

School Leadership Messages

Monday 22nd April: Moderation Day (School Closure)

- **Year 11** – All students will be expected in school for the whole day. They will need to be in the South Wing for 8:30 and will be working on their GCSE Maths P1 and P2 and then their GCSE Science P3, P4 & P5. Lunch will be available as usual from the South Wing Canteen.
- **Year 13** - A number of subjects are running sessions for students and students will be contacted individually regarding these – Mr Robson (Director of Sixth Form) has sent messages about this separately

A handful of students from Year 10 and 12 will be contacted individually inviting them in for specific lessons.

Internal Truancy

We have a small number of students who have recently been truanting some lessons. This term there will be a whole school focus on students' attendance to lessons and additional sanctions for those who attempt to miss a lesson while in school. Please do check your SIMS parent app as this will show your child's attendance and any conduct points given for lateness and truancy.

Contents

CoHeads' Weekly Roundup

School Trips & Visits

Extra-Curricular News

Department News & Notices

Safeguarding Information

Calendar

22.04	School CLosure (Moderation Day)
01.05	8X Parents Evening
06.05	Spring Bank Holiday



Happy Passover to all members of our school community who are celebrating at this special time

Co-Headteachers

Weekly Roundup

We have very much enjoyed the start of the summer term. Our students returned on Monday with a spring in their step and a keenness to return to their studies. This is a very important term for our Year 11 and Year 13 students who have been demonstrating real purpose as they get back to their studies in preparation for their examinations in May and June. Many of them came in during the Easter break to take part in revision activities that were taking place so have already got themselves into good study routines.

We began the term celebrating the achievements of last term as we invited the recipients of the Co-headteachers' Awards and their parents to afternoon tea with us on Tuesday. A wonderful time was had by all and it was a real pleasure to congratulate those students on their outstanding contributions to school life and in some cases their show of extraordinary grit and resilience in their approach to their learning. This event is the culmination of the termly year group celebration assemblies where students are recognised with subject awards, and awards for progress and participation.

Students in Year 7 and Year 8 have been busy preparing tutor group assemblies which are very important opportunities for our students to showcase their work as a form team and build up confidence in their oral skills. Speaking to an audience is a pretty daunting prospect for many so we are always amazed by the confidence we see on display when our students are tasked with speaking to a large group. We like to combine building confidence in oracy with celebrations at Fortismere and we'd like to remind parents of Year 7 and 8 students that they will also be invited on site later this term to see their children talk about their year of learning and study and listen to each others' achievements. We will share more information about these events nearer the time but we hope many of our parents will be able to join us later this term.

Finally, we were amused to see that Selvon college held their Easter Egg hunt this week. Slightly behind schedule but where there's chocolate involved we appreciate that timing is not always the most important thing. There were lots of sweet-toothed participants combing South Wing Hall for rewards on Wednesday.

So, we are all very glad to be back, there's lots to look forward to this term. In the meantime we hope you all have a relaxing weekend and we'd specifically like to say 'Sameach Pesach!' to all of our Jewish families.



Student Mental Health & Well-being

Place2Be Online Talk - Wednesday 8th May 6.00pm

Fortismere will be hosting an online talk with Nu Robinson, one of our Place2Be school counsellors, on Wednesday 8th May from 6.00pm-7.00pm. Nu is a highly experienced counsellor and supports a huge number of our students with their mental health. She will be talking about what Place2Be offers in school, as well as providing some strategies for supporting your child at home. We want the session to be really useful

so we are giving parents the opportunity to submit questions in advance which will inform the content of the presentation. If you would like to attend, please complete the following form to book a place and to record your questions - [use this link](#). The form and any questions must be submitted by Friday 26th April.

Lunchtime Silent Space

Following on from discussions with the student mental health ambassadors, we will be trialling a silent space for students to use at lunchtimes. This will be available in LINC 8 every day for this half-term. Students may bring their lunch, but they must ensure that any rubbish is cleared up. They can meditate, read a book or sit and do some work but whatever they do, they must be in complete silence. We hope that this will provide a calm, safe space for our students who find lunchtime to be overwhelming. Please do let your child know if you think that they would benefit from this.

Ms Jones

Mental Health Lead

School Trips & Visits

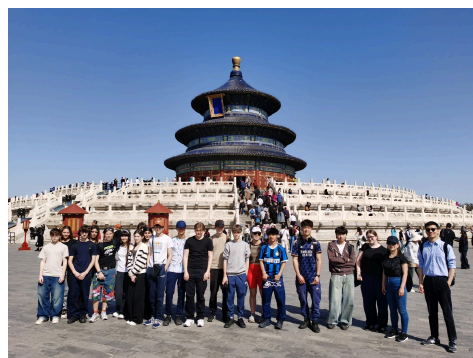
China Trip 2024

A group of 20 Year 10 Mandarin Excellence Programme students have recently returned from a two-week trip to Harbin and Beijing, China. Their visit was filled with cultural enrichment, exploration, and unforgettable memories. Students immersed themselves in Chinese culture through a variety of activities - including immersive experiences in Chinese martial arts, traditional Chinese painting, the art of calligraphy, and mastering the intricacies of Chinese cuisine through cooking classes.

Exploring the local treasures of Harbin and Beijing was a highlight of our trip. Students had the opportunity to visit renowned museums, the architectural wonder of the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, and explore the cutting-edge creativity of the 798 Art District. The beauty of the Temple of Heaven and the charm of the traditional Hutong alleys provided insight into China's rich cultural tapestry. Students were able to engage with local communities by visiting a local school, fostering cross-cultural understanding and friendship. One of the most memorable moments of our trip was the celebration assembly, where Fortismere proudly showcased its talent through a choir performance in Chinese, titled "Jamines." This joyous occasion highlighted the spirit of cultural exchange and collaboration that defines our school community.

Reflecting on our time in China, we are grateful for the invaluable experiences and friendships forged during this journey. Our students have returned home with a deeper appreciation for global diversity, a wealth of knowledge about Chinese culture, and cherished memories that will last a lifetime. Thank you to all the parents, carers and staff who supported and contributed to making this extraordinary adventure possible.

Mr Li



Year 12 Students Visit Strawberry Hill



It was an absolute delight to take Year 12 students who are studying gothic literature to visit [Strawberry Hill House](#) this week. Students enjoyed an extensive tour of Horace Walpole's 'Fairytale Castle' and participated in an academic lecture on the history of the Gothic. Notably staff made a point of commenting on how engaged and respectful all our students were.

Ms Doogan and Ms Coles

Student Extra Curricular Activities & Achievements

Chess Titles for Fortismere Brothers

Well done to the Badacsonyi brothers - Frankie and Stanley who over the last two months have achieved their first chess titles and are Candidate Masters (CM) having reached Standard FIDE ratings of 2200. They have also both been selected to represent England in the World Youth Chess Championships in Brazil in October 2024 - Stanley is the U16 invited player and Frankie is the U18 invited player. *This is a great achievement - well done to you both and good luck in Brazil.*

Growing Up Jewish Documentary

Year 8 student, Eve Walsham is part of a documentary on children having their bar or bat mitzvah. The documentary explores the significance of this Jewish rite of passage to a generation about to come of age. The film has a warm and celebratory tone and will be broadcast on BBC One on Weds 24 April at 10:40pm. *Well done Eve - we're really looking forward to watching the film.*

National Hockey Final

Year 9 student, Genevieve Castle captained her U14 Southgate hockey team to the National finals by winning their semi-final match last Sunday, 3-0. The finals will be held at the end of April and will be televised. *This is a great achievement - Good luck Genevieve and team Southgate!*



Extra Curricular Activities

Gimagine - German Language programme

Students at Fortismere School were amongst the first to trial the *Gimagine Award* which has now been fully launched on a self-learning online platform for students who would like to explore the German language. By taking part in this programme students can earn the Gimagine Award Certificate, issued by the Goethe-Institut London. The Gimagine Award is suitable for both beginners, as well as those who already have some knowledge of German, and could also be used by students as evidence for a skill for their Duke of Edinburgh Award. Students who would like to take part can register on the website by following [this link](#)

Viel Spaß beim Lernen!

Mr Lewis

Library Notices

Writing Competition

To celebrate their 50th anniversary, the Muswell Hill Children's Bookshop is launching a story writing competition for 8-15 year olds. The winners and runners up can win fabulous prizes. For rules etc, click this link [here](#)



Meet the Author!

Award winning YA author Candy Gourlay is at Finchley Church End Library on Saturday 4th May, 11am -12.30pm as part of the Barnet Libraries Literary Festival. Well worth a visit – free!



Tissues

The library has finally succumbed to inflation. Handy packs of 10 tissues (perfect for the summer cold/hayfever season) are now 15p, available from our stationery “shop”.



Carnegie Shadowing

The quality of some of the reviews that our Year 8 Carnegie shadowers are posting on the official website is stunning, and we love the way that they are not afraid to say how they feel about the books! Please take a look and admire <https://yotocarnegies.co.uk/reading-group/fortismere/> And if your Year 8 student would like to be involved, we still have some space – just email gward@fortismere.org.uk



Recommended Reads of the Week

April is Autism Awareness Month and we've been reading excerpts from Elle McNicoll's phenomenal "A Kind of Spark" and its just-published prequel "Keedie" in library lessons. Elle is neurodivergent herself; it was a

real treat for Mrs Ward to meet her in the holidays along with Georgia de Gidlow, the autistic actress who plays Keedie in the BBC adaptation of AKOS [watch here](#)

Here are some other books that are on our current AAM display in the library.



Music Department Notices

New Ensembles - Junior Wind & Junior Strings

The Music Department is setting up two new ensembles this term 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 in taking part is here: <https://forms.gle/YxMkpkF8GbS2P1zg8>

Free or Discounted Tickets - Community Choir & Orchestra Concert Saturday 27th April

Fortismere would like more students and staff to benefit from these brilliant concerts given by our community ensembles so we are offering students, staff and parents/carers free or discounted tickets! **All students can get a free ticket with code HARINGEYFREE and a parent/carer accompanying them can get a discounted ticket at just £5 with code HARINGEYADULT.**

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity, in St Andrew's Church as usual. Standard ticket prices are £13.00. Tickets for all concerts are available online from www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk.

School Concert Series - Thursday 2nd May at 6.00pm

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 just £5.00 from www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk.

Saturday Instrumental Lessons & School of Rock - Summer Term

A reminder that Saturday instrumental lessons and the School of Rock start again tomorrow, Saturday 20th April, (apart from Izabella Bako piano students who start on 27th April). It's not too late to sign up for

Saturday lessons this term - piano, drum, guitar, theory and cello available. Complete the [online form here](#) to enquire.

LINC Department Notices

Haringey SEND Updates

Local Offer Survey: Haringey would like your help to improve their Local Offer webpages. If you have 5 minutes to spare please [complete the survey here](#) to help shape the new website.

SEND Inspection Outcome: Haringey SEND services were recently inspected by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC), and are pleased to announce that they have been awarded the highest possible outcome for SEND services. You can read the [press release and Ofsted report here](#)

Mr Fari

Sport & PE Notices

Middlesex Cup Final Heartbreak

A fantastic season for our U18 senior boys team ended with a huge game on the final day of term when they played in the Middlesex Brigg Cup Final. Our boys played Northolt High School at Rectory Park and it was great to see that a number of staff and sixth form students had made the trip to support the boys. It was a tense first half, both teams evenly matched and clearly not wanting to give anything away. As Northolt began to impose themselves, we broke quickly on the counter attack and a fine finish from Charles Trezise-Bruce gave us the lead. A penalty save from the excellent Nassim kept us in front but Northolt did eventually draw level. During the second half both teams created chances, and Fortismere took the lead once again when Charles rounded the keeper. A late equaliser for Northolt sent us to penalties, which was probably the correct result on the day. Sadly penalties are a lottery and we didn't end up on the right side this time. A great cup run however, and the boys have been an absolute pleasure to watch this season. We wish all the Y13 students in the squad all the very best moving forward and we look forward to maybe going one better next season.



We would also like to thank **TL Motors Garages Cromwell Rd, Muswell Hill** for sponsoring our new 1st XI kit for the cup final. It looked fantastic and will be proudly worn for many years to come by our senior squads.

Competitions this Summer Term

Swimming Gala - Monday 13th May - Haringey Schools Swimming Gala - please see Ms Jackson if you are a swimmer at Club Level and would like to represent the school in this event.

London Youth Games Girls Basketball Representative Team for Haringey. Training is on Mondays at St Thomas More School 5 - 7 pm Under 16. We definitely have a few girls that should be aiming to represent the Haringey Team

Athletics - There will be a number of Athletics Competitions at the beginning of May. Please attend training on Thursdays after school so that we can get some teams sorted.

Cricket - The Cricket season is due to start very shortly. Training is on Thursdays in the nets in the Sports Hall for boys and girls. We have a number of fixtures and tournaments coming up for all year groups.

Tennis - We have entered teams into the LTA Regional Schools Competition. There will be a number of fixtures taking place over the next few months. Please come along to the tennis club at lunch times and after school on Mondays for Year 7 and 8 and Thursdays for Year 9 and 10.

Handball Club - We are very lucky to have forged links with a local Handball Club. Their Coaches are coming into school on Wednesdays after school from 3.20 - 4.20 pm to offer expert coaching. Everyone is welcome - please come along.

Volleyball club - Lots of you have been asking for a volleyball club. This is happening Tuesdays after school in South Wing Gym.

Netball - Our Netball Coach from AP Saints is continuing with the club on Mondays after school. This is open to all year groups. Please continue to come to the club to build on your skill and game play.

Rounders - Once the field is dry enough we will be able to start the rounders club on a Monday. The competitions will be at the beginning of next term. Please come to get ready to compete. We have held the Haringey title for many years.

Hockey - Mr Kay is continuing with his very successful Hockey Club on Tuesdays after school. New members are always welcome. Mr Kar will be leading the Haringey Team for the London Youth Games in June/July.

Badminton - Ms Bailey is continuing with our very popular Badminton Club on Tuesday after school, please feel free to come along and play. This is also available at lunchtimes.

Community Notice

Thank you TL Motors



A huge thank you to Enzo and his team at [TL Motors](#) (Cromwell Road N10 2PD) for sponsoring and supplying the Fortismere Senior boys team with a fantastic new football kit! We really appreciate this.



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