



Normanhurst School

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

Tel: 020 8529 4307

HEADMISTRESS

Mrs Jacqueline Job B.SC., M.Ed., CMgr FCMI, NPQH

E-mail: info@normanhurstschool.co.uk

Website: www.normanhurstschool.co.uk

5 June 2023

Dear Parents

Re: **Headmistress's Letter**

Where has the year gone! The end of the school year is fast approaching, with a number of celebratory events and performances to enjoy. In the last half-term, we saw several reminders of how talented the pupils are, from the excellent Oak-Tree Festival to the outstanding production of Matilda. It is more important than ever to read all communications that come from the school, particularly as this final term is full of special events and trips.

NSPA School Barbecue: Saturday 1 July

As well as a wonderful summer walk organised by the NSPA which was an opportunity to walk in the gorgeous sunshine with the school community, parents, pupils and pets, we also have the Summer Barbecue quickly approaching on Saturday 1 July. This annual highlight runs from 12-5pm, and promises to be full of laughter, performances, great food and drink. It is a special barbecue this year as our school community celebrates 100 years of Normanhurst and uses this opportunity to bring the whole school community together. Tickets can be purchased at the front of the school or from the school office very soon. Further details are to follow from the NSPA.

Summer Music Concert: Thursday 22 June

We are very much looking forward to the Summer Music Concert taking place at school on Thursday 22 June, 5.30-6.45pm. There will be a mixture of individual and group performances, showcasing the many talents of the pupils at Normanhurst. This promises to be a wonderful evening and celebration. Information regarding tickets will follow in a letter from Mrs Scott, Head of Music. I look forward to seeing our families there.

Non-Uniform Bottle Day: Friday 23 June

On Friday 23 June we will be having non-uniform Bottle Day. This is where pupils have a chance to wear their own clothes but instead of bringing in money, pupils should bring in a new, sealed bottle. This could be a bottle of drink, toiletries, or anything else in a bottle. Bottles will be collected at the school gate as pupils come into school. The bottles will form part of a bottle tombola at the Summer Barbecue.

ISA Art Success

Our pupils at Normanhurst entered the ISA Coronation Challenge and we were pleased with the entries. I am pleased to say Zavier in Year 1 was chosen by the ISA as one of the most creative pieces from all the schools that entered and his work features on their website. Zavier created a paper mosaic using recycled books and magazines and the finished piece was outstanding. Well done, Zavier.

Congratulations to all pupils; their entries were impressive.

Matilda Production

On Thursday 25 May we saw the school community come together to watch the annual school production, which this year was Matilda, at the Redbridge Drama Centre. It was an evening filled with laughter, wonderful voices and truly inspiring acting.

Congratulations to all the performers for making it a performance to remember and thank you to Mrs Kazim, Mrs Scott, Ms Harmon and others for their hard work on putting the production together.

Headmistress Commendations

This term I am awarding five Headmistress Commendations: to Sofia (Year 6), Leyla (Year 6), Jordan (Year 10), Rohan (Year 7) and Matias (Year 8):

- Sofia for her charity work, involvement in school activities and events and contributions to the school's values.
- Leyla for demonstrating the school values, strong leadership of the school council and contributions to school events.
- Jordan for demonstrating his strong commitment to the school values, creating and coordinating the STEM fortnight assemblies and leading positively beyond his year group.
- Rohan for demonstrating the school values, volunteering and committing to lunch hall duties in Year 7 and helping at school events and activities.
- Matias for demonstrating a strong commitment to the school values, his continuous involvement in school activities, opportunities and events and for translating on the school ski trip.

These pupils are being commended for going above and beyond in their roles while demonstrating the school values. We are incredibly proud of their efforts, commitment and ability to serve and help others: this is the Normanhurst way!

Prefectships

It is wonderful to see such enthusiasm from our prospective Year 10 pupils about wanting to become a prefect. This year pupils have applied for the following roles:

Head Prefects x2
Head of House x4
Head of Arts - including Music, Art and Drama x1
Head of Sustainability and the Eco Council x1
Head of Sports x4
Head of School Council x1
Head of Academics x1

Year 10 pupils have already made applications for the posts above. Pupils were required to write a letter of application for their desired post or posts. We will soon begin the interview process and make announcements at Speech Day on Thursday 6 July.

Year 6 have also made applications to become Year 6 Prefects for September. I have been impressed by their applications and I am very much looking forward to the interview stage in the next few weeks.

I wish all pupils the best of luck and look forward to seeing them at the interview stage.

Residentials

This year each pupil in school has had the chance to attend at least one residential trip. Although pupils have returned tired, they have all had an incredible time. This is important to us as a school as we develop our young people to become more resilient and courageous with well-developed problem-solving skills. These trips in turn support character development and I would like to thank parents for entrusting your children to us on these overnight stays and I thank staff for being willing to take the pupils away and for creating such lifelong memories.

UKMT Mathematics Challenge

This year many of the senior pupils took part in the UK Maths Challenge (UKMT), a national Mathematics challenge. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems. Our senior pupils worked hard to solve some tricky mathematical problems designed to make students think. I am pleased to say that many of our students have achieved a bronze, silver or gold

certificate and these will be handed out in assembly this term. Matias in Year 8 performed particularly well and has been invited to complete the finals stage in June.

Congratulations to all pupils who participated and good luck to Matias for the next stage.

ISA Athletics Success

Congratulations to all the pupils who represented the school in the annual ISA Athletics Competition in Bedford. The pupils had a fantastic day representing the school against many other ISA schools attending.

There were many noteworthy performances from all the pupils who competed. Laila secured a gold medal in the Year 8 girls long jump and Raghav also secured a gold medal in the Year 7 boys high jump event. Both boys and girls relays qualified for the finals, where we achieved several 2nd places. Those who won their events have been invited to represent Normanhurst as part of the North London team in the ISA national finals.

The pupils had a fantastic day and we congratulate them for representing the school so well. Many pupils have qualified to compete in the National Finals at Alexander Stadium, Birmingham on 19 June 2023.

Year 11 Book Return: Thursday 22 and Friday 23 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 22 and Friday 23 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.

Books should not be returned directly to teachers, or dropped off at other times.

Key Stage 3 Exams: Year 7 to Year 9

Years 7, 8 and 9 now have their end of year summer exams. Pupils will have had the opportunity to make good use of the revision skills and strategies elevate and we have taught them in school. We have introduced Prep Packs to provide guidance for each subject that has exams. These are important exams and I know our pupils will want to perform well, but please do not hesitate to contact us if your child is struggling. We will be talking to pupils about preparing for exams, how to manage their time and to support their mental health. If you have any concerns or additional support is required, please initially contact your child's form tutor.

Junior Assessment Week: Years 1 to 6 Assessments

Junior assessment week will take place from Monday 12 to Friday 16 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 also take place from Monday 5 to Friday 16 June. If you have any questions regarding the assessments, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Pupil Wellbeing

Below is a helpful website designed to support pupils during exam time, which parents and pupils may find useful:

<https://www.annafreud.org/on-my-mind/self-care/revision/>

Exams are part of life and we aim to help pupils to develop the resilience to cope with them as best as they can.

Staffing Update

At the end of this academic year we will say goodbye to Ms Parrott, Miss O'Brien, Mrs Kazim and Mr Matthews. Ms Parrott will be leaving to explore some freelance work and to complete her Masters. I would like to thank Ms Parrott for inspiring the pupils at Normanhurst as Head of Art and DT, Form tutor and previously Head of House. The Art department has had much ISA success and we hope to build upon this. I also would like to thank Miss O'Brien for her passion, energy and hard work in Year 5 this year, she will be relocating to teach in Birmingham closer to her

partner. Mrs Kazim will be taking a career break to spend time with her family. We would like to thank Mrs Kazim for her drive, energy and commitment towards Drama. We have been lucky to have enjoyed some outstanding school productions and GCSE performances.

Mr Matthews, Head of PE and Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator, will leave Normanhurst to start a new adventure in Dubai, as Head of Senior PE. We would like to thank Mr Matthews for inspiring our pupils to be active and competitive in sport. We also wish Mr Matthews the best of luck as he gets married this summer.

In September 2023, we will welcome Ms Hon-ng as Head of Art and DT and Head of House. Ms Hon-ng is an experienced head of department who has taught both the independent and state sectors, across the full senior range from Year 7 to Year 13. She will join us from Valentines High School, where she is Head of Art. As part of the recruitment process she has already taught our Year 7 pupils and is very excited to be joining the school and building upon the department's existing achievements.

We are delighted that Ms Bonella, our French teacher, will be returning in September following maternity leave. We also welcome back Mr Marsden, as Head of PE. Mr Marsden has previously worked at Normanhurst in the PE department and is incredibly excited to be returning to the school in a new role. Miss O'Donnell, also joins us as a teacher of PE and she will become the new Duke of Edinburgh and Oak-Tree Award Coordinator.

I am pleased to announce that Mrs Bunting will become the new Head of Drama. Mrs Bunting joins the school from Robert Clack School, where she is currently Head of Performing Arts. She has a wealth of experience from primary to A-level and has already taught Year 9 at Normanhurst. She is very much looking forward to joining Normanhurst and is already in discussion with Mrs Scott, our Head of Music, about next year's production.

Sports Day: Wednesday 28 June

I am pleased to announce that our annual Sports Day will take place on Wednesday 28 June at Lee Valley Athletics Centre. All pupils will be involved and compete, while representing their houses; Connaught or Warren. The senior pupils will come to school for registration as normal in their PE kits and they will be taken to Lee Valley for a 9.15am start. Senior individual track and field events run until 12.15pm, after which pupils will return to school for lunch and afternoon lessons.

The junior sports day will take place from 12.30pm until 3.30pm. All junior pupils will participate in relay races, throws, jumps and obstacle runs. They will have morning lessons and lunch in school.

Pupils will compete at the following times:

- Years 3 to 6 – 12.30-3.30pm
- Early Years to Year 2 – 2.30-3.30pm

Please note that these are approximate times and may vary slightly on the day. DE Photos will be taking photographs, as they have done for many years, and you will be able to purchase a photo as a memento of the day if you would like to.

Parents are welcome to join us to spectate during the day. We will publish a Sports Day programme in advance so you can see which events your child will be participating in for their House.

Senior pupils will be dismissed from school as normal, EYFS and Junior pupils may be collected from Lee Valley at 3.30pm. Please note that if your child requires a place on the coach back to school, they will arrive slightly later.

Early Years Celebration: Friday 16 June

Our Early Years department will be celebrating the end of year on Friday 16 June at 2.30pm at school. This event is for the families and children in Kindergarten assisted by the Reception class. It will be wonderful for parents to join

us in celebrating the wonderful achievements and progress of the children in Kindergarten. This year Reception will be joining the main Speech Day on 6 July at St Peter and St Paul Parish Church.

Speech Day Celebrations: Thursday 6 July

Celebrating the pupils' hard work and success at Normanhurst has been a strength over the years. We will again be having our annual Speech Day at St Peter and St Paul Parish Church on the Green, a short walk from the school. This year our special guest speaker will be Yazmin King (Meikle). Yazmin is a former Normanhurst pupil who followed her dreams of a career in the performing arts and is performing in the West End Theatre in [Les Misérables](#).

All pupils from Reception to Year 10 are expected to attend Speech Day, which takes place on Thursday 6 July at the following times:

- **Reception – Year 6: 2.00pm**

Pupils will be taken to the Church by staff and parents will need to collect their children from the church at the end of the event.

- **Year 7 – Year 10: 3.45pm**

Senior pupils will be taken to the Church by staff at the end of the school day. Pupils will be walked back to school and dismissed from school.

Year 11 pupils receiving awards can also attend the event, with parents and pupils confirming their attendance in advance via the school office.

Whole School Sponsored Walk: Tuesday 11 July

We are hoping to hold our charity sponsored walk again this year, the afternoon of Tuesday 11 July. The children from Early Years to Year 1 will be walking to Connaught Waters, and their parents are invited to walk with them. The rest of the school from Year 2 to Year 10 will walk to the Bikers' Hut in High Beech. All children are to come to school that day wearing their PE kit and to bring a bottle of water and a healthy snack. Pupils will be back at school for normal end of day dismissal.

Important Dates for the Diary

Mon 5 – Fri 9 Jun		Years 7-9 Exams Week
Mon 5 – Fri 16 June		Years 1-6 INCAS Assessments
Wed 7 Jun	15:45 – 16:45	Junior PSHE Parents Consultation meeting (hall)
Mon 12 Jun – Fri 16 Jun		Years 10 Work Experience
		Years 1-6 Assessment week
Wed 14 – Fri 16 Jun		Year 9 Residential trip to Gilwell Park
Fri 16 Jun	14:30 – 15:30	EYFS Celebration of the Year (hall)
Mon 19 Jun	09:00 – 15:30	Years 4 Science trip to Lambourne End Activity Centre
Thu 22 Jun	17:30 – 18:45	Summer Concert
Fri 23 Jun	08:00 – 16:00	LAMDA Exams
Sat 24 – Sun 25 Jun		DofE Final Expedition
Wed 28 Jun	09:15 – 12:15	Years 7-10 Senior Sports Day
	12:30 – 15:30	Years 3-6 Sports Day
	14:30 – 15:30	Kindergarten - Year 2 Sports Day
Thu 29 Jun	09:00 – 15:30	Moving Up Day and uniform sale (3-4.30pm)
Sat 1 Jul	12:00 – 17:00	Summer BBQ
Mon 3 Jul	19:00 – 22:30	Year 11 Prom at Prince Regent Hotel
Thu 6 Jul	14:00	Reception – Year 6 Speech Day
	15:45	Years 7 – 10 Speech Day

Fri 7 Jul	09:00 – 15:45	Years 10 Careers Day
Mon 10 Jul	09:30 – 15:00	Kindergarten to Year 6 House trip at Chingford Plains
	09:30 – 15:45	Years 7 – 10 Senior House trip to cinema and jump session
	17:00 – 18:30	Years 6 Graduation Party
Tue 11 Jul	13:30 – 15:30	Whole School Sponsored Walk
Wed 12 Jul	11:30 – 12:00	End of Summer Term

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
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.

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

