I climbed to the top it was a lot higher than I thought. We had to jump down a wall. When I jumped it was exhilarating and we got a second go! After that we did the obstacle course. I wasn't very good at it, but I gave it a shot and we got to the end! Our last activity was the shelter building which got us quite muddy but our shelter won - we even had a welcome sign and fire exit! Then we had to pack up and go back to school to meet our parents. On the coach most of us fell asleep. When I got back to school I was exhausted!

Kingswood was a really fun adventure which I would thoroughly recommend!

By Eric, Year 6



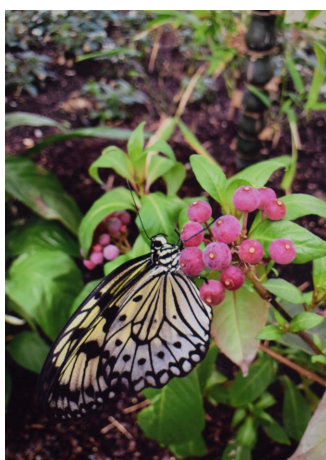


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Whole School Inter House Photography Competition 2018

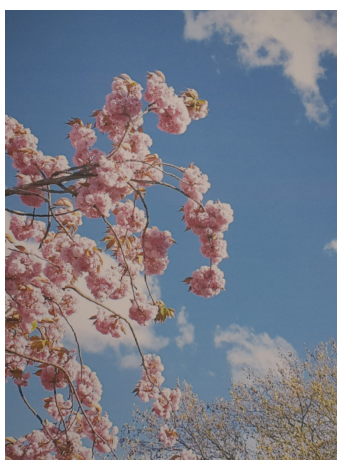
This year we had an amazing response to our annual photography competition. With new categories Action, Springtime and Collections, the pupils were able to think about the meaning of these themes and visually interpret them with stunning results. The standard of the photography this year was exceptionally high and it is always a joy to see the creative responses of our pupils.

After some difficult deliberating the following winners were chosen:



**Springtime
1st Place**

Eloise Stephen (Year 3)
Warren



**Springtime
2nd Place**

Joseph Carter (8K)
Warren



**Springtime
Highly Commended**
Aurora Muscat (Year 1)
Warren



**Action
1st Place**

Nydia Pitney-Hall (9R)
Connaught



**Action
2nd Place**

Alex Bagley (8K)
Connaught



**Action
Highly Commended**
Connor Blackburn (9R)
Warren



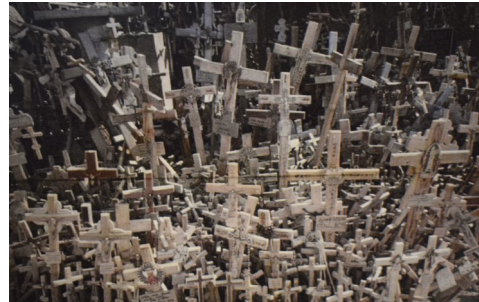
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Whole School Inter House Photography Competition 2018 Continued



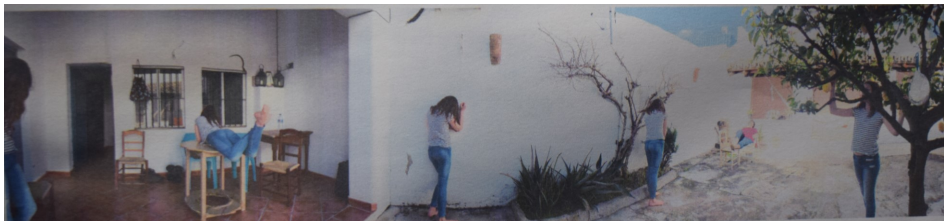
Collections
1st Place

Lucy Moore (8T)
Connaught



Collections
2nd Place

Kamile Balnionis (7W)
Connaught



Collections
Highly Commended
Olivia Lassen (7C)
Connaught



Teachers Prize
1st Place
Miss Bonella
Connaught



Teachers Prize
Highly Commended
Miss Sulliman
Warren

Art Club Inspired By Paul Klee

The participants of Art Club completed their beautiful abstract landscapes inspired by the Swiss German abstract artist, Paul Klee.

To create the work, pupils began by drawing using building bricks as templates to design their own abstract landscape. They then outlined their shapes and painted them using acrylic paint to develop subtle colours and beautiful interlocking forms.

As you can see, the results are very impressive!





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Normanhurst Sports Report

Tennis The Year 8 boys tennis team are playing in the English Schools Tennis Championship. They have played 2 fixtures out of 4 in the round robin group stage. Their first fixture was a win against St Paul's Way Trust School; they won all 6 of their matches - 2 doubles and 4 singles. A great start for them!

The second fixture was against Coopers Company and Coburn School in Upminster, Essex. This was a strong team, the matches were very competitive and the quality of tennis was impressive from both sides. The final score was 8-4 to Coopers.

The team have 2 more fixtures to play, against Davenant School and Cumberland School.

Netball The Under 11 netball team finished their season off with an excellent friendly match against Yardley Junior School.

The final score was 4-2 to Yardley.

This was a lovely match played with excellent spirit enjoyed by everyone, we will endeavour to keep this fixture in the school calendar!

Mini-Tennis The Years 3 and 4 mini-tennis team went to Connaught Tennis Club on Friday 4 May to compete in the Waltham Forest North stage of the competition. The team consisted of Charlie C, Charlie T, Jasmine, Laila and Olivia. They played with confidence, winning lots of games to win this stage of the competition and qualify for the borough finals.

The finals were held the following week at Chingford Foundation School. The team's excellent play continued and they finished in 4th place, narrowly missing a bronze medal by 1 point! Well done!

Athletics Normanhurst had another very successful day at the ISA Regional Athletics meeting at Bedford. 16 pupils won gold medals and there were many excellent performances and lots of new school records set. Congratulations to everyone who took part. A full report will follow in next month's newsletter, when we get the overall results.

All regional medal winners will compete the National Championship at Alexandra Stadium in Birmingham on Tuesday 19 June.

Bancroft's Swimming Gala Junior pupils took part in the annual Bancroft's Gala and produced some good results against some very strong opposition from the local independent schools. Sadly we were unable to bring home any medals this year. Normanhurst have some good future swimmers and we can hope for a better season next year.

Waltham Forest Athletics League This league began in the last week of April with pupils from Years 9 and 10 taking part. Pupils who were able to gain top three positions were Jay (Year 9) for hurdles, long jump and javelin, Tobi (Year 10) for hurdles, Joe (Year 9) for 100m and Prince (Year 10) for 100m and long jump. Also in top three spots were Arsene (Year 9) and Darby (Year 10) for shot put. We would like to thank all the pupils who took part.





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Tate Modern Trip

The Year 10 GCSE Art and Graphics pupils visited Tate Modern to launch their next GCSE project, 'States of Change'. They explored the work of contemporary artists in the 'Living Cities' and 'Artist and Society' exhibitions.

The pupils had the opportunity to photograph the city from the viewing platform in Tate's new wing and have begun to develop their own individual artworks in response to their visit.



Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Practice Expedition

On Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 May 2018, the Year 10 DofE participants from Braeside School and Normanhurst School worked tirelessly over two days learning camp craft and first aid, orienteering, and developing team skills.

On the first day participants arrived feeling excited and ready to develop their skills further. After a quick check on how well pupils had packed their bags, and some re-training on map reading skills, they began putting their knowledge into practice by wandering into Epping Forest with their expedition trainer.

By the afternoon the heavy rain started and continued through to the evening, yet despite the wet conditions pupils kept their spirits high whilst making their last journey back to the camp site, putting their tents up, and cooking and clearing their equipment before bedtime.

The following morning the sun was out and participants were up early packing their tents away and preparing their route cards before setting off in their groups without their expedition trainer for the first time! In the end, all pupils were eventually able to make their way back with a better understanding of what makes a successful expedition, in preparation for their qualifying expedition assessment on the 16 and 17 June.

Good luck to all participants and remember to stay on the path, use your compass, work as a team and keep your spirits high!



Bridge Building in Lego Club

The children who attend Lego Club took part in a tricky competition this term. The aim was to build a bridge that was wide enough to hold a toy car.



Miss Barnard then came down to judge which team's bridge was the most impressive, and the winners were awarded 5 house points per person in the team! The children had lots of different ideas to add to their bridge to make it more interesting, including a drive-thru restaurant and a tipping bridge!





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Normanhurst School Parents' Association

Dear Parents

I can hardly believe we are writing this, but here goes: the final term of the year is upon us! Just a couple more newsletters and

then we can focus on our Christmas edition...

But before we do that, we at the NSPA are pleased to report that we are getting close to reaching our fundraising target of £12,900. This not inconsiderable amount of money will ensure that we can purchase for the school 36 iPads. Collectively, these will enhance all of our children's classroom experiences, and for many years to come.

As we go to print, we are unable to tell you the current balance because we are waiting to hear how much money was raised from Friday's Phil the Bag collection. We do know that over fifty sacks of fabric were collected in the morning, so a big thank you to everyone who contributed.

The next big event is the Summer BBQ which takes place on the 23 June from 4pm. This year we have adopted a beach theme complete with an 'end of pier show', some huge blow up thrill rides, an Ibiza DJ set, and lots of stalls and food. Please do come along, it's a fun afternoon for both parents and children, and this year's very long range weather forecast indicates that it could be really hot and sunny.

And hot off the press, we are looking at arranging a summer concert? A sort of Proms in the Playground/ Normanstock festival of music with food and drink. More information will follow but please feel free to contribute ideas, and ideally Ed Sheeran's mobile number!

Thanks very much for your continued support and see you soon.

The NSPA Committee



Monday 2 July

EYFS Celebration at 1.30pm

Thursday 5 July

Prize Giving at 6pm