

School Leadership Messages	Contents	
<p>Safe Travelling To and From School</p> <p>We have been reinforcing important messages about safe travel in the local area to our students.</p> <p>Our students responded well this week when they were approached by some students from other local schools in an aggressive manner. They did absolutely the right thing and returned to us where the incident was reported and is now in the hands of the police.</p> <p>If students are walking along the Broadway they can go into the nearest shop, tell them they are feeling unsafe and the shop will be able to support them, if necessary by contacting the police. Please also remind them of the importance of heading straight home, particularly in these darker months. School staff do patrol the local area for a short period at the end of the day.</p> <p>Also, be reassured, that if they are near the school there are always adults on site who will support them if they are feeling worried.</p>	<p>Headteacher's Weekly Roundup</p>	
	<p>Governing Board Notice</p>	
	<p>Departmental News & Notices</p>	
	<p>Safeguarding Information</p>	
	<p>Calendar</p>	
	<p>03.12</p>	<p>Y11 and Y13 Mock Results Published</p>
<p>07.12</p>	<p>Community Christmas Concert St Andrews Church 7pm Buy tickets here</p>	
<p>10.12</p>	<p>Y13 Parents Evening 3.30-6.30pm (face to face)</p>	
<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>CHRISTMAS ON THE HILL</p> </div> <p>Make sure you order your tree from Christmas on the Hill nice and early. For every Fortismere order they will give us a generous donation (select Fortismere from the dropdown at checkout)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Use this link to order</p>		
<p>Feedback at Fortismere here</p>		

Headteacher's Message

Thank you to all parents for your understanding and vigilance with communications earlier this week when we needed to close the school a little bit early on Tuesday. Your support in checking messages and making alternative arrangements at short notice was greatly appreciated.

On Sunday evening, I had the absolute pleasure of attending the Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra's autumn concert at St Andrew's Church. Our former student Haru Ogiwara was simply outstanding as soloist in Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No. 1; one of the most challenging pieces in the repertoire. Haru's technical brilliance and emotional depth were breathtaking, and it was wonderful to see so many members of our community there to support him. The entire evening was a testament to the exceptional musical talent we nurture at Fortismere. We are also so lucky to have the symphony orchestra as part of our community. Do look out for future performances this academic year. Looking ahead, we're delighted to be collaborating with Coldfall Primary School for our Community Christmas Concert on Sunday 7th December at St Andrew's Church. Our Junior and Youth Choirs will join the Coldfall Choir and N10 Youth Voices for an evening of Christmas classics and singalong carols. This is the first of, we hope, very many collaborations with Coldfall and we'd love to see you all there. Tickets are available online now.

I'd like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who has donated winter coats for our Student Ambassadors' Wrap Up Winter Coat Collection. Our students collected 120 coats from you all. We're grateful for the generosity our community has shown in supporting this important charity initiative, which provides warm coats to homeless and vulnerable people this winter. Your contributions will make a real difference to those in need.

Finally, there's a great roundup this week of some of our sporting fixtures. We have had our Netball, Football and Basketball teams in action this week in what sounded like extremely nailbiting matches. Special mention to the Year 11 Basketball team who won both of their games including beating local rivals APS 30-20. And Fortismere student, Stanley Badacsonyi was putting in a great performance on the chess board (leading the top seed at one point) in the Fide Knockout World Cup. Well done to all involved!

As you'll see from this week's Newsletter there's lots more to come next week. Until then, I wish you all a very restful weekend.

Student Charity Fundraising

Knitted Teddies For Sale!

The Year 8 Ambassadors are selling knitted teddies in aid of Cancer Research on Tuesday 2nd December (lunchtime at SW canopy). Tell your child to bring £5 cash if they'd like to buy one. There are only 11 teddies for sale so get there early!

The teddies have been knitted by members of The Big Choir, a choir that raises money for the Francis Crick Institute.



Governing Board

Parent Governor Election Update

Apologies for the issues we had this week with the parent governor election. There was a problem with the email notification and with the settings on the voting form. I sent a ParentMail on Tuesday to explain that we have decided to start again with a new link and a new email notification message. Look out for this email next week as it will contain the new link and your new voter number.

Year 7

Thank You Friends of Fortismere!

Year 7 students want to say a big thank you to the Friends of Fortismere for their generous donation to buy new games, equipment and craft materials for the Year 7 Lunchtime Common Room. Year 7 students really value having access to this space and it's great to be able to buy some nice new things for the room.



Extra Curricular

Fortismere J-Soc Launches

The Fortismere Jewish Society (J-Soc) launched this week and will be running throughout the year (**Week 1 Tuesdays at lunchtime in NW Hall**). Supported by the UJS Schools Programme, J-Soc offers students the chance to explore Jewish life from a variety of perspectives - traditional, progressive, cultural and spiritual. The society provides a valuable way for the school to develop students' Spiritual, Moral, Social, and Cultural education and promote the values of tolerance, inclusion and mutual respect.

Our first session was a great success, with nearly 50 students attending. We were honoured to welcome Rabbi Hughes, who spoke about his life as a Rabbi and proved truly inspirational. Students also enjoyed some delicious kosher pizza as they socialised and discussed the themes of the talk. **J-Soc is open to all students, regardless of religion or background.** Over the year, students will hear from a range of fascinating speakers, including Holocaust survivors, Rabbis and even chefs.

The next J-Soc session will take place on Tuesday 9th December at 1:05pm in the NW Hall, where we will be celebrating the festival of Hanukkah. Students interested in joining can email Elodie Saunde saune087.309@fortismere.school or speak to Ms Overs.

JSOC!
JEWISH SOCIETY

KEY INFO

- ALL YEAR GROUPS WELCOME
- DELICIOUS KOSHER FOOD AND SNACKS PROVIDED
- FIRST SESSION: 25TH NOVEMBER
- WHEN: EVERY TUESDAY WEEK 1 LUNCH (1.05-1.50)
- WHERE: NORTH WING HALL

EXTRA INFO

- everyone welcome you dont have to be jewish
- includes: exploring jewish culture, tatse tests and so much more

we can't wait to see you there!

Mrs Overs, Elodie, Erykah, Savannah, Isabelle



Eco Committee

News From the Eco Committee

Last week, the Eco-committee worked to highlight the complex issues related to fishing on [World Fisheries Day](#). Students wanted to both highlight the importance of the sea to many communities in the world whilst also recognising the need for sustainable fishing.

Next week, students will be collecting data to see how well the school community have managed to *Cut their Carbon* during November. Please help your child to work out if your household has done any of the following: Made three plant-based evening meals; Made three of your journeys 'active'; Had a device free day; Meal planned to reduce food waste; Used the washing machine at 30°; and Turned the hearing down by 1° There's still time to do these things before November ends and then keep them going.

Music

Concerts Galore.....

After a wonderful orchestra concert at St Andrew's last Sunday, performed to a packed church, it's now on to the Christmas season and we have concerts galore!

Community Christmas Concert – Sunday 7th December at St Andrew's Church N10

Don't miss this lovely festive occasion, with our Youth and Junior Choirs performing some gorgeous Christmas music together with the choir of Coldfall Primary and N10 Youth Voices. A great way to get your voices in gear with some favourite carols as well. Tickets £10 and £5 for students available online [here](#). Families eligible for FSM can get half price tickets with the coupon code FSM/PP50%.



FCC
FORTISMERE COLDFALL CAROLS

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

AUDIENCE CAROLS

FESTIVE MUSIC
performed by the choirs of Fortismere School and Coldfall Primary

SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2024 AT 7 PM

THE CHOIRS OF FORTISMERE & COLDFALL SCHOOLS
CONDUCTED BY FLORENCE PRICE & KATE VETCH
ST ANDREW'S CHURCH | N10 2DD
TICKETS: £10 | STUDENTS/VI/BS: £5

FORTISMERE MUSIC CENTRE
BOOK ONLINE: www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk



School Christmas Concerts - Monday 15th & Tuesday 16th December in NW Music Concert Hall

A choice of two dates for the school's annual Christmas celebration, with bands, school ensembles and solos from throughout the school. Tickets available [here](#) - £10 fundraiser ticket, £8 standard.



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

15TH & 16TH DECEMBER 2025 at 6.30 PM

FORTISMERE SCHOOL CONCERT SERIES
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: HATT WATSON

MUSIC CONCERT HALL, FORTISMERE SCHOOL, N10 1NS
FUNDRAISER £10 | STANDARD £8 | STUDENTS/VI/BS: £3

FORTISMERE MUSIC CENTRE
BOOK ONLINE: www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk

Modern Languages

Year 12 BFI Visit

Last Friday, Year 12 A level Spanish students attended the BFI KS5 study day, "In the Shadow of the Spanish Civil War." Students analysed film techniques in the work of Guillermo Del Toro, studied the historical context of the Civil War and post-war periods, explored the themes in Pan's Labyrinth, and watched the film on the big screen.



Geography

Year 11 Fieldwork - Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd December

The second part of the GCSE Geography compulsory fieldwork is taking place next week. This field trip to Kings Cross is to investigate how quality of life differs in urban areas. Information collected will then be used as a base for lessons about data presentation and analysis.

Please remind your child that they must check with their other teachers and on Google Classroom to find out what work they will miss in their other subjects. All students should bring a packed lunch (no nuts please) and wear suitably warm and waterproof clothing and footwear for outdoor walking in December. The weather forecast is currently for rain so umbrellas and hoods are recommended. Students should meet at Twyford Avenue gate at 8.35am where they will be registered. We cannot accept permission slips on the morning of the trips - these must be completed in advance.

Mon 1st Dec	11D Ms Sheldon and 11C Mr Kelsey	Transport by London Underground from East Finchley to Kings Cross and then by foot. We will return to school at the end of the trip and students will be dismissed from Twyford Avenue Gate.
Tue 2nd Dec	11B Mr Beaumont and 11A Ms Brough	

A Level Geography Students Visit the Royal Geographical Society

On Wednesday this week we were delighted to take a group of Year 12 and Year 13 Geography students to the Royal Geographical Society for a special A level study day. In the morning, students attended a series of talks on topics such as Tectonic hazards and Geopolitics. This was followed by a lecture and workshop on climate change modelling solutions which drew on recent discussions at the COP30 summit in Brazil.



The RGS is an excellent source for A Level Geography resources (podcasts, articles, revision material as well as open lectures) . I hope our students will continue to make use of these resources. Even if you're not a Geography student, there are some fascinating resources on the RGS website - [have a look here](#)

Library

Movember Books

The month of November marks men's health awareness month and you can usually see an increase in men sporting amazing looking moustaches. Our books wanted to support this worthy cause and, with the help of some very creative students, got their own fabulous moustaches. Some book covers made us giggle, while others left us a bit puzzled, but we loved the look so much that our bro-supporting books have decided not to shave, just yet...



Library After School Clubs

Tuesdays 3.10-4.00pm	KS3/KS4 Pride Society - For LGBTQIA+ students or questioning, allies, or simply looking for a safe space with no judgement.
Wednesdays 3.10-4.00pm	Manga & Comic Book Club - A place where students can come together to draw manga and comic book-inspired characters and discuss similar shared interests.
Thursdays 3.10-4.00pm	Crochet and Knitting Club - Fortismere's very own <i>Game of Wool</i> is now happening weekly in the library, minus the competition and cups of tea. We are just meeting up, helping each other learn new stitches and techniques, and sharing inspiration. If you have any spare yarn or crochet hooks you don't use, please donate them to the library and our amazing club!
Fridays 2.30-4.00pm	Arts & Crafts in the Library - enjoy a chilled Friday afternoon with a variety of arts and crafts available, as well as supplies.

Drama Department Notices

Snapshot: Year 7 and Year 8

Year 7: Deeper into Darkwood Manor: Ground Floor Soundscapes

Year 8: Comedy Continued: All Things Sketch



Snapshot: Year 10

Finding the mie and finding the beat with Berkoff in 'Chaos' by Laura Lomas.

In this week's work on the play 'Chaos' by Laura Lomas, students worked on practising Berkoff techniques of mie and beats, considering how to break away from naturalism and incorporate the techniques in their scenes.



Y13 Drama Devising Exam

Well done to the Year 13 students who completed their devising exam yesterday.

After months of preparation followed by two solid days of intense rehearsals, the students threw themselves into their exam performances after school.

Each piece was based on a novel or play: *Blue Velvet*, *Tender is the Flesh*, and *Frankenstein*, incorporating the style of their assigned practitioner: Punchdrunk - encapsulated by the students in the immersive nature of their pieces. Students from Y11 attended as audience during dress runs over the past few days and gave their feedback from an audience perspective to the groups performing.



Sport & PE Notices

Netball News

All of our netball teams were in action last week. We travelled to Channing School with Year 8 and Year 10, both teams played incredibly well but the opposition was tough (they have an ex England squad member as their coach). On Thursday, we took two mini buses full to Highgate Wood School with our Year 7,8 and 9 squads - they all played really well, were successful and won their matches.

On Monday it was the annual Haringey Netball Tournament held at St Thomas More School this year. Our Year 7s were unbeaten and made it all the way to the final - it was a very close match, end to end and

needed extra time but Alexandra Park School managed to win by 1 goal!
Girl of the match was Aiva.

The Year 8s also made it to their final, also against Alexandra Park School! Again, it was very evenly matched but APS managed to beat us.

On Tuesday, despite the school closure our committed Year 9s turned up for the tournament, we didn't have any Year 10s but luckily some keen Year 11s took their place. Well done to everyone involved. The Year 9 team made it through to the final but APS did it again and came out the winners. Well done Felicienne and Farrah who were both players of the match.



Middlesex Cup

Well done to our Year 8 Boys Football team who made it to the 3rd round of the Middlesex Cup. They played a great game against Enfield Grammar School but unfortunately they lost 0-2.



Basketball

Our Year 11 Basketball team played their first league matches of the season at home last Thursday against APS and Parkview. They beat APS 30-20 and they also beat Parkview 30-24. Man of the match was Leon Kent.



Upcoming Fixtures

Monday 1st December: Y8/Y9 Girls Football v Highgate Wood (Away) 2pm

Wednesday 3rd December: Haringey Girls Volleyball Tournament at St Thomas More School 3.30pm

Thursday 4th December: Y10 Boys v Greig City Academy (Home) 2.15pm KO

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.

