



# 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)

October 2019

### Headmistress's Letter

Dear Parents

I hope your children have enjoyed the half-term so far, particularly if you joined us for the first time in September. Pupils have settled very well and I have been delighted to see them rising to the challenge of the new school year so positively.

The newsletter published last week gave a sense of just how much is going on in school. Parents have been in school for a number of events from the Sixth Form information evening, to drop-in mornings, the Y7 Meet the Teacher event and the Macmillan Coffee Morning. It has been lovely to see so many parents taking an active part in their children's education.

We had a lovely junior Harvest Festival last week, when all the children from Kindergarten up to Year 6 took part in our celebrations. Thank you to all the families who were able to join us for the event, and to everyone who brought a donation for the St Thomas of Canterbury Soup Run.

An impressive number of junior and senior trips and fixtures have taken place already, including a Year 2 visit to the 'floating classroom' on the Thames, a GCSE drama theatre trip, Year 8 trip to the Natural History museum, Year 10 trip to Science live and junior trips to Colchester zoo and to the Museum of London. More trips are to follow after the half term break.

### Open Evening Thursday 3 October and EYFS Open Morning Friday 4 October

I was incredibly proud of the pupils who helped at the Open Days last week and grateful for the significant contribution they made to these excellent events. We had a record number of prospective families come to visit the school and it was a pleasure to see and hear our current pupils talking about their life at school and touring our visitors.

We are looking forward to seeing many of the Year 6 visitors at our 11+ exam in January 2020.

### Oak-Tree Schools Annual Fireworks Display

Parents have already received a letter about this special annual event. The display will take place on Sunday 10 November 2019 from 4.30pm to 6.30pm and will be held in the grounds of Oaklands School, Albion Hill, Loughton. It is an excellent evening for all the family. All profits from the evening will go back to the Parents' Associations, with the teams from Oaklands, Normanhurst, Coopersale Hall and Braeside joining together to help run the event.

Due to the enormous demand, tickets will only be available to purchase before the event. Ticket sales will be limited to around 1000. Tickets will cost £5 per child or £10 per adult with a discounted price of £25 for a family of two children and two adults. This includes a hot dog (meat or vegetarian), with additional treats for children. There will be opportunities to purchase mulled wine, beer, hot drinks and various children glow goodies during the evening. Please note that your booking form and payment must be handed in by Wednesday 16 October 2019 to secure your attendance. Tickets will be issued during the week commencing Monday 4 November.

### **House Music Competition 2019**

I hope that your children have been talking enthusiastically to you about House Music. This is certainly an annual highlight. Each House is preparing their items for the competition which takes place at 9.00am on Monday 14 October. As usual, we are inviting parents to come and watch the event, which will be judged by a panel including a professional musician, composer and record producer. Parents have received a letter confirming that there will be an allocation of one ticket per family in the first instance. Please use the text back service to book your ticket.

### **Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal**

Every year we support the work of Operation Christmas Child by filling shoe boxes with gifts to send to children overseas in need of support. It is a lovely charity, which brings a smile to many children and young people in significant need. This year we are having a Shoe Box House Challenge once again to see which House can donate the most boxes in the junior and seniors. Mrs Prior will be telling the pupils all about how to contribute shortly. We aim to send at least 100 boxes and your help will be much appreciated. Please look out for the information leaflet when they come home. Half-term is a good time to collect items for a shoebox, ready to bring into school after the holiday.

### **Car Safety in Station Road**

A number of parents have raised concerns about the fact that a few parents are stopping in traffic in Station Road and letting their children out of the car without parking or pulling over. Please do stop safely and park before your children get out of the car in the mornings.

### **Access to Portals**

As requested at the start of term, please do access your parent portal for ongoing information and to update any details that may have changed. This includes contact details (we need at least two current emergency contacts) and medical information. We upload key information to the portal so that it can be accessed at your convenience. If you have misplaced your login details, please contact the office as they can issue a temporary password to allow you to access the portal.

### **The Oak-Tree Challenge Award**

Mrs Allen is the Normanhurst Oak-Tree Challenge Coordinator and she has been introducing the award to pupils in Years 4 to 9. The Oak-Tree Challenge is designed to challenge pupils by providing an incentive to participate in the huge variety of opportunities provided inside or outside school.

The scheme runs throughout the year from the first day of term in September until the end of June and is designed to be pupil-initiated. Some challenges are achievable in school time, whilst others are designed to be undertaken out of school with parental support. There are a mixture of skills and activities being assessed, including voluntary work and independent study. For each stage there is a requirement for self-reflection that is intended to become more detailed as the children get older.

Pupils progress to each next award once the previous one has been completed. Evidence of the successful completion of challenges will be recorded in a logbook that must be kept up-to-date and completed by the pupils themselves. The supervising teacher, parent or other adult will be countersigning the relevant journal entry to verify the contents.

Please do encourage your children to take part in the award. Gold awards are presented at the annual Speech Day and Prize Giving, in recognition of the considerable achievement.

## Residential Trips

### PGL Netball Weekend

Netballers from Normanhurst are once again attending the PGL netball residential weekend this year. For the first time, pupils from Braeside are joining the trip.

### Sports Tour to Madrid in Half Term

Pupils are going on a wonderful football and culture trip to Spain in the half-term break. Thank you to all the parents who joined us for the trip meeting earlier in the term. We will be posting photos throughout the trip and giving parents a daily update on GroupCall. Look out for articles on the website and in the next newsletter.

### Ski Trip Opportunity February 2021

Pupils in current Year 5 to Year 9 will be invited to an information evening about our next ski trip which is scheduled to take place in Italy during the February half-term break in 2021. The information evening is on Monday 11 November at 5.30pm and will take place in the school hall.

Please come along if you are interested in finding out more. For the first time we are planning to include pupils in Year 6 at Oaklands and Coopersale Hall, who will join the pupils from Normanhurst and Braeside on the ski trip.

## Uniform Reminders

Please remember that the pupils come back to school in the winter uniform after the half term break. The full uniform list can be found on the website, or by clicking on this link: <https://www.normanhurstsch.co.uk/parents-pupils/school-uniform/>

Junior pupils should all wear the regulation school coat, scarf and winter hat. From Year 7 upwards pupils may wear either the regulation coat, or a plain navy or black coat, without any logos or decoration. Pupils are only allowed to wear plain navy or black scarves, hats and gloves.

## Forthcoming Dates for the Diary until the end of the Autumn Term

Wed 9 Oct	08:30 – 15:30	Y1T trip to Colchester Zoo
	09:00 – 15:45	Y8 Natural History Museum trip
Thu 10 Oct	09:00 – 15:30	Y5&6 Museum of London trip – Vikings Workshop
	09:00 – 15:30	Y10 New Scientist Live ExCel trip
Fri 11 – Sun 13 Oct		PGL Netball Weekend
Mon 14 Oct	09:00 – 10:00	House Music Competition – parents invited
	19:00 – 20:30	NSPA Meeting (hall)
Tue 15 Oct	16:00 – 18:30	KG-Y6 Parents' Evening (specialist staff in hall)
Wed 16 Oct	09:00 – 15:45	Y7 Natural History Museum trip
	16:00 – 18:30	KG-Y6 Parents' Evening
Fri 18 Oct	18:00 – 19:30	GCSE Presentation Evening
Mon 21 – Fri 1 Oct		HALF TERM
Mon 21 – Fri 25 Oct		Madrid Sports Tour
Mon 21 Oct	09:00 – 12:00	GCSE English booster
Tue 22 Oct	09:00 – 12:00	GCSE Spanish (mock exams) booster
	13:00 – 16:00	GCSE French (mock exams) booster
Wed 23 Oct	09:00 – 12:00	GCSE Geography booster
	13:00 – 16:00	GCSE History booster
Mon 28 Oct	09:00 – 16:00	GCSE Art and Graphics booster

Fri 1 Nov	09:00 – 12:00	GCSE Science booster
Thu 7 Nov	09:00 – 17:00	Y9 Imperial War Museum trip
Sun 10 Nov	16:30 – 18:30	Oak-Tree Fireworks Night
Fri 15 Nov	09:30 – 15:45	Y10 Imperial War Museum trip
	18:00 – 22:00	NSPA Bingo Mash-up
Mon 18 Nov	09:00 – 15:30	Y2 Gunpowder Mills trip
Tue 19 Nov	17:00 – 18:30	Y9 Options Evening
Wed 20 Nov	09:30 – 15:30	Y1T Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood trip
Thu 21 Nov	09:30 – 15:30	Y5&6 Museum of London – Anglo-Saxons Workshop
Fri 22 Nov	08:30 – 09:00	Rec-Y6 Parents' Drop In
Thu 28 Nov-Mon 9 Dec		Y11 Mock GCSE Exams
Fri 29 Nov	09:00 – 16:00	Y11 Poetry Live Apollo Theatre trip
Tue 3 Dec	11:00 – 16:00	Y7 Dickens Museum trip
	14:00 – 15:00	EYFS and Infant Nativity Play
	16:00 – 18:30	Y9 Parents' Evening
Wed 4 Dec	09:00 – 10:00	EYFS and Infant Nativity Play
Thu 5 Dec	12:30 – 16:00	Junior School Pantomime
Sun 8 Dec	11:00 – 13:00	NSPA Winter Walk
Tue 10 Dec	14:00 – 15:00	Carol Service
Wed 11 Dec	14:00 – 15:15	Junior Christmas Party
Thu 12 Dec	12:00	Last day of term

As always, if you have any concerns or questions you would like to discuss, please contact your child's form teacher or telephone the school office to arrange an appointment. We would be very happy to see you.

With my best wishes

Yours sincerely



Mrs 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.

Normanhurst School is the trading name of Normanhurst School Ltd; registered in England at 6 Albion Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 4RA; company number 9380841

