Dear Parents, Guardians, Staff & Governors

I would like to wish all of our readers a very Happy New Year for 2017. The start of the year provides an ideal opportunity to reinforce expectations and values. For the Spring Term we are returning to the importance of good manners and respect. We are reminding all of our students that good manners, kindness and respect never go out of fashion, will open lots of doors and demonstrate to others that we have respect for them. Teenagers often need a timely reminder!

Our Newsletter once again provides a snapshot of many of the exceptional opportunities that we provide at Norwood throughout the year in our determination to provide a well rounded education for all of our students.

I hope you enjoy reading about us.

Best wishes

Denise Webster
Head Teacher

“A real showcase of emerging talent”
Emerging Dance Showcase
We are all so excited about the new collaboration we have established with The English National Opera.

Photography by Sarah Ainslie
The programme kicked off in October with Opera Squad:
Enhancing our already rich creative curriculum, it was a unique opportunity for us all to experience professional opera singers performing at close hand and gave many drama and music students the opportunity to work creatively with performers and directors. We hosted pop up performances throughout the school day at break and lunchtime and enjoyed music and drama workshops, we had assembly performances throughout the morning and then master classes for musicians in the afternoon - with a sharing for parents at the end of the day.

Over the course of the next few months the programme will include:

- Attendance to dress rehearsals.
- Workshops at the Coliseum for both staff/students and parents.
- CPD for specialist VA/PA staff.
- Key Stage 4/5 subject specific careers advice and work experience opportunities.

We are launching a new Boys Choir on Mondays this term that will be linked to the Mike Leigh’s production of The Pirates of Penzance at the Coliseum and will be hosting master classes and mentoring sessions for Key Stage 4 and 5 performers. With industry visits and work experience placements being organised – it certainly is a busy year ahead! We would all like to say a huge thank you to Rhuti Carr and her dedicated and enthusiastic team for all their hard work.

What have we already done?

Yr 10 and 11 Students took part in the ENO’s Summer School.

Yr 10 and 11 attended a student evening – on the set of Lulu – and met the set and design team and those who had worked with renowned artist William Kenbridge on production/set and costume design.

VA PA staff have already attended ‘Inside Opera’ events, behind the scenes sessions, exploring the technical aspects of theatre and how they are used to bring the ENOs productions to life.

We have taken students and parents to a special event at the London Coliseum to meet members of The Pearl Fishers company and technical team. We learnt about how aerial flying, visual projection and set design are used to create the Sri Lankan shanty town and an underwater world where the drama is set. Students, staff and parents had the opportunity to go on stage and explore the set, then to watch a production of The Pearl Fishers.
We managed to raise an amazing £1,342.87 in total which we know would have been much appreciated by those homeless people who, for many reasons, find themselves in such challenging circumstances. Jamie Ford and Ruhan Ahmed spoke on behalf of so many, children and staff were touched by the stories of the homeless. ‘I felt really sorry for the homeless people, especially at Christmas’, said Jamie. ‘I am glad our money went to help provide hot meals, warm clothing, washing facilities and medical support.’

‘I was worried about the numbers of young people who sadly find themselves homeless,’ said Ruhan, who gave so generously of his own money. Miss Halnan and Miss Mendez, the boys tutors, were genuinely touched by the children’s generosity, thoughtfulness and spirit. Thank you everyone!

Thank you and well done to everyone for making such an outstanding effort to raise funds for the Crisis at Christmas Appeal.

8CHO £45.88!
9FM/AHL £140.50!
9MCO £99.28!
10GA £180.50!

It was a pleasure and an honour to meet A21 – who came in to meet Yr 11 in an assembly and then went on to join them in their citizenship classes.

A21 are a charity who are trying to raise the profile of modern day slavery in all of its terrible forms. The students listened to how many different types of slavery are on the rise and the astonishing numbers of people who are victims of this exploitation and oppression.

The Yr 11’s came away saying that it had been a really informative and engaging session and the citizenship students have been moved to take the issue on to the next level and have it as the focus for their coursework campaign.

Behave with integrity and be courteous in lessons.
A term in the Life of Sixth Former Laura Silva

It isn’t until you stop to take stock of how many wonderful opportunities the Sixth Form have here that you really start to appreciate just how lucky we are!

You need to be motivated and on the ball but there are so many events, trips, visits, workshops, lectures and clubs to take advantage of – I know that I want to go to Art College next year – I am applying to Central St Martins to do a Foundation in Fashion and then hope to move on to a degree the following year.

It has been difficult writing my personal statement because I have been involved in so many enrichment opportunities – I just can’t fit them all in! It wasn’t until Miss Nicholas asked me to keep a list of all the things I had done over the past few weeks that I started to realise just how busy I had been! I wouldn’t have chosen to go anywhere else for my Sixth Form – the staff have been so supportive, the lessons have been really fun and I can’t tell you how much progress I have made since Yr 11!

“I’m genuinely excited about my future thanks to the Norwood Sixth Form!”

Laura Silva

I successfully applied for the University of Arts London Insights Programme and have been going to the Camberwell Art College every Saturday this spring. I have met students and staff from the University and have gained valuable experience – developing my portfolio ready for an interview in March.

I successfully auditioned and am a Young Vic Stage Business Ambassador which helps young people develop employability skills. We have had inspiration days at the theatre, seen Glenda Jackson in a production of King Lear and have met and worked with voice coaches, guest speakers and directors. I am looking forward to graduating in the early summer!

I went to the London Asian Fashion Week at Excel.
I run my own fashion blog.
I’m applying for the FAD Fashion Saturday programme.
I completed my work experience with Antipodium an online fashion retailer.

I thoroughly enjoyed a workshop at the English National Opera where we met the choreographer, stage manager and some of the chorus before returning to see the actual production of Bizet’s The Pearl Fishers.

I enjoyed a lecture by Cath Kidston at the London College of Fashion.
I’ve met so many artists and practitioners – textile designer Sarah Campbell regularly visits to talk to us about her work and offer her advice.

I have visited so many museums and galleries including the Huntarian, Victoria and Albert, Fashion and Textiles Museum and the National Portrait Gallery.

I took part in a three day half term Life Drawing workshop at the Dulwich Picture Gallery.
I’ve been to Open Days and Taster Days at Central St Martins, Ravensbourne and London College of Fashion.
What makes our Sixth Form special?

We have been invited to be part of the Russell Group Programme and have visited Oxford and Cambridge, get regular meetings from my mentor and am already working on my university application.'

Rupesh & Ryan

‘We have been selected from hundreds of applicants to join Deloitte next Summer on the ASPIRE work experience programme’.

Fin

‘I’ve decided to apply for the Allen and Overy Work Experience Programme as well as the NCS Challenge this year’.

Asad

‘I was awarded a Gold Academic Bursary because I had done so well in my GCSE’s’.

Khabiru.

‘I took part in the Creative Media Camp during our half term and worked with ad agencies to explore jobs in the creative industries’.

Sarrah

‘I know what I might study at Uni now that I have been to the Digital Careers Fair at Chelsea Football ground’.

Rupesh & Ryan

‘I was selected for a summer engineering internship with Tideway and am now applying to study Engineering at university’.

Sarrah

‘I was selected for the ‘Uniq’ Summer School at Oxford and am now applying to Leeds, UCL, Queens and Kings Universities to study Medicine’.

Aashish

‘I am part of the Take the Stage Project at the Donmar Warehouse and ‘enjoyed mentoring younger music students for the Norwood Factor’.

Kristian

‘I have been accepted on the Sussex University Study Experience for the summer and am part of the Russell group Programme’.

Komal

‘I’ve really enjoyed being a learning mentor this term’.

Ebeneezer

‘I was selected for a summer engineering internship with Tideway and am now applying to study Engineering at university’.
Parents did you know that you can now see if your son/daughter has completed the homework that they have been set?

Log into Show My Homework and find out, check what work has been set, when it is due and whether or not it has been done to a high enough standard!

Show My Homework

www.thenorwoodschool.org

We are working hard to improve career prospects for all our young people but particularly those from disadvantaged groups.

By the end of the year we will have:

An updated Careers Guidance Strategy

We have already completed a Compass Careers Self Evaluation Tool that has evaluated our current provision and made suggestions as to how to update and improve the guidance. The feedback was very useful and highlighted much of the excellent practice that the students currently experience.

We will be improving the quality and frequency of Employer Engagement - 17 employers will be involved in 26 week projects in Health and Social Care, Business and ICT.

More students than ever will be attending Young Person Careers Events including the Lambeth Ambassador Apprenticeship Programme and our own Career Fairs.

We will be organising bespoke training for key staff in school and will be offering Work Experience / Paid Internships to targeted students in the upper school this summer.

Keep an eye out on the website for updates and the new strategy later in the term.

Take a look at the new Options Booklet that is on the website under the Teaching and Learning tab to find out about the new pathways from Year 9 to the Sixth Form.
What another amazing year for the Norwood Factor.

We just can’t believe that it gets better and better every year! The anticipation was palpable across the school for weeks before the actual event – with posters going up around the building, rehearsals going on late into every evening and films being broadcast about the finalists and their mentors.

The final itself is a culmination of weeks of hard work, dedication and commitment from both staff and pupils – not forgetting our fabulous visiting music teachers – who were well and truly on board with the whole production! The competition itself is open to anyone from any year group and it was great to see such a range of talent from all the year groups. The sell-out show certainly had the WOW factor – with a live band accompanying all the performers, dancers, the choir, Sixth Form backing singers and presenters – it really was a team effort.

The appreciative audience couldn’t contain their excitement when Thea and Kiera led the company back onto the stage to announce the winners. Really well done to everyone who took part and made it such a magical event – the Performing Arts Staff, Sixth Form stage management team, the VT production team led by Miss Johnson, the premises team, the mentors, the talented performers and of course, the supportive friends and parents.

This year’s finalists were Yr 8’s SLF (Shamanie, Lola and Freya), Yr 11’s Abigail Elliot and Michal Naporowski, Yr 9’s Emily Ben Abdallah and Minei Gorman as well as Yr 7’s Tiah Roban. Congratulations to the runner up Maya Walkes from Yr 8 and huge well done to this year’s winner Jaydn Matthews.

“Huge well done to this year’s winner Jaydn Matthews”
We know that Norwood School is a forward thinking school; we are optimistic and ambitious for the whole school community. The outstanding achievement of pupils is testament to this. We are committed to a personalised approach and focus on the individual. We are a child centred school, dedicated to ensuring that our pupils are happy and secure and that they achieve their potential and beyond.

We strive to ensure that we provide a safe environment for children and young people to learn and develop at Norwood. We want to encourage acceptance and engagement with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths, beliefs and sexual orientation; we want our pupils to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

Parents - If you know that your child will be absent from school please email the school on absence@thenorwoodschool.org or phone the school switchboard to leave a message on their extensions. You will need to speak to Mrs Flitter extension 223 for Yr 7 – 11 and to Ms Cunningham for the Sixth Form on extension 277. Miss Imafidon leads our drive on excellent attendance and punctuality – she works with children, parents, staff and the local authority to ensure that students are all here on time every day.

Remember we are always here to help. We have people in school who are here to help you maintain an excellent record of attendance and punctuality. We all know that you can’t learn if you are not here. Breakfast club starts at 8 am. All students are expected to be in school and in registration by 8:40 am. We appreciate that sometimes delays to school or work are unavoidable please ensure that, in the rare case of anyone arriving later than 8.40 am, students sign in at reception and take their late slip to their lesson.

Norwood is a school where students enjoy learning, staff enjoy teaching and people enjoy being
Student Wellbeing Contacts
The Norwood School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all of our pupils.

So what should you do, as a student, if you are worried about someone or something?

- Who do you go to?
- Where would you find them?
- If you are a parent who should you contact?

Who else can help?
Don’t forget form tutors, heads of year or one of our behaviour support mentors (Mr Lemmie Yr 8, Mr Morgan Yr 9 or Mr King Yr 7 from The Greenhouse) are also here to help.

We can help signpost students to other professionals who can help: for example the Brook Advice Centre, our school nurse, The Well Centre, The Croydon Drop in Talk Bus or our safer school liaison officer PC Randall.

We expect our students to:
- Take ownership for their own conduct and that of others
- Adhere to the behaviour policy and respect adults, each other, visitors and the environment
- Act as positive ambassadors when not on the school premises
- Not bring on to the school site banned or prohibited items
- Not bully, threaten or intimidate other pupils or staff
- Wear the school uniform correctly and with pride
- Remember the mobile phone rule – No See No Hear!

Online Safety
How can Parents Help?

The internet can be an inspiring and positive place which holds a wealth of resources to enable young people to connect, communicate and be creative in a variety of different ways.

It is always changing and being able to keep up to date with your child’s use of technology can be a challenge. You may feel that your child has better technical skills than you do, however they still need advice, guidance and protection in the appropriate use of the internet, mobile phones and other devices. It is important that your child knows that they can talk to you or us if they have any concerns.

We are committed to safe guarding and promoting the welfare of all of our pupils.

Student Wellbeing
Committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all of our pupils.

Miss Corcoran
Designated Safeguarding Lead S19

Mr Cole
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead G18

Mrs Rose
Child Protection Officer S19

Mr Morgan
Child Protection Officer - Greenhouse

Miss Imafidon
Child Protection Officer - Greenhouse

Ms Cunningham
Sixth Form Administrator

Ms Flitter
Attendance and Absence Administrator

Personal Responsibilities

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Mr Hodgson led a week long series of events and activities linked to this year’s national Big Draw. Co-ordinating workshops and art inspired lessons across Maths and Science, he also arranged a series of after school practical workshops in illustration, clay, making chemigrams and photography.

In Maths Mr Dare led on lessons that introduced students to Sir Roger Penrose, an English mathematical physicist, mathematician and philosopher of science. Penrose is known for his work in mathematical physics, in particular for his contributions to general relativity and cosmology. He has received several prizes and awards, including the 1988 Wolf Prize for physics, which he shared with Stephen Hawking for their contribution to our understanding of the universe. He is best known for his ‘Penrose Tiles’ which he investigated in the 1970s. In Science Mr Young led lessons that encouraged students to explore the Pioneer Programme - a series of United States unmanned space missions that were designed to explore the outer planets and the solar system. The Pioneer plaques sent out into space in 1972 and 1973 carried a message to possible extra-terrestrial life of who we are and where we can be found. Students created their own plaques – designed to be sent out into space!
An artist inspired bake sale at the end of the week helped raise funds for L’Arche. It was a really interesting week of fun activities, "I learnt lots about art, space and maths" said Mia Tomlins (Yr 7) “I was also very proud to have helped raise the money in the bake sale. L’Arche provide support and care for adults with learning disabilities, I think it was nice to link up with an organisation that uses the arts to support people that they care for – like we do here at school. I know that the money we managed to raise will be used to help buy more arts materials”. Mr Hodgson was very proud of the children too.

A huge thank you to Mr Hodgson for organising such an eventful week, and to all the children and staff who had so much fun and learnt so much participating.
Dance Showcase 2016

Well done and thank you to all the parents who came in to support the students in the latest dance showcase – Emerge.

It was exciting to see not only the established and familiar faces of dance at Norwood but the large numbers of children - both boys and girls who are clearly enjoying not just their lessons but all the extra-curricular clubs that are on offer. It truly was a real showcase of emerging talent, highlighting the children’s ability in so many different genres of dance - thank you to everyone for all their hard work and to Miss Acham and Miss Quay in particular for their constant guidance, enthusiasm and hard work.

“Highlighting abilities in so many different genres of dance”

Emerge Dance Showcase 2016

Yr 10 Girls Contemporary Dance

Meron - Lower Sixth Contemporary Dance

Yr 7 Boys Street Dance
My First term at The Norwood School
– Ava Berry Jones Yr 7

‘I came to Norwood from Rockmount Primary School and have always loved anything arty!

I love to sketch and print and I have really enjoyed the work that I have produced in Photography Club since starting secondary school. Amongst other things, I took part in this term’s Big Draw and have also found the time to join the Norwood School Band as their drummer!

My idea was chosen to be printed on this year’s Norwood School Christmas card, I was really proud and sent a copy of it to my old primary school teacher!.

“I’ve had a really busy & happy first term”

Important Dates
for your Diary

19th January
Year 11 parents evening

26th January
Careers/university event
115 – 3pm early closure for Yr 7 and 8 and most of Yr 9.
Targeted Yr 9, Yr 10, 11 and Sixth Form are invited to the event.
See website for details.

2nd February
Year 9 Options Evening
Meeting with Parents in Theatre 4:00pm – 4:30pm
Meeting with staff 4:30pm – 7:00pm

From 6th February
Sixth Form interviews by invitation only

w/c 13th February
Half term

20th February
Year 11 Second mock exams start

1st March
National Offer Day

2nd March
World Book Day

3rd March
Year 9 immunisations

30th March
Year 10 Parents Evening 4:30pm – 7:00pm