



Normanhurst School

68-74 Station Road, North Chingford
London E4 7BA

Tel: 020 8529 4307
Fax: 020 8524 7737

HEADMISTRESS

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

E-mail: info@normanhurstschool.co.uk

Website: www.normanhurstschool.co.uk

2 March 2016

Dear Parents

The Easter break is only three and a half 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, a visiting author and special workshops for children up to Year 7, and the junior 'Dress-up as a Book Character Day'. Mr Beint launched the annual inter-house Photography Competition last week and we are encouraging pupils of all ages to take their own photographs and submit them when we come back to school in April. We also have a curriculum focus on Science this term in Science and Engineering Week which begins on Monday 14 March.

ISA Writing Competitions

I have read an excellent collection of essays submitted by 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. Thank you to all those pupils who took part.

New Staff Appointments

We have two new members of staff joining the midday supervisor team: Mrs Rachel Feasey-Spendelow and Mrs Lorraine Hall. They will be assisting with break and lunch time supervision across the school. I am sure the pupils will make them welcome. Mrs Huxford is the member of staff who oversees the midday team and she will be ensuring a smooth induction into life at Normanhurst.

School in Action Open Morning Tuesday 8 March

We have our next Open Morning on Tuesday 8 March from 9.15-10.30am for current and prospective families to visit the school and to see the school in action. Prefects and pupils from Years 6 and 7 will be touring visitors around the school. There will be a talk in the hall at 9.30am. You are most welcome to join us.

Parents' Meetings this term

This term has been busy with parents' meetings; for some year groups these have already taken place with the remainder 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 15 March. If you would like to see the specialist subject teachers, they will be available in the school hall from 4-6pm. No appointments are necessary to see the Music, Drama, Computing, Languages and PE staff.

Drama – Mrs Kazim (Y1-Y6)

French – Mrs Kimpton (Rec-Y2) and Miss Bonella (Y3-Y6)

ICT – Mrs Prior (EYFS-Y4) and Miss Butler (Y5-Y6)

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

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

Refreshments will also be available in the school hall.

Reminders for Parents

Oak-Tree Ball - Saturday 21 May

You will have received a letter from Mr Hagger by now about the forthcoming Oak-Tree Ball. The evening will include a champagne reception, meal with wine, a live band and a variety of entertainment for us all. There will also be an auction including a number of unique and interesting lots. The four Schools' Parents Associations' committees are working extremely hard to plan a night to remember. Please do support them.

Road Traffic Safety

We are aware of the potential risks of crossing Station Road without paying attention to road traffic safety. There have been a number of occasions when we have seen pupils, and sometimes pupils with the adult who has collected them, crossing the road unsafely.

Please remind your children that they should use the crossings (there are two near to the school and public transport), they should not try to cross between parked cars where oncoming traffic cannot see them and they should not run across the road.

We are fortunate to have two zebra crossings nearby and we urge all pupils to use them.

Dietary and Medical Needs

If your child's dietary or medical needs change, we need to be informed 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. This includes if your child is currently receiving any form of ongoing medical treatment.

Forthcoming Events

Monday 29 February	All Week	Junior Assessment Week
Tuesday 1 March	4.00-6.30pm	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Thursday 3 March	1.00-4.00pm	Cross Country at Coopersale Hall
Friday 4 March	All day	ISA Netball U11, U13
	All Day	Junior Dress-up as a Book Character Day
	8.00-2.30pm	UCI World Track Cycling Championships Year 7
	9.15-4.45	Year 11 Poetry Live Trip to Dominion Theatre
Monday 7 March	All Day	Perform Drama Workshop Day Rec- Year 2
Tuesday 8 March	9.15-10.30am	Open Morning
	12.00-4.00pm	This Girl Can Campaign Year 10 girls
	5.00-6.30pm	Options Evening Year 9
Wednesday 9 March	9.30-1.00pm	11+ & 13+ Entrance Exams
Thursday 10 March	1.30-3.30pm	Oak-Tree Hockey Tournament
Friday 11 March	8.30-4.00pm	ISA Tag Rugby U11
	9.00-5.00pm	Kidzania Trip Year 4 & 5
Saturday 12 March	9.00-12.30pm	DofE Expedition Training
Monday 14 March	All Week	British Science & Engineering Week
Tuesday 15 March	9.00-3.30pm	Gun Dogs EYFS-Year 6
	4.00-6.30pm	Parents' Evening EYFS-Year 6
Wednesday 16 March	1.30-4.00pm	LBWF Basketball Competition Year 6
Thursday 17 March	All Day	LBWF Key Steps Gymnastics Competition Year 3-6
Thurs 17 – Tues 22 March	3.30-4.00pm	Book Fair
Friday 18 March	9.00-3.30pm	Tate Britain Art Trip Years 10 and 11
Monday 21 March		Short Reports Published Year 7-11
Wednesday 23 March	All Day	Non Uniform Day
	12.00pm	End of Term
	1.30-3.30pm	Easter Academy Year 11
Thursday 24 March	9.00-3.30pm	Easter Academy Year 11
Tuesday 29 March	9.00-3.30pm	Easter Academy Year 11
Tuesday 12 April	9.00-1.15pm	Easter Academy Year 11

Wednesday 13 April	9.00-1.15pm	Easter Academy Year 11
Thursday 14 April	9.00-3.30pm	Easter Academy Year 11
Friday 15 April	9.00-3.30pm	Easter Academy Year 11

Important Summer Term Dates

Friday 29 April	9.00-12.00pm	Class Photographs
Monday 9 April - Friday 17 June		GCSE Exams
Monday 16 May	9.00-11.00am	Morrisby Profiling Year 10
Saturday 21 May	7.00pm	Oak-Tree Summer Ball
Thursday 26 May	All Day	Sports Day
Monday 30 May	All Week	Half Term
Monday 6 June	All Week	Internal Exams Year 7-10
Friday 17 June	7.00pm	Leavers' Dinner Year 11
Friday 17 – Monday 20 June		Kingswood Residential Trip Year 5-7
Friday 24 June	9.00-3.30pm	LAMDA Exams
Monday 27 June	All Week	Work Experience Year 10
Thursday 7 July	6.00pm	Speech Day
Tuesday 12 July	All Day	Senior House Trips

Future Dates for the Next Academic Year

We are planning two exciting overseas trips in the next academic year for pupils. The annual European Trip this year takes place in the October half-term and will be an Art and Culture trip to Rome open to current Year 6 to Year 10. We also have a ski trip with Ski Bound in the February half-term, an excellent company with much experience of running tutored ski trips for independent schools. This is open to current Year 5 to Year 10 and will be a joint trip with Braeside. Parents will receive more information about both trips shortly.

I have appreciated meeting and talking to many parents this term at the coffee mornings and at parents' evenings. If you do have any matters you would like to discuss, please contact the school office to arrange an appointment with me or with a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

With very best wishes

Yours sincerely



Claire Osborn
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: 6-8 ALBION HILL, LOUGHTON, ESSEX IG10 4RA

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

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