



March 2025



Normanhurst School

Newsletter

Headmistress's Message



Dear Parents

Pupils have been working incredibly hard to make progress and have had the opportunity to enjoy the annual STEAM activities during STEAM Week. They have been exploring Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths as subjects and their application beyond the classroom, into industry.

In March we also celebrate International Women's Day and wish the members of our community celebrating Ramadan the best of luck throughout the period of fasting and reflection.

In sport, pupils have demonstrated their commitment and dedication to training sessions, fixtures and competitions. We are all proud of our pupils' achievements and the way they are representing the school.

Behind the scenes pupils and staff have continued to work on Into the Woods, our annual school production, where scenes are beginning to come together nicely.

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter, and may I wish you all a lovely Easter break.

With my best wishes

Mrs Jacqueline Job

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Little Red Riding Hood

Little Red Riding Hood and Grandma were lost in the forest and the Early Years children worked together to find them!



As part of their topic 'Ticket to Ride', the Early Years children enjoying walking to Chingford Station and getting on the train to Wood Street. They walked to the library and shared books together before walking to the bus stop and getting the 212 bus back to school. The excitement amongst the children was fantastic to see as they pointed out the different things they could see whilst using public transport.



Our travels around the UK

Early Years have travelled all around the United Kingdom this half term.

They started by travelling to England, exploring the various landmarks they might find in London including the Shard and London Bridge. The children all enjoyed building some of the landmarks using a selection of resources, working together to create 3D buildings.

Next pupils travelled to Wales, learning all about the national flower, the daffodil and creating some fantastic daffodil artwork. They learnt how to say good morning in Welsh "bore da", tasted delicious Welsh cakes as well as growing our very own leeks.

After that the children travelled to Scotland, baking delicious Scottish shortbread and enjoying some Scottish dancing. They finished by travelling to Northern Ireland where the children made some fantastic Irish hats!



Year 1 Scientists

Year 1 had an exciting adventure when a 'rocket' crash-landed in the school playground!

The curious pupils set off on a mission around the school to track it down. Once they found it, they discovered that all the materials had come loose and needed to be identified and sorted into categories.

Through this hands-on experience, the pupils learned to recognise and name various materials, using scientific language to describe their properties.

They also went on a material hunt, putting their observation skills to the test to find and record different materials around the school.

Well done, Year 1 scientists! Keep up the great work!



Year 1 PSHE

Our Year 1 pupils took a local walk along the High Road to learn how to cross roads safely during their PSHE lesson. They identified different types of crossings and practised using them correctly. The children also noticed the bumpy pavement near crossings. This sparked a fantastic discussion about how people who are blind use these tactile surfaces and how other features can help a blind, deaf or any person to cross the road safely. The pupils were then able to spot other safe crossing points by looking for tactile paving and lowered kerbs.

We are so proud of the Year 1 Pupils for their excellent behaviour and enthusiasm! They can now confidently tell you how to cross the road safely - well done Year 1!



Y5&6 Maths Workshop

Our Year 5 and 6 pupils took part in an exciting and educational Maths workshop centred around the stock market. Although fictional, the experience felt real as pupils bought and sold shares in various companies, making strategic decisions based on market trends. They quickly grasped key financial concepts, including risk, profit, and investment, all while sharpening their mental Maths skills. The competitive yet collaborative atmosphere made for a thrilling session, with pupils enthusiastically tracking their portfolios and adapting their strategies. It was a fantastic way to bring Maths to life, and who knows—perhaps we have some future stock market experts in our midst!



Juniors Visit The Spinney

Some pupils visited our local care home, The Spinney, for an afternoon full of story reading.

The residents and pupils enjoyed sharing stories together, creating a wonderful atmosphere of connection and nostalgia.

The residents were also delighted by the pupils' creative costumes, expressing their admiration for the effort and imagination that went into each outfit.



After School Club

Our After School Club has been buzzing with creativity as pupils explore their artistic talents through collage-making! Using a mix of colours, textures and materials, they've been crafting unique and expressive artworks.

It's wonderful to see their imagination come to life while building confidence in their artistic skills.

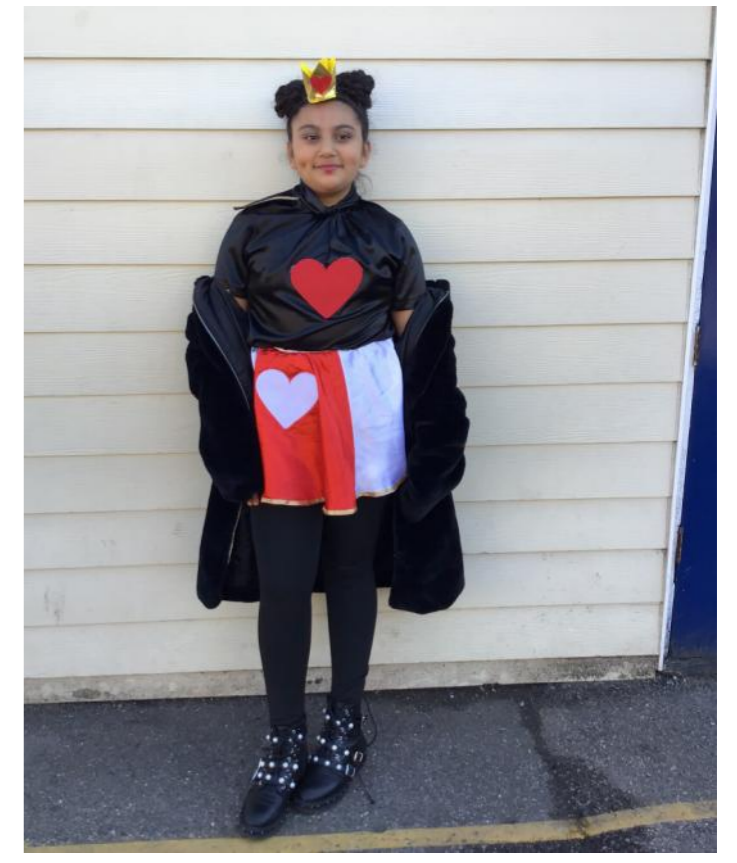


Junior Pupils Celebrate World Book Day in Heroic Style!

Our Junior pupils brought stories to life on World Book Day with a fantastic celebration of heroes and villains! Dressed as their favourite literary characters, the children filled the school with colour and creativity, showcasing everything from classic fairytale villains to legendary superheroes. The day was a perfect opportunity to inspire a love for reading while encouraging pupils to explore the characters and stories that captivate their imaginations.

Throughout the day, pupils participated in a range of exciting activities designed to make books even more magical. Various live lessons with authors engaged them with storytelling and discussions, while a hands-on challenge saw some of the year groups crafting book characters using recycled materials. The fun continued with a thrilling book character riddle hunt, where pupils solved clues to discover hidden literary figures around the school.

There was also a grand parade in the playground, where pupils proudly displayed their creative costumes and cheered on their classmates. Laughter and excitement filled the air as everyone celebrated their shared love of reading. The event was a huge success, reminding us all of the joy that books bring and the endless adventures they hold!



Y8 William Morris Gallery Printmaking Workshop

Year 8 recently visited the William Morris Gallery where they participated in a printmaking workshop with local artist Anna Alcock to create a two colour block print based on artefacts from the collection.



Y10&11 GCSE Fine Art & Graphics Trip

Pupils in Year 11 visited the V&A to research ideas for their Component 2 ESA exam assignment.

Year 10 joined them on the visit to research ideas for the Component 1 Identity project. They all visited the Great Mughals exhibition looking at work from the golden age of the Mughal court (1560-1660) during the reigns of its most famous emperors: Akbar, Jahangir and Shah Jahan.



Y11 Science Ecology Field Trip

On 6 March Year 11 visited the Hyde Park Learning Centre to participate in a Practical Investigation Day run by The Royal Parks charity.

This is what Nicky Saunders, Learning Officer for The Royal Parks, had to say:

“I was delighted to work with the group, who were brilliant and got stuck into all the activities; surveying plants using quadrats and taking measurements of the light levels, soil moisture and compaction in the meadow adjacent to the Learning Centre. They investigated the invertebrate population of the Learning Centre pond, with much excitement over the different species we found which included, dragonfly nymphs, water boatmen, many fly larvae and even some mating toads, with their string-like spawn beginning to emerge in the pond.

It was a pleasure to work with such an engaged and fun group. I look forward to welcoming Normanhurst School back to Hyde Park in the future.”



STEAM Activities

The EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils had a fantastic trip to the Discover Children's Story Centre. They had a great time exploring the story telling floor, followed by creating their very own group story 'The Monster Chase'. Stinky the Monster had 900 sharp teeth, rainbow scales all over its body and was stealing everyone's socks! Stinky lived in a house in Australia with 125 other monsters and every day they gobbled up socks and ate cheese stew. People were fed up with their socks being taken so they gathered up some racoons to chase away the monsters into a rocket which blasted off into space. Nobody knows where they are now!



Senior STEAM Assembly

STEM POEM 2025 - by Nicholas 10B

Oh, how we took pride
In our STEM Assembly 2025!
A pleasure to many's eyes
A sight to make others cry

Our first experiment:

'Eye Candy',
Seeing a solution turn to brandy.
Using a lolly and a frother,
let's move on to another
(experiment)

Our second:

'Beyond the blue bottle',
Whilst being careful, using your goggles.
Using glucose as a reducing agent,
You observe the colours changing.

Onto the third experiment:

'A material',
Making others seem extra
terrestrial.
Bend it into a straight line,
When in hot water, it turns into a
design.

Lastly, but not least:

'Lollies and soap',
Not licking them both, you'd hope
To see how your smell and taste
Travels fast, as well.

Here's the link to the experiments in Nicolas's poem:

https://www.canva.com/design/DAGhQubIzfA/cW8AdWA93cc4fn_xmon0VQ/view?utm_content=DAGhQubIzfA&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=uniquelinks&utllid=h370192f1f2



School Production 'Into the Woods'

This half term Normanhurst had over 52 pupils take part in the school production 'Into the woods Jr'.

It was a fantastic show that included singing, dancing and acting. The pupils worked tirelessly for 3 days in the Redbridge Drama Centre to put together an incredible performance that blew the audience away!

This is a special event that happens once a year where we get to see children from year 4 to year 10 come together as a team. These memories are sure to last a life time. Well done to all the pupils who took part.



Pupil Achievement

Demauri was nominated to participate in the British Association of Dancing junior freestyle scholarship and solo hip/hop competition. Demauri was a finalist and placed in the top nine (there was only one winner) of the solo competition.

He was also chosen to be the Head Boy of Stages Performance Academy - the youngest Head Boy in the school.

Demauri's sister Kelsie (year 11) was awarded the Joan Bentley Community Outreach Award, which is given to the Student of the Performance Academy who shows compassion, empathy, care and is helpful throughout the school.

Well done both!



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.

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!



NSPA
Normanhurst Parents' Association



Tap and give us a follow on our social media accounts