



Normanhurst School

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HEADMISTRESS

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1 July 2024

Dear Parents

Re: July 2024 Headmistress's Letter

As we reach the final stages of this term, once again we take the opportunity to celebrate pupils' hard work and commitment to improving themselves, their resilience, positive mindset and achievements. The pupils have very much enjoyed the build up to performances, trips, concerts and workshops. It has been lovely to see so many parents and extended family at events including the Summer Barbecue, and we are all very much looking forward to seeing you at our annual Speech Day.

NSPA School Barbecue

I would like to say a huge 'thank you' to everyone who was involved in organising and attended the annual Summer Barbecue. The weather, food, company and entertainment did not disappoint. There was, once again, much laughter and some wonderful performances, and a great sense of community spirit. A special thank you to the NSPA, staff and pupils for making this happen.

Oliver and the Summer Music Concert

Thank you to all of the parents and extended family who attended the annual school production of "Oliver". This year's production was a resounding success. This was the first year of two evening performances and it was wonderful to meet and see extended family and multiple generations all under one roof. This year's Summer Concert was also a huge success, showcasing the talent and confidence of the children. We were treated to a medley of individual and group performances and an array of musical instruments. Well done and congratulations to all pupils who performed. It was truly a superb evening.

Speech Day: Thursday 4 July

This year at Speech Day we will be celebrating the pupils' hard work and success. Best of luck to all of our pupil performers and speakers; their performances no doubt will be inspiring and heartfelt.

The Reception to Year 6 Speech Day event will start at 2pm and the Senior Speech Day event will start at 4pm. The venue is St Peter & St Paul Church, The Green Walk, Chingford E4 7EN.

Whole School Sponsored Walk: Tuesday 9 July

The annual sponsored walk is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 9 July. The children from Kindergarten to Year 1 will be walking towards the Connaught Waters area and parents are invited to join us. The rest of the school from Year 2 to Year 10 will walk towards the High Beech area, following trails through the forest. All children are to come to school that day wearing their PE kits and are to bring a bottle of water and a healthy snack. Pupils will be back at school for normal end of day dismissal.

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 school year.

GCSE Results Day: Thursday 22 August

This year our Year 11 have worked hard to perform in GCSE exams and demonstrated their commitment towards achieving good outcomes. I would like to thank the staff for their support and commitment to helping Year 11 remain focused and driven. These thanks are shared with parents of Year 11, who have supported their children on this journey. Once again, it highlights the special partnership between the school and our families.

We wish all the Year 11 pupils the best of luck for results day on Thursday 22 August. Parents are welcome to attend with their children and results will be available on site from 8.30-10.00am in the school hall.

New Year 7 Induction Day and Early Years 'Stay and Play'

We look forward to seeing the Year 7 pupils for part two of their Induction Day on Tuesday 3 September. The day will begin 9.15am 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.

Children joining Kindergarten have a 'Stay and Play' session with their teachers on the same day from 10.00-11.00am.

Arrival Time in September

Pupils can arrive at school 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-loved Uniform

We are very grateful that the NSPA organise a number of pre-loved uniform sales throughout the year. We wanted to remind parents that the NSPA have lots of good quality 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 provide unwavering support. This year they have made the following contributions:

- Revision Workshops for Years 9 to 11
- Years 7 and 8 Early Study Skills Workshops by Elevate
- Year 11 Leavers' Breakfast/Prom and Year 6 Graduation event
- Contributions towards the Yearbooks for Years 6 and 11
- 6 cameras and cases to be able to take improved photos and share with families
- A new mic system with 8 individual mics to be used for assemblies, performance and events
- Support with the Winter Fayre, Oak-Tree Fireworks, Summer Walks, Quiz night, Open days, Sports Day refreshments and, of course, the Summer Barbecue

All parents are welcome to join the NSPA by contacting normanhurstschoolpa@gmail.com

Headmistress's Commendations

This month I am also pleased to be able to announce additional Headmistress Commendations for Juniors.

Lachlan for his ongoing commitment to wider school life and for consistently demonstrating the values that underpin the school.

Emily in year 5 continues to demonstrate the school values. She leads by example with a positive attitude to learning, caring for others and adopting a caring nature when supporting others.

Anaya and Poppy in Year 6 have shown excellent leadership skills in their Prefect roles and wider contribution around the school. Their suggestions and contributions, improve the school for the pupils across the school.

Enterprise Competition

This year we will host the third Dragon's Den style Competition on Tuesday 2 July. Our visiting judges, Mrs Kudzi and Mr Kelley, will return to judge the competition. Good Luck to everyone participating.

ISA National Sporting Success

At Normanhurst School, we take part in the ISA regional athletics competition in Bedford. This year Bobby in Year 9 and Joshua in Year 10 qualified to compete in the Nationals in Birmingham. Josh came third in the 100m race and Bobby came fifth in the Javelin. They both demonstrated great competitiveness and excellent sportsmanship. We are incredibly proud of their performances and thank them for representing the school so well.

Last Day of Term

On the last day of term, pupils will be allowed to wear their own clothes to school for £2. All monies will be donated to Mind, a cause the charity committee and school community feel strongly about.

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 UK Safer Internet Centre has some helpful tips for parents [Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#) and there are also many up-to-date resources on our website.

Staffing Update

This term we say goodbye to Miss Oriel, a key worker in the Early Years department. Miss Oriel leaves Normanhurst to become a website designer. I would like to thank Miss Oriel for her energy and creativity. She has made a positive impact on the children's learning.

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 – all transferrable skills for the future. I very much look forward to making the announcements on Speech Day.

Oak-Tree Fireworks and Young Voices: 2024-2025

The Oak-Tree Firework Display is booked for Sunday 3 November 2024, which is the final day before we return to school from the October half term. Please do put the date in your diaries and join us for this enjoyable family event.

Normanhurst Year 5 & 6 pupils next year will be joining the other Oak-Tree Schools to participate in Young Voices in February 2025. Young Voices is a concert made up of children from schools across the country who come together to form one of the largest school choirs in the world. This is a fantastic opportunity to sing as part of the UK's largest choir on and around the stage at the O2. Families are able to attend and enjoy the concert. Further details will be shared by Mr Hagger in the Autumn Term.

Residential Trips

As you know, we are keen to take the pupils away on residential trips to continue their personal and character development. Please see below dates for the next school year:

- Year 3 Camp at Oaklands 12-13 September 2024
- Year 4 to Danbury 14-16 May 2025
- Years 5&6 to Essex Outdoor Centre, Mersea Island 4-6 June 2025
- Years 7&8 to Skreens Park 18-20 June 2025
- Year 9 to Danbury 16-18 June 2025

Cheerleading Success

Congratulations to Nina in Year 6 who competes as part of a Cheerleading team. Recently, she competed at the ICC Battle of Champions, a National competition where the regional winners compete against each other at the highest level. Nina's team ranked 3rd in the country won a bid to compete at the International Finals in Orlando Florida next May! They will be competing against teams from USA, Canada, Australia and Germany amongst others. We would like to wish Nina the best of luck for next year. This is an incredible achievement and Nina will be representing England at the World Championships in April 2025.

Important Dates

Please make a note of the dates below:

Mon 1 Jul	18:30 – 22:30	Y11 Leavers' Prom King's Oak
Thu 4 Jul	14:00 – 15:30	Rec-Y6 Speech Day at St Peter and St Paul Church
	16:00 – 17:30	Y7-11 Speech Day at St Peter and St Paul Church
Fri 5 Jul	08:15 – 16:00	LK-Y6 House trip to Legoland
	09:00 – 15:45	Y10 Careers Day
Mon 8 Jul	08:30 – 16:00	Y7-10 Senior House trip to Thorpe Park
	17:00 – 18:30	Y6 Graduation Party
Tue 9 Jul	13:00 – 15:30	Sponsored Walk
Wed 10 Jul		Last Day of Summer Term
Wed 4 Sep		First Day of Autumn Term
	17:00 – 18:00	Y11 Post 16 Education Parent Meeting
Thu 5 Sep	15:45 – 16:45	EYFS RWI/Maths Parent Information Meeting
	17:00 – 18:00	Y10 Being Successful at GCSE Parent Meeting
Mon 9 – Fri 13 Sep		Y1-6 Baseline Tests
Wed 11 Sep	15:45 – 16:15	Y1-6 Maths Information Parent Meeting
	16:15 – 16:45	Y1-6 English Information Parent Meeting
Thu 12-Fri 13 Sep		Year 3 Overnight Camp at Oaklands
Fri 20 Sep	08:30 – 09:00	LK-Y6 Parents' 'Drop In' Morning
Tue 24 Sep	17:00 – 17:30	Y7 Meet the Teacher Parents' Meeting
Fri 27 Sep		MacMillan Coffee Morning
Mon 30 Sep	17:30 – 18:00	Battlefields Trip Parent Information Meeting

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. In the meantime, I hope your child has a lovely end to this academic year. They have worked incredibly hard and will deserve the Summer break when it comes.

I wish you all a lovely summer holiday and look forward to welcoming you all back in September for another busy and exciting year.

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.

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