

fortismere

Transforming Lives Through Education

Issue 6, October 12, 2018

Co-Headteachers' Weekly Roundup

This year marks 35 years since the creation of Fortismere through the amalgamation of Creighton and Alexandra Park schools. Many things have remained the same: the walk between the wings, the sound of the buzzer between lessons, no school uniform (a legacy of Creighton) and the emphasis on the creative and expressive arts (while recruiting healthily to A level maths!). Some things have also changed: Starting with Andrew Nixon, three headteachers have come and gone and the school is now overseen by not one but two headteachers. Strathlene is no longer the Sixth Form Centre and students no longer fear the start of the summer term and the icy first dip into the outdoor swimming pool. Much of the culture remains the same: Creighton was one of the first schools in the country to teach the four technology subjects of textiles, cooking, woodwork and metalwork to both boys and girls and taught a diverse curriculum including non-white authors on the A level English course. It was an outward looking school that emphasised the moral purpose which sits at the heart of education. This ethos remains very much at the heart of Fortismere and it is for this reason that we welcome the speech made on Thursday by Amanda Spielman (HM Chief Inspector of Education), that she is 'bringing the inspection conversation back to the substance of young people's learning and treating teachers like the experts in their field'.

This year is we are having a year of music and in partnership with the Fortismere Music Centre and the Head of Music at Latymer we are hosting a wide variety of different music events. Attached to this Newsletter is the School Music Brochure which gives details of these events and a covering letter to explain our year of music. In addition, all the students at school will receive a hard copy of the brochure during VT next week. Please check bags and pockets for

the brochure, a beautifully made guide to a very special year.

This week feels like the quiet before the storm (which is apparently today, courtesy of storm Callum). Next Tuesday sees the first Parent Forum of the New Year and Thursday is the eagerly anticipated Fashion Show. It is great to have our parents and carers involved in school events and we would encourage parents and carers to attend one or both events.

We wish all our families a non-stormy weekend and happy birthday to Fortismere.



Ms Zoe Judge



Ms Jo Davey



DON'T
MISS
OUT

Dates For Your Diary

- 16 October Parent Forum 7pm
- 17 October Year 10 and 11 Deep Learning Conversation 2.00-4.30pm
- 17 October Early Closure 1.05pm due to Deep Learning Conversation Year 10 and 11
- 18 October School Fashion Show 4.00-6.30pm
- 01 November Fireworks Event

Messages

Year 10 & 11 Learning Conversations, 17 October, 2:00 – 4:30pm

A reminder that the DLC meetings with tutors for year 10 and 11 students will take place on Wednesday 17 October. Parents / Carers with children in years 10 and 11 will be able to book their appointment using our on-line booking system (the same as the one we use for parents' evenings). You will receive an email with detailed instructions on how to do this on Wednesday 3 October; the booking site will open at 10 am on Tuesday 9 October.

Wednesday 17 October Early Closure 1.05pm

School will end after lesson 4 (1:05pm) on 17 October, there will be no lunch service. Students entitled to free school meals will be able to get their lunch during break time.

REMINDER: Date for Your Diary

Parent Forum Tuesday, October 16th, 7pm. North Wing Hall

Come to the Parent Forum on Tuesday, October 16th, 7pm - 8:30, North Wing Hall

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

If you would like any topic to be discussed, please email your thoughts, ideas and concerns to the following email address: parentforum@fortismere.school

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Wendy Sloane

Vice-Chair Governors

Year 9 – 5 places available

Ri Engineering Masterclasses at the University of Westminster, 115 New Cavendish Street, London W1W 6UW, free of charge.

The Masterclass series runs on:

10:00 – 12:30, Saturdays 03/11 10/11 17/11 24/11 01/12 08/12

Please contact Mr Yakup myakup@fortismere.org.uk for further details

From the Library

Did you know that you can access our library catalogue from home? It's very useful! You can search for your favourite author, type in key words for topics you are researching and even open excellent, accredited web links and author videos. On the school website there are two ways to find it: under the *Learning* tab, click on *Library* and at the bottom of the page is a link that says *Log onto Eclipse.net (Library catalogue)*. Or if you click on *Students* there is a page of *Useful Links* – the *School Library Catalogue* is one of them!

Fireworks 1st November 2018

Fireworks early bird tickets available at the Library £5

Messages



Classics Symposium

Thank you to Channing School for inviting Fortismere classicists to their symposium. We heard a lecture on landscape in Xenophon which showed that descriptions of landscape tell us more about the author's culture than the place being described. This was followed by a lecture on female writers in Roman times which persuasively argued against those who thought that pictures such as this one from Pompey represented idealised muses rather than real women. It drew on an impressive range of sources to demonstrate the widespread nature of women's literacy and writing in Ancient Rome, including of course the earliest remaining piece of actual writing known to be by a woman which comes from a camp near Hadrian's Wall as well as curse tablets found in Bath. Afterwards, we were able to discuss what we'd learned at a generously provided "Greek feast" in their canteen.

Vocab Express League of Champions – ML Department

This year we have entered into the Vocab Express League of Champions where students will be able to compete with fellow Fortismere students and on a global scale for a range of certificates. In addition to the languages offered by the ML department (French, Spanish, Mandarin and German) students can compete in Italian, Portuguese, Polish, Russian, Latin, Greek, Arabic, Urdu, Hebrew and Japanese. The competition will last until the 16th of October so please do encourage students to take part!

Year 11 Photography and Art trips happen next week on Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th October respectively. Students should have returned consent forms. more information to follow in google classrooms.

Animation Competition: Access Art

Make a short animation, alone or with your friends, and enter to win the opportunity to have your animation included in the opening sequences of a larger animation made by the [#BeACreativeProducer](#) team, which will be launched at [Cambridge Junction](#) in February 2019! Winners will also receive voucher prizes! The winner will receive £100 worth of vouchers, and the runner-up £75! Follow this link for more information: <https://www.accessart.org.uk/competition/>

The deadline is 20th January 2019.

Drama Department Notices

Twelfth Night, Young Vic

Mr Willcocks, Drama and English teacher at Fortismere, is appearing in 'Twelfth Night' at the Young Vic Theatre from Oct 2nd – Nov 17th this Autumn. Mr Willcocks plays Fabian alongside a professional cast plus an awe-inspiring community chorus from Southwark and Lambeth. We will be running a trip to go and see him on Friday 9th November in the evening. Tickets will be available to all students in year 9 and 10 from noon on Monday 15th October.



Photo credit – Johan Perrson

Oedipus Auditions THIS WEEK

There will be auditions for the Christmas Drama Production of Oedipus on Tuesday 16th October 3:30pm in NDRS2. All years welcome. Please sign up if you would like to audition. Sign-up sheet is outside the Drama office in North Wing.

Panto Auditions THIS WEEK

We are excited to announce that the Pantomime Aladdin will be staged in January. The auditions will be held at 12:30 on Thursday 18th October. Students should bring a packed lunch with. If a student can't make that, please can they come and see Ms Overs in the Drama Office.

Fortismere Drama

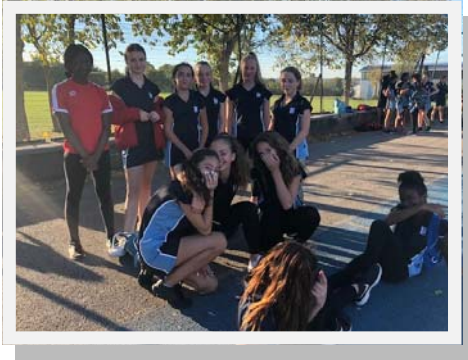
If you would like to find our more information about what the Drama department do every day, please do follow us on **Facebook**, **Twitter** or **Instagram** @fortismere drama

Follow us on



News From PE

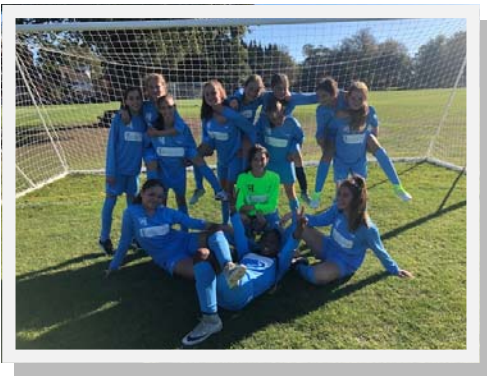
Well done to our Year 10 Netball Team they beat Park View 11-8.



Congratulations to our Year 8 Netball Team they beat Park View 13-2.



Well done to our Year 7 Netball Squad they beat Park View 12-2



Amazing result for our Year 8 Football Team this week 16-1 v Highgate School in the Middlesex Cup.

Table Tennis

Two excellent results in the recent Haringey Table Tennis events.

U15 BOYS: Second place, Silver medallists: Barney Mindlin, Sam Harris, Peter Ross, Martin Siekiera.

U13 BOYS: First place, Gold medallists: Ishay Haim, Daniel Kennedy, Lewis Fraser-Lawrence, Aaron Maharajan (pictured).

Congratulations to both teams!



Football Results

Two excellent wins in the Middlesex cup this week;

Year 8: Fortismere 4-2 Marylebone School

Year 9: Canon High School 3-3 Fortismere – Fort win on penalties

The senior squad also got their season off to a winning start with a convincing win against Drayton Manor.

Fortismere Fireworks 1 November 2018

Fabulous Fireworks

Fortismere Fabulous Fireworks on the Field – Thursday 1st November 6-9PM book tickets NOW!

This year we are giving Alexandra Palace a run for their money and we are going to have the fireworks synchronised to music!

There are savings to be made if you buy your tickets before the event: £5 each from the school library or online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fortismere-fireworks-event-1st-november-2018-tickets-50064293650>

£7 on the gate.

Please encourage your child/ren to start buying their tickets from the library during their breaks or straight after school.

This event can potentially help raise a lot of money for the school so please do come along as well. You can have dinner and a few drinks before the start, dance to keep warm and get dizzy on the rides before the Great Fireworks display!!

If you wish to volunteer on the night to help make it a brilliant success – please contact Philippa by email - philippastonebridge@hotmail.com



The poster features a dark blue background with colorful fireworks exploding in the sky. At the bottom, there are illustrations of a Ferris wheel, a red and white striped tent, a blue food truck, a roller coaster, and a striped awning. The text is arranged in a central, eye-catching layout.

**FORTISMERE SCHOOL
FIREWORKS & FUN FAIR**

THURSDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2018
TIME: 6.00PM - 9.00PM

BUY TICKETS FROM
www.eventbrite.com/o/fortismere-school-17818744160

**TICKETS £5 IN ADVANCE.
£7 ON THE NIGHT**

Sensible footwear such as wellies
must be worn on site

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Fashion show coming to Fortismere



Fortismere brings the catwalk to school!

October 18th we will be hosting a fund raising fashion show together with the local charity shops. The aim of this event will be to promote awareness of various charities, the causes they support, and that it's cool to wear second-hand. Any money from items sold will go back to the charity, and ticket sales (£6 per person) will go towards the school fund.

This is an opportunity for students to become involved on a first come first basis who would be interested in Modelling(5boys,5girls), styling; makeup and hair.

We would also like parents to help with the event, and are looking for a presenter to introduce the show and *briefly mention the various charities and the good causes they support. Please contact Ms Bhambra at vbhambra@fortismere.org.uk*

The event will take place in October straight after school and will last 2 hours.

We are also raising money for the D&T Department. Our target is £5,000. We need your support.

KS3 – Year 9 only focus is core textiles for GCSE

KS3 – Year 7&8 will have a Textiles Afterschool Club that will run every Monday 3.30-4.30pm for pupils who are interested in making a range of craft products from toys to garments.

KS4– Year 10/11 GCSE D&T-Textiles yr10 projects are skirt/trouser & surface decoration – dresses/ soft furnishings

We would like an embroidery machine and two working over locker machines. Over the next couple of years we would like to replace all the current sewing machines with 20 new Brother machines.

The embroidery machine would be essential if when we were to run A Level Fashion & Textiles. The number of pupils taking Textiles as a GCSE is going up, the school should seriously consider running it as an A Level. If it was to go ahead then an Embroidery Machine is essential.

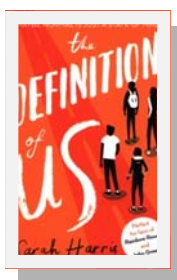
News from the Library

Our wonderful patron of Reading, Non Pratt, worked with some of our older students on Monday 8th October. Year 10 wrote letters to themselves, focussing on expressing their own voices by thinking what they might be doing in the future. One letter got left on a table after the students left and reduced Non to tears – she loves our students and their creativity! Non then talked to a couple of Year 11 classes about the power of stories which made the audience aware of their default assumptions. Many of them were surprised during the interactive pop-quiz on the Bechdel test. A wonderful afternoon, as always.



Recommended Read of the Week

Two books related to teenage mental health this week, and both excellent reads. *The Definition of Us* by Sarah Harris features four teenagers who meet at a therapy centre, go on a “road trip”, face a series of challenges and start to reveal their true selves. In the magnificent Holly Bourne’s latest, *Are We All Lemmings and Snowflakes?* Olive finds that being kind to yourself is one of the most important human attributes. Both authors have faced mental health issues in different ways; their knowledge creates empathetic fiction that should be read by all teenagers (and their parents).



Notes from Non

Renaissance Learning says that you need to read for 40 minutes every single day for optimum progress in literacy. I say, “At least...”!

