

School Leadership Messages:	Contents						
<p>Industrial Action: Update</p> <p>The Co-Heads have been working with the NEU to find a resolution to the dispute. There will be a ballot of the members at the start of next term on the offer made by Fortismere and we hope there will be a positive outcome.</p> <p>Keeping hydrated in the warmer weather</p> <p>Please could we ask parents and carers to provide a water bottle for sons and daughters next term. We do have water fountains on site for refilling bottles but we are not able to supply cups.</p> <p>School leavers and catering accounts</p> <p>Please can you ensure all catering accounts are clear from any amounts owing prior to students leaving for study leave. For any clarification please email office@fortismere.org.uk or call on 020 8829 4301.</p> <p>Reminder start of term</p> <p>Parents and carers are reminded that term starts for students on Wednesday 23 April at the usual time of 8.35am</p> <p>Sims</p> <p>There have been some ongoing issues with SIMS data updating and not synchronising in the SIMS app for parents. We have been advised that this issue has been resolved and data should sync as expected. If you find you are still having issues please email admin@fortismere.org.uk and a member of the team can investigate further after the Easter break.</p>	<p>CoHeads' Weekly Roundup</p> <p>FortisMind</p> <p>Departmental News & Notices</p> <p>Safeguarding Information</p> <p>Calendar</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1019 936 1150 1039">04.04</td> <td data-bbox="1150 936 1511 1039">End of Term 12.30pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1019 1039 1150 1142">23.04</td> <td data-bbox="1150 1039 1511 1142">Summer Term Begins 8.35am</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1019 1142 1150 1283">08.05</td> <td data-bbox="1150 1142 1511 1283">Spring Music Concert NW Hall 6.30pm Tickets here</td> </tr> </table> <div style="text-align: center;">    </div> <p><i>Wishing all our families a peaceful and restful break</i></p>	04.04	End of Term 12.30pm	23.04	Summer Term Begins 8.35am	08.05	Spring Music Concert NW Hall 6.30pm Tickets here
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Co-Headteachers

Weekly Roundup

We have finally reached the end of term and are delighted that the holiday is beginning in the sunshine. The field has been open this week and it's been a joy to watch the students spread out across the school. This week we experimented with no ball sports but we are considering allowing their return in a controlled manner; we don't want students who are quietly sitting, chatting to friends to be hit by a speeding football!

Tuesday was April Fool's Day and we didn't have too much disruption. Mrs Ward closed the Library due to an 'infestation of bookworms' but other than that, it was business as usual. The Library obviously wasn't closed as you will read further down the Newsletter that our Patron of Reading, Dan Freedman, visited on Tuesday. The quality of questions asked by students showed that regardless of the date, they were taking their opportunity to interrogate the author very seriously.

We received some sad news at the end of last week when we were informed of the death of one of our site staff, Nico Mancini. He was a big presence on our site and kept an eye out for our wildlife, particularly the birds. He was friendly and chatty to all and liked to greet students in the morning who entered by the North Wing gate. We will miss him and we wish the best for his family.

Although it's the end of term, we're already planning for next term. April 23rd, which is both St George's Day and Shakespeare's birthday, already looks busy. The Modern Languages Department is hosting the premiere of an animated documentary (details below) of interest to both Spanish and History students. The focus on Franco's dictatorship of Spain seems very pertinent right now. By way of a contrast, this coincides with the first rehearsals of the Fortismere Community Choir. The Choir will be singing a selection of summer-themed songs plus a medley from La La Land at this Summer's fair (details below) and we are very much looking forward to hearing the finished performance.

This time of year often involves a convergence of significant religious events, reflected in our multi-faith student body. Last week, our Muslim students celebrated Eid and over the holiday, our Christian and Jewish families will be celebrating Easter and Passover respectively. To all three traditions we say: Eid Mubarak!, Happy Easter! and Chag Pesach sameach!

We hope our families have a lovely holiday and that the weather holds for all of us.

Modern Languages Notice

Fortismere to Host London Premiere - Weds 23 April 2025 3.30pm NW Hall

Students in Year 10-13 and parents and carers are invited to a very special event. We are delighted to have been given the unique opportunity to premiere a ground-breaking animated documentary film *Flores Bajo El Hielo* (Flowers Under Ice), introduced by one of the film's own animators. The film explores the experience of women under Franco's dictatorship of Spain (1939-1975) through authentic voices and animation. The film will be in Spanish with English subtitles. We strongly recommend this opportunity to all Spanish, History students in Years 10-13. It may also be of interest to Art, Film and other Creative Subject students. We are only asking for small donations towards the costs of the screening on the door, so pay what you can! [Please fill in this form](#) to reserve your space. We hope to see many of you there.



Y12 Spanish Culinary Skills

As part of the A Level Spanish curriculum, students have to learn about different aspects of Spanish culture, including its gastronomy. Our Year 12s were asked to prepare a Spanish dish for homework, bring it into class and present it to everyone. No need to say that they then had the pleasure of eating all the dishes! We were taken aback by their great culinary skills and the enthusiasm they showed. Well done to all of them!

Ms Cuenca



Music Department

Join In Music Making This Summer!

We've got some wonderful opportunities for both students and parents/carers at the Fortismere Music Centre next term - see below for more details. If you or your young people would like to join in any of these opportunities or want more information, email FMC Manager, Mattie Morgan fmcinfo@fortismere.org.uk

Fortismere Community Choir has got a great line-up of summery songs next term - we'll be singing a medley of songs from the musical **La La Land**, plus other summer-themed songs including **Walking on Sunshine** by Katrina and the Waves, and **Here Comes the Sun** by the Beatles. Rehearsals will be Wednesdays from 7pm-9pm with a view to performing at Fortismere's Summer Music Festival on Sunday 6th July - with students and members of Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra accompanying. All welcome to join our fun and friendly rehearsals in the Music Block starting **Wednesday, 23rd April** at 7pm. Details on the [FMC website](#)

Celebrate summer with songs from **La La Land** plus **Walking on Sunshine** **Here Comes the Sun** and more!

For a performance on 6th July with members of Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra

Rehearsals start **Wednesday 23rd April**

Come and sing with our fun, friendly and relaxed choir

FORTISMERE COMMUNITY CHOIR
CONDUCTOR: JOHN EADY
REHEARSALS: MUSIC BLOCK, FORTISMERE SCHOOL, NIO 1NE
WEDNESDAYS 7 - 9 PM STARTING 23 APRIL
CONTACT fmcinfo@fortismere.org.uk

New String Players for FSCO

Fortismere's Community Symphony Orchestra is inviting new string players to join them for their film-themed summer concert programme. Highlights are Mars and Venus from Holst's The Planets, plus the ET, Superman and Star Wars theme tunes! The concert will be on Sunday, 15th June and the first rehearsal is Tuesday, 22nd April at 7 pm. String players need to be Grade 6 or above.

Junior and Senior Choir Summer Season

Junior and Senior Choir will be rehearsing in the Summer Term on Wednesday lunchtimes in the Music Concert Hall, starting Wednesday 23rd April. There are two big concerts to rehearse for this term - the Spring

Concert on 8th May, and then the Summer Festival on 6th July. Choir is a great opportunity for new students to give singing a go!

Saturday Music

The **Saturday School of Rock and Pop** has room for a couple more bands to join the afternoon session next term. Sessions are from 12.30-3.30pm and the term will culminate in performances on the stage at Fortismere's Summer Festival! Students can try it out for a couple of weeks before committing.

Instrumental lessons on Saturdays at the Music Centre will resume on Saturday, 26th April.

Library Notices

Author Visit

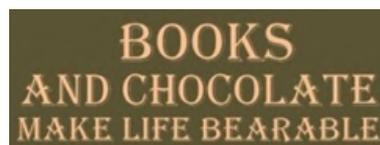
Two more Year 7 classes met our Patron of Reading, Dan Freedman, on Tuesday 1st April. After the event, he sent this message: *"Thanks so much for a really lovely session. Some wonderful conversations; I so enjoy them."*

Every time Dan comes in, he asks me to choose the best question – which was really difficult this time – and the winner receives a football. My criteria for judging are the quality of the answer from Dan and the discussion generated. Questions this time ranged from "What's it like interviewing top footballers?" to "What would you like your legacy to be?" and "Did you purposely make Jamie Johnson a scrappy kid?" to "What's the favourite sentence you've ever written?"



A Little Light Reading...

Please read this thought-provoking article by the amazing Katherine Rundell. She voices my opinions so much better than I do! [Why children's books? Katherine Rundell](#)

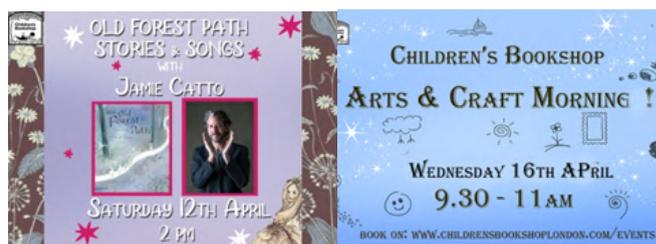


So this Easter, instead of spending your money on confectionery that is mostly air and packaging, buy your child a book as well – it's so much better for them!

Easter at the Muswell Hill Children's Bookshop

Two lovely events worth booking – there's an afternoon of storytelling with Jamie Catto on Saturday 12th April and a morning of Spring arts and crafts taking place on Wednesday 16th April.

Drop in for more details or visit [the website](#)



Recommended Reads of the Week

If you decide to take my advice and spend your Easter egg money on books for your kids instead of/as well as chocolate, this year's Carnegie Award shortlist and previous winners is a really good place to start.



Drama Department Notices

Year 10 Devising Exam Begins...

This week, the Y10 Drama students began their GCSE journey through their exploration of stimulus for their devised unit: **Testimony of Displaced and/or Persecuted People**. The students took their first lesson to go on a solo journey and explore the gallery of art and photos, poetry, statements, music, quotes, and videos, recording down their thoughts, feelings, ideas, and anything emerging for them as they went around. There were a number of different reactions and responses from the students - some deeply moved, some pensive, some reflecting back to their own lives.

This stimulus and their initial recorded responses will feed into their collaborative devised pieces starting after Easter. We look forward to seeing how the students take on this journey and what is created!



Thank you to Ms S Bailey-Wright for setting up the space with this interactive gallery, and well done to the students in how they engaged with the stimuli.

Acting Advice from Actor Şopé Dîrîsù

Year 12 A Level Drama students met actor Şopé Dîrîsù (Gangs of London, Slow Horses) this week after seeing his totally amazing show Ionesco's *Rhinoceros* at The Almeida Theatre. We were wowed by the absurdist Drama which had the audience joining in for much of the show... no spoilers here. We have heard it is sold out but we highly recommend it and it is always lovely meeting the cast afterwards and hearing their words of wisdom about the world of theatre and film.



Sport & PE Notices

A Spring Term of Sporting Success

What a busy and successful spring term of sport we have had! We have literally had fixtures every evening and the quality of representation from our students has been commendable. We have seen teamwork, comradery, leadership, determination, resilience. We have felt the joy of winning and also the disappointment of losing but through sport we have grown. Well done to the hundreds of students that have represented the school and to the hundreds that have shown commitment to after school clubs every week.

Next term, we'll start our summer season of tennis, athletics, cricket and rounders. Please encourage your child to take advantage of the many clubs and sporting opportunities that are available to them - we love seeing students taking part and discovering a new activity.

It's also time for the annual **Haringey Schools Swimming Gala** on Monday 28th April. If your child is a club level swimmer please ask them to sign up at the PE Office.

And finally, **really well done to our Year 11 student Luka Abashidze** for winning a judo gold medal in Antwerp.



Haringey Football League Final



We played two semi final matches last Wednesday afternoon - both versus Highgate Wood School. The Year 7/8 Team won 3-1 in a very close match and booked their place in the final. The Year 9/10 Team lost their match 3-0 to the team that went on to beat APS in the Cup Final on Thursday.

Our Year 7/8 Team went on to be crowned Haringey Champions after beating APS 3-1 in the final - Farrah Georgiades scored two and Izzy Brook Smith scored one. The team were all brilliant and after the fantastic season that they have had all deserved a celebratory Ice Cream at McDonalds! Well done - Etta, Hanna, Hannah, Jessica, Eilidh, Ariel, Sophia, Sharon, Alex, Sidra, Farrah, MariaMillie, Sarah, Anna and Emily.



New Summer Extra Curricular Timetable

Our new Summer Extra Curricular Timetable is available to download from the website [here](#)

Upcoming Fixtures

- Wednesday 23rd April: Year 7/ 8 Tennis Competition
- Friday 25th April: Year 7/8 Girls Coronation Cup
- Monday 28th April: Haringey Swimming Gala

History & Politics Department

Year 12 Hear About the Young Heritage Project

We were delighted to host Josh Picton from Jacksons Lane, who delivered an introduction on Heritage and Archives to our Year 12 History students. Former Fortismere student Josh delivered an engaging talk and gave students the chance to look at some items from the Jacksons Lane archive along with ideas about how they could be brought to life in a heritage project. Students who would be interested in getting involved in the Young Heritage Producers Project can find out more and apply here: [Young Heritage Producers - Jacksons Lane](#) Thanks to Gill Ward for, as always, providing a great space and a set up for the talk.



LINC Department Notice

Autism Acceptance Month: Helping Neurodivergent Children Stay Safe Online

Neurodivergent children experience digital spaces differently, which can make online safety more challenging for parents and carers. Internet Matters has created some practical gaming-focused resources, developed in partnership with Roblox and Ambitious about Autism. You can access a Parent guide and a Guide to managing screen time and there are Resources for children and young people that you can use at home. Use this link [Roblox parents' guide for neurodivergent children | Internet Matters](#)

SEND Power Walk & Talk in Highgate Woods - Mon 7th April 11.30am

SEND Power are holding their April Walk & Talk event in Highgate Woods on Monday 7th April - this is a

chance to meet and talk with other parents and carers of children with special educational needs and disabilities. [Full details can be found here](#)

LINC Breakfast and Homework Clubs

A reminder of the LINC before and after school clubs - no need to book, students can just turn up on the day.

Breakfast Club: Monday to Friday from 8.00-8.30am in Room Linc 8 (1st floor 6th form building)

Homework Club: Monday to Friday from 3.30-4.00pm in Room Linc 4 (Ground floor 6th form building)

Ms Hudson who runs the Clubs said that this term students have spent time researching, discussing and taking part in activities on a variety of themes including Ramadan, World Autism day and lots of different Awareness days. Next term we'll start with a look at St George's Day.

Safeguarding at Fortismere

Gaming and Gambling Awareness Session - Tues 29th April 7.00pm-8.15pm online

Ygam are a national charity with a mission to prevent children and young people from experiencing gaming and gambling harms through awareness raising education and research. In partnership with the Metropolitan Police, Ygam is offering free online awareness sessions for parents across Greater London to help increase understanding of the risks associated with gaming and gambling. [Book a place here](#)

The Ygam website has a wide range of resources in for parents and carers in the [Family Hub](#)

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.

