



NEWSLETTER

June 2019

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Headmistress’s Message

Our week began with the outgoing Year 11’s final assembly to the seniors. It was lovely to have some parents in school to share the special moment too.

During the assembly Miss Deen and Mrs Botha presented each leaver with a personalised certificate about how we will remember them and their contribution to school life.

They have their Leavers Prom on Friday, which will be a memorable evening. Do look out for photos of the website and in the next newsletter.

Pupils have been very busy with end-of-year exams in the seniors, so the number of trips and fixtures has been somewhat lighter for the last couple of weeks, but we had the excitement of the ISA National Athletics finals on Wednesday 19 June and of course our Sports Day at Lee Valley on Friday. There will be some exceptional performances to see so do come and join us.

It has been lovely to have the Music Twilight Recitals this half term: three performance recitals are taking place in the Music Room after school. It has been lovely to see and hear the pupils and I’m grateful to the peripatetic teachers for the work they do with the children.

I am looking forward to seeing parents at the Summer Barbecue, Moving Up Day, Speech Day and the Summer Concert.

With my best wishes

Mrs Claire Osborn
Headmistress

Merriment in Kindergarten

With Robin Hood as their recent story of the week, the Kindergarten children had a great time dressing up as Robin Hood and his Merry Men.



The children made their own hats and enjoyed painting and decorating the castle. On a trip to the forest they collected lots of branches and created their own Sherwood Forest in the classroom.



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Reception Trip to Tate Modern

Last month, Reception went on an exciting trip to the Tate Modern to consolidate their learning about different types of art work. They took the train to Liverpool Street and then the tube to Blackfriars. The children behaved in an exemplary way on the train and in the Tate Modern.

The children found Monet's 'Waterlilies' picture and were impressed with all the different types of art work that were on offer. They enjoyed interpreting the art in different ways and thought some sculptures looked like castles or Rapunzel's tower.

Pupils then took a lovely walk over the Millennium Bridge towards St. Paul's as they made their way home. Well done Reception for such a lovely trip.



Early Years Trip to Thorndon Country Park

The Early Years children went on a fantastic trip to Thorndon Country Park to link in with their learning about fairy tales. They met their rangers who were called Annie and Jess and completed lots of different activities with them in the forest. They made wands out of natural materials, made a house for a gingerbread man with a partner, made potions, went on a bug hunt and spent some time in the forest school area. The children also made patterns using natural materials and made special decorations for Rapunzel's hair.

They enjoyed going on the Gruffalo trail as well to meet the different characters from the story. Everyone had such a fantastic time and the children were brilliant ambassadors for the school. Well done, everyone!



Year 1 Star Winners Trip

On Friday 24 May the children in Year 1 at Norman Hurst School enjoyed an afternoon visit to the Better Extreme Trampoline Centre in Walthamstow. The group went as a reward for 1S winning the most lining up stars over the autumn and spring terms.

The children had a wonderful time exclusively using the park for the afternoon where they were able to bounce, roll, jump and practise their gymnastic skills. They especially had fun in the foam pits, attempting to climb the rock walls and cross the ropes. A great time was had by both children and teachers.





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Year 2 Trip to Port Lympne Safari Park

On Wednesday 22 May, the whole of Year 2 went to Port Lympne Safari Park for an amazing day filled with lots of exciting activities. It was an early start but they arrived with plenty of time to explore the park before their Safari tour in an old army truck! Before the tour the children saw Rhinos, Baboons and Leopards, and the children also got to play in the adventure playground.

Once on the Safari tour they saw a wide variety of animals and some quite rare ones, which was great! They loved seeing all the animals from Kenya because this is what they have been learning about. After lunch Year 2 explored more of the park. They saw lots of different primates. Then they were able to explore the Dinosaur Park which had so many different types of dinosaur and was really interesting.

Year 2 thoroughly enjoyed Port Lympne and on the way home listened to Charlie and the Chocolate Factory!



Imogen's Hamma Beads Art

Imogen in Year 4 completed a fantastic image using hamma beads of a teddy bear. Imogen had worked on the picture over weeks and weeks taking every care to ensure she did not drop any of the beads on her boards before they were ironed to secure them.

Miss Smith, who runs Hamma Beads Club on a Monday lunch time, said how proud she was of Imogen's perseverance and dedication to such a time consuming task.

Imogen said "I am so happy that I have finally finished it, it looks really great and I can't wait to take it home".



LSO Connect Music Project

In May, seven of our Music pupils started an exciting project called LSO Connect, which is a collaboration with local schools, Waltham Forest Music Service, Waltham Forest Youth Orchestra and the London Symphony Orchestra. The pupils have the opportunity to work alongside professionals in preparation for a concert in July. We are very fortunate to have been part of this project and are grateful to the Waltham Forest Music Service for giving us this fantastic opportunity.

Our pupils, ranging in standard from beginner to Grade 7, met for their first rehearsal in May, alongside students from many other schools in the area. The project culminates in a performance with members of the LSO and Youth Orchestra on Monday 1 July at Leyton Great Hall.

LSO Connect gives young musicians the chance to improve their ensemble skills and to make connections with amateur and professional musicians throughout the borough. Places on this course were limited and we are very proud of our pupils for securing a place and representing Normanhurst so well.



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Pupil News

Jasmine's Strictly Ambition Jasmine in Year 4 has been inspired by BBC's 'Strictly Come Dancing' to achieve her dreams of becoming a professional dancer. "I've watched Strictly so many times, I'm addicted to it and it got me into dancing!" She was even lucky enough to receive tickets for Christmas last year to watch the show live. As a result of this inspiration, Jasmine has joined the dance club 'Swing and Sway' where she learns a variety of dance styles, from ballroom to freestyle.

She has undertaken numerous dance exams where she has managed to earn rosettes in the Quick Waltz, Cha Cha, Rumba, Salsa, Samba, Quick Step, Social Foxtrot and Square Tango. She is now working towards earning a rosette in the Paso Doble.

Jasmine says, "One day, I'd like to be a professional dancer when I'm older so that I can be on Strictly Come Dancing." She also believes that dancing is a good hobby because it is a fun way to keep fit. We are very proud of her achievements and we look forward to seeing her on television in the future!



Year 2 Celebrate Bees

The two Year 2 classes collaborated to create a beautiful and colourful bee picture, in aid of World Bee Day. Pupils talked about how important bees are and how crucial they are to the environment. To create this art work, the picture was split into 27 pieces, with each child having an individual piece and some contributing an extra segment. The children were then free to decide how they decorated their piece; they thought it was important for them to use similar colours to make sure it matched well. The combined art work is very striking and we are very proud of it! Year 2 had great fun making it.



Year 6 Trip to Crucial Crew

On Wednesday 12 June Year 6 visited Crucial Crew in Debden. There were a lot of activities provided by the emergency services, who trained children using various scenarios. The activities included many aspects of life: informing children about healthy diets, drug awareness, road safety, gang awareness, how to use mobile phones safely on the go, healthy/unhealthy relationships and fire safety. The children enjoyed the activities and sounds of laughter could definitely be heard from some of the workshops.

Chioke said "I really enjoyed Crucial Crew as I learnt so many new things." Ismail said "I enjoyed it as it was really good experience. The workshops were provided by friendly people who made it fun." Jordan also was one of the children who enjoyed the activities, saying "I enjoyed it because I learnt new things and it was very fun and interactive."

Overall, it was an informative day for all, and the Year 6 pupils learnt crucial skills to help them become responsible and safer members of our society.





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Maths Workshops

In the week beginning 17 June, the Reception and Junior classes took part in a series of workshops and activities focussed on showing how Maths can be engaging and just plain fun! A couple of classes recount some of their experiences:

Year 4 On Tuesday 18 June, the Juniors participated in a Maths workshop called "The Coding Box". First we were put into small groups and we were given a wooden box with lots of Maths clues all around it and the box was locked with a special padlock. Our mission was to solve the clues in order to crack the code and open the padlock. Inside each box was another set of clues that we had to solve in order to unlock the next box.



Some of the challenges we faced involved breaking down the problems into smaller steps so they were not very straightforward. We also had to read lots of instructions to figure out what it was we had to do for each part of the solving activity. To be successful, we had to make sure to work together, communicate and persevere. There was a good level of challenge because it wasn't too easy or too hard.

Year 6 Three pupils in Year 6 described their favourite activities in one of the workshops they took part in.

On Monday 17 June 2019, we went to a Maths workshop. The best activity for me was "Fill the Hexagon" because we all worked together as a team, however, it was a very confusing task. We had a hexagon shape board and we had a lot of 2D trapeziums in different colours. We had to fill the board with no gaps using the 2D shapes. If two of the same colours touched, we had to start again. Overall if you complete it, it feels very accomplishing, but if you can't Lewis (the teacher) would help.



By Luke

When we went in the hall, we were put in groups. In my group were Ella, Adam, Douglas, Konrad and me. My favourite activity was the penguin balancing puzzle, where we had penguin characters and a plastic iceberg. We had to balance the penguins on it and we kept knocking them off! They kept on falling because they weren't balanced equally, so they didn't stay on the iceberg. We balanced them by keeping their tails in and at the end they all stayed on the iceberg!

By Isabelle

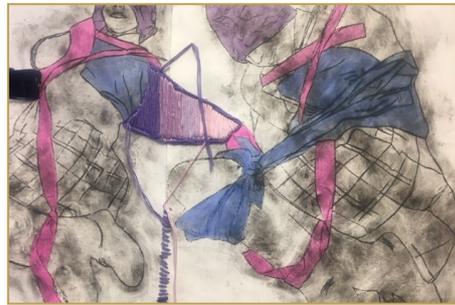
This week we did a puzzle workshop. During the workshop, we worked on a puzzle where we needed to get multiple penguins onto a plastic iceberg. But it wasn't as easy as told. The puzzle was very tricky because you needed to balance the penguins on every side of the iceberg. With each penguin, the iceberg tilted, which made the flightless birds fall! This puzzle was fun but challenging. Part two of the puzzle made me feel confused because we could only use our pinkies to put the penguins on. We focused really well but never got to finish the part two. Sadly, the time ran out, but it also meant we got to move onto the next puzzle!

By Hudson



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GCSE Art and Graphics Exhibition 2019



To prepare for this year's visit from the GCSE Art and Graphics examiner, an exhibition of the pupils' work was set up in the Art room. It was a fantastic opportunity to display the work of the Year 11 classes and really appreciate all of the hard work, inventive responses and exciting artworks produced over their two year GCSE courses.

It was also an opportunity for Early Years and senior pupils to visit the exhibition and appreciate the artwork. Pupils were inspired by the wide variety of work, and left motivated to develop their own artistic skills! Well done to all of our Year 11 artists and designers!

Pieces from the GCSE exhibition will be on show at Speech Day for parents and guests to see.





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Year 10 Visit to CCSS

As part of their Careers Enrichment programme, our Year 10 pupils visited the Cambridge Centre for Sixth Form Studies, or CCSS, an established and leading ISA independent sixth form college offering high quality A level courses. The pupils were invited to participate in a range of different A level taster lessons to give them a sense of what it would be like to study at this level. Classes included Psychology, Economics and Politics.

In addition to visiting CCSS, the pupils were taken on a guided tour of Cambridge, taking in the historic sites and world famous colleges. It was a particularly good time to visit as it was graduation day for the university students, who were dressed in their ceremonial gowns as they walked the streets.

Our thanks to Mr Botha and Ms Hammersley (CCSS) for arranging a wonderful day, as well as Mr Ram, Ms Bonella, Ms Jones and Ms Barnard who accompanied pupils on the trip.



Music Recitals



Tuesday 11 and Tuesday 18 June saw the first two of the summer term's 'Twilight Recitals' in the music room.

A total of seventeen pupils—ten seniors and seven juniors - performed to staff, parents and each other, showcasing what they have been learning in their peripatetic music lessons.

We were treated to performances on nearly all the instruments on offer at

Normanhurst, with pieces ranging in style from Classical to Jazz, Musical Theatre to Heavy Metal, and lots in between.

It was a great start to our after school series, with two more concerts scheduled in June. A huge well done to all the pupils who have performed so far, and good luck to those performing soon.



Final Farewell

On Monday 17 June, we said goodbye to our Year 11 pupils at their leavers' assembly. Mrs Osborn wished them all the best for their future and thanked them for their contributions to life at Normanhurst School. The class of 2018/2019 put together a video packed with humorous and sweet memories over the last five years. Mrs Botha and Miss Deen gave each pupil a personalised certificate thanking them for their unique contribution to the school.

After the assembly, the Year 11 pupils completed their farewells with the traditional shirt-signing event.

We wish our Year 11 leavers the best of luck as they move on to pastures new. They will certainly be missed!





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Year 10 GCSE French Trip

On the 18th of June, myself and the rest of GCSE French went to the Institut Francais in South Kensington, to learn more interesting vocabulary for music day. In the morning, we and a couple of other school groups completed a worksheet exercise, to describe a film poster that later we could watch in the afternoon. The worksheet included many phrases and sentences that we could use in our own assessments, which made it very useful. In the afternoon, we watched a film called *La Famille Bélier*. The film was about a 16-year-old girl called Paula. Her whole family are deaf, and it followed her story on becoming a singer, after her choir teacher discovered her gift for singing. This film was extremely funny and entertaining, especially Paula's parents, and highly enjoyable to watch. I hope to do something like this again!

By Hawi, 10B



On the 18th of June, the Year 10 French cohort went to the French Institute to watch the French film *La Famille Bélier*. We started the day by doing interactive activities which taught us the vocabulary that would then be used in the film. The most interesting part was when we learned about how to describe different disabilities in French. We were then taken to watch the film. It was about a young girl called Paula, who was the only member of her family who was not deaf. She was used as an interpreter. When her music teacher discovered she could sing, she was forced to choose between her family and pursuing her dream. The day was overall a very interesting and educational day, which all the French pupils really enjoyed.

By Mia, 10B



Social Networking

Website



Go to the School Calendar page for upcoming events and our [News](#) page for all the latest news and lots more photographs.



App

Keep up to date with the latest news, calendar dates, and much more by downloading the new Norman Hurst School App.

Instagram



Follow us on Instagram for regular photo updates! Search for [normanhurstschool](#) to find us, then click follow!



Twitter

Follow us [@NormanhurstSch](#) on Twitter to get the latest updates.



Facebook is our newest form of Social Media. Like us on Facebook to get news, photos, events and updates posted straight to your newsfeed.



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Normanhurst Sports Report

U13 Boys Cricket v Forest School On Thursday 23 May our U13 boys made their own little piece of Normanhurst history by being the first pupils ever to represent the school at hard ball cricket! We made the short journey to Forest School and bowled first, fielding and bowling excellently to keep our hosts down to 118 in 20 overs with captain Faiz (Year 8) getting the school's first ever wicket; well done Faiz! He was well supported by all other bowlers and was helped by an excellent runout by Akshhan (Year 7).



We began our chase slowly, batting with good technique but struggling to get the runs required until Malachi (Year 8) came in and hit a quickfire 25 not out towards the end of the innings. Unfortunately we ended 15 runs short of victory on 103, but for all of the boys involved to have made such great progress this term to allow us to play the fixture is testament to their hard work and dedication in Games lessons.

Well done boys, the future of cricket at Normanhurst looks bright!

English Schools Girls Tennis Competition. Our girls tennis teams have been taking part in the English Schools competition. Their last two matches were against Clapton Girls Academy and Roding Valley.

The match against Clapton Girls Academy was on a very windy, challenging day to play tennis. Our girls played really well and there were excellent performances from Hawi (Year 10) who won her singles match and her doubles with Nneka (Year 9). This was also a good day for Olivia L (Year 8) who was able to play a competitive tennis match against her cousin who attends Clapton. The match against Roding Valley was a walkover for Normanhurst as Roding Valley were unable to field a team on the day of the match. This is the first year our girls have taken part in his competition and I have been very pleased with their progress.



Years 5/6 Mini Tennis Tournament The team of 4, consisting of Alicia, Poppy, Charlie C and Atilla, represented Normanhurst at this year's event which was held at the Lee Valley Tennis Centre in the Olympic Park.

Matches are played on a small court only using the service boxes. Each match was 5 minutes and the player with the most points was awarded the match. Normanhurst had to play 6 matches in a round robin format. They won all but one of their matches. This put them into a tie for first place. There was then a countback on overall points won and Normanhurst finished in second place overall. Well done to all 4 players, you did an excellent job!



Athletics League Unfortunately due to the very wet weather this term the Waltham Forest Athletics League was cancelled on two occasions. We now have to look ahead to the Borough Championships in which Normanhurst will field our strongest athletes to compete against the other really able competitors in schools across Waltham Forest.

Sports Day As we 'go to press' the PE department are hoping the sun will be shining for our annual Sports Day on Friday 21 June. We look forward to seeing lots of parents and family members at the Lee Valley Athletics track to cheer on the pupils in their events. A full report of the day's achievements will appear in the July newsletter.



NEWSLETTER

Norman Hurst Sports Report Continued



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STOP PRESS

ISA National Athletics Finals As we write, six of our senior athletes who won their events at the ISA Regionals last month are competing in the National finals. We have just heard that Paige (Year 9) has achieved a bronze medal in the 80m hurdles, and Jay (Year 10) has won gold in the triple

jump! A fantastic achievement for both pupils!

A full report on all our participants' events will follow in the July edition.



Norman Hurst School Parents' Association

Dear Parents

As the school year comes to an end, we thought we would let you know about some of the up and coming NSPA events and meetings taking place before the end of the school year and in the first half term of the next school year.



Norman Hurst School Parents' Association

School Uniform Sale 26 June As mentioned in the last newsletter, one of the lesser known NSPA activities is selling school uniform items. The NSPA takes donations of preloved school uniform items to sell to raise money for the school. The next sale takes place on the afternoon of the 26 June, which is Moving Up Day. Only school branded items will be available. If you have any school uniform items that you would like to donate, please leave them in the school office. The popular items are summer dresses and PE kits.

Welcome Walk 15 September You may have seen a flyer or messages on social media about the welcome walk, which is being arranged for Sunday 15 September. Take this chance to meet friends of your children, parents and teachers, and enjoy a walk in Epping Forest and around Connaught Waters. We are so lucky to have the forest on our doorstep! Please make a note in your diary to attend this event; it is fun and informal, and we offer you light refreshments when you return to the school hall.

Annual General Meeting 30 September The NSPA AGM will take place on the evening of 30 September. Come along and hear about the work and achievements of the NSPA over the past year. This is a great opportunity to mingle with parents and teachers, and also contribute your ideas on how we can all support and enhance our children's time at Norman Hurst. If you want to find out more about how the NSPA operates, please feel free to attend the next regular meeting which takes place on 9 September at 19.15 in the school hall.

Thank you again for all your support and we look forward to seeing you at the up and coming NSPA events.

NSPA Party in the Playground Preparation is well underway for our 'Party in the Playground' event which is taking place this Saturday 4-8pm. We have lots of exciting things planned such as a DJ, 4 huge inflatables, a masked parade, dance displays, chocolate tombola, tin can alley and lots more, so make sure you pop down for a fun-filled afternoon and early evening.

The NSPA Committee