


Friday 25th November 2022

School Leadership Messages	Contents												
<p>Parents' Evening Survey - Reminder</p> <p>A reminder to please complete our survey looking into the functioning of Parents' Evenings. The survey closes on Monday 28 November 2022. See the link below for access to the survey.</p> <p>https://forms.gle/ndvoe9kti1TotsWA6</p> <p>“There’s no such thing as the wrong weather, just the wrong clothes” (Every geography teacher, ever)</p> <p>Outdoor clothing is not allowed to be worn in classrooms but a significant number of our students are wearing flimsy clothing under coats and complain of the cold. Please can we repeat the importance of layers at this time of year and ask that students come dressed appropriately.</p> <p>Students on the Broadway</p> <p>Muswell Hill Broadway is popular with students from a number of neighbouring schools. Local shops and businesses have asked schools to remind students not to congregate in groups on the Broadway. We do daily patrols but we would also ask that parents and carers ask their children to return home promptly.</p> <p>Linc arrangements until the end of term</p> <p>Mr Fari is currently away from work. In his absence please note his inbox is being monitored by LINC admin and your email will be redirected to an appropriate member of staff.</p> <p>You may wish to send your query to your son or daughter’s tutor or Head of Year.</p>	<p>Co-Headteachers’ message</p> <p>Year 7 Trip Report</p> <p>Departmental Notices</p> <p>Christmas Card Competition</p> <p>Holiday Camps</p> <p>Safeguarding Information</p> <p>Calendar</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1066 1064 1198 1164">30/11</td> <td data-bbox="1198 1064 1517 1164">Y8 X bank Parents’ evening</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1066 1164 1198 1232">7/12</td> <td data-bbox="1198 1164 1517 1232">Christmas lunch</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1066 1232 1198 1332">7/12 & 8/12</td> <td data-bbox="1198 1232 1517 1332">Hitchhiker’s Guide.... Drama production 7pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1066 1332 1198 1433">11/12</td> <td data-bbox="1198 1332 1517 1433">Christmas Fair 11am-4pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1066 1433 1198 1556">13/12 & 15/12</td> <td data-bbox="1198 1433 1517 1556">Music Department Christmas Concerts 7pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1066 1556 1198 1657">14/12</td> <td data-bbox="1198 1556 1517 1657">Y8 Y bank Parents’ evening</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>World Cup 2022</p>  <p><i>Photo by Clive Rose/Getty Image</i></p>	30/11	Y8 X bank Parents’ evening	7/12	Christmas lunch	7/12 & 8/12	Hitchhiker’s Guide.... Drama production 7pm	11/12	Christmas Fair 11am-4pm	13/12 & 15/12	Music Department Christmas Concerts 7pm	14/12	Y8 Y bank Parents’ evening
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Co-Headteachers

Weekly Roundup

We have heard such wonderful stories from Year 7 students and staff about the Year 7 team building trip that took place earlier this week at Kingswood in Kent. There is a beautifully written article by Emma Pretorius in Year 7 describing the many and varied shared experiences from the trip (see below). Such events are valuable educational experiences in many ways but particularly help students develop their character. Kingswood places a strong emphasis on the values of 'Community' and 'Compassion', values that we hold dear at Fortismere. Organising a trip on this scale is a huge undertaking and we would like to thank Ms Jones, Head of Year 7 for the quite phenomenal job she did in leading the trip. She was ably supported by a team of committed staff who were so generous with their time, joining the trip to ensure our students enjoyed a memorable experience.

It's probably a bit too soon to start talking about 'Christmas' but much of the activity going on in school at the moment is connected to the events we have lined up for our community in the final weeks of term. Ms Turner (Drama) is finishing the final touches to what is sure to be an entertaining production of 'A Hitchhikers' Guide to the Galaxy' involving vast numbers of students from across the school. Ms Turner's productions are always slightly irreverent and lots of fun and are always original scripts. This is certainly not to be missed! Also, Mr Jefferies (Director of Music) has yet again managed to create two nights' worth of fully packed programmes of performances for the Christmas Music Concerts. We are being quite spoilt from a musical perspective as following on from the amazing Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra who played to a sell-out crowd last weekend the Community Choir will be offering a programme of Carols on 10 December. We hope parents are able to come along and support as many of these events as possible as they serve to bring us all together while raising important funds for the school. Please put these dates in your diaries (see Calendar, page 1) Please also add 11 December to those diaries for another important fundraising event, The Christmas Fair (more information below)

While we are on the topic of Christmas it's great to see that Ms Powell, our Head of Art has also launched the Christmas Card competition. We are so looking forward to seeing this year's entries so, please encourage your children to enter a creative design.

From the visit of an award winning author, Geography Field Trips and Cross-Country and Football sporting achievements there's lots to read about in this week's Newsletter. We hope you enjoy it!

School Fundraising Event

Christmas Fair - Sunday 11th December 2022 11am-4pm

We hope you have all put the date in your diaries for the Christmas Fair on Sunday 11th December. What we need now is your help with donations, treats and prizes. Can you help by donating something? Do you know a local shop, service provider or restaurant that might donate something to the school as a prize? Do you have any business contacts that might be able to help with our fundraising? You can contact me to arrange a collection of any large or alcoholic donations, all other items can be left at South Wing Reception. If you have any questions or want further information please email me mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk

Year 7 News

Kingswood Trip Report

The trip to Kingswood this week was a huge success and Y7 Emma Pretorius has written a wonderful report about it for the Newsletter. *On Monday, five coaches departed Fortismere to embark on an adventure, making memories to last a lifetime. Many excitable Year 7s enjoyed the coach ride with explosive renderings of 'Wheels on the bus' and 'Football's coming home', as well as many other ways to pass the time. Despite the mud, rain and autumnal weather, Year 7 still had a memorable time, carrying on with activities, avoiding whatever nature threw at them. There were a selection of activities that were available to participate in at Kingswood. Some of us had done a few of these before, as well as many others overcoming their fears - whether that be by pushing one's personal boundaries, not being afraid to get a little mucky or even staying away from home for a few days. Favourites included Jacob's Ladder and Leap of Faith, two very popular activities that involve braving daring heights, trusting the instructor implicitly and taking on one of the most terrifying but 'worth it' experiences of your life. Away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life, some Year 7s managed to find serenity and peacefulness in the sheer wonder of Kingswood, in its vast fields and lake, where the fluffy 'forbidden corndogs' grew and many children orienteering got lost in. Another distraction from the excitement of going on a trip with 240 other Year 7s was chilling out and having down time in the rooms. Uno tournaments, midnight feasts and the face mask party were just some of the highlights of what went on when we weren't in the great outdoors. It wasn't just in the day that we participated in activities. In the evening, a mini-olympics with many strange and fun races and the 'scrapheap challenge' took place, resulting in some very stylish cardboard outfits and some fun times!*

Thanks to Emma for her amazing account of the trip. I also want to say a huge thank you to all the staff who made this trip possible; it was so lovely to get to spend time with our Year 7s and they seemed to have a great time! I asked each group leader to nominate a member of their group who had displayed our Kingswood virtues the most (compassion, kindness, community, courage and curiosity) - the following students were nominated: **Ilgaz Guvendik, Lara Allen-Davis, Lora Vida, Amelie Turnage, Aurelien Gallais-White, Lily Haynes, Noah Demetriou, Ezra Hurman, Annie Bass, Barry Kaya, Lia Lichtenfeld, Sophia Moretti-Bernadino, Jasmine Donington, Emmanuel Mhilli, Grace Pimm-Martin**

Please congratulate them for being so virtuous whilst still managing to have lots of fun! They will receive prizes in assembly next week, along with **Leona Tkacova-Smykle** and **Ethan Carvalio** who are nominated by me for helping clean up in the canteen of their own accord!

Ms Jones Head of Year 7



Geography Department Notices

Year 11 Geography Trip - Tuesday 29th November

The second urban investigation GCSE Geography fieldwork is taking place next week for classes **11B (Ms Holder) and 11D (Mr Kelsey)**. This fieldwork will investigate how quality of life differs in different urban areas and is led by local guides from the London Team of the Field Studies Council. Students will practise a range of primary data collection methods. Information collected will then be used as a base for lessons about data presentation and analysis after the fieldwork. Please remind students that they must check with their other subject teachers and on Google Classroom to find out what work they will miss on their day out. All students should bring a packed lunch (no nuts please) and wear suitably warm and waterproof clothing and footwear for outdoor walking. Students should go directly to **Twyford Avenue gate at 8.35am** and they will be registered there.

Year 9 Geography Trips to Kew Gardens

A reminder that Year 9 Geography students will be visiting Kew Gardens over the next few weeks. We're really looking forward to taking the Year 9s out on their first fieldtrip after so many missed opportunities due to Covid. The Geography department is thrilled to offer a fascinating fieldtrip which will include exploring our Biomes topic from last year and linking this to our Year 9 topics on Glaciation and Climate change! Please ensure that slips are returned to the geography teachers as soon as possible.

Thursday 1st December

9Y5
9Y4
9X4

Tuesday 6th December

9X1
9X2
9Y3

Monday 12th December

9Y1
9Y2
9X3
9X5

Library

Author Visit

On Monday 21st November, several Year 8 classes (and a few Year 7s) were treated to a visit from award-winning author Ross MacKenzie who had flown down from Scotland the previous day. He told the more reluctant readers that he would have been the kid who put his hand up when anyone asked the question, "Who doesn't like reading?" and it was a teacher reading from Roald Dahl's *The Witches* that sparked his eventual obsession with books. Ross's books are fantastical adventures and his latest, "The Colour of Hope", is dark and magical – you could have heard a pin drop when he read the first chapter with all the voices, in a Glaswegian accent, obviously!



Hello and Welcome

We're really pleased to introduce you to our new Librarian, Ms Howitt, who started with us this week. She will be working Wednesday to Friday, alongside Mrs Cockerham who's here Monday to Wednesday. She's really looking forward to meeting everyone; it's great to have a full team once again!



CoverUp

“Giving Up the Ghost” by Hilary Mantel sparked a vast amount of discussion and friendly dissent during the last meeting of our parent/staff reading group. Put Thursday 19th January in your new diaries now for our next get-together. It’s our annual foray into the wonderful world of YA fiction and we’ll be talking about the phenomenal stories of Nicky and Kenny in Anthony McGowan’s “The Truth of Things” and “Lark” (which won the Carnegie Medal in 2020). These are short Barrington Stoke books so perfect to fit in during the busy Christmas break.



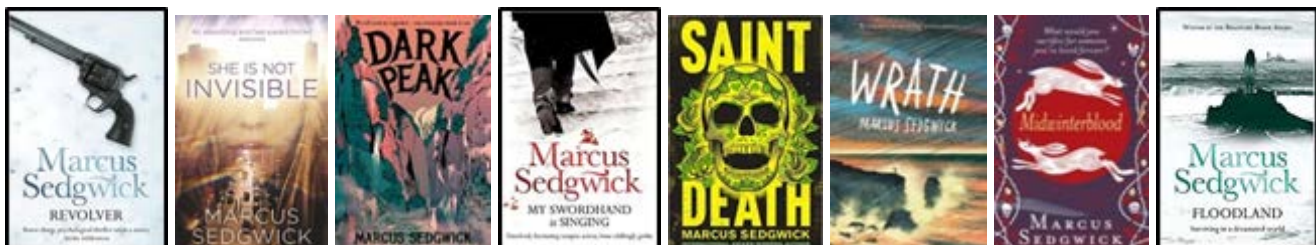
Alexandra Palace Children’s Book Award

We are thrilled to announce that the first meeting of the APCBA Reading Club for Year 7s will be on Thursday 1st December, 12.30pm in the library. Students may bring their lunches, as long as they are not hot and/or smelly! We have a fantastic shortlist of books for the students to read, and fun activities and discussions to last through until the final fabulous Award Ceremony at Ally Pally at the end of March. And of course, Mrs Coles will be bringing biscuits...



Recommended Reads of the Week

We were deeply saddened to hear of the unexpected death of author Marcus Sedgwick on 17th November. He was a kind, quiet and charming man; he enthralled our students during his visits. Shortlisted several times for the Carnegie Medal, his books were always original, thought provoking and often dark. From vampires (“My Swordhand is Singing”), thrillers (“She is Not Invisible”) and adventures (“Revolver”, with the most horrific villain ever written), Marcus wrote over 40 books. These included “Wrath”, a lockdown book touching on mental health and the environment, which was gifted to this year’s Y7 students at Fortismere. Here are some of his novels in the library. Do read them.





Art & Photography Department Notices

Christmas Card Competition

fortismere

Design the school Christmas card for 2022!

This year's theme is
'Dreaming of a Green Christmas'.

We are looking for original, creative and colourful designs that also raise awareness about climate change.

You can use any media including, painting, collage, recycled materials or digital art.

Entries must be handed into the Art department by 3.30pm on **Friday 9th December**. The winning Christmas card will chosen by the Co-heads and shared digitally with the school community.



Christmas Card Competition 2022

Success for Lindsey Mendick

Ex-Fortismere Art student, Lindsey Mendick, has work in the highly acclaimed exhibition, Strange Clay, at the [Hayward Gallery](#). Other artists in the exhibition include Ai Weiwei, Grayson Perry and Nancy Durrant.

Lindsey has received rave reviews for her installation, Til Death Do Us Part. She has created a house full of ceramic vermin, from cockroaches in the kitchen to slugs on the walls and what appears to be an octopus clambering out of the lavatory. This is a 'must see' exhibition!



Music Department Notices

Community Symphony Orchestra Concert

A huge congratulations to the Fortismere Community Orchestra for the amazing performance of Tchaikovsky's *5th Symphony*, Mussorgsky's *Night on Bald Mountain* and Walton's *Cello Concerto* with Norwegian Cellist Jonathan Aasgaard. It is not often that you get to hear a musician of Mr Aasgaard's calibre and his playing was sublime. The orchestra is made up of students, parents, ex parents, alumni, local community and teachers and as a Director of Music I was incredibly proud to see this group of musicians from across many generations come together to play some of the worlds most difficult symphonic repertoire. I would urge you to come along to hear the group at its next concert in March when our soloist will be Violinist Darragh Morgan playing the Barber Violin Concerto.

Mozart and Christmas Carols - Saturday 10th December - St James Church N10 7:30pm

If Mozart's Coronation Mass with a live symphony orchestra is your sort of thing then come along on Saturday 10th December to St James Church, Muswell Hill. The Junior Choir from Fortismere will also be singing Carol of the Bells which is sure to make you feel extremely Christmassy. It's the perfect concert for feeling festive and you get to drink mulled wine and sing some carols as well! See the poster *attached*.

Tickets are available by going to <https://www.fortismereperformingartscentre.co.uk>

Christmas Concerts - DATE CHANGE 13th and 15th December - South Wing Hall 7pm

On Tuesday 13th and Thursday 15th December we will have our annual Christmas Concerts in the South Wing Hall. These concerts are two of the biggest events in the Fortismere Calendar and will feature performances from every single ensemble that runs at school. See the poster *attached*.

Tickets are available by going to <https://www.fortismereperformingartscentre.co.uk>

Christmas Concert and Carol Concert Dress Code - No jeans / trainers / hoodies

Saturday 10th December Carols: All black with a splash of seasonal red. Smart attire.

Girls: Black Dress / Black Blouse/ Black Trousers / Black Shoes (Splash of Red)

Boys: Black Shirt / Black Trousers / Black Shoes (Red Tie / Red Bow Tie)

Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 15th December School Concerts: Smart Dress Only

This event is fun but since it is a public performance we ask that pupils are dressed smartly. There can be a sense of individual style but we ask that students adhere to a dress code. There is no colour scheme but think Christmas Party!

Girls: Dress / Blouse / Trousers / Sensible Shoes or Heels

Boys: Shirt / Trousers / Shoes / Suit / Jacket

Music Ensembles Autumn Term 2022/23

Please remind your child to be prompt and prepared for all rehearsals in the lead up to the School Christmas Concerts in December. Your child should bring a packed lunch on rehearsal days as there is limited preparation time for these concerts and there will not be any extra time to rehearse.

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 Cello Group - MU2
Friday	Male Voices - Concert Classical Guitar Group - Concert Hall	
Saturday	Music Theory Classes 11:30am-12:30pm Fortismere Community Choir 10:30am-1pm	Bands (Rooms available for practice)

PE & Sports News

Cross Country: Haringey London Youth Games & Regional Finals

Following their success in the Middlesex cross country event in September, our junior and intermediate boys' teams contested the regional finals in St Albans. This event included winners from London, Surrey, Middlesex and Hertfordshire and it was a great achievement to reach this stage. Some outstanding performances, especially given that our squads actually comprise mostly of younger runners (for example Y7s competing in a Y7/8 category). **The junior boys finished 11th and the intermediate boys 8th.** Special mention to Triz Wilson, who was 7th best individual in his category.



More cross country success at the London Youth Games on Saturday. Well done to all of the Fortismere representatives that ran for Haringey. **Girls were 4th overall and Boys 11th.** Middlesex Trials are taking place on 9th December at New River, please see Ms Vangucci for a letter.



U15 Girls through to 5th Round of National Cup

Fortismere travelled to Forest School on Friday for the 4th round of the National Cup. We were all over them but could just not score, we conceded before half time and left it late but with three minutes until the final whistle we were awarded a corner - Lilly Gubby caught the ball on the volley and scored a cracking goal! We went into extra time and scored another three goals to **win 4-1** (Rosie Cohen, Leila Hadari, Jada Thompson)

The Year 8's travelled to Parmiters School in Watford on Tuesday, unfortunately without the Year 7s as they were away on their trip. Ava scored a great goal and everyone fought well throughout, but we lost 2-1.

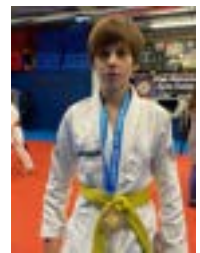


Fortismere Leaders Excel Again at Haringey Primary Schools Event

Well done to Louis Broadway, Noah Helfgott, Oscar Shortall, Lucas Christenson, Jude Dolling, Balthazar Partridge, Joly Sze, Isaac Ogara, Ben Redland, Milo Turnage, Gabriel Betancort, and Kai Smale. Our brilliant Sports Leaders spent Friday helping Haringey Sports Development to referee, organise and mentor Year 3 and 4 pupils in a football tournament. The children came from fifty three primary schools from across the borough. Our students received excellent feedback for their refereeing and leadership qualities.

Gold for Year 7 Judo Star

Congratulations to our Year 7 student Peter Jovanovic who won a gold medal recently in a judo competition. Well done Peter!



Fixtures next week

Monday 28th November	Netball all year groups v Highgate Wood (A)
Tuesday 29th November	Y9 Basketball v APS (H) 3:45 start
Tuesday 29th November	All years Badminton v Heartlands (H)
Wednesday 30th November	Senior Boys Fball 1st & 2nd XI v Highgate (A)
Wednesday 30th November	Senior Boys Fball 2nd & 3rd XI v Highgate (A)
Wednesday 30th November	U15 Boys Volleyball Haringey Event (STM)

Dancers we need you! Haringey Dance Competition - 14th December

Our *Step into Dance* teacher Nathan comes into school every Wednesday to teach fantastic Street Dance lessons in the Sports Hall after school from 3-4pm. We are looking for some new recruits as numbers are low and we have the Haringey Dance Competition coming up soon. Everyone is welcome, please come along and give it a go!

SEND & LINC Department Notices

BSL Sign Language Extracurricular Workshop

LINC is offering students the opportunity to join a BSL Sign Language extracurricular workshop starting in January 2023. This is a 6-week course for any student who is interested, at a cost of £30 and on a first come first serve basis. Each session will last an hour and take place after school. The emphasis is on practical creative learning, designed to give a better understanding of how the British Sign Language process works and what a vibrant and important language it is and will be for the years ahead. The approach will be informal and fun and provided by an external specialist, Vantage Education. More information is available on request. If your child is interested, please email lincadmin@fortismere.org.uk. Places are limited to 20 students at a time.

School Community Events

Christmas Holiday Camps - Booking Now Open

Booking is now open for the Fortismere Christmas Holiday Camps. The activities will run from 9.00am to 3.00pm at Fortismere School, Tetherdown London N10 1NE. Specific dates and prices are on Eventbrite - follow the links for each camp below

An early drop off option (08.15am) with a light breakfast is available - see this link here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-camp-early-drop-off-tickets-456909246857>

Drama Age 7-15 years

This will be taught by Adam Gillian West End Performer.

This week the children will work on improvisation and comedy skills. Lots of drama games and exercises with the children to develop their confidence and skills.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-camp-drama-club-age-7-15-19-22nd-december-tickets-440790816197>

Tiny Twinkles Age 3-6 years

Perfect for 3-6 year olds led by professional actors with a love for early years! Each day the children will explore all genres of creative arts-learning songs & dances, acting out role play adventures, exploring arts & crafts plus lots of games and crafts.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-camp-tiny-twinkles-club-age-3-6-19-22nd-december-tickets-440795429997>

Sports Age 7-15 years

This will give the children the opportunity to have fun and interact with others through a range of sports such as football, rounder's, tennis and competitions.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-camp-sports-club-age-7-15-19-22nd-december-tickets-440938457797>

Design and Technology Age 8 -15 years

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-camp-d-t-club-age-7-15-19-21-december-3-day-course-age-8-15-tickets-440941677427>

Comic Club Age 7-15 years

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-camp-comic-club-age-7-15-19-22nd-december-tickets-4414696465>

Art Age 7-14 years

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-camp-art-club-age-7-15-19-22nd-december-tickets-441471000647>

Musical Theatre Age 7-14 years

This will be taught by Miss Dee. Each day the children will explore different styles of dance with an emphasis on ballet and tap. Children will work on technique, dance routines and choreography, as well as projects designed to encourage creativity when storytelling through dance. The participants will work towards final pieces and will be given plenty of time to interact with others and make lasting friendships! Leaders are professional performers with a background in theatre and dance.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-camp-musical-theatre-club-age-7-15-19-22nd-december-tickets-444499027557>

Cooking Christmas 9-16 years

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-camp-christmas-baking-cooking-club-age-8-15-19-22nd-december-tickets-444492889197>

Chess 7-15 years

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-camp-chess-club-age-7-15-19-22nd-december-tickets-456905335157>

Contact Maria Demetriou mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk with any questions about the Camps and bookings

Safeguarding at Fortismere

Safeguarding Information

If you wish to speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (Ms Sullivan) about any safeguarding matters or concerns please email safetalk@fortismere.org.uk alternatively you can contact your child's Tutor or their Head of Year:

Year 7 ejones@fortismere.org.uk

Year 8 icuenca@fortismere.org.uk

Year 9 kwilliams@fortismere.org.uk

Year 10 kjackson@fortismere.org.uk

Year 11 dward@fortismere.org.uk

Ms Sullivan

Deputy Head & Designated Safeguarding Lead