



Normanhurst School

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HEADMISTRESS

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Headmistress's Letter

Dear Parents

The school production of *The Tempest* was excellent last week. I have congratulated the pupils on such an impressive performance. The crew and volunteers also played a vital part in the show's success. I want to thank all those parents who came along to support.

The Easter break is only four school weeks away but we are looking forward to a number of school events before the holidays: Book Week celebrations take place this week, including a story-teller for the youngest pupils, a visiting author and special workshops, and the junior 'Dress-up as a Book Character Day'. We also have a curriculum focus on Science this term in Science and Engineering Week which begins on Monday 13 March. The Year 10 pupils have the opportunity to hear a talk from an eminent scientist on Tuesday 21 March.

There are also many sports events taking place in the Borough and with the Independent Schools Association, and an exciting Chartwells 'Ready, Steady, Cook' style cookery competition on Monday 27 March.

Finally, please don't miss the opportunity to be involved in two special events. Please remember to book your tickets for the Oak-Tree Music Festival on Wednesday 29 March at Walthamstow Assembly Hall. Pupils from all four Oak-Tree Schools will be taking part. And secondly, please do take part in the NSPA Easter walk, egg hunt and lunch at The View on Sunday 19 March.

School in Action Open Morning Friday 10 March

We have our next Open Morning on Friday 10 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 if you would like to.

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 21 March. If you would like to see the specialist subject teachers, they will be available in the school hall from 4.00-6.00pm. No appointments are necessary to see the Music, Drama, Computing, Languages and PE staff.

Drama – Mrs Kazim

French – Mrs Kimpton and Miss Bonella

ICT – Mrs Prior and Miss Butler

Music – Mr Henderson-Jones

PE/Games – Mrs Taylor and Mr Tuvey

Refreshments will also be available in the hall.

Senior School Matters

Homework Routines

Please support the work we are doing with your children in school by encouraging them to study in an effective way at home. They need a quiet place to work, without distractions where they are comfortable and settled. It is important to talk about their work at home, and share in the education journey they are making, as much as possible. In our experience this often results in better quality homework, which has been thoughtfully and thoroughly completed.

Year 11 and GCSES

We are offering the Easter Academy revision programme again this year during the holidays. I cannot emphasise enough how important it is for your children to attend the relevant revision sessions and to have an effective revision plan in place at home, so that they are well prepared for the summer papers. The dates have been finalised and published, so there shouldn't be any difficulties with encouraging your child to attend.

I am very grateful to the senior teachers who give their time voluntarily to provide the revision support.

Senior Breakfast Club 7.30 – 8.15am

The senior breakfast club takes place daily in the hall. After consulting with the pupils we have decided to change the way the breakfast club operates. From Monday 6 March it will be possible to buy breakfast with cash, as well as the 'all you can eat' option for £2.50 per day invoiced termly.

The menu includes:

Hot drink (tea/hot chocolate) or fruit juice

Toast and spreadables

Croissant or pain au chocolat

Bacon roll

Cereal and milk

Fruit

I hope this will encourage more pupils to have breakfast in school, rather than buying breakfast on the way from the coffee shops in Station Road.

Dates for the Forthcoming Term

Thurs 2 Mar		World Book Day
	12:30 – 15:30	Y3-6 Annual Cross Country Relays at Coopersale Hall School
Fri 3 Mar		LKG-Y6 Dress Up Day for World Book Day
	08:30 – 15:30	U11&U13 ISA Netball, Redbridge
	08:30 – 15:00	Y5&6 Tag Rugby at Chingford RFC - cancelled
Mon 6–10 Mar		Junior Assessment Week
	11:30-16:30	Y7/8 Netball Rally at Redbridge Sports Centre
	16:00 – 17:00	Mental Maths Quiz at Oaklands School
Tues 7 Mar	09:00 – 14:30	Y1-6 Jeremy Strong Workshop at Braeside
	15:45 – 17:15	Y7 Netball Fixture at Heathcote School
	17:00 – 18:30	Y9 GCSE and Options Parents' Evening
Weds 8 Mar	09:00 – 13:00	13+ Entrance Exams and catch-up 11+ Entrance Exams
	10:15 – 15:30	Y7-9 PE trip to Wembley Stadium
	12:00 – 16:00	International Women's' Day Sports Event (invited senior girls)
Thurs 9 Mar	12:00 – 15:00	Y3-6 Key Steps Gymnastics, Park Side Primary School Chingford
Fri 10 Mar	09:00 – 11:30	Open Morning
Mon 13–17 Mar		Science Curriculum Activity Week
Tues 14 Mar	17:00 – 18:30	Y9 Parents' Evening
Weds 15 Mar	09:00 – 15:30	KG-Y6 What Life was Like Long Ago Workshop
	12:00 – 16:00	Y5&6 WGPS 5-a-Side Football Tournament, Woodford Green Prep School
Thurs 16 Mar	09:00 – 15:30	Y1 trip to Natural History Museum – replaced with Wednesday's workshop
Fri 17 Mar	08:30 – 15:30	U11 ISA Hockey, Old Loughtonians
Sun 19 Mar	11:30 – 13:30	NSPA event: Early Easter Walk and Egg Hunt followed by lunch
Mon 20 Mar	09:00 – 15:30	Y10 trip to National Portrait Gallery TBC

Tues 21 Mar	09:00 – 15:45	Y10 Badminton Tournament
	16:00 – 18:30	KG-Y6 Parents' Evening
Weds 22 Mar	13:00 – 15:30	Y4-6 Cross Country, Woodford Green Prep School
Fri 24 Mar	09:00 – 15:00	Y5 trip to London Aquarium
Sat 25 Mar	09:00 – 16:00	DofE Training Session
Mon 27 Mar		Short Reports published for Seniors
	09:00 – 11:30	Y3-8 Chartwells 'ready, steady, cook' event TBC
Weds 29 Mar	18:00 – 20:00	Oak-Tree Festival
Thurs 30 Mar		Final Day of Term - school ends at 12 noon
Fri 31 Mar		Office Open pm
Easter Holiday		Easter Academy for Y11 pupils 31 Mar – 21 Apr
Important Summer Term Dates		
Tues 25 Apr		Pupils return from Easter break
Mon 15 May		GCSE Written Exams and Study Leave commences
Thurs 25 May		Sports Day
Fri 23 June	19:00 – 22:00	Y11 Leavers' Prom
Sat 24 June	16:00 – 20:00	NSPA Summer Barbecue
26–30 June		Y10 Work Experience Week
Weds 28 June		Year 7 Induction Day/KG-Y6 Moving Up Day
Fri 30 June		LAMDA Exams
Mon 3 July	13:00 – 15:00	EYFS Celebration, URC Church TBC
Thurs 6 July	18:00 – 20:00	Speech Day and Prize Giving
Fri 7 July		Y10 Careers Day
Weds 12 July		Senior House Trips
Thurs 13 July		Final Day of Term - school ends at 12 noon

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 my very best wishes

Yours sincerely



Claire Osborn
Headmistress

