Transforming Lives Through Education

Issue 31, 14June 2019

Co-Headteachers' Weekly Roundup

Today we say good bye to four of our six visitors from the British School in New Delhi. It has been a wonderful experience for both our visitors and the school: we have shared our similarities and differences and departments have showcased the best that Fortismere has to offer. Ms Bhambra has been the perfect school host (ably assisted by Ms Demetriou), providing both a special lunch and breakfast for our guests. We look forward to a long and fruitful partnership with the school.

This week also sees the end of the vast majority of GCSE and A Level exams. One Year 13 student was spotted post-final exam wondering around the school. When asked if there was something wrong, he just expressed his surprise and slight confusion that he was no longer a school student. For all those Year 13s leaving this week, even if you have physically left the building, we still consider you part of our school community. Indeed, a group of former Year 13s are coming back to school to host a UCAS question and answer with Year 12, proving that no-one really leaves Fortismere. Both Year 11 and Year 13 still have their proms to look forward to and we hope this rounds off the exam period in proper celebratory fashion.

Yesterday the names of the five colleges starting in September were unveiled. Students had put forward a long list of interesting names which the Senior Leadership Team whittled down to five. Students had included an array of names linked to popular culture and local hostelries but we opted for the names of people who had links to London and in some cases, North London. The colleges will be named after the surnames of the following notable people: Rosalind Franklin, codiscoverer of DNA who died before she could share in the Nobel Prize, Samuel Selvon, the Trinidadian author of 'The Lonely Londoners', Mary Wollstonecraft, author of the 'Vindication of the Rights of Women', Alan Turing and John Keats. The names chosen will support the colleges in building new identities and offer a range of different talents, cultures and experiences.













We have also appointed our five heads of year: Ms Cuenca (Year 7), Ms Williams (Year 8), Mr Lewis (Year 9), Ms Arrowsmith (Year 10) and Ms Williams (Year 11). The tutor groups are in the process of being finalised and will be sent to parents and carers as soon as the process is finished. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Paul and Ms Mangan for all their hard work, dedication and warmth as Heads of College. We will all miss their work in the pastoral side of the school but know that they will continue to influence our policy and practice as we build our new system.

We hear a rumour that summer might be back next week, so we wish everyone a warm and hopefully dry, weekend.



Ms Zoe Judge



Ms Jo Davey

Dates For Your

- 24 June Year 11 Prom
- 25 June Year 13 Prom
- 03 July early closure 1pm year 6 to year7 transition day
- 13 July Fortitude 12-18.00pm

Messages

Business and Economics

(Belated) Congratulations to Y11 Economics students, Sam Cooklin, Gabriel Mindham and Freddy Cowls on their fine performances in reaching the Semi-Final stage of the IFS Student Investor Competition. They subsequently came 21st out of the top 500 teams, having come 147th out of over 5000 teams entered in Round 1. This augurs well for future competitions.

Their team (hsEZ101) invested their virtual money in a set of stocks and other investment instruments and they must create two portfolios:

• The Active Investor portfolio allows teams to trade every day. Each month, the team with the most improved Active Investor portfolio will be rewarded with a prize (maximum one prize per team).

The Strategic Investor portfolio only allows a limited number of trades per month, encouraging long term thinking.

Teams have a virtual £100,000 to invest in each portfolio.

The next Competition begins in October and Fortismere students from Y10 upwards will be eligible to compete.

Year 11 Student Leader opportunities 2019 -2020

K Williams

I am starting the process of recruiting next year's Year 11 Student Leaders. Students who are interested in the position need to complete an application form and hand it into me by next Friday the 21 June. Application forms can be collected from me personally in north wing. Successful applications will be shortlisted for an interview on Friday, 28 June.

K Williams Head Ephesus



Messages

'Easyfundraising' - Online Donation Website

Easyfundraising is online donation website; it works in a similar way to many other loyalty shopping sites, but instead of earning points when you shop, you raise a donation for your cause instead. We have registered Fortismere School up as a cause and are now simply awaiting your support. With an array of leading retailers including, Amazon, popular supermarket chains, clothing shops, electronic shops and hotel brands, there is an abundance of donation opportunities.

Easyfundraising can turn your everyday online shopping into free donations for Fortismere. How? Just start online shopping first at Easyfundraising, then shop as normal. The retailers will then make a small donation to say 'thank you' to Fortismere.

Easyfunding have 3,564 retailers to choose from and so far have raised over £23 million for thousands of community groups, schools, sports clubs, small and large charities across UK Easy!

Here is the link https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/panel/ find your favourite shop and when you buy, money is donated direct from the shop to the school.

easyfundraising

Art & Photography Exhibition

The Art & Photography Department would like to invite you to the A level Art & Photography Exhibition on Thursday 20 June, 6.30-8.30pm in North Wing, Creighton Avenue. This is a great opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our year 13 students and gives students in years 10, 11 and 12 an insight into the Art and A level course.

A level Art & Photography Exhibition





eel good shopping

GCSE results day: What are your options?

For many, it means finding out whether or not you've attained a sixth form/college place. But for others there are plenty more choices to consider, Fortismere careers service Ms Phillips will be available together with Haringey Sixth Form, Barnet and Southgate College and Waltham Forest College, Thursday 22 August to support students think about alternative post-16 options.

Post-16 providers will be situation within **South Wing** small conference room, 1st floor between 9am-1pm.

Careers service will be accessible, ground floor LINC Building

8am-11:30am.

Kind regards

Careers service

A level results day: What are your options?

For many, it means finding out whether or not you've attained a university place. But for others there are plenty more choices to consider, Fortismere careers service will be accessible Thursday 15August to support students think about alternative university options/ pathways.

Time: 8am-1pm

Location: Ground floor, LINC building

Kind regards

Careers service

Refund of Cashless Catering Balances – Years 11 and 13

The last examinations for Years 11 and 13 take place on Tuesday, 25 June. From 28 June, the Finance Team will begin the refund of cashless catering balances remaining on the students' accounts to parents/carers. Please note, that once a refund has been actioned it can take up to 3 days' for the balance to be returned to the bank card on which it was originally paid. We take this opportunity of wishing all students leaving Fortismere the best of luck in their future and in their exams.

Messages

City Hall with "WE" - conference on the environment - sustainability summit

Well done to the ambassadors who attended the "WE" - conference on the environment. It was a day of group work, panel discussion and action planning from representatives across London.

Panel members were: Besma Whayeb - environmental activist and blogger of "curiously conscious". Interested in green action and individual changes that people can make. She began her journey when she asked herself questions about where food and fashion comes from.

<u>James Long</u> - Youth Development Officer at the Canal and River Trust.

Henry Greenwood from Green School Projects.

Adriana Spence from Global Action Plan which aims to help people live more sustainable lifestyles.

Issues discussed in the panel centered around questions on financial incentives and dis-incentives to change behaviour of energy consumption, leadership from governments, householders switching to green energy providers and individuals divesting their money and savings away from large corporations who fund fossil fuels

Some of the tips that were offered for individuals during the course of the day were:

Think about where your items go once you put them in the bin? Aim to create less waste.

Think about the fruit and vegetables you buy and if they are flown across the world or if they are in season and grown in the UK.

The fashion industry is a big contributor to environmental damage. Can you swap clothes or buy second hand?

Little wins - walk, cycle, take public transport, check home insulation, turn off car engines at traffic lights.

Don't feel guilty for taking action - try to work with others – get connected.

Be aware of the impact your lifestyle is having. Once you are aware, then you can change.

There is still on-going projects being planned at school by the Environment group and all are welcome to attend on Mondays at 3.30pm in T19.





News from the Library

Foyles Young Poet of the Year Competition 2019

Fortismere has some amazing creative writers, and a few years ago one of our students actually came second in this prestigious nationwide award. How wonderful it would be to see another winner! And this year, the Foyles competition is being judged by Raymond Antrobus, Fortismere alumnus (not that he would be biased...) The deadline for entries is 31st July. Tips, criteria and entry form here http://bit.ly/2X173hD





Our Y8 Carnegie Shadowers are going from strength to strength with their reading and reviews, and thank you to all the parents who have let us know how much their children have enjoyed reading books they wouldn't normally pick up. The winner of the Award will be announced next Tuesday, and our Shadowers are being treated to a party in the library during lunchtime. We're excited to see if our winner matches the judges' choice this year! http://bit.ly/2Vqujon

Library closure: please note, the library will not be open during lunchtime on Tuesday 18th June (see above). Please let your children know.

Recommended Read of the Week

"Social and emotional skills are more significant for children's academic attainment than their IQ" (*Prof Robin Bannerjee, Professor of Development Psychology, Sussex University*). "Reading allows us to see the world through the eyes of others. A good book is an empathy engine" (*Chris Riddell*). It was Empathy Day on 11th June. Coupled with Refugee Week next week, this means that, as usual, we will be promoting lots of #ReadforEmpathy books! For starters, try Gill Lewis' *The Closest Thing to Flying*. It tells the story of two girls – Semira from Eritrea and Hen from London - living 100 years apart but connected by a diary. It's a perfect story, beautifully told.





Drama Department

Year 12 Exam Night

Jerusalem by Jez Butterworth (extracts From)

Monday 8th July

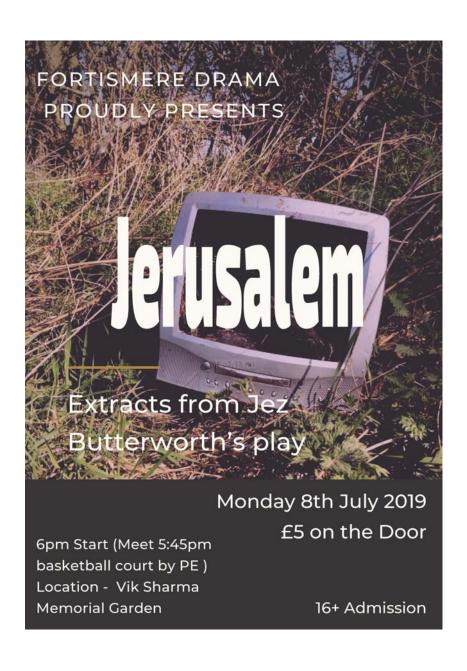
6pm Start (Meet 5:45pm on the basketball court by the PE block)

Location - Outside performance space at the Vik Sharma Memorial Garden in Fortismere

Extracts last 40 minutes

Tickets £5 on the door

This performance is for 16+ as it contains adult themes and language.



Drama Department

Wind In the Willows Auditions

Students are welcome to attend auditions for next year's Drama production Wind in the Willows.

The earth is dying, there is no planet B. How will Moly, Ratty, Toady and Badger deal with their habitat destruction?

The production will be in December. Auditions 3:30pm Monday 24th June NW hall. Please sign up outside the NW Hall. We are looking for Actors, Singers, Dancers and Technical students.



Fortitude Donations

FORTITUDE, the largest fundraising activity of the year is happening **13th July from 12.00 to 6.00 pm.**

Live music (featuring students), fairground rides, food trucks and lots of games and vendors.

As parents and carers of students at Fortismere, we rely on your help and donations to make the day a huge success.

Early bird tickets are on sale at the library £3

Donation requests (drop off in South Wing):

2 Tombolas: bottles & 'stuff' (biscuits, beauty products, etc) and chocolate & sweets

Teenage and Vintage Clothing: vintage or interesting clothing, outgrown clothes from your teenager

Also any hats, bags, sunglasses, jewellery, must be in CLEAN, WEARABLE condition

Cakes and Salads: please bring on the day





Volunteers on the day:

Help with set up, sell tickets, take tickets, clean up

Please contact Maria at mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk.

SALADS & QUICHE STALL: Please bring salad and / or quiche to Fortitude at 11.30am on Saturday. (If people want to drop earlier, Please contact me mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk

- CAKES: All cakes welcome. Please bring along to Fortitude on the day.
- VOLUNTEERS: It won't happen without you. We really need volunteers. Please get in with mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk if you can help set up, help run a stall during the fair or help with clear up at the end of the day.
- VINTAGE CLOTHES: Please bring to the South Wing Reception as soon as you can as we want to be able to sort them so they look lovely for Saturday.







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 Forelia Cale 2019

Charity Appeal: Noah's Ark Children's Hospice















We are delighted to announce that as a whole school fundraising event, **all 6 colleges** are teaming up to raise money for the Noah's Ark Children's charity.

Noah's Ark Children's Hospice is a community-based hospice service providing support for children and young people with life-limiting or life-threatening conditions and their families in North and Central London. This fantastic charity runs a wide range of services from specialist medical care, home support, activity days, bereavement support and much, much more.

It is also a particularly crucial moment for Noah's Ark as they are currently building the "Ark" – a purpose built specialist hospice center in Barnet, which will make a huge impact on the care they can ofFor more information we encourage parents to view this brief online video which details some of the charities fantastic work;



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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RalsBBALCGA.

The Rainbow Run – Sunday 30th June

To raise money for this worthwhile cause a large number of students, staff and student ambassadors will be completing the Rainbow Run – a 5km paint fueled event in Trent Park! We welcome parents and carers to join us and signing up takes only a few minutes at the Noah's Ark website.

If you wish to sponsor the assembled team of runners it can be done by either cash or online. Form tutors in all colleges will be collecting during VT or alternatively please visit our just giving page to make an online donation.

https://www.justgiving.com/Fortismeresecondaryschool



Thank you for your support!