



NEWSLETTER

September 2018

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Headmistress's Message

It has certainly been a busy start to the academic year at Normanhurst. There have been a number of school trips already, including a theatre trip for the GCSE Drama pupils and trips for the juniors.

I have been delighted to see how well our new pupils are settling into school life, and it was a pleasure to see so many of the Year 7 parents at our 'Meet the Teachers' event on Tuesday evening.

There will be many opportunities to come into school this term. Already the junior parents have had a 'drop-in morning' to see the work their children are doing in class, we have had an information evening for the Year 10 pupils and parents about how to be successful at GCSE, and we have had a sixth form evening for the pupils and parents in Year 11.

The Harvest Festival is on Tuesday 2 October, and I hope that junior parents and families are able to join us for a seasonal celebration when we look at harvest around the world. We will be collecting donations for the Thomas of Canterbury soup run so that we can support the work of this worthwhile charity.

With my best wishes for the term

Mrs Claire Osborn
Headmistress

Forest Walk

Reception thoroughly enjoyed their first forest walk of the term. They walked beautifully with their friends and made sure that they listened carefully when crossing the road. They first took a walk to the Green and enjoyed blowing bubbles



with Miss Sulzmann and Miss Sherrie. The children explained that the bubbles had gone up to space with the rockets, moon and stars. They then went to the library. The children sat so well as they listened to two stories read by Miss Greenin and Miss Sulzmann.

Forest walks are an integral part of the Early Years curriculum and help the children in many areas of learning: physical development, communication and language, personal social emotional development, and understanding the world.



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Kindergarten News

This term we are looking at Animals in the Wild as the topic in Early Years and the children are enjoying lots of role play with animals, as well as getting creative with paint and play dough. The Kindergarten children enjoyed taking part in a walk to the pond where they saw the ducks, and used the traditional rhyme they learnt in their Maths activities.

The children in Lower Kindergarten have been learning about birds. Here they are using feathers to mark make to support their developing writing and drawing skills.

In Upper Kindergarten, the children enjoyed a lovely story time all about the Owl Babies. They played out the story using puppets and created owls and nests in a creative session. The children also looked at other birds and throughout the week made wonderful creations using bright colours and feathers.



Oak-Tree Schools Year 3 Camp

On Thursday 20 September pupils and teachers travelled to Oaklands School to take part in the annual Oak-Tree Schools Year 3 overnight camping trip. Everyone took part in lots of different team-building and leadership style activities; they even had to put up and look after their own tents! Mr Grant, Ms Barnard and Mrs Osborn were there to help with the activities and getting ready for bed! The class particularly enjoyed their hot chocolate and toasted marshmallows before it was time to get some sleep.

"I really enjoyed my first ever night away from my mummy and daddy. It was so fun to sleep in the tent overnight!" **Shay**.

"It was really fun to play all day with my friends and my new friends from the other schools." **Leo**.

"My favourite part of the camping trip was making our own lunches as we were able to choose any sandwich filling we wanted!" **Ilayda**.



Year 2 Focus on Autumn

For their Friday Art session, Year 2 created wonderful autumn trees using five colours and their fingers with an outline of the tree to help. The class discussed the different colours we see in Autumn and what happens during these months. The children then used their fingers to paint the leaves, branches and grass, creating their lovely autumn pictures.





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Year 4 Holiday Projects

Year 4 had a busy summer holiday creating their "Living Things and Their Habitats" projects. They presented their learning in a variety of ways, from posters and booklets to fantastic dioramas. The children were able to present their learning confidently and the whole class learned lots of facts about their chosen animal and its habitat. Some children even created their own quiz at the end of their presentations to check that the class were listening carefully. Mrs. Beeson was very impressed with the standard of what they produced!



Year 5 Explore Chingford

Year 5 are studying their Local Area for their Humanities topic this term, and they took a walk along Station Road to look for local landmarks and features. They found that Chingford has things that are found in a town and in the countryside as we are on the border of Epping Forest. They were fantastically behaved and all managed to win 'Local Area Bingo'!

"On our walk I enjoyed searching for the things on my sheet and spending time with my friends." **Mia**

"On our walk I learnt that Chingford is more than you think." **Poppy**

"On our walk I enjoyed spotting things and I learnt there are streams, rivers and ponds." **Jan**

"On our walk I enjoyed having an adventure in our lesson." **Charlie C**



British Sign Language Club

Following its successful launch last year, British Sign Language (BSL) Club has continued to run at lunch times this year. The club is for children from Years 1-6 who are keen to learn another language.

BSL is a language used by those who are deaf or hard of hearing. The children have been attending on a Tuesday lunch time and are learning with Miss Stone and Miss Greenin.

If you would like your child to attend, please sign them up in the office or tell them to come and visit us in the Year 4 classroom on a Tuesday lunch time.





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News from Class 1T

1T recently went for a walk along Station Road in preparation for their new History topic that they are going to be learning about this term, 'Shops and Toys'. Pupils noticed advertising, shop fronts and goods on display and compared all the different types of shops. Everyone loved the cake shop the most!

In Art, they had lots of fun painting leaves and then printing them onto paper to make the body for their hedgehogs. They all thought carefully about the colour of the leaves when they painted them and the shape of the hedgehog's body.



Class 2A's Material Knowledge

Year 2 have been looking at different materials and their properties. In 2A, pupils looked at and drew the school building and labelled the different materials used. They discussed why different materials are used for a certain parts of the building, for example, why glass is used for the windows. The children will be using their new knowledge of materials over the next few Science lessons, and will be carrying out different experiments and tests.



Year 6 Explore Movement

Year 6 have started Art lessons with the theme of 'capturing movement in drawing'. The children have studied how the body is postured while still and then while moving. They also looked at various positions of legs and arms during movement. They then tried to capture these observations in their sketches and drawings, while experimenting with different objects, such as planes and balloons.



Extra-Curricular Music

In assembly on Monday 24 September, Mrs Jones and Ms Goatly demonstrated some of the many instruments on which we offer tuition at Normanhurst. These ranged from Mrs Jones' very expensive and rare ancient brass instrument (also known as a hosepipe) to the wide variety of brass, strings, woodwind, percussion, piano, as well as singing lessons. Over 70 of our pupils take instrumental lessons at school and lots of staff members had stories to share with their tutor groups about their own experience playing instruments.

Can you guess which member of staff played or still plays the following? Oboe, clarinet, saxophone, cello, vocals, trumpet.

There are a number of music clubs you can take part in if you play an instrument, including band and orchestra. Juniors can join recorder club on Monday break times, which is a great place to start a musical journey.



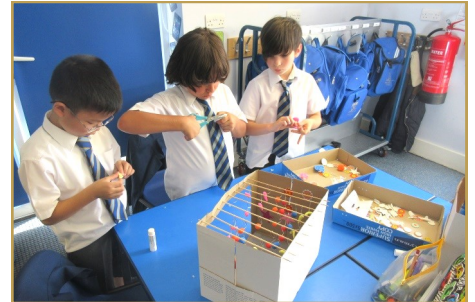


NEWSLETTER

Year 3 Learn About Succot

As part of our Harvest Festival Celebrations, Year 3 have been learning about the Jewish Harvest Festival of Succot. During this festival, it is customary for Jewish people to eat, sleep and relax in their own 'Succah' which is a temporary hut built in their gardens. Year 3 have made their own versions of a Succah to share with everyone at the Junior Harvest Festival celebration on Tuesday 2 October. Here are some rules of how to build a Succah by Year 3:

- It must only have a maximum of three and a half walls.
- The roof must be made of leaves and branches so you can see the sky.
- You must eat in the Succah even if it is raining!
- The festival lasts for eight days.



Exploring The Enchanted Forest

For their English topic this half-term, Years 3 and 4 have been exploring different ways to describe the forest, using the book 'The Enchanted Forest' By Enid Blyton as the stimulus. The two classes explored using four out of their five senses at the Barn Hoppitt learning site in Epping Forest. They investigated what they could see, hear, smell and feel, and were able to create some fantastic descriptive sentences for different parts of the forest.

"We saw scattered, rustling leaves and a sky as beautiful as the blossom from a spring tree." – **Matias, Tiago and Imogen, Year 4**



Following in Isaac Newton's Footsteps

Year 5 have had their first Science lesson exploring the topic of Forces. They found out that forces can be measured using a Newton meter. They also found out the reasoning behind its name is linked with the famous scientist – Sir Isaac Newton.

Year 5 had fun using Newton meters for measuring the different forces that are acting upon various items in their classroom.

"I enjoyed discovering what things weigh in Newtons." **Sevan**

"I learnt what a Newton Meter is and how to use one." **Mattea**





NEWSLETTER

Law Debate in Year 6

Year 6 have been learning about the law during PSHE, in the context of the Suffragette movement. There were heated discussions about whether it is acceptable to break the law for something you believe in passionately or something for the greater good of the society.

The children explored the issue through role play, looking at different situations such as whether a ten year-old child should drive a car to save someone's life.

After much discussion, the children remained respectful of the rules, showing themselves to be great law-abiding citizens!



School Council Elections

All around the school, pupils have been putting their leadership skills into practice and presenting compelling reasons why they deserve their classmates' votes in the School Council elections.

Year 6 had an exciting day where all the class candidates for the school council had their turn to give a speech and ask for votes. There were loud cheers for those who made great promises to support their friends' ideas in the council! The hustings were followed by the voting, and the winners are to be announced soon!



Charity Committee

The Charity Committee for the new school year has now been formed, and will be led by:

- Chairpersons - William and Nydia (Year 10)
- Deputy - Hawi (Year 10)
- Publicity Officer - Kyarna (Year 11)
- Year 11 Rep - Honor (Year 11)

We have decided to support the following three charities this year:

CICRA – Better life for children with Crohns and Colitis

<https://www.cicra.org>

The Honeypot Children's Charity supporting young carers

<https://www.honeypot.org.uk>

And once again we are supporting United World Schools

www.unitedworldschools.org.

Mrs Prior
Charities Coordinator





NEWSLETTER

Holiday News

We invited parents and pupils to share with us any exciting news or interesting achievements by our school community members over the summer. Your overwhelming responses show what an active and talented bunch our pupils are!



Year 5 pupil Charlie has been retained on academy papers for another year with Leyton Orient, and they have made a winning start to their league campaign beating Luton Town and Cambridge United.



Nathaniel (Year 2) received his Orange belt in Karate after much determination and practice during the summer break.



Here is a photo of Henry, Year 8, outside the trailer he used whilst in France and Belgium filming the BBC adaptation of Les Misérables. Henry was playing Petit Gervais opposite the lead actor Dominic West who is playing Jean Valjean. It will be shown on BBC1 this winter.



Year 4 pupil Paige has moved up to Development 2 with her Gators swimming for Waltham Forest, and Stage 9 level with Larkshall swimming team. Paige is doing really well, she is now swimming four days a week and in December she will be entered for her first Gala with Waltham Forest when she turns nine years old.



After much practice, Hannah in Year 11 passed her Trinity Rock and Pop Drums Grade 6 with Merit.



NEWSLETTER

Holiday News continued



This summer Year 6 pupil Chioke achieved 3rd Kyu in Karate with Merit.

He has shown great improvement over the last year in his sparring in particular, as a result of his continued practice and determination.



Tom in Year 10 became a PADI (Professional Association of Diving Instructors) Open Water Diver over the summer. He had to pass three sections of the open water diver certification course and a final exam and is now qualified to dive to 18m/60ft.



Senior pupils Joseph and Patrick visited an elderly member of their Church Parish who lives in a nursing home; she was celebrating her 100th Birthday.



Claudia competed recently at a Hunter Trials Event on her new pony Shadow. She came 3rd in her pairs competition and a successful 1st in her individual competition.



At the recent Orion Harriers awards night, Year 4 pupil Bobby (pictured here on the left) picked up a medal and trophy for coming 3rd in the cross country running over the year.

Bobby was very proud!



NEWSLETTER

Holiday News continued

Christian (Year 10) got his Chief Gold Scout Award in July at Gilwell Park, and is going to volunteer as a Young Leader in the Cubs section from October for his six months volunteer work for the Duke of Edinburgh award.

Christian also earned himself a Jack Petchey Award over the summer, which he will collect at a Presentation in November.



LAMDA and Music Grades Success

A total of 21 Normanhurst pupils took LAMDA examinations from Introductory to Grade 5 before the summer holiday, and we are pleased to report that they achieved a 100% success rate.

The pupils ranged from Year 1 to Year 9 at the time of the exams, and all attained a pass with either Distinction or Merit.

A smaller but equally successful number of students took Music grade exams, once again achieving good passes across the board.

Well done to all those pupils who worked hard to learn their grade pieces and practised to perfect the delivery of their lines or music. They were presented with their certificates in whole school assembly.



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 Normanhurst 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

Year 7 Make a Great Start

Our new Year 7 pupils have had their first few weeks at Normanhurst, and they have settled very well into senior school life. All pupils have met their new teachers, and have adapted to life commuting between their lessons. In English they have studied short stories, have completed a timeline of their lives in History, and have started to look at making puppets in Art. Altogether, it has been a great start to their senior education!



Senior Form Leaders

This year, the Normanhurst senior forms all have form leaders who, as a team, will represent their form in the wider school life. Form leaders have already started to look at improving the bag rack area to keep our school tidy, and they are keeping their peers up to date with current affairs using their very own notice board in the school hall.

Senior School Council

School council elections were held this week to select representatives across the forms. Every class held elections in their form time, allowing pupils to give speeches persuading their peers to elect them as their form's representatives.

The School Council has now been chosen, and the pupils who won their form's election will be presented with their school council badges in assembly on 8 October, by none other than the Mayor of Waltham Forest, Councillor Sally Littlejohn!

We are delighted that our democratic process within school has gained recognition by our local politicians, and look forward to welcoming the Mayor to Normanhurst.



GCSE Art and Design

Year 10 Art and Design pupils have started their GCSE courses with great energy and enthusiasm. Both groups are exploring ways to develop their projects by working visually, experientially and through written research.

Fine Art pupils are working to develop a contemporary mixed media outcome from a traditional still life drawing by exploring printmaking and painting techniques; this will lead them into their first topic, 'Conceal and Reveal.'

Graphic Communications pupils are using design process techniques, including creating a mood board and conducting market research to inspire their ideas for their first unit 1 design brief, 'To Develop Promotional Material for a New Band.'





NEWSLETTER

Normanhurst Sports Report

PE news It has been a busy start of term for the PE department with netball and football leagues well under way for our senior pupils. Netball matches will usually take place on a Tuesday evening and football league on Thursdays.

This half term in PE lessons pupils have been taking part in a wide range of activities including team-building, netball, football, swimming hockey and tag rugby with the aim of developing an enjoyment of physical activity along with their sporting and wider skillsets. We have also run many extra-curricular clubs including both junior and senior football, gymnastics, netball and mini-tennis, all of which we are competing weekly in a range of borough and regional leagues and competitions. We have lots of exciting clubs moving forward after half term where we will be introducing cricket on a Thursday after school for Years 5-11, with the aim of organising a short cricket tour for Years 7 and 8 in the summer term along with regular fixtures against local schools. The extra-curricular programme of sports clubs this term is:

	1st half autumn	2 nd half autumn
Monday	Y3-6 Football	Y1 and Y2 Football
Tuesday	Netball Y3-11	Netball Y3-11
Wednesday	Gymnastics Y1-6 by invitation	Tennis Squad Training Y7-11 by invitation
Thursday	Senior Football Fixtures/Training	Cricket Club Y5-11
Friday	Mini tennis Y1-6 Karate Morning Running Club Y4-11 (7.45- 8.15)	Karate

After half term pupils will be taking part in rugby and hockey in core PE lessons and in preparation for this we will be inviting a company into school who provide a specialist custom fit gum shield service. More information about this will be circulated shortly.

Netball On Tuesday 11 September the Normanhurst Years 9, 10 and 11 team played against the Lammas School netball team. Both teams played very well and it was a very close match throughout the game. In the last quarter, however, Lammas School managed to extend their lead and win the game. The final score was 7-5. **By Mia, 10B**

Football On Saturday 22 September, we took ten boys from Years 5 and 6 to Forest School for their annual 7-a-side tournament. The boys played extremely well throughout the day and were a credit to the school in both their play and conduct. We narrowly lost to a strong Chigwell team, drew with Forest's A team and beat their B team which was a massive achievement for the boys, alongside draws against Avon House and Woodford Green Prep. Overall Normanhurst finished 6th out of 9 teams with lots of positives to take forward into forthcoming fixtures and tournaments. Well done to all those who played!



NEWSLETTER



Normanhurst School Parents' Association

Dear Parents (old and new)

Welcome to a new school year from the Normanhurst School Parents' Association.

We had our first meeting of the new school year on Monday night and aside from the usual catch up and discussion about events for the year ahead, we spoke in depth about how we can attract more of you to volunteer some time to the NSPA. As a charity that is run by parents, we are a naturally evolving organisation. This year's AGM will spell out some of our requirements but if you are interested in gaining a better understanding of how the NSPA is run and how we contribute to the school community, would like to meet new people in a social environment, and can spare a few hours here or there, we would really like to see meet you.

Despite some excellent fundraisers last year, we were unable to meet our (ambitious) financial target to buy thirty iPads for the school. If our events are as well attended this year as last, then we should be able to do this by the Spring term. Please check the noticeboard by the main reception to see how close we are getting.

There are two fun things to look forward to this term. The first is the Rock N Roll Bingo. If you have never been, it is a fabulous music quiz for the whole family with food and drink a-plenty. Following that in December, there is a winter walk to Connaught Water and back for mulled wine and hot snacks. Again, this is an event for the whole family.

Finally, please make a note in your diary of the Summer Ball which will take place on 18 May 2019. This is a biannual event for all of the Oak-Tree Schools and tickets are on a first come, first served basis. We will let you know when they go on sale.

10 October 2018	The NSPA AGM - all welcome
15 October 2018	NSPA Evening meeting
16 November 2018	Rock N Roll Bingo
10 December 2018	Winter walk through the forest
18 May 2019	Oak-Tree Summer Ball

Until then, very best wishes.

The NSPA Committee



Open Day

Thursday 4 October - 6pm
Early Years - Friday 5 October - 9.15am