


Friday 10th February 2023

School Leadership Messages	Contents						
<p>Turkey - Syria Earthquake Disaster</p> <p>Our thoughts as a school are with all those who are affected by the earthquake in Turkey and Syria. We want to let those members of our community who have family in that area who have been impacted by the disaster know that they are all very much in our thoughts. Fortismere intends to play a proactive role in fundraising and is liaising with local community leaders to understand how best we can do this. We would encourage you to donate any fundraising efforts to the Red Cross and Disasters Emergency Fund, or Haringey Giving which is currently working on setting an appeals page up.</p> <p>Fortismere Pastoral Survey for Parents - reminder</p> <p>We shared details of our pastoral survey for parents with you last week and we are very keen to collect as much feedback as possible. We know it's a longer survey than normal but we really want to learn from parental experience to be able to improve the systems we have in place. The survey will be open until Monday 20th February. It can be found here.</p> <p>Co-Headteachers' Surgery - a reminder that you can book a slot to discuss areas of policy on 23 February between 11.30am and 12.20pm. Please click here to register your interest.</p> <p>Chewing gum</p> <p>Parents and carers are reminded that chewing gum is not allowed at Fortismere. It produces 'gum pollution' as it is non-biodegradable. Please could you ensure that students are not bringing gum on site. We will discard any gum that we confiscate.</p> <p>Top Positive Points</p> <p>Well done to our top positive points students this week</p> <p>Deborah Acquah Y9 Anna Arsientieva Y8 Ethan Oliver Y9 Clara Cooney Y9 Samuel Balint-Kurti Y8 Sienna Sarri-Azanedo Y11 Evan Williams Y11 Anatasia Radomane Y9 Charlotte Wright Y9 Jake Lazarus Y9 Philip Antoniou Y9 Lola Currie Y8 Talia Greenberg Y7</p>	<p>CoHeadteachers' Message</p> <p>School Events</p> <p>Year Group Notices</p> <p>Departmental Notices</p> <p>Library Notices</p> <p>PE & Sports News</p> <p>Safeguarding Information</p> <p>Calendar</p> <table> <tr> <td>13-17/2</td><td>Half-term Break</td></tr> <tr> <td>25/2</td><td>Quiz Night Fundraiser 7pm SW Hall</td></tr> <tr> <td>1/3</td><td>Year 12 Parents' Evening</td></tr> </table> <div>  <p>DISASTERS EMERGENCY COMMITTEE</p> </div> <p>An appeal has been launched by the UK's Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) to help people affected by the earthquakes.</p>	13-17/2	Half-term Break	25/2	Quiz Night Fundraiser 7pm SW Hall	1/3	Year 12 Parents' Evening
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Co-Headteachers

Weekly Roundup

As is often the way with life, this has been a week of ups and downs. On Monday we woke up to the news of a devastating earthquake in Southern Turkey, causing a swath of destruction across the Turkish-Syrian border. Aside from the human reaction to such a disaster, we have many families in Haringey from the region, including students who attend Fortismere. We will be supporting the humanitarian response in all the ways that we can. We have provided a link (please see above) to the Disasters Emergency Committee for those who wish to donate directly. In addition, we will be liaising with local community leaders about ongoing support after half term. Please keep an eye out for more information in the Newsletter in the coming weeks.

The 'up' this week was the amazing Music and Poetry event co-hosted by the Music Department and the Library. Lizze Wells and Lydia Morgan made superb comperes (as well as contributing to the music) and apart from the temporary disappearance of a pair of drumsticks, the backstage support was flawless.

The range of talent on display was, as always, breathtaking. Indeed, it's difficult to keep coming up with superlatives for these events. The poems were moving, sometimes funny (flying carrots!) and always thought provoking. Students from all the year groups, from Y7 to Y13, read poems. It was impressive seeing students who had never performed publicly at Fortismere before being so confident in front of a microphone. The musical performances were astonishing. From Jolene (the Ladies' Choir) to the Big Band, there was something for everyone. For lovers of classical music, there were many standout moments but of particular note were Noah Hacking playing Zwergenviese and Haru Ogiwara closing the concert with the first movement of the HAYdn Cello Concerto. This was ably supported by strings, flute and oboe. Indeed, Haru's first violinist was Noah, a dream partnership.

The event was sold out and we would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support for events at Fortismere. We have more coming up next half term, including our annual Women's International Day event, organised by our FemSoc group in the Sixth Form.

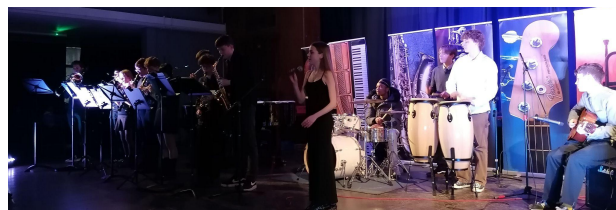
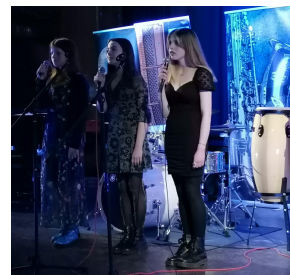
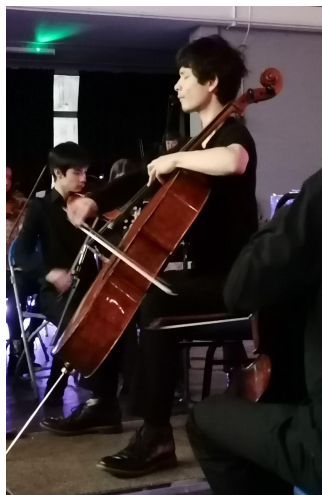
We are all looking forward to the half term break and a chance to spend time with family and friends. We wish all our families a peaceful and relaxing break



School Event

A Wonderful Night of Music & Poetry

This was a wonderful collaborative event bringing together staff and students from the Library, the English Department and the Music Department resulting in a very special evening.



Mr Jefferies, Director of Music writes - One of the things that makes my life as a Music Teacher at Fortismere is the immense talent that we have at the school. Last night showed yet again how incredibly talented our students are and it also highlighted the respect that they have for one another when it comes to performing. The South Wing Hall was packed to the rafters with parents, friends and teachers all there to see and hear a diverse range of Music and Poetry that was performed and written by our students. There were some outstanding moments but it is honestly difficult to pinpoint any particular group, soloist or poet since they all did so well. If you missed the evening then you sadly missed out on what was definitely one of the highlights of the school calendar. As Director of Music, I would urge you to attend one of the many performances that we have at Fortismere so that in years to come you are able to tell a friend that you were present in the audience at the beginning of someone's quite exceptional career.

School Fundraising Event

Quiz Night - Saturday 25th February 2023 6.30pm SW Hall

The **Fortismere Annual Quiz Night** takes place on Saturday 25th February 6.30 pm in South Wing Hall. Our fundraising target for this event is an ambitious £7000 but we won't make this without your help. It's going to be a really fun evening hosted by the award winning Pauline Eyre.

Tickets are £10 per person to make up teams of 8-10 people. If you're a smaller group don't worry we will put you with others to make a team.

Tickets available from [Eventbrite](#)

Contact mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk with any queries



College Notice

Inter College Chess Competition

Students from all year groups took part in the first Fortismere Intercollege Chess Tournament this week. There was a great deal of competitive spirit on display, lots of college points were earned and fun was had by all! There were over 100 entrants - a clear sign that Fortismere students enjoy strategic thinking! Year 9 will be competing after half term and so we'll see who rises to the challenge!



Mr Huxley

Year 10 Notice

Student Ambassadors Raise Over £100

A massive congratulations to the Year 10 student ambassadors who have raised over £100 selling Valentines roses. This money will be donated to a charity providing support to families in Turkey and Syria following the earthquakes.



Pastoral Update

Mental Health Week

This week is Children's Mental Health Week and the theme is "Let's Connect". After the half-term holidays students in Years 7-11 will be covering mental health as part of their pastoral curriculum. This will cover topics such as anxiety, kindness and friendship.



This week we have also welcomed two new Place2Be project managers to the school. Nu Robinson and Naomi Caine. We now have a fully up and running mental health provision. If you are concerned about your child please get in touch with your child's tutor in the first instance so that support can be provided.

Ms K Jackson

Year 9 Notice

Year 9 Go On An Adventure



It may have started out foggy and it was certainly chilly but the sun was shining on Year 9 students for their trip to Stubbers Adventure Centre on Wednesday this week. The students loved spending a day with friends and trying out new activities like abseiling, laser tag, archery, high ropes, rifle shooting and much much more! It was an absolute pleasure to see them having so much fun together as a year group and pushing themselves to try new things. Thank you to all the wonderful students and staff who made Wednesday's trip such a huge success. Here are some of my favourite shots from the day!

Ms Williams

Physics Department Notice

British Physics Olympiad Fortismere Success

Well done to our group of Y12 A Level Physics students who recently competed in the Senior Physics Online Competition run by the British Physics Olympiad team from the University of Oxford. Incredibly every one of our 17 students who entered gained a Bronze award or above – well done to all of them! This event is the precursor to the official Senior Competition which takes place on Friday 10th March and involves a long answer problem challenge.

Congratulations also to the Y11 students who took part in the Intermediate Physics Online Challenge event last week. More brilliant results with 77 students getting a bronze award or above and fantastically, 7 students getting a gold certificate - the highest achievable! Well done everyone who took part and to our gold winners: Will Bayston, Daniel Lehmann, Harry Power, Sayed Husson, Lorcan Callaghan, Daniel Kennedy, Tom Fernand.

Mr Common

Maths Department Notice

Maths Opportunities Year 9-11

The Maths Department are providing a range of opportunities for students in Years 9-11

Maths Enrichment Club: Every Tuesday 3.25pm-4.25pm in S32

Come along to solve challenging maths problems, learn about areas of maths outside of the GCSE curriculum e.g. Game Theory and learn some maths history. This club is great for students who love maths and might be interested in doing Maths or Further Maths at A level. We hope to run a maths trip in the summer term for regular attenders. Students need to arrive on time.

Maths Workshop: Every Monday 3.25pm-4.25pm in S32

Come along for some extra maths support. This is a drop-in session

Year 11 only Maths Intervention: Every Tuesday 3.25pm-4.25pm in S34

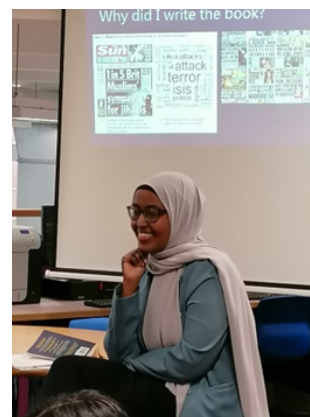
This session is for students who want to improve their GCSE maths grade. This is open to all Year 11s but we will also invite specific students to attend. Students must arrive on time.

Ms Oakley

Library News

Author Visit

Our Year 10 sociology students were delighted to meet author (and doctor) Ayaan Mohamud on the publication day of her debut “You Think You Know Me”. It’s an exposé of the harsh realities of Islamophobia, institutional racism, bullying and gang culture in modern Britain. Compelled to write the story following the tragic deaths of Shukri Abdi, a 12-year-old Somali refugee, and Lee Rigby, a British Army soldier, Ayaan explored how the backlash from a crime committed by a Muslim affects an entire community and leads to a vicious cycle of violence. She talked about the joys of Somali culture and community, the refugee experience, gang culture, and the British media’s portrayal of Muslims, including real-life examples of headlines and why we need to think beyond these. Ayaan was impressed by the maturity of our students and the sensitive and probing questions they asked. We have a few copies of “You Think You Know Me” available for sale (£8) in the library. For more about Ayaan, [read her article in The Guardian](#)



Competition

The Henrietta Branford Writing Competition is now open. We know we have some formidable creative writers here, so it would be wonderful if anyone under 18 from Fortismere enters! The topic this year is “an unexpected friendship”... [full details here](#)



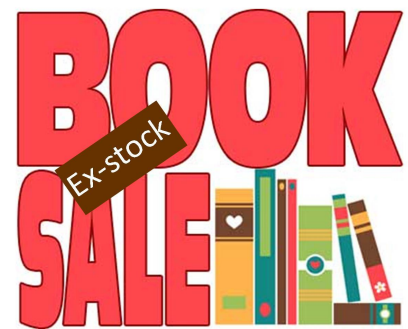
Reading and Wellbeing

According to the [Good Childhood Report \(2021\)](#) one in eight children are unhappy with their school lives. "Children who engage with reading are three times more likely to have higher levels of mental wellbeing than those who don't" (National Literacy Trust). Take a look at our new permanent Shelf Help display of books.



Book Sale to Raise Funds for Earthquake Appeal

We're holding a Book Sale of ex-stock in the Library from Tuesday 21st February for two weeks with proceeds going to the Turkey & Syria Emergency Appeal.



IN THE LIBRARY

For two weeks from 21st February



Recommended Reads

We have a large number of brilliant auto/biographies in the library, perfect for being entertained by your heroes and learning about the lives of others. Here are just a few...



Music Department Notices

Ensembles - Next half-term

Ensembles will start back after the February half-term break. There are still performance opportunities this academic year and we very much look forward to an exciting collaboration with some South American visitors from Markham College, Peru in July 2023

	Lunchtime	After School
Monday	String Group - Concert Hall	KS3 Music Tech - MU1 School Orchestra - Concert Hall
Tuesday	SSA 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 Hall Classical Guitar Group - Concert Hall	
Saturday	Music Theory Classes - 11:30am-12:30pm Fortismere Community Choir - 10:30am-1pm	Bands (Rooms available for practice)

A Level Music Recital - Thursday 9th March SW Hall 7:00pm

Please come along to support our very talented A Level students who will be performing their A Level pieces to the general public on Thursday 9th March at 7:00pm in South Wing Hall. These students are some of our very best musicians at Fortismere so this will be an intimate night of some electrifying performances on a variety of instruments. Tickets are available [here](#)

Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra - Saturday 25th March - St Andrews Church N10 7:30pm

Tickets are available for the Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra on Saturday 25th March in St Andrews Church, Muswell Hill. The programme includes works by Britten, Debussy and a new commission by local composer Laura Druce. Our soloist for the evening will be Violinist Darragh Morgan playing the Barber Violin Concerto. Tickets are available [here](#)

SCHOOL CHOIRS- Choral Opportunity - Saturday 13th May 2023

Our choirs have been invited to perform alongside the Fortismere Community Choir who will be performing Rachmaninov's Vespers at St Andrew's Church. The choir will be performing two works as part of the concert, one secular and one sacred and an email will go out to all students involved over the half term.

Sports & PE News

Year 10/11 Badminton Team Success

Well done to our Year 10/11 girls and boys who represented Fortismere last Friday at the Haringey Schools Badminton Competition. There were some great individual performances and a great team effort. The girls finished 4th and the boys were 5th. Well done!



U15 Girls Middlesex Cup Through to Next Round

Our U15 girls football team is through to the semi-finals of the Rachel Yankey Middlesex Cup. They beat Greig City Academy in an end to end game on Monday. Leila Hadari was player of the match and scored all of our 4 goals. We won the match 4-3.



U16 Girls Reach Middlesex Cup Semi-Final

Our Year 10/11 girls football team beat Highlands 5-1 on Tuesday with goals from Ella S and Tayla D. This means we are through to the semi finals and will play Wren Academy after half term. POM goes to Bella who was brilliant in defence and also assisted in setting up the goals.



U16 Boys Hockey Win Bronze

Congratulations to our U16 boys who represented the school in a Middlesex Schools Hockey tournament on Tuesday this week - they came away with the bronze medals. Well done boys, some great teamwork and some great individual play against very strong opposition.



Year 7 v Highgate School

Well done to our Year 7 boys football teams who visited Highgate School on Tuesday afternoon. The 7B team lost narrowly 1-0 (Sean Joyce player of the match). The C team were in a more entertaining game but lost 5-3 eventually (JJ Kelly player of the match).



Extra Curricular Clubs for the Spring Term

See the attachment to the Newsletter. This will also be added to the website.

Fixtures week beginning 20th Feb

Monday 20th Feb - Haringey Indoor Athletics at Lea Valley Year 8,9,10 4-6 pm
Tuesday 21st Feb - Haringey Basketball Year 7 and 8 Girls Year 9 and 10 Girls 2 -4 pm GCA
Wednesday 22nd Feb Year 7 and 9 Boys Basketball 2-4 pm GCA
Thursday 23rd Feb Year 8 and 10 Boys Basketball 2-4 pm GCA

Safeguarding at Fortismere

Safeguarding Contacts

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 contact your child's Tutor or 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