fortismere

Transforming Lives Through Education

Newsletter: Friday 7th June 2024

School Leadership Messages

Smart phones in schools

There is a growing parent and school-led movement to re-think how young people access smart technology. Our local primary schools have introduced us to two interesting links that might interest our parents and carers. The first is an organisation promoting a <u>smartphone free childhood</u> and the other is a student-friendly (CBBC!) report on an interesting experiment underway in <u>St Albans.</u>

Updated Behaviour Policy

In light of changes from the DfE and as part of our regular updating of policies, we would like to offer parents and carers the opportunity to read our <u>Behaviour Policy</u>. The main changes are to be found in the appendices.

Top Positive Points

Well done to the following students who are our top positive points scorers this week.

Otis Andres-Bayliss Y9 Halimah Begum Y7 Nicholas Chau Y9 Lola Currie Y9 Evelyn Gormley Y8 Lilly Gubby Y10 Timothy Hill Y7 Taijun Morris Y8 Emilia Ostrowska Y9 Timofei Paraev Y8 Rory Thorburn Y8 Asya Uckun Y8 Arthur Whitmore Y9

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11.06	Parent/Carer Event: Understanding and Supporting ADHD 3.50pm in NW
06.07	Fortismere Summer Festival 12pm-6pm



The pots outside the library are attracting a wonderful array of bees and butterflies (and lots of admiring comments)

Co-Headteachers

Weekly Roundup

We are now in the final stretch of this academic year and it seems to have come round incredibly quickly. After the week's break our Y11 and Y13 students have got back into their stride very well as they continue to work through their examination schedules. It was clear from conversations with them that they had appreciated the intermission and many had used the time well, not just for academic preparation but also (more importantly) to take a wellbeing break and ensure that they are fully recharged for the final few exams. They are all doing brilliantly.

We have enjoyed waving Year 7 students off on their Geography trip to Kew Gardens this week. This trip is an annual event and we are grateful that the weather held out for our young Geographers. They have returned to school excited with their stories of beehives and butterflies and we understand that they represented Fortismere very well. We'd like to extend our thanks to our Geography department for organising this large scale trip. This week students have also taken a moment to reflect on the 80th Anniversary of the Normandy Landings in their tutorials and have been moved to learn more about the sacrifices made to ensure we are able to enjoy the freedoms that we do now.

Our Year 7 students are very much settled and thriving at Fortismere. We are now at the stage where we are looking forward to welcoming our next cohort of eager Year 7 students and there are a number of transition events taking place this half term. Our Year 7 team have been visiting our many primary feeder schools with Ms Brooks to meet students in order to share information that will prepare our Year 6 students for life at Fortismere. They will be onsite in the next few weeks to taste the secondary school experience in preparation for September.

So on that note we'd like to extend a welcome to our new parents and carers! From this week will be sending our Newsletter to the Year 6 families who will be joining us from September. We hope that you will get a flavour of the different events, activities and opportunities that take place at Fortismere on a regular basis. We also hope that this will support the transition of your sons and daughters from primary school to 'big school', highlighting how enjoyable secondary school can be.

So, we are back in full swing and looking forward to sunny weather at some point. Wishing you all a wonderful weekend!

School Fundraising Event

Summer Music Festival - Saturday 6th July 12.00pm-6.00pm

We'll share some more information next week about how you can get involved and support us as we prepare for our biggest fundraising event of the school year. This year we want to make it even more fun than normal as we are also celebrating Fortismere's 40th! Save the date and look our for more details next week.



LINC Department Notice

Parent/Carer Event on Understanding and Supporting ADHD - Tues 11th June 3.50pm NW

LINC are pleased to invite you to a Parent/Carer session on the topic of *Understanding and Supporting ADHD in young people*. The session will be delivered by the school's link educational psychologists and takes place on **Tuesday 11th June at 3:50-5:30pm in NW Music Hall**. The session has been prepared especially for Fortismere parents/carers and is open to all. If you are interested in attending, please email <u>lincadmin@fortismere.org.uk</u> with your details and the name of your child. It would be great to see you there. The feedback from previous similar events has been overwhelmingly positive and attendees have left feeling that they have gained insights and useful ideas. Mr Fari

FortisMind - Supporting Mental Health at Fortismere

Mental Health Awareness Week Competition Winner - Jamie Sanders

Mental Health Awareness week took place from 13th-19th May and we launched a student competition to support this year's theme - get moving to help with your mental health. Students were asked to engage in some physical activity, submit a photo and talk about how it made them feel and how it helped with their mental health. We had so many great entries and it was very difficult to pick a winner as they were all so brilliant! However, there was one entry that stood out due to the impressive nature of the photo. A huge congratulations to Jamie Sanders in Year 7 for this entry below!

Today I participated in an incredibly fun dance class (for two hours) as my activity for the competition. It was Contemporary and Street Dance, and I did it with a few of my friends from outside of Fortismere. This is a photo of me performing a common Street Dance move called the baby freeze.

Overall, the class was very enjoyable - even though it was difficult - and I felt very proud afterwards. We've just started a routine, and it's absolutely exhausting! Despite this, I'm very happy because I managed to get a solo, in which I perform the baby freeze, along with several other moves. It's a very energetic class, and I left feeling very pleased, tired and excited for next week! It definitely has a positive impact on my mental health, because not only am I taking part in a very fun sport, I get to interact with my best friends when doing it, which is what I particularly love about dance.



Physics Department News

British Physics Olympiad Year 10 Success

During lessons at the beginning of May every Y10 GCSE Physics student was entered into the British Physics Olympiad Junior Physics Challenge. This involved the completion of two online multiple choice quizzes designed to challenge students' ability to solve physics problems and to prepare them for future Physics Olympiad



competitions. The Challenges can take students all the way to representing Great Britain in the international competitions. Fortismere students performed really well. Our highest score came from Oscar Lundgaard with 73%. He received a gold certificate along with Thomas Banisar, Liam C, Julia Guerra, Isobel Elkan, George Bustin, Lilia McDonough and Gil Ellison. Silver certificates were achieved by a further 39 students, and bronze certificates were awarded to 50 students plus 2 commendations. Well done to all the students that competed. I hope to see this group of students taking on the Year 11 Intermediate Challenge next March. The questions are tough - here's a sample one for you below:

A brick of mass 3 kg is dropped from a height of 80 cm on to your foot. At what speed does it reach your foot? (g = 10 m/s2). A. 2 m/s. B. 3 m/s. C. 4 m/s. D. 5 m/s Mr Commons

Head of Physics

Library Notices

Top Tips to Keep your Children Reading

Create a positive reading routine. Read every single day, even if a couple of times a week you can only manage 5 minutes or a page instead of the recommended minimum of half an hour. You get through a book that way; you don't lose your place or forget what's going on in the story. It becomes a habit.

Carnegie Shadowing

It's getting close to the announcement of the winner of the Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing and our Year 8 shadowing group is looking forward to seeing which of the outstanding books on the shortlist is going to take the prize. We'll be finding out on 20th June when the library will be closed during Period 4 and lunchtime for our annual party when we watch the award ceremony streamed live from the Cambridge Theatre (and eat party food!) In the meantime, you can take a look at some of our reviews <u>here</u>

Jobs in Football

The next visit of our Patron of Reading, Dan Freedman, is on Tuesday 9th July. He'll be talking to students in Years 8, 9 and 10 about his latest book, "50 Ways Into Football: Dream Jobs On and Off the Pitch", co-written with the sports lawyer Daniel Geey. Dan is looking forward to answering questions and giving our students some alternative ideas about future careers. If you think your child would be interested in this, contact <u>gward@fortismere.org.uk</u> to go on the invitation list!



Recommended Reads of the Week

You will have seen the moving news coverage of the 80th anniversary of D-Day, the Normandy Landings, this week. Here are a few of the books set in World War II in our library.







Sport & PE Notices

Tennis News

Well done to Leni, Emmy, Ava and Alexandra who beat St Anne's on Tuesday afternoon in a very close match - it ended in a super tie break which Fortismere won 7-1! There were also some tough games against APS which unfortunately Fortismere lost 10-4 but great effort by all involved. The boys team travelled all the way to St Benedicts School on Tuesday in what was also a very close match but sadly they lost this one great effort from all the boys.

Cricket News

The Year 8 boys team travelled to John Lyon School before half term to play in The Middlesex Cup. Unfortunately they lost but it was a fantastic effort by all and a great show of good sportsmanship and teamwork.

Middlesex Schools Athletics Championships

Good luck to our students who are taking part in the Middlesex Athletics Championships at Lea Valley on Saturday - Elkie Baker, Amy Kirk, Ivy Gray, Jessica Lappin, Melissa Asare, Isabella Doku, Jake Lazerus, Julian Oleson, Ramsey Quidden.

London Youth Games

Good luck to the Fortismere students representing Haringey over the next month or so in the London Youth Games. This weekend we have Girls Football and Indoor Rowing competitions.

Good Luck Aviana

Year 8 student Aviana Petrou was recently on the television (on the BBC) representing Finchley ABC Boxing Club. Aviana has just completed all six skills bouts and on 15th June she will be having her first competitive bout. Wishing you the best of luck Aviana!















Upcoming Fixtures

Saturday 8th June	Middlesex Schools Athletics Championship - Lea Valley 9 am
Monday 10th June	Year 7/8 Boys Tennis v John Lyon Away 2pm start
Tuesday 11th June	Year 7/8 Girls and Boys Haringey Schools Athletics Competition, Haringey Hockey Tournament Primary Schools Year 5 & 6 at Southgate Hockey Club
Wednesday 12th June	Year 9/10 Cricket v Christs College Away 3 pm start

Sports Day - Dates for your diary

- Year 7 and Year 9 Tuesday 16th July
- Year 8 and Year 10 Wednesday 17th July

School Fundraising

Donations by Direct Debit

Direct Debit is a convenient way to set up a regular donation to support the school. Support from our families is invaluable and will make a real difference to our students. Use the following link to **set up a direct debit** and ensure you select Bacs Direct Debit as your payment method: <u>Set up a Monthly Direct Debit</u> You can also arrange a regular monthly payment or make a one-off donation via our school website: <u>See this page</u> Thank you for your support

Ms Demetriou

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 <u>link</u> 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	Ms Williams kwilliams@fortismere.org.uk
Year 11	Ms Boot aboot@fortismere.org.uk

