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<p>OFSTED Session for parents led by Haringey HEP: Tuesday 24th March at 6.00pm online</p> <p>A snappy session for parents, carers and families in understanding the new 2025 Ofsted inspection framework. The what and the how of inspection, how parents and carers will be involved and what information the new report cards will share.</p> <p>Register in advance for the session: here After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the session..</p> <p>Please feedback on our reporting systems</p> <p>We use CosX to record, analyse and report on assessment data at Fortismere. We are working closely with the developers to optimise the experience for all stakeholders and would appreciate your feedback on how the system is working from your perspective. The link to the survey is here - please respond by Monday 13 April.</p> <p>Remember - We want to hear from you</p> <p>Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts using our online feedback form - the link is here and to the right. Whether you have a suggestion, a concern, or simply want to let us know what's working well, we want to hear from you. The form is quick and easy to complete, and all responses are carefully reviewed by the senior leadership team. Thank you</p> <p>Thank you to the Friends of Fortismere gardening group - we can now see the results of all that bulb planting you did for us in November! You've made the school entrance look lovely!</p>	<p>Headteacher's Message</p> <hr/> <p>Departmental News & Notices</p> <hr/> <p>Safeguarding Information</p> <hr/> <p>Calendar</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1070 936 1182 1070">22.03</td> <td data-bbox="1182 936 1516 1070">FCSO Concert 7pm St Andrews Church N10 Tickets here</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1070 1070 1182 1182">26.03</td> <td data-bbox="1182 1070 1516 1182">Spring Music Concert 7pm Tickets here</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1070 1182 1182 1283">27.03</td> <td data-bbox="1182 1182 1516 1283">Term Ends - early closure 12.30pm</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <div data-bbox="1106 1308 1481 1823"> </div> <p data-bbox="1129 1832 1457 1865"><i>Springtime in South Wing</i></p> <hr/> <p data-bbox="1114 1910 1473 1977">Feedback at Fortismere here</p>	22.03	FCSO Concert 7pm St Andrews Church N10 Tickets here	26.03	Spring Music Concert 7pm Tickets here	27.03	Term Ends - early closure 12.30pm
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Headteacher's Message

Our careers programme has truly come alive this week, and we could not be prouder of what we are offering our students. On Wednesday, Years 11 and 12 attended our very own university fair in South Wing Hall. It is genuinely unusual for a secondary school to host its own higher education fair, but at Fortismere we believe in going above and beyond. Significant numbers of universities from across the UK were represented, giving our students direct access to admissions teams and the chance to ask the questions that really matter as they plan their futures. Meanwhile, Year 8 had an inspiring assembly session on apprenticeships, opening their eyes early to the full spectrum of pathways available beyond school.

But we are not stopping there. Next Tuesday is our Careers Day, and we are genuinely thrilled about the calibre of professionals who will be spending time with our students; many of them are from our parent body. We have assembled an incredible lineup: speakers from major corporations including PWC, representatives from Downing Place discussing sixth form opportunities, doctors exploring pathways to medicine, JR Medical covering healthcare careers, speakers from the Government Legal Service, representatives from construction and engineering giants, a practising barrister, experts in architecture and planning, professionals from the UN and humanitarian sector, a revenue solicitor, and specialists in research and finance. And that is just a sample! What a day it promises to be for our Year 10s, some Year 11s, and all of Year 12.

This week also saw practical examinations for Year 13 Drama and Year 11 Music students. We hear that students performed brilliantly (This is Fortismere, we would expect no less!) Thank you to our Drama and Music departments for all the preparation and support that goes into these crucial moments. We are very much looking forward to the Spring Concert next week, which promises to be a wonderful celebration of our students' musical talents.

I have been particularly proud this week to hear about the mentoring taking place across year groups. We are now in the second week of Year 12 students mentoring Year 11s, supporting them as they think carefully about their next steps into post-16 study. It is such valuable work, not just for the Year 11s receiving guidance, but for our Year 12s who are developing their own leadership and communication skills. Meanwhile, our Year 9 reading champions have been reading with Year 7 students, inspiring their passion for literature and encouraging them to talk about what reading means to them. These peer relationships are so important in building our community and developing confident, articulate young people who support one another.

Finally, a reminder about an excellent opportunity exclusively for Fortismere parents next Tuesday, 24th March at 6.00pm online. Fran Hargrove, Deputy CEO of the Haringey Education Partnership, will be leading a snappy session on understanding the new 2025 Ofsted inspection framework. You will learn about what inspection involves, how parents and carers will be involved, and what information the new report cards will share. This is a fantastic chance to understand what Ofsted is looking for and how you can support your child's school. The link to join is on the front page of this Newsletter.

To all our families and students celebrating Eid al-Fitr we wish you a very happy and peaceful Eid Mubarak!

Wishing everyone a wonderful weekend!

Sixth Form & Careers

Fortismere University Fair

Our annual University Fair took place this week, giving our Sixth Form students an exciting opportunity to explore future study options.

The event began with a key note talk from the University of Lancaster on choosing courses and universities, providing students with a clear starting point as they consider their next steps. This was followed by a busy fair with stands from fourteen universities, including several Russell Group institutions. The range of universities gave students a strong sense of the opportunities available to them beyond Sixth Form.

The visiting universities praised our Year 12 students for their confidence and curiosity, noting the wide range of insightful questions they had prepared. Year 11 students also joined during tutor time, gaining an early insight into how their Sixth Form subject choices connect to future pathways.

As part of our wider Sixth Form Futures programme, the University Fair, along with last half term's Futures Evening and the upcoming work experience days, gives students the chance to explore courses, career paths, and the skills and experiences that will support their post-18 ambitions.



Extra-Curricular

Eco Committee News

The Eco Committee recently arranged a meeting with the school catering company to discuss taking a more sustainable approach. Year 8 student, Amelia Saliaeva has written about the meeting for the Newsletter.

We met with the Harrisons Catering Company and discussed how they could make changes to be more sustainable. Some of the things we discussed were an addition of Meat-free Mondays, getting rid of plastic bottles (and replacing them with a better material) and reducing packaging. They showed us a presentation about what they are already doing to be a sustainable catering company, like using compostable packaging and converting their waste cooking oil into biodiesel. They compressed the information into one poster, which you can take a look at on the last page of this Newsletter.

If you have any other ideas or questions for the Eco Committee, please contact Ms Holder at kholder@fortismere.org.uk or Ms Jones at ejones@fortismere.org.uk

Chess Club News

The Fortismere Chess team dream continues.....winning the Repechage D out of 26 teams and so matching their best ever performance last year to reach Repechage E. Repechage E will take place on Thursday 23rd April, with the top half of teams qualifying for Repechage F on Thursday 30th April, the last round. Successfully navigating both rounds would mean Fortismere would reach the English School Chess Championship Final. Well done and Good luck!

Sociology Department

Year 10 Parliament Trip

On Tuesday this week, our Year 10 Sociology students visited Parliament for an enriching and engaging educational experience. During the trip, students participated in petition-writing activities and watched an informative film exploring the history of Parliament. Throughout the guided tour, they demonstrated curiosity and critical thinking by asking insightful questions about the current Private Member's Bill, The Assisted Dying Bill, as well as engaging with our local MP, Catherine West, about her role within the political system. The visit also supported students in contextualising key themes from their course, including the feminist movement through learning about the suffragettes, and developing their understanding of political power within the first-past-the-post voting system. We are incredibly proud of our sociology students for representing the school so positively and upholding its reputation throughout the day.



Drama Department Notices

Year 13 A Level Performance Evening

Last night's Year 13 A-Level performances were a tremendous success, showcasing the talent, dedication, and hard work of our students.

Audiences were captivated by powerful and thought-provoking extracts from **Romans** by Alice Birch, which explores desire, power, and masculinity in history; **1536** performed by Ava Pinkett, set during the Tudor court and examining ambition, politics, and the role of women in a turbulent historical moment; and **Kyoto** by Joe Murphy and Joe Robertson, which tackles the urgent global issue of climate change through the lens of international negotiations.

Each piece was brought to life with confidence, creativity, and emotional depth, reflecting the students' commitment to their craft. It was an evening to remember and a fantastic achievement for all involved.



English Department

Our Sparx Reader Stars!

The English department would like to commend the following KS3 students for their efforts with Sparx reader this week - well done and keep up the good work!

Year 7 Ezra Zimmermann 349 SRP

Year 8 Anna Lasry 671 SRP

Year 9 Zac Zimmermann 599 SRP

Classics Department

Year 13 Students Impress Professor Quinn

Year 13 Classical Civilisation students were delighted to have a visit from Josephine Crawley Quinn, Professor of Ancient History at Cambridge University. She delivered a very interesting lecture on Dido, a key character in Virgil's 'Aeneid' and the historical founding figure for the ancient city of Carthage.

The students impressed our visitor so much that she said that they were just like her first year undergraduate students!

Sport & PE Notices

Middlesex Cup Champions!

A very well done to our Year 7 and Year 8 Girls Football teams for their wonderful cup runs - both teams reached the finals of their age group. Their matches took place at the Haringey Borough ground on Thursday in perfect sunny cup final weather!

The Year 8 team delivered a masterclass in teamwork and resilience this week, kicking off their match against Channing School with energy and clinical finishing. The game started at a blistering pace, with Izzy putting us ahead early on. Channing managed to find a quick equaliser, but our players refused to be rattled and took control of the game. Hana led the charge, reclaiming the lead before clinical finishing saw her complete a stunning first-half hat-trick, sending the team into the break with a commanding 4-1 lead. The second half was a testament to our defensive discipline. Arielle, Jess and Eilidh were dominant at the back and behind them, Hannah was superb, pulling off a series of brilliant saves to maintain the lead. In a tactical late-game twist, Hannah moved out of goal for the final two minutes and capped off the performance by scoring a fantastic goal to seal a 5-1 win! Etta was Player of the Match for a tireless performance, but this was a true team effort from start to finish!.



The Year 7 squad took to the field for a highly anticipated cup final against APS. The match got off to a frantic start, and unfortunately, a lapse in concentration in the opening minute allowed APS to take an early lead with a fortunate goal. Despite the early setback, the Year 7s showed exactly why they earned their place in the final and battled hard to get back in the match. The defence was put under pressure but stood firm; Elli and Kendal put in solid performances to break up attacks, while KC was outstanding in goal, keeping the team in the hunt with a series of fine saves. While APS proved to be the stronger side on the day, securing a 2-0 victory, our players can hold their heads high. Their journey to the final was a testament to their teamwork and hard work, and they represented the school with pride until the final whistle.



A huge well done to both squads for a fantastic cup run - we are incredibly proud of your achievements!

Year 9 Haringey Cup Run Continues

The Year 9 Boys football team overcame both a very muddy pitch and a relentless Greig City Academy side on Tuesday afternoon to secure their place in the Haringey Cup final. Playing on such a soggy pitch made our usual style of football difficult, but the boys' determination never wavered. What followed was an absolute rollercoaster for the spectators; the lead changed hands constantly in a high-scoring frenzy that saw the score swing from 1-0 to 1-1, 1-2, 2-2, 3-2, 3-3, 4-3, and finally a nail-biting 4-4 at the final whistle. Every time we looked to have got the winner, Greig City found an equaliser, leading to a high-stakes penalty shootout. Despite the pressure, our boys remained calm and collected, converting their spot-kicks with precision. A standout performance from Max proved decisive, helping the team win 4-3 on penalties.

The Cup Final match is on Thursday 26 March at the New River Sports Centre, kick-off at 10.15am - parents and carers are invited to attend and cheer the team on!

Basketball League Round Up

Our Boys Basketball teams were playing Greig City this week.

Year 9: Result 32-58. Well done Year 9, you played well as a team and were gracious in defeat, Player of the match was Gus Lumsden.

Year 10/11: Result 52-47. Great effort Year 10/11, only losing by 5 points, it was a great game to watch. Player of the match was Lean Kent.

Year 7: Result 78-8. A brilliant win Year 7, with dominant play all round. Player of the match was Omer Hochiya



Upcoming Fixture

Monday 23 March	Y8 Girls Football semi final v APS 2pm. Y7 Boys Basketball v STM 3.15 PM
Tuesday 24 March	Haringey Primary School Hockey Tournament 1-3 pm. Y7, 8 & 9 Basketball v Heartlands 2pm
Thursday 26 March	Haringey Football Finals Y8 Girls 9am & Y9 Boys 10.15am

Science

Marie Curious Event Inspires Year 9 Scientists

Fifteen Year 9 girls recently attended the Marie Curious event at the University of Oxford, an initiative designed to inspire young women to pursue STEM, with a specific focus on Physics.

Despite a very early departure to meet the 9.15 am start, the students remained engaged throughout a packed schedule.



- **Simulations:** They explored how computer modelling tracks everything from the spread of the common cold to the massive energy output of **black holes**.
- **The Electromagnetic Spectrum:** Students learned how astronomers use non-visible light to uncover secrets of the universe.
- **Solar Energy:** The group participated in a hands-on workshop focused on renewable energy solutions.
- **Mentorship:** Over lunch, students spoke directly with **female research scientists**, gaining personal insights into academic careers and diverse paths into science.
- **Particle Physics:** The day concluded with an in-depth lecture on the mechanics of **particle accelerators**.

It was an incredibly inspiring day, and we look forward to finding more opportunities for our students to explore the vast possibilities within the world of science.

Music Department

Piano Masterclass

Congratulations to the Fortismere students who took part in the Piano Masterclass on Tuesday this week. Tadashi Imai, who gave the masterclass, was so impressed with the creativity and imagination that our students applied in their playing. Well done to Fatima Yumakci who played *Rêverie* by Claude Debussy, Tal Querforth Waterman who played *Solfeggietto in C minor* by Carl Phillip Emanuel Bach, Maya Querforth Waterman who played *Idea n. 10* by Gibran Alcocer and Selin Buyukkaragoz who played *Waltz in A minor* by Frédéric Chopin. They were impressively mature and focused in the way they applied Tadashi's feedback.

Reminder: FCSO Concert - Sunday 22nd March 7pm St Andrews Church N10

FREE student tickets to see Prokofiev's 'Devilishly Difficult' concerto this Sunday, 22nd March

Don't miss our next Symphony Orchestra concert on Sunday! It's a thrilling programme, with the ever-popular Pictures at an Exhibition by Mussorgsky (orchestrated by Ravel) in the second half, and Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 3 in the first half. Soloist Tadashi Imai gave a fascinating talk about the piano concerto at his masterclass this week, linking Prokofiev's escape from Russia to Japan with the blend of western classical music and East Asian harmonies heard in the music. Click here to go to the [booking page for the concert](#) and use FORTSTUDENT26 to get free tickets for students.



FCSO
FORTISMERE COMMUNITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

HUMPERDINCK
Overture to
Hansel and Gretel

PROKOFIEV
Piano Concerto No.3

MUSSORGSKY
(orch. RAVEL)
Pictures at an Exhibition

PIANO **TADASHI IMAI**
CONDUCTOR **THOMAS GREGORY**

SUNDAY 22 MARCH 2026 AT 7 PM

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH | MUSWELL HILL | N10 2DD
STANDARD £16 | EARLY BIRD £13 | STUDENTS £10/£8

BOOK ONLINE www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk



Spring Concert - Thursday 26th March 7pm NW Music Concert Hall

The final opportunity to support our music students this term is the Spring Concert, with the Youth and Junior Choirs, Samba Bateria, String Ensemble, bands, solos and more, all joining forces in the grand finale with a wonderful David Bowie medley!

Come and support our wonderful musicians - Book tickets [here](#).



**SPRING
CONCERT**

THURSDAY 26 MARCH 2026 at 7.00 PM

FORTISMERE SCHOOL CONCERT SERIES
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MATT WATSON

MUSIC CONCERT HALL, FORTISMERE SCHOOL, N10 1NS

FORTISMERE SCHOOL MUSIC

STANDARD TICKET £10 | STUDENTS £5
TICKETS: www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk

Fortismere Holiday Camps

Easter Holiday Camps at Fortismere

Details of the Holiday Camps running at Fortismere during week 1 and week 2 of the Easter holidays are on the school website [here](#) Still time to book a place!

Extra Curricular Clubs

Weaving Words Creative Writing Club

Weaving Words creative writing workshops take place every week upstairs in the Fortismere Library on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays for year 7s, straight after school They last one hour and are a great way to develop imagination, writing skills and to make new writerly friends. From the feedback I regularly receive, this writing practice is also beneficial to the participants' academic work and boosts their self-confidence and wellbeing.

There are a few places left in the Tuesday group and a couple on Wednesdays. The cost is £160 per term.

If anyone is interested and would like more information, please contact me, Ms Massey, at Weaving100words@gmail.com

Safeguarding at Fortismere

Safeguarding Contacts

If you wish to speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead about any safeguarding matters or concerns please contact Ms Sullivan on safeguarding@fortismere.org.uk

Alternatively you can make a safeguarding referral using *My Voice* [use this link](#) or the QR code. You can also contact your child's Head of Year or Pastoral Support Manager.





HARRISON OUR WORLD

We believe that we all have a responsibility to protect our planet now and for future generations. Working together, we can all make a difference. This is where we're at today:



Sourcing and Supply Chain

- We believe in offering our customers food they will enjoy all year round, and we take an honest approach to the origin and sourcing of our ingredients.
- Our fresh chicken, beef and pork are British and fully traceable.
- Our lamb is British and NZ and fully traceable.
- Our eggs are UK-sourced and free-range.



Kitchen Production and Service

- Great organisational skills overlaid with our fresh food approach delivers a service that minimises food waste.



Harrison Packaging

- Since 2016, Harrison branded packaging has been completely compostable.
- Vegware make our packaging from low carbon, recycled, renewable materials.
- In 2024/25 we saved 82.5 tonnes of conventional oil-based disposables.



Recycling

- Food waste and packaging must be placed into dedicated bins.
- Our most popular selling drinks ranges are all made using recycled plastic (rPET).
- Our waste cooking oil is collected by Olleco and converted to biodiesel.
- We promote WRAP's Love Food Hate Waste campaign, encouraging people to cut food waste.



Seasonal Eating

- Our monthly recipes, featuring easy-to-prepare seasonal dishes, can be accessed on our website. Please visit www.harrisoncatering.co.uk.



Education Initiatives

- Rocket Gardens - as a fresh food caterer, we fully support this initiative to encourage children to grow vegetables at school.
- War on Waste Scheme - this initiative is committed to reducing food waste from plates.



Future Generations

- Chefs Adopt a School Programme - a national charity which teaches primary school aged children about food, provenance, healthy eating and cookery.
- The Geoffrey Harrison Foundation - established in 2011 to advance education and learning in the UK in connection with the hotel, restaurant and hospitality industries.



ISO14001

- Our Thame Environmental Management System is certified to ISO14001, by a company accredited by UKAS.