

## School Leadership Messages

### Consultation on changes to sixth form entry requirements

A reminder that this consultation is **closing on 31st January**. See [this page](#) on the website for full details and how to respond. Thank you to those who have already given their feedback.

### Early School Closure Wednesday 25th February

School will finish at 2.10pm on Wednesday 25th February for the Year 9 Parents Evening, which will run online from 3-6pm.

### Student Presentation and Equipment Focus

As we approach the academic mid-year point we would like to have a re-focus on equipment and the presentation of students' work.

Over the next week or so students may be issued with a new exercise book if their book is not of the standard we would expect of them.

Please could you take some time to remind yourselves of the **Fortismere Presentation Pledge**, and support your child in being able to meet the expectations by ensuring they have all the correct equipment. *(Also attached as a separate document)*

#### Student Presentation Pledge

- I will take pride in my work and present it **neatly**
- I will treat my books with **respect** therefore **will not**
  - graffiti
  - doodle
  - scribble
  - tear out pages
  - leave blank pages
- I will have a pencil case in my school bag containing at least the following items:
  - two black or dark blue pens
  - one green pen
  - a pencil and sharpener
  - a rubber
  - a ruler
  - a calculator
  - a glue stick
  - a protractor
- I will **underline the date and title** in my **covered** exercise books or folders
- I will use a **black or dark blue pen** for writing unless my teacher asks me to write with a pencil



#### fortismere

- I will use a **ruler** for underlining
- I will use a **pencil** for drawings or diagrams
- I will use a **green pen** to **correct** my work and **proofread** it before handing it in
- I will **cross-out** errors neatly with one line and not use correction fluid
- I will **glue** my worksheets into my exercise books or store them where my teacher says



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## Calendar

<b>04.02</b>	Year 9 Options Evening 4.45pm-6.00pm
<b>11.02</b>	Year 12 Futures Evening 5pm-6.30pm
<b>16.02-20.02</b>	Half Term Holiday



*Well done to everyone involved in Jack & The Beanstalk - what an incredible show you put on!*

Feedback at Fortismere [here](#)

## Headteacher's Message

Last week, I told you that if you wanted to see what Fortismere truly stands for brought to life in the most spectacular way possible, you needed to get yourself a ticket to Jack and the Beanstalk. This week, I had the privilege of watching and being part of the production, and I can now tell you with absolute certainty: it was one of the most impressive things I have seen at Fortismere.

This wasn't just a school play. This was creativity and ambition on a scale that genuinely took my breath away. With approximately 175 students involved and speaking roles for every single participant, this production embodied inclusion in its truest sense. Every young person on that stage had a voice, a moment to shine, and a part to play in something truly magical. The level of talent on display was extraordinary from the performances themselves to the technical crew, musicians, set design and backstage support. Our students demonstrated real ambition in taking on such a complex production, and their commitment to rehearsals and their dedication to delivering something so polished was exemplary. But what struck me most was the sense of belonging that radiated throughout the entire event. Students from different year groups, backgrounds, and friendship circles came together as one company, supporting each other and creating something far greater than the sum of its parts. The audience, made up of students, staff, families, and friends shared in that joy. This is what we mean when we talk about Fortismere being a place where relationships matter and where every individual is valued. I must pay particular tribute to Ms Overs and the drama department, who worked tirelessly to make this production possible. The hours of preparation and the attention to detail were evident in every aspect of the performance. Our staff performers also deserve special recognition. They are clearly multi-talented individuals who give so generously of their time to enrich our students' experiences and create memories that will last a lifetime. You'll see from this week's Newsletter there are plenty more exciting events taking place at the school this term to which parents are warmly invited. Please look out for these as it means so much for our students to have you there and it's a wonderful, enjoyable way for you to support the work we do here.

On a more reflective note, this week we marked Holocaust Memorial Day on Tuesday 27th January. As I mentioned last week, this is an important moment in our school calendar, and I'm proud of how thoughtfully our students engaged with these vital conversations.

Earlier this week, our Year 12 JSoc Leaders attended Haringey's Holocaust Memorial Day ceremony at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium alongside Mr Hann and I (see her write-up below). On Wednesday, I attended a special event at Muswell Hill Synagogue with our entire Year 9 cohort. The students listened to the testimony of Holocaust survivor Martin Stern, grandfather of three former Fortismere students. They listened with great maturity and respect and their questions and reflections afterwards showed real depth of thought. These commemorations remind us of our responsibility to remember, to learn, and to ensure that the lessons of history are passed on to future generations.

With that, I'll wish you a wonderful weekend.

## Friends of Fortismere

### Get Ready to Laugh Fortismere!

FOF proudly presents **Fortismere Comedy Night** on **Thursday 19th March** in SW Hall - **SAVE THE DATE!** Expect a brilliant line-up of top comedians, a fully stocked bar, and a night packed with laughter. Best of all? Every laugh supports our school with all profits going directly to improving the experience for our children. Tickets on sale soon – more details coming very shortly, so watch this space!

## Student Fundraising

### Charity Band Night - Thursday 12th February 6pm-8pm

Fortismere's talented bands are performing in support of the **RSPCA** in this year's Charity Band Night. This student-led event is being organised by sixth formers, Lola-Rose Orr, Daria Sega, Luna Friend and Ellie Spitzer. They are working together to organise what is sure to be an electrifying night of student and staff performances.

The students explained why they chose the RSPCA as their charity this year - *We are all animal lovers ourselves, it pains us to see the sheer amount of abandoned, abused and endangered animals suffering cruelty at the hands of humans. We chose the RSPCA because it works to inspire compassion for all forms of animal life. Whether it's to protect and rehome our furry friends, or ensure we don't lose beloved species such as hedgehogs, the RSPCA has always been a voice for animals.*

They want to raise as much money as possible so would really love to see lots of students and families at the concert on 12th February - *Being able to organise this event to raise money for a charity we truly admire alongside friends means a lot to us, and we appreciate everyone helping to make it happen. We hope to see lots of you there on the 12th February.*

So please come along and support not just our students but also animal welfare. Fundraising ticket £15, Standard £10, U18s £7. **Don't miss out - grab your tickets now [link here](#)**



## Extra Curricular and Enrichment

### JSOC Leaders Attend Haringey's HMD Ceremony

Year 12 JSoc Leader Savannah Durling, attended Haringey's Holocaust Memorial Day events earlier this week and has written this piece for the Newsletter:

On 26th of January, The JSoc leaders with Ms Judge went to the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium for Haringey's annual Holocaust Memorial Day Ceremony where we remember the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust, alongside the millions of people murdered under Nazi persecution of other groups and during more recent genocides.

The event included speeches from local leaders and a holocaust speaker who shared a personal family story about her mother escaping Nazi persecution. This helped remind everyone why it's still important to remember what happened. Holocaust Memorial Day takes place every year on 27th January, which marks the liberation of Auschwitz in 1945. This year's theme was "Bridging Generations", focusing on the importance of passing on stories and lessons from older generations to younger ones, so that the memory of the Holocaust isn't lost and the same mistakes aren't repeated.



**Next JSoc: Tuesday 3rd February at 1:05pm in NW Hall** where we will welcome the charity Project ImpACT who are coming in to speak. Project ImpACT engages, educates and empowers young people to make a positive impact in society through meaningful volunteering. Their innovative programmes enable teens to contribute to the wider community, creating positive change and shaping the next generation of active young leaders. Everyone is welcome - sign up via email [Elodie Saunders](mailto:Elodie.Saunders@fortismere.school) [saune087.309@fortismere.school](mailto:saune087.309@fortismere.school) or speak to Ms Overs.

## Sixth Form Pastoral Programme

### Safe Drive Stay Alive Session

This week, Year 12 and Year 13 students took part in a Safe Drive, Stay Alive presentation as part of our sixth form pastoral programme. The session supports students at a key stage as they begin to travel more independently, both as drivers and passengers.

The presentation focused on the main factors linked to serious road incidents involving young people, including distraction, speed, drink and drugs, and the importance of wearing seatbelts at all times. Students were encouraged to consider not only their own choices, but also how as passengers they can play an active role in promoting safer driving.

These sessions have been delivered to Fortismere Sixth Form students over many years and have consistently proven to be impactful and memorable. Road safety education remains an important safeguarding priority, particularly in a busy urban area, and we appreciate the support of parents and carers in reinforcing these messages at home.



## Philosophy Religion & Ethics

### Year 9 Visit to The Muswell Hill Synagogue

To mark Holocaust Memorial Day, all of Year 9 visited Muswell Hill Synagogue on Wednesday to hear from a Holocaust survivor about the events of the Holocaust. It was a moving experience that I'm sure the students will reflect on, and remember for a very long time. Our thanks go to Muswell Hill Synagogue for inviting us to attend, and to Martin Stern MBE for sharing his story. Our students listened very attentively and asked some perceptive and thoughtful questions. We will continue to study the Holocaust and other genocides in both History and Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (PRE) lessons. If students or parents have any questions about our curriculum in this area please get in touch with me.

Mr Aldridge

## Physics

### Y12 Students Smash Senior Physics Challenge

Well done to all of the Year 12 Physics A-Level students that competed in the Senior Physics Challenge recently. In total over 7000 participants from around the world took part in this online event and I am very proud that every one of our students achieved an award level score. The results are as follows:

**Bronze Award:** Ahmed Alperen, Rory Kaye, Maxim Hoyland, Calum Kilgallon, Bardia Pahlevani Majdabadi, Jessica Fox, Amelie Goldsmith, Dominic Houari, Rocco Chorley, Liam Kennedy, Yarden Sagi, Deniz Efe

Gumus, Thomas Humbles, Ethan Oliver, Leo Zikic, Lucas Christenson, Gil Ellison, Alfie Collier, Rosie Price, Kerem Owczarczyk, Peter Dolan, Yusuf Somunkiran

**Silver Award:** Leo Edwards, Eleanor Dring, Wilf Wallis, Oscar Soor, Zuri Mendes Thum, Jude Dolling

**Gold Award:** Oscar Lundgaard. This places Oscar in the top 19% of all competitors so huge congratulations.

Students will now begin training for the next stage which will take place on Friday 6th March and is the gateway to competing in the British Physics Olympiad in Year 13. Well done all  
Mr Commons

## Drama Department

### A Huge Panto Thank you!



*175 People involved*

*22 Staff*

*5 band members*

*1000 tickets sold*

*1 Daisy the cow*

*1000s pieces of confetti*

Congratulations to all Cast, Crew,  
Musicians, and Staff  
for a fantastical epic production of  
Jack and the Beanstalk!

A huge thank you to all who came!  
Photos and video will be available to  
view via [@fortismeredrama](#) over the next  
few weeks.

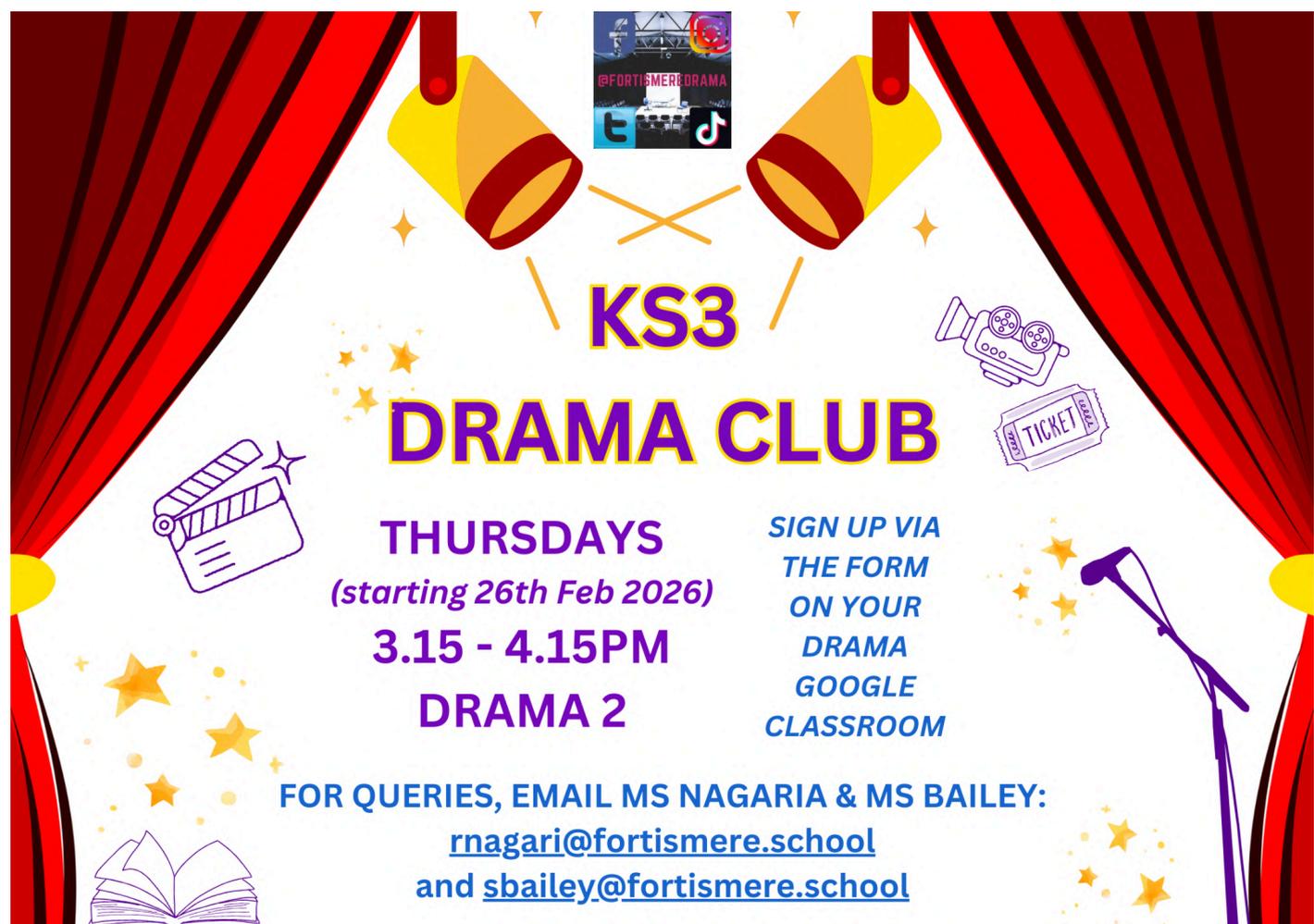
## Work Experience at Arts Depot

Artsdepot offers a week-long Summer Work Experience programme for young people in Years 10-13, giving participants the chance to explore what it's like to work in a busy arts venue by spending time with different departments. They also work towards a Bronze Arts Award.

This year the placement runs from **Monday 13-Friday 17 July** and no previous experience is required to apply - just an interest in the arts. The **application deadline is Monday 2 February by 10am.**

[Apply here by 2nd Feb](#)

## KS3 Drama Club



**KS3**  
**DRAMA CLUB**

**THURSDAYS**  
*(starting 26th Feb 2026)*  
**3.15 - 4.15PM**  
**DRAMA 2**

**SIGN UP VIA  
THE FORM  
ON YOUR  
DRAMA  
GOOGLE  
CLASSROOM**

**FOR QUERIES, EMAIL MS NAGARIA & MS BAILEY:**  
[rnagari@fortismere.school](mailto:rnagari@fortismere.school)  
and [sbailey@fortismere.school](mailto:sbailey@fortismere.school)

If you are interested in developing your Drama skills, being creative, trying something new, building confidence, making new friends, and taking part in workshops, as well potentially performing in a showcase, then Drama Club is the place for you! Everyone is welcome to join. Please fill out the interest form so we can gauge numbers. We look forward to welcoming you! **Interest form:** [link here](#)

## Science

### Year 9 Science Assessment - Friday 6th February

Further to the notifications and revision resources shared on the Google Classroom of Year 9 groups we would like to remind students and parents/carers of the Year 9 Science Assessment to support options decisions on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February. To support your child's revision we have collated and shared on the Google Classrooms some useful revision resources and can be accessed with this link: <https://tinyurl.com/muhkf7wt> Note: a Fortismere student account is required to access this.

Further information on "triple sciences" as an option choice will be available in the Options Booklet and on the Options Evening on 4<sup>th</sup> February where you will be able to speak to the Head of Science and the Heads of Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Science will be based in the South Wing Conference Room on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor of South Wing.

Mr Hann  
Head of Science

## Sport & PE Notices

### Haringey Boys Football League

Well done to our Year 10s who beat Highgate Wood School 2-1 in their match last week.



### U14 Middlesex Cup Semi Final Match Report

Twenty-two schools from the whole of Middlesex entered the Stanley Lyle Bowl U14 Girls Competition early in the autumn term, so we were very proud of our team for making it to the semi-finals for a match against Elthorne Park School. Too much rain had left our field soggy and unplayable so the match took place on the astroturf - this is a much faster surface and alters the pace of the game. It also delayed the kickoff which proved costly as some of our squad couldn't stay for the whole match. Once we got started, it turned out to be a very good game - Elthorne Park went ahead early on but we battled back to draw level with a great lob from Hana and at half-time it was 1-1. We started the second half with a depleted squad but the players we did have were brilliant. Elthorne Park scored twice to make it 3-1 but our girls were not giving up and Etta scored a great goal to make it 3-2 with 6 minutes to go. Unfortunately it just wasn't enough time to turn things around. Well done to all our girls for a great cup run and showing great team spirit and commitment.



### Basketball Results Round Up

The Year 7 Squad played brilliantly against Mulberry Woodside last Thursday beating them 27-3. Omar was the Most Valuable Player.



The Year 9s were unlucky in their match - they got off to a great start but unfortunately lost the game in the later stages. MVP was Keanu.



## NEW! Y7 & Y8 Boxing Club

See details in the flyer and on the JabFirst website

[www.jabfirstbxnacademy.com](http://www.jabfirstbxnacademy.com)



The flyer features a black background with red boxing gloves on either side of the JabFirst logo. The logo consists of the letters 'JF' in a stylized white font, with 'JABFIRST' and 'BXN ACADEMY' written below it. The text on the flyer describes the club's purpose and lists focus areas.

Offering a unique training style the purpose of the club is to implement great habits through the boxing fundamentals of the sport. Some of the key focus areas that we continuously work hard on are the following below.

**FOCUS AREAS**

- SELF DEFENCE•CONFIDENCE•BOXING FUNDAMENTALS
- DISCIPLINE•FITNESS•LEADERSHIP•ACCOUNTABILITY•ATTITUDE •FOCUS
- EMOTIONAL RELEASE •RESILIENCE

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE**  
[WWW.JABFIRSTBXNACADEMY.COM](http://WWW.JABFIRSTBXNACADEMY.COM)

**TRIAL DETAILS**

**YEARS: 7&8's**  
**DATE:**  
**Wednesday - 4th Jan**  
**3:15pm-4:15pm**

**FREE TRIAL**  
Fortismere School

TO BOOK ON CONTACT-  
[JABFIRSTBXNACADEMY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JABFIRSTBXNACADEMY@GMAIL.COM)

## Upcoming Fixtures

Monday 2nd Feb	KS3 Haringey Badminton Competition at Dukes Academy
Tuesday 3rd Feb	Y7/8 Girls Football v Park View (Away)
Wednesday 4th Feb	Y10 Boys v Greig City Academy (Home) 2.30pm KO
Thursday 5th Feb	KS4 Badminton U13 Middlesex Cup Semi Final v Bishop Ramsey (Home)

## Extra Curricular Clubs Timetable

Apologies if you tried to access the updated Extra Curricular Clubs with the link in last week's newsletter. Use [this link](#) to access it from the school website.

## Modern Languages

### Year 12 French Trip to the BFI

On Wednesday, Year 12 A-level French students visited the British Film Institute for a study day. They attended a lecture on the history of French cinema, with a particular focus on La Nouvelle Vague. The lecture was delivered entirely in French by Muriel Huet, a lecturer from Wits University in South Africa.

During the day, students analysed clips from ten different French films, developing their analytical skills and subject-specific vocabulary. The visit concluded with a screening of *Girlhood* (Bande de filles) by Céline

Sciamma, which prompted excellent discussion around identity and representation in contemporary French cinema.

A big thanks to our Year 12 French students for a great day! They represented the school extremely well and gained valuable insight that will support their ongoing studies.

Mr Lewis

## Careers & Work Related Learning

### Stay informed about Careers Using School Resources

You can stay informed about careers and encourage your child to do the same by using the range of careers resources that all students have access to - ask them to show you these.

**Fortismere Careers PORTAL** link (via your child's GClassroom log in)  **Careers PORTAL**

**Weekly Careers & Work Related Bulletin** on the Year group pages on GClassroom - this includes information on how to join the Springpod Virtual Work Experience programme for Y10 to Y13 - there is an expectation that each student has completed a minimum of 2 Springpod work experiences each academic year.

**Fortismere weekly Careers Newsletter** available here [Fortismere - CAREERS WEEKLY NEWSLETTER](#)  
Each Newsletter has Job of the week spotlight + video, Labour Market Information and facts, Employer spotlight and Uni spotlight. You can also explore **past editions** to learn more about Futures, Inspirations and Opportunities.

Explore the **London LMI website** to learn more about jobs and career opportunities [Labour Market Information for London](#)

### Aim Spotlight Sessions - Apprenticeships Across Key Sectors

These webinars offer students direct insight into apprenticeship pathways across a wide range of sectors. These sessions are online after school. Please register in advance.

**Suitable for students in Y8 to Y13 they help to:** Broaden student awareness of technical and apprenticeship pathways and give students practical insight into vacancies, applications and real apprentice experience. Each session includes employer insight, application tips, and apprentice voices.

#### **Engineering, Transport & Logistics – 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026**

Register: [Aim Webinar 2 - Engineering, Transport, and Logistics](#)

#### **Finance, Professional & Business Services – 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

Register: [AIM Webinar 3 - Finance, Professional, and Business](#)

#### **Life Sciences – 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

Register: [AIM Webinar 4 - Life sciences](#)

#### **Apprenticeship Applications (How to apply) – 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

Register: [AIM Webinar 5 - Building Better Apprenticeship Applications](#)

## Higher & Degree Apprenticeships Vacancies

Just out! Access to over 1,600 vacancies. Click here [Amazing Apprenticeships Vacancies](#)

Higher apprenticeships are a popular paid job opportunity for individuals **aged 16 and over**, living in England and not currently enrolled in full-time education.

## Student Health & Wellbeing

### Year 9 DTP Vaccinations - Tuesday 3rd February

A reminder for parents/carers of Year 9 students who are due to receive their Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio (DTP) vaccination. The School Vaccination Team will be in North Wing on 3rd February. **Please note this session is only for students whose surnames begin with the letters A–M.**

Details of specific timings have been sent by ParentMail – please check this so you can remind your child of their time before they leave for school in the morning.

A further vaccination session will take place on Tuesday 17th March, for the remaining students (surnames N onwards), as well as any students who were unable to attend or missed their vaccination in February.

If you have any questions regarding the vaccination programme, please do not hesitate to contact me

Ms Izzet [MIzzet@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:MIzzet@fortismere.org.uk)

## 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](mailto: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.

