

Co-Headteachers' Weekly Roundup

Welcome to this week's 'Green' Co-Headteachers' message. Unlike the somewhat lacklustre performance by Parliament yesterday with their under-attended debate on climate change, Fortismere is storming ahead with our environmental campaigns. Mr Kenny, Ms Holder, Ms Larsson and Ms Paul are working together to cover different aspects of environmental awareness and action (information is attached to the Newsletter) and have been very much informed by students feedback. Mr Kenny has set up a Climate Group with the Sixth Form, Ms Holder is establishing links in the local community, for example with the Muswell Hill Sustainability Group (more to follow in the Extinction Rebellion protest over Easter) and all four are working with students to become a Green Flag Eco School. In addition, Ms Larsson has set up a gardening club to be based in the Vik Sharma Memorial Garden so that students are involved in all aspects of the environment. Much of this planning was underway before the pupils' and students' strike on 15 February but the action of the children and young people, combined with lovely but deeply unseasonal weather, has added impetus (and numbers!) to the groups. Mr Kenny has captured our intentions in his message to Fortismere:

"The climate crisis is a huge issue that reaches into every part of our lives, and our best hope of making positive change is to bring as many people as possible together, to work together in an open, respectful and peaceful attitude. We do want to create more opportunities for Fortismere students to listen and speak out, and raise awareness through action within school.

We also know that we can make Fortismere a greener school and we have a plan to make this happen, using the Eco-Schools framework. However, this process does need to be student led and we will need volunteers from all year groups to make it happen."

Our commitment to sustainability and supporting our environment is also reflected in the well-developed plans to play our part in the use of renewables via our partnership with n10ergy (part of the Muswell Hill Sustainability Group) and the fitting of solar panels to the Science block. Our favourite quote from Mr Kenny's appeal to the School community is to be a 'worthy ancestor',

and we hope that the range of activities and opportunities advertised in the attached information generates high levels of interest and participation.

Our students do not confine their concerns to the environment. The drive to support inclusion is never more in evidence than with the celebration of International Women's Day, now in its third year. Organised by one of the Y13 Leadership Team, Kezhe Julian Temir (winner of last year's Haringey Community Hero Award), the words describing the event belong to her:

"For the last two years, we have held a celebration of International Women's Day at Fortismere with a concert aiming to recognise the amazing things women have done both in our community and worldwide. We raise money for various charities that support women across the world and have speakers, musicians and other performers to mark the event. This year, our theme is *The Future is Female*: we want to celebrate the strength and achievements of young women and young people and how our future will be one that is defined by the actions of women today. The evening is always uplifting, for both our participants and our audience."

Tickets can be purchased through fortismeremu-siccentre.co.uk or students can buy them at the library - both £5 - and that doors open at 6:30pm.

We hope you will agree that the Fortismere Community doesn't stand still; we are constantly in awe of the variety of different, highly engaged activities which take place in school.

We would also like to take this opportunity to say goodbye to Mr Bower, who worked in the DT Department at Fortismere for 15 years. He also promoted STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) awareness at school. We are grateful for his work as a teacher, tutor and colleague and wish him well in his future endeavours.

And on that note we wish the Y11 Drama students good luck with their performances and next week and wish everyone a happy St David's Day!



Ms Zoe Judge



Ms Jo Davey



International Women's Day

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**INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY
CONCERT**

**FORTISMERE
SCHOOL** NORTH WING
DOORS OPEN **MARCH**
6:30 PM 14TH

SUPPORTING PLAN INTERNATIONAL
MUSIC • SPEAKERS • ART • POETRY
KATE OSAMOR MP • MANDU REID, WOMEN'S
EQUALITY PARTY • LOUISE RAFFERTY, PLAN
UK • ZAINAB KWAW - SWANZY
• MORE ACTS TBC

**TICKETS
£5
AVAILABLE**

FORTISMERE
MUSICCENTRE
.CO.UK

AND
AT THE LIBRARY

Eco-Schools

Dear Parents/Carers,

Recently, we have started the journey to become an international Green Flag Award Eco-School. The programme is designed to raise environmental awareness among young people and is run by the environmental charity keep Britain Tidy. Internationally, the programme is the largest educational programme in the world present in 67 countries and 52,000 schools. Our school is now part of this global community working to create environmental change for the benefit of future generations.

The Eco-Schools programme empowers students, raises environmental awareness, improves the school environment and can also lead to financial savings for schools. Being an active member of the programme will be something our students will remember for the rest of their lives.

The programme focuses on ten important global issues:

Biodiversity

Energy

Global Citizenship

Healthy Living

Litter

Marine

School Grounds

Transport

Waste

Water



Every school taking part in the Eco-Schools programme follows the same simple Seven Step framework that takes schools between one and two academic years to complete. After achieving our first Green Flag, our school can continue in the programme to gain multiple Green Flags. One of the most exciting things about the programme is that the process is designed to engage a whole school and its wider community – which is why we have taken the time to inform you about our participation.

If you would like to get involved in the Eco-School programme by sharing your time, ideas or skills please contact us. If you are struggling for spare time, don't worry we will keep you updated on our progress regularly and invite you to any Eco-Schools projects or events that the students decide to organise.

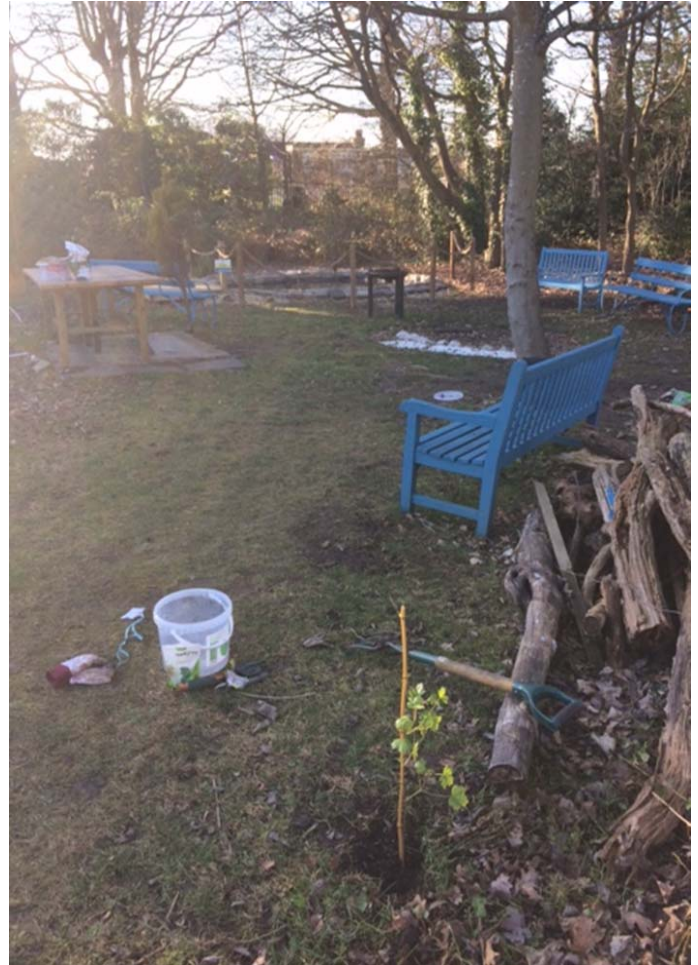
We hope you are as excited about our Eco-Journey as we are,

Yours sincerely,

Eco-Coordinator



Eco-Schools



Year 7 – Enrichment – First Give

As part of the year 7 Enrichment curriculum, the students work through a “First Give” programme which encourages them to think about social issues, research local charities, work as a team, develop presentation skills and most importantly, raise money or awareness for their chosen class charity. There is a final competition where a winning group will have the opportunity to win £1,000 for their charity. Some year 7’s have been very enthusiastic about raising money and awareness and have worked independently to do both. Parents have also been supportive of their ventures over the half term holiday too. Some students will be putting up posters around school or visiting lessons to continue to raise awareness and money. Well done to all of those who have shown extra-curricular commitment.



CLIMATE GROUP

Come to discuss ideas for action that we can take within school to respond to the climate crisis.

Students from all year groups and all staff welcome.

Google Classroom: **eym4q2c**

Monday 11TH March + every Monday going forward, T19 (Sixth Form Study Room)
T e t h e r d o w n - 3 . 3 0 p m



Free Afterschool rugby sessions

Game-based rugby coaching led by Saracens Sport Foundation Coaches

When: Mondays afterschool 15:30- 16:30

Who: Anyone aged 14+ no experience needed

Where: Fortismere School

What: Fun game-based rugby sessions with prizes and rewards up for grabs

For more information contact:
Projectrugby@saracens.net

Messages

Congratulations to our Year 7 Netball teams. They finished a very respectful 3rd and 5th in the Haringey School's Tournament on Tuesday, Channing School were the overall winners. Well played to all involved and congratulations on winner the bronze medal.



Economics and Business Department

Congratulations to Y12 Economics students Frederick Hudson, Daniel Poirier and Barnaby Thomson on securing a place for Fortismere in the **Final** of the Institute of Economics Affairs (IEA) National Budget Challenge Competition on March 7. The trio in Round 1 had to outline a UK Budget with taxation and spending policy in the coming financial year, as well as briefly analyse the macroeconomic conditions and setting out a broad policy and strategy in response to these. The submission was 5,000 maximum word limit. The Final will involve competing against 9 other teams for the £1000 top prize.

This term Ms Hall and Ms Graham will be introducing **Year 7 Science Club**. The Science Club will meet on Tuesdays in Week One only, from 3:30 to 4:30pm. After our initial meeting, we will be investigating all manner of science experiments so enjoying science is a must! Places are limited so please come along to the introduction session on the 5th of March at 3:30pm in Lab 3 with buckets of enthusiasm!



Gardening Club



Starts Tues 5th March at lunchtime in Vik Sharma's Memorial Garden

Come and see Miss Larsson in SW Office if you are keen to join, or
email: plarsson@fortismere.org.uk

Wellie Boots & Walking Boots please!



Any size gratefully received for our upcoming Gardening Club and ongoing work in Vik Sharma's Memorial Garden.

Please drop off at South Wing reception (Miss Larsson).

Thank you!

News from LINC

News from LINC:

Dear Parents/Carers

LINC will be hosting an information evening on 12th March from 5.30 – 7.00 pm in South Wing.

The evening is designed for parents/carers of students with additional needs; academically, socially or in terms of mental health. There will be an opportunity to meet and talk to many of our support services including; our learning mentors, careers advisor, teaching assistants, SENDCo, Specialist SEND Teacher and Access Arrangements Co-ordinator, CHOICES, Library, Place2Be and in-house counsellors.

To book a place, please click [here](#)

I hope you will find this valuable and look forward to seeing many of you on the evening.

Yours faithfully

Miss K Jackson

Director of Learning (Progress and Attainment: Vulnerable Groups)



Parent/Carer Voluntary Contributions 2018/2019

Thank you to all our parents and carers who have already made a voluntary contribution, this is very much appreciated. For those who may still wish to contribute, you can do this through Parentmail.

News from the Library

Guy Parker, Chief Executive of the Advertising Standards Authority, came in to Fortismere library to talk about advertising and regulation with Year 12 Media Studies students. Guy discussed how the ASA checks that all adverts are suitable for consumption by audiences by checking they aren't offensive; don't make false claims and represent people and places in fair and equal ways. He told us about the day-to-day processes of the ASA and how they are adapting their processes to fit with changes in advertising such as influencers and social media. Year 12 asked interesting and insightful questions about the advertising industry and how its related to the A Level Media syllabus



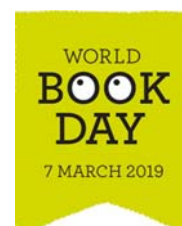
LGBT History Month finished on 28th February and we were delighted to welcome back our Patron of Reading, Non Pratt, who talked to students from Years 9 and 10 about gender. Discussions, often rowdy (to her delight!) were generated on the subjects of the pink/blue divide, #ToysWillBeToys, the problems of gender-based pronouns, equality and diversity. As always, Non's relaxed approach ensured that when she was speaking, the students stopped their chat and really listened. We hope that this event, together with the array of books and the thought provoking displays in the library will go a long way to helping our students understand and celebrate differences.

WORLD BOOK DAY NEXT THURSDAY, WHICH MEANS COMPETITION TIME!

On 20th July 1969, astronauts walked on the moon for the very first time. To celebrate 50 years since the Apollo 11 mission we would like you to write a **"Twelve Word Story"** based on the moon, space, aliens, time travel... So, no more than 12 words, and with a beginning, middle and end. Send your entries to gward@fortismere.org.uk or bring them to us in the library by 6th March.

If writing's not your thing, then **"Get Caught Reading"** – send photos of you reading in an unusual, cute, peculiar position/place to gward@fortismere.org.uk by 6th March.

Parents and school staff are also invited to enter; there will be BIG prizes! Don't forget to put your name and tutor group on all entries. Both competitions will be judged by our Patron of Reading, Non Pratt, when she is here on World Book Day (Thursday 7th March).



News from the Library



Another competition for our students – the Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award 2019 is now open for entries! This is the biggest poetry competition for young writers aged 11-17 and one of the judges this year is none other than ex-Fortismere/Blanche Nevile student, Raymond Antrobus, who delighted us with his performances last November. Deadline is 31st July, so take a look at the website for rules and how to enter on line www.foyleyoungpoets.org

Recommended Reads of the Week

The longlist for the Carnegie Medal 2019 has been announced! This means we will shortly be forming our prestigious Year 8 Carnegie Shadowing group where we will read and judge (there is a new award this year for Readers' Favourite which is excellent news) the shortlisted books. In the meantime, take a look at this link, which describes the Award, talks about the nominations and lists the 40 longlisted books <https://bit.ly/2V0VqCo> – all brilliant! How many have you read?



And finally....

many of our 6th form students volunteer to work with our Y7 and Y8 students in library lessons. The recent weather has enabled this lovely pair to take groups outside for reading and discussion of all things bookish...



Drama Department

2019 Drama, Art and Photography NYC Trip

34 students plus Ms Overs, Ms Stevenson and Mr Holden, flew stateside to enjoy the wonders of the Big Apple over half term. We danced on Broadway, meandered along the Highline, skipped in Central Park, climbed the One World Trade Centre Freedom Tower, ran around *Sleep No More* Punchdrunk's Immersive theatrical experience, chatted with actors, fell silent in the 9/11 Museum, sung with the *Book of Mormon*, was mesmerised by Jeff Daniels in *To Kill a Mocking Bird*, gazed at Warhol, filmed a NBC broadcast, laughed at Comedy Improv Theatre, puppeteered Jim Henson Muppets, gorged on 24/7 Diner feasts, shopped at Macys, photographed the Statue of Liberty and walked until the soles of our feet were burning. All of the students were great fun and made this a really special trip they will never forget.



Drama Department

Drama GCSE Performance Evenings Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th March

Parents are very welcome to come and watch the GCSE Drama Performing Evenings on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th March 5:00pm start in the NW Hall. Students will show select extracts from their exam work. Please note due to the adult nature of these plays, we request that the audience is Year 9 and up. There is no need to buy any tickets for these evenings.

Monday

Blythe Spirit, by Noel Coward

The Believers, by Bryony Lavery

The Dream Collector, by Fin Kennedy

Swallow, by Stef Smith

Scary Play, by Judith Johnson



Tuesday

Love and Information, by Carol Churchill

Boy, by Leo Buttlar

Private Lives, by Noel Coward

The Exam, by Andy Hamilton

Kindertransport, by Diane Samuels

Antigone, by Sophocles

The Tiny Art Gallery Exhibition

The Tiny Art Gallery Exhibition – Ms A Williams

On Sunday evening, the Tiny Art Gallery in the Muswell Hill Centre opened its doors for the launch night of an exhibition of images of artworks by local school students. Fortismere GCSE students were well represented, with images of paintings, sculptures and drawings which responded to their project theme of Force. If you visit the centre, be sure to go up to the balcony to view this exciting exhibition.



Quiz Night



Get your tickets for our fantastic Quiz Night on **Saturday 23rd March!**

It will be hosted by the brilliant Pauline Eyre and this is why we know she's going to make the Quiz a night to remember:

Pauline quiz presenter and producer and stand-up comedian & resident MC at BoHeeHee Comedy in Finchley

"I've been standing up since...well, a long time ago. Now doing it in front of audiences."

REGIONAL FINALIST Funny Women Awards 2017/18

FINALIST Colchester New Comedian of the Year 2016

SEMI-FINALIST Leicester Square New Comedian of the Year 2016

QUARTER-FINALIST Amused Moose Awards 2016

SEMI-FINALIST Funny Women Awards 2015

"Funny Women is always seeking out new talent like Pauline Eyre. She excels as a stand-up and we have recently encouraged her to MC. The result is that this role plays to Pauline's natural level of warmth and comic ability. She instinctively engages with the audience and creates an environment that is welcoming and fun for them and the other performers. A true skill." Lynne Parker, Founder and Chief Executive, Funny Women Ltd.

"We hope to see you there!"

Tickets are £10 per person to make up teams of 8-10 people. Smaller groups will be arranged to make up a full team. There will be a bar but bring food to share with your team.

Tickets available from <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fortismere-quiz-night-tickets-54343065572>

We hope to see you there!