



## HEADMISTRESS

MRS CLAIRE OSBORN MSc., B.A. (HONS), PGCE

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March 2015

### Headmistress's Letter

Dear Parents

The Easter break is only four school weeks away but we are looking forward to a number of whole school events before the holidays: Book Week celebrations take place this week, including the Readathon sponsored read, a national schools initiative, and the junior 'Dress-up as a Book Character Day' on Friday. Mr Beint launches the annual inter-house Photography Competition, encouraging pupils to take their own photographs and submit them when we come back to school in April. This is followed by our inter-house Science Competition timed to coincide with National Science and Engineering Week. Finally, the Easter Service is on the penultimate day of term at The Church on the Green.

### ISA Writing Competitions

I have been receiving excellent essays from pupils in the senior school for the ISA Max Gate and Favonius Essay prizes this year. The school's winning entries will be entered into the national finals and the final results will be announced at the ISA National Conference in May.

### New Clubs and Activities for the Summer Term

We have been looking at how we can develop further the range of extra-curricular opportunities for our pupils following talking with parents at the recent coffee mornings. I am delighted that we will be offering these three clubs from April:

A Zumba, Hip Hop and Street Dance club for girls and boys on Mondays after school: 3.30-4.15pm for Years 1-6; 4.15-5.00pm for Years 7-11. Mrs Rosie Pike, a locally based dance and fitness teacher will be taking the classes.

A 'Mad Science' club for Years 1-8 on Tuesdays, which includes practical and fun science activities covering a range of interesting and interactive science topics.

'LingoZingo' Languages Club on Thursdays for Years 1-6 where pupils have a fun experience with French and Spanish, learning about language and culture through a rich variety of activities.

Parents will be receiving more details about each of these clubs in the coming week and information about how to register your interest.

### School in Action Open Morning Tuesday 10 March

We have our next Open Morning on Tuesday 10 March from 9.15-10.30am when current and prospective families are welcome to visit the school and to see the school in action. Prefects and pupils and some pupils in Years 7 and 8 will be touring visitors around the school. There will be a talk in the hall at 10.00am. We also have updated the school prospectus, which parents can download from the school website.

### 13+/11+ Entrance Examinations

We hold the 13+ and additional 11+ entrance examinations on Wednesday 11 March in the URC Hall in Buxton Road.

### **NPSA Family Quiz and Curry Night Friday 20 March**

Please do order your tickets and join us for the family quiz and curry night organised and hosted by the NSPA. The Normanhurst staff are the defending champions: you could be the team to topple them from the top of the podium! It will be a fun evening for the whole family, including children, friends and relatives. Tickets are available from the NSPA or the school office by returning the booking form.

### **Parents' Meetings this term**

This term has been busy with parents' meetings; for some year groups these have already taken place and for the Juniors, Year 7 and Year 9 these will be happening before the Easter holidays. I hope you have found it both informative and helpful to meet with your son or daughter's teachers and to hear about their progress and achievements so far this year. If you do wish to discuss any particular aspects in more detail, you are welcome to call the school office to arrange a follow-up appointment or to contact the teacher directly by email.

The Early Years and Junior parents' evening is scheduled for Tuesday 17 March. If you would like to see the specialist subjects teachers, they will be available in the school hall from 4.00-6.00pm, and no appointments are necessary to see the Music, Drama, ICT, Languages and PE staff. Refreshments will also be available in the school hall.

Drama – Mrs Kazim (Years 1-6)

French – Mrs Kimpton (Years 1-4) and Mrs Antoniadis (Years 5-6)

ICT – Mrs Prior (EYFS-Year 6)

Music – Mr Henderson-Jones (EYFS-Year 6)

PE/Games – Mrs Jerrom and Mr Tuvey (Years 1-6)

### **Robin Hood School Production**

The Robin Hood school show was a great success before the half-term break. Photos are now available for parents to buy on line from Photobox using the following link: [www.photoboxgallery.com/Normanhurstrobinhood](http://www.photoboxgallery.com/Normanhurstrobinhood). The password is maidmarian.

Mrs Kazim is currently editing the film recording and this will be available from the school as a DVD shortly.

### **Reminders for Parents**

#### **Access to the School Site**

May I remind parents that no one should enter the school site by the rear gates. These have a security code which is regularly changed. Pupils are not permitted to open the back gates to allow anyone to enter.

Parents are not allowed into the playground or classrooms after the start of the day. If you need to speak to your child or their teacher after drop off time, please go to the school office via the main door, pressing the buzzer to be allowed access. Kindergarten parents ring the bell on the Kindergarten entrance door and the teachers allow access. These measures are in place to ensure the safety of all the children.

#### **Dietary and Medical Needs**

If your child's dietary or medical needs change, please inform the school in writing or by email so that the details we hold on our system can be updated. Please go into the school office to let them know, in addition to telling the class teacher.

#### **Laughing Gas (Nitrous Oxide)**

I would like to make parents aware of a growing craze among teenagers in the London area which the police have alerted schools to: laughing gas, or nitrous oxide, is a readily available gas sold in small canisters over the internet and it is being used at parties in the London and Essex area. Whilst it is currently perfectly legal for an adult to buy and possess nitrous oxide, it is illegal to sell laughing gas to anyone under the age of 18 if they are likely to inhale it, and it is, of course, a prohibited substance in school. More information is available by following this link to a well-known drugs education and information website: <http://www.talktofrank.com/drug/nitrous-oxide>

## **Forthcoming Events**

Monday 2 March	Money Charity talk on economic awareness for Y9
Monday 2 March	NSPA Meeting: School Hall at 7.00pm
Tuesday 3 March	Y1 Science Forest Trip
Tuesday 3 March	Y9 Parents' Meeting: School Hall 4.00-6.30pm
Wednesday 4 March	Y4 Class Assembly: School Hall parents invited 8.40am
Wednesday 4 March	Y5/6 Mini Basketball Tournament 1.00-4.00pm
Thursday 5 March	Y1 and Y4 Trip to Chingford Library 1.15-2.30pm
Thursday 5 March	Y8 Netball Match 3.30pm
Friday 6 March	Junior Dress-Up Day for World Book Day EYFS-Y6
Monday 9 March	Inter-House Photograph Competition launch
Monday 9 March	Money Charity talk on economic awareness for Y10
Tuesday 10 March	School in Action Open Morning from 9.00-10.30am
Tuesday 10 March	Y10/11 Netball Match 3.30pm
Tuesday 10 March	Y9 Options Evening Hall 5.00-6.00pm
Wednesday 11 March	Y5 Class Assembly: School Hall parents invited 8.45am
Wednesday 11 March	13+ and additional 11+ Entrance Examinations
Wednesday 11 March	Y4 'Alternative Sports' Day at Longshore School 9.30-3.00pm
Thursday 12 March	Y8 History Trip to London Dungeon
Thursday 12 March	Y8 Netball Match 3.30pm
Monday 16 March	Science and Engineering Week
Monday 16 March	Money Charity talk on economic awareness for Y11
Tuesday 17 March	KG-Y6 Parents' Meeting 4.00-6.30pm
Wednesday 18 March	EYFS Class Assembly: School Hall parents invited 8.45am
Wednesday 18 March	Football tournament at WGPS 1.00-4.00pm
Thursday 19 March	Y6 Trip to Olympic Park Orbit 9.00-12.30pm
Friday 20 March	ISA U11 mixed Hockey Tournament
Friday 20 March	NSPA Quiz and Curry Night: School Hall 7.00pm
Tuesday 24 March	Y10/11 Netball Match
Tuesday 24 March	Y7 Parents' Meeting Hall 4.00-6.30pm
Wednesday 25 March	Easter Service at the Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul 2.00pm
Thursday 26 March	Short Reports for Y7-11
Thursday 26 March	End of Spring Term – school ends at 12 noon
Friday 27 March	Easter Revision Academy begins
Saturday 28 March	Ski Trips departs for Italy
Monday 30 March	GCSE Drama Performance Examination
Monday 20 April	Staff Training Day
Tuesday 21 April	First day of term: school begins at 8.40am
Wednesday 22 April	Bancroft's Swimming Gala 12.00-4.00pm

## **Important Summer Term Dates**

Thursday 23 April	Whole School Photograph
Tuesday 5 May	Junior Chess Tournament at Coopersale Hall School
Monday 11 May	GCSE study leave and written papers begin for Year 11
Tuesday 12 May	Y10 Morrisby Psychometric Test 11.00am
Tuesday 19 May	ISA Regional Athletics Competition – Bedford
Tuesday 19 May	Junior Drop-in Morning 8.30-9.00am
Friday 22 May	Sports Day at Lea Valley Athletics Centre (seniors am, juniors pm)
Monday 1 June	Examinations Week for Seniors
Monday 15 June	ISA National Athletics Competition – Birmingham
Friday 19 June	Year 11 Leavers' Assembly and Leavers' Prom at Chigwell Hall
Saturday 20 June	Summer Barbecue
Monday 21 June	Y10 Work Experience Week
Tuesday 23 June	Moving-Up Day and Y7 Induction Day
Thursday 25 June	LAMDA Examinations
Thursday 2 July	Speech Day and Prize Giving at Chingford Assembly Hall
Friday 3 July	Junior Summer Trip
Tuesday 7 July	Whole School Sponsored Walk
Wednesday 8 July	Senior House Trips
Friday 10 July	Last day of term – school ends at 12 noon

Thank you for your continued support for the school in educating your children. If you do have any matters you would like to discuss, please do contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

With very best wishes

Yours sincerely



Claire Osborn  
Headmistress



**OAK-TREE SCHOOLS** is the group name of:

COOPERSALE HALL SCHOOL, EPPING OAKLANDS SCHOOL, LOUGHTON NORMANHURST SCHOOL, NORTH CHINGFORD

ADMINISTRATIVE/ACCOUNTS ADDRESS: 6-8 ALBION HILL, LOUGHTON, ESSEX IG10 4RA

GROUP MANAGING PRINCIPAL: MR MATTHEW HAGGER B.A.(HONS), M.ED., PGCE SCHOOLS PRINCIPALS: MR NICHOLAS HAGGER M.A. (OXON) MRS ANN HAGGER CERT. ED.

Normanhurst School is owned in partnership by Mr N.O.Hagger M.A.(Oxon) Mrs M.A.Hagger Cert.Ed. Mr M.O.Hagger B.A.(Hons), M.Ed., PGCE

