

## Co-Headteachers' Weekly Roundup

We are gearing up for exam season again at Fortismere and currently our Year 10 students have been engaged in their first set of GCSE mock examinations. Although we hold Year 10 examinations every year, we are always aware that this is the first time that the students have been routinely assessed on such a significant scale. It is great practice for the students not just in terms of preparation and understanding how to revise, but also from an organisational viewpoint. Co-ordinating 270 students to sit an exam is quite an endeavour. Our current Year 10 have on the whole impressed staff involved in co-ordinating the exams and the sessions have certainly given students the opportunity to learn about how to effectively manage and conduct themselves over an extended period.

This week we'd like to celebrate the wonderful 'Just Give' event that took place after school on Tuesday evening. The final event in the 'Just Give' calendar sees the most successful Year 7 teams who have been working on local charity fundraising activities present their work to a panel of judges. The standard of presentation was exceptionally high this year and it was evident that the current Year 7 had excelled themselves as fundraisers. Hearty congratulations must go not only to the winning team but also each and every team who made it through to the final. There is no doubt that the 'Just Give' programme provides a wonderful opportunity for our students to showcase not only their fundraising efforts but also their creativity and drive. Thank you to Mr Strathdene, Ms Arrowsmith and Ms Paul for their involvement in supporting and preparing the students for this event.

On Monday our Year 8 and 9 students attended a very important assembly led by Operation Makepeace which is an

organisation that delivers educational messages around crime, but particularly knife crime. The presentation itself is quite hard hitting but importantly so, and the students who attended have told us that they found the sessions to be insightful and useful. It is an absolute priority for us that messages around safety in the community are not diluted and that our students are exposed not only to the facts around the dangers that might be present as they move around locally but also to the sensible steps they can take to keep themselves safe in their community. Operation Makepeace were highly recommended to us by the police and we were impressed with their ability to engage and educate their audience. We are keen to invite them back in the future but are also planning the delivery of an ongoing programme of visitors which will support the development of the awareness that our young people need to keep themselves out of harm's way.

We are sure all our families are looking forward to the extra day this weekend. Happy May Bank Holiday to all!



Ms Zoe Judge



Ms Jo Davey

### Dates For Your Diary

- 6 May Bank Holiday School Closed
- 10 May Year 11 Assembly Celebration 8.30am
- 10 May Late start Year 7,8,9,10,12,13 arrive 10.00am for 10.20 start Period 2
- 15 May 7Y Bank Parents Evening South Wing 15.30-18.30
- 24 June Year 11 Prom
- 25 June Year 13 Prom
- 13 July Fortitude 12-18.00pm

# Messages

## Year 7Y Bank Parents' Evening -Mr A Ward

Year 7Y Bank parents' evening will be held in North Wing on Wednesday 15 May 15.30-18.30hrs. Online booking for 7Y Bank will open 10am Tuesday 7 May.

Year 7X Bank parents' evening is now complete

**All Year 7 Parents/carers** will receive a Parentmail communication on Tuesday 7 May with details of how to book appointments, however **only 7Y Bank will have access to the booking site..**

### **Please check with your child if you are unsure if they are in X or Y Bank**

You will have the opportunity to make appointments with each of your child's subject teachers.

Please bring your child with you to this important evening.

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## Sailing Opportunities;

**For anyone looking for opportunities to get more sailing experience**, the Phoenix centre runs supervised sailing on Thursday evenings (£12 per session) from 5pm to 9pm (and I think at weekends). You need at least RYA 1 or equivalent experience but they have all the gear. Most sailing is in Picos, a solid training boat which can be sailed with one or two. Last year, this worked well for a few sailors from Fortismere and APS. There are other places to sail, for example, West Reservoir near Finsbury Park and King George Reservoir near Chingford. I'm happy to give what advice I can.



On a few of those evening sessions there is likely to be more **emphasis on racing** for those wanting to take part in the games. This is really useful for anyone without much experience racing.

**For further information you can contact Nick Pighills (Team Manager) on 07743874007**

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## Shoe box Stationary Drive:

Following Foster Boateng's passing away last July, Fortismere got in touch with his children's school in Ghana and offered to provide support.

The school there is a fee-paying school as most school are (secondary but also at times primary) in many African countries.

Ephesus and Olympia Student Ambassadors are collecting stationary to send to the Great Kwame Nkrumah Memorial School in Ghana.

Student ambassadors will come and talk to students in VT this week and the following weeks and ask students to donate in the North Wing Canteen where boxes will be set out to collect all forms of stationary, pencils, rulers, notebooks, etc.

The deadline will be just after the May Half term.

Please speak to Miss Turner and Mr Lewis for further details.

D Turner

Deputy Head of Ephesus College



# Messages

## Information regarding Year 11s:

**Year 11s' last school day** is on **Friday 24th May**. All Year 11 students will be attending their timetabled lessons until Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May as usual, outside the time of an actual exam or a specially organised revision session (see below).

After May half term, Year 11s are on study leave and will come into school only for their exams. However, subject teachers will still be available after half term to provide support at the same time as their Y11 timetabled lessons.

Linc will be running pre-exam morning meditation sessions for students (8.15 to 8.30 am) upstairs in the library on the following dates: 16/21/23<sup>rd</sup> May + 3/4/6/7/11/12/13<sup>th</sup> June.

English Maths and Science Revision Breakfasts for Core Subject Morning exams are taking place as usual from 7.30 am for the whole exam period (i.e until mid June).

On 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> May, there is an Option subject morning exam for a small number of students and a Core subject afternoon exam for the whole year.

For these three days only, students who do not have the morning (option subject) exam will start school:

Period 2 (10.20 am), instead of Period 1 on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> May and will attend Walking Talking Mocks (Biology) or special revision sessions (English) before their Biology (14<sup>th</sup>) and English (15<sup>th</sup>) afternoon exams.

Period 4 (12.05 pm) instead of Period 1 on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May for their usual science lesson Period 4 before their Physics exam in the afternoon.

For all morning exams, all students attend their subsequent lessons on that day and for the rest of the day.

Students who have Option subject exams in the afternoon can revise at home that morning, unless pre-arranged revision sessions with option teachers have been scheduled by their teacher.

The **Year 11 Celebration Assemblies** are on **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May**. Y11 Students are encouraged to dress up for the occasion and will be authorised to leave the site at 10.00 am after the assembly. Years 7 to 13 (except Y11) will start Period 2 (10.20 a.m.) on that day unless Y12s and Y13s have an arrangement with their P1 teacher to come to their Period 1 lesson.

The **Year 11 Prom** will be on **Monday, 24 June**.

The **Year 12 Transition days** will be on **Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th July**.

**Results Day** is **Thursday, 22 August**.

# Messages

**Year 7s, 8s, 9s, 10s, 12s, 13, late start (10.20 a.m. instead of 8.35 a.m.) on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019:**

All year groups except Y11s will start Period 2 on that day unless Y12s and Y13s have an arrangement with their Period 1 teacher to come in Period 1.

This is to accommodate the Year 11 Celebration Assemblies Period 1.

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## Hosts wanted!

Fortismere has organised a teacher exchange programme with The British School in Delhi. We are expecting 6 teachers from Delhi from **3<sup>rd</sup> June to the 14<sup>th</sup> June**. Staying with a Fortismere teacher or family would really enhance the experience of the exchange.

If you would be willing to host a colleague from Delhi,

Please contact the Co-headteachers at:

[coheadteachers@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:coheadteachers@fortismere.org.uk)



# Messages

Students, staff and parents are invited to celebrate the launch of the first edition of "Voice Magazine", a wonderful new magazine created by a team of Sixth Formers. The event will help us to fundraise for future editions. If you have any contacts in the publishing industry who you think could take part or meet with our student team, please email: [voicemagazine.fortismere@gmail.com](mailto:voicemagazine.fortismere@gmail.com)

# VOICE

6TH FORM MAGAZINE



# #1

# IS HERE!

Come along to our launch on **Friday, May 10th from 16:30 to 17:30 in the Library** and be the first to get your hands on our first issue.

**Copies will be sold for £1 each.**

Guest speakers, refreshments, your new ideas and more...

**Fortismere School's Voice Magazine Team**

[voice.fortismere@gmail.com](mailto:voice.fortismere@gmail.com)

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**Message from 6<sup>th</sup> form:** The deadline for year 11s to accept their Fortismere offer has been extended to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May. To accept, please email [Sixthform@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:Sixthform@fortismere.org.uk)

# Messages

## Dates for Your Diary

### Parent Forum Thursday, May 23rd, 7pm. North Wing Hall

Come to the Parent Forum on Thursday, May 23rd, 7pm - 8:30, North Wing Hall

**(Governor's surgeries beforehand, from 5:30pm)**

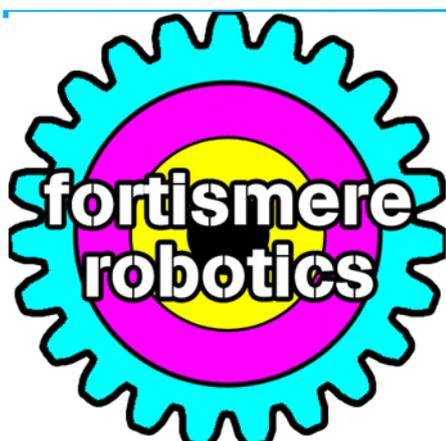
All parents/carers welcome - this is your chance to meet the Co-Heads and discuss any issue you would like brought up.

Please note that personal issues to do with your child should not be brought up at the Forum - governors' surgeries and other avenues are the place for this.

If you would like any topic to be discussed at the Forum, please email your thoughts, ideas and concerns to the following email address: [parentforum@fortismere.school](mailto:parentforum@fortismere.school)

An official Agenda will be put out in due course. **Wine will go on sale after the event so parents can meet and mingle afterwards...**

Looking forward to seeing you there!



#### Fortismere Robotics

The new season has started with the launch of two new challenges. Click the links below to watch the YouTube videos.

[Vex IQ Squared Away](#)

[Vex EDR Tower Takeover](#)

We will be entering 6 teams for Vex IQ and 3 teams for Vex EDR for the 2019-20 season. The club runs every day, so if you are interested in joining visit S35 lunchtimes or after school.

#### Year 10 Spanish Exchange

This week we welcome our partner school from Barcelona to Fortismere. 30 of our GCSE Spanish students will be hosting Spanish students for a week following our successful trip to Spain. Thank you to all families and students who are taking part, I'm sure everyone will enjoy this experience.



# Messages

## Recent reports of muggings around the area

We wanted parents to be aware that there have been a spate of attempted muggings around the Muswell Hill area. In one case a student was mugged on the way to school at the beginning of this week. As always we keep in close contact with police on these events and we wanted to share again police advice for parents to talk through with their sons and daughters to ensure that they are keeping themselves safe. The key advice is:

- Young people should always be aware when moving around in public places. They should always stick to main roads.
- Young people should not use their phones while walking along
- If a young person feels vulnerable or threatened by the behaviour of someone else they should immediately go to the nearest shop. Our local shopkeepers have agreed that they will call the police on behalf of a young person in this situation.

If one of our students witnesses behaviour that makes them feel unsafe they should notify a staff member as soon as they get into school and this will be reported.



# First Give

## First Give – final 2019

We would like to offer a big well done to the all of the year 7 students and their engagement with social action and fundraising for their own class charity. Last night, 10 teams represented their class to our four judges (names please) and delighted friends, parents and teachers with singing, dancing and an insight into the efforts that each class had gone to for the First Give project. The year 7 this year raised just over £2,000 for their charities which is amazing, but the prize money was a donation of £1,000 to the winning group. A massive congratulations to Nikolas Marougkas, Ellis Clarke, Flynn Whitwell-Gillett, Benjamin Brockman, Kiran Sharma, Lewis Fraser-Lawrence, Rafael McLean who raised awareness and money for Mind. And a massive thanks to Sharon, Jo and Geneen for their amazing teaching of this course.



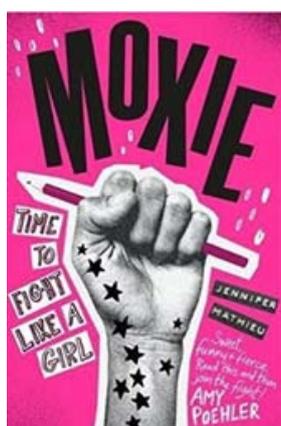
# News from the Library

With nearly 100 reviews posted by the Year 8 shadowers on our Carnegie page <http://bit.ly/2Vqujon> we are well on our way to our target of every group member reviewing every book this year. Some of them are so perceptive and professional (although others haven't quite twigged that the site doesn't autocorrect!) It's very hard choosing the weekly Star Review. Please have a go on our poll this week too.



## Recommended Read of the Week

For rebel boys and girls who are fed up with every day sexism! An excellent, fast paced read – *Moxie* by Jennifer Mathieu. And a reminder that any feminists out there should read anything by the marvellous Holly Bourne.



# Fortitude <sup>2019</sup> Summer Festival

**SATURDAY JULY 13th**

**12 - 6pm**

## Funfair Rides

Twister \* Bumper Cars

## Food Stalls

Street Food \* Licensed Bar \*  
Cakes \* Salad



## Market Stalls

Gifts \* Books \* Clothes

## Win Prizes

Tombola \* Raffle

## Live Music

Open to the public  
**Entrance £4**  
Via Gates on Twyford Avenue



Proud Sponsors of  
**Fortitude** <sup>2019</sup>