

## Co-Headteachers' Weekly Roundup

It was lovely to come in to school this morning to a snow scene. We were quite surprised at how much snow had fallen on our site overnight. It was quite a feat facing our site staff this morning who worked incredibly swiftly to ensure that paths and access areas on the site were safe for everyone. Thanks to our site manager Mr Gyapong and his team. The site was completely ready to go for our slightly late start this morning. We hope you enjoy some of the snowy images of Fortismere in this week's newsletter.

Having recovered from the excitement of last week's brilliant pantomime it has been very much back to business at Fortismere. We were pleased to see so many parents of Years 9-11 students at our drugs information evening on Tuesday. The event was jointly presented by our safeguarding lead and Deputy Head Ms Sullivan and our Assistant Head Ms Allaway alongside speakers from Haringey's organisation, Insight. The focus of the event was specifically to support parents in finding ways to understand the current issues and discuss how they can support their children by discussing the issues around the drugs that young people can become exposed to. We will be discussing our own drugs policy at our next Parent Forum (11<sup>th</sup> February). We would like to encourage as many parents and carers as possible to come to this session and engage on this topic. As we are reviewing our policy in this regard at present.

Year 9 pupils have been attending guidance meetings with senior teachers for much of this week where they have been discussing which subjects they will opt to study at GCSE. We appreciate that our students have been receiving a wealth of information around the GCSE and BTEC courses that we offer to our Year 10 students and know that some find it really difficult to settle on the group of subjects that is right for them. Hopefully, by the end of

the guidance meeting process most students will have decided on the subjects they would like to opt for but please be assured that if there are any students who are still unsure that we have plenty of experienced teaching and support staff who can offer further guidance. In the first instance contact your child's form tutor if your child would like further support.

Finally, we were extremely impressed by one of our Year 11 students this week who delivered a presentation for her English speaking exam on the negative impact of social media. Referring to our mobile phone policy the student commented, 'I know people moan but actually our school banning phones has been so good for all of us and they are thinking about us by doing it'. It made our week.

We hope all of our families enjoy their weekend!



Ms Zoe Judge



Ms Jo Davey

### Dates For Your Diary

- 7 February Charity Band Night
- 8 February Harry Potter Night Year 7 and 8
- 11 February Parent Forum North Wing 19.00
- 23 March Quiz Night
- 13 February Year 12 Parents Evening 3.30-6.30pm North Wing

DON'T  
MISS  
OUT

# Winter has come to Fortismere



# Messages

## Year 12 Parents' Evening 3.30pm -6.30pm, North wing - Wednesday 13 February

Year 12 Parents' Evening booking site will open at 10am Tuesday 5 February. Parents/Carers of Year 12 students will receive a Parentmail communication on Monday 4 February, which will contain the booking link and booking instructions. We look forward to meeting with you for this important evening.

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## Safer Internet Day - 5th February 2019

<https://ourpact.com/>

It is an app that parents can download that allows them to control their child's internet usage... essentially they can set times that their kid can access wifi/4g on their phones, and they can do it remotely so the child has no control over it.

It also shows them what apps the child downloads too.

You can see access/download the app from your mobile phone.

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## Yoga Club

This term we are introducing Yoga Classes for students twice a week on **Monday and Wednesday lunchtimes**. Classes will start on the **28th January**. There are 30 spaces available and these will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. Full details of the course are provided below and if you would like your child to attend please make the appropriate payment via Parentmail. Each session costs £6 and therefore the total cost until February half term is £36. All proceeds will go to the school. Sessions will be led by Vesna who is an experienced and passionate Yoga instructor with over 17 years of teaching. Vesna hopes to ignite a passion for yoga in her students so that it becomes a part of their everyday life and a refuge from the stresses of modern life. Vesna brings together several aspects of classical yoga: the understanding of structural alignment in the asana practice, the refinement of mental and emotional patterns through the practice of pranayama, and access to a place of stillness, relaxation and meditation. The teaching is based on applying the eight vital principals in yoga practice:

1. The meditation state of mind (the no –doing of the mind)
2. Relaxation (the not-doing the physical body)
3. Intent
4. Rooting
5. Centring
6. Aligning
7. Breathing
8. Elongating





## Holocaust Memorial Day, Muswell Hill Synagogue

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All of Year 9 attended Muswell Hill Synagogue on Monday to mark Holocaust Memorial Day. Whilst in the Synagogue they learnt about the historical events of the Holocaust, and heard from two guest speakers. Nadia Abisch was a child in France during the Holocaust, and she told us about her survival after being hidden by her parents. Jenny Gough is a second generation Holocaust survivor, and she described the effects of the Holocaust on her father and his friends. We are very fortunate as a school to be invited annually to mark this occasion in the local Synagogue, and we would like to express our thanks to everyone who makes this memorable trip possible.



## RHODES AMBASSADORS CHARITY CAKE SALE

The Rhodes Ambassadors did a fantastic job of running a cake stall during Yr8 parents' evening. They had home-made cakes and good quality shop treats, which were well received by hungry parents/carers and teachers alike. The Ambassadors had a great time giving their time and effort, and raised over £100 for Cancer Research.



### **New opportunities for 2019: apprenticeships at leading companies across the UK**

Here's your regular round-up of all the latest jobs, including school/college leaver roles, and apprenticeships at top employers. Apply now!



#### **Food manufacturing**

Learn the ropes of food manufacturing at the world's largest food and drinks manufacturer. Nestlé is looking for applicants who like testing out new ideas for this three-year programme, which comes with a Level 3 qualification, salary and lots of training. Available in Wisbech, Fawdon, Halifax, and Tutbury

View and apply [here](#)

#### **Actuarial**

Aon's teams provide expert pensions advice. This scheme supports apprentices to study towards the Certified Actuarial Analyst Qualification and comes with a salary and benefits package. Positions are available in Birmingham, Epsom, Farnborough, Leeds, London, Glasgow, Manchester and St Albans.



View and apply [here](#)



The National Audit Office holds the government to account and improves public services. Its successful apprenticeship equips young people with the Chartered Accountancy qualification, as well as the skills needed to become a manager and a leader. Available in London and Newcastle.

View and apply [here](#)

# News from the Library



Everyone who has completed and returned the Harry Potter Night form to Professors Ward or Bhambra is on the guest list, and we look forward to welcoming you next Friday 8th February for an evening of magic and mischief. Parents/carers – please remember that if your child is going home with someone else, we need to know in advance – who knows where the dementors lurk....

Nothing better than eating lunch in the library, demolishing Mrs Coles' biscuits and talking about books! Members of the Alexandra Palace Children's Book Award group are beginning to stress over which book they are going to choose as their winners from an amazing shortlist.



## Recommended Reads of the Week

World Book Day is on the horizon (7th March), although here in the library we think Every Day is World Book Day. A while ago, the WBD organisation conducted a major survey on "books that rock your world" and came up with a shortlist of 50. Take a look here <https://bit.ly/2RvpjZs> for some ideas this week.



What to Watch on TV: **Eggheads** on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February, 6pm, BBC2. See favourite children's authors Maz Evans (*Who Let the Gods Out?* Series, and Fortismere library visitor from last year), Robins Stevens (*Murder Most Unladylike* series), Lisa Thompson (*The Goldfish Boy*, *The Light Jar*) and Mark Huckerby and Nick Ostler (co-authors of the *Defenders of the Realm* series, and Sky's *Moominvalley*) battle with the insufferable know-it-alls!

# Fortismere Robotics update

## Fortismere Robotics update

The VEX EDR teams 72477A and 72477B both completed at the Grieg City Academy VEX EDR Regional event last Friday where 16 teams in total completed. Teams were represented from many schools including the John Warner School (last year's VEX EDR UK Champions), both Queen Elizabeth's boys and girls schools, City of London School for Girls, and Westminster school. The Fortismere teams met against each other in the semi-final where 72477A progressed to the final to eventually win!

Congratulations to Tyler Adams, Lorenzo Shepherd, Max Szczech, Marco Baschiera Sabet, Robbie Buxton and Cameron Zeki

Next Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February Fortismere will be hosting an International VEX EDR competition where 32 teams from all over the world will be competing!





# Music Department

## **Charity Band Night – Thurs 7 February 2019, 6.30pm Music Hall, north Wing**

Any students, parents, friends, staff, ex-students, neighbours; in fact anyone from our local community that want to perform at our fabulous Charity Band Night, please get in touch with Head of Music & Music technology, Ms S. Ogilby [sogilby@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:sogilby@fortismere.org.uk)

To purchase tickets please go to [www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk](http://www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk)

We are looking for variety and a range of performances which will generate profit for charity.

Performances can be instrumental and/ or vocal in any popular/ world genre.

Rehearsals on Weds 6 Feb in the music hall, during the school day – see Ms Ogilby for a rehearsal schedule.

Please come and support an evening of popular music from parents, staff, students and ex-students!





# 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 "Hilarious jokes, impossible poses from this original act" Heavenly Comedy

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

We hope to see you there!