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## Headmistress's Message

Dear Parents

This term pupils have been working hard towards their GCSEs, internal exams and assessments. They have shown great determination to succeed and this positivity is infectious. Pupils have been incredible and have embraced this process positively, which has been highly commended. Pupils have responded well to teacher feedback to further their understanding.

As we head towards the close of the school year, we still have much more to look forward to including the NSPA Summer Barbecue, Moving Up Day, Sports Day, Celebration Assemblies, Summer Concert, the Year 11 Prom and the Sponsored Walk. I am looking forward to seeing you all at some of these events.

Once again, we are grateful for the very kind comments and emails we receive, and are reminded daily of how special the Normanhurst community is and the people within it. I hope you enjoy this June edition of the newsletter. There is much to celebrate.

With my best wishes

**Mrs Jacqueline Job**  
Headmistress

## EARLY YEARS NEWS

Over the past few weeks, the **Early Years** children have watched closely as our caterpillars turned into butterflies. The children enjoyed the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' as they learned about the life cycle of a butterfly during our science lessons. Today, we took our butterflies on our forest walk and released them. It was lovely to see them fly off into the forest.



The **Upper Kindergarten** and **Reception** children had a fantastic time at the Spinney, enjoying craft activities with the residents and chatting with them. They also met the cat that lives there and found out she is called 'Ruby'. It is wonderful to have such a great connection with the Spinney and both the children and residents enjoyed it.



## EARLY YEARS NEWS continued

We have been very excited on a Friday afternoon ... why? Forest school!

Let us tell you what we have been doing.

Our teachers are really proud of the way we walk to the forest and back, quietly crossing the roads. When at forest school we know we are safe because we are not allowed outside the flag circle area. We take a few minutes quiet to listen and watch, helping us to feel calm and ready.

Our favourite game is 1,2,3 where are you? We have to hide within the area and then wait to be found.

We are becoming familiar with the routines and have already joined in with several activities. We have found forest treasures and talked about them with our partners. Whilst learning the story of 'Hansel and Gretel' we made our own tracks with wood to make arrows and then followed them.

Linking 'The Gingerbread Man' story, we found a letter from the Gingerbread Man telling us he was very sorry for running away but has now got 22 babies and they ran away too. Fortunately, we all found one to take home.

We thought about 'World Laughter Week' and we enjoyed telling jokes and having a good laugh. It was exciting making an instrument and making music with our bears at the picnic. We also found out about trees, looking at the different types, their names and their barks, where we made rubbings.

Finally, we had a scavenger hunt where we had to find different things and place them onto our board.

Our favourite part was making our soft robin make his call and we were amazed when other robins called back.

We had so much fun!



## EARLY YEARS NEWS continued

Amazing treasure maps were created by our Reception class that they then used to find the treasure their friends had hidden. Using tea bag water, ripping edges and crumpling were techniques used to make the paper look old, then the children drew a map of the playground, adding in extra things to make it look even more like a treasure map. We all had so much fun!



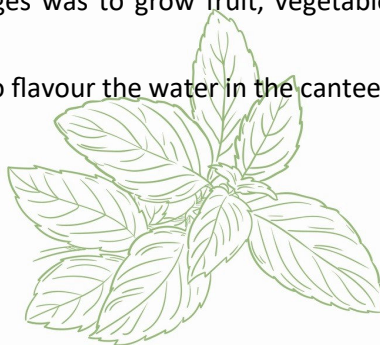
## JUNIOR NEWS

### Junior Eco Council News

This year, one of the Eco Council pledges was to grow fruit, vegetables and herbs to be used around the school.

This week, the kitchen used their mint to flavour the water in the canteen.

Well done Eco Councillors!



Pupils from **Years 3-9** visited The Spinney Care Home to perform some musical items to the residents. They took along their musical instruments and their voices and gave it their all. The residents were happily singing along to some of the songs and were pleased to hear the instruments playing. The residents and staff at The Spinney Care Home were really impressed by the talent the pupils showed and were grateful to them for sharing the music. This was our last visit for this academic year and we look forward to seeing them again when we return to school in September.



## JUNIOR NEWS continued

In May, the **Years 5 and 6** pupils visited PGL in Surrey for 3 days of adventure. During the trip, the children took part in paddle boarding, fencing, climbing, zip wire and buggy building. The evening's entertainment included a silent disco and a hunt to solve a mystery. The pupils showed incredible courage and bravery, as well as having great fun! Well done to everyone.



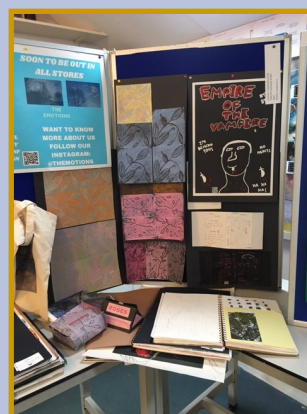
## SENIOR NEWS

Between 13 and 15 May, **Years 7 and 8** attended their annual residential trip at the Skreens Park Activity Centre in Essex. The students had the opportunity to engage in outdoor activities including, climbing, kayaking, archery, camp fire building and many more. They thoroughly enjoyed their time at the centre and were actively engaged in team building activities to help develop their confidence. In addition, they also gained independent working skills and learned respect for each other and showed cooperation when working as part of a team.



## SENIOR NEWS continued

Last Thursday we celebrated the fantastic work of the **Y11 GCSE Fine Art and Graphics students**. The work was the culmination of project and exam outcomes from the last 2 years and featured a range of 2D and 3D outcomes. Congratulations to all involved.

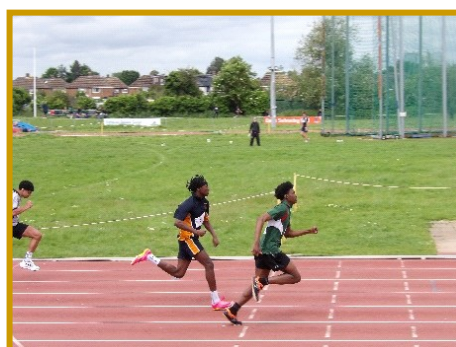


## SPORTS NEWS

### ISA Bedford

We had a fantastic day in the sunshine with 49 students from Years 4 to 10 at the ISA London North Athletics Championships. The students were all very excited to take part in an athletics meet at a stadium and represented the school fantastically.

We were impressed with all the students' hard work not only on the day but also in lessons building up to the event. Some of our best performances were Bobby (9JR) – Javelin, Joshua (10S) – 200m, both winning Gold medals and their spot in the Nationals on Monday 17 June. Other Normanhurst successes came from Raghav (8R) – 2<sup>nd</sup> in High Jump, Elin (Y4) – 3<sup>rd</sup> in Long Jump and Joshua (10S) – 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 100m. Well done to all the students who took part in the events.



## SPORTS NEWS continued

Normanhurst pupils travelled to Chingford School of Tennis for the annual **Oak-Tree Tennis Tournament**. It was a lovely sunny day and the children were filled with excitement, ready for a competitive, but fun, morning of tennis. Each pupil had 3 singles matches and 3 doubles matches to play, in order to score valuable points for their school. Well done to the Normanhurst team for giving it their all and making the school proud!



All students in Year 2 were invited to take part in the **Oak-Tree 3 Tees Cricket Festival**. With this being the first time students had experienced a cricket fixture, we were so impressed with how they listened, applied the rules of the game and handled the winning and the losing aspect of sport.





## Oliver Jr. The Musical

Normanhurst pupils delivered an amazing rendition of Oliver Jr. the Musical at Redbridge Drama Centre.

Lively dance routines, beautiful solos and fantastic acting captivated friends and family.

Our pupils worked extremely hard during their rehearsals and should be incredibly proud of the standout show they put on!

Bravo to all the talented children who took part in the production!



## PUPIL NEWS

Well done to **Leo** (Upper Kindergarten) for running a race with his dad to raise money for Cancer Research. They raised over £7000, what an incredible achievement!



**Sinan** (Year 7) competed in Nottingham at the Mark Bates Cadet National Table Tennis Championships.

In the Cadet Boys' Singles, third-ranked Sinan got into the second qualifying space in group 4, thanks to a 3-1 victory. Sinan's win was key to the group's final standings.

In the Cadets Boys' Doubles, in the quarters, Sinan and his partner sunk the second seeds, recovering from the disappointment of missing chances in the third, to seal it 3-1. Back in the preliminary round, Sinan and his partner fought through a tough encounter with their opponents, winning 3-2. Well done Sinan!

**Sofia** (Year 7) is progressing so well with her dance outside of school. She recently had 4 exams: Grade 1 Ballet (Merit), Grade 1 Theatre Craft (Merit) and Grade 2 and Bronze Tap (Distinction).

Well done Sofia for remembering all those steps and choreographies!



## PUPIL NEWS continued

**Lachlan** (6D) has been busy rehearsing for his dance school's biennial showcase which has been on at the Millfield Theatre in Edmonton over the past few weeks. Lachlan has two acting parts in extracts from *Wonka* (as Wonka) and *Wind in the Willows* (as Chief Weasel) as well as dancing in two ballet numbers, a tap number and also a modern dance piece.



His principal feedback was that there were too many quick costume changes! Lachlan has been rehearsing all of this at the same time as the school production of *Oliver*! Well done Lachlan!



Nicolas (9D) and Sofia (7O) had the immense privilege of spending the weekend playing with the National Children's Orchestra of Great Britain.

Nick was given first seat viola, giving him more confidence in his abilities and the desire of pursuing music beyond GCSE.

Sofia also did very well, showing such determination, and it was a real treat for them to play surrounded by such talented musicians.

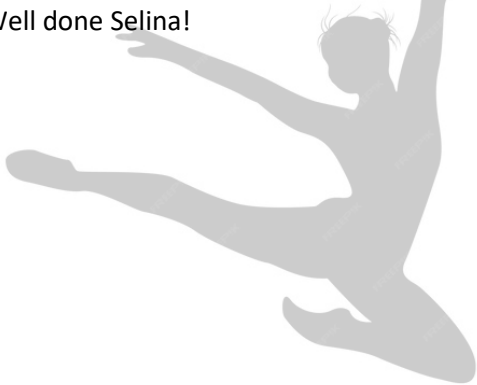
The conductor, Natalia Luis Bassa, was full of enthusiasm and praise and all in all, a wonderful experience.



## PUPIL NEWS continued

**Selina** (8B) recently took part in the Casablanca Gymnastics Spring Competition on 2 June. Selina achieved 1st place in her age group.

Well done Selina!



## NSPA

Dear Parents

Our next big event is the Summer Barbecue on Saturday 22 June from 12.00 noon until 5.00pm. It promises to be a wonderful afternoon where all the school community come together and enjoy a fun-packed, Wonka-themed afternoon. We look forward to seeing you there.

Please do contact us at [normanhurstschoolpa@gmail.com](mailto:normanhurstschoolpa@gmail.com) if you would like to join the NSPA team or if you would be interested in supporting any of the events. New ideas are always welcome so please do get in touch if you feel inspired.

With best wishes

**The NSPA Committee**

[normanhurstschoolpa@gmail.com](mailto:normanhurstschoolpa@gmail.com)



**NSPA**  
Normanhurst Parents' Association