




Transforming Lives
Through Education

Weekly Newsletter Issue: Friday 18th March 2022

School Leadership Messages	Contents	
<p>School photographs</p> <p>Bentley Photographic will be attending school next Thursday 24th March to take individual school photos. For year 11 these will be the photos used in the Yearbook – they will have their photos taken first, as requested, so they can look their best! All students will be informed of the time of their photo by their form tutors and will be escorted by their class teachers to have them taken.</p> <p>Dress Code</p> <p>Please could we remind parents and carers to ensure that your sons and daughters bring their lanyard to school every day. The lanyard is a very important part of our safeguarding as a non-uniform school. We need to be able to identify who belongs onsite, including sixth form students.</p> <p>As the weather warms up, students are more tempted to wear inappropriate clothing. Our dress code is based on a practical and work-related approach to clothing and we will ask students to wear clothes provided by Fortismere if they break the dress code.</p> <p>Covid Update: New guidance</p> <p>Please could parents and carers continue to let us know if your son or daughter has Covid. We pass weekly totals on to Public Health Haringey who continue to monitor numbers. Thank you to those who contacted us this week.</p> <p>Numbers have increased this week amongst students and staff. We would urge parents and carers to remind your sons and daughters of the precautions they can take to minimise the risk of infection.</p> <p>New guidance for schools was issued by the DfE on February 21. From February 24 Covid restrictions have been lifted but we will continue to promote good practice for hand and respiratory hygiene. We are aware that some students still wish to wear face coverings in the communal areas and we will allow them to do so.</p>	Co-Headteachers	
	Governing Body Notices	
	Physics Department Notices	
	Music Department Notices	
	Careers Information Notices	
	Library Notices	
	Drama Department Notices	
	PE & Sport Notices	
	Fundraising Notices	
	Fortismere Holiday Activities	
Calendar		
18/3/22	Red Nose Day	
20/3/22	UN International Day of Happiness	
24/3/22	A Level Music Recital	
30/3/22	7X Parents Evening	
27/4/22	7Y Parents Evening	
		

Co-Headteachers

Weekly Roundup

We are sure we are not alone in feeling lifted from the gloom of winter by the recent bright weather. We have enjoyed chatting to our students as we have been out and about getting our daily doses of vitamin D. We are encouraging students to spend break and lunch times outside getting the opportunity to stretch and breathe some fresh air to complement those hours spent daily in classrooms.

Today we were delighted to observe some very busy Year 7 students charging round the site with a bucket, collecting money for Comic Relief and we were reminded once again that even our youngest students have a strong will to use their initiatives and take action to raise funds that benefit those less fortunate. We are looking forward to finding out how much they have raised.

Earlier this week we were buoyed up by the news that our Girls' U16 football team had won a landslide victory in the final game of the Middlesex Cup leaving them champions. 14-2 is a pretty impressive landslide too! The team performance was reported to be outstanding but we would single out Arya and Tayla Dennis for their goal-scoring prowess. Well done to everyone who took part and led Fortismere girls to glory. We wish the U15 girls the best of luck in their final next Monday.

While it's great to celebrate the advent of the warmer weather and the fact that we are seeing more of the outdoors we are mindful that our Year 11 and Year 13 students are beginning the run into the exams season and making lots of preparations for study and provision. Our departments are in the process of communicating how they can access extra classes and materials (including online) that can support them throughout this period. We'd also encourage them, as they are planning their revision schedules, to factor in some time for well-being which would of course include getting outside and taking part in physical activity.

As we sign off, we'd like to thank Ms Ward (our Librarian) for alerting us to the fact that 20th March (Sunday) is the [UN International Day of Happiness](#). We hope that you spend a happy weekend with your loved ones and hopefully, as much of it as possible in this beautiful sunshine!



Governing Body Notice

Parent Governor Election

Voting in the parent governor election starts today (Friday 18 March) and closes on Friday 1 April 2022 at 5pm. You will receive an email via SurveyMonkey with a link to vote. If you haven't received an email please check your spam or junk folder for the message. If you can't find your email or would prefer to vote by paper ballot please email me as soon as possible. smurray@fortismere.org.uk Statements from the candidates were sent previously by ParentMail and are also published on the website [here](#)
Sam Murray, Clerk to governors

Governors' Surgery

Thank you to all parents and carers who came in for the Governors' Surgery yesterday evening. We discussed a range of issues, including the behaviour policy, SEN provision, communication between parents and staff, the state of buildings at the school and more. All your concerns will be passed on directly to the headteachers. We hope to have another Surgery next term. It was great talking to all of you!

Wendy Sloane

Vice Chair of Governors

Physics Department Notices

Physics Olympiad Success

Congratulations to the following Year 12 students who took part in the British Physics Olympiad – Senior Physics Challenge: Aaron Czarny, Nathan Joseph, Kacper Kwasow, Thomas Lehman, Gabriel Lungah. The BPhO encourages the study of physics and recognises excellence in young physicists through annual physics competitions.



Each of these students took on this challenge which involved sitting a fiendishly challenging test set by the Physics Department at the University of Oxford after school on Friday 4th March. We are really impressed with their results:

Aaron Czarny – Gold Certificate

Thomas Lehman – Bronze Certificate

Nathan Joseph, Gabriel Lungah and Kacper Kwasow - Commendations

The students really enjoyed the challenge and Gabriel told us *"it was an excellent opportunity to try something which goes well beyond the A-Level curriculum"*

Mr Common
Head of Physics

Music Department Notices

Ensembles this Half Term

Day	Lunchtime	After School
Monday	Senior String Group - Concert Hall	KS3 Music Tech - MU1 School Orchestra - Concert Hall
Tuesday	Senior Choir - Concert Hall Percussion Group - MU1 Popular Guitars - MU2	Jazz Band - Concert Hall Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra - 7pm-9pm
Wednesday	Big Band - Concert Hall	Bands (Rooms available for practice)
Thursday	Junior Choir - Concert Hall DJ Club - MU4	KS4 Music Tech - MU4
Friday	Junior String Group - MU2	Classical Guitar Group - Concert Hall
Saturday	Music Theory Classes - 11:30am-12:30pm Fortismere Community Choir - 10am-1pm	

Composition WorkShop

A huge thanks to Mark-Anthony Turnage CBE for coming in to work with our Year 13 A Level students this week. The class were thrilled to have a composer of such repute to talk to them about their music and teach them some tricks of the trade.



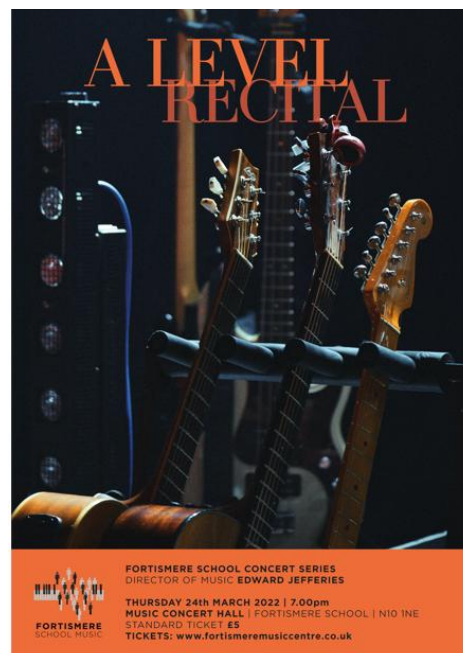
A Level Recital Evening - South Wing Hall - Thursday 24th March 2022 - 7pm

On Thursday 24th March you are cordially invited to come along to listen to our Year 12 and Year 13 A Level students performing their recital pieces in the South Wing Hall.

There will be musical items from our very talented students that will span a number of genres with pieces performed by Rock Guitarists, Classical Guitarists, Trombonists, Cellists and Vocalists.

This promises to be an evening of exceptional music making at Fortismere and we very much look forward to showcasing our Key Stage 5 students in this intimate evening.

Book your tickets now at www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk



Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra - St Andrew's Church N10 - Saturday 26th March 2022 - 7:30pm

On Saturday 26th March the Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra will perform at St Andrews Church, Muswell Hill.

The concert will start with an Overture by Farrenc followed by a Double Concerto for Clarinet and Viola by Bruch featuring two local soloists, Chris Stripp and Hannah Gardiner. The performance will end with the 5th Symphony by Sibelius, a piece of epic proportions that encapsulates the sound of the Finnish Composer.

Tickets for this event cost (£12 for Adults / £8 Concessions / Under 12's Free) and can be purchased at www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk



Concert Tour to Salzburg - October 2022

We are pleased to inform you that the Music Department is organising a Concert Tour in the next academic year to Salzburg, Austria for our young musicians from Wednesday 19th to Tuesday 25th October 2022.

The tour will be an exciting opportunity for our students to work collaboratively in order to perform concert repertoire, experience a new culture, form friendships and create some incredible memories. Letters have gone out to students that play and sing in Fortismere, however if you play an instrument or sing and are interested in joining one of our groups please get in touch with the Director of Music Mr Jefferies by emailing jefferies@fortismere.org.uk



Careers Information & Guidance Notices

Year 11 Visit to City & Islington College

On Thursday, Ms Harris and I accompanied twelve of our Year 11 students on a visit to City and Islington College. We started at the Centre for Media, Business and the Arts and then moved onto the Centre for Applied Sciences. It was interesting to see the range of impressive facilities available at the College which included photographic studios where students had photographs taken. Students particularly enjoyed the tour of the Animal Management Department, where they got some hands-on experience - see their photos below! The tour of the Forensic Science Department was a highlight especially the rooms set up to mimic real crime scenes.

The students enjoyed the day and valued the opportunities this visit gave them to find out more about the different types and levels of post 16 courses available.

Feedback from the students was that the visit had helped some of them decide on new courses, confirm they had made the right choices and for one student that this was not the right place for them. One student commented that *"I enjoyed the day because it gave me hands-on experience, which gives you knowledge as to what the course is about before you start. This is true for both the animal management and the forensic science course"* Another one said *"The day was really good. I particularly liked the Centre for the Arts, Business and Media because it was new and spacious and offered a lot of different courses"*

The visit also helps the school in meeting our Gatsby Benchmarks (a framework for good careers guidance) and I hope to arrange more of these in the future. All of the students were well behaved throughout the visit and were a real credit to Fortismere.

If you want to know more about City & Islington courses [see here](#)

Mrs Andreou

Careers Adviser



Careers Guidance Events

The **UK University & Apprenticeship Search Virtual Fair** will be taking place on **Wednesday 30 March**. Students, teachers and parents can [sign up for their free place here](#).



In addition, the popular **Meet the Russell Group Virtual** event will be taking place on **Wednesday 27 April**. Students, teachers and parents can [sign up for their free place here](#). Please see [here](#) for further details on both these events and associated webinars.

London Screen Academy Open Event - Thursday 24 March 6-8 pm

LSA is a great opportunity for students interested in the Film and TV industry or who enjoy subjects like English, Art, Design & Technology, Film, Media, Music, Photography and more.

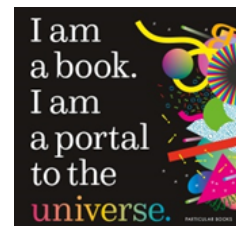


We are looking forward to holding an Open Event in person. This is a great way for prospective students to find out about our LSA alumni, our industry connections, the curriculum and the student experience. To sign up for the Open Event, visit <https://lsa.ac.uk/events/>.

Library Notices

Royal Society Young People's Book Award 2022

As you know, members of Science Club joined with the library to form a panel to vote on the best science book for young people. Thank you to everyone who voted; the winner is "I am a Book. I am a Portal to the Universe" by Stephanie Posavec and Miriam Quick. [Celebrating science with the Young People's Book Prize | The Royal Society - YouTube](#)



"Artichoke Hearts" Drama Workshop

Sita Brahmachari's award winning first novel, "Artichoke Hearts" is now 10 years old! And, excitingly, the theatre rights have been bought by Sudha Bhuchar of Bhuchar Boulevard. You may know Sudha's work as an actress and also as a writer in film, TV and theatre. She will be adapting the novel for theatre over the next couple of years and has partnered with a small number of schools to do workshops around the story. The responses of students in the workshops will help her develop the story into a play. Sudha and her team are coming to Fortismere after Easter, so we are looking for 15 Year 7 students to join the fun – it will be during school time. Please email gward@fortismere.org.uk if you are interested.



Recommended Reads of the Week

It's the International Day of Happiness on 20th March! So here are some "happy" books for you...



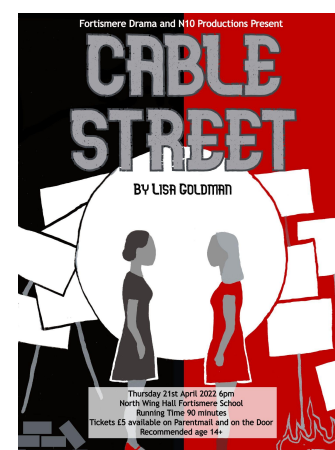
Drama Department Notices

Cable Street - Year 12 Production Thursday 12th April

Don't Miss our Next Drama Production!

Cable Street is about two girls growing up in London's Jewish east end in the 1930s. Leah and Kitty are blood sisters, best friends and more... but they get caught up in the political turmoil caused by Oswald Mosley's fascist Blackshirts. As tensions rise and a battle seems imminent, will Kitty and Leah be able to overcome not only the conflict in the streets, but also the conflict in their hearts?

Tickets on Sale on ParentMail Now



Climate Crisis Drama Workshop Year 8-13

The Drama department is lucky to have several partner theatres we closely work with. On Tuesday this week, Years 7-13 came together for an exciting and thought-provoking workshop with the Donmar Warehouse. After a fascinating discussion about the fate of the planet, students wrote letters to their future selves and created TV adverts for futuristic eco-friendly products! It was wonderful to discover student's insights about climate change and how many creative solutions they have!



Reduced Price West End tickets in March

Official London Theatre have extended the £10-£50 ticket offer until 31 March - Click [here](#)

So whether it's London musicals, plays, operas or comedies you're looking for, there's no better time to check out all that the West End has to offer. Tick off something new, escape to a classic or revisit your most-loved London show.



Sport & PE Notices

Fortismere Girls Rule Middlesex County

Last Monday our U14 and U16 Girls Football teams headed off to play in the Middlesex County Cup Finals. Incredibly Fortismere has three teams through to the Finals (U15s play next Monday) I am very pleased to report that both our teams won their finals very comfortably and can now say that they are the best team for their age in the whole county! What an incredible achievement. Well done to all the girls and their coach Ms Vangucci for their cup success. We wish our U15 Girls all the best of luck in their final on Monday.



Year 13 Basketball Teams in Action!

On Monday afternoon we hosted APS Year 13 A & B Basketball teams for some exciting matches. Our boys do all their training themselves and we were all interested to see how they would compare with teams that have a regular coach. The 'A' Team went first with our boys making a storming start, APS just couldn't live with us and we raced into a 10-0 lead. The 2nd and 3rd quarters were a little more even but the 4th proved a one sided affair, in our favour, and we eventually won the match with a comfortable 39-22. The 'B' Team struggled to get a foothold in their match, running out the losers in a one sided contest but there were still plenty of positives and things to work on. Well played everyone!



Year 10 B's @UCS

On Tuesday our Year 10 B Team headed over to UCS for a football match. It was a tough afternoon playing the first half against the opposition's 'A' Team and then the second half against their 'B' Team. We finished 4-1 down but again our boys showed a wonderful spirit and played with their heads held high. Here they are having a well deserved rest afterwards!



Scholarship Success for Shanice

This week I heard the wonderful news that our Year 13 star tennis player Shanice Weekes has been offered a prestigious tennis scholarship in America. These scholarships are highly sought after and it speaks volumes for Shanice's ability that she has been offered one. Shanice will be a student athlete at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. She will combine her tennis playing with studying biological sciences. We are all so very proud of you Shanice and wish you all the very best with your USA adventure. Keep in touch from across the pond!



Global Game for Sophie

Well done to our Year 11 ice hockey star, Sophie Games, who took part in this year's International Ice Hockey Federations's Global Girls' Game. The Global Girls' Game is a worldwide ice hockey event where women's games take place across the world over one weekend. Sophie is part of the GB Women's Programme and took part in the recent event in Nottingham. The Global Girls' Game sounds like a fantastic celebration of hockey and we're really proud of Sophie.



Girls' Attitudes Survey - thank you for taking part

Thank you so much to all the girls that completed the survey highlighted in last week's Newsletter. The researchers have been so impressed with the response rate from Fortismere that they have sent us £50! I will use this for Girls Sport & PE. You can still complete the online survey - [see here](#) and read last year's report - [see here](#).

Results & Fixtures

Results This Week

Thursday – Netball All Teams v HGW (a) **Y7 won 5-0; Y8 won 5-0; Y9 won 19-0; Y10 won 22-2**

Monday – Football U16 and U14 Girls – County Cup Finals **U16 Champions; U14 Champions**

Monday – Basketball Y13 A & B v APS (A) **A Team won 39-22; B Team lost 2-22**

Tuesday - Football – Y10 'A' v Greig City (H) **Postponed**

Tuesday - Football – Y10 'B' v UCS (A) **lost 1-4**

Tuesday – Football – Y9 v APS (H) **Postponed**

Wednesday 1st and 2nd XI v Highgate (A) 2.15 KO **1st XI 4-4; 2nd XI 3-5**

Thursday – Y5/6 Quick Sticks Hockey Tournament Hosted By Fortismere

Fixtures Next Week

Monday – Basketball U13 & U16 v Heartlands (A)
Monday – Football – U15 Girls County Schools Cup Final
Monday – Football Y10 v Greig City (H)
Tuesday – Netball Y9 & Y10 v SHL (H)
Tuesday – Football Y9 A & B v SHL (H) Grass
Tuesday – Football Y7 'A' v SHL (H) Astro
Wednesday – Hockey U14 Tournament All Day
Thursday – Basketball U13 & U16 v APS (A)

Fundraising & Development Notices

Spring Fundraising Event - Help Us Reach Our Target

Our Quiz Night taking place on **Saturday 7th May 6.30 pm** is our main spring fundraising event and we really need your help to reach our target of £7000.



By taking part in the Quiz Night not only will you have a fun night out but you will also be supporting the school to generate much needed additional income to help us meet shortfalls in funding and increasing costs. Get your tickets early for this not to be missed event hosted by award winning comedian Pauline Eyre. Don't worry if you haven't got a full team of people as we'll make teams by combining smaller groups and don't worry if you aren't very good at quizzes as there will be lots of comedy even if you don't know any answers! Tickets are £10 per person (teams of 8-10 people). Smaller groups will be combined to make up a full team. There will be a bar but please bring food to share with you. Tickets available from <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fortismere-quiz-night-7th-may-tickets-294461180317>

Even if you can't attend the quiz if you think you can support this event in another way please contact me.
Maria Demetriou mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk
Head of Extended School, Fundraising and Development

Supporting the School

We highlighted ways you can support the school in the Newsletter earlier this month but there was a typo in the bank account details listed. Please note that our correct bank details are Fortismere School Account no. 21521365 sort code 40-20-23. For any questions or queries about supporting the school please contact mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk

A reminder of the different ways you can help the school. We really appreciate your support.

Single Gifts & Regular Gifts

One-off donations and regular gifts can be made to Fortismere School by sending a cheque (payable to Fortismere School) or setting up a standing order on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. Please fill in our Gift Form [here](#). Remember to claim **Gift Aid on your donations** by donating to Fortismere School and completing a Gift Aid online form [here](#). We can claim an additional 25% from HMRC at no extra cost to you.

Payroll Giving & Company Giving

If your employer has a Payroll Giving scheme you can make a donation from your gross salary. Donations are deducted from your salary as either a monthly payment or a one off gift. You get tax relief at the highest rate, for example, a £10 donation will cost a 40% taxpayer only £6. Please quote charity number 801227 to your employer or your HR department. A Company or unincorporated association can make a donation to Fortismere School and can then claim corporation tax relief.

Bank details: Our bank details are Fortismere School account no. 21521365 sort code 40-20-23. Please contact mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk with any questions.

Fortismere Easter Holiday Activities

Fortismere Easter Holiday Camps

The Holiday Camps are proving very popular and many of them are now fully booked particularly in week 1.

Activities will run during both weeks of the Easter holidays (*not 15th April, Good Friday*).

Holiday camps start at 9.00am-15.00pm each day and take place at Fortismere School, Tetherdown N10 1NE. A full week costs £80. An early drop-off option (8.00am with breakfast) for an extra charge.

WEEK 1 ACTIVITIES

Mon 4th April-Fri 8th April - **LAST SPACES**

Sports Club for ages 7-15 years

Children will have the opportunity to have fun interacting with others through a range of different sports including football, rounders, tennis and lots of fun competitions.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/easter-holiday-camp-multi-sports-age-7-15-tickets-249192139397>

Mon 4th April-Fri 8th April - **LAST SPACES**

Drama Club for ages 7-15 years

During the fun-filled week children will work on learning improvisation and comedy skills. There will be lots of drama games and exercises to help children develop their confidence and learn new skills.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/easter-cap-drama-age-7-15-tickets-260140636647>

WEEK 2 ACTIVITIES

Mon 11th April-Thurs 14th April

Sports Club for ages 7-15 years

Children will have the opportunity to have fun interacting with others through a range of different sports including football, rounders, tennis and lots of fun competitions.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/easter-holiday-camp-multi-sports-age-7-15-tickets-249247956347>

Mon 11th April-Thurs 14th April

Comic Club for age 7-15 years

Children will learn a wide range of skills and produce their own comic strip. The course content covers:
INTRODUCTION: An overview of comics and cartoon history and their role as tools for storytelling and communication over the years.

BASIC ANATOMY: Showing how the human body works and is designed to move.

CHARACTER DESIGN: How to work up designs for different types of characters and how they fit into the stories you want to tell.

STORYTELLING: Overview of comics storytelling, layout and structure.

SCRIPTING & LETTERING: A look at the basics of comics scriptwriting and how to produce clear lettering by hand for comics.

COLOURING: An exploration of different colouring techniques (including, if possible, computer colouring).

Using the skills developed over the week, children will work on their own comic stories and by the end of the course will have produced their own complete 8-12 page comic strip.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/easter-holiday-comic-club-age-7-15-tickets-257788270657>

Mon 11th April-Thurs 14th April

Drama Club for ages 7-15 years

During the fun-filled week children will work on learning improvisation and comedy skills. There will be lots of drama games and exercises to help children develop their confidence and learn new skills.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/easter-drama-club-tickets-260142321687>