



# Normanhurst School

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## HEADMISTRESS

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

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## Headmistress's Letter

Dear Parents

This is an exciting week in a number of ways: we are taking part in national Science and Engineering Week, with special assemblies, a House competition and a science focus in the juniors including the arrival of a science 'dome' for all of the pupils from Early Years upwards to experience. In addition, we have the school production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory at the Redbridge Drama Centre on Tuesday. This is our most ambitious school production to date, with a wonderful set and costumes. Mrs Kazim and the team have worked extremely hard to produce the play and large numbers of pupils (and staff) have been involved from acting and set design to technical help and being members of the stage crew. The crew and volunteers play a vital part in the show's success. I want to thank them all and to thank all those parents who have bought tickets and are coming along to support.

The Easter break is only three weeks away and we are looking forward to the NSPA Easter walk and egg hunt on Sunday 18 March. If you have not yet bought your family tickets, please do consider coming along to join us.

### ISI School Inspection last week

I am very grateful to all the parents who took part in the inspection questionnaire last week and to all the pupils from Year 3 upwards who also submitted pupil questionnaires to share their opinions about the school with the inspection team. I am pleased to say that the inspection report will be published within the next few weeks, and I am able to pass on the inspection team's thanks to parents and pupils. The team were extremely complimentary about their time in school and they enjoyed meeting the pupils and asked me to pass on their thanks to them.

### School in Action Open Morning Friday 9 March

We had a very successful Open Morning on Friday, with a great many prospective families visiting Normanhurst and having tours with our pupils acting as guides. Thank you to all the pupils who were such excellent ambassadors on the day; visitors were very complimentary about them.

### Parents' Meetings this term

This term has been busy with parents' meetings; for almost all year groups these have already taken place with the Early Years and Junior evening 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 the week beginning Monday 19 March. If you would like to see the specialist subject teachers, they will be available in the school hall on Tuesday 20 March 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  
Computing – Mrs Prior and Mr Ram  
Music – Miss Kim  
PE/Games – Mrs Taylor and Mr Tuvey  
Refreshments will also be available in the hall

## Senior School Matters

### Homework Routines

Please continue to 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 far as possible. In our experience this often results in better quality homework, which has been thoughtfully and thoroughly completed.

### Year 11 and GCSE'S

We are offering the Easter Academy revision programme again this year during the holidays, as well as offering a number of Saturday revision days. 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.

All pupils should now be working to a revision programme and giving considerable time at home to revision.

### Station Road Update

There are three things I would like to draw attention to.

Firstly, please do not park on the forecourt of the vet's practice opposite the school, either in the mornings or the afternoons.

Secondly, please do not let your children out of the car in the road, nor attempt to make a U-turn in the road.

Thirdly, you may be aware of an increased police presence in Station Road recently. This has nothing to do with Normanhurst pupils, but there are pupils from a large local school who have been causing some trouble in the area when they leave school. The local police officer has been made aware and he is monitoring the situation and ensuring our pupils have a safe and unimpeded journey home from school. Please inform the school if you see anything which causes you concern.

### Dates for the Forthcoming Term

Tue 13 Mar	09:00 – 15:30	Year 11 Geography field trip to Olympic Park
Tue 13 Mar	19:00 – 21:00	School Production Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
Wed 14 Mar	09:30 – 13:00	13+ (any extra 11+) Entrance Exams
Sat 17 Mar	10:00 – 15:00	Year 11 GCSE Maths Academy Day
Sun 18 Mar	11:00 – 14:00	NSPA event: Easter Egg Hunt and Lunch
Mon 19 Mar	09:30 – 15:00	Year 1-6 Alice in Wonderland workshop
Tue 20 Mar	16:00 – 18:30	KG-Year 6 Parents' Evening (Specialist staff in hall)
Wed 21 Mar	08:30 – 15:45	Year 3&4 Hadleigh Country Park trip
	10:00 – 12:30	Year 5&6 History of Chocolate workshop
Fri 23 – Wed 28 Mar		Book Fair
Mon 26 Mar		Year 7-11 Short Reports published
Wed 28 Mar	12:00	End of Term Easter break
Thu 29 – Wed 18 Apr		Easter Break
Tue 3 Apr	09:00 – 12:00	Year 11 Drama Easter Academy
	09:00 – 15:30	Year 11 Music Easter Academy
Wed 4 Apr	09:00 – 15:30	Year 11 English Easter Academy
Thu 5 Apr	09:00 – 15:30	Year 11 Art & Graphics Easter Academy
Mon 16 Apr	09:00 – 15:30	Year 11 Science Easter Academy
Tue 17 Apr	09:00 – 12:00	Year 11 History & Geography Easter Academy
	09:00 – 15:30	Music Easter Academy
Thu 19 Apr		Pupils return to School
Fri 20 Apr	09:00 – 10:30	Year 8 HPV 2 <sup>nd</sup> injection
	09:30 – 15:30	Year 1 Emirates Aviation Experience Museum trip

Wed 25 Apr	09:00 – 15:45	Year 10 French trip to BFI Southbank
Fri 27 Apr	08:30 – 11:30	Class Photos
Thu 3 May	09:00 – 15:30	Year 3 trip to British Museum
Fri 4 – Sun 6 May		Year 5-7 Kingswood Residential trip
Fri 11 May	09:00 – 15:30	ISA Athletics Bedford
Sat 12 – Sun 13 May		D of E Practice Expedition weekend
Mon 14 May		Year 11 Study Leave commences
Tue 15 May	09:00 – 10:30	Year 10 Morrisby Profile test
Thu 17 May	10:15 – 16:00	Morrisby Profile interviews
Tue 22 May	08:30 – 09:00	KG-Year 6 Parents' Drop In session
Thu 24 May	08:30 – 15:30	Sports Day
28 May – 1 Jun		HALF TERM
Mon 4 – Fri 8 Jun		Year 7-10 Internal Exams
Mon 11 – Fri 15 Jun		Year 1-6 Internal Exams
Wed 13 Jun	11:15 – 14:45	Year 6 Crucial Crew trip
Fri 15 Jun	08:30 – 09:00	Year 1-6 Father's Day Breakfast
Sat 16 – Sun 17 Jun		D of E Qualifying Expedition Weekend
Fri 22 Jun	19:00 – 22:00	Year 11 Leavers' Dinner
Sat 23 Jun	16:00 – 20:00	NSPA Summer Barbecue
Mon 25 – Fri 29 Jun		Year 10 Work Experience
Wed 27 Jun		KG-Year 6 Moving Up Day
Fri 29 Jun	09:00 – 15:30	LAMDA exams
Thu 5 Jul		Speech Day
Fri 6 Jul	09:00 – 15:30	Year 10 Careers Day and Mock Interviews
Mon 9 Jul		KG-Year 10 Full Reports published
Wed 11 Jul	10:00 – 15:30	Year 11 Warren end of year trip Lambourne End
	10:00 – 15:30	Year 11 Connaught end of year trip Harlow Outdoor Centre
	12:00	End of Term

I have appreciated meeting and talking to many parents this term 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



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