



# Normanhurst School

68-74 Station Road, North Chingford  
London E4 7BA

Tel: 020 8529 4307  
Fax: 020 8524 7737

## HEADMISTRESS

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

E-mail: [info@normanhurstschool.co.uk](mailto:info@normanhurstschool.co.uk)

Website: [www.normanhurstschool.co.uk](http://www.normanhurstschool.co.uk)

4 June 2018

## Headmistress's Letter

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the final half-term of this academic year; one which seems to have flown by. Senior pupils have their end-of-year examinations this week and juniors have their InCAS assessments this week and class tests next week. The aim of these in both juniors and seniors is to review progress made, set next steps and recognise individual achievements.

Once exams are over there are a number of trips, activities and special events, dates of which are listed at the end of this letter.

At the beginning of the last week of term reports will be sent home for all classes up to Year 10. Reports will be uploaded onto the portal on Monday 9 July to allow time for you to read and discuss them before the close of the school year.

### Early Years Foundation Stage End of Year Celebration Monday 2 July

All parents and carers of children in Kindergarten and Reception are invited to the Early Years Celebration at the URC in Buxton Road on Monday 2 July at 2.00pm. We are looking forward to celebrating all the pupils have enjoyed and achieved over the last year. Do come and join us! Mrs Fisher will provide details to parents, but all Early Years children are welcome to come along, even if they do not usually attend on a Monday.

### Moving Up Day Wednesday 27 June

Pupils will spend the whole day in school with their new teacher on Moving Up Day. We are also inviting the new pupils who will be joining us in September so that they can meet their classmates.

We would like to invite parents to drop into the hall from 2.45pm onwards to have a cup of tea and chat with the teachers about the day.

The pupils who will be moving into the seniors in September have a Year 7 Induction Day on the same day. Current Year 6 pupils will meet the new pupils who are joining us from other schools in Year 7, and will find out which form class they will be in. There will be a special programme of activities for the day including a team building activity offsite in the afternoon.

Our current Year 6 parents and new parents are invited to have coffee in the hall at 9.15am and for a short talk on life in the seniors, as detailed in the letter from Mrs Miller.

There is also an NSPA nearly new Uniform Sale in the morning and in the afternoon from 2.45pm.

### EYFS and Junior Class Teachers from September

We are growing our teaching team from September and we are delighted to have excellent new staff joining the team. Mrs Fletcher returns from her maternity leave in June and will re-join the Early Years team, working in Kindergarten. Mrs Willemse has decided that she does not want to return to full time teaching at present, and so she has taken on a part-time position at Braeside School from September.

The Early Years team from September will continue to be led by Mrs Fisher, who will work across the classes, rather than having a class of her own. Mrs Fletcher and Miss Sulzmann continue as class teaching assistants next year.

The class teachers are as follows:

Lower Kindergarten:	Miss Buggins the Lead Keyworker
Upper Kindergarten:	Mrs Papa the Lead Keyworker
Reception:	Miss A Greenin
Year 1S:	Miss Smith
Year 1T:	Mrs Taylor
Year 2A:	Mrs Allen
Year 2G:	Miss S Greenin
Year 3:	Mr Grant
Year 4:	Miss Sulliman
Year 5:	Miss Stone
Year 6:	Mr Dograr

The new teachers have all already visited the school and they will be spending the whole day with their classes on Moving Up Day. They are also looking forward to meeting parents in the afternoon when we meet for tea in the hall.

### **Extra-curricular Activities**

The school office has organised the clubs and activities booking sheet for the Autumn Term so that we can organise the programme and ensure that staffing ratios are appropriate. There is a number limit to some of the clubs, which may mean that we have to operate a waiting list. Please would you complete and return your requests to the office as soon as possible. We will then be able to confirm the places before the summer break.

### **Summer Holiday Activity Programme**

Parents have received a letter detailing the summer holiday programmes being offered across the four Oak-Tree Schools for pupils from Early Years up to Year 6. If you would like to sign up for any of the activities on offer, please do so at your earliest convenience, as these are proving extremely popular with Oak-Tree parents.

### **Pupil Heads of School**

The time in the school year has come when the Leadership Team and the staff consider which pupils will be the next Head Boy, Head Girl and Heads of House and Senior Prefect team. As is the custom, the new Heads of School will be announced at Speech Day. We also select House Captains, Vice Captains and prefects for Year 6 from the current Year 5 pupils and their interviews take place over the next two weeks.

### **Speech Day and Prize Giving Thursday 5 July 6.00pm**

As you know Speech Day and Prize Giving is on Thursday 5 July in the Assembly Hall at 6.00pm. As always school closes at 2.00pm for all pupils apart from children in Kindergarten or Reception classes. Speech Day is compulsory for all pupils from Year 1 up to and including Year 11. Together we celebrate pupils' many achievements, but we also look back on the year that has passed and recognise the significant landmarks within it.

The office will be sending out letters shortly with further information about Speech Day and also about the procedure for prize winners.

There will be a number of musical performances during the evening, alongside an exhibition of Art work. The formal part of proceedings will be followed by a short reception with refreshments. I do hope that many parents will be able to attend and share in this special occasion.

### **Uniform and Presentation Reminders for Speech Day and Prize Giving**

Please ensure your children are well-presented for Speech Day. Boys should have neat and tidy hair styles, without any cut-in designs. Fringes should not hang over the eyes and the use of any hair products like wax should be minimal.

Girls' long hair must be tied back securely with a plain blue or black hair band. There has been a recent increase in the number of 'pretty' headbands, bows and slides. Any 'Alice bands' or hair slides should be plain navy or black, not ornate or colourful. Senior girls must wear navy opaque tights on Speech Day.

Shoes should be plain black or navy leather, with a proper sole. Trainer-like shoes are not permitted and shoes should not have any visible logos or colourful design features. Junior pupils should wear the correct summer uniform. Juniors should wear white socks with summer dresses and long grey socks with grey shorts.

### **Year 10 Careers Education**

There will be a focus on Careers Education for the Year 10 students towards the end of term. There is a week of Work Experience beginning on Monday 25 June, and a Careers Day on Friday 6 July, with talks from a number of professionals and mock interviews in the afternoon. Year 10 pupils come into school in business attire on that day.

We hope Year 10 will enjoy these experiences and gain much from them as they look ahead to their futures beyond school.

### **Normanhurst Summer BBQ Saturday 23 June 4.00-8.00pm**

The Normanhurst School Parents' Association is organising the annual Summer Barbecue, which will be a fun-filled event for the whole family, so please do come along. There will be an information flyer sent home to all parents and information on the website and social media.

All parents, their families and friends are welcome to join us. There will be food, a bar, music, stalls, competitions, bouncy castle, prizes and much more, including a teacher 'Walk the Plank'.

There will be a themed family cake baking competition and a craft competition. Details will follow in a flyer from the NSPA, but please do bring your entries with you on the day. This year we are going to auction off the cakes. Bearing in mind previous cake competitions, you are going to be in for a treat.

All junior aged pupils, up to and including Year 6, must be accompanied by a parent or adult who takes responsibility for them for the duration of their stay at the event.

### **Senior Staff News**

There are some updates to staffing in the seniors from September.

As you know Mr Beint, the current Head of Seniors, is going back to university in September to study for a Masters in Fine Art. We had a strong list of applicants for the role and I am delighted that we have appointed Mr Patrick Clair to be the Head of Seniors from September. Mr Clair is an experienced teacher and school leader who has been Head of Seniors in an international school in Dubai for the past two years. He returns to the UK to begin his role at Normanhurst. Pupils met Mr Clair last week, and I have received very positive feedback from all of them. I am grateful to the pupils who formed part of the pupil panel for one of the interview tasks. They asked very pertinent questions of the candidates and their feedback formed part of our considerations.

Mrs Cooper, the Head of Science, returns from maternity leave in September and we also have an additional Science teacher joining the Science team. Mr Cutler studied Geo-physics and has teaching experience at a number of schools, including Chingford Foundation School.

We have an additional full time teacher joining the PE department from September: Mr Banks joins Mrs Taylor, Mrs Kenneally and Mr Evans. We hope that this increased staffing will mean that we can offer PE GCSE from September 2019.

Miss Kim is returning to South East Asia this summer to be nearer to her family. Mrs Jones will be the new Head of Music and she will be joined by Mr Olsson, the trumpet teacher, on a Friday. Mrs Jones is an accomplished musician and experienced teacher who plays a number of instruments, with a specialism in woodwind and brass.

Finally, Mrs Kazim is taking maternity leave during the coming year. Mr Coates will be joining us to teach Drama up to GCSE. Mr Coates has experience teaching drama, writing, directing and producing plays.

### Forthcoming Events for the Diary

Mon 4 – Fri 8 Jun		Year 7-10 Internal Exams InCAS Assessments
Tue 5 Jun	15:45 – 18:00	Y7&8 Girls Borough Athletics
Wed 6 Jun	09:00 – 15:00 12:00 – 15:30	Reception trip to Suntrap Y5&6 Tennis Final Ridgeway Park
Thu 7 Jun	09:00 – 15:30 15:45 – 18:00	Y5&6 Girls Cricket Leyton Sports Ground Y7&8 Boys Borough Athletics
Fri 8 Jun	09:00 – 15:30	U11's Mixed Tag Rugby Championships, Bancroft's
Mon 11 – Fri 15 Jun		Year 1-6 Internal Assessments
	13:00 – 15:30	Y5&6 Tri Golf Peter May Sports Centre
Tue 12 Jun	15:45 – 18:00	Y7-11 Girls Borough Athletics Heats/Finals
Wed 13 Jun	08:30 – 16:00 11:15 – 14:45	Y10 Cambridge Centre for 6 <sup>th</sup> Form Studies Year 6 Crucial Crew trip
Thu 14 Jun	15:45 – 18:00 17:00 – 17:30	Y7-11 Boys Borough Athletics Heats/Finals Y3 Camp meeting (current Y2) hall
Fri 15 Jun	08:30 – 09:00	Year 1-6 Father's Day Breakfast
Sat 16 – Sun 17 Jun		D of E Qualifying Expedition Weekend
Mon 18 Jun	09:30 – 15:45 14:30 – 17:00 19:00 – 20:30	Y7-9 G&T trip to Westminster Abbey Y5&6 Cricket (mixed) at Norfolk House School NSPA meeting (hall)
Tue 19 Jun	09:00 – 15:45	ISA National Athletics Competition
Wed 20 Jun	18:00 – 20:00	Summer Concert
Thu 21 Jun	09:00 – 15:45 09:00 – 15:30 14:30 – 16:30	Y10 GCSE French students to Institut Francais Y5&6 Quicksticks Hockey Festival Olympic Park Y3 Cricket (mixed) against Norfolk House at Peter May
Fri 22 Jun	09:00 – 11:30 19:00 – 22:00	Y1 Redbridge JCC Synagogue trip Year 11 Leavers' Dinner
Sat 23 Jun	16:00 – 20:00	NSPA Summer Barbecue
Mon 25 – Fri 29 Jun		Year 10 Work Experience
	09:00 – 10:30 09:00 – 12:00 10:00 – 11:30 13:00 – 15:30	Y1&2 Chingford Plains trip Y5&6 Connaught Waters trip Reception Hunting Lodge trip Y3&4 Pole Hill trip
Tue 26 Jun	10:00 – 12:00 12:45 – 14:45	Y5&6 Hunting Lodge trip Y3&4 Hunting Lodge trip
Wed 27 Jun		KG-Year 6 Moving Up/Y7 Induction day
Thu 28 Jun	09:00 – 15:30 14:00 – 16:30	Y2 Value Games at Peter May Sports Centre U11's Oak-tree Rounders Tournament at Peter May
Fri 29 Jun	09:00 – 15:30 09:00 – 15:30 09:00 – 15:30 09:00 – 11:30 10:00 – 12:00 12:45 – 14:45	LAMDA exams Y5 Value Games at Peter May Sports Centre Y7-11 Mixed Borough Athletics Finals Day KG and Reception Chingford Plains trip Y1 Hunting Lodge trip Y2 Hunting Lodge trip
Mon 2 Jul	08:15 – 15:30 14:00 – 15:30 15:00 – 17:30	Y10 (selected) Forest School Academic Challenge Day EYFS Celebration URC Church Y5-8 Swimming Gala at Forest School
Wed 4 Jul	09:00 – 15:30	Y1 Stars trip to Feel Good Centre
Thu 5 Jul		Speech Day
Fri 6 Jul	09:00 – 15:30	Year 10 Careers Day and Mock Interviews

Mon 9 Jul	09:30 – 20:00	Wimbledon Tennis trip (selected senior pupils) KG-Year 10 Full Reports published
Wed 11 Jul	10:00 – 15:30	End of year Senior House trip to Harlow Activity Centre
	12:00	End of Term

As always, please do contact the school office, your child's form teacher or a member of the SLT, if there is anything you would like to discuss. I very much look forward to seeing you at our many school events this term.

With my best wishes for the final half-term.

Yours sincerely



Claire Osborn  
Headmistress



**OAK-TREE SCHOOLS** is the group name of:

BRAESIDE SCHOOL, BUCKHURST HILL • COOPERSALE HALL SCHOOL, EPPING • NORMANHURST SCHOOL, NORTH CHINGFORD • OAKLANDS SCHOOL, LOUGHTON

HEAD OFFICE ADDRESS: 6-8 ALBION HILL, LOUGHTON, ESSEX IG10 4RA

GROUP MANAGING PRINCIPAL: MR MATTHEW HAGGER B.A. (HONS), M.ED., PGCE PRINCIPALS: MR NICHOLAS HAGGER M.A. (OXON), MRS ANN HAGGER CERT. ED.

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