



# Normanhurst School

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## HEADMISTRESS

Mrs Jacqueline Job B.SC., NPQH

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4 July 2022

Dear Parents

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

As we reach the final stages of this busy term, there is much to celebrate: including our pupils' resilience, positivity and gratitude, which have been wonderful to see. The pupils have very much enjoyed the build up to performances, trips, concerts, workshops and we are all very much looking forward seeing parents at our Summer Concert on Tuesday 5 July at 5.45pm.

### **Speech Day**

It was wonderful to see so many parents attending the two events on our annual Speech Day. Celebrating the pupils' hard work and success at Normanhurst has been a strength over the years and it was brilliant to see the return of the event. Well done to all of our pupil performers and speakers; their performances were very inspiring and the pupil speeches very heartfelt. Congratulations to all the winners, thank you to our guest speaker Maya Simms and to you, our parents, for your ongoing support.

### **Whole School Sponsored Walk**

The annual sponsored walk is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 5 July. The children from Early Years to Year 1 will be walking to Connaught Waters. The rest of the school from Year 2 up 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. EYFS parents are invited to join us on the walk and the pupils will be back at school for normal end of day dismissal.

### **PE Kits**

The current arrangement of wearing PE kit for the whole day when there is a timetabled PE or Games lesson has been very successful. We are, therefore, planning to continue with it next year. Pupils, parents and staff have found the current arrangement of removing the need to change into PE kit has given more curriculum time to the PE lessons and reduced the amount of lost property and mislaid kit.

### **Pencil Cases in the Juniors**

Pupils may bring their own small, plain pencil case into school from Year 3 upwards. The pencil case should fit easily into their school bag and be without any embellishments. Once a pupil has received their pen licence, we ask parents to buy Frixion **Black** erasable pens for their children to use in school. These pens are inexpensive and widely available online and in store.

Pupils might also like to have pencils, colouring pencils, a small ruler, eraser or highlighter. Pupils should not bring mathematical equipment, including compasses or pointed scissors into school.

### **Information for Parents**

Parents will be receiving the updated Parents' Handbook towards the end of the summer holiday, ready for the start of term in September. Parents will also receive a copy of their child's timetable for the new year.

### **Wellbeing and Learning Ideas for the Summer Holidays**

Everyone has worked very hard this year in school and deserves to have time away from screens and school work over the summer. However, if families are looking for some optional activities to support their children's wellbeing or to provide some consolidation and enrichment over the summer break, the Government has provided some useful resources for families to access.

- For children in Kindergarten or Reception: <https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/#3>
- For children in Year 1 – Year 6: <https://www.thenational.academy/enrichment>

### **GCSE Results Day Thursday 25 August**

This year our Year 11 have worked hard to perform in GCSE exams and demonstrated their commitment towards their future education. I would like to thank the staff for their ongoing support and commitment to helping the Year 11 remain focused and driven. These thanks are shared with parents of Year 11, who have supported their children on this journey.

We wish all the Year 11 pupils the best of luck for results day on 25 August. Parents will be welcome to attend with their children. Results will be available on site from 8.30-10am.

### **New Year 7 Induction Day and Early Years 'Stay and Play' Friday 3 September**

We look forward to seeing the Year 7 pupils for part two of their Induction Day on Friday 2 September. The day will begin at 8.30am and finish at 12pm. Pupils should come to school in their full school uniform and bring their schools bag and pencil cases with them. Please ensure all items, including PE kit, are named before the start of term.

Pupils joining the Kindergarten or Reception classes also have an induction on Friday 2 September. They have a 'Stay and Play' session with their teachers from 10.00-11.00am.

### **Arrival Time in September**

Next year we will keep the flexible arrival time, which has worked so well for us this year. This means pupils will be able to arrive from 8.30am, Years 5-11 should go straight to the playground, Years 1-4 should go straight to their classrooms and Early Years including Reception will be collected from the main gate. All pupils should be in class by 8.40am at the latest for registration. We will also continue the staggered end to the day and lining up at dismissal.

- Early Years and Reception at 3.15pm
- Years 1-3 at 3.25pm
- Years 4-6 at 3.30pm
- Years 7-9 at 3.40pm
- Years 10-11 at 3.45pm

### **Pre-worn Uniform**

We are very grateful that the NSPA organise a number of pre-worn uniform sales throughout the year. We wanted to remind parents that the NSPA have lots of good quality pre-worn uniform available. If you are looking for items with the school logo on, please contact the school office and they will be able to make contact with the NSPA to help you. The NSPA are keen to support parents and provide sustainable uniform as part of their group aims.

### **NSPA**

The NSPA have continued to be unbelievable this year, even when they haven't been able to host and run their programme of events. The NSPA have made the following contributions this year:

- Two pool tables
- Revision workshops for Years 9 to 11
- Year 11 Leavers Breakfast and Year 6 Graduation event
- Contributions to the Yearbooks for years 6 and 11
- Recycling bins

### **NSPA Dates for your Diary**

- NSPA Meeting 19 September
- Autumn Tem NSPA Walk 25 September
- Junior Disco 7 October
- Quiz Night 14 October
- NSPA Meeting 17 October
- NSPA Meeting 14 November
- Potential Winter Fair 12 December
- Murder Mystery Night 3 February 2023

All parents are welcome to join the NSPA by contacting [normanhurstschoolpa@gmail.com](mailto:normanhurstschoolpa@gmail.com).

### **Mental Health Ambassadors**

I am pleased to see that our pupils are keen to help support each other and become Mental Health Ambassadors. The pupils are completing a 10-week programme to have the skills to fulfil this role.

Congratulations to the following pupils:

George	Nathan
Rosa	Numa
Gabby	Mehrnaz
Freddie	Leiya
Sarim	Joseph
Imogen	Yazmina
Esta	

### **Athletics Success**

Congratulations to Bella and Laila who represented the school at the National ISA Competition in Manchester. I am pleased to say that Bella won her events and received a Gold medal and Leila came 4th in the Hurdles. This is a fantastic achievement, making us all very proud of their efforts. They were great ambassadors for the school.

I am also pleased to announce the Lucy in Year 11 came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Essex Athletics section of the 1500m and is waiting to hear if she will take part in the English National Schools Athletics Competition. This is a tremendous achievement. Congratulations to Lucy and good luck for the event!

### **Last Day of Term**

On the last day of term, pupils will be allowed to wear their own clothes to school for £2.00. All monies will be donated to UNICEF for Children of War, a cause the charity committee and school community feel strongly about.

Can you please note the dismissal times for the last day of term after the final house rewards assemblies:

- EYFS, Years 1, 2 and 3 at 11.30am
- Years 4, 5 and 6 at 11.40am
- Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 at 11.50am

### **Online Safety**

As the holidays approach, we are reminding pupils across the school about online safety. It is also important to remind parents to check firewalls, and permissions on mobile devices to ensure pupils are able to stay safe. The Safer Internet Centre has some helpful tips for parents. The link is: [Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)  
There are also many up-to-date resources on our website.

## Staffing Update

This term has been incredibly busy and I am pleased to update you with some appointments made. The calibre of candidates has been extremely good and of a high standard.

I am excited to inform you that we have now appointed Mr Masters as Assistant Head Juniors and Mrs Lafferty as Assistant Head Seniors. Both members of staff will be joining the senior leadership team with a focus on teaching, learning and progress.

Mrs Arrowsmith has been appointed as the new Head of English in the seniors and has taught across the full senior range including key stages 3 and 4. She will be joining us from Chigwell School with her wealth of experience. We are incredibly excited that Mrs Arrowsmith will be joining in September on a part time basis and full-time from January. Mrs Lafferty, Mrs Botha and Mr Clair will be teaching English to support this transition.

I am also delighted to say that Miss Varley and Miss O'Brien will be joining the junior teaching team as class teachers. They have already taught their classes and have enjoyed getting to know the pupils on Moving Up day.

## Prefect Applications

Congratulations to all the pupils in year 5 and year 10 who have been successful in obtaining a leadership post for next year. I was extremely impressed with the pupils in their interviews; they were articulate, showed enthusiasm and were very persuasive - transferrable skills for the future.

### Junior Prefect Team

House Captains: Connaught	Dylan and Aarush
House Captains: Warren	Aurora and Ewan
Sports Captain: Connaught	Palesa
Sports Captain: Warren	Nathaniel
Head of Community Links: Connaught	Sofia
Head of Community Links: Warren	Leyla
Prefects for Connaught	Elizabeth, Lucy and Benjamin
Prefects for Warren	Ibraheem, Perry, Daisy and Christian

### Seniors Prefect Team

Head Prefects	Leiya and Rován
Heads of Connaught House	Gabby and Owais
Heads of Warren House	Yazmina and Mehrnaz
Head of Form Leaders	Diyar
Head of School Councils	Awais
Head of Arts (Music, Art, Drama)	Imogen
Head of Academics	Sydney
Head of Sport: Connaught	Esta
Head of Sport: Warren	Harrison
Senior Prefects	Ridoy, Akshhan, Yilmaz, Yusuf, Andrew, Salah-al-din and Yusufjan

Congratulations to all pupils, I know they will do a fantastic job.

## Oak-Tree Fireworks

The Oak-Tree Firework Display is booked for Sunday 13 November 2022. Please put the date in your diaries and join us for this enjoyable family event. Mr Hagger will be writing to parents in September with further details.

## Oak-Tree Ball 2023

The Oak-Tree Ball will now take place on Saturday 17 June 2023. The Ball is a very special evening with many highlights; do save the date so that you are able to join us. Mr Hagger will write with further information next term.

## Complaints and Concerns

As you are aware, we have an open door policy throughout the school and we make every effort to respond quickly to any queries or concerns you may have. I thought you might like to know that over the course of the last academic year we had four formal complaints that were resolved to the satisfaction of all parties. Any informal concerns were also resolved quickly with positive outcomes.

## Important Dates for the Diary

Mon 4 Jul	09:00 – 15:45	Senior House Trip to Harlow Activity Centre
	17:00 – 18:00	Y6 Surprise Graduation Party
Tue 5 Jul	12:30 – 15:30	Whole School Sponsored Walk
	17:45 – 18:45	Summer Music Concert
Wed 6 Jul		Last day of term
Fri 2 Sep	09:00 – 15:30	New Y7 Induction Day
Mon 5 Sep		First day of Autumn term
Tue 6 Sep	17:00 – 18:00	Y11 Post 16 Education
Wed 7 Sep	17:00 – 18:00	Y10 Being Successful at GCSE
Mon 12 – Fri 16 Sep		Y1-6 Baseline Tests
Mon 12 Sep	15:45 – 16:45	Y1-6 Parents' Maths Information Meeting
Tue 13 Sep	15:45 – 16:45	EYFS RWI/Maths Information Meeting
Wed 14 Sep	12:00 – 18:30	Y10&11 GCSE Eng Lit An Inspector Calls theatre trip
Thu 15 – Fri 16 Sep		Year 3 Overnight Camp at Oaklands
Mon 19 Sep	19:00 – 20:00	NSPA Meeting
Tue 20 Sep	08:30 – 09:00	Junior Parents' 'Drop In' Morning
Thu 22 Sep		Individual School Photos tbc
Sun 25 Sep		NSPA Autumn Walk
Tue 27 Sep	17:00 – 18:00	Y7 Meet the Teacher Parents' Meeting
Tue 4 Oct	09:30 – 10:30	Harvest Festival
Thu 6 Oct	18:00 – 19:30	Open Day – EYFS, Infants and Juniors
Fri 7 Oct	09:15 – 10:30	Open Morning - Seniors
	17:00 – 18:30	Junior Disco
Mon 10 Sep	16:00 – 18:30	EYFS/Junior Parents' Evening
Tue 11 Sep	16:00 – 18:30	EYFS/Junior Parents' Evening
Wed 12 Sep	16:00 – 18:30	EYFS/Junior Parents' Evening
Fri 14 Sep	18:00 – 20:00	NSPA Quiz Night
Mon 24 Oct – Fri 4 Nov		Half 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.

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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