



Normanhurst School

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HEADMISTRESS

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April 2016

Headmistress's Letter

Dear Parents

The summer term begins on Tuesday 19 April, for what I hope will be a busy and productive term with much learning and success to celebrate. I am impressed with the positive approach our pupils take towards their learning and towards each other. I see excellent progress and a commendable enthusiasm for learning from so many pupils.

You are welcome to join us for a number of special events this term when we celebrate our pupils' efforts and achievements: most notably, Sports Day, the Early Years' Celebration and Speech Day. Dates and times can be found on the school website, app and at end of this letter.

If this is your first term at Normanhurst, I extend a warm welcome to you and your children: we hope that they, and you, soon feel part of the Normanhurst community.

Request for Leave of Absence from School

At the end of last term a few families with children of statutory school age (from Reception Class upwards) took time out of school for holidays without requesting permission in advance. These absences are recorded as 'holiday not agreed' on the school attendance register. Please would you complete a request for absence form at least two weeks in advance so that the leave may be agreed. The Government guidance is clear that family holidays during term time may only be agreed in exceptional circumstances.

Class Photographs Friday 29 April

Rainbow Photography will be taking class and team photographs on Friday 29 April. Weather permitting they will be taken outside, or alternatively, in the school hall. The photographs will be available for parents to order before the half-term break.

All pupils should be in full school uniform including blazers, girls with hair tied back; junior pupils should wear their summer uniform as usual for this term.

Summer Uniform

Juniors

When junior pupils from Reception Class up to Year 6 return to school for the summer term they must wear the summer uniform as listed in the '*Uniform List and Regulations*' on the school website and in the handbook. In summary:

Boys from Reception to Year 4 should wear regulation **short grey trousers** with the school **grey hooped socks** and short sleeved shirts, jumper if required and blazer. Shorts are optional for boys in Years 5 and 6. In the summer term boys in Kindergarten may also wear grey shorts if preferred.

Girls from Reception Class to Year 6 should wear the school **summer dress** with a navy cardigan or school jumper, blazer and **white ankle or knee-length socks**. White tights may be worn under the dress on cooler days. Girls from Reception to Year 2 also wear the school straw boater. Girls in Kindergarten may wear the summer dress, if preferred.

For a complete list of the summer uniform click on the link to Forest Casualwear, the school's uniform supplier: <http://www.forestcasualwear.co.uk/acatalog/Normanhurst.html>

Seniors

Even in the summer term pupils should **always** wear their blazers for school; a jumper should not be worn in place of the blazer. Girls should wear **navy opaque tights** ('body sensor' cool tights or 40 denier). On hot summer days, girls in Year 7 and 8 may wear navy **knee-length** socks with a **knee-length** skirt, if preferred. Girls should not come to school with bare legs or skirts shorter than the knee.

Shoes should be plain leather and polishable for girls and boys, canvas shoes should not be worn. Please avoid 'trainer-styled' shoes for boys.

The NSPA has some items of summer uniform in stock. Please contact the school office if you would like to enquire about purchases.

Although pupils return to school after the summer holidays in their winter uniform, the summer uniform may be worn in September on hot days, if preferred.

Moving Up Day in the Juniors Wednesday 29 June

The annual 'Moving Up Day' will take place on Wednesday 29 June. Pupils from the Foundation Stage up to Year 6 will spend all day with their new class teachers and parents will have the opportunity to come into the class in the morning from 8.40-9.00am to meet the teachers. We hope that this will help parents to feel involved in the transition and to share the experience with their children. We will provide more information about the format of the day before the half-term break.

Year 7 and New Pupil Induction Day

The Year 7 Induction Day will also be held on Wednesday 29 June. Our current Year 6 pupils will join the new senior starters and they will spend time with their form tutors, have some taster lessons and go offsite for a team building afternoon at Gilwell Park. More details of the programme will be sent before half-term.

Pupils joining either Year 8 or Year 9 following 13+ exams will also have an induction day on 29 June, meeting their new forms and following the normal timetable for the day.

Year 11 and GCSEs

Year 11 Study Leave begins on Monday 16 May. The examination timetable has been prepared by Mr Christou and has been given to pupils and parents. It is also available to view on the parent portal and the website. Teachers will continue to be available throughout the examination period for revision help and support. Pupils may revise in school if they would prefer, ensuring that they sign in at the school office on arrival and sign out when they leave.

The final exam is on Friday 17 June and the Leavers' Prom takes place at Chigwell Hall in the evening. I would like to thank the Parents' Association for contributing to the cost of the event. Monday 20 June will be Year 11's last day in school with the traditional Leavers' Assembly, followed by their book return in the library when we ask pupils to return all text books they have from their GCSE courses, and any books from earlier on in their school life that have not yet been returned.

May I take this opportunity to wish each and every member of Year 11 the very best for their final examinations; all of them plan to move onto further education and many hold a number of offers from highly competitive independent and state schools. I hope they return to school this week with confidence, determination and a firm sense of purpose. They know that they need to be following a revision plan and practising exam questions regularly over the next few weeks. Our students have considerable potential and I look forward to seeing all that they will go on to achieve in these public examinations and beyond.

Year 11 are expected to take part in Speech Day on Thursday 7 July at Chingford Assembly Hall, when a number of them will receive subject prizes and the Head Boy and Head Girl will give a speech. Please do not book holidays over this time, if at all possible, and do join us for this special event.

Oak-Tree Summer Ball Saturday 21 May

Tickets have been selling well for the Oak-Tree Summer Ball on Saturday 21 May. The marquee at Chigwell Hall (Chigwell Metropolitan Police Club) is quite large and there are still some tickets left. Our team will be able to place you on a table or you can organise tables of 8, 10 or 12. All details are on the Oak-Tree website as follows: www.oaktreeschools.co.uk/the-oak-tree-summer-ball/. I shall look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there!

Sports Day Thursday 26 May

The annual Sports Day will be held at the Lee Valley Athletics track on Thursday 26 May for all classes up and including Year 10. As usual the senior sports day will be in the morning from 9.30am and the juniors will be in the afternoon from 1.00pm. The pupils will compete in their Houses and the junior and senior sports shields will be presented. Pupils are practising the field and track events in their Games lessons.

All pupils up to Year 10 come to school in their sports kit on the day and should bring sun block with them; juniors should wear their school caps. Parents of junior aged pupils may take their children home directly from the track at the end of the afternoon; alternatively all pupils will return to school by coach to be collected from school or from After School Club.

All parents, families and friends are most welcome to join us for the event, which is a real highlight in the school calendar. Your support is much appreciated by the children; lots of cheering and clapping is a real encouragement for them! The Parents' Association will be providing refreshments for the pupils all day, so they only need to bring a water bottle with them.

Speech Day and Prize Giving Thursday 7 July

The annual Speech Day and Prize Giving takes place on Thursday 7 July at the Chingford Assembly Hall. This is a compulsory school event for all pupils from Year 1 upwards. Parents are invited to join pupils and staff for this important celebration of the year. Details of how to request tickets will be sent out later this term.

As usual on Speech Day, school ends at 2.00pm for all pupils from Year 1 upwards. Junior pupils must be collected at 2.00pm from the front of school. There will be no After School Club for children in Year 1 upwards. Pupils are expected to arrive at the Assembly Hall at 5.45pm so that everyone is seated and registers taken by 6.00pm when the event begins.

Children in the EYFS can remain in school until 3.20pm and there is after school provision for children in the Kindergarten and Reception classes, as usual. Early Years children are not expected to attend Speech Day.



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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Forthcoming Events

Friday 22 April	All day	Florence Nightingale Trip Year 2
Monday 25 April	All day	Bank of England Trip Y1 – 3
Tuesday 26 April	9.00am	9K INSIGHT Reading test
Tuesday 26 April	11.10am	9 Set 1 INSIGHT Maths test
Wednesday 27 April	12.30-4.00pm	Bancroft's Swimming Gala Year 3-6
Wednesday 27 April	1.40pm	9K INSIGHT Sciences test
Thursday 28 April	All Day	CHS Cross Country Competition
Thursday 28 April	1.40pm	9D INSIGHT Sciences test
Friday 29 April	9.00-12.00pm	Class Photographs
Friday 29 April	11.10am	9 Set 2 INSIGHT Maths test
Friday 29 April	1.40pm	9D INSIGHT Reading test
Friday 29 April	7.00pm	NSPA Family Event
Monday 9 May – Friday 17 June		GCSE Exams
Thursday 5 May	9.30am	HPB 2 nd Injections Year 9
Monday 16 May		Study Leave Year 11
Monday 16 May	9.00am	Morrisby Profiling Year 10
Tuesday 17 May	10.00-3.30pm	ISA Athletics Championships Year 2 – 11
Tuesday 17 May	8.30-9.00am	Parents' Drop-in KG – Year 6
Saturday 21 May	7.00pm	Oak-Tree Summer Ball
Saturday 21 May	9.00-4.00pm	D of E Practice Expedition Young Mariners Base
Thursday 26 May	All Day	Sports Day
Friday 27 May	9.00-3.30pm	Science Trip Year 7
Monday 30 May	All Week	Half Term
Monday 6 June	All Week	End-of-Year Exams Year 7-10
Wednesday 8 June	11.15-3.30pm	Crucial Crew Trip Year 6
Friday 17 June	7.00pm	Leavers' Event at Chigwell Hall Year 11
Monday 20 June	8.45-9.30am	Year 11 Final Assembly
Monday 20 June	9.30-10.00am	Year 11 Book Return (Library)
Friday 17 – Monday 20 June		Kingswood Residential Trip Year 5-7
Tuesday 21 June	All day	Trip: International Hockey Olympic Park
Thursday 23 June	All day	ISA Rounders U11
Friday 24 June	9.00-3.30pm	LAMDA Exams
Saturday 25 June	4.00-8.00pm	Summer Barbecue
Monday 27 June	All day	Imperial War Museum Trip Year 9
Monday 27 June	All week	Work Experience Year 10
Wednesday 29 June	All day	Moving Up Day & Y7 Induction Day
Friday 1 July – Saturday 2 July	9.00-4.00pm	D of E Qualifying Expedition Gilwell Park
Friday 1 July	12.30-6.00pm	Shakespeare's Globe Theatre Trip Year 5 and 6
Monday 4 July	2.00pm	EYFS Celebration of the Year (URC Church)
Thursday 7 July	2.00pm	School Closes early for Speech Day (not EYFS)
Thursday 7 July	6.00pm	Speech Day & Prize Giving: Chingford Assembly Hall
Friday 8 July	All day	Careers Day and Practice Interviews Year 10
Friday 8 July	All day	Junior School Trip all day
Monday 11 July		End-of-Year reports sent home
Monday 11 July	1.00pm	Whole School Sponsored Walk tbc
Tuesday 12 July	All day	Senior House Trips all day
Wednesday 13 July	12 noon	End of Summer Term – school closes at midday

I am looking forward to seeing you at the school events and class assemblies this term. As always, please contact the school office, or email, if you would like to talk to a member of staff about your son or daughter's progress or to share information with us.

Thank you, as ever, for your continuing support.

With best wishes



Claire Osborn
Headmistress



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