



# Normanhurst School

68-74 Station Road, North Chingford, London E4 7BA

Tel: 020 8529 4307

## HEADMISTRESS

Mrs Jacqueline Job B.SC., NPQH

E-mail: [info@normanhurstschool.co.uk](mailto:info@normanhurstschool.co.uk)

Website: [www.normanhurstschool.co.uk](http://www.normanhurstschool.co.uk)

1 March 2022

Dear Parents

### Re: **March 2022 Headmistress's Letter**

I cannot believe the term is going so quickly. This continues to be a busy term full of rich and diverse learning experiences. I wanted to begin by congratulating the Normanhurst pupils for their approach to their learning. It has been pleasing to observe pupils really engaged in lessons, asking questions and responding with enthusiasm.

### **Open Morning Friday 4 March**

We have our annual Spring Open Morning on Friday. I am very grateful to all of the pupils and prefects who are helping out and being guides for the morning. Current parents are also welcome to come and look around. Sometimes our junior parents enjoy coming to see the seniors, to give them a flavour of the style of lessons in the upper part of the school. Thanks also to the NSPA committee who are helping to serve refreshments and to meet prospective families.

### **Head Prefect**

I am delighted to announce that the senior leadership team have decided to appoint an additional Head Prefect for the remainder of the year. Congratulations to Sai Siram, who has demonstrated that he is reliable, dependable, responsible and mature in carrying out his prefect duties. He continues to go above and beyond what is expected and has been a good role model to other pupils around the school. Sai will join our other two Head Prefects for the remainder of the year.

I would also like to congratulate Lucy Jones for being awarded the Headmistress's Commendation. This is to recognise her valuable contributions as a prefect, supporting and performing at musical events and her sporting contributions and success in representing the school.

Congratulations to both pupils.

### **Residential Visits**

This month we are excited to see Years 7 and 8 go on their residential trip to Danbury Outdoor Centre. They will participate in a number of outdoor activities and embrace the outdoor experience. If parents were unable to attend the information evening held on 21 February and have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Coates on [gracecoates@normanhurstschool.co.uk](mailto:gracecoates@normanhurstschool.co.uk)

I can also confirm we will be hosting a Year 4 residential information Evening on Tuesday 29 March at 5.00pm via Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/91814258614?pwd=QzlyMUxXU3owT1JqQk13SFBKRlINZz09>

Meeting ID: 918 1425 8614

Passcode: b01G73

### **NSPA Spring Walk**

We are very much looking forward to our spring walk after the Easter holidays. We are hoping that as many families will be able to join us on Sunday 24 April. Further details will be sent to parents regarding the walk in due course. Thank you in advance to the NSPA for organising this event.

### **E-Safety Workshops**

Mrs Osborn, Group Educational Principal, has organised for the pupils to have a series of workshops about e-safety on Tuesday 1 March. On Thursday 3 March there will be a live webinar via Zoom for parents. Further details are included in Mrs Osborn's letter dated 24 February. Please save this date, it promises to be an enlightening evening. To join the live webinar, please follow the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89732300588>.

For any parents who are unable to join us for the live webinar, a recording will be available afterwards.

### **Second Hand Uniform Sale**

This will be on Tuesday 22 March from 8.30-9.30am. If you are unable to attend but would like an item, please remember you can contact the school office and they will have contact with the NSPA.

### **Science Week 2022**

We are in the process of planning Junior and Senior Science Week 2022. The theme for this year is 'Growth'. We are looking for a range of volunteers to talk to pupils and inspire them to think innovatively. If you have a career in STEM and would like to volunteer please email Miss Collings on [KCollings@normanhurstschool.co.uk](mailto:KCollings@normanhurstschool.co.uk) and Mrs Cooper on [SCooper@normanhurstschool.co.uk](mailto:SCooper@normanhurstschool.co.uk). Miss Collings will also be writing to junior parents about the wonderful, exciting activities that are planned.

### **Junior Assessments**

The teachers have been working hard with pupils and looking at the children's learning and progress. We are planning to have assessment week from Monday 7 – Friday 11 March in Maths and English. These assessments will enable teachers to judge the children's current learning levels and they will be able to share with parents individually any target areas for development during parents evening. Junior Parents' Evenings will take place as below:

- Reception, Year 1, Year 3 and Year 4 on Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 March
- Years 2, 5 and 6 will take place on Monday 21, Tuesday 22 and Wednesday 23 March

These appointments will take place in the classroom and specialist teachers will be available on Tuesday 22 March in the school Hall. Parents will receive the invitation to book an appointment in due course.

### **Senior Assessments and Examinations for Years 7 to 10**

This is advance notice of assessments and examinations happening for Years 7- 10. We plan to run the scheduled end-of-year assessments and examinations in May and June. Year 10 exams will take place from Monday 9 May to Friday 13 May. End of Year exams will take place for Years 7 to Year 9 from Monday 6 June to Friday 10 June.

### **A Capella Choir Competition**

On Friday 11 March we have three A Capella choirs competing in the ISA A Capella competition at Leighton Park School. This competition will be judged by multiple award-winning group "Sons of Pitches" who won the first televised British A Capella competition. We are entering a junior and senior choir and a senior small ensemble. The students have been working hard, coming in early and giving up their lunchtimes to rehearse and we wish them the best of luck.

### **11+ and 13+ Entrance Examinations**

We hold our 13+ entrance examinations on Wednesday 9 March. This is for new pupils wishing to join Year 9 in September 2022, if places are available.

### **Year 9 Options**

We have been working hard to complete the option blocks for the Year 9 Options based on the year groups preferences. The Senior Leadership Team have begun to have individual meetings with the pupils to discuss the option subjects they would like to take for their GCSE courses next year. Pupils will be asked to discuss their option choices with their parents. We look forward to taking this opportunity to have a face-to-face conversation about their preferred subjects, hopes and aspirations.

## Year 11 GCSE Update

Year 11 pupils will complete their second set of Mock examinations from Monday 7 March – Friday 18 March. They have already received a copy of their exam timetable and this is also available on Show My Homework. Revision has already started in preparation for the mock and summer exams and these will take place at the United Reformed Church and other places in school. In between exams, pupils will have lessons and be supported to revise.

During the Easter holidays from Thursday 31 March – Wednesday 20 April we will also be hosting our Easter Academy as the pupils move closer towards their examinations. Pupils do not have to be in uniform during these days. They must sign in and out as they enter and leave the building. I hope Year 11 take this opportunity to support their revision.

As we move closer towards the summer exams, we will be celebrating the Year 11's efforts and hard work by hosting a Year 11 Celebration Breakfast. This will take place in school on their official last day of school on Friday 6 May. We have organised a series of drop-in sessions from 9 to 12 May. Attendance to these sessions will be optional, however pupils are expected to revise at home in preparation for the exams starting Monday 16 May. Pupils will be expected to sign in and out at the school office, if attending one of the sessions.

All schools are required to keep a reserve exam date available in case this is needed for exams. We will be informing Year 11 parents shortly about this reserve date. The timetable for the optional drop-ins will also be sent to parents before the end of the term.

## Important Dates for the Diary

Tue 1 Mar	08:45 – 15:05	Year 3-11 E-Safety Workshops
Wed 2 Mar	08:45 – 09:00	4R Assembly to Parents
Thu 3 Mar	18:30 – 19:45	E-Safety Training for all Parents
Fri 4 Mar	08:40 – 09:00	Kindergarten and Reception - Assembly to Parents
	09:00 – 11:00	Open Morning
Mon 7 – Tue 8 Mar	overnight	Year 7 and 8 Residential trip Essex Outdoor Danbury
Mon 7 – Fri 11 Mar		Junior Assessment Week
Mon 7 – Fri 18 Mar		Year 11 Mock Exams
Fri 11 Mar	08:30 – 15:30	ISA A Capella Competition – Junior/Senior Choirs
Sat 12 – Sun 13 Mar		D of E Practice Weekend
Mon 14 – Fri 18 Mar		Junior Science Week
Wed 16 Mar	09:00 – 15:30	Year 4 Science Museum trip
	19:00 – 20:00	NSPA Meeting
Fri 18 Mar	08:40 – 09:00	Year 5 Assembly to Parents
Mon 21 – Wed 23 Mar	16:00 – 18:30	Junior Parents' Evenings
Mon 21 – Fri 25 Mar		Shakespeare Week
Tue 22 Mar	08:30 – 09:30	Second Hand Uniform Sale
Wed 23 Mar	09:00 – 15:30	Year 10 and 11 Biology Field Trip High Beech
Thu 24 Mar	09:00 – 15:30	Year 6 Science Museum trip
Fri 25 Mar	08:40 – 09:00	Year 2 Assembly to Parents
Mon 28 Mar	08:40 – 09:00	Year 3 Assembly to Parents
Wed 30 Mar	12:00	Last Day of Term. School ends at 12 noon.

## A reminder about absences from school

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please telephone the school office to report the absence to a member of the office team or email [absence@normanhurstschool.co.uk](mailto:absence@normanhurstschool.co.uk) by 9am.

With my very best wishes

Yours sincerely



Jacqueline Job  
Headmistress



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BRAESIDE SCHOOL, BUCKHURST HILL • COOPERSALE HALL SCHOOL, EPPING • NORMANHURST SCHOOL, NORTH CHINGFORD • OAKLANDS SCHOOL, LOUGHTON

HEAD OFFICE ADDRESS: 6 ALBION HILL, LOUGHTON, ESSEX IG10 4RA

GROUP MANAGING PRINCIPAL & DIRECTOR: MR MATTHEW HAGGER B.A. (HONS), M.ED., PGCE CO-DIRECTORS: MR NICHOLAS HAGGER M.A. (OXON), MRS ANN HAGGER CERT. ED.

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