



Normanhurst School

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HEADMISTRESS

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

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3 March 2025

Dear Parents

Re: March 2025 Headmistress's Letter

I cannot believe the term is going so quickly. It continues to be a busy one full of rich and diverse learning experiences. I want to begin by congratulating the Normanhurst pupils for their attitude to learning. I have been in lessons observing the pupils' progress and seen first-hand their engagement and enthusiasm.

Open Morning Wednesday 5 March

We are looking forward to our annual spring Open Morning on Wednesday 5 March. This is an opportunity to see the school in action for prospective parents.

Annual School Production – Into the Woods

The School production 'Into the Woods' tickets are now on sale. The pupils will be performing on two nights Thursday 20 March and Friday 21 March at the Redbridge Drama Centre at 6.45pm. This year, we have removed the restriction on the number of tickets that each family is able to purchase. The pupils have been working incredibly hard with Mrs Bunting and Mrs Scott and are looking forward to performing. The link to purchase tickets is www.ticketsource.co.uk/normanhurst-school.

Staff Update

At the end of last term, we wished Miss Sulzmann, Deputy EYFS Coordinator, the best of luck as she started her maternity leave. While Miss Sulzmann is away, Mrs Janet Thompson will be supporting the department as Deputy Coordinator. Mrs Allen will continue to teach the Reception class along with Mrs Janet Thompson and Mrs Vincenza Thompson. Mrs Allen will work across the department and classes in her role as Head of Early Years to ensure the children continue to make good progress.

Mr Marsden has made the difficult decision to step down as Head of PE to support his family. Mr Marsden will remain at the school as Head of Buxton House and Teacher of PE. I would like to thank him for leading the PE Department to date. He has ensured that the pupils continue to enjoy the curriculum and co-curricular offer. We are pleased to announce that Miss Culverhouse will join the school as Head of PE at the beginning of the summer term. She joins Normanhurst as an experienced Head of PE from Willowfield School. Miss Culverhouse looks forward to meeting the whole school community after the Easter break.

Residential Trip Meetings

We would like to invite parents and pupils into school for a meeting ahead of the residential trips in the summer term:

Year 4	Monday 28 April at 4pm in the Year 4 Classroom
Years 5 & 6	Monday 19 May at 4pm in the Music Room
Years 7 & 8	Tuesday 20 May at 5pm in the Hall
Year 9	Tuesday 20 May at 5pm in the Music room

The trips provide the opportunity for pupils to develop character, independence and communication skills through challenging themselves in a number of outdoor activities, whilst embracing the outdoor experience.

If parents are unable to attend the information evening or have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Stone for the Junior trips on vstone@normanhurstschool.co.uk, Mr Clair for the Years 7 and 8 trip on pclair@normanhurstschool.co.uk and Mrs Saint for Year 9 residential trip on JSaint@normanhurstschool.co.uk

Class Photos

Our annual class photos will take place on the morning of Thursday 24 April. All pupils are required to wear their school uniform and teachers will inform classes of arrangements separately, if they have PE during this time.

Year 11 Yearbook

We know that over the years, parents have taken many photos of the Year 11 pupils in various school events. Please could we ask for some of these to be emailed to Yearbook@normanhurstschool.co.uk We feel it is incredibly important for all pupils' school memories to be represented in the Yearbook.

PSHE Parent Consultation Sessions

On Tuesday 29 April, as part of our commitment to the delivery of PSHE, we run an annual parent consultation session for parents. There will be one Junior and one senior session, where Mrs Saint will explain how RSE topics are taught at age related expectations. Mrs Saint will also show parents some of the Jigsaw resources used, so that parents are informed on what is taught in lessons in the summer term and can be prepared for any questions that the pupils ask at home. This year both sessions will take place in the school hall

- Junior Consultation Meeting 4pm
- Senior Consultation Meeting 4.30pm

Duke of Edinburgh Award

This term, information will go out to the current Year 8 pupils wishing to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award programme. Further details about the course can be found at <https://www.dofe.org/>. Pupils complete the Bronze award in Year 9 and will be awarded a badge and certificate nationally recognised. Miss O'Donnell is the Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator and would be happy to answer any questions pupils or parents may have.

House Competitions

The House system continues to go from strength to strength. This leads us nicely into the House Music Competition on Thursday 8 May at 9.15am which parents are invited to attend. We can seat up to 60 parents (no buggies please) in the hall and spaces will be allocated on a first come, first served basis, with an allocation of 2 seats per family. Please email info@normanhurstschool.co.uk to confirm attendance.

Senior Assessments and Examinations for Years 7 to 10

This is advance notice of assessments and examinations happening for Years 7 to 10. We plan to run the scheduled end-of-year assessments and examinations in April, May and June. Year 10 exams will take place from Monday 28 April to Friday 2 May. End-of-Year exams will take place for Years 7 to 9 from Monday 2 to Friday 6 June.

Senior Entrance Examinations

The main Entrance Examination for new pupils wishing to join the Seniors at Year 8 or 9 from September 2025 will be held on Wednesday 12 March.

There will also be an additional opportunity to take the 11+ Entrance Examination on this date for prospective pupils who were unable to attend in January.

Year 11 GCSE Update

Year 11 pupils have completed their second set of Mock examinations and are now on the final stages before their GCSEs start at the beginning of May.

They have already received a copy of the summer exam timetable and this is also available on Show My Homework. All schools are required to keep reserve exam dates available in case this is needed for exams. We will be informing Year 11 parents separately about these dates.

Revision is underway in preparation for the summer exams, which take place at the United Reformed Church hall and in other places at school. In between exams, pupils will have sessions to help them with focused revision before exams.

During the Easter holidays, from 7-17 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 on these days. I hope Year 11 take this opportunity to support their revision by attending on site.

As we move closer towards the summer exams, we will be celebrating the Year 11's efforts and hard work by hosting a Celebration Breakfast on their last day, Tuesday 6 May, followed by the annual Year 11 Normanhurst School Prom on Monday 7 July at West Essex Golf Club at 6.30pm.

Important Dates

Mon 3 – Fri 14 Mar		Y11 GCSE Mock Exams
Wed 5 Mar	09:15 – 11:15	Open Morning
Thu 6 Mar	08:45 – 16:00	Y11 Science Ecology Practical Trip Hyde Park
Mon 10 – Fri 14 Mar		Junior Assessment Week
Wed 12 Mar		13+ Exams
Mon 17 Mar	16:00 – 18:30	Rec-Y6 Parents Evening
Tue 18 Mar	09:00 – 14:00	EYFS-Y2 Story Discovery Centre Stratford (part of STEAM)
	16:00 – 18:30	Rec-Y6 Parents Evening
Thu 20 Mar	19:00 – 20:30	School Production Show at Redbridge Drama Centre
Fri 21 Mar	19:00 – 20:30	School Production Show at Redbridge Drama Centre
Thu 20 – Thu 27 Mar		Book Fair
Mon 24 Mar	09:30 – 15:45	Y10&11 GCSE Geography Grade Booster Workshop Stratford
Tue 25 Mar	08:30 – 09:00	KG-Y6 Drop In Morning
Thu 27 Mar	09:15 – 15:30	Y3-6 Science Museum (part of STEAM)
Fri 28 Mar		Last Day of 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



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