


School Leadership Messages	Contents				
<p>Social Media</p> <p>Concern regarding the use of social media among young people, particularly the 10-14 age group, is not new. However, nationally and locally there has been a recent increase in the negative impact of students' messaging via social media. Please can we ask that parents and carers ensure that your sons and daughters do not bring smartphones into school as that exacerbates the situation and is against the school's policy.</p> <p>Please could we also ask that parents and carers monitor messaging and where possible, use parental controls to restrict access to inappropriate sites.</p> <p>There will be an online parental engagement evening focused on social media after Easter.</p> <p>Top Achievement Points This Week</p> <p>A total of 2445 achievements points were awarded this week</p> <p>Well done to the following students who are the top scorers this week.</p> <p>Otis Andres-Bayliss Y9 Sinem Baksi Y9 Nicholas Chau Y9 Chloe Craig Y8 Baxter Davies Y9 Sarla Frahm Y9 Chloe Glover Y8 Ilgaz Guvendik Y9 Sam Kohler Y8 Julian Olleson Y9 Arla Osorio Malfitano John Y7 Goktay Tujen Y* Lora Vida Y8 Mia Wang Y7;</p>	<p>CoHeads' Weekly Roundup</p> <p>Parent Information Events</p> <p>Extra-Curricular & Clubs</p> <p>Department News & Notices</p> <p>LINC Department</p> <p>Easter Holiday Camps</p> <p>Safeguarding Information</p> <p>Calendar</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>20.03</td> <td>Y12 Parents' Evening</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21.03</td> <td>Music and Poetry Night</td> </tr> </table>	20.03	Y12 Parents' Evening	21.03	Music and Poetry Night
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	 <p>This year's theme Inspire Inclusion highlights the role of inclusion in achieving gender equality. Celebrate diversity and empowerment on IWD 2024 and beyond</p> <p>©Image https://rb.gv/9mcjv7</p>				



Co-Headteachers

Weekly Roundup

Happy International Women's Day to you all! We are fortunate at Fortismere that we have an active and inspirational FEMSOC (Feminist Society) who for quite a number of years have taken the lead in organising our International Women's Day event. It's one of our favourite events as we always leave moved, excited and inspired by the speeches and performances and this year was no exception. We are fortunate to have quite a unique level of musical talent at Fortismere and it was wonderful to hear our performers entertain us with musical covers alongside some beautiful compositions but also this year we were delighted to welcome back three Fortismere Alumni who were able to share their experiences: Eve Wersocki-Morris a celebrated children's author, Millie Newmarch a designer and Lilah Hyman from the Charity 'Women for Refugee Women' (The charity that all of the evening's proceeds will go to). We had contributions from our wider community including a parent, Rachel Morris who spoke engagingly about her career as a female engineer and Nancy Collins, a human rights lawyer who delivered some sobering stories about female clients who had suffered institutional abuse. Our audience gained a real sense of how women in our community have gone on to make a striking difference to the world. It was a truly special evening and we would like to extend our thanks and congratulations to Year 13 students and FEMSOC leads Sian Flannigan, Freya Bielby, Laney Harris and Lucy Hawkes who showed outstanding leadership and vision in putting together the event.

Year 13 were also treated to a visit from another strong woman this week as their Assembly was led by our local MP Catherine West. Catherine is a great supporter of Fortismere events. This week she came to talk to students about voting and the importance of using your voice when you have an opportunity. Many of our Year 13 students (if not all of them depending on when the general election takes place) will have the opportunity to cast their votes at the ballot box very soon. We were heartened by the fact that the group of Year 13 students who told us about the assembly all stated that they intended to use their vote. Our sixth form students will be given a number of opportunities this year to consider the forthcoming election with input from across the political spectrum.

It has in fact been a week of national events. Yesterday was World Book Day and today is World Maths Day. As is customary for World Book Day we have, alongside other members of staff, been to visit Year 7 and 8 students in their library lessons to read to them and share our personal literary favourites. It's a pleasure to share with our students the vital role reading has played in our lives and as always they were such great listeners. To celebrate World Maths Day we urge all of our students to prioritise their Maths homework this weekend!

The evenings are getting much brighter and the Fortismere daffodils are in bloom. We are edging towards Spring. Whatever the weather does this weekend we hope you are all able to enjoy a rest.

Parent Information Events

Drugs & Alcohol Online Information Event - Tuesday 12th March 6.30pm-7.30pm

Insight Platform is a Haringey service providing support to people in the community directly or indirectly affected by or at risk of substance misuse. Insight are running an online session aimed at Parents and Carers that wish to update their knowledge and understanding on the following:

- Current drug trends; Signs of drug use; Vape use
- Talking to your child about Drugs and Alcohol; Referrals to Insight and support in school

If you would like to attend this session, please complete the following Google form to register - [register here](#)

CAMHS Parents in Mind Group

We have been given details of a new parent support group starting in May 2024 for parents and carers of 11-16 year olds. To be eligible your child must be known to CAMHS either because they are awaiting an assessment or are awaiting treatment for the following symptoms - Anxiety, Depression, Self-harm and/or suicidality. This does not include PTSD, an eating disorder or significant learning disability.

For more information and to book a place call 020 8343 5705 or email parentsupport@mindeb.org.uk

Ms Harris

Pastoral Support Manager

Music Department Notices

School of Rock - Saturday 23rd March 11.00am NW Music Concert Hall

The first term of School of Rock has been a great success! Students will be giving an informal performance in the Music Concert Hall at 11am on the last Saturday of term, Saturday, 23rd March. All are welcome!

The first day of the summer term will be Saturday 20th April. We're sure lots of current students will decide to continue but some spaces might become free so sign up here if you are interested in joining School of Rock for the summer term: www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk/schoolofrock.

Concerts Coming Up

Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra concert Saturday 9th March St Andrews Church 7pm

Last chance to get your £12 tickets for the concert on Saturday! £15 on the day/on the door. Tickets for GCSE and A Level Music students are free. [Book tickets here](#)

Music & Poetry Night - Thursday, 21st March NW Music Concert Hall

The annual evening of music & poetry from students at Fortismere is nearly here! Tickets are available now [book here](#)

Fortismere Community Choir concert - Saturday 27th April St Andrew's Church 7 pm

A wonderful all-Mozart programme performed by Fortismere Community Choir and Symphony Orchestra. Mozart's beautiful Ave Verum Corpus, followed by his fifth Violin Concerto played by the orchestra leader Alexander Casson, will be the first half. Then the second half will be a performance of one of Mozart's best-loved works, the Requiem. Early Bird tickets £12 [Book tickets here](#)

Extra Curricular Clubs & Activities

New German Language Clubs - Tuesdays After School

Following our engagement with the Goethe-Institut's GIMAGINE programme. There will be the opportunity for students to have an introduction to German with Mr Lewis on **Tuesdays after school in N18**. This will be for students to pick up German without having previously studied the language.



Students with more experience with German are welcome to come to **N17 on Tuesdays** with Ms Dugdale who will be working with students who are at a GCSE level. The benefits of learning German are multiple see this link from the British-German Association [Why learn German?](#)

Mr Lewis

St Edmund Hall Oxford - 'Big Think' competition Y11-Y13

St Edmund Hall are running their annual 'Big Think' competition for UK state school pupils in Years 11-13. The questions have been specially designed to challenge students beyond their normal school curriculum and get them thinking 'big' about their subject and what it might be like to study it at university. To enter, students should record a video of 5 minutes or less presenting their arguments, research, evidence and opinions. Some of the questions are:



- Biochemistry - Do our genes define who we are?
- Chemistry - Last year's Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded for the discovery and synthesis of quantum dots. Why?
- English - Is Shakespeare better than Taylor Swift?
- History - Historians disagree all the time, so how can we trust what they write?
- Maths - Is maths created or discovered?
- Modern Languages - Is there such a thing as an untranslatable word?
- Psychology - Why don't people do what they know they should?

For full details of all the questions and how to enter please [see this link](#). The deadline to enter is 1st May
Mr Lewis

Careers & Work Related Learning Notices

The Pitch - Advertising Industry Related Competition

The Pitch is a competition that gives students the chance to learn how advertising works and get firsthand experience of working in the industry. Prizes include real-life opportunities for advertising work experience or internships with companies such as JD Sports, Goodstuff, Instagram, Channel 4 and more.

In teams of up to 4 (or as an individual) students will need to create an advertising concept and advert for JD Sports' 2024 Christmas advertising campaign including advertising assets and a supporting media plan. There will then be a shortlisting stage to identify the top 25 teams, who will then be invited to Instagram's Headquarters in London on 26th June to pitch their idea, (just like they do in the industry) to a panel of experts. All expenses will be covered. **To find out more see [The Pitch – Your Game Plan](#)**

Supporting documents for the competition are available from [this google drive link](#)

Careers Related Resources

A reminder that it is still **National Careers Week** and students can still access resources and presentations from the virtual careers fair via [this link](#)

Students can explore career options including apprenticeships and T levels via **Springpod** Once students have created an account they have access to a range of resources and free courses - [sign up here](#)

Mr Renner

Library Notices

Top Tips to Keep your Children Reading



Top Tip No: 20 Don't panic if your child reads the same book over and over again. Let's be honest - we've all done it!

World Book Day Week(s) in the Library

Thursday 7th March was World Book Day! Although we don't dress up at Fortismere (Mrs Ward's costume of choice would be Miss Trunchbull...) we still celebrate during the two weeks either side of the big day by inviting senior members of staff in to talk to students about their "reading journeys" and to prove that it's not just librarians who read books!

Ms Davey shared her love of the school library (Fortismere's library used to be in North Wing where the nursery is now) and detective stories and read to us from *Murder Most Unladylike* by Robin Stevens. Ms De Freitas took us on a trip through some of her favourite books – *Goodnight Mr Tom* (Michelle Magorian), *The Hunger Games* (Suzanne Collins), *I May Betray You* (Ruta Sepetys), *All Quiet on the Western Front* (Erich Maria Remarque), *My Brilliant Friend* (Elena Ferrante) and more.



We had some fascinating non-fiction from Mr Lewis with Charlie English's *The Book Smugglers of Timbuktu* – how archivists and librarians fought to save the city's ancient manuscripts from destruction at the hands of al Qaeda. Mr Hann steered us along the physics (and sci-fi) path from *Dr Who* to *Bill Bryson* and delighted us with some grisly gossip about Isaac Newton who was also, it turns out, a big bully (ask his "friend" Robert Hooke).



We heard about *The Borribles*, a rebellious community of small London outcasts (Michael di Larrabeiti) from Mr Watson who described how, as a child, he'd try to emulate their antics, catapults and all. Mr Fari talked about dyslexia and especially how audiobooks are a great way into the marvellous world of stories – we then had great fun listening to one of the opening chapters of *Harry Potter* (where the boa constrictor escapes)!



Author Visit

We are really privileged to have Dan Freedman as Fortismere's Patron of Reading – his sessions with our Year 7s have been interactive and engaging and we were lucky that he was able to fit in a visit to our library on Tuesday 5th March in between work with Liverpool Football Academy and Arsenal as well as trips to Devon during this World Book Day Week. He always has to remind our students (who ask every time what team he supports) that in his profession he has to remain neutral, but he always admits that his heart lies with AFC Ajax - perhaps only so he can show them his favourite goal of all time - [watch it here](#). After this visit he was interviewed by members of our Press Gang student newspaper team, so look out for the article in the next edition.



North London Book Festival

Make sure you have your tickets for the first Book Festival at Ally Pally. We have some discount codes: 50% off events in the Theatre use **NLBFCLOFF50** and 20% off events in the other spaces use **NLBFCLOFF20**

There will be events for children including Lemony Snicket (with the bookshop selling his beautiful new

collectors' edition reissues of the Series of Unfortunate Events books), Michael Rosen, Patience Agbabi, Jack Meggitt-Phillips, Eve Wersocki-Morris and more. There will also be plenty for adults, including big names like Natalie Haynes, Robin Ince, Costa-winner Stuart Turton, Erin Kelly, Jane Fallon and Peter Hain - but also some exciting debut writers including Leo Vardiashvili who featured on Front Row recently, Nadeine Asbali who will talk about her book *Veiled Threat*, a sharp and illuminating examination of what it is to be a visibly Muslim woman in modern Britain, and Jay Owens with *Dust: The Modern World in a Trillion Particles*, revealing the hidden consequences of environmental devastation caused by the relentless pursuit of profit and power. There will be panels ranging from conversations with parenting experts, to an exploration of creativity and AI with Robin Ince and Andy Stanton, to Kevin Morosky's conversation with Kelechi Okafor and other contributors to his book *Black Women Always*, plus a Night of Crime and Thrillers and workshops for children. Tickets are: [on sale here](#)



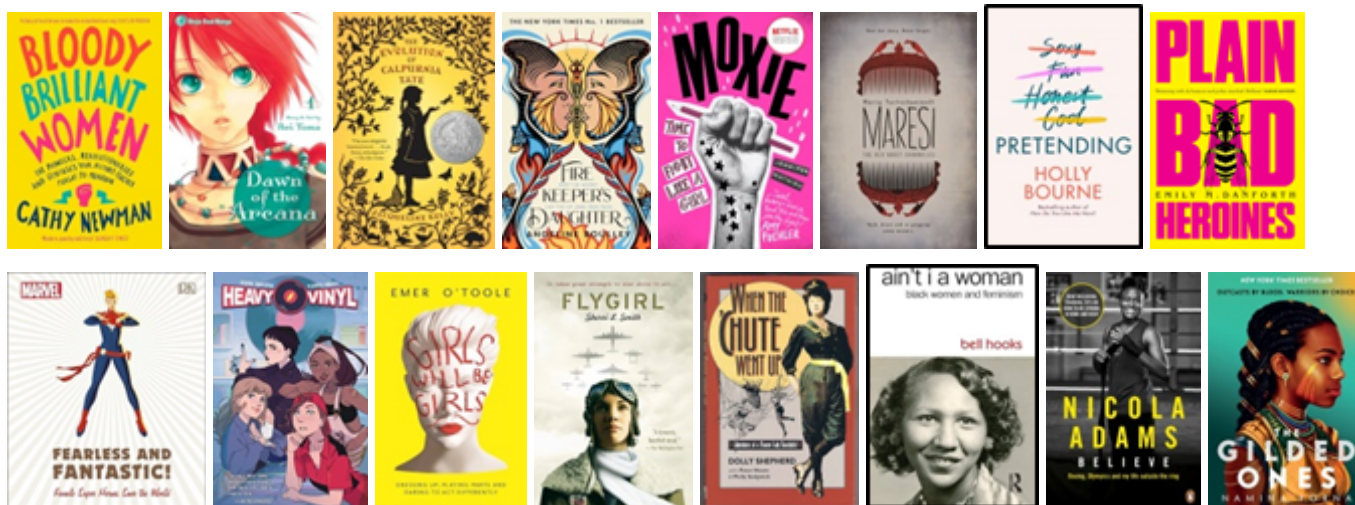
Highgate Library Launch

Join the celebrations from 2.00pm this Saturday 9th March at the launch of the newly refurbished Highgate Library (at the top of Shepherd's Hill). Brilliant children's authors Katie Tsang and Anna James will be there in conversation talking about their series "Dragon Realm" and "Pages and Co".



Recommended Reads of the Week

To celebrate International Women's Day on 8th March, find some books in our library by strong, powerful women about strong, powerful women. (Our favourite response to the question "Do you know any strong, powerful women?" is "My Mum"!)



Sport & PE Notices

Haringey Cricket London Youth Games

Well done to Genevieve, Mia, Eliz and Selin - they represented Haringey in the London Youth Games Girls U15/U13 Cricket Finals at the weekend. The Under 15s finished 3rd in London and the U13s are through to the final.



Badminton Club Friendly v Heartlands

Badminton Club is back on a Tuesday after school following a short break last term. Ms Bailey organised a friendly match v Heartlands last week. There were some great individual performances and team work in the doubles. Everyone involved really enjoyed the competition.

Year 8 Boys Friendly v Highgate School

The Year 8 Boys A & B Teams travelled to Highgate on Tuesday to play on what were some very wet and muddy pitches. I was very impressed with the team cohesion and excellent behaviour displayed by the B team. They went 1-nil down early in the game but were soon on the score sheet - the boys showed grit and determination in difficult playing conditions. Ilyan scored two as did his brother Elyas, Oscar scored early in the second half and JJ scored to make it 6-2.



The A team also played well on a tricky pitch - they performed well in the first half, but unfortunately there were some very talented players in the opposition team and they ended up losing 9-2.



These teams have two more games next week to finish off their league campaign.

Hockey U15 North London Boys Tournament

The boys travelled to Haberdashers School on Wednesday to compete in the U15 tournament - they played well in what was a very competitive field. James Davidson was man of the tournament as Goalkeeper - well done James.



Upcoming Fixtures

Monday 11th March	Year 8 Boys Football v Park View Away
Tuesday 12th March	Year 9/10 Girls Football Tournament at HWS Year 9 Boys Football v APS @ home
Wednesday 13th March	1st XI v Highgate Away Year 9/10 Girls Football v APS@ home
Thursday 14th March	Year 9 Boys Football v Harris Away Year 7 Boys Football v Woodside @ home
Friday 15th March	Year 8 Boys Football v APS @ home

LINC Notices

LINC Lunch Club Celebrate World Book Day

Students at the LINC Lunch Club celebrated World Book Day this week by discussing their favourite books. Students then made a list and voted for the most popular book. They enjoyed listening to an audiobook of Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban. And Ms Hudson even dressed up as a character from a book. Students tried to guess who - Sarah Stone was the winner and won herself a book. It was Miss Trunchball! Ms Hudson

Fortismere School Holiday Camps

Easter Holiday Camps - Booking Now!

Fortismere Holiday Camps are running during the two weeks of the 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

