



Normanhurst School

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HEADMISTRESS

Mrs Jacqueline Job B.S.C., NPQH

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20 April 2022

Dear Parents

Re: **Headmistress's Letter**

It is wonderful to welcome lighter days and evenings and to see the children with renewed energy for the summer learning and extracurricular activities. I hope you have all enjoyed the Easter break. We have welcomed the Summer term with open arms. Even if the weather can be unpredictable, this term always brings exciting events and memories.

Changes to the Morning Drop off Routine

From Monday 9 May there will be a slight change to the morning drop off times for all pupils. The school gates will open at 8.30am, **EYFS will be collected from the gate at 8.30am and Years 1-4 should go straight to their classrooms. Years 5-10 should go to the playground** and remain there. Staff will send pupils from the playground to their classrooms with enough time to ready for registration at 8.40am, the formal start of the day.

Senior Team Building Experience

We have listened to the pupils' very positive feedback following the team building experiences we introduced last summer. Building on their success, Years 7 and 8 will be going to the Skreens Activity Centre on Monday 27 June and Years 9 and 10 will be going on Tuesday 28 June for a day of team building activities. Further details will follow from Mr Clair, Head of Seniors.

House Trips

After two years of restrictions, it is wonderful to be able to have House trips again. This year, the following House trips will take place:

- EYFS to Year 2 will be attending Paradise Wildlife Park on Tuesday 21 June
- Years 3 and 4 will be going to Kidzania on Monday 27 June
- Years 5 and 6 will be visiting the Harry Potter Studios on Monday 27 June
- Senior pupils will spend the day at the Harlow Outdoor Centre on Monday 4 July participating in outdoor adventure activities.

More details will be released within the next few weeks.

Year 11 Final Arrangements

I am pleased to see Year 11 are continuing to work hard in preparation for their exams which start on Monday 16 May. Year 11 already have the main GCSE summer exam timetable via Show My Homework and they will be given their own individual exam timetables on Thursday 21 April. They will need to check their schedule for accuracy in terms of the tier of entry and the spellings of their names for the final certificates.

As mentioned in last month's Headmistress letter, Year 11 finish school on Friday 6 May at 12pm. On that day we will be taking the time to acknowledge their many achievements, hand out yearbooks and leavers hoodies and celebrate the contribution Year 11 have made to school life. Pupils will be expected to come to school at 8.40am in full school uniform and before dismissal they will be given to opportunity to sign each other's shirts. We therefore ask them to bring a suitable pen with them, although this shirt signing is not compulsory. Celebrations will begin at

school and continue offsite at The Royal Forest for a special leavers' brunch. Pupils will be dismissed from The Royal Forest at 12.00pm, and any being collected by parents should be picked up from the venue at that time.

Year 11 Book Return – Thursday 23 and Friday 24 June

Text books or library books issued to Year 11 pupils need to be returned. There are two days on which pupils can do this. Pupils should arrange to return their text books directly to the school office on Thursday 23 and Friday 24 June. They need to bring all of their GCSE text books, for every subject, to school in a labelled carrier bag. They may also have library books or text books from earlier in their school career, which have not yet been returned. These can all be brought back to school at the same time. The office staff have a tick list to register all of the returns. Please do not return books directly to teachers.

Year 11 Results Day – Thursday 25 August

We will be inviting Year 11 to come into school to collect their exam results on Thursday 25 August from 8.30-10.00am. Mr Christou, the Exams Officer, and the leadership team will be in school to hand out the results and offer advice on the day. Any Year 11 pupils who will not be able to attend in person must let the school office know by Friday 24 June, so that we can plan for your results to be sent out.

Charity News

At the end of term, we once again saw a fantastic effort from our school community to support a very worthy cause. This was led by Malachi in Year 11, who has championed the school to support children in very difficult family circumstances by donating Easter eggs. Malachi was able to donate 98 Easter eggs to children (and their mothers) who have been affected by domestic violence. The eggs were delivered to the following safe houses: Hackney Hestia, Tower Hamlets Hestia and Refuge. We are very proud that Malachi has led this initiative over many years, demonstrating his commitment and understanding of such an important issue and showing an excellent example how to think about others.

Moving Up Day

Moving up day is fast approaching and will occur on Wednesday 29 June when pupils will spend the day with their teachers in preparation for next year.

Junior pupils will spend the whole day in school with their new teacher on Moving Up Day. We are also inviting the new pupils who will be joining us in September so that they can meet their classmates. Parents will be invited into school at the end of the day to meet their child's teacher for next year.

Pupils who will be moving into the Seniors in September have a Year 7 Induction Day on the same day. Current Year 6 pupils will meet the new pupils who are joining us from other schools and there will be a special programme of activities for the day including a team building afternoon offsite. Our current Year 6 parents and new parents are invited to join us at 5pm for a meeting in the school for a short talk about life in the seniors, and will have the opportunity to meet the Senior Leadership Team.

There will also be an NSPA nearly new Uniform Sale in the afternoon from 3.15pm to 4.30pm at the front of the school.

School Uniform

All the children should return to school at the start of the Summer Term wearing their correct summer uniform and blazers should be worn to school every day. As usual long hair needs to be tied back with plain navy accessories, or with the school coloured hair accessories available from the uniform shop.

Class Photographs

We have booked a photography company to take class photographs on Wednesday 27 April. Weather permitting, they will be taken outside, or alternatively, in the school hall. The photographs will be available for parents to order before the half-term break. Please ensure your children are in the correct uniform on the day, including socks and

hair accessories. The photographs are always a lovely memento of the year, especially for any pupil moving to a new school in September.

Prefect Interviews

This term we will be recruiting for the new prefect leadership teams for next year. There will be prefect positions for Year 11 prefects and Year 6 junior prefects. The interviews will take place in school before the end of term. An announcement will be made towards the end of the summer term and successful pupils will be presented with their badges and prefect ties at Speech Day.

NSPA Events: Summer Walk Sunday 24 April and Summer BBQ Saturday 21 May 12.00-5.00pm

We are excited that the NSPA has organised another walk on Sunday 24 April at 11am. This is a chance to join us for a short walk in the local community and have well-deserved refreshments afterwards back at school. Tickets are available from the school office.

I hope to see many of the Normanhurst Community at the Summer BBQ on Saturday 21 May. The NSPA have been working hard to bring back this event as it's been absent from our school calendar for the last two years. Please save the date and look out for further communications from the NSPA. It promises to be a fun community event in the playground, hall and classrooms, with a Queen's Platinum Jubilee theme. This year there will be special prize for early bird tickets purchased in advance, but you will also be able to pay on the door. Please try to spare an hour or two to support the NSPA and school.

Oak-Tree Summer Ball Saturday 18 June

The Oak-Tree Summer Ball is fast approaching, and after a 3-year absence, it is looking to be bigger and better than ever. The deadline for ticket purchases is Wednesday 18 May, as we need to inform the venue about final numbers, so be sure not to leave it too late. Tickets can be purchased [HERE](#).

There is no need to wait until you have a full table to purchase tickets. Inform us when completing your booking form about seating preferences and our admin team will arrange tables for you. Alternatively, they will seat you with other parents from your child's school.

The venue has rooms available if you wish to stay the night, and we are pleased to announce we have secured a 10% discount for all those attending the Ball. Please email room requests to specialevents@chigwellprinceregent.co.uk and the team will be able to assist you. It is set to be a wonderful evening with plenty of Great Gatsby themed entertainment, food and drink throughout the night. We hope to see you all there to support our Parents' Associations.

Careers Events for the Seniors

Our programme of careers events began last term, and continue this term with Year 10 pupils having a week of work experience from Monday 13 – Friday 17 June. All Year 10 pupils will spend a valuable week in the workplace learning about the responsibilities, opportunities and challenges of professional life. We will also be hosting our annual Careers Day on Friday 1 July, in which professionals, including former Normanhurst pupils, from a range of fields talk to the students about their careers, giving information, inspiration and practical advice. If you are available to share your occupation with the pupils and would like to take part, please email Mr Botha on the following link to introduce yourself: ebotha@normanhurstschool.co.uk .

Mental Health Award

We are delighted to be sharing that Normanhurst School will be working towards The Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools Award. The Carnegie School of Education based at Leeds Beckett University and Minds Ahead CIC have created this award to give schools a framework for Mental Health development. It will not only demonstrate our commitment to Mental Health but also support our ongoing progress and development in this area.

School Jubilee Celebrations

Her Majesty the Queen will soon become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, seventy years of service, having acceded to the throne on 6 February 1952 when Her Majesty was 25 years old. At school we will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee the week beginning Monday 23 May with a number of events such as May Pole dancing, creating personalised plates and other different activities in school for junior and senior pupils. The week will end with a whole school afternoon tea in the playground and hall, which promises to be a wonderful event for EYFS to Year 10 pupils.

Humanities Week Tuesday 3 – Friday 6 May

As part of Humanities week this year, we are keen to focus on sustainability. This is a topic very close to our hearts and high up on the pupils' voice priorities. We are keen to do our bit and Miss Sainsbury, Humanities Coordinator for the juniors and Miss Deen the Head of Geography will be leading discussions with the pupils about how we can take steps to make small changes. They will report back in due course on their ideas.

Years 7 to 10 Exams and Assessments

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 Year 7 to Year 9 from Monday 6 June to Friday 10 June

Years 1 to 6 Assessments - June

Junior assessment week will take place from Monday 6 to Friday 10 June. Junior pupils will complete assessments in Maths, English and Science. Results will be sent to parents in the end of year school report.

INCAS online assessments will take place from Monday 6 to Friday 17 June.

Year 4 Residential – Thursday 5 and Friday 6 May

There are exciting times ahead for Year 4 as their residential to Danbury Outdoor Centre approaches. The Year 4 pupils are naturally very excited, and we are equally excited to support the pupils' character development. This trip will be led by Miss Low Ten Que: please do contact her if you have any questions about the trip.

Junior PSHE Information Evening – Thursday 12 May at 5.00pm

Parents are already aware that the Government has published statutory guidance for all schools, including independent schools, for the teaching of Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education.

We will be hosting a parent's information evening on Thursday 12 May in the school Hall to share information with parents about the RSE aspect of the PSHE curriculum. The lessons take place during PSHE, and will be on the curriculum this term. As part of this evening, parents will have the opportunity to see examples of the teaching resources and ask questions before this is formally taught in an age appropriate way.

Young Voices Friday 6 May

We are extremely excited that Years 5 and 6 finally get to perform at the O². We expect approximate timings to be:

12.30pm Travel by minibus or coach to the O² after an early lunch at school

1.30pm Rehearsals at the O² Arena

5.00pm Early packed tea provided by the school

6.00pm Audience arrives; children take their seats on stage

7.00pm Concert starts

9.15/9.30pm Concert ends

Further details were included in Mrs Osborn's letter dated 24 January 2022. We are really looking forward to this as it promises to be a fantastic evening.

Mobile Phones in School

Please note the following about our mobile phone policy. Pupils in the juniors are not permitted to bring mobile phones or electronic devices into school. Pupils in the seniors are not permitted to use their phones or have them switched on from the time they arrive on the school site until after they leave. Mobile phones should never be used in school, in class, corridors, in the playground or in the toilets.

Pupils' mobile phones will be collected during the morning form time and they will be kept safe until they are returned at the end of the school day. The school does not take responsibility for any loss or damage to mobile phones and they are brought in at the pupil's own risk. If your son or daughter needs to contact you during the school day, they can go to the school office and they will facilitate any calls. Please could you discuss this with your child to ensure they understand the expectations. Your support is much appreciated.

New Staffing Update

I am pleased to say congratulations to Ms Prior who is now Mrs Saint and we wish Mr and Mrs Saint the best of luck for the future. Mrs Saint's email address will be changing to JSaint@normanhurstschool.co.uk.

Mrs Jayaram will be returning to Normanhurst Science department next month after her maternity leave. We are incredibly excited to have her back as part of the teaching team, but also sad to be saying goodbye to Miss Wren on 5 May 2022. We want to wish Miss Wren the best of luck in her new teaching post and thank her for her hard work and the commitment she has shown the school and pupils.

Important Dates for the Diary

Thu 21 Apr		Start of Summer Term
Fri 22 Apr		International Mother Earth Day
Sun 24 Apr	11:00 – 13:00	NSPA Summer Walk
Mon 25 Apr		Y9 Sexual Health Workshop
Wed 27 Apr	08:00 – 12:00	Class Photos
Thu 28 Apr - Wed 4 May		Scholastic Book Fair
Thu 28 Apr		Stop Food Waste Day Y8 HPV 1 st Vaccination
Mon 2 May		Bank Holiday
Tue 3 - Fri 6 May		Junior Humanities Week Walk to School Week
Wed 4 May	13:00 – 15:30	Y10 Art - Whitechapel Art Gallery Trip
Thu 5 – Fri 6 May		Y4 Essex Outdoor Danbury Residential Trip
Fri 6 May		Y11 Final Day in school
	08:40 – 09:00	KG-Rec Assembly to Parents
	12:30 – 21:30	Y5&6 Young Voices at the O ²
Mon 9 – Fri 13 May		Y10 End of Year Exams Y11 GCSE 'Drop-In' Revision Sessions
Thu 12 May	17:00 – 18:00	Junior PSHE Information Evening
Fri 13 May	08:40 – 09:00	Y6 Assembly to Parents
Sat 14 – Sun 15 May		DofE Assessed Expedition
Mon 16 May		Y11 GCSE Examinations Commence
Mon 16 – Fri 20 May		Water Saving Week
Tue 17 May	08:15 – 15:30	Y4 Colchester Castle Trip
	08:25 – 08:55	EYFS Drop in Morning
	08:30 – 09:30	Second Hand Uniform Sale
Wed 18 May	11:00 – 15:30	School Production Rehearsals

Thu 19 May	19:00 – 20:00	School Production Treasure Island at Redbridge Drama Centre
Sat 21 May	12:00 – 17:00	NSPA Summer BBQ
Mon 23 May	09:00 – 12:00	Y10 Morrisby Testing
Tue 24 May	09:00 – 15:00	KG-Y6 Morris Dancing Workshop
Wed 25 May	08:50 – 15:30	KG-Y6 Maypole Dancing Workshop
Thu 26 May	09:00 – 15:00	KG-Y6 Jubilee Plate Painting Workshop
	09:00 – 15:00	Y10 Morrisby Interviews
	16:00 – 17:00	Music Evening “All Music is Folk Music”
Fri 27 May		Afternoon Tea for the Whole School
Mon 30 May – Fri 3 Jun		Half Term
Sat 18 Jun	19:00 – 01:00	Oak-Tree Summer Ball
Thu 23 Jun		Sports Day
Mon 27 Jun	14:00 – 15:15	EYFS Celebration of the Year
Wed 29 Jun		Moving Up Day
Thu 30 Jun	18:00 – 20:00	Speech Day

The Leadership Team, your child’s form tutor or I are very happy to discuss any questions or concerns that may arise. Please do feel free to email or contact the school office if you would like to meet with us and discuss any issues.

With my very best wishes

Yours sincerely



Jacqueline Job
Headmistress



OAK-TREE SCHOOLS is the group name of:

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

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