


Friday 22nd September 2023

School Leadership Messages	Contents								
<p><b>Feedback to Parents following the Co-heads' Address</b></p> <p>Thanks to parents for submitting their queries following the Co-headteachers' presentation on Tuesday 12th September. An information sheet is attached to this week's Newsletter with the school's responses to queries raised.</p> <p><b>Enrichment and Extracurricular Activities - September 2023</b></p> <p>Also, attached to this weeks' Newsletter parental is the list of enrichment and extracurricular activities available to students at lunchtime and after school. We'd love to see every student take part in at least one of these activities. Please discuss what's on offer this year with your child.</p> <p><b>Open Evening - 27th September 4.00pm-6.30pm</b></p> <p>We are looking forward to welcoming prospective parents to Fortismere on Wednesday afternoon. Many thanks to the students who have already signed up to help, including leading tours of the school. We would like to encourage more students to sign up to help - they can do this via the google form in their year group classroom.</p> <p><b>Top Positive Points</b></p> <p>Well done to the following students for their excellent conduct this week</p> <p>Tia Lytton Ella Meshulam Thomas Crofts Curtis West JJ Kelly Bill Morten-Spencer Amber Chamley Thomas Rack Alice Hawkins Zach Whittaker Quinn Salhany</p>	<p><b>CoHeadteachers' Message</b></p> <p><b>Departmental News &amp; Notices</b></p> <p><b>Safeguarding Contacts</b></p> <p><b>Community Events</b></p> <p><b>Calendar</b></p> <table> <tr> <td>27.09</td><td>Fortismere Y6 Open Afternoon 4.00-6.30pm <b>Early closure for all students: 1.00pm</b></td></tr> <tr> <td>28.09</td><td>Late start for all students: 9.40am for Period 2</td></tr> <tr> <td>05.10</td><td>School closed for students</td></tr> <tr> <td>02.11</td><td>Fortismere Fireworks Display</td></tr> </table> <p><b><i>G'mar chatima tova to all members of our school community observing Yom Kippur</i></b></p> 	27.09	Fortismere Y6 Open Afternoon 4.00-6.30pm <b>Early closure for all students: 1.00pm</b>	28.09	Late start for all students: 9.40am for Period 2	05.10	School closed for students	02.11	Fortismere Fireworks Display
27.09	Fortismere Y6 Open Afternoon 4.00-6.30pm <b>Early closure for all students: 1.00pm</b>								
28.09	Late start for all students: 9.40am for Period 2								
05.10	School closed for students								
02.11	Fortismere Fireworks Display								

## Co-Headteachers

### Weekly Roundup

This week the Co-headteachers have begun their round of assemblies with students. Our messaging focussed on the twin notions of 'belonging' and 'connectedness'. Those parents who have viewed our start of the year address will remember that it is important to us as school leaders that every single member of our school community feels a tangible sense of 'belonging' to their community, that they are proud that they are Fortismere students and that this motivates them to want to make their own contributions to developing the ethos of their school. We have also explored how important feeling 'connected' as part of a community is to support human beings to flourish. We have been clear that how our students feel about their school really matters to us and that we and the staff at Fortismere are all working together to provide the support that will enable them to make real progress as learners. We were also clear that they each have their own responsibilities in ensuring that our community feels as connected as it can be: as individuals, as members of their tutor group and as members of their year group cohort. We hope that our messaging instils a sense of pride and purpose in being part of this vibrant and caring learning community.

We would like to thank all parents who submitted queries following our presentation on Tuesday 12 September. We have compiled responses to those queries in the form of an FAQ information sheet which is being sent alongside this week's Newsletter. We are looking forward to offering opportunities to speak to us in our series of Co-headteacher surgeries that will be taking place each term. Governors will also be holding surgeries with parents later on in this term. All information about dates and how to register for these sessions will be communicated via this Newsletter in due course.

It's been a pretty busy week all in all so there's lots for parents to catch up on in this week's Newsletter. We are very much gearing up for our big event next week, our Open Evening for Year 6 parents. We look forward to seeing many of you there!

## Photography Department Notice

### Georgia Morris Photography Prize 2023

We wrote earlier in the year asking for entries for our annual key stage 3 photography prize. The Georgia Morris Photography Prize was set up as a tribute to Georgia by her family - Georgia was a student at Fortismere and in 2016 after a very brave fight against cancer she sadly passed away, but not without making a significant impact on all of the people she met. She was only at Fortismere for one year, but she loved the school and the creativity that thrived within it. She was passionate about photography and always had a camera around her neck. She loved capturing the world around her and was particularly inspired by nature and wildlife. Georgia's family hope this annual prize will encourage other young students to take up photography and to study it at the school, as she would loved to have done. The title for the competition this year was "Wild Woods" and as always the standard of the entries from our students was fantastic. There really were no bad photos, it's just that some were exceptional and gave us a genuinely difficult job of choosing a shortlist, never mind a top three! But we had to do so, and chose three images which are all quite different but very imaginative and beautifully captured. We know that Georgia would have been proud of taking any of them, and indeed many of the other entries. Please don't be discouraged if you didn't win! The standard was so high, and there were at least 20 entries that could have made the top 3. So thank you all who entered, and please keep taking photographs and enjoying it.

Mr Holden

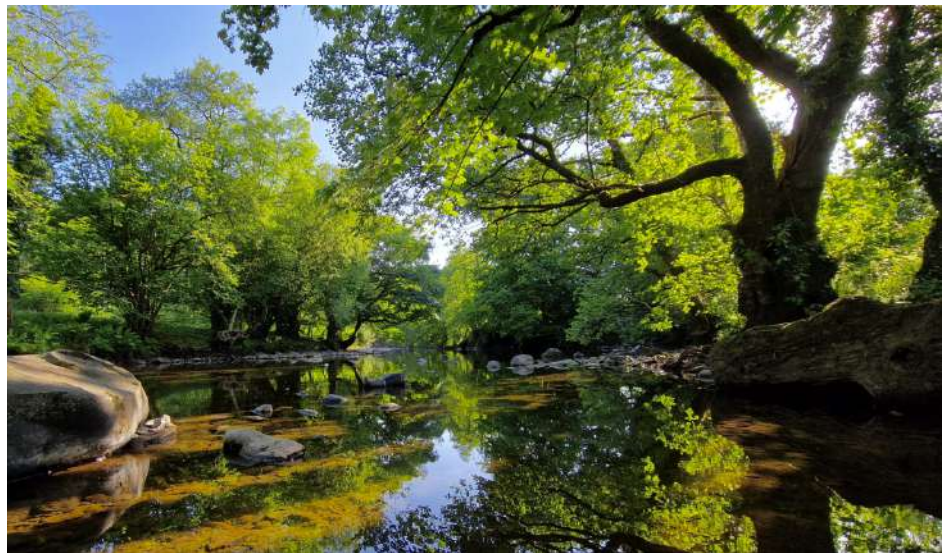
1st prize - Minalu Cheuse



2nd prize - Louis Gauthier Spurr



3rd prize - Noah Smeaton



## Safeguarding Team Notice

### Social Worker Joins the Team



My name is Andrew Musgrave and I'm the new School Social Worker - I'm really pleased to have the opportunity to join the school and to become part of the Fortismere school community. I work for Haringey Children's Social Care and I am going to be based in the school every day, working alongside the existing Safeguarding Team, to ensure that young people are safe and able to flourish while here. In particular, I will be helping some students in Years 7-9 who will be invited to take part in a new emotional wellbeing programme that we are offering, which helps them to think about the connection between their thoughts, feelings and behaviour. I have been working with young people and their families in various settings for many years now (too many to count to be honest!) I want to be able to get to know as many of the young people here at Fortismere as possible in lots of different and helpful ways. I hope that there will also be opportunities to meet with many parents and carers as well. Students are free to drop by my office to say hello and to let me know how they are getting on and parents are welcome to contact me (via the school office - [office@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:office@fortismere.org.uk)) if you think there might be a way that I can help you and your family.

## LINC Department Notices

### LINC Homework Club

The LINC Homework Club is starting up and will run from Monday 25th September in Room LINC 4 on Mondays to Fridays from 3.20pm-4.00pm. The Club will be run by a Teaching Assistant to provide individual support to students. If you have any questions, please contact [LINCadmin@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:LINCadmin@fortismere.org.uk)

## Sixth Form News

### Sixth Form Societies & Enrichment Fair

Our talented Year 13s showcased their passions and interests this week at our Societies & Enrichment Fair. The range covered was impressive from cheese enthusiasts to Christian, Feminist, and Film societies. Young entrepreneurs found their niche alongside aspiring doctors, environmentalists, chemists, economists, historians, and game developers. Year 12s also had the chance to join the thriving Debate, Pride, and People of Colour societies. Following on from last year's successes, many societies are planning some exciting events this year. So watch this space for news! Students were also offered some fantastic volunteering opportunities by the Fortismere Library and a local primary school. The PE department advertised a range of sporting clubs and a sports leadership award for students to get involved with. Pat Dugdale, one of the school governors, also introduced students to the wonders of learning Latin at her after school latin club. The Mark Evison Foundation, who are dedicated to fostering personal development through challenges, talked students through some of their great enrichment opportunities. A big thank you to everyone involved.

Claire Montague  
Acting Sixth Form Independent Learning Coordinator



## Extended Project Qualification EPQ - Year 12 & 13

Congratulations to the EPQ Class of 2023! The students completed amazing projects on wide ranging topics, including the application of the circular economy to street footwear, the impact of the ONS on the lives of British citizens, nuclear propulsion, Greek weaving, Disney's representation of women and advertising. Students were supported in their EPQ journey by supervisors from all departments across the school.

Next week, all Year 12 students will be introduced to the EPQ course and the key transferable study skills necessary to complete it and any piece of independent research. They will be supported by teachers Ms De Freitas and Mr Kenny, our Librarians Mrs Ward and Mrs Cockerham, our independent learning co-ordinator Ms Montague and teacher supervisors, together with the Universities of Southampton and Westminster.

Year 13 students, who have already started their EPQ journeys, will be having EPQ lessons in the Library and Sixth Form building. There are a range of exciting projects in progress which we are looking forward to supporting. Further information about the EPQ can be found on the EPQ noticeboard outside the T19 Study Room or by contacting Ms De Freitas, EPQ Co-ordinator [NDeFreitas@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:NDeFreitas@fortismere.org.uk)

## Library

### Manga Club

The huge popularity of manga amongst our younger students has inspired us to start a Manga Club in the library. It will be run by Mrs Cockerham on Wednesdays, 3.30-4.30pm and students will be able to participate in a wide range of imaginative activities related to their favourite genre. We even have a "guest artist" lined up to help them with their own manga illustrations. Manga Club starts on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October.



### Cake Sale 27th September for Macmillan Cancer Support

Our Year 7s are running a Mammoth Cake Sale on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September to raise money for the charity and provide sustenance for the visitors to the Prospective Parents Open Afternoon. It would be wonderful if other year groups could get involved by providing cakes and goodies for sale. If you need some recipe ideas, have [a look at this page](#).

The library will be open from 7.30am on Wednesday morning to accept offerings. The cake sale will continue into Thursday break time, so bring a little bit of cash to school for a mid-morning treat.



### Sophie McKenzie

Final reminder for Sophie McKenzie fans – if you'd like to get a signed and personalised copy of her new book, "Secret Sister", please bring £7 to the library at break next Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September.



## Recommended Reads of the Week

It's European Day of Languages on Tuesday. As Manon Steffan Ros said in her Carnegie acceptance speech earlier this year, "Each language offers a unique and enriching perspective on the world, and so literature in translation has the potential to enhance our lives greatly. Your favourite book might not yet be translated into a language that you understand."



## PE & Sports News

### Extra-curricular Timetable

There is a vast range of extra-curricular sports and clubs that are now up and running and the school site is a hub of activity between 3.20pm and 4.20pm. If you haven't seen the PE & Sports timetable yet (it was sent home via parentmail last Monday) have a look at a copy on the website - [available here](#). There are lots of great opportunities available.

### PE Kit Reminder

Lots of students are wearing their school PE kit around the school. Students should change into their PE kit for a PE lesson and make sure they have a change of clothes to wear before and after the PE lesson.

### Y7/8 Friendly Football Fixtures v Latymer School



Year 7 and 8 students travelled to Latymer School in Edmonton on Monday and Tuesday evening this week for some friendly matches. For our Year 7s Monday was their first opportunity to represent the school. They did a great job and really enjoyed the matches but there is some work to do at training with regard to team cohesion. Well done to the Year 7s for behaving so well on your first fixture. The Year 8 A & B squads had mixed fortunes on Tuesday. Unfortunately the A team were second best against a strong Latymer side,

hampered by a number of our key players being unavailable. I'm sure the squad will bounce back when they face local rivals, APS, in the Middlesex cup next week. The B team had an excellent match, well led by captain, Alfred Pouncett, the boys came through to win 6-3. It was great to see some new faces in the squad and everyone contributed to the victory. Next up for the B squad is Highgate in early October.

## Tottenham Hotspur Football Foundation

With the success of the Lionesses in the Euros and the recent World Cup we're pleased to see lots of interest in women's football. Fortismere has a long and successful history in girls football with lots of our alumni playing professionally. We're really lucky that we have some coaches from the Tottenham Hotspur Football Foundation supporting us on Wednesday afternoons with our girls football.



## Two Goals for Araya in England U19 v Denmark

Fortismere's very own Araya Dennis, who is dual signed for Arsenal and Crystal Palace, scored twice for England under 19s earlier this week in their match against Denmark. Araya was on fine form and helped England to an impressive 5-0 victory over their Danish visitors at St George's Park in a friendly match as they prepare for the Euro Qualifiers in October.



## Dance Club (Mondays) & Gym Club (Wednesdays)

We're still recruiting for the after school Dance club and Gym club. We have professional coaches supporting these clubs. Contemporary dance club is Mondays and Gym club is Wednesdays. Information and an application form were sent out with the newsletter last week or contact Ms Vangucci for details.

## Basketball Club Y10-Y13

One of our Teaching Assistants, Mr Richards and Hesketh Benoit, a well known Haringey basketball coach, are running a basketball club on Fridays after school in the sports hall. This is for Year 10-13 students only.

## Upcoming Fixtures

<b>Monday 25th September</b>	Y9 Boys (away) v St James
<b>Tuesday 26th September</b>	Haringey Cross Country Competition, New River Sports Centre. Y7 A & B (away) v Highgate
<b>Wednesday 27th September</b>	Y6 Open Evening Y10 Boys (home) v Wren Academy
<b>Thursday 28th September</b>	Y9 & Y10 Girls Football (away) v Highlands

## Secondhand PE Kit Sale - Tuesday 26th September 2023

A reminder that there is an opportunity to save money, raise funds for the school and help the environment by purchasing secondhand PE kits on Tuesday 26th September at 3.20pm in the South Wing Foyer. All proceeds will go toward the School. Cash only please. Tops £10; Short/Skirts £5; Fleece £10

## Extra Curricular Clubs & Activities

### Chess Club

**Fortismere's Chess club will meet Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays in S05 lunchtimes.** There will be a Blitz/Rapid tournament to play on Weds 27th September in S05 from 3.3pm to 6pm. At the same time, there will also be a chance to play in a chess simul given by a student who is rated one of the world's best for his age. The chess club is looking for players to participate in team competitions. New Y7/Y12 chess players are especially welcome.

Mr Renner

## Community Events

### Muswell Hill Indoor Car Boot Sale - Saturday 30th September 10am-1pm

The Muswell Hill Indoor Car Boot Sale is taking place on Saturday, 30th September from 10am to 1pm at Hornsey Parish Church Hall, Cranley Gardens, N10 3AH. 50p admission and refreshments available. More information from 020 8368 8180

## 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](mailto:safetalk@fortismere.org.uk) alternatively contact your child's Tutor or Head of Year:

<b>Year 7</b>	Ms Fox <a href="mailto:kfox@fortismere.org.uk">kfox@fortismere.org.uk</a>
<b>Year 8</b>	Ms Jackson <a href="mailto:kjackson@fortismere.org.uk">kjackson@fortismere.org.uk</a>
<b>Year 9</b>	Ms Cuenca <a href="mailto:icuenca@fortismere.org.uk">icuenca@fortismere.org.uk</a>
<b>Year 10</b>	Mr Aldridge <a href="mailto:saldridge@fortismere.org.uk">saldridge@fortismere.org.uk</a>
<b>Year 11</b>	Ms Boot <a href="mailto:aboot@fortismere.org.uk">aboot@fortismere.org.uk</a>