



Ms Zoe Judge



Ms Jo Davey



Co-Headteachers' Weekly Roundup

One of the best aspects of being part of a school like Fortismere is the fact that we are part of such an active and cohesive community. At this particular time of year we are able to take advantage of all the wonderful events our community has to offer. Our festive celebrations kicked off in style this weekend as this Sunday the FSA hosted our Christmas fair which was a fantastically lively event with over 50 stalls selling gifts, lots of activities to keep children entertained and delicious food delights begin served, many of which had been prepared by our own students. Our Christmas fair is becoming something of a local tradition in Muswell Hill and seems to get better and receive even greater support from our community each year. Thank you to the FSA and in particular Maria Demetriou, the FSA chair, who worked so tirelessly to make it happen. We'd also like to thank one of our support staff members, Carol Oddi, who gave up so much of her own



time to support the event and to create our amazing grotto which has really brightened up South Wing foyer and made sure we are all aware that Christmas has well and truly begun at Fortismere.

It is so fantastic that on the same day a number of our Alumni from the school when it was known as Creighton (1967-1983) came back for a reunion event organised by our fundraiser, Miriam Clarke. Our Alumni were able to be reunited with many of their old classmates and teachers, and it was great that they were able to do so in the presence of one of their own, former Creighton student Ms Davey! We were really reminded this weekend that there is real support from Fortismere from all students and families, both past and present.

Our music centre also goes from strength to strength and following on from hearing the Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra with their programme of Glinka, Beethoven and a beautifully indulgent Rachmaninov symphony on 25th Nov., we're looking forward this weekend to 'Songs for Mary and other Christmas music' performed by the Fortismere Community Choir. We hope many parents can join them at St. Andrew's church. So with many community events already underway this we are looking forward to seeing many more of our families at the concerts and performances still to come. It really is the most wonderful time of the year!

Dates For Your Diary

- 9 Dec Fortismere Community Choir, Songs for Mary... 7:30pm St Andrew's church
- 15 Dec LINC coffee morning, 8:45 am, Library
- 18 Dec GCSE Mock Results published to parents
- 19 Dec May Song play - 7pm, North Wing Hall
- 21 Dec Last day of term before holidays
- 3 Jan Term starts
- 15 Jan Parent Forum, 7:30
- 23 Jan Parent Forum info evening; Go4Schools: "Assessment and New Accountability Measures2, 7pm

DON'T MISS OUT!

NEWS YOU CAN USE

SECRET SANTA CHOCOLATES AND DELIVERY

&



- Selling Chocolate Santas - £1 each
- Thurs 14th NW, Fri 15th SW @lunch time
- Personal message
- Hand delivered in the last week of term

- 1 raffle ticket = 50p
3 raffle tickets = £1
- 5 x £5 amazon vouchers
 - 5 x Skip the lunch queue pass + a friend
 - 5 x chocolate boxes



Alexandria Secret Santas

Following a successful Secret Santa event last Christmas, Alexandria ambassadors are organising it once again - along with a Christmas raffle to raise money for the Teenage Cancer Trust. Come and celebrate Christmas with us by sending a Secret Chocolate Santa to your friends/teachers - or get the chance to win Amazon vouchers by buying some fantastic raffle tickets. Don't miss the dates!

THANK YOU from the FSA!

The FSA would like to say a HUGE thank you to everyone who helped make Sunday's Christmas Fair a great success and raise much-needed money for Fortismere. An enormous thank you to everyone who supported the event, from the volunteers who made the day possible to the visitors who attended. An incredible amount of work went into running the fair and we can't possibly list everything, but amongst many other things, thank you to everyone who donated hamper/tombola items; those who helped set up and volunteer on the day; the DT department; Carol Oddi and Vanita Bhambra for the amazing grotto; everyone who made delicious food and Martin Gerard for their sponsorship and Harrison's raffle donation. We can't do it without you and we are forever grateful for your support. If you'd like to be more involved with the next event then please get in touch. Email mariademetriou70@hotmail.co.uk. Please consider supporting Fortismere with a regular donation to the FSA: <http://www.justgiving.com/fortismereschool>. Even £10 each month really helps. We are also very grateful for one-off donations.

Silent Auction: Creighton Christmas Hamper

If you missed the opportunity to win or buy a wonderful hamper at the marvellous Christmas Fair run by the FSA on Sunday, don't worry! Our very kind friends at Harrison's, the school caterers, have donated a lavish Fortnum and Mason Grosvenor Hamper to auction in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the start of Creighton School. Packed to please even the most discerning palate, the Hamper is filled to bursting with an impressive feast for Christmas. Contents include the famous Old English Hunt Marmalade and Blackberry Preserve, joined by sweet pleasures such as Cinnamon Dusted Milk Chocolate Almonds and scrumptious Piccadilly Salted Caramel Biscuits. To drink there is Fortnum's Breakfast Blend Loose Leaf Tea and Jubilee Blend Coffee Beans, ensuring you're spoiled for choice. Finally, there's a bottle each of Dao Tinto and Bordeaux Blanc, retrieved from Fortnum and Mason cellars to enhance this hearty menu. Get bidding now and grab a bargain with this wonderful hamper for a Christmas present for you, or as a present for someone special: <https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/creightonchrissiehamper>. Contains alcohol. Dimensions: 49(L) x 31(W) x 22(H)cm. Please note that it is an offence to purchase or attempt to purchase alcohol if you are under age 18. The auction closes Monday 18th December. For a list of ingredients/allergens, contact Fortnum and Mason at: <https://www.fortnumandmason.com/information/contact-us>. Thank you for your support of the school, teaching students on the hill since 1906.



FROM THE LIBRARY

AUTHORS FOR GRENFELL

Author Mike Revell talks to Yr 7 Classes

What an amazing day we had with author Mike Revell on Thursday 30th November. We “won” Mike in the Authors for Grenfell auction, and he travelled from Wales to talk to six Year 7 classes in return for a donation to the Grenfell disaster fund. Mike told the students how he wanted to be a wrestler or an American footballer and how reading was something he hated. Luckily Harry Potter changed all that and he decided he wanted to create books that he would have loved to read. An indication of how engaging and entertaining his talks were is that we have had to order more books for students that wanted to buy! A very generous man, a very inspirational day.



COVERUP

The book chosen for our recent CoverUp meeting (J G Ballard’s *The Drowned World*) generated much discussion and made for a really interesting evening. Our next meeting, open to parents and staff of Fortismere, is on Thursday 25th January, 7pm in the library. It’s our annual Compare and Contrast time – we’ll be talking about *Love, Nina: Despatches from Family Life* by Nina Stibbe and *Dear Lupin: Letters to a Wayward Son* by Charlie and Roger Mortimer. As ever, everyone welcome, even if you haven’t read/finished the book(s).

YA SHOT

If you’re looking for the perfect gift this year, then YA Shot has you covered! <http://yashot.co.uk/> What’s a better present than books, authors and a great day out (14th April 2018)? Here’s the link: <http://bit.ly/2AtyEfF>. Tickets are now available – I’ve got mine!

BOOKTRUST

If you are feeling charitable during this festive season, here is a particularly lovely initiative by the BookTrust charity for children in care <http://bit.ly/2j2ZWQr>

RECOMMENDED TELLY

So much on the telly box this week to amaze, entertain and educate! <http://bit.ly/2y8zpK9>

NOTES FROM NON

A weekly tip from Non Pratt, our Patron of Reading

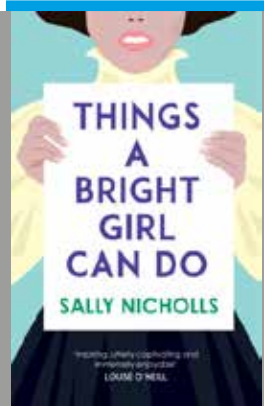


“Worried that they’re reading something problematic? Use it as an opportunity for (gentle, non-judgemental) discussion. Never shut curiosity down.”

RECOMMENDED READ

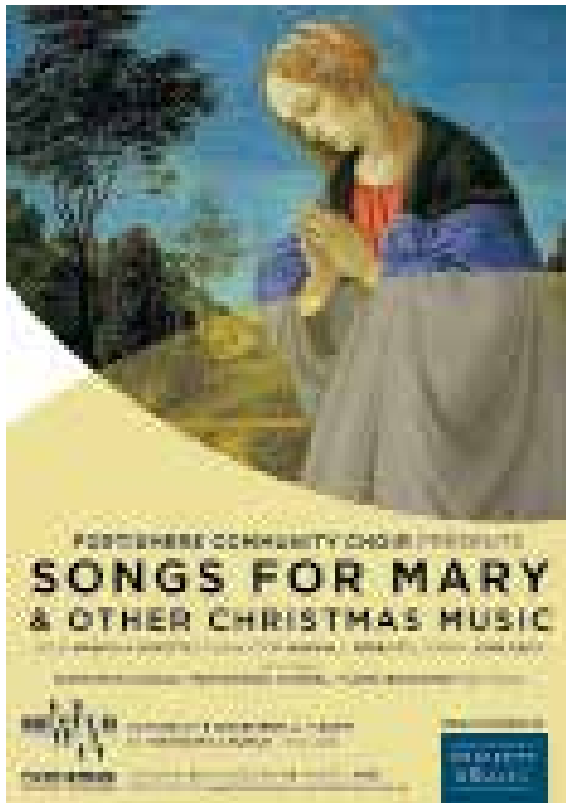
Things a Bright Girl Can Do

This is how historical fiction should be- the best I’ve read for many a year! “Things a Bright Girl Can Do” by Sally Nicholls is a scrupulously researched and very well written YA novel based on the suffragette movement and World War I. A wonderfully accurate and entertaining story.



EVENTS

FORTISMERE COMMUNITY CHOIR



FANCY A CUPPA?



LINC coffee morning

Fancy a cuppa? Then come along on 15th December from 8:45 - 10am in the Library for the LINC Coffee morning. Parents and carers are invited to join us in the library for tea, coffee and cakes. This will be an opportunity to meet members of the LINC team and talk to us about your child in an informal setting. Please sign into South Wing reception and let them know you are here for our coffee morning. We hope to see lots of you there!

Thank you,
Miss Kat Jackson
Director of Learning (Progress and Attainment, Vulnerable Groups)

Parent Governor election: deadline extended

The deadline for voting in the Parent Governor election has been extended until Thurs 14 Dec 2017 3.30pm. Delays in the distribution of ballot papers to students have made it necessary to extend the voting period to ensure that all parents who want to participate have sufficient time to vote before the deadline. Thank you to all parents and carers who have already voted.

Sam Murray, Clerk to the Governors



SPORTS AND OTHER NEWS



Congratulations to our sports teams!

Congratulations to our junior and senior handball teams. They are both champions of Haringey, well done girls.

Well done also to our Year 9 netball team who beat Gladesmore 12-2 last Thursday.



Volleyball news



Well done to our senior girls Volleyball team who are Haringey champions- beating Channing, Gladesmore, Dukes Aldridge, St Thomas More and Alexandra Park.

Fixtures



U13 Boys Haringey Handball Competition- hosted at Fortismere on Mon. 11th Dec. Wed. 13th Dec. – 2nd XI Football v Alec Reed (H)

Good luck to our Ks3 dance quartet 'Love Four Dance' who are showing a piece called 'The Resolution' at the Haringey Dance show next week. The event is on Wednesday 13th December held at Heartlands school.

Football news



Football result:

Y7 Boys won 3-2 vs JFS – a hat trick from Charles Trezise-Bruce to take the team into the ¼ final of Middlesex Cup!

Classics trip to Rome

We unexpectedly have a spare place for a student for our Classics Trip to Rome. This will be between 9th -12th March 2018. It costs £565. We have restricted it to students studying Classics but if your child does not do Classics but is interested in coming to Rome with the school and seeing the ancient sites, including the Colosseum, Forum, Hadrian's Villa, Ara Pacis and Ostia, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mr. Strathdene: (mstrathdene@fortismere.org.uk).



UPDATES

National Cipher Challenge 2017

Congratulations to the following students who have reached the final round of the National Cipher Challenge organised by the University of Southampton: Adam Nash, Hannah Kennedy, JJ Style, Joey Gold, Josh Hudson, Korab Berisha, Louis Watson, Luca Seemungal, Max Clarke, Nathan Hardy, Robbie Buxton, Sam Poirier and Tom Larkin.



LAST CALL! Ephesus Foodbank collection. Student Ambassadors are still collecting for the local foodbank. Please bring all tinned food and dried foods to the foyer in North Wing Hall.

The students have worked incredibly well as a team and their endeavours have been extremely pleasing to observe and support. The competition is structured as a series of encrypted messages which tell a story. This year the competitors will be trying to unravel the mystery of Rome's Lost Legion, which vanished in Northern Britain in 108 AD. The reason for their disappearance and the nature of the treasure they guarded has been lost for centuries. Now it is their job, alongside Harry, Jodie and Maryam, to uncover the truth.

Points are awarded for speed and accuracy (with accuracy more important) but students do not have to rush to download the first challenges immediately as they have a day or two in which they can still get top marks. In later challenges speed will become important, and the full schedule of marks is published on the Challenge pages so students can see how quickly they will need to get started in each round.

The final round opens next Thurs. 14th December.

MAYSONG



SUPERSTITION, HERESY, WITCHCRAFT

TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER 2017

7.00PM

NORTH WING HALL
FORTISMERE SCHOOL

TICKETS £4.50

FORTISBUCKS



On Thursday at lunch time our Olympia student ambassadors provided a range of tasty hot drinks for students and staff alike! They raised £79 for their chosen charity, Young Minds, which is an amazing achievement. I would like to thank our budding baristas for their outstanding organisational skills, their positive attitude and their enthusiasm throughout the event. I would also like to especially thank the catering staff in North Wing canteen for their assistance as well. To find out more about this great charity click: <https://youngminds.org.uk/about-us/our-mission/>. **Mr G Lewis**