



Normanhurst School

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HEADMISTRESS

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

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3 February 2020

Dear Parents

Re: Headmistress's Letter

As February Half term approaches I want to share with parents how pleased I am with the way children are embracing their learning this term. The Leadership Team has observed many lessons in which pupils are thinking carefully about the work, engaging enthusiastically with challenging questions and exploring ideas creatively. The quality of work produced and the learning taking place is encouraging. Pupils can frequently explain clearly to us what they are learning and we see them applying that learning to a range of questions and activities.

Feedback from Parents

It has been good to meet with many parents on Monday mornings this term to discuss school life and to hear your feedback. These are ongoing for the rest of the Spring term. I hope you have found the meetings useful. We certainly value the opportunity to meet with parents and to talk together.

Opportunities to meet Mrs Job

As you know, Mrs Job is joining Normanhurst as Headmistress from September. She has been visiting the school this term for a number of events already meeting pupils and staff. She would like to invite parents to meet her and we have a number of dates that we are making available before Easter.

Monday 24 February 3.00pm Early Years parents
3.30pm Senior parents
Monday 9 March 3.00pm Junior parents
Wednesday 25 March 2.30pm Open to any parents

The school office will be sending out invitation letters and asking for a textback response nearer the time. Please do take the opportunity to come and meet Mrs Job. There will also be further opportunities to see her in the summer term.

NSPA Special Events

We have two NSPA events over the next few weeks for the children and families: the first is the Junior Disco for Years 3 - 6 on Friday 7 February at 6.30pm. Details of this are on the website and have been sent out from the NSPA. Please call the school office or contact your Class Rep for details.

The second event is the Easter Walk on Sunday 15 March from 11.00 – 1.00pm for families throughout the school. There is an Easter Egg hunt, refreshments back at school and the joy of spending a couple of hours walking in the forest together. Please do come along!

11+ Exams for Entry into Year 7

It has been lovely to meet so many excellent 11+ candidates this year who have applied to join Normanhurst in September. As well as writing their exam papers, I am meeting each of them individually for an interview and have the opportunity to talk to them about our school. The offers for places will be sent out at half-term and this includes the scholarship offers. Pupils who are currently in Year 6 have also been able to apply for scholarships and I shall be interviewing the applicants over the next week.

Our Year 6 pupils were excellent ambassadors for Normanhurst on the examination day. They welcomed the prospective pupils warmly, as well as approaching the exam papers with determination and focus. I was proud of them. If our new pupils are as courteous and positive, we will be very happy indeed and have a lovely two classes for Year 7 in September.

Year 11 Half Term and Easter Academy Programmes

Every member of Year 11 has had an individual interview with a member of SLT this term to discuss their mock results, their revision programme and their hopes for the future as they move on to Sixth Form.

Year 11 seem committed to their GCSE exams in May and they have responded well to the exam feedback. We are providing as many opportunities as we can for our pupils to make progress and gain the very best grades they can. Likewise, the pupils know that they need to work effectively in school and at home for this to happen.

As always we will be offering revision days in half-term and at the Easter academy programme. I urge all parents to make every effort to ensure that their children attend the revision classes on offer. Teachers voluntarily give up their time in school holidays to provide opportunities to support the students in revision and it is essential that as many pupils as possible attend.

A letter with all the details was sent out to all parents, and also given to pupils.

Year 9 GCSE Options – Individual Meetings

The Leadership Team are meeting individually with every member of Year 9 to discuss the option subjects they would like to take for their GCSE courses next year. Year 9 Parents have received a letter about the meetings. Please talk to your sons and daughters about what they would like to choose over half term, so that they are prepared for the meetings, which take place after the half-term holiday.

School Newsletters

Please make time to click on the link to read the school newsletters that come out twice a term. They give you news about all the pupils have been doing and give a real insight into life at Normanhurst. It is well worth a read!

Important Dates for Spring term

Tue 4 Feb	08:30 – 09:00	KG-Y6 Parents' Drop In
	09:30 – 15:30	Y6 trip to Tate Modern
	16:00 – 18:30	Y7 Parents' Evening
Wed 5 Feb	08:45 – 09:00	Y2A Class Assembly to Parents
Thu 6 Feb		Y9 DTP Meningitis vaccinations
Fri 7 Feb	08:45 – 09:45	Y2 Parents' Coffee Morning (library)
	18:30 – 20:00	NSPA Y3-6 Disco
Mon 10 Feb	08:45 – 09:45	Y3 Parents' Coffee Morning (library)
Tue 11 Feb	09:30 – 16:00	Y9-11 GCSE Music students to Royal Festival Hall
Wed 12 Feb	08:45 – 09:00	Y5 Class Assembly to Parents
Thu 13 Feb	09:00 – 15:00	KG & Rec trip to Thorndon Country Park
	14:30 – 19:30	Y10 & 11 GCSE Drama students to Richmond Theatre

Mon 17 – Fri 21 Feb

Mon 24 Feb	08:45 – 09:45	Y4 Parents' Coffee Morning (library)
	15:00 – 15:30	EYFS Parents Meet and Greet new Headmistress
	15:30 – 16:00	Senior Parents Meet and Greet new Headmistress
Tue 25 Feb	19:15 – 21:00	NSPA Meeting (hall)
Fri 28 Feb	08:30 – 15:30	Y8-10 Music students ISA A Capella Competition
Sat 29 Feb	09:00 – 12:30	School Production Rehearsal (hall)
Mon 2 Mar	08:45 – 09:45	Y5 Parents' Coffee Morning (library)

Wed 4 Mar	08:45 – 09:00	Reception Class Assembly to Parents
	09:00 – 15:30	School Production Tech/Dress Run , Redbridge Drama Centre
Thu 5 Mar	09:00 – 15:30	School Production Tech/Dress Run, Redbridge Drama Centre
	18:00 – 20:30	School Production (Redbridge Drama Centre)
Fri 6 Mar	09:15 – 11:00	Open Morning
Sun 8 Mar	09:00 – 16:00	Duke of Edinburgh Training Day at Braeside School
Mon 9 – Fri 13 Mar		Junior Science Week
Mon 9 Mar	08:45 – 09:45	Y6 Parents' Coffee Morning (library)
	15:00 – 16:00	Junior Parents Meet and Greet new Headmistress
Wed 11 Mar	08:45 – 09:00	KG Assembly to Parents
	09:30 – 13:00	13+ & additional 11+ exams
Fri 13 Mar	09:00 – 15:30	EYFS trip to Sea Life Centre, Southend
	09:00 – 15:30	Y1-6 Sea Life Centre, London
Sun 15 Mar	11:00 – 13:00	NSPA Easter Walk
Mon 16 – Mon 23 Mar		Y11 Mock Exams
Mon 16 Mar	08:45 – 09:45	Y7-9 Parents' Coffee Morning (library)
Tue 17 Mar	16:00 – 18:30	KG-Y6 Parents' Evening (specialist staff in the hall)
Wed 18 Mar	08:45 – 09:00	Y3C Class Assembly to Parents
	16:00 – 18:30	KG-Y6 Parents' Evening
Thu 19 – Wed 25 Mar		Scholastic Book Fair
Mon 23 Mar	08:45 – 09:45	Y10&11 Parents' Coffee Morning (library)
Wed 25 Mar		Y7-11 short reports/Y11 mock results published
	08:45 – 09:00	Y3P Class Assembly to Parents
Thu 26 Mar	12:00	Last Day of Term

May I wish you all a very happy half-term in two weeks' time.

Form tutors, members of the leadership team and I are always happy to meet parents, so do ask for an appointment if there are any issues you would like to discuss with us.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely



Claire Osborn
Headmistress



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