



Transforming Lives
Through Education

Newsletter: Friday 26th June 2026

Headteacher's Message

This week has undoubtedly been dominated by the extreme heat and I want to start by thanking staff and students for how they have managed the challenges presented. I must particularly compliment our students, who have shown just how mature and sensible they are throughout these challenging days. They have taken real responsibility for their own wellbeing: ensuring they were drinking plenty of water and maintaining incredibly calm behaviour across the school. Even with the rising temperatures, they continued to take their learning seriously and showed what an impressive bunch of young people they are. They made us all really proud this week.

Unfortunately, the extreme weather did mean we were sadly forced to postpone our Year 7 Celebration of Learning events this week. We know how much preparation the students put into these, but please be assured they will be coming up shortly so we can conduct them in a much more comfortable environment.

While the extreme heat may have disrupted our Year 7 events, it certainly didn't stop us from celebrating our wonderful Year 11s! Our Leavers' Assembly and Prom saw our highest attendance yet, a true testament to the incredible bond this year group has formed over the past five years. Thank you to the staff who made these unforgettable memories possible. To our Year 11 families: have a fantastic summer, and we look forward to seeing many of you soon!

Looking ahead, we are thrilled to be welcoming our brand new Year 7 cohort next week for their transition days. This will be their first real taste of secondary school life, and we know they won't be disappointed. We have lots laid on for them and we genuinely cannot wait to meet them all.

Finally, please do your best to keep yourselves cool this weekend. We are very much looking forward to welcoming everyone back to much more manageable temperatures next week.



Year 11 Leavers June 2026

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30.06	Guitar Concert 3.30pm NW - No tickets just turn up
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08.07	Sports Day

Feedback at Fortismere [here](#)



Fortismere Summer Festival - Sunday 5th July 12pm-5pm

Calling All Fortismere Dog Owners!

Does your four-legged friend have what it takes to be a winner in the ring? Then enter them into our **Summer Festival Dog Show!** With **7 exciting classes** to choose from, there's something for every pup!.

Entry is just £5 per class (max 2 classes per dog). Not only will you and your dog have a great day out, but every penny raised helps support the school.

🏆 Fantastic prizes to be won ❤️ Lots of adorable dogs and 🎉 Fun for the whole family



🐾 **Sign your dog up today!** [Sign up and Book Tickets & Tokens here](#)

💰 Save money by buying your tickets and tokens in advance (use link above) – **25 tokens for just £20!**

Thank you for your continued support. We can't wait to see you and your canine companions at the festival!

Friends of Fortismere ✉️ friendsoffortismere@fortismere.org.uk

Student Enrichment

The Great Fortismere Show & Culture Day - Thursday 9th July

We are all looking forward to the return of **The Great Fortismere Show** on Thursday 9th July! This is a fantastic opportunity for students to showcase their creativity across a wide range of categories. Following last year's massive success, we expect this year to be even bigger and even better.

This year, we are excited to combine the show with our first **Culture Day**. We want to celebrate culture in its widest sense - fostering a sense of belonging by celebrating what makes us different, yet part of one community. Key Information for the Day:

- **The Great Fortismere Show Entries:** All students are expected to take part and should bring their creative entry to the South Wing Hall before school on Thursday 9th July. All students will get a chance to view the entries to the Great Fortismere Show during the day.
- **What to Wear:** Students are invited to wear clothing that celebrates a culture important to them - this could be traditional cultural dress or a favourite football shirt for example. Please note: We ask that students do not wear anything with a political slogan or symbol, and to not bring in flags.
- **Culture Day Activities:** We have an exciting day planned. Key Stage 3 lessons will focus on celebrating culture and diversity. We will also have an extended tutor time (extending into Period 5) featuring special Culture Day activities.
- **Bring and Share Party:** During the extended tutor time, students are invited to bring in a food item that represents a culture of their choice to share with their peers.

Please talk to your child about these events and encourage them to get involved in what will be a vibrant day of creativity and community. We can't wait to see what they create and celebrate!

See our two posters on the last page of the Newsletter

Eco Committee

Our TfL Pioneers Celebrate at the London Transport Museum

This week, some of our Year 7 Ambassadors and Eco-Committee members enjoyed a fantastic visit to the London Transport Museum.

The trip was a celebration of their hard work on the Eco Active project, "Stamps for Steps." During the event, our students connected with other schools to share ideas and learn how they had approached the project. They also explored the wide range of career opportunities available at Transport for London (TfL), with a special focus on exciting new "Green Careers."



After brainstorming creative ways to make London a more sustainable city, the group squeezed in some time to explore the museum's exhibits.

We are incredibly proud of their dedication to the environment - watch this space for the Eco-Committee's next big project!

Sixth Form News

Sixth Form Offer Holder Days

We were delighted to welcome over 230 students to Fortismere across two successful offer holder days last week as part of our transition programme for the incoming Year 12 cohort.

Each day began with a welcome from Ms Judge (Headteacher), Ms Common (Director of Sixth Form), and Mr Lewis (Head of Year), who shared their enthusiasm for the year ahead and outlined what students can expect from life in the Sixth Form.

Students then had the opportunity to attend taster lessons in any of the 25 subjects offered at Sixth Form, as well as explore the additional qualifications we offer such as the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and KS5 Mandarin. These sessions gave students a real flavour of Sixth Form learning and helped them start to picture what studying their chosen subjects will be like in September. Between lessons, students enjoyed relaxing and socialising with their peers at a picnic on the school field.

The enthusiasm and engagement we saw throughout has left us very excited for September, when this new cohort officially joins us. The days were also supported by a wide range of our wonderful current Year 12 students, who warmly welcomed and supported their younger peers in lessons and around the site, as outstanding representatives of the Fortismere Sixth Form community.

We look forward to seeing everyone again soon!



Science

Fortismere at The Big Bang Fair

Our Monday Mad Scientists Club had an exciting trip to the Big Bang Fair last week. As the UK's largest celebration of STEM for young people, the fair sparks curiosity for careers in science in a completely interactive environment. Companies and universities showcased everything from VR flight simulators and robotics to quirky challenges - like diagnosing types of chocolate using actual CT scanners! Students were tasked with completing a range of activities and engaged in live shows featuring explosions, materials science, and creepy crawlies.



Every student claimed they couldn't wait to return again next year. The trip has truly motivated them to start work on their own science projects for next year's Big Bang competition, and we look forward to seeing their inventions. Well done to our Mad Scientists!!

Drama Department Notices

School of Rock Auditions!



Due to the hot weather, School of Rock auditions were postponed this week.

We will be holding auditions on **Monday 29th June** and **Tuesday 30th June from 3:15-5pm** in North Wing Hall.

We are also holding an audition date on **Mon 6th July from 3:15-5pm** in **North Wing Hall** for students who are not in school on the previous dates. (Work experience/School trip)

Check your google classrooms for audition scenes and any extra information.

We can't wait to ROCK with you!

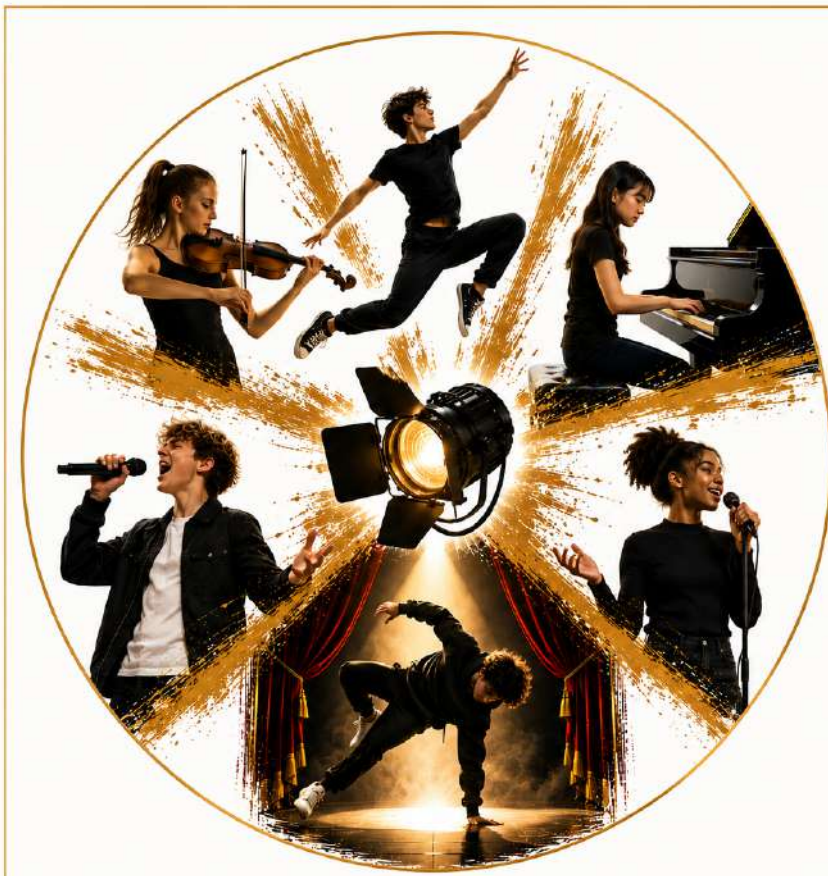
Follow us on instagram/fb/tiktok @fortismere drama

Reminder: Young Creatives and Technicians - Free Theatre Course August 2026

Interested in working in theatre but not sure where to start? Explore a week in theatre with the Donmar Warehouse & Royal Central School of Speech and Drama free 5-day course. Gain hands-on experience with industry experts and explore pathways into work including apprenticeships, Higher Education and early career employment opportunities.

The programme is open to applications from all young people aged 16–19 in London [Click here for more details](#) and apply [here](#) by 9am on Monday 13th July 2026.

Fortismere Drama Summer Showcase



FORTISMERE DRAMA SUMMER SHOWCASE

TUESDAY 14TH JULY 2026

NORTH WING HALL

5PM (DOORS 4:30PM)

TICKETS

ADULTS £10 AND STUDENTS £5

FOR SALE ON THE DOOR

Sport & PE Notices

Leading the Way - Fortismere Sports Leaders Lend Their Support

Our Sports Leaders were in action this week, helping to umpire and organise the Haringey Primary School Cricket Competitions at North Middlesex Cricket Ground.

Operating in intense heat, the leaders did a fantastic job officiating numerous fixtures for the visiting Year 5 and Year 6 students.



They were excellent ambassadors for Fortismere and proved to be outstanding role models to the younger children. Well done to everyone involved for your hard work and professionalism!

Fortismere Crowned Haringey Rounders Champions!

Despite the heat, our students remained completely unfazed! There was some fantastic teamwork on display from both the Year 7 and Year 8 teams at the Haringey Schools Rounders competitions this week. Facing competition from four other schools, our teams played brilliantly through several incredibly close games to emerge as champions in both year groups.

Well done to everyone - we are proud of your outstanding performance, team spirit, and sportsmanship.



Jazz Dance Workshop - Tuesday 7th July

There are still some places left on the Jazz Dance workshop taking place on **Tuesday 7th July**. Step into Dance is visiting the school for a 3-hour Jazz themed class, as a taster for the introduction to dance after school club starting in September. If your child would like to sign up, tell them to add their name to the sign up sheet outside the PE office in the Sports Hall.

Sports Day - Wednesday 8th July

This year, Sports Day will take place over one day, with students in Years 7 to 10 participating in sports and activities throughout the whole day.

- All students must come to school wearing their **PE kit and sun cream**, and bring a **refillable water bottle**.
- Students in Years 7 to 9 have been selecting their activities during PE lessons this week. Year 10 students will make their choices during morning registration on the day itself.
- **Schedule:** The full outline of the day will be shared with all tutor groups next week.



LINC Notices

Coffee Morning & Workshop - Supporting Anxiety in Autistic/ADHD Young People

Does your child hold it together at school but fall apart at home? We are pleased to invite you to a morning workshop with **Helen Cooke**, Advanced AuDHD Coach and founder of NeuroNurtured. This honest and practical session is designed to help parents understand and support anxiety in able, autistic young people. Helen will explain what is happening in their nervous systems and share immediate, actionable strategies that may change the way you see your child. **Everyone is welcome** and your child does not need a formal diagnosis for you to attend. This is also a great opportunity to enjoy a coffee and build supportive connections with other families.

Date: Monday 29th June from 9.00am-10.00am **Location:** Alexandra Park School

Booking: Use this link [Alexandra Park School event tickets from TicketSource](#) **Tickets:** £5 donation

SEND Power in Haringey - Annual Survey for Parents/Carers

SEND Power in Haringey, Haringey's forum for parents and carers of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND), is conducting its **annual survey on SEND services and support in Haringey**. Any parent or carer whose child or young person (age 0-25) lives in or receives SEND services (e.g. attends school) in Haringey can respond to this survey.

It's an opportunity for parents and carers to feed back to the Local Authority, schools and health services about their family's experiences. The survey is **open until 31st July**

Link to the survey here: <https://forms.gle/3YsKCiqv6o3F3tzip6> or use the QR code



Student Safety & Wellbeing

Open Water Safety - A Guide for Parents

As the weather warms up, young people are often tempted to cool off in rivers, lakes, canals, or the sea. However, open water hides serious, invisible dangers. The key dangers are:

- **Cold Water Shock:** Even in summer, water temperatures can be below 15°C. Sudden immersion can cause involuntary gasping, rapid drowning, or sudden muscle failure—even in strong swimmers.
- **Hidden Hazards & Heights:** Jumping from bridges or piers risks severe injury from shallow beds or submerged objects.
- **Dangerous Currents:** Weirs and coastal rip currents create powerful undercurrents that can quickly trap a swimmer or pull them out to sea.

The Life-Saving Skill: Float to Live - Tell your child that If they get into trouble, to resist the urge to panic or swim hard. Instead, they should do this: **Tilt your head back** with your ears submerged; **Relax** and try to control your breathing; **Move your hands and legs gently** to stay afloat; **Call for help** or swim to safety once the cold shock passes.

Make sure your child knows that in an Emergency - Never jump in to rescue a friend or a pet. Call **999** immediately and look for public rescue equipment (like lifebuoys) to use from dry land.

Useful Links

- **Float to Live Guide:** [RNLI - Float to Live](#)
- **Teenager-Specific Advice:** [RLSS - Water Safety for Teenagers](#)
- **Canal & River Safety:** [Canal & River Trust - Advice for Young People](#)

Safeguarding at Fortismere

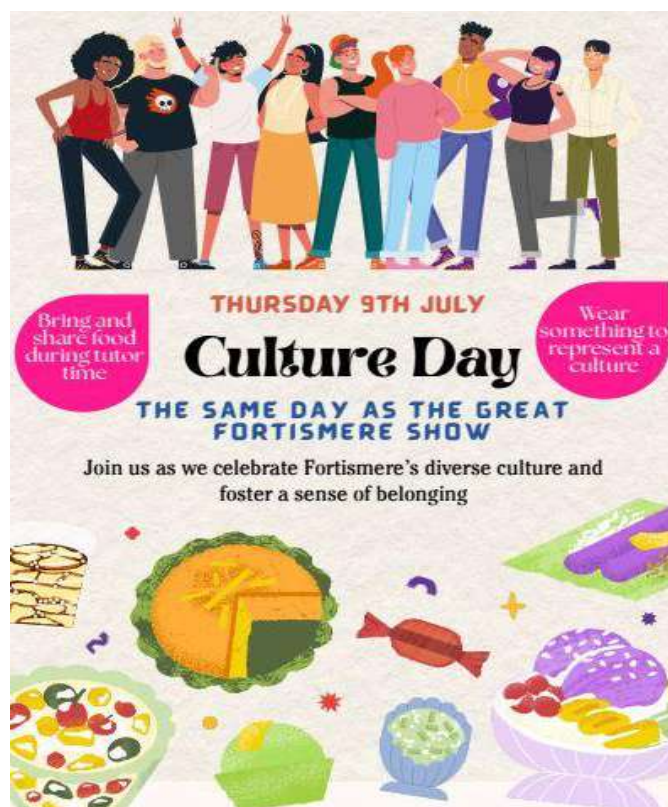
Safeguarding Contacts

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.



Thursday 9th July - The Great Fortismere Show & Culture Day!



Sunday 5th July - The Fortismere Summer Festival Dog Show

