



Normanhurst School

Newsletter

Headmistress's Message



Dear Parents

The Summer Term continues to be a busy and exciting time, both inside and outside the classroom. Pupils have been working diligently towards their GCSE grades, internal exams, and assessments. Their determination to succeed remains clear, and their positive attitude is truly infectious.

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This edition of the newsletter highlights a range of activities and achievements such as educational trips, sporting successes, the annual Summer Concert and much more.

As we approach the end of the school year, there is still much to look forward to, such as Moving Up Day, outdoor educational trips, Sports Day, Celebration Assemblies, the Year 11 Prom and the Sponsored Walk. I look forward to seeing many of you at these events, even if there are some restrictions on the number of attendees. Details of all upcoming dates and times can be found in the latest Headmistress's letter on our website.

Once again, thank you for the kind messages and support you continue to share with us. We are reminded daily of how special the Normanhurst community is and of the wonderful people who are part of it.

With my best wishes



Mrs Jacqueline Job

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Science

In Science, Early Years have been learning about lifecycles. The lifecycle of the butterfly has been a favourite!

“First it’s a caterpillar, then it’s a cocoon then it’s a butterfly”- Aiden

The children watched the lifecycle happen with their own eyes in their classroom. Caterpillars arrived and everyone watched as they grew and grew and grew until they built their cocoon/chrysalis.

Each morning the children would check as soon as we arrived to see if they had turned into a beautiful butterfly and they were so excited as they started coming out. Releasing them into the forest was a beautiful moment, watching them fly off.



The Weather

The Early Years children have been learning about the weather. Thunder, snow, rain, pupils have been discussing different types of weather.

They became meteorologists, telling the weather forecast. They also did a cloud experiment to discover how rain happens and finished by making a rainbow heart.



Willows Farm Trip

Willows farm was so much fun!

Feeding the animals and we saw cows, goats and even baby goats;

Singing on the tractor ride as we drove around the farm;

Dancing and singing with Peter Rabbit and friends;

Watching Minty the Jersey cow being milked - she produced 7 litres of milk in 15 minutes whilst we watched!! We even had a go at milking a pretend cow;

Going round and round on the carousel ride made us dizzy and the sheep were so fast during the sheep racing! They had a jockey on their back and we cheered them on as they ran round the obstacle course;

Jumping up and down on the bouncy pillows made us very hot;

Riding on the horse ride was nice and relaxing;

Playing in the sand finished our day off nicely.



Here are the children's favourite activities from the day:

"Singing songs on the tractor ride."- Ayla

"Feeding the animals."- Casey

"Playing in the sandpit."- Penelope

"Seeing the baby sheep."- Aiden

"Seeing the pigs."- Eddie

"Feeding the animals. They licked my hand and ate off my hand."- Shivaya

"The bouncy pillow, we were playing tag on it."- Leo

"Digging for treasure in the sandpit."- Noah



Year 1 William Morris Gallery

Our Year 1 pupils had a *fantastic* time on their recent trip to the William Morris Gallery! The day began with pupils sketching beautiful flowers in the gallery gardens, inspired by the natural motifs they've been exploring in our Art lessons. Their observational drawings were thoughtful and detailed — a wonderful start to the visit!

Afterwards, pupils enjoyed exploring the gallery and were excited to see William Morris's work up close. They made great connections between their classroom learning and the real-life artwork, recognising familiar patterns and themes.

The bus journey there and back added to the adventure, with plenty of smiles and excitement along the way.

Well done to all our pupils for their enthusiasm, creativity and excellent behaviour throughout the trip!



Year 3 Spinney Visit

Recently, the Year 3 pupils visited The Spinney Care Home to take part in the annual *Heart of Gold* party. The afternoon was filled with music, dancing, and the chance to spend time with the residents.

A live singer performed a mix of well-known songs, which many residents and children enjoyed singing along to. There were also colourful mocktails on offer, and plenty of dancing from both the children and some of the care home residents.

The visit was a great opportunity for the pupils to connect with the older generation, and their energy and enthusiasm brought a lot of smiles throughout the afternoon. It was a memorable day for everyone involved.



Y4 Residential Trip

Year 4 attended a three-day, two-night trip to Danbury, staying in cabins and participating in a variety of activities, including wall climbing, archery, bush craft, and zip wire. They thoroughly enjoyed spending time in the great outdoors.

Penelope said 'It's an amazing place to have lots of fun.'

Leah said 'It was good to try new things and to challenge yourself.'



Years 4 and 5 Science Workshop

A group of Year 4 and 5 pupils recently took part in a fantastic space-themed science workshop held at a local school. Throughout the workshop, pupils explored the fascinating world of our solar system and space travel. They learnt all about spaceships, the International Space Station (ISS), what astronauts eat and how they sleep in space, the role of robots—and even touched on the possibility of aliens! One of the highlights of the day was the hands-on challenge to design their very own space grabber machine. Using paper, simple mechanics, and plenty of imagination, each pupil worked creatively to engineer a device that could be used in space exploration. To wrap up the day, pupils had the chance to launch air rockets and try their hand at controlling a Mars Robot Prototype. It was a day full of learning, teamwork, and fun. Our pupils really enjoyed the workshop and have developed a curiosity about the universe.



Years 5 and 6 Residential Trip

Our Year 5 and 6 pupils embarked on an unforgettable adventure to Essex Outdoors on Mersea Island. The trip was packed with excitement, challenge and plenty of team spirit!

Throughout their stay, the children took part in a wide variety of outdoor activities designed to build confidence, resilience and collaboration. Highlights included team-building exercises, ziplining, off-road biking, high and low ropes courses, and the exhilarating vertical challenge. Each activity offered a unique opportunity for pupils to step outside their comfort zones, support one another, and celebrate their achievements together.

The experience not only strengthened friendships but also encouraged personal growth, with many children surprising themselves by trying something new or conquering a fear. Some of them even received certificates for their bravery and trying new things! It was a joy to see their determination and enthusiasm shine through in every task.

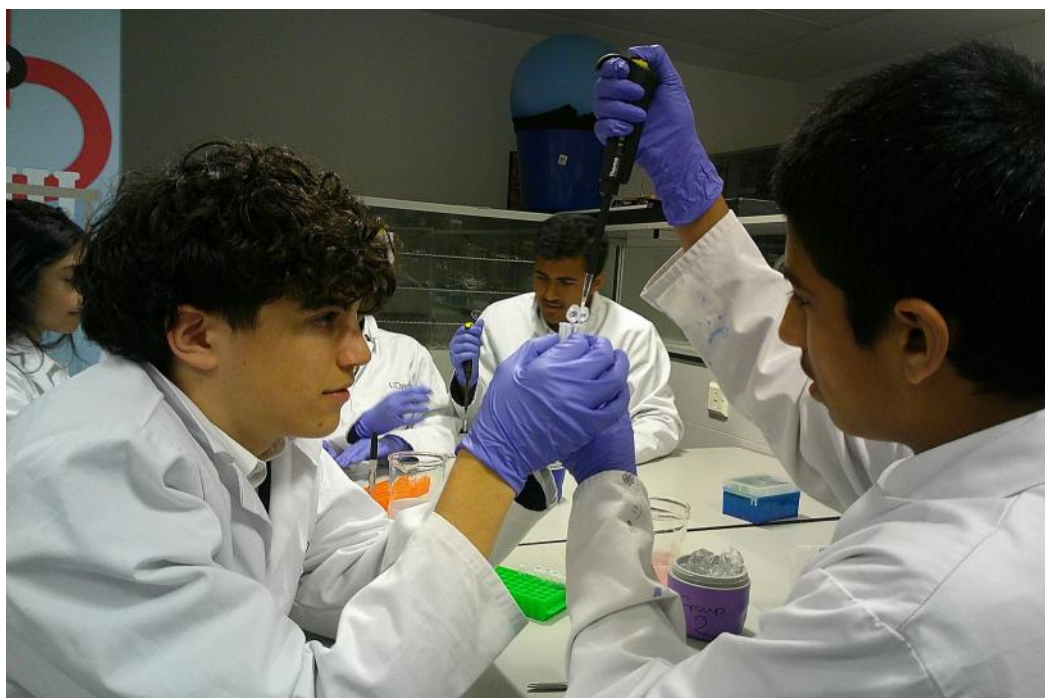
We are incredibly proud of how all our pupils represented the school and supported each other throughout the trip.



Y9&10 Forensic Science Workshop

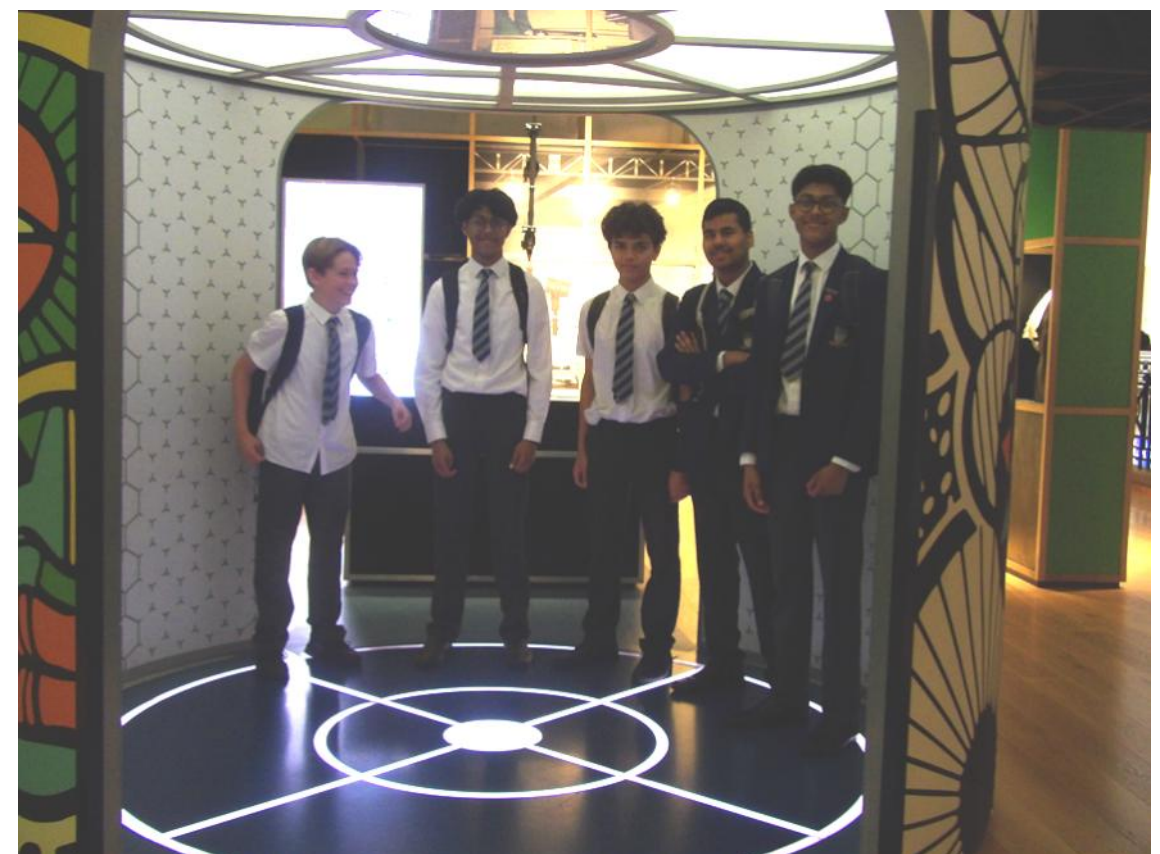
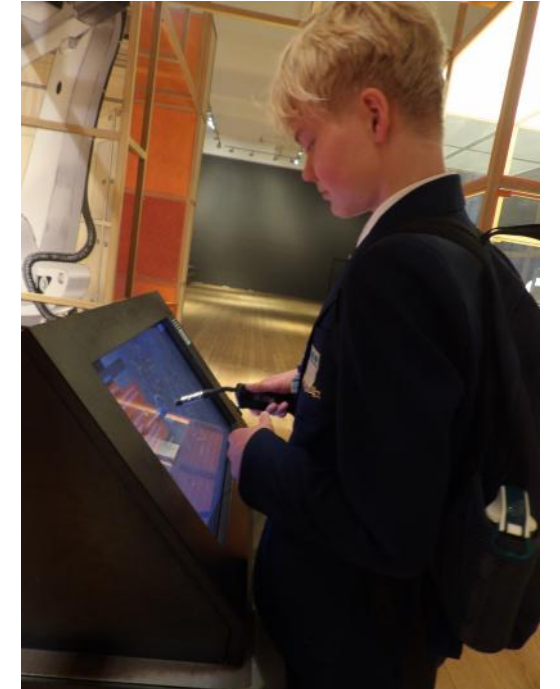
To round off a fantastic half term of learning, our Year 9 and 10 pupils took part in an exciting forensic science reward workshop at the Young Scientist Centre based in the Royal Institute— and it proved to be a real highlight!

In this hands-on session, pupils became forensic investigators for the day, working to solve a mock 'murder' by analysing DNA evidence using advanced techniques such as restriction digests and gel electrophoresis. It was a brilliant introduction to the world of genetics and forensic analysis, offering practical experiences rarely available before university. The workshop was not only engaging and educational, but also a memorable and rewarding way to celebrate the hard work and achievements of the term.



Y9 Science Museum Trip

Recently, our Year 9 pupils enjoyed an exciting and educational trip to the Science Museum, where they explored a range of fascinating galleries. In the Technicians Gallery, they had the opportunity to learn about STEM careers through a series of interactive exhibits, giving them valuable insight into real-world roles in science, technology, engineering, and maths. They also visited the Medicine and Movement galleries, deepening their understanding of human biology and innovation. A highlight of the day was the *Power Up* immersive experience, where students had great fun playing video games from across the decades. The trip was both inspiring and engaging, sparking curiosity and enthusiasm for science and future career possibilities.



SPORTS NEWS

ISA Bedford Athletics News

Senior Results:

Year 7 Skyla 3rd 1500, 3rd 200m

Year 7 Ismail 3rd 200m

Year 9 Bella 3rd 300m, 1st in heat 200m

Year 9 Kayden 3rd 200m

Year 9 Tommy 2nd 100m

Year 10 Tian-Li 2nd 100m

Year 7 Anaya 1st Shot

Year 10 Laila 1st Long jump



Oak-Tree Tennis Tournament

On 23 May our school took part in the annual Oak-Tree Tennis Competition, with all teams performing exceptionally well. We proudly secured 2nd place overall, with pupils showing great improvement in their tennis skills and game understanding. A special congratulations goes to the Year 4 boys' team - Henry and Khalifa, who won gold in their respective event. Special mention should also be made of Year 6 - Emran, who won all his respective games - an outstanding achievement- Well done!



Y2 Multi-Skills Festival

On Tuesday 10 June, our Year 2 class travelled to Willesden Sports Centre to compete in a Multi-Skills Tournament involving 19 schools. The team put in a fantastic effort across a range of activities including running races, obstacle courses, and problem-solving challenges. Their hard work earned them a total of 200 points and a well-deserved team bronze medal, along with a beautiful shield to bring back to school.

A particular highlight of the day was Isla's impressive win in her individual race—well done, Isla! Congratulations to the entire Year 2 class for representing our school with such enthusiasm and determination. It was a fun and rewarding day for everyone involved.



Summer Concert 2025

On Wednesday 12 June, a lovely sunny evening, we held our annual Summer Concert in the school playground. The tables and chairs were set out bistro style for the audience, and before the performance, they were able to enjoy a glass of wine or soft drink and delicious cheese and biscuits.

All pupils that performed were outstanding! There were solos on the violin, guitar, piano, trumpet, clarinet, viola and drums, we also had some solo singers. Our Junior and Senior choirs came together at points throughout the show with wonderful versions of recognisable songs such as 'Die with a Smile' by Lady Gaga and Bruno Mars.

Everyone in attendance had a lovely time, well done to all of our amazing pupils!



Club News

Our BSL Club (British Sign Language) had the wonderful opportunity to visit Eastbury Primary school, that has an Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP) for Deaf learners. Our pupils had the chance to put their BSL skills into action, communicating confidently with deaf pupils and teachers. They learnt about the different resources and tools that support deaf learners, including cochlear implants, hearing aids, headbands, and saw how they worked. It was particularly exciting to see how quickly the pupils at Eastbury could sign and our pupils tried to keep up. Our pupils also communicated with a variety of staff, including deaf teachers and professional communicators, gaining insight into different ways of supporting and engaging with the deaf community.

One of the highlights of the day was spending time with the pupils in their amazing playground and joining in games together. The visit ended on a high note with our pupils performing a song in BSL. Before leaving, each pupil was given a unique sign name—a special moment that made the day even more memorable. These sign names will now be used as part of their identity within the BSL Club moving forward. The whole experience was filled with joy, laughter, and pride. The teachers were incredibly impressed by how many signs the pupils already knew and how confidently they communicated.

BSL Club are looking forward to welcoming the pupils from the ARP to our school soon and to continuing the friendships and learning journey we have begun.

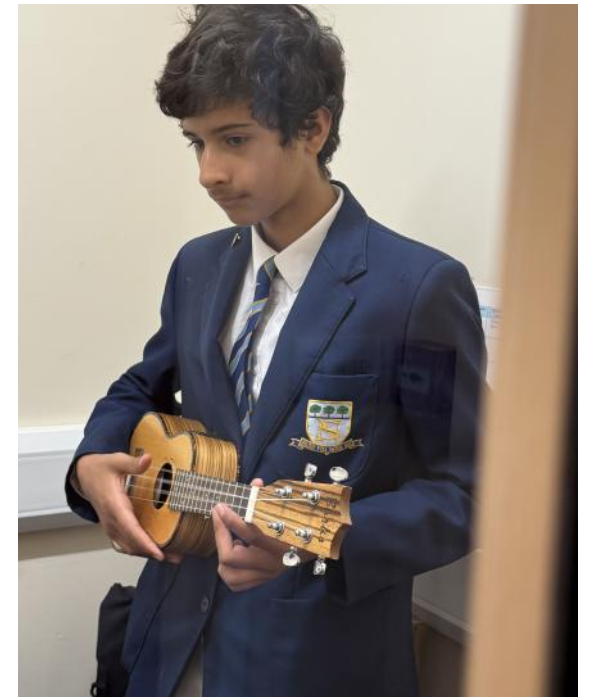


Music Department News

Year 8 pupils have been learning how to play Rock n' Roll in groups and as a whole class, using all their musical skills to date on keyboards, flutes, ukuleles and singing.

Year 7 girls have joined the African Drumming club, learning how to play the Djembe together.

Year 4 girls have been working hard to learn their part for the Normanhurst Orchestra.



Chess Tournament

Aurora and Lucia represented Normanhurst School at a Chess tournament. This was held at St Mary Marylebone CE School and organised by She Plays to Win and Chess in Schools and Communities.

Aurora and Lucia each placed joint fourth in their category, winning three games out of five. They had a very enjoyable time and look forward to the next event.



Dear Parents

The Normanhurst School Parents Association are a friendly group of parents and staff who seek to fundraise for the school. In the past, we have raised money for playground equipment, iPads, a sound system and extra beanbag chairs for the school library.

The NSPA also has a pre-loved uniform shop. Please complete an order form, which can be handed into the school office or emailed to info@normanhurstschool.co.uk and we will try and fulfil your requirements. All proceeds are fed back into improving the school experience for our children, so please support us.

DATE OF NEXT SALE: Tuesday 24 June at 3.30pm

As a committee, we are always looking for parents to join and support our events. We love our school community and are seeking fresh ideas to broaden our skillset and widen our expertise.

We can be contacted on normanhurstschoolpa@gmail.com. You don't have to come to every event or join the committee - you might be able to volunteer by helping at an open morning with serving drinks or by providing something we need for an event.

If you have suggestions, we want to hear them!

With kind regards
Normanhurst School Parents' Association



**Tap and give us a follow on our
social media accounts**