



Normanhurst School

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HEADMISTRESS

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May 2016

Dear Parents

Three weeks into term and summer seems to have arrived! It has been lovely to have opportunities to take pupils out on trips and visits in the sunshine. Our students have had a number of sporting successes so far in swimming, tennis and athletics. I have presented ABRSM music examination certificates to pupils and we have heard that students are once again having their creative writing published.

GCSE Examinations

Pupils in Year 11 spent Saturday 7 May together with pupils from Braeside School having an English revision masterclass delivered by Keynote Education. A highly experienced GCSE examiner gave pupils tips and strategies to maximise their marks in the exam papers later this term. It was excellent to see the focus and application in the room. When I spoke to pupils it was clear that they found the sessions useful and encouraging.

Drama, Art and Graphics GCSE students have their final practical exams this coming week. Written papers begin in the week beginning Monday 16 May. I wish each and every member of Year 11 the very best for their exams. There is considerable talent, dedication and commitment evident in the year group and I look forward to sharing their GCSE successes with you after the results are published in August. It seems like yesterday that I met some of them for the first time when they were just three years old in 2003!

Year 10 Apprentice Prefects

As Year 11 begin their study leave, Year 10 step up to the mark by becoming apprentice prefects, in advance of the selection of the senior prefect team which will be announced on Speech Day. Pupils wrote to indicate their interest and they have duties to perform in the forthcoming weeks as part of their service to the school. I'm very grateful that so many of Year 10 applied for the role.

New Clubs for September

In addition to the current specialist clubs offered at school, we are looking at introducing two new clubs. For the juniors in Years 1-6 we would like to offer 'Magical Maths'. The hour long club will run termly and aims to be fun, fast-paced and to develop maths and problem solving skills. The weekly themes include: 'Become a Maths Detective', 'Meet the Maths Genius', 'Become a Mathematician' and 'Olympic Athletics'. Parents will be sent a GroupCall text message this week and asked to indicate their interest. The club is likely to run on a Thursday, although this is yet to be confirmed and will be dependent on numbers. We will email out with further details about how to book a place when we have an indication of numbers.

If you would like to find out more about the company, their website is www.magicalmathsclub.com.

For the seniors in Years 7-9 and for our talented linguists we would like to further develop our languages clubs to include a Latin Club from September. Currently the pupils have French, Spanish and beginners Italian on offer. The club will include a Latin language course and classical civilisation.

ISA Regional Athletics and Sports Day

The ISA regional athletics competition takes place on Tuesday 17 May. Mrs Taylor will be informing participating pupils and sending home details about the day.

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Sports Day takes place at the Lee Valley Athletics track on Thursday 26 May for all classes up to 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. All parents, families and friends are invited to join us for the event. The pupils will compete in their Houses and the junior and senior sports shields will be presented.

Pupils come to school in their sports kit on the day, including track suit, and should bring sun block with them; juniors should wear their school caps. Parents of early years and junior aged pupils may take their children home directly from the track at the end of the afternoon; alternatively pupils return to school by coach and can be collected from school or from After School Club.

Years 7-10 End of Year Examinations

Senior school summer exams are in the week after half-term. During this week normal lessons are suspended and pupils have their exams instead. PE takes place as usual. These assessments form an important part of our monitoring of pupil progress over the course of the year. Parents and pupils will be receiving copies of the examination timetables by Monday 23 May. Please encourage your sons and daughters to revise thoroughly for these assessments, which review the year's learning. Pupils are being advised on revision techniques and teachers will be directing pupils towards what they should prepare.

Revision guides are provided for all year groups and these can be found on the school website.

Staff News

We have appointed new break and lunchtime supervisors, Mrs Sherrie Chiswell, Mrs Lorraine Hall and Mrs Rachel Feasey-Spendelow who joined the staff this term.

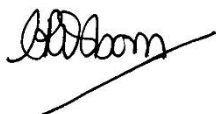
Dates for the Diary

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| Monday 9 May – Friday 17 June | | GCSE Exams |
| Tuesday 10 May | 9.00-11.00am | Trip to Blackmore Village Year 1 |
| Wednesday 11 May | 8.00-12.00pm | Trip to London Aquatics Centre Years 5 & 6 |
| Wednesday 11 May | 3.30-5.45pm | Chess Tournament at Coopersale Hall School |
| Thursday 12 May | 8.30-3.30pm | Trip to Wimbledon Years 6 – 10 |
| 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 Years 2 – 11 |
| Thursday 19 May | 9.00-3.30pm | Quadkids at Walthamstow Track Years 5 & 6 |
| Friday 20 May | 9.00-3.30pm | Quadkids at Walthamstow Track Years 3 & 4 |
| Saturday 21 May | 7.00pm | Oak-Tree Summer Ball |
| Saturday 21 May | 9.00-4.00pm | D of E Practice Expedition Young Mariners Base |
| Tuesday 24 May | 9.00-3.30pm | Kwik Cricket Years 5 & 6 |
| Wednesday 25 May | 9.00-4.00pm | Hockey at Olympic Park Years 5 & 6 |
| 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 Years 7 - 10 |
| Wednesday 8 June | 11.15-3.30pm | Crucial Crew Trip Year 6 |
| Thursday 9 June | 9.00-3.30pm | Quadkids at Walthamstow Track Years 1 & 2 |
| Monday 13 June | 3.30-6.00pm | Golf at High Beech Years 4 - 11 |
| Tuesday 14 June | 9.00-3.30pm | Tri Golf Competition Years 5 & 6 |
| Friday 17 June | 7.00pm | Leavers' Event at Chigwell Hall Year 11 |
| Monday 20 June | 8.45-9.30am | Final Assembly Year 11 |
| Monday 20 June | 9.30-10.00am | Book Return (Library) Year 11 |
| Monday 20 June | 3.30-6.00pm | Golf at High Beech Years 4 – 11 |
| Friday 17 – Monday 20 June | | Kingswood Residential Trip Years 5 - 7 |
| Tuesday 21 June | All day | International Hockey Olympic Park Years 4 & 6 |

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| Wednesday 22 June | 9.00-3.30pm | Sixth Form Taster Day, Cambridge – Year 10 |
| Thursday 23 June | All day | ISA Rounders U11 |
| Thursday 23 June | 9.30-3.30pm | Trip to St. Tiggywinkles Year 2 |
| Friday 24 June | 9.00-3.30pm | LAMDA Exams |
| Saturday 25 June | 4.00-8.00pm | Summer Barbecue |
| Monday 27 June | All day | Trip to Imperial War Museum Year 9 |
| Monday 27 June | All week | Work Experience Year 10 |
| Monday 27 June | 3.30-6.00pm | Golf at High Beech Years 4 – 11 |
| Wednesday 29 June | All day | Moving Up Day and Year 7 Induction Day |
| Thursday 30 June | 9.00-3.30pm | Waltham Forest Tennis Years 5 & 6 |
| Friday 1 July – Saturday 2 July | 9.00-4.00pm | D of E Qualifying Expedition Gilwell Park |
| Friday 1 July | 12.30-6.00pm | Trip to Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre Years 5 & 6 |
| Monday 4 July | 9.00-3.30pm | Trip to V&A Museum of Childhood Years 1 & 2 |
| 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 |
| Tuesday 12 July | All day | Senior House Trips all day |
| Tuesday 12 July | 9.00-3.30pm | Trip to Olympic Village Cable Cars Years 2 & 4 |
| Tuesday 12 July | 11.00-12.15pm | Picnic Chingford Plains Year 5 |
| Wednesday 13 July | 12 noon | End of Summer Term – school closes at midday |

I look forward to seeing you at the Oak-tree Ball and at Sports Day later in the month. With my best wishes for the rest of the half-term.

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

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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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