

School Leadership Messages	Contents		
<p>Late start 15 April</p> <p>A reminder to parents and carers that students should return to school to begin lessons from period 2 on Monday 15 April. This means they should aim to arrive at 9.30am for a 9.40am start. This will be week 1 on their timetables.</p> <p>Polling station - Thursday 2nd May</p> <p>We would like to clarify that the school is not closed to students on Thursday 2nd May. Information on the Haringey website does not make it clear that it is only the Tetherdown/Sixth Form Building that is being used as a polling station. School is open as usual to all students.</p>	<p>CoHeads' Weekly Roundup</p> <p>House News</p> <p>Department News & Notices</p> <p>Holiday Camps</p> <p>Safeguarding Information</p> <p>Calendar</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1059 1003 1524 1164"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1059 1003 1177 1164">15.04</td> <td data-bbox="1177 1003 1524 1164">Start of term: 9.30am for a 9.40am start (Week 1)</td> </tr> </table>	15.04	Start of term: 9.30am for a 9.40am start (Week 1)
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<p>School Photo cards</p> <p>Following the recent visit from Fizz photography, the photo cards will be handed out to students in form time on 15th April.</p> <p>Year 11/13 Student lunch accounts</p> <p>Please ensure that your child's catering account is clear from any amounts owing prior to Y11/Y13 students going on study leave. For any queries about catering accounts please email office@fortismere.org.uk</p>	<div data-bbox="1098 1227 1458 1666" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="1155 1720 1426 1778"><i>Spring is sprung at Fortismere!</i></p> <p data-bbox="1114 1818 1468 1881"><i>Wishing all our families a restful break</i></p>		

Co-Headteachers

Weekly Roundup

This term has been short but busy. The Spring Term is always intense: Y11 and Y13 are in the final furlong while Y9 are considering their futures via the Options process. We also find that Y7 have completely found their feet by now (as have Y12!), Y10 have made the transition to GCSEs and we need to think about Y8! Alongside the academic and curriculum focus, students have also been participating in a range of events and fundraisers. This term the Houses have excelled themselves in the range of fun competitions and charitable events they have offered the students. In addition, students took part in the Jack Petchey Speak Out! Challenge, organised the International Women's Day event and flexed their creative muscles in the Charity Bands Night and Poetry and Music evening. To round off the term, Y12 had their 'University Day' on Wednesday to begin the process of deciding what they will do after Y13. So something for everyone and a very tired staff!

We have been contacted by some parents about anti-Semitic graffiti on the site and would like to reassure you that although there was a spike in anti-Semitic and other racist graffiti in the immediate aftermath of the October 7th atrocities, this tailed off quite quickly. However, the fact that we get any racist (including anti-Semitic) graffiti is a cause for concern. We know that hosting the Stand Up! Workshops supported the school in reducing the graffiti but our aim is eradication and not 'business as usual'. As you will be aware, the Government is re-examining definitions of extremism and the Prevent Duty that all state schools adhere to. Please can we thank you and your children for their vigilance and ask that if any of you are concerned by views you may hear your child expressing or the websites or social media they may be accessing, please do contact the school. We have a range of supportive measures we can put in place to tackle some of the deeply unpleasant messaging available online.

Despite the inclement weather, we believe that Spring is supposedly nearby (please see the photographic evidence!). We hope that you all have a wonderful holiday and Happy Easter and Eid (Pesach to follow!).

Student Behaviour & Attendance

Student Rewards and Celebrations

Heads of Year for Years 7, 8 & 9 have been holding Celebration assemblies over the last two weeks to reward students for their excellent performance in lessons and form time. Lanyard badges and chocolate treats have been distributed to our worthy winners.



Certificates will also be handed out to all children who have had excellent conduct and excellent attendance (96%+) this term. Students and their parents/carers have been invited to an award celebration with the CoHeadteachers early next term.

Ms Brooks

Student Fundraising

FemSoc Fundraising Success

Well done to Year 13 students, Laney Harris, Freya Bielby, Sian Flanigan and Lucy Hawkes who organised a fantastic FemSoc International Women's Day fundraising event earlier this month. They were raising money for the charity [Women for Refugee Women](#).

The students raised over £350 for the charity who wrote to the school recently with this lovely thank you message: *That is an incredible amount and will make a real difference to the refugee and asylum-seeking women in our network. At an increasingly hostile time for women seeking safety in the UK, compassion and solidarity from people like you means everything. Thank you all so much for your support and hard work organising such a special, important and well thought-through event. We had such a great time and think you should all be really proud.*

School Sports

U18 1st XI Kitted Out by TL Motors and Ready for the Cup Final

A huge thanks to Enzo and his team at [TL Motors](#) (Cromwell Road N10 2PD) for sponsoring and supplying us with a fantastic new U18 1st XI football kit!



The kit looks great and will be proudly worn by the team when they compete in their U18 Middlesex Cup Final match this week. The match is today (Thursday) against Northolt High School. It's a huge game and even getting to the final is a great achievement but we really hope that we can end a fantastic season with some silverware. Come on Fortismere - bring the cup home!



Mr Hawkes

House News

Selvon Easter Egg Hunt - Sign up!

A reminder that the Selvon Ambassadors are organising an Easter Egg Hunt to raise money for Cancer Research UK. This is taking place after Easter, on Wednesday 17th April during tutor time in South Wing Hall. Entry will cost £2, There will be a chocolate egg hunt, as well as prizes for the winners of Easter trivia questions. There will be a final chance to sign up for this after Easter, on Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th March. Students will not be allowed to take part unless they have signed up and paid in advance, so if your child would like to sign up, please encourage them to bring in £2!

Ms Garnett



Well done Turing

The Turing Charity Ambassadors hosted a bake sale on Tuesday and Wednesday this week, selling a variety of delicious and tasty home baked goods, such as Oreo cupcakes, Biscoff Rocky Roads and lots of Mini Egg Brownies! They raised £87.70 for Cancer Research UK! Thank you to everyone who came along and bought something to help them raise the money!

Ms Brough

LINC Department Notices

Supporting Anxiety - Presentation to Parents/Carers

On Tuesday, our link Haringey Educational Psychologists, delivered our second parent/carer information event. It was great to see over 34 parents join us for a very interesting, thought-provoking and supportive session which focused on 'Supporting Anxiety in teenagers'. Karen Hodes EP, began the session by looking at the biological basis for anxiety and the underlying roots in order to develop a full understanding. Cognitive behaviour therapeutic approaches were presented as ways to help manage worries and negative thoughts. This included identifying and overcoming 'thought traps' and strategies to redirect negative thoughts. There was also some discussion about managing exam related stress looking specifically at procrastination and perfectionism and models of revision avoidance. The session closed with a discussion around mindfulness and mind calming techniques. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive and parents commented on how pleased they were to leave with real 'take-aways' and practical actions to try at home.

A copy of the presentation slides will be sent out to all parents/carers of children on the SEND register but will also be available to all parents/carers on request by emailing lincadmin@fortismere.org.uk

The **next session** for parents/carers led by our educational psychologists will take place next term and will focus on **Understanding and Supporting ADHD**. We'll share more information nearer the time.

Mr Fari

Autism Acceptance Week - 2nd April to 8th April 2024

World Autism Acceptance Week takes place from Tuesday 2nd April (which is World Autism Awareness Day) to Monday 8th April 2024. Although Autism Acceptance Week falls in the Easter holidays we'd still like to take the opportunity to promote and celebrate diversity and share some resources with you.

The items below are aimed at primary and secondary school audiences, we hope you find them useful.

[World Autism Acceptance Week 2024](#)

[Raise Peer Awareness In 2024 - Autism Acceptance Week!](#)

[National Autistic Society E-learning](#)

Sixth Form Notices

Year 12 University Fair



On Wednesday this week, the whole of Year 12 took part in a University Fair. The morning included talks about 'Getting to grips with UCAS', 'Choosing a Course and University', 'Applying to Russell Group Universities' and 'Student Finance'. It was wonderful to see the whole year group listening so intently and enthusiastically. In the afternoon, South Wing Hall was transformed into a fair consisting of 18 different

universities and an apprenticeship representative. Students spent time engaging with the representatives from the different universities, asking mature and interesting questions about courses and student life. The visitors were very impressed with our students. The feedback from the students was excellent. One student said 'what a wonderful day, it was so interesting. I now know where I want to go to university and what grades I need, now I'm going to do it!

Ms Bailey and Mr Kenny

Murray Edwards College & Haringey Access Conference

On Tuesday this week, Fortismere hosted a conference for Murray Edwards College, Cambridge. We had the pleasure of hosting tutors and students from the University of Cambridge and were joined by students from the London Academy of Excellence (Tottenham) and St Thomas More Catholic School.

Our student contingent was made up of Year 12 and Year 10 students who had the opportunity to delve into the Oxbridge application process and get some great tips on how to prepare to study STEM or Arts subjects at prestigious Universities.

The team from Murray Edwards were delighted with our students' enthusiasm and thoughtful participation in the event and we look forward to continuing this collaboration in the future. A big thanks to all staff and students involved!

Mr Lewis



Physics Department Notice

British Physics Olympiad Year 12 Results

Congratulations to our amazing Year 12 A Level physicists who competed in the Senior Physics Challenge set by the British Physics Olympiad team. All of the 14 students who entered gained a bronze certificate or above - this is an amazing achievement for any school. Our top students achieved a silver certificate which puts them in the top 25% of physics competitors in the country. Special congratulations to our silver students: Harry Power, Daniel Kennedy, Isabel Sheldon-Filloyd and with the highest score in the school Christabelle Chau. This is all great preparation for next year and the Y13 British Physics Olympiad.

Mr Common

Photography Department

Georgia Morris Photography Prize 2024

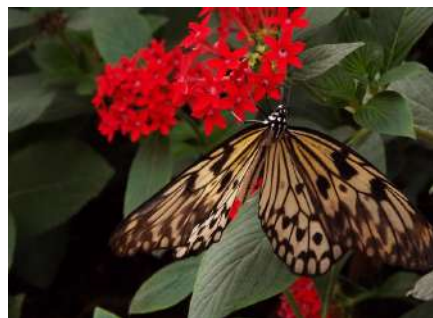
Georgia was passionate about photography and always had a camera around her neck. She loved capturing the world around her and was particularly inspired by nature and wildlife. In 2016 after a very brave fight against cancer she sadly passed away, but not without making a significant impact on all of the people she met. She was only at Fortismere for one year, but she loved the school and the creativity that thrived within it. As a tribute to Georgia her family created the Georgia Morris Photography Prize, for students in Years 7, 8 and 9. Georgia's family really hope this will encourage other young students to take up photography and to study it at the school, as she would have loved to have done.

Georgia loved to capture nature as it unfolded before her photographic lens, and from walks on The Heath to days out at Woburn she was fascinated by the natural world. The brief for the competition this year is "**Freedom in nature**". This can mean animals, wildlife, trees and plants, landscapes etc. Think about what

that means to you and what you might photograph as a response to the brief. Below are some of Georgia's pictures that will hopefully inspire you and give you some ideas of possible starting points. Georgia loved going to Park Cameras in London to buy her equipment, and for that reason her family are keen for Fortismere's budding photographers to visit the shop.

The prize will be photographic vouchers that can be used in the shop to purchase items to help take more beautiful pictures and hopefully inspire a lifelong passion for photography. 1st prize - £150.00; 2nd Prize - £100.00 and 3rd Prize - £50.00. All entries should be emailed to Mr Holden gholden@fortismere.org.uk

The **deadline for entries is June 10th** so get photographing!



Sport & PE Notices

Looking Forward to Summer Sports & Activities

It's been a very busy term with lots of extra-curricular sporting competitions, matches and clubs - something has been happening on nearly every night of every week! Winter sports are now coming to a close and Fortismere have enjoyed lots of success in different sports across various age groups. In football, the Year 10 boys made it to the Haringey borough final and the girls won their league. The Year 7 and Year 8 boys both made it through to Haringey semi-finals. In the prestigious Middlesex Cup Competitions, our girls reached two semi-finals and our 1st XI Boys team are playing in the final of the Middlesex Cup on Thursday - the first time we have reached this stage in many years. Fortismere also won at badminton, indoor athletics and indoor cricket competitions in Haringey.

And so on to summer - the weather is (hopefully) improving and the amount of daylight after school is growing which means that our Summer Sports calendar starts after the easter holidays. There will be plenty of after school clubs and fixtures and we are really looking forward to the outdoor cricket and athletics season. Summer term also sees the annual Haringey Swimming Gala and plenty of tennis fixtures.

Please encourage your child to come along and get involved with the clubs, fixtures and teams, even if they have never played the sport before. The Spring/Summer Clubs Timetable is *attached* to the newsletter.
Ms Vangucci

Year 8 Basketball

Well done to our Year 8 and 10 Basketball Teams who have been involved in some very competitive Fixtures over the past couple of weeks against Woodside, Park View and Heartlands Schools. Our teams finished 3rd in the League. Well done all to you all - you have really progressed in skill and team cohesion.



Year 7 Haringey Football

Well done to our Year 7 boys for reaching the Haringey semi final v APS. Unfortunately APS were the better team on the day and beat us 4-1.



Library Notices

Top Tips to Keep your Children Reading



Top Tip No: 21 - Please don't tell your child that comics and graphic novels are "not real books". [Read this](#) from the National Literacy Trust!

Music and Poetry Concert

21st March was World Poetry Day, so it was fortuitous that this was the date chosen, quite coincidentally, for the annual Fortismere Music and Poetry Concert! Back in October 2023, every student in Year 8 enjoyed a workshop with our Poet in Residence, Lewis Buxton. They edited the work they produced and over 30 outstanding poems were chosen to be read at the concert.

Standing in front of an audience performing your own work can be daunting, but the students shared their moving, insightful, powerful and occasionally funny poems magnificently. Well done to Bill

Morten-Spencer, Jonah Morris, Dayra Quidam, Huxley

Behagg-Elphick, Lara Allen-Davies, Lily Topham, Amber Charnley,

Juna Abd El Qader, Robyn Yaoz, Alba Widdows, Anna Baird, Akira

Ghebreyohannes, Aviana Petrou, Jack Bailey, Michelle Balogun, Asya Uckun, Elizabeth Kavanagh, Arlo

Mockridge, Nadja Mimic, Chloe Glover, Grace Pimm-Martin, Phoebe Balint-Kurti, Nicole Tiekku (Y10), Soirse

Metrusty-Fox (Y10) and Sam Balint-Kurti (Y9).



Carnegie Shadowing

We still have capacity for more members of Year 8 to join our Carnegie Shadowing group. There are eight super books, some very short, to read and a party to celebrate the winner in July. If your child would like to join us, email gward@fortismere.org.uk. Some of our shadowers have already posted reviews on the website – take a look [here](#) at the Fortismere page



Alexandra Palace Children's Book Award

Our Year 7 APCBA club joined 900 other students from around the borough at the iconic Alexandra Palace on Friday 22nd March. Some of us enjoyed grooving to the steel band that was set up in East Court whilst everyone was arriving (others were asking "Is it lunchtime yet?") Jack Meggit-Phillips, previous APCBA winner and host for the day, welcomed everyone in a Beastly way and we laughed at his very over-the-top rendition of the opening chapters of "The Beast and the Bethany". We stayed in the theatre for our author workshop with one of the shortlisted authors, Simon James Green, who inspired the entire audience to write a story – together with grim illustrations - about a sausage roller coaster in Greggs Theme Park (who knew that Years 5-7 have such dark, dark souls?!) Two of our group, Honey and Arthur, went on the stage to help.

The Waterstones bookshop was chaos and some of the queues for book signing were even worse, but Mrs Ward has pointy elbows and made sure everyone who wanted a book signed managed it. Then back to the theatre for a hip-hop performance, more of Jack, Q&As with authors and the announcement of the winner. We all cheered when Mrs Ward had to go on the stage for flowers as one of the 4 Haringey school librarians who decided the shortlist, but we cheered even more when Simon James Green, author of the brilliant "Finn Jones Was Here", received the trophy. It was a wonderful day; thanks to Mrs Coles for running the book group meetings since last December and Ms Adams for coming with us.



Recommended Reads of the Week

Last week we recommended blue books, this week our display asks “Have you RED this book?” Here are some eggs-cellent red books to keep you going over the Easter holiday. Happy reading!



Music Department Notices

Music & Poetry Event

Well done to all the musicians and poets who staged a fabulous Music & Poetry event last week. As part of the evening's entertainment, there were also impressive performances from finalists selected from each house competing for the prize of Young Fortismere Musician of the Year. Many congratulations to Louis Barnett who won the overall prize with his performance of a Chopin Polonaise.

New Junior Wind and Junior Strings Ensembles

The Music Department is setting up two new ensembles after the Easter break for any instrumentalists who would like to make music as part of a group, regardless of how long they have been playing.

The **Junior Wind ensemble** will be on Thursdays, either lunchtime or after school, and the google form to complete if interested is here: <https://forms.gle/PoU3sE6HZjf5DJDk7>

The **Junior Strings ensemble** will be on Friday Lunch time or Thursday after school, and the google form to complete if interested is here: <https://forms.gle/YxMkpkF8GbS2P1zg8>

School Concert Series: Spring Concert - Thursday 2nd May at 6pm NW Music Hall

This concert of mostly solo performances will showcase the many and varied musical talents of Fortismere students, ranging from heavy metal guitar to classical piano. Tickets are just £5.00. Booking and more details available [here](#)

School of Rock End of Term Concert

A massive well done to all the School of Rock students who put on a fantastic concert last Saturday to a large gathering of family and friends. It was so impressive to see what they had achieved in just one term and we are all looking forward to seeing their skills in both playing and song writing grow over the course of next term.

Next Fortismere Community Choir and Orchestra Concert - 27 April St Andrew's Church

Don't miss this wonderful all-Mozart programme, in St Andrew's Church as usual. Early bird tickets £13.00. Booking and more information available [here](#)

Fundraising Notice

Donations by Direct Debit

A reminder that setting up a direct debit is a really convenient way to make a regular donation to the school. This regular support from our families is invaluable and makes a real difference to what we can offer our students. You can use the following link and ensure you select Bacs Direct Debit as your payment method: [Set up a Monthly Direct Debit](#) or you can set it up via the school website: [See this page](#)

Thank you in advance for your support - your generosity is much appreciated.

Ms Demetriou

Fortismere School Holiday Camps

Easter Holiday Camps - Last Minute Bookings

Fortismere Holiday Camps are running during the two weeks of the school Easter holidays. Bookings will be for Week 1 (2nd-5th April) or Week 2 (8th-12th April). Booking information and full details of all the camps are on the school website - See [Fortismere Holiday Camps](#)

Safeguarding at Fortismere

Safeguarding Contacts

If you wish to speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Ms Sullivan) about any safeguarding matters or concerns please use the My Voice [link](#) or QR code alternatively contact your child's Head of Year



Year 7	Ms Fox kfox@fortismere.org.uk
Year 8	Ms Jackson kjackson@fortismere.org.uk
Year 9	Ms Cuenca icuenca@fortismere.org.uk
Year 10	Mr Aldridge saldridge@fortismere.org.uk
Year 11	Ms Boot aboot@fortismere.org.uk