



Newsletter for Parents and Carers

Week beginning: 19/06/17 Wk 1

[Message from Mrs Helen Glass](#)

[Message from Ms Cara Williams, Chair of Resources Committee](#)

[School Lock-Down Practice](#)

[Cake Sale in aid of Grenfell Tower Fire Victims, 19th June](#)

[Year 12 Philosophy Competition](#)

[Music Tech Club](#)

[Ephesus Focus Day](#)

[Chess Club](#)

[Music Notes](#)

[A Level Art and Photography Exhibition](#)

[Under 15 Girls' Cricket](#)

[Year 7 Athletics](#)

[Ephesus Rainbow Run for Noah's Ark](#)

[London Youth Games](#)

[Facilities and Lettings](#)

[Careers Information](#)

[Reminders from the Admin Team](#)

[From the Library](#)

[Opportunity to Audition for a Film](#)

[Destination East Finchley](#)

[FSA News](#)

Message from Mrs Helen Glass, Headteacher

So sad to see more tragedy in the news this week, with the terrible fire in West London. Our thoughts are with all the families affected, and the emergency services who responded so courageously. Amidst the sadness, it has been heartening to see the wonderful response from the local community and further afield. I think we have all been touched by the harrowing images and want to do all we can. Some of our own students have responded and will be raising money for the victims – more information below.

For us, the week has seen the continuation of exams for some and normal lessons for others. It was good to welcome back Year 12s following their study leave.

Next week, we start the Fortismere cycle again when we welcome September's Year 7s to a Transition Day, giving them a taste of secondary school life. There is always palpable excitement in the air on Transition Days (and not a few nerves) as students prepare for their next adventure. We look forward to welcoming them!

On Thursday, we are holding the A-Level Art Exhibition which I would highly recommend – it's always great to see our students' talent and creativity on display. I do hope that you can come along to see the fruits of all their hard work.

In the meantime, have a lovely weekend.

Message from Ms Cara Williams, Chair of Resources Committee (Fortismere Governing Body)

I am writing to you again on the issue of funding for Fortismere School.

As many you will be aware the crisis in schools funding is continuing, and it is unclear what the General Election result may mean for the future. Our income is falling in real terms whilst we face increasing costs, particularly from National Insurance and pension contributions for teachers.

We are currently finalising the budget for next year, and it is clear that once more we face a shortfall of funds. We are making every attempt to save money in non-teaching and learning areas but this is becoming increasingly difficult.

We are very grateful to the many parents who have contributed generously to the school – your help has allowed us to buy resources for lessons, including Science and DT equipment as well as text books.

If you are able to increase your contribution or donate for the first time, it would be much appreciated by staff, students and governors and will help us to continue providing the excellent education at Fortismere that we all value.

Thank you.

School Lock-Down Practice – Mr Egunjobi, Business Manager

Given the current terror threat, and in light of best practice, we are planning to drill our Lock-Down procedure towards the end of next week. The procedure – with which all staff are familiar – is designed to a) alert staff to what is happening, b) ensure that all students are kept safe indoors and c) facilitate any necessary searches by the emergency services. It is not our intention to disrupt or worry students, but we are sure you will agree that it is important to be prepared and ensure that our school community is ready to respond should it ever be faced with such a scenario.

Cake Sale in aid of Grenfell Tower Fire Victims, 19th June – Ms S Sullivan, Teacher of History & Ms Bhabra, Teacher of DT

C1 and C4 will be holding a Cake Sale for those affected by the Grenfell Tower fire. It will take place this Monday 19th June, during break and lunchtime, outside the Library. All donations welcome!

Year 12 Philosophy Competition – Ms Kaye, Teacher of Wellbeing and Philosophy

Students who wish to compete in the Birkbeck University Philosophy Essay Competition should see Ms Kaye asap for an entry form. The title of this year's essay is "Is morality relative?" Past entries to this competition from Fortismere students have received very positive feedback. The Philosophy Department encourages all Year 12 students of philosophy and any other interested Year 12s to participate. We look forward to hearing from you!

Music Tech Club – Mr Lavelle, Teacher of Music

I am running a Music Technology Club every Monday lunchtime in MU4 in the Music Block. The idea behind the club is to allow students to use our incredible music technology facilities (2 studios and Mac suites with Logic Pro) to create their own music in any style they would like. There are currently around 10 places left for anyone who is interested in rapping, singing, songwriting, music production or sound engineering. If your child would like to come along, please email me (nlavelle@fortismere.org.uk) or they can just turn up next Monday! Poster attached.

Ephesus Focus Day – Ms K Williams, Head of Ephesus

A reminder to parents that the deadline for payment is Friday 23rd June. Any payments not received by this date will mean your child will not be able to attend the trip. Students will be expected at school as normal on the day if they are not attending.

Chess Club – Mr Renner, Head of Business Studies & Economics

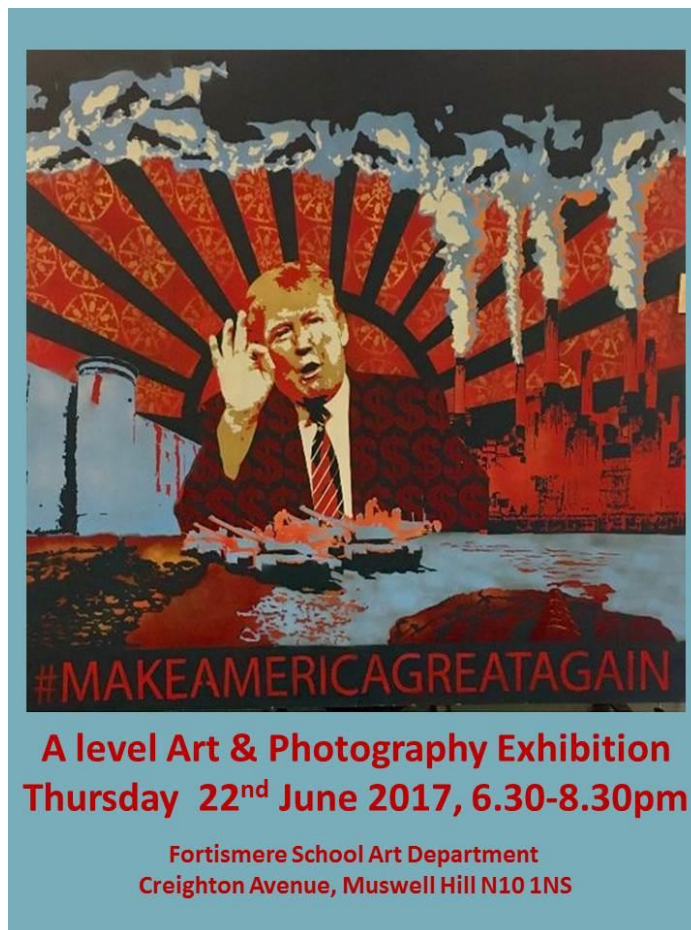
Chess Club resumes on 23rd June in Room 13T1. Everyone welcome.

Music Notes

1. Orchestra has been rehearsing on Mondays 3.30-4pm in the Music Hall, North Wing since half term. Orchestral players should attend please as we are already preparing for the Christmas Concert!
 2. Year 7-8 Choir is rehearsing every Friday lunchtime 12.30-1pm in Mu1 – please bring a packed lunch to eat in the music room.
 3. Fortitude: there are still places for students to perform in the music slot on the stage at the summer fair on Saturday 1st July – please see Ms Ogilby for information.
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A Level Art and Photography Exhibition – Ms Powell, Head of Art

Please come to the A Level exhibition on Thursday 22nd June, 6.30pm-8.30pm to celebrate the work produced by our Art and Photography students. There are refreshments, speeches and prizes for some of our outstanding Year 13 students.



Under 15 Girls' Cricket – Ms Vangucci, Teacher of PE

Congratulations to the Under 15 Girls' Cricket team who have qualified for the Middlesex Hardball Finals in July!



Year 7 Athletics – Ms Vangucci

Well done to the year 7's that took part in the Haringey Athletics Cup on Wednesday - we had some excellent winning Performances! The girls came 3rd overall. Congratulations!



Ephesus Rainbow Run for Noah's Ark – Ms K Williams & the Ephesus Students

Some of your lovely children have agreed to join me on the rainbow run at Allianz Park on Sunday 25th June to help raise money for our College charity, Noah's Ark Hospice. We are still looking for more recruits, so please feel free to sign up along with us!

To register please visit www.noahsarkhospice.org.uk: it's a really fun event for a fantastic cause! You will find all the information you need on the website. I will be there along with some other wonderful teachers to meet the students. Please note that students will need to make their own way there and back.

If you would like to sponsor us, we have a joint fundraising page to help us reach our £500 target. Please visit www.justgiving.com/ephesus - every little helps! Thank you !

London Youth Games – Mr Cox, Head of PE

Haringey are looking for students who can sail to try and form a team for the London Youth Games. If your child does sail regularly please contact Mr Cox at school for more information (scox@fortismere.org.uk). The competition will take place on 24th June.

Careers Information – Ms Phillips, Careers Advisor

There will be lots of information and support available when students receive their exam results over the Summer:

I will be available on both Results Days (GCSE & A-Level) to assist students should they not achieve predicted grades to take up chosen University courses or A-Level/BTEC courses. I will be based in the LINC Building (ground floor opposite the Learning Mentors' office) to see students and parents/carers to talk over next steps if students do not obtain necessary entry requirements.

Haringey Early Help and Prevention Service is offering a GCSE Results Day Drop-In service on Thursday 24th August at Wood Green Library from 10am to 4pm. Advice and guidance on next steps will be available to Year 11 students. The Drop-In will be found on the second floor of the Library (High Road, Wood Green, N22 6XD).

There is lots of information being added to our website all the time about open days and opportunities that might be of interest to our students, so don't forget to take a look!

Reminders from the Admin Team

Student Absences/Appointment: please remember to report your child's absence due to sickness before 8.35am by calling 020 8365 4429 or email attendance@fortismere.org.uk and copy in your child's Form Tutor. (Please note that absence known in advance should be made via the Leave of Absence request form, available on our [website](#)).

Lost Property: ideally, label your child's possessions so that if they do get mislaid, they can be returned. Alternatively, don't forget to regularly check Lost Property in both Wings for missing items.

Access to Site: to support our Safeguarding, parents/carers/visitors will not be allowed onto the school site unless they have an appointment about which the office has been informed in advance.

From the Library

We took a Year 9 class to Muswell Hill library on Monday 12th June to meet author Nicci Cloke. Nicci is the author of adult fiction, but she has also written two excellent (recommended) books for young adults called *Follow Me Back* and *Close Your Eyes*. We tend to find that Year 9s would rather do anything than participate in front of each other (far too cool for that!) but Nicci got them working on different scenarios that got them thinking about social media and its advantages/dangers. Some very perceptive ideas and comments ensued. This visit to our local library was the last of our YA Shot visits to Muswell Hill Library (<http://yashot.co.uk/>); we'd like to thank the staff of the library for their generous welcome and lovely space. It has been great introducing (re-introducing) some of our students to this excellent local facility.

A reminder that the library will be closed at lunchtime on Monday whilst we have our Red Carpet party for our Carnegie Shadowers. We will hopefully be watching a live screening of the award ceremony and find out if the judges agree with us <http://bit.ly/1Qp8ckW>

Sita Brahmachari, our previous Patron of Reading, will be working with some of our students on World Refugee Day on 20th June. Read this <http://bit.ly/2sae51J> which she wrote for the first Empathy Day on 13th June – and get your students to have a look at the display in the library.

We are currently doing STAR reading tests with all our Year 9 students. We're pointing out to them that GCSE texts are a lot denser than they may be used to (and not just for English). We tell them that the best way to improve their comprehension skills is to read more and exercise their brains. Sometimes they don't believe us! Show them this! <http://bit.ly/2rrpUU2>

The winner of the Orange Prize for Women's Fiction is *The Power* by Naomi Alderman, so this is the book we'll be discussing over Pimms at our last CoverUp meeting of this school year (Thursday 13th July, 7pm, library).

Recommended Read of the Week

Anything by Holly Bourne. Your children will recognise themselves and people they know in her books. I especially love *The Manifesto on How to be Interesting* and the books in the Spinster Club series are excellent. A great feminist angle and suitable for both sexes

Opportunity to Audition for a Film – Ms Overs, Head of Drama

We've been contacted by casting company who are looking to audition students for a forthcoming feature film. Please see the flyer attached. They will be open auditions and if your child is interested (they don't need to be Drama students), please contact the company direct.

Destination East Finchley

Destination East Finchley, a Lottery-funded community project led by Martin Primary School, is inviting all parents and children to come to their story-telling tent at the East Finchley Festival on Sunday 25th June 12pm – 6pm. Come and tell us your story about how you have come to live and work in East Finchley!



There will be a map of the world and the UK where you can mark your place of origin as well as an evolving exhibition of postcards that will be created by visitors to the tent. There will also be an exhibition of Martin's children's poems, and artworks on the meaning of 'home', as well as interviews with local residents and business owners.

We would love to hear about you and your families' journeys to N2. Come and be part of this wonderful project about migration, diversity and commonality in culture, celebrating the community of East Finchley.

Follow us on twitter and Facebook @DestinationN2, www.facebook.com/DestinationN2 .






FSA News

Fortitude Summer Fair – Saturday 1st of July 12-6pm (only two weeks left!!)

We now only have 2 weekends left to get everything done, eek!!!!

And there's still a lot to do...

Please clear your calendars and volunteer, go through your cupboards for donations for the vintage stall and booze tombola, dust off your recipe books and bake a cake for the Cake off or quiche for the salad stall.

How you can help	Detail	Contact
Volunteer		
	<p>To make this day a success we will need an army of volunteers! – Please choose your slot and email Kirsty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Set up 9am – 12pm b) 12.00pm – 2pm c) 2pm – 4pm d) 4pm – 6pm e) Clear up 6pm – 7pm 	markskirsty@gmail.com
Booze Tombola		
	<p>There are 2 ways you can drop off your donations: either give to Maria who will be at the Sunday Market each Sunday or drop off at Anna's home – 15 Leaside Avenue, N10 3BT</p>	amthirlwall@googlemail.com
Cake – Cake Off -Stall		
	<p>We will be having a Cake off Competition, judging at 1pm on Saturday – chance to win a signed copy of Lisa Faulkner's book 'Tea and Cake' – please contact Rani if you will be able to bake – drop off on the Friday night at 15 Grand Avenue or on the day</p>	ranijowett@gmail.com
Salad & Quiche Stall		
	<p>The ever-popular Salad Bar will once again return to Fortitude, which means we're on the look out for kind volunteers to bring in salads and/or home-made/deli-style quiches on the day of the event. If you are able to help in this way or just want a bit more info on what's involved, we'd love to hear from you contact Mary</p>	lukeandmary@blueyonder.co.uk
Vintage Stall		
	<p>We need your donations! Any vintage / interesting clothing lurking at the back of your wardrobe, teen clothes? Donations to Maria at the Sunday Market or ask your child to drop donations off at the library please</p>	mariademetriou70@hotmail.co.uk