



# NEWSLETTER

December 2019

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## Headmistress's Message

We have enjoyed a lovely range of Festive events and celebrations over the last two weeks of term, culminating in a delicious Christmas lunch and a Christmas party for the juniors.

There has been a sense of awe and wonder in our Christmas celebrations, from the Early Years children's joy at the arrival of the 'elf on the shelf' in a Christmas stocking, to the thought-provoking and reflective re-telling of the Christmas Story in our nativity performances and carol service.

Of course, much learning has also been taking place and our oldest students in Year 11 have spent the last two weeks of term in mock GCSE exams. I hope they enjoyed celebrating the end of those with Christmas lunch today, their final one as members of Normanhurst School.

The articles in this newsletter give you an indication of some of the opportunities the pupils have enjoyed over the last three weeks. Enjoy reading them.

May I wish you all a peaceful and happy Christmas, and a restful holiday. I look forward to welcoming back all the pupils on Tuesday 7 January, to begin an exciting new term together.

With all good wishes for the New Year.

**Mrs Claire Osborn**  
Headmistress

## Little Reindeer

During our festive preparations, Lower Kindergarten have enjoyed learning all about reindeer through stories, rhymes, songs and role play. Here we see the children ready to perform the Reindeer Hokey Cokey in the Christmas Nativity.



In our special class story, we found out how reindeer were chosen by Father Christmas to pull his sleigh after all the other animals that applied for the job were eliminated.



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## 2019 Christmas Carol Service

It was lovely to have the whole school community come together and be joined by our future headmistress, Mrs Job, to celebrate Christmas at our annual carol service. The story of how the hymn 'Silent Night' came to be written was beautifully enacted by the children from Years 5 and 6. The performances from the wonderful choirs, orchestra and readers combined to produce a truly joyful service. Thank you to all the parents who attended, and whose generous donations raised a total of £327.21 for our nominated charities.



## Christmas Comes to Normanhurst

On the penultimate day of term, the children and staff alike turned out in their Christmas finery to enjoy the day at school without uniform. All were asked to pay £1 towards our nominated charities, and many took advantage of the opportunity to try and outdo each other in the Christmas jumper stakes.

Thank you to everyone who donated, raising £175.00 for our nominated charities.

The day continued in the festive theme with the children enjoying a Christmas lunch with all the trimmings. The seniors enjoyed lunch first for a change, sitting with their form and teachers.

The junior lunch was followed by the arrival of a very special visitor who brought gifts for all the children. As always on this festive day, a fun time was had by all.



## 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.



### YouTube

Subscribe to our YouTube account to watch some of pupils in action in class, during performances, at sports day and more.



### Facebook

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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## Festive Fun Day

There is a tradition in Early Years that the wonderful Christmas season starts with Festive Fun Day. The idea of the day is to learn about traditions, festivals and celebrations that take place at this time of the year. It is an opportunity for the children to learn about similarities and differences between themselves and others and among families and communities as they share their own experiences of Christmases past and present. This year we decided to look at the tradition and history of 'The Christmas Tree'.

We thought it would be fun for us all to dress in our pyjamas and make believe it is the night before Christmas. The children had a 'Midnight Feast' at lunchtime and lots of activities were planned to enhance our learning throughout the day.

A highlight of the morning was Mrs Osborn arriving with the elf from the story 'The Elf on the Shelf'! It seems he had been hiding in Mrs Osborn's office, and had changed into his pyjamas especially for his visit to the Early Years department. Mrs Osborn read a lovely story about the Little Fir Tree and then the children decorated our Christmas tree with all the baubles and decorations they had made during the morning.



## Junior Pantomime Trip

HO HO HO! It's that time of year again! The pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 climbed aboard coaches and set off to the Millfield Theatre to enjoy this year's pantomime, Mother Goose. The stage was set, the story unfolded, and the children had a wonderful afternoon. Two of our children even made it on to the stage with a Golden Ticket!

As always, the children behaved impeccably and were a credit to the school.



## Christmas at The Spinney

On Monday 9 December a group of children from Years 1 and 2 took a walk down to the local care home, The Spinney, to open Day 9 of their giant advent calendar. Shimei helped birthday girl Doreen open the box and, much to our delight, it contained all the ingredients to make peppermint creams.

With the help of some of the residents, the children made enough sweet treats for everyone and did a fantastic job of handing them out along with some festive cheer!







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## EYFS and Junior Christmas Art

It seems that Christmas is not only the season to be jolly but also to be arty! Many of our younger pupils have been using their Art lessons to create all sorts of festive decorations.

In Kindergarten the children have been busy decorating a picture of a Christmas tree. With a focus on different textures, they used shaving foam for a snowy effect, then added glitter and pom-poms to give sparkle and colour. Big cut-out stars completed the colourful tree!

In Year 2, pupils had a Christmas art carousel where they moved round to different tables to complete various art activities. They made snowman pegs, two different types of baubles and turned themselves into Santa's elves by using split pins to create a moveable elf. The children are excited to take their Christmas decorations home to share with their families.

Meanwhile, Year 3 has also been creating a variety of winter themed arts and crafts to get into the festive spirit. Based on their English topic of 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas', the children made paper plate portraits of the Grinch, using a number of techniques including painting, cutting & sticking, drawing and designing.

In a recent Art lesson, Year 3 focused on something we all love, SNOWMEN! The children loved creating both paper-chain and named snowmen for their friends or family members, again using and developing their art techniques. After enjoying these Art activities, the children are definitely ready for Christmas!

The Year 5 pupils have painted and collaged Décopatch papier mâché reindeer that were made from recycled paper. They also made Christmas cards for their families using a collage and 3D effect. The children put the skills they had gained from their previous Art lessons to good use, creating wonderful Christmas artefacts which they are looking forward to taking home and sharing with their families.

In Year 6 the children studied how to capture movement in art and worked over a few sessions to complete a final draft. They initially drafted their figures by sketching and then drew them on card, cutting them out to make stencils. The children used water colours in different styles to make their figures stand out. Some chose animals and some chose to draw people in motion. They were very proud of their final work.

The Year 6 pupils have also looked at Cubism and how it can be represented in paintings. They completed their initial designs by sketching and also experimented with different colours. Then they chose a colour theme and used a range of resources to create their final draft, such as colouring pencils, felt tips, biro pens, tissue paper and sugar paper as well as various materials. The finished results looked extremely eye-catching!





# NEWSLETTER

## Sports Hall Athletics

Year 1 participated in their first athletics Sports Hall fixture at the Peter May Sports Centre on Monday 18 November. The children were singled out by the organiser of the event for their impeccable behaviour and keen sportsmanship throughout. All the children were very enthusiastic throughout the whole afternoon.

The children were challenged with a variety of different activities, many of which were new to them and most importantly, had a lot of fun. We were so busy that there wasn't even time to eat the extra snack they brought with them!

It was a really good afternoon and all the children commented on how much they enjoyed it.

**Enis:** "I liked the rocket launcher (javelin) because of how far they go."

**James:** "The step jumper from side to side and then run round the cone was the best."

**Noah-Hussain and Emran:** "I liked the javelin because it went into the hoops."

**Kelly:** "The activities were difficult, but some were easy. I enjoyed doing the skipping in the hoops."



## Remembrance Day 2019

At Normanhurst this year, the Juniors marked the 100<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day in a special way. We remembered that Remembrance Day is not just about World Wars I and II but in fact about all wars and conflicts in the last 100 years. So with this in mind, each of the year groups learnt about a different aspect of war or war itself.

In EYFS and Year 1 the children learnt about wearing Poppies and why we have a Remembrance Day; children in Year 2 learnt about World War II and researched facts using the iPads; Year 3 learnt about World War I and their use of animals; Year 4 learnt about the Gulf War and heard a personal story from Warren Dunn WO1 (Rtd); Year 5 learnt about the Falklands War and heard a personal story from Mitch Provan Lt Col (Rtd) and Year 6 learnt about the current conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq, discussing what may have triggered these events that caused soldiers to lose their lives fighting in a war which was nowhere near where they lived.

All of the classes made beautiful artwork to symbolise the wars and celebrate the unsung heroes, which they proudly carried during the ceremony where we observed a minute's silence to remember the fallen.

It was nice to learn that some of our Junior pupils also took part in the Chingford Remembrance Day Parade with the local Brownies group.







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## Year 1 Study Toys of the Past

The Year 1 children were excited to go on a walk along Station Road as an opener to their new Humanities History topic 'Shops and Toys from the Past'. Everyone noticed the moped outside the takeaway shop and compared this with a bicycle delivery service that was used by grocers' shops in the past.

The children made some good observations, noticing that shops in the past had all the goods displayed in the shop windows whereas the more modern shops have lights, signs, and advertising.

They all decided that Shaws the butcher was an older style shop, and that Tesco had automatic doors. Some of the children noticed that new shops were bright with lots of lights, whereas old shops were dark.

Continuing their topic of looking at Toys from the Past, Year 1 had a brilliant day at the V&A Museum of Childhood on 20 November. They discovered first hand, on their visit, just how much there was to see and do, from exhibitions and displays to activities. Once they completed their 'Toy Hunt' challenge all were free to explore. Some of them galloped on old fashioned rocking horses, others performed a Punch and Judy show, some played in the sand in a recreation of a Victorian beach, whilst some of us dressed up as servants in Victorian costume and waited on the Master and Mistress of the house by serving dinner to them.

Everyone participated in an interactive workshop, 'Finding Out About the Past', and learned about the oldest toy in the museum – a 3500 year old doll found in an Ancient Egyptian tomb. We then looked at a variety of old toys and identified what materials they were made from. Everyone had fun playing with a selection of outdoor games children used in Victorian times. Then, the best part was we got to make our own toy to take home.

Clearly this was an enjoyable trip which helped to bring the Year 1 History topic to life for the children.

Following on from the visit to the museum and to conclude our study of toys from the past, Year 1 set up their very own museum in the classroom. We had fun working out how to play with a wide range of toys from the past, and then identified the materials they were made from. Everyone picked a favourite toy to describe and sketch. The Punch and Judy puppets were popular. It was almost as good as being back in the Museum of Childhood again!



## Musical Materials

As part of their Science topic on Materials, Year 2 have spent some time focussing on recycling. We have thought about the 3 R's - Recycle, Reuse and Reduce, and then continued this theme into our Art lesson where the children reused items such as Pringles tubes, jar lids and tins along with rice and pasta to create musical instruments. The children made rain sticks, maracas, drums, banjos and a tambourine, and then decorated them. They then practised playing the instruments which they thoroughly enjoyed.





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## Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is a project run by Samaritan's Purse, a Christian international relief organisation. Their mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities. They ship these simple gifts outside the United Kingdom to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease.

Once again the Norman Hurst School community has shown enormous generosity in supporting this worthwhile venture. A total of 112 shoeboxes were collected. Connaught emerged as winners in the house competition having donated 61 shoeboxes to Warren's 51. A big 'thank you' to everyone who donated.



## Royal Gunpowder Mills Trip

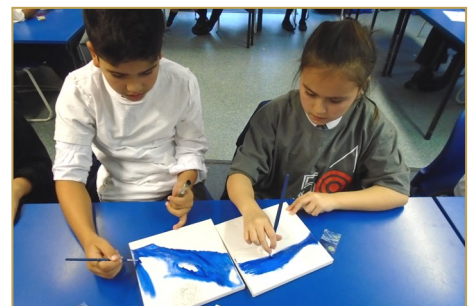
On Monday 18 November, Year 2 went for a trip to the Royal Gunpowder Mills at Waltham Abbey to learn more and engage in a variety of workshops on Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot. The children enjoyed a panto-like performance of the Gunpowder Plot which involved some of the children pretending to be the gunpowder. There were some craft activities which involved making a lantern and a quill to write their names with. They also discovered the types of games and food they would have had when Guy Fawkes was alive. The sessions were really engaging and the children enjoyed getting involved with everything. This has added to the knowledge the children already had on Guy Fawkes.



## Year 5 Collaborative Art

"Our Vincent van Gogh Collaborative Art Painting (Starry Night) was just a blank canvas once. However, we made just a little sketch each from our own part of the picture and when we put it together it looked like the artist drew it, it was wonderful. It got even better when we painted it! We used acrylic paint, which was hard to do, but it was worth it. Our finished product was lovely and all of Year 5 are really proud of it. It had a touch of creativity and each square really did look like the real thing! We are going to have it displayed in the school, keep an eye out!"

By Eloise, Year 5







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## Forces and Magnets in Year 3

Before half term, Year 3's Science lessons were focused on Forces and Magnets. They have had the opportunity to carry out a number of experiments that have allowed them to test and question their knowledge and current understanding. The children have really enjoyed the practical lessons of this topic, like the experiment to test the effect that a surface would have on the speed of a moving toy car. In Year 3 the children are focusing on making predictions and conclusions for their experiments; in this lesson William predicted that the car would bounce from side to side on the bumpy sandpaper, while Dylan made the prediction that the car would move quicker on a smooth surface than a rough one.



We concluded that Dylan's prediction was a sensible one as a smooth surface such as stone is the best one for movement, although we were surprised to find that the car moved quite quickly over carpet as well.

In another practical lesson, Year 3 tested the magnetism of different materials. Jake and Sophia used their scientific knowledge to predict that paper clips would be magnetic because they are made out of metal, but rope would not be magnetic because it is not metal.

The Year 3 pupils really enjoyed this experiment, and were surprised by some of the results. They came to the conclusion that cooper clips are not magnetic even though they are made out of metal.

Overall Year 3 have been working super hard on writing conclusions from their results and they enjoy comparing these to their predictions in order to test whether they were correct or not.

## Year 5 Local Walks

"This term Year 5 have been on three local trips. Our first trip was on Thursday 14 November when we walked down the road to Pole Hill. We played the alphabetical eye spy game in our partners. We had a couple of questions to answer using the information on the obelisk marking true north on the Greenwich Meridian line.



Our second trip was on Monday 18 November. We all played a game of geographical bingo whilst walking down Station Road. This included lots of different types of things such as bus stop CCTV cameras, flowers and advertisements to name a few. Past the train station we could see a little but beautiful view of Connaught Waters shimmering in the distance. Finally, our teacher checked our bingo sheets to see if we had won!

Last but not least we went to the Queen Elizabeth Hunting Lodge. We took a picture in front of the hunting lodge, then inside we wrote down facts about the lodge, for example, it was built in 1543. We then walked up to the second floor where there was lots of different Tudor clothing to try on and we took some notes. When we walked up to the last floor we all sketched a picture of the wonderful view from the top. One more fact is there is another hunting lodge called 'The Little Standing'.



**By James, Jasmine and Nicolas, Year 5.**





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## Museum of London Trip

"On a cold Thursday, Year 6 took a train with Year 5 to the Museum of London. Fortunately, we were allowed to go in the gift shop and I decided to buy a souvenir pencil and a stuffed animal for my dog. Moments later, the teachers let us have our lunch which was a sandwich, crisps, orange juice and a Kit Kat.

Year 5 and 6 went to look at ancient objects in the museum that have been found all over London. I found some really shiny, bronze coloured coins and a sharp, silver sword. These were my favourites.

Soon after, it was time for our workshop, which took place in a small house in the museum. The man who did the workshop told us three stories about the Saxon times. My favourite story was Beowulf due to the fact that I got to go up to the front and join in with the activity. The myth was about a monster being executed. I played the part of its arms. I felt pleased that I was chosen.

Finally, we took a stroll down the Victorian Street in the museum on our way out. This was made up of shops that were full of pretend food which would be sold in the Victorian times. Then we took trains back to our school."

By Amber, Year 6



## Christmas Art Club

Since half-term, pupils from Years 1 – 6 have been attending Christmas Craft Club with Miss Stone. Each week the children have produced a different Christmas themed craft item using various media. There have been some new arts and crafts methods, and a range of skills learnt along the way.

Week 1 saw the pupils using their fine motor skills to create 'sequin art' finally revealing a penguin design in the snow. In week 2, the sewing skills of the children were tested as they made polar bear baubles for their trees at home out of felt. In week 3, the children used their fine motor skills to thread a Christmas keyring together and also create a Christmas themed bookmark. Week 4 saw some beautiful hand puppets being sewn together for the children to play with at home. Christmas cards were the theme in week 5, using their collaging and drawing skills the children made beautiful cards for their friends and family.

What talented crafting skills they have!





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## Green Tree Schools Award

The Normanthurst Juniors are working on the Green Tree Schools Award with the Woodland Trust, and have recently been awarded the Bronze Award. The scheme involves the children taking part in fun, practical activities in Epping Forest linked to the curriculum.

Year 5 have recently taken part in a challenge which involved taking photos with different viewpoints. They enjoyed exploring the forest and working together to find interesting scenes and perspectives, and took some beautiful photographs as a result.

The Year 2 pupils had a tree party, putting Christmas decorations on the tree and having a snack around it. The Year 3 pupils made some decorations of their own and chose a tree to dress, while the Year 6 pupils explored the story of A Midsummer Night's Dream, looking carefully at the words to find suitable spots for different scenes.

All of the other year groups will be completing challenges to work towards the Green Tree Silver Award.



## Aristotle vs Galileo

Year 5 have been learning about forces and studied two scientists who have theories about the speed at which things fall. Aristotle says that the heavier things are, the quicker they will fall, whereas Galileo felt that the mass of an object made no difference to the speed at which it fell.

Year 5 experimented to find out who was right by dropping things of the same weight but different shape and the same shape by different weights. They concluded that Aristotle was correct and it is the force of gravity that makes this happen. However, Year 5 also found out, from watching a clip on the moon, that when you take gravity out of the situation Galileo's theory is correct and both a hammer and a feather fell at the same speed. So they are both correct! Year 5 learnt a lot during this experiment!



## Geography Baubles

Year 7 pupils were set a festive task to create their own Geographical bauble to go on our Geography Christmas tree. They were given the choice of designing their bauble as they wish, using the materials of their choice – the challenge was that it had to be related to Geography. The task generated an array of creative and well thought out decorations including a globe reminding us to protect our planet, a weather and climate bauble with a floating sun and cotton wool representing clouds, and a light up bauble with a hand painted Union Jack on one side and the EU flag on the other.

Well done for your fantastically creative decorations Year 7!







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## Pupil News

One of our junior parents has recently written in with some great news about a charity project that her children have been taking part in.

*"We would like to share what Nicolas and Sofia have been up to today. We are currently working as a family with a charity for homeless people called Street Kind UK. Today we had our first outreach in Central London.*

*My kids made lots of sandwiches and flapjacks (following Miss Collings' yummy recipe) and they helped to distribute them today to the homeless friends involved in this lovely project.*

*Both kids were outstanding. Nicolas followed his usual pragmatic style, he kept himself busy with giving away the cakes, making sure that everyone had the right food with accompanying cutlery, napkin and piece of fruit, while Sofia once more demonstrated her high ability in social and emotional skills. She was in charge of the hot drinks station, also awarding the participants with her usual lovely self, sharing smiles, having endless chats, and making friends with all the homeless people that came her way. She enjoyed every minute of it and is looking forward to our next outreach (January).*

*We are very proud. We don't want them to grow in a false bubble of entitlement. They are good people in the making, and wonderful assets for the world."*

We at Normanhurst are also very proud of Nicolas's and Sofia's fantastic charity work on the front line of helping the homeless. Well done!



## Year 7 trip to the Charles Dickens Museum

On Tuesday 3 December, Year 7 went on a trip to the extraordinary Charles Dickens Museum in London. The day was really insightful as we took part in a workshop on the character Scrooge from the novel 'A Christmas Carol' and experienced, a guided tour through Dickens' house. Dickens was a rich Victorian author who still remains famous today.

However, we were told by the helpful tour guide that this wealthy author did not start off so fortunate. His father was an irresponsible money spender and as a result he got sent to prison for being in too much debt, so therefore Charles was forced to start working at the early age of 12 in a boot-blackening company. We also learnt that Dickens also loved to go to lavish theatres and often held grand dinner parties.

During the workshop, we also found out that Dickens was a very charitable man as he often performed extracts from his work for charities. Through his novels and articles, Dickens was trying to create awareness of typical, common Victorian issues. The whole year group thoroughly enjoyed the trip.



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## Year 10 GCSE History Trip to Imperial War Museum

On 15 November the Year 10 History GCSE class spent the day at the Imperial War Museum. On arrival they explored the First and Second World War galleries before taking part in a museum created workshop. The task was to select three objects from either war gallery, which they thought were of particular interest in terms of their significance at the time of the war and why they remain of interest today. Working in small groups they then had to create a short film about their selections.



Before leaving the museum, we visited the Holocaust exhibition which directly links to the History GCSE Germany Paper. The pupils had been learning about the escalation of brutality towards Jews as the Nazi war machine advanced further into Eastern Europe, culminating in the Final Solution. Most of the class were shocked by the scale model of Auschwitz in the exhibition, as they had not imagined that the camp would be so large. All agreed that it was a sombre but important exhibition.

## Linguists of the Term

Congratulations to Zidaan (7W), Yilmaz (8E) and Lucy (9C) for winning the Linguist of the Term prize in their respective year groups. Mrs Kimpton and Miss Bonella decided to recognize the wonderful progress they made and the talent they have shown in Spanish and French during the Autumn Term. All three Key Stage 3 pupils demonstrated a real interest in languages by participating actively in lessons and showing consistent effort in their homework. Moreover, they excelled in end of unit assessments and made improvements in their listening, reading, writing and speaking skills. Well done!



## News from the Art & Design Department

**Year 9 Exhibition Bags** Following a term of research, experimentation and exploration of design and making, Year 9 have finally completed their bags! The pupils studied an exhibition at the Barbican Art Gallery of Lee Krasner's work which they used to inform their designs. Pupils have made a drawstring canvas bag, completely from scratch, including measuring and cutting their own pattern. They have developed their skills in dyeing, hand and machine sewing and pattern cutting.







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## News from the Art & Design Department continued

**Royal Academy of Art Outreach Workshop** Last month, the Years 10 and 11 GCSE fine art pupils had the opportunity to work with the award winning artist Jeanette Barnes and a live model from the Royal Academy of Arts in a workshop focused on the development of drawing portraits. Pupils explored how to use charcoal and make a range of expressive marks to communicate information through their drawings. They worked excellently to produce a body of sketches that showed expression, character and atmosphere. The work produced will form part of the pupil GCSE portfolios and will be used towards their final exams.



**Year 10 Drawing Development** Through their first project 'Conceal & Reveal', Year 10 have been exploring techniques to communicate concepts. The pupils have looked at ways to develop a traditional still life drawing using painting, exploration of positive and negative space, and lino printing. Pupils are working hard to build a strong visual language that they can use to communicate their individual artistic ideas.



**Year 11 Art Mock Exam** The Year 11 artists sat a 5-hour Art mock exam this term. This sees the completion of their portfolio development, making up 60% of their final GCSE grade. It is always so exciting to see the wide variety of responses to the theme, and this year's cohort have not disappointed. They have worked hard to develop their concepts and competency with their individual chosen techniques and media. Well done everyone!



**Christmas Card Winners** Christmas is often a time for tradition and a true Normanhurst tradition is the annual whole school Christmas card competition. The entries this year were outstanding, with an amazing variety of styles and techniques. Beating off stiff competition, our winners this year were Aurora and Ruiya from Year 3, Leiya from Year 8 and Mia from Year 9. We would like to say a huge thank you to all pupils who participated, it is really lovely to have our whole school creating artwork together.





# NEWSLETTER

## Normanhurst Sports Report

**U13 A and B Football vs St Aubyn's** On a wet Wednesday afternoon, we invited St. Aubyn's to Peter May for the return match of fixtures played earlier in the season. This was the boys' first fixture after our trip to Madrid and all boys involved showed huge improvement. This was reflected in the A team result where we ran out 5-1 winners, a huge achievement considering we had lost to the same opposition 4-0 in the first half term. The boys played some excellent football and displayed a killer instinct in front of goal that had been missing in previous matches. Our B team match was extremely close which was pleasing to see as we gave as many boys as possible the chance to represent the school. The game was 0-0 up until the last few minutes when St. Aubyn's unfortunately put some goals past our keeper. Overall, this fixture was great for all of the boys and they all represented the school superbly!

**U9 Forest School Football Festival** Our U9 Boys A team took the short journey to Forest School to play in their U9 Football Festival, where we played matches against Forest B and Avon House. The boys showed some excellent skill and all round play, running out 9-1 winners against Avon House before also beating Forest B 3-2. This group of boys has shown huge improvements over the course of the term and we have high hopes for these boys in the future. A special mention must go to Benjamin (3C) for some excellent goalkeeping and also to Leo and Matteo (both Y4) for superb all round play and goal scoring.

**U9 Football vs Forest School** On the last Tuesday of November every boy in Years 3 and 4 represented Normanhurst in a football fixture against local rival Forest. The four matches were all competitive and some great football was being played on every pitch. Even though we knew these would be difficult games, we went in with a positive outlook to try and stop one of the best opponents we would play this season.

The games all started well. Chances were created by all the Normanhurst teams, and our A & B teams took an early lead. Our committed defending continued into the second half, with all the boys giving everything to try and stop the opposition attackers. Despite our best efforts, Forest took control and managed to score further goals in the second half. We had a lot of chances to win all four matches but unfortunately Forest resulted triumphant. In every game the score lines reflected great performances from all the boys who never gave up and kept going to the end.

**U11 Boys Football vs Dwight School** Our U11A football team visited Dwight School for their final football fixture of the term. The game was played in extremely cold conditions and the boys took a while to acclimatise. After a tense first ten minutes the score was 0-0 with the boys playing some great football. After finally taking the lead the floodgates opened and we took a 5-0 lead into half time. The second half began much as the first as we added a further 2 goals taking us into a 7-0 lead before Dwight scored a fantastic goal of their own from the halfway line. Our boys saw out the rest of the game resolutely, ending the term on a high!

**U8 Football Festival, Westminster School** A fantastic day of football saw our Under 8 team get to the semi-finals of the Westminster School cup 6-a-side tournament in impressive style. Having been a new entry team to the competition, the Year 3 boys did the school proud. In our final game a heavy spell from Westminster and amazing saves by Normanhurst took us into half time 0-0. Unfortunately, Westminster school's great striker partnership came into play and we lost 3-0 at the final whistle. Thanks to some outstanding goal keeping and defending our team conceded only 6 goals in normal play throughout the whole tournament. Well done to all the boys who represented the school outstandingly.







# NEWSLETTER

## Normanhurst Sports Report

**Y7/8 Sports Hall Athletics** The senior girls went to the LBWF indoor sports hall athletics competition. The events consisted of long jump and triple jump, speed bounce, vertical jump, shot put and lots of different running races. The team performed really well and won several races. We will get the results from the competition later this term. Well done to everyone who took part.



**Y5/6 Sports Hall Athletics** The Years 5 and 6 pupils also formed a team to take part in the LBWF sports hall athletics competition. This is a pathway event in which the winning team can go to the London Youth Games later in the year, so all the schools in Waltham Forest put out very strong teams. Despite this, Normanhurst excelled in the competition and won lots of races, as well as giving some excellent performances in the jumping and throwing events. It was a fantastic effort—well done!

**Oak-Tree Group Athletics** This is the second year that we have run this event, and it was a really successful and enjoyable competition attended by all four Oak-Tree Group schools. Sports hall athletics is a variety of events based on running, jumping and throwing. We ran two age groups; Years 5 and 6 competed in the morning and Years 3 and 4 in the afternoon. The teams were split into a girls team and a boys team, each consisting of eight pupils. The two teams' scores are then added together to get a combined result. Braeside combined with a team of boys from Normanhurst to enable them to compete in the combined competition.

Normanhurst finished third in the Y5/6 category, behind Oaklands and Coopersale Hall. In the afternoon, Normanhurst's Y3/4 team beat off all opposition from the other schools to win! Well done to them, and to all who took part for a day of fantastic effort and sportsmanship.

**U10 Netball vs Saint Nicholas School** The Years 4 and 5 netball team travelled to Harlow to play a match against another local ISA school, Saint Nicholas. This was only the second time the U10s have been to play a competition this term and St Nicholas emerged victorious, but our team showed excellent progress from the first performance.



**Oak-Tree Group Netball Tournament** This annual netball competition took place at the Peter May Centre on Monday 25 November, attended by all four schools in our group. This is a highlight of the sporting year and there were lots of parents and a visit from Mr Hagger to enjoy the excellent performances and sportsmanship on show from all the schools. Coopersale Hall played consistently this year and secured wins in all three of their matches. The matches between the other three schools were much closer with only a few goals deciding the positions. Oaklands finished 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Normanhurst and Braeside tied for 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Well done to everyone who played. It was particularly pleasing that all the girls in Years 5 and 6 represented Normanhurst in these matches.





# NEWSLETTER

## Normanthurst School Parents' Association



Dear Parents

It is hard to believe that we are coming to the end of the first term and in fact the end of 2019. It has been a really busy time for the NSPA having organised two successful get-togethers over the past few weeks.

The Bingo Mashup was so much fun, and it was lovely to see so many new parents joining in.

The Winter Walk was also well attended; and parents and children alike really relished the opportunity to enjoy the winter sunshine, take in the beautiful forest surroundings on our doorstep, and contribute to a cleaner neighbourhood by picking up litter during the walk. We were delighted to find out that during our short walk we picked up 19 pounds of litter! After that hard work, we returned to the school hall for well-deserved hot drinks and tasty Christmas treats, kindly supplied by Percy Ingles bakery.

We have already started to plan for activities next year; here are two confirmed family events:

**Easter walk:** 15 March 2020 - 11am to 1pm

**Summer BBQ:** 27 June 2020

A number of parents will be taking part in the 10K run for Cancer Research, <https://www.londonwinterrun.co.uk/>. There is still time to sign up, it will be great to have a big Normanthurst presence at this winter run.

Thank you to all the class reps who help promote and highlight the work of the NSPA. If you are interested in finding out how to get involved, please leave your contact details at the school office and we will get in touch with you. You can also stay updated on our activities through our Facebook page, [Normanthurst School - NSPA](#).

Just click on 'like' to stay in touch with us. Alternatively you can come along to our regular meetings. The next one is on the 13 January at 7:15pm in the school hall.

Thank you all again for your support during 2019. All that remains for us to say is have a very happy Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Best wishes

**The NSPA Committee**

