



NEWSLETTER

June 2018

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Headmistress's Message

This is our penultimate newsletter of the year and as I write this message the seniors are just finishing their exam week and the juniors are just beginning theirs.

Our GCSE students began their exam papers on Monday 14 May and have just a few papers left to go. It has been an intensive few weeks for them, but they have remained calm and focused and have shown commendable commitment and stamina.

Please do read the sports reports in this newsletter: our pupils have been very busy with a large number of events and have done extremely well. You can also read about the particular achievements of two of our seniors at national and world level.

We have fewer school trips in May with the end-of-year assessments, but you will know from the calendar that there are lots of trips and activities in the coming month for pupils of all ages to look forward to. The July newsletter will be a bumper edition to round off the year!

May I wish you and your families an enjoyable final few weeks of the school year.

With my best wishes

Mrs Claire Osborn
Headmistress

Celebrating the Royal Wedding in Early Years

On Friday 18 May the children in the Early Years Department celebrated the royal wedding with a garden party. The sun shone and the children were treated to an afternoon tea of cucumber sandwiches and a slice of the 'wedding cake' made by the children and staff.

Here we see Deena and Jacob cutting the delicious cake.

Other activities included designing a wedding dress for the new princess, building a model of Windsor Castle from Duplo, making flags and bunting and taking part in musical games and dancing. As a special memory we now have our very own 'Meghan and Harry' - the goldfish that can be seen in the Early Years garden pond.





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Reception Trip to Suntrap Forest Education Centre

On Wednesday 6 June, Reception went on a fantastic trip to Suntrap. They started off with a session about the natural world and had the chance to hold a fire salamander, giant African land snail, millipede, Madagascar hissing cockroach and a stick insect.

Following this session they went on a lovely walk through Epping Forest to find minibeasts. The children searched through the leaf litter to find all sorts of different creatures. Everyone was very careful to ensure that they left the forest as they found it, as it is important to show care for the environment around us.

In the forest, the children also had the chance to go over and under trees as well as balance on a fallen tree. All of the children were able to do this successfully and independently.

It was a fantastic experience and the children behaved in an exemplary manner.



BSL Club

British Sign Language Club (BSL Club) learnt how to sing a song in sign language, which they then performed during Junior Assembly. Miss Stone and Miss Greenin have been very impressed with how quickly the BSL Club have learnt the signs for all the words and are very proud of them all. We look forward to welcoming new members next term. BSL Club runs on a Tuesday lunchtime for Years 1-6 in the Year 6 classroom.

Finley, Year 5 - "I had a lot of fun learning the signs and performing them and I actually like the club because I can use the signs later on in life"

Nicolas, Year 3 - "I really enjoyed learning the words to a song and putting our knowledge to use"



A Royal Wedding in 1S

On Friday 18 May 1S celebrated the upcoming wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle by holding their very own version. The children took a vote on who would play each character. William and Inaya took the leading parts, and in true Normanhurst fashion put on a brilliant show for their teachers and friends.

A lovely time was had by all, and it made the Royal Wedding an accessible and memorable event for the children.



NEWSLETTER

Pupil Success at Dance World Championships

Last month, Year 10 pupil Kyarna travelled to Pula, Croatia, with the Deborah Day Theatre School Trust (DDTST) to take part in the International Dance Federation (IDF) World Championships 2018. Here, she recounts her experiences at this prestigious event.

"I practise every Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 4pm to 10pm with my dance school DDTST. We went to the world championships to compete against many different countries and represent team GB. I was very excited and looking forward to the trip.

The different styles of dance I performed in Croatia were: tap, acrobatics, hip hop, modern, song and dance, contemporary, and lyrical. I performed four solos and a duet with my best friend, as well as many troupe dances with all of my other friends.

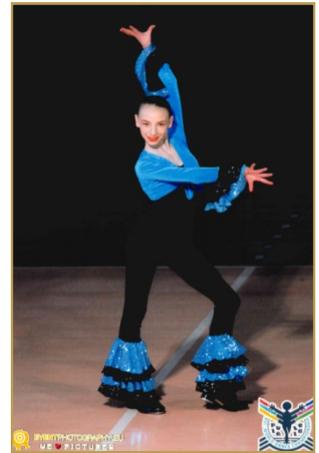
I am proud to say that I am a dance world champion, because we came 1st in one of the group dances. Our performance was called 'The Greatest Showman' and in it I was an albino with golden hair.

My favourite dance was my hip hop routine, and I was so happy when I found out I got 10 points for it. I trained for hours a day and worked really hard so I think my hard work paid off. I also got 11 points for my tap, which made me very happy.

I feel very inspired now and I really want to try new styles of dance such as salsa, and work harder in classes, especially tumbling classes.

As well as the competition I also had great fun on the beach and by the pool spending time with my family and friends. The food was OK and I really liked the pizza and McDonalds in Croatia, but I didn't like the accommodation.

I really enjoyed going to the dance world championships and would love to do it again but maybe next time in a different country."



Art Club Mosaic Landscapes

Art Club participants have been busy putting the finishing touches to their beautiful mosaic landscapes.

Pupils looked at Impressionist paintings, focussing on the work of Claude Monet. They looked closely at the way Monet used gestural brush strokes to create vivid colours and textures depicting changes in light. The pupils responded to this by first creating mosaic shapes using small coloured ceramics which they glued to the canvas board. They then added acrylic paint using flat brushes to build layers of colour and contours echoing the shapes of the mosaics with stunning results.





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Brandon's Badminton Success

Year 11 pupil Brandon has recently been offered a place on the England Junior Performance Team following his recent double silver medals at the U19 English National Championship in Boys Singles and Doubles. These silver medals are in addition to his consecutive double bronze medals in the previous two years' competitions.

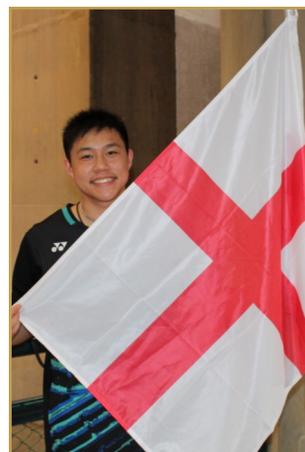
It has been an exceptional year for Brandon, who is now ranked 4th in England in his age group for Singles and Mixed Doubles, and 2nd for Doubles. In only his first season of international competition he has broken into the world's top 100 for Doubles, being England's 3rd highest ranked Junior Boys Doubles player in the world. His Mixed Doubles is also faring well; he is England's 4th highest ranked boy in the World Junior Rankings after only playing three tournaments, and is hoping to climb higher in the rankings table with more international tournaments this summer.

After this current season, Brandon will need to consider specialising in a particular event or two, a decision which will be made in conjunction with the England coaches. His first England appearance will be in Bulgaria in August; before that, Brandon will be very busy attending several England training camps to prepare, all whilst in the final year of his GCSEs!

<https://youtu.be/acYY6hHM7UA>

The above link shows Brandon in action at the Hellas Junior International during the Easter holiday, where Brandon and his first time partner Sian Kelly, as an unseeded pairing, dispatched the tournament's 2nd seeds. Brandon came away with a silver medal in the Mixed Doubles and a bronze in the Boys Doubles.

We continue to wish Brandon every success in his international badminton career.



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.



NEWSLETTER

Normanhurst Sports Report

Quad Kids Athletics Years 2, 5 and 6 all sent teams to compete in the LBWF Quad Kids athletics competition. This event comprises of four boys and four girls who take part in four events, hence the name 'Quad Kids'!

All the children do all four events. The events are standing long jump, howler throw, a sprint and a long run. Our pupils competed to the best of their ability and gave some excellent performances across all the events.

We have not yet had the final results of the competition and as soon as I have them I will share the information with you all. Many thanks to Mrs Karamanlis and Miss Stone who came along to the events and helped.

Mini tennis Lily, Queenie, Charlie (Year 6) and Atilla (Year 5) represented Normanhurst in the London Youth Games mini tennis competition held at Ridgeway Park Tennis Hub. They won all their first round matches and gained a place in the borough final, held on Wednesday 6 June. Our pupils played with confidence and there were some excellent rallies. The opposition was very strong and they won two matches but lost three to finish in 4th place overall in the borough. Well done - you all played so well!

Netball Years 7 and 8 have been playing in their borough league matches this term. They have had matches against Heathcote, Holy Family and Walthamstow Academy. They have won 2 and lost 1, and have one more match to play which they need a win to get to the finals in July.

English Schools Team Tennis The Year 8 boys tennis team played their last matches in the group stages of the tournament. The match against Davenant was a draw and had to be decided by a sudden death play-off match which unfortunately Normanhurst lost.

ISA Tennis In May Hawi (9B), Tino (8T), Patrick (8T), Trinav (8K) and Rafael (8T) took part on the National ISA Tennis Championships. The competition was held at Queenswood School at its tennis academy. This year Hawi played in the U15 age group in both singles and doubles. She played extremely good tennis and made it through the group stages into the knockout matches and all the way to the semi final. It was a close game which Hawi narrowly lost. This put her into the 3rd/4th place playoff match. She finished in fourth place, an excellent improvement on her 6th place finish last year, especially as there were 25 girls entered. In the doubles, Hawi was paired up with a pupil from another school and they combined really well and also finished in 4th place.

In the boys U13 competition Tino, Trinav, Rafael and Patrick all played both singles and doubles. Tino and Trinav made it into the semi-final of the boy's singles and won the bronze medal. Trinav qualified to play in the plate and was narrowly defeated in the knockout stages.

The standard of tennis was high and everyone played with excellent enthusiasm and commitment. Well done!





NEWSLETTER

Normanhurst Sports Report continued

ISA Athletics – Bedford This year pupils from Normanhurst School have been preparing since early March for the annual Independent Schools Association Regional Athletics Competition held at Bedford International Athletics Stadium. PE lessons have focussed on both track and field events. Our pupils use Lee Valley Athletics Centre for their athletics and this is a perfect facility to enable pupils to experience the exact set-up they have to compete in at Bedford. Pupils were selected on merit for all of their events. Pupils are allowed to take part in two events and a relay. The teams are divided into boys and girls from Years 4-7, Years 8/9 and Years 10/11 combined to make teams. They add all the points together to give each school a finishing position. This year our Years 8/9 girls were the overall winners in their age group.

Our pupils won even more gold medals than last year, and seventeen of them will be attending the National ISA Athletics in Birmingham on the Tuesday 19 June. Also many pupils achieved silver and bronze certificates, while others achieved new Personal Bests in their event.

There were so many notable performances. All the pupils gave their best in the distance races and showed a lot of determination in very challenging events such as 800m and 1500m, the relay teams had seamless change overs and outstanding times and the Year 8 girls and the Year 10 girls and boys teams won their relay races in amazing style to finish the day!



The gold medallists were:

Eden (Y10) - girls relay

Ella (Y10) - girls relay

Malachi (Y7) - long jump

Zaeem (Y7) - hurdles

Tolani (Y10) discus and boys relay

Alicia (Y8) 100m and girls relay

Jesse (Y10) - high jump and relay

Honor (Y10) - hurdles and girls relay

Paige (Y8) - girls relay

Nicole (Y8) - girls relay

Alexa (Y8) - girls relay

Mia (Y9) - shot

Alicia M (Y4) - ball throw

Joseph (Y9) - boys relay

Miles (Y10) - boys relay

Tobi (Y10) - boys relay

Jay (Y9) - triple jump

Tag Rugby Normanhurst School took part in the ISA North Under 11 mixed Tag Rugby tournament on Friday 8 June. This was rescheduled from the winter term. Esta, Queenie, Lily, Ashanti, Archy, Omar, Charlie (Year 6) and Timothy (Year 5) represented the Juniors against eight teams from within the ISA group of schools. We started off very strongly against Avon House but ended up drawing the match 2-2. We suffered a heavy defeat against Charterhouse and then lost the third match against Gower 5-3. Our next game was against Swaminarayan who beat us 6-5. Our final fixture was against Faraday where we won 5-3 with only 5 players on the park due to injuries. We would like to thank all those who took part, and hope they enjoyed the day despite the injuries some of them received.



Senior Sports Day This year's Sports Day was another beautiful sunny day at Lee Valley. The seniors took centre stage in the morning. They all took part in three events of their own choice and each house entered their strongest relay team. The seniors have been practising hard in lessons and at Athletics Club, and this hard work paid off as there were so many children who set new PB's and who broke school records.

The final scores were very close and Warren came out on top, with Honor (Year 10) winning the Vitrix Ludorum. The Victor Ludorum was shared by Malachi (Year 7) and Tolani (Year 10).



NEWSLETTER

Normanhurst Sports Report continued

Junior Sports Day The juniors arrived earlier this year to be able to watch the presentation of the senior trophies. This also enabled them to start promptly at 1pm. Once again, there were lots of parents and family members who gave up their time to come along and support the children. The children had put lots of effort into making banners and decorations to support their respective houses. The two houses were also competing to win the House Spirit cup. This is awarded to the house who demonstrates the best 'sporting spirit'. The children learned songs and chants to help encourage their team mates.

This year we started a new set of junior records for the sprint, long jump and howler throw. Overall the winning team this year was Warren. The Spirit cup was again won by Connaught. Well done!

I would like to thank all the staff and the NSPA for their help on the day. I am already looking forward to next year!

Mrs Taylor
Head of PE & Games



Year 9 Pupils Practise First Aid Skills

As a part of their PSHE curriculum, Year 9 pupils have been completing a First Aid project with Mrs Prior. In their most recent session the pupils were given a practical CPR workshop in which they learnt how to help someone who is in cardiac arrest. To do this pupils worked with manikins learning how to give CPR in a series of simple steps including chest compressions and rescue breaths.

The session was both enjoyable and highly informative for all of the participating pupils.



Monday 2 July

EYFS Celebration at 1.30pm

Thursday 5 July

Prize Giving at 6pm



NEWSLETTER



Norman Hurst School Parents' Association

Dear Parents

It seems incredible, but there is now less than a month until the summer break. Where did that year go? (Answers on a postcard please!)

Fortunately, before we meet the year's end, we have one more cracking event to enjoy en masse. On Saturday 23 June we will be cranking up the tunes, and bringing a bit of the Wight Isle to the playground. By Wight Isle, we of course mean Ibiza, not the Isle of Wight. That's right, it's the Ibiza Rocks BBQ with DJ Steve Munster spinning party tracks on the wheels of steel. Whilst the dancing might be optional, the fun is guaranteed with enough activities, stalls, food and drink to keep everyone happy.

Notable events throughout the day include a dance display by the Lower Kindergarten through to Year 2 children, a screen showing World Cup football along with an accompanying table football, an inflatable slide and bungee run, the coconut shy and return of the ever popular 'sponge the teacher'.

For the competitively creative, there's a number of activities to focus the mind on the run-up to the big day. From the Balearics to Brighton, we are looking for seaside themed cakes which will be auctioned off in order to help us raise some additional money. Layer with flavour, mix with style and sprinkle some creativity.

We are also holding an 'Ocean themed' paper plate competition. Submerge yourself in glitter, paint and patterns, write your child's name and class on the back, and there will be prizes for the most imaginative designs.

This year, entry to the BBQ is just £5 and includes a welcome drink for the adults, and unlimited goes on the inflatable rides (children not adults!).

A couple of other notable dates for the diary: on Wednesday 27 June, the Moving Up day, there will be a school uniform sale. Save some money and help the NSPA, what's not to like?

The annual sponsored walk takes place on Tuesday 10 July, and the NSPA will be providing refreshments throughout the trek.

Special thanks to all the NSPA members who served food and drink at the recent Sports Day, it was much appreciated.

Finally, please note the following autumn term dates in your diary:

Wednesday 10 October is the NSPA AGM. We would love to see some new faces so please do come along. We're a friendly bunch and really value input to help shape our plans for the coming academic year.

Sunday 11 November is the Oak-Tree Schools Fireworks Display at Oaklands School.

Friday 16 November is Rock n roll Bingo. Always a brilliant family evening.

Sunday 9 December is scheduled for our Winter Walk.

Please note that whilst we are very close to hitting our fundraising target of £12,900 (purchase of 36 iPads) we do need decent weather and a successful BBQ to get over the line. Please do come along and show your support.

The NSPA Committee