

School Leadership Messages:

Year 13 Celebration Assembly



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14.05	Y8 X bank Parents' Evening
23.05	GCSE Art & Photography Exhibition 4-6pm
26.05	Half term holiday



Europe Day held on 9th May every year celebrates peace and unity in Europe. To find out more about the history of Europe Day [see here](#)

Co-Headteachers

Weekly Roundup

This morning we all wished good luck to our Year 13 students in their Celebration Assembly. It has been a privilege for us all at Fortismere to support these students through the last two years of their A level and BTEC studies and for many we were saying goodbye after 7 years at Fortismere. As is the tradition, many students came in fancy dress and they looked wonderful. We particularly enjoyed celebrating those students who were awarded subject prizes for their dedication to their learning, embodying the ambition and discipline that we have to expect from Fortismere Students. We'd like to Thank Ms Common, Mr Kenny, Ms Bailey and the Year 13 tutor team for their contributions to the lovely celebration event.

We are getting into full swing with the GCSE and A Level exams next week so wanted to take the final opportunity to wish everyone well. Both Year 11 and Year 13 have shown such commitment to their studies throughout the course and have used these final weeks extremely well to get ready for the main event. We are incredibly proud of all of them.

We also experienced immense pride last night as we attended the Spring Music Concert in the Music Hall. The programmes for these events just get better and better. It was an eclectic mix of classical, pop, rock and Jazz music with quite a bit of musical theatre thrown in for good measure. It was also great to see a number of new musicians taking the opportunity to perform as soloists. They were not only extremely talented but also very confident. Thanks very much to Mr Watson and the Music Department for organising this lovely event. It was great to see it so well attended by parents. There will be more opportunities in this academic year to hear some of our musicians performing so please keep an eye on these pages and get along to one of our famous Fortismere concerts. We are particularly looking forward to listening to our performers at our annual Summer Festival.

On that note, the Festival is currently being organised by our newly formed Friends of Fortismere who we know are working hard in the background to ensure it is a memorable event for our school and our families. This week, we would sincerely like to thank those members of FoF who spent last Saturday gardening on site. They did a wonderful job and we are all very grateful for their generous efforts.

We are pleased the sun has appeared in time for the weekend. We hope you all manage to get out in it and find time to enjoy your weekend.

Year 13 Notice

Celebration Assembly

This morning, we gathered for the Year 13 Celebration Assembly before A Level written exams begin in earnest on Monday. In true Fortismere tradition, the students embraced the occasion fully by arriving dressed in a fantastic array of costumes, including Teletubbies, Derry Girls, DC Comics villains, Bananas in Pyjamas, and many more. It made for a wonderfully colourful event that gave everyone a chance to celebrate the past two years in style. Photos are on the front page of the Newsletter.

The assembly featured speeches from Co-Headteachers Ms Judge and Ms Davey, Director of Sixth Form Ms Common, and Co-Heads of Year Mr Kenny and Ms Bailey, all of whom shared their appreciation for the students' hard work and commitment throughout their time in the Sixth Form. Tutors also contributed

messages for their forms and students were excited to hear from special returning guests Ms Salter, Ms Bruell, and Ms Montague (via video), who all wished the students well for the upcoming exams. Over 50 subject awards were presented to students who had been nominated by their teachers for their outstanding effort and engagement in their A-Level studies. It was great to see so many students recognised for their dedication across a wide range of subjects. Head Student Toby also took to the stage to thank teachers, tutors, and especially the Heads of Year for their support over the past two years. He also handed out a few additional awards, all voted for by the students, such as Chattiest, Best Dressed and Cutest Couple. Students weren't the only ones receiving recognition as Toby also announced a few student-voted awards for teachers, including Strictest Teacher (Ms. Common), Coolest Teacher (Mr. Renner), and more.

While we had a lot of fun celebrating our amazing Year 13 students, we'd also like to remind both students and parents that teachers will continue to be available for support right up until the last exam. As Ms Common often says, "practice makes permanent, not perfect," so the feedback from our teachers will be invaluable in pushing students to continue to progress as they prepare for their exams. We are incredibly proud of our Year 13s and look forward to supporting them through these final weeks of preparation.

Ms Common

Friends of Fortismere PTA

Green Fingered Friends of Fortismere

Thank you to the volunteer gardeners from the Friends of Fortismere who were in school last weekend doing some gardening and making the site look much nicer.

If any other parents or carers want to get involved or if you have donations of any plants, bulbs, pots etc please contact

friendsoffortismere@fortismere.org.uk



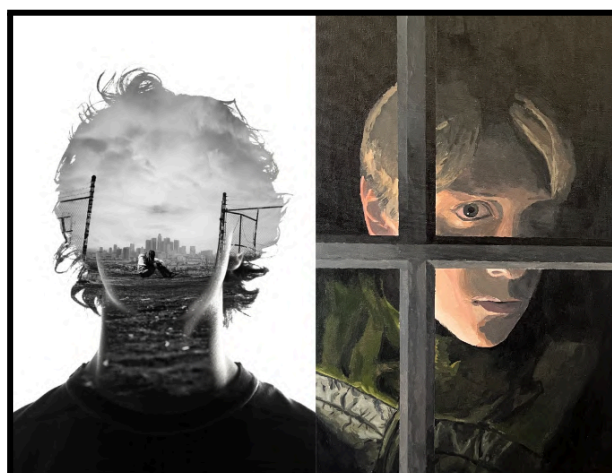
Art & Photography Notice

GCSE Art & Photography Exhibition: Friday 23rd May 6-8pm

The Art & Photography Department invites you to celebrate the success and achievements of our Year 11 students at the GCSE exhibition.

GCSE Art and Photography Exhibition 2025

Friday 23rd May 6-8pm
Fortismere School
North Wing
Creighton Avenue
Muswell Hill



Music Department Notice

Super Spring Concert

Well done to all the students for their fabulous performances at the Spring Concert yesterday. And thank you to everyone who came and supported them! It was a wonderful evening of music. Rehearsals are starting next week for the Summer Festival (6th July) and the Summer Concert (10th July)! More details to come later but please keep those dates free.

Fortismere's Community Choir Needs You!

Thank you to all who have replied so far to the ParentMail message that went out earlier this week about the community choir - but we are still a few people short of the 15 we need to keep the choir running. Please [sign up here](#) to keep the singing going!

STEM Notice

Award Winning Year 10 STEM Investigators

At the end of April, a group of seventeen Year 10 students attended the annual School Science Conference at the University of Westminster. The students had been taking part in after school STEM investigation projects with Mr. Nano since January. This year's conference had the theme 'Science for the Next Generation' and highlighted the future of science and next generation technology and their significance in everyday life and health.



Our day started in the Cavendish Lecture Theatre where student delegates were presenting their own scientific research projects and competing for The Don Henderson Award. Xavi Branford and Luke Nutt had been selected to represent Fortismere and to present their project which had explored the best light colour required for urban farming. Their presentation was excellent and they came second in the overall competition as well as gaining the CREST Bronze Award! Well done to them for a great achievement!

During the day students also participated in interactive sessions and met scientists, heard how science is applied to healthcare and answered questions to win prizes. Professor Lewis Dartnell provided a fascinating insight into astrobiology and research for microbial life on mars. It was a great day, full of interesting and inspiring science. Feedback from the students was very positive. In their words "It was *insanely fun and so interesting*". We'll be running the STEM investigation projects again next year so hopefully some current Year 9s are inspired to get involved. Well done to all the students who took part this year.

Mr Nano

English Department Notices

Year 12 Cambridge University Reading Group

This week, many of our Y12 English Literature students took part in the first session of a Reading Group, run by Dr. Sean McEvoy, fellow at Murray Edwards College, Cambridge and author of many works of literary criticism, including 'Shakespeare: The Basics'. Students explored Harlem Renaissance Poetry, including

Langston Hughes' seminal 'Blues in Stereo' and enjoyed the opportunity to discuss their ideas with current Cambridge students. The next session, on poetic form, will take place next Tuesday (13th) at 5.30pm. If any more Y12 English students would like to get involved, please speak to Ms Adams.

Year 12 Book Club

Further literary discussions have filled the Sixth Form this week, with the vocal opinions of the Y12 Book Club on show on Tuesday. Their discussion of Booker Prize winning 'Orbital' was lively, passionate and, at times, utterly damning! It's always lovely to hear such a range of opinions and to see students reading beyond the curriculum. Next half-term, we will be exploring Percival Everett's 'James,' a retelling of Mark Twain's 'Adventures of Huckleberry Finn' so get reading!

LINC Notices

Autistic Youth Club - Thursdays 4pm-5pm at Muswell Hill Centre N10 3QJ

Children aged 11-16 with an autism diagnosis who attend a Haringey mainstream school can join in activities at a Youth Club run by the Haringey Language and Autism Support Team. The Club runs on Thursdays during term-time at the Muswell Hill Centre, Hillfield Park. There is a sports hall, kitchen and games area.

Online Workshop - Choosing a post-16 setting for SEND Learners

Haringey SEND are running an online workshop aimed at students from Year 9 or above and their parents/carers. The workshop is suitable for students with and without an Education Health and Care Plan and will provide information on transition, options and provision for post 16 education and training.

Date: Thursday 13 May 6pm-8pm - [Book a place here](#)

Library Notices

Creative Writing Competition

Entries are now open for the annual art and poetry competition which encourages children and young people to empathise with others their age who have had to leave their homes due to conflict or natural disaster, or to express their own lived experience of this.

It's very easy to enter the competition by submitting entries online at: [Sanctuary Foundation 2025 Competition](#). The deadline to submit entries is Thursday May 22nd. Entries will be judged by a fantastic panel of celebrities, refugees, and journalists with the top 30 entries going on display in The British Library during National Refugee Week (16th–22nd June 2025). They will also be featured in a special national online assembly, in the press and elsewhere. The Sanctuary Foundation hopes this competition will not only inspire creative expression but also foster conversations about the importance of community and compassion towards displaced children.



The British Library is hosting an exciting event and prize giving ceremony on World Refugee Day (Friday 20th June 2025). For full details of the competition, please visit: <https://sanctuaryfoundation.org.uk/art/>

CoverUp

The next meeting of our parent /staff reading group is on Thursday 10th July, 7pm in the library. Over our traditional summer Pimms and watching the sun set over the fields we shall be discussing the winner of this year's Women's Prize for Fiction. We'll find out which that is on 12th June giving us a month to read what is always a cracker – it'll be one of these [Women's Prize for Fiction 2025](#) Look forward to seeing you then.



Recommended Reads of the Week

Our gruesome little students like nothing better than a good murder, so in honour of this year's CrimeFest (the last one, sadly) we have a grisly display that includes some of these...



Sport & PE Notices

Rounders Club

Rounders Club is Mondays and Tuesdays after school we will be selecting the teams for the Haringey Competitions in June from those that attend these clubs.

More Pickleball Wednesdays

We have managed to secure funding to enable Pickleball Club to continue for the summer term.

Table Tennis Club

Table Tennis Club has moved to the Sports Hall on a Thursday after school - sharing with Trampoline Club.

Tennis Club

Mr Hawkes will be selecting a Year 7 and Year 8 combined team. Make sure you attend the tennis club on a Thursday after school.

Careers & Work Related Learning Notices

Half Term Virtual Work Experience Opportunities

Are you interested in learning more about **careers in wealth management and financial services**? Join St. James's Place, a FTSE 100 company, for an exclusive full-day virtual work experience event on: **Thursday 29th May from 10:00am-3:00pm**. [Register here](#)

These **Springpod sessions** are useful for your CV and to record on UNIFROG

- [Jaguar Land Rover – Drive Your Future](#) - For students interested in engineering, sustainability or design. A behind-the-scenes look at how JLR is shaping the future of automotive.
- [Hospitality Careers with Wagamama](#) - Ideal for students who thrive in fast-paced, people-first environments.
- [Allianz – Insurance Work Experience](#) - An eye-opening look into the world of insurance. Students hear directly from professionals and explore real careers that make a real impact.
- [Avanti West Coast – Rail Industry Experience](#) - A behind-the-scenes look at careers powering the UK rail network — from operations to customer service.

And remember to also look at the weekly Fortismere Careers Newsletter - on the school website [here](#)

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.

