


Friday 15th September 2023

School Leadership Messages	Contents		
<p>A New Year at Fortismere - The Co-Heads' presentation</p> <p>Thank you to the many parents and carers who put up with the 30 minute delay to the start of the Co-Heads' presentation on Tuesday evening. We know that there are those who were unable to log on on the day and so we have put the link on the website and it is also available here.</p> <p>We are also keen to receive feedback on the information in the presentation so if you would like to let us know your response after watching the presentation please email this to: communications@fortismere.org.uk</p> <p>SIMS update</p> <p>We are currently trialling the parent App in school and are planning to have it fully operational by next week. SIMs will email parents and carers log in details when we are ready to go so please look out for any communication for them.</p> <p>X (Formerly known as Twitter)</p> <p>We would like to remind parents that we do have a school X account. The address is @Fortismere_Sch</p> <p>We plan to use this account more widely this year to communicate news and events so would encourage parents who find social media a preferable communication method to follow us and make us one of your favourites!</p> <p>We have plans to launch a new instagram account very soon for those parents who prefer that platform. Watch this space!</p>	CoHeadteachers' Message		
	Departmental News & Notices		
	Safeguarding Contacts		
	Community Events		
	Calendar		
	27.09	Fortismere Y6 Open Afternoon 4.00-6.30pm	
	27.09	Early closure for all students: 1.00pm	
28.09	Late start for all students: 9.40am for Period 2		
			
Shanah tovah u'metukah			

Co-Headteachers

Weekly Roundup

The highlight of the Co-Heads' week was the presentation on Tuesday at 6.30pm (scheduled for 6pm!). We were very excited to be able to let parents and carers know what we will be doing as a school in response to the Pastoral Review (and thank you to the many who participated in the survey last year). We were impressed by how many accessed the YouTube live stream (a new approach for us as a school and not without its teething problems!). We have already received a number of positive responses via the communications inbox (address above). The responses also gave some useful observations that we have begun to incorporate. We believe that parents and carers who were unable to join us for the live stream would find the recording useful. We are also very keen to receive feedback so please make use of that inbox.

Teething problems weren't confined to YouTube live streams. As you are aware, we have adopted a new Management Information System (SIMs) and some of this term's tweaks to the timetable resulted in some changes for a small number of staff and students. We took the decision that in order to make sure that everyone knows where to be and when, we would reissue all the time tables yesterday morning. Now that timetables are fully operational, we are working on the parents/carers interface with SIMs. This should all be complete by next week.

We are all relieved that the weather has become more seasonal and the students are more comfortable making full use of our outside space now that it's cooler. The wing bases are well used at lunchtime and are developing distinct characters. It is lovely seeing KS3 together at the front of the South Wing and using the Picnic tables, bought with money donated by the parents, that are now outside the back of the Science block. KS4 have definitely taken to the North Wing as their lunchtime space. It is rapidly taking on the atmosphere of the 'Upper School'. Tetherdown has always been the base for KS5 but the 6th form students are delighted that students from other year groups are not trying to use their space. All our students still mingle at break time and the Houses, which have replaced the colleges, give opportunities for a more vertical way of interacting. In addition, Ms Brooks is currently organising the extra-curricular opportunities, from Latin and chess to cross country running. These will also give opportunities for students to mix with other classes and year groups.

The weather looks like it should hold for the weekend and we wish all our Jewish families 'Shanah tovah'. For those of you following the Rugby World Cup, we hope you have an exciting weekend watching the scheduled matches.

LINC Department Notices

LINC Breakfast Club

Linc, the Learning Inclusion Centre, will be offering a Breakfast Club on Monday to Fridays from 8am-8:30am. This will provide an opportunity for students to use the computers and do independent work, with some adult support. There will also be a range of Interventions that students will be able to complete individually including: TTRS (touch type read spell programme); IDL Numeracy and Literacy programmes; Mathswatch; Lexia Literacy; Common-Lit English

Please note that there are limited spaces available. If you would like your child to attend please email Lincadmin@fortismere.org.uk with your child's name, year group and the day(s) required.

Mrs Hudson

LINC Lunch Club

Linc also runs a daily Lunch Club - any Linc students can drop-in to room Linc 4 (ground floor of sixth form building) from 1.00pm-1.35pm for a range of different activities on Monday to Fridays. This week lunch club students celebrated Roald Dahl Day - they listened to *The Magic Finger*, watched film clips, discussed the books and did colouring and word search activities.

Mrs Hudson
HLTA/Keyworker

SEND Haringey - Pathways to Employment Event - 11th October 1.30-3.30pm, N17 8HR

SEND Haringey are running a Pathways to Employment Event for young people with special educational needs and disabilities from Year 9 and above but families of younger children are also encouraged to attend to learn more about supporting their children's future employment transition. The event is suitable for young people with and without an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). You can contact Lucy Edwards at lucy1.edwards@haringey.gov.uk with any questions about the event .

Join the event to explore and meet:

- Haringey Council's Supported Internship program and other local opportunities
- Specialist Employment Advisor for Learning Disabilities & Autism – Haringey Works
- Apprenticeship Employment Advisor – Haringey Works.
- Routes into employment for young people with SEND.
- Workplace support, Access to Work, and reasonable adjustments.
- Meet providers of disability-specific employment schemes.

Date: Wednesday, 11th October 2023 **Time:** 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Location: Haringey Sixth Form College, 120 White Hart Lane, Tottenham, N17 8HR

Details and Booking information: Via Eventbrite [see here](#)

Extra-Curricular and Clubs

Latin Club - Wednesdays & Thursdays after school

Fortismere runs a popular after-school club with classes ranging from beginners to GCSE. A reminder that new weekly classes for beginners start next week on **Weds 20th and Thurs 21st September in room S28** after school. There is a choice of Wednesday or Thursday - students are not expected to attend classes on both days. If students are uncertain whether they will like Latin, it's fine to come along to try it out before deciding whether to continue. For more information or to register for one of the new beginners' classes please contact Pat Dugdale at pdugdale@fortismere.school or students can simply come along next week.

Careers & Work Related Learning Notices

Welcome From the Careers Team

Fortismere is committed to providing a programme of Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) to all students that will inspire and motivate them to become confident self-managers of their own future career pathways. Part of that programme involves sharing updates on careers and work related learning opportunities - we will do this via the Newsletter and the website

The Fortismere Careers Team (working also with the Sixth Form team) consists of:

Careers Advisor	Ms Andreou	aandreou@fortismere.org.uk
Careers Lead	Mr Renner	mrenner@fortismere.org.uk
Head of PHSE	Ms Kaye	akaye@fortismere.org.uk

Upcoming Opportunities

Please see below details of events over the next few weeks. Early booking is recommended as these are popular events.

NHS/Medical:

- NHS Careers in Medicine 27th September 2023: 16:30-18:00 Online via Zoom - [book here](#)
- Careers in Digital Healthcare 19th October 2023: 16:30-18:00 Online via Zoom - [book here](#)
- Volunteer at North Middlesex Hospital - [see here for more info](#)

Sixth Form students:

- Career Compass offer a range of free programmes to improve sixth form students' employability - [see here](#) for more details of the current programmes
- Empowered females in STEM programme: a 4-month programme free of charge launching in November 2023 in London - [apply here by 29/09/23](#)
- USA College Day 23rd & 24th September is Europe's largest US university fair and an ideal way to learn about studying for an undergraduate degree in America - [more details and register here](#)

Careers Fairs:

- [London Film & TV Job Fair](#) 20th September, 11.00am-6:00pm, Location, SE1 7RY
- [London Job Show](#) 13th & 14th October, Location: Westfield, W12
- [London Careers Fair](#) 10th November, Location: Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, N17 0BX
- [Skills London](#) 24th & 25th November, 9:30am-4:00pm, Location: ExCeL London

Year 7 Notices

Year 7 Common Room

We are relaunching our Y7 Common Room this half term - this is a lunch space exclusively reserved for Year 7s. A member of staff is always there on duty along with some Y12 volunteers. It is a place where Y7 students can gather together, play games, read and get to know each other. We would like to develop the resources available for this space. If you can donate any of the following items (in good condition and year 7 friendly), it would be greatly appreciated: Books and magazines, Games including board games and Art/crafts materials (coloured pencils, art paper, jewellery making kits, sewing/embroidery kits etc). Your child can leave any donations in the SW/NW Office. Many thanks for your support and generosity!

Ms Fox

Head Year 7

Library Notices

Top Tips To Keep Your Children Reading



Oh, if only we had £1 for every time we heard, “I know it’s important, but I just can’t get my child to read”! Over the next few weeks, we’ll be sharing some ideas to help you encourage your reluctant reader to get engrossed in a good book. **Top Tip 1: Keep an open mind on your children’s reading choices.** If they want to read horror or romance, let them try it. If they want to read a book with tough vocabulary or grown up ideas, let them give it go; children are adept at self-censoring. The same applies with graphic novels and manga – there are some great ones out there and yes, a comic book IS a real book!

Library Opening Hours

Our usual opening hours are 8am until 5pm. Due to staff shortages, we are currently closing the library at 4.00pm on Thursdays and Fridays only. We know this impacts especially on our 6th formers, and also our younger students who enjoy getting their homework done before leaving (and also reading and socialising!) so we hope to be back to normal soon. We will let you know.



Othello Live!

The National Theatre’s critically acclaimed “Othello” is being streamed live on YouTube, on Thursday 19th October, 7pm. An important date for your diary

[▶ Othello | Watch for Free | National Theatre at Home | Full Performance](#)



Library Catalogue

You can enjoy browsing our library catalogue at home via the school website:

[Student tab – Useful Links for Students – Library](#) This will be especially useful to our newest students who are probably used to books being shelved by genre (if they actually had a library at all...)

Accessit ➤

Recommended Reads of the Week

Starting a new school or moving tutor groups will involve new and different friends – here are some books where friendships figure strongly...one way or another.





PE & Sports News

A Busy First Week

It's been a very busy week of trials and clubs starting up - if you couldn't make it, for any reason, you are more than welcome to start attending the clubs from next week. We just want to see as many of you taking part as possible. We have had to make a few changes to the Extra Curricular Timetable so please see the revised copy attached.

Gymnastics Club - Sign up and information sheet attached to the newsletter.

Step Into Dance - Mondays after school - starts 18th September in South Wing Gym - all welcome.

Cricket Club (Girls) Thursdays after school - starts Thurs 21st September.

Senior Netball - Thursdays after school.

A Winning Summer for Fortismere Athletes

The summer break didn't stop winning performances from some of our talented athletes. Congratulations to Elkie Baker Y10, who won gold in the U15 Girls Discus at the South of England Championships with a personal best of 37.16m - almost 5m further than the next athlete! She also had a win in the U15 Girls Discus representing Middlesex in the Southern Inter-Counties Championships and a silver medal at the England Athletics National U15/U17 Championships held at the Alexander Stadium in Birmingham. Well done also to Amy Kirk and Jessica Lappin who took part in the Middlesex AA Road Relays at Minet Park recently with Amy receiving a gold medal as part of the winning U15 Girls Team and also running the 2nd fastest leg time. Amy will be competing later this month at the Southern Road Relays in Aldershot.



Upcoming Fixtures

Monday 18th September - Year 7 A & B Football v Latymer. Away - meet straight after registration.

Tuesday 19th September - Year 8 A & B Football v Latymer. Away- meet straight after registration.

Tuesday 26th September - Haringey Cross Country Championships - qualifier for London Mini Marathon.

Community Events & Information

Muswell Hill Bowls Club - Comedy Night 23rd September 2023 7pm at Fortismere School

A sensational night of comedy to raise money for Muswell Hill Bowls Club starring Milton Jones, Angela Barnes and Jonny Awsum with Mark Maier as host. The event is taking place at Fortismere School, South Wing. Tickets cost £25 from [wegottickets.com](https://www.wegottickets.com)

Safeguarding at Fortismere

Safeguarding Contacts

If you wish to speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Ms Sullivan) about any safeguarding matters or concerns please email safetalk@fortismere.org.uk alternatively contact your child's Tutor or 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