

## Co-Headteachers' Weekly Roundup

As the term rolls on and we get closer to the holiday season there are a series of events aimed at bringing our community together. This began last Saturday evening with the Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra's concert in St Andrew's Church where we enjoyed a wonderful evening of Debussy, Prokofiev and Berlioz. Our music centre is hosting another more overtly Christmas event this weekend as the FMC Community Choir are performing choral works written by women, including two brand new commissions. All this will be interspersed with some carols so there will be some Christmas crowd-pleasers on the programme. We would encourage our parents to come along on Saturday but also to keep an eye of the programme of events for this year; The choir and the Orchestra will be coming together in 2019 to perform Beethoven's 'Missa Solemnis' and Mozart's 'The Marriage of Figaro' which we are very excited about. Both ensembles perform at an incredibly high level and are an asset to our music community. We aim to encourage more of our students to get involved with the music centre as we have many talented instrumentalists and singers who would benefit from joining these ensembles. On the back of our GCSE music students attending the choir's rehearsal and meeting the composer of one of their new pieces last Saturday we look forward to bringing you more collaborations between our own music students and the Fortismere Music Centre in 2019.

We've seen lots of our parents in school this week at both the Year 9 Subject teachers' Evening on Wednesday and the Year 10 Parental Engagement event which was held last night in South Wing Hall. We were delighted with the turnout as it meant we are able to spend time with parents discussing how they can best support their sons and

daughters as they commence their GCSE studies at Fortismere. The breadth and challenge at Key Stage 4 can feel daunting to many of our learners so it's extremely important that parents are aware how they can support approaching preparation for Year 11 not just in terms of academic readiness but also with an eye on issues related to wellbeing. We'd like to thank our Heads of College, two of our Directors of Learning Ms Jackson and Mr Strathdene and our Parental Engagement Officer Ms Harris-O'Hanlon for organising and leading the event.

However, there's still lots more to come in the shape of community events and we'd like to sign off this week by reminding parents and carers that our marvellous Christmas Fair is taking place in South Wing Hall this Sunday. It's always a wonderful event and an important fundraiser for the school. We hope to see lots of you there to join us for mulled wine, mince pies and the vast array of Christmas goodies that will be on offer.



Ms Zoe Judge



Ms Jo Davey

### Dates For Your Diary

- 09 December Christmas Fair
- 21 December End of Term
- 7 January Inset Day
- 8 January All Students 8.35am Start

DON'T  
MISS  
OUT

# Christmas Fair 9th December & Silent Auction

Christmas Annual Silent Auction went live on [jumblebee.com](https://www.jumblebee.com)

New items added 2 Tickets at the Love Shots Canal Café Theatre, Tea for two with Local MP Catherine West, Finchley Yoga, A Guided Tour at the National Gallery

[https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/auction/detail/auction\\_id/2735](https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/auction/detail/auction_id/2735)

Please bid generously, all money raised goes directly to enable Fortismere to fund additional opportunities and learning experiences. At the Summer Auction we raised over £6,000, we are hoping to match that this year.

You will find everything from meals and cakes to a Arsenal signed shirt and Apple watch series 3.

If you have prizes to donate, please get in touch with [mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk) Thank you for your support.

## Christmas Fair 9th December

Put the date for the Christmas Fair in your diary and come along! We are promising stall holders that there will be lots of people eager to buy their wonderful festive gifts, so make our dream come true.

Planning for the Fair has already begun, and with the annual fireworks now over, preparations are stepping up a gear. Please get in touch with Phillippa at [philippastonebridge@hotmail.com](mailto:philippastonebridge@hotmail.com) if you are able to volunteer for an hour or more and help on the day with set up during the Fair or clear up at the end.

if you know of any orchestra/ choir/entertainer who would like to perform at the event, email Maria.

Hope to hear from you!

**fortismere** **SANTAS GROTTO**

*Christmas Fair*

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December**  
**11am – 4pm**

**LOCAL MAKERS & DESIGNERS.**  
**ARTISAN FOODS, JEWELLERY, ART,**  
**IDEAS FOR STOCKING FILLERS, CARDS**

**GORGEOUS GIFTS TO BUY**

**LIVE MUSIC AND A SELECTION OF FOOD AND DRINKS**

**fortismere School**  
**South Wing Hall**  
**Tetherdown**  
**Muswell Hill**  
**N10 1NE**

£ 1 Adults


## ALADDIN PANTO

Tickets are on Sale!!! 23-26 January 2019. Hurry - we expect it to sell out early! Tickets here – [www.fortismere-drama-aladdin.eventbrite.com](http://www.fortismere-drama-aladdin.eventbrite.com)

**N** PRODUCTIONS AND **fortismereDRAMA**  
PRESENT AN AMATEUR ADAPTION OF...

# Aladdin

BY  
**JOEL HORWOOD**



**23 - 26 JANUARY 2019**  
**7:00pm** Doors open 6:30pm  
**£15 / £10 CONCESSIONS**

**f i t @fortismere-drama**  
North Wing Hall, Fortismere School,  
Creighton Avenue, Muswell Hill,  
N10 1NS

Tickets available at [fortismere-drama-aladdin.eventbrite.com](http://fortismere-drama-aladdin.eventbrite.com) Supported by **TATLERS**

# Messages

## Parent/Carer Voluntary Contributions 2018

Autumn term communication from the Chair of Governors and Co-Heads in respect of the above. Thank you to all our parents and carers who have already made a voluntary contribution.

<https://www.fortismere.haringey.sch.uk/page/?title=Voluntary+Contributions&pid=90>



**Congratulations** to our Year 7 and Year 8 and 9 Girls cross country teams.

Year 7 came 3rd in Haringey and Year 8 and 9 came first in Haringey.



**Congratulations** to the U15 girls handball team for winning the Haringey Handball Championships. They were undefeated and will now go to represent Haringey in the Regional competition

Drama Department Christmas Production of Oedipus with year 7-13 involved. Tickets are available from Parentmail and it is 45 mins with no interval, at 7pm in the North Wing Hall

## Christmas Lunch – Friday, 14 December 2018

Christmas lunch is available for students and staff in both N/W and S/W on Friday, 14 December; menus will be on display in the canteens next week. The price of the Christmas lunch – plated main and dessert is £2.50 for students and £3.00 for staff (inclusive of VAT).

# Messages

Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December

## Student Ambassadors and Student leaders

**On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December**, it is **CHRISTMAS Jumper day** – the 6<sup>th</sup> Form and the rest of the school will be joining forces for fundraising on that day. All Fortismere staff and students should bring a pound and wear their Christmas jumper for the day which is also when the school will have its traditional Christmas Lunch. Student Ambassadors and Student Leaders will be leading on this. The money will be shared equally between all College Charities.



Y12 students are again supporting the Muswell Hill Soup Kitchen this Christmas. Please see the message below.

“Last year over 7,500 people slept rough on the streets of London. For them, winter is welcomed with little more than fear and anxiety. Many struggle to find decent coats and layers and scramble to use newspapers to stay warm. This year we are collaborating with the local Muswell Hill Food Bank and Soup Kitchen to provide what care and comfort we can.

We do not ask for your money but your help in order to keep people warm this winter. We don't want to support the cycle of homelessness but we do want to help those who find themselves in dire need this Christmas

We need donations of: old coats, sleeping bags, trainers, jumpers and blankets. These can be brought to SW office or delivered to Ms Cunningham's office in Tetherdown by Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

Thank you, in advance, for your generosity.

Anoushka in 12MP and Catherine in 12MJ.”

## Rhodes Ambassadors Trip to the Soup Kitchen – Ms A Williams DHOC Rhodes



On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December Rhodes Ambassadors, Menna, Ori, Nusayba, Moutaz, Poppy, Fatima and Lilja, went with Ms Williams to the Muswell Hill Soup Kitchen and cooked pasta bake for people who are struggling to make ends meet.

'It has been a privilege volunteering at this amazing charity' Menna

'It has been an amazing life experience that we will never forget and in the future I will always be grateful for something as simple as food' Poppy

'I feel very grateful that I have had this experience to help people who are experiencing misfortune.'  
Nusayba



# News from the Library

On Monday 3rd December Drs Rachel Stenner and Katie Walter from Sussex University spent the morning in the library with students from Years 12 and 13. Their joint lectures on Chaucer and Shakespeare were fascinating, and close reading of *The Merchant's Tale* and *Richard III* incredibly useful for the 6th form English syllabus. It's great for our students to have this insight into higher education lectures.



Please remember to collect your used postage stamps and send them into the library for us to forward to the Hearing Dogs for the Deaf charity.

My quote in the Guardian Education article about educational Christmas presents wasn't \*quite\* accurate <https://bit.ly/2UcXgAJ> but hey ho! A few good ideas here...

## Recommended Reads of the Week

Katie Khan's *Hold Back the Stars* will soon be a film with John Boyega and Letitia Wright – read it before it hits the silver screen! It's a wonderful futuristic romance set in space. And if spacey things are for you, then *Chasing the Stars* by the ex-Children's Laureate Malorie Blackman is for you (caution: occasional rude bits!) (another caution: do not judge a book by its cover – publishers, please take note that no boy would ever pick up Blackman's book with a cover like that. Shame – it's a brilliant book for both sexes.)

