

### School Leadership Messages

#### Alexandra Palace Book Children Book Award

Ms Ward, Fortismere's very active lead Librarian, founded the Alexandra Palace Book Award Team, an annual event in which most Haringey schools participate. This week, the event received the **National Community Award**. We would like to congratulate Ms Ward and everyone else who were involved in making this such a special event.

#### Social Gatherings in Alexandra Palace

We have been contacted by local schools warning us that the number of local students using the grounds of Ally Pally for social events has grown. Local young people like to use the space for 'motives', social gatherings. The police and community leaders are concerned that some of the behaviour has become anti-social and that young people may be putting themselves at risk with excessive alcohol consumption and drug taking. Please can parents and carers encourage their children not to participate in events at the Palace.

#### Clocks Go Back: Sunday 30th October

Evenings will be getting darker earlier when students return after half term. Please can we reiterate the importance of students returning straight home from school or after school activities and not lingering on Muswell Hill Broadway.

#### Top Positive Points This Week

Julia Franke Y10  
Huxley Barte-Weisweiler Y9  
Finlay Crichton Y8  
Boux Barten-Weisweiler Y7  
John McDonagh Y7  
Liv Gwinner Y7  
Onur Sahin Y10  
Safiah Williams Y9  
Violet Booth Y9  
Beatrice Cohn Y8

Estelle Branford Y8  
Isla Daniels Y8  
Maeve Curry Y8  
Samuel Balint-Kurti Y8  
Sergei Akulov Y9  
Anthony Marton Y7  
Ethan Moreno Y7  
Mia Christenson Y7  
Michael Thompson Y7  
Saskia Frances-Georgianna Y7  
Carl Peanberg King Y8

### Contents

Co-Headteachers' Round Up

School Events

Extra Curricular Notices

Year Group Notices

Library, Drama & Music Notices

Sport & PE Notices

### Calendar

24/10-28/10	Half term holiday
1/11	Governors' Surgery
1/11	Y7 Disco
2/11	Y12 Open Evening
3/11	Fireworks Display
8/11	Y13 Parents' Information Evening



Happy Half Term

## Co-Headteachers

### Weekly Roundup

It has certainly been another eventful half term but as always, when we are busy time really does fly..

Today we must report that Mr Orton, our Director of Sport has said goodbye to students and colleagues as he is leaving Fortismere to commence a new role nearer to his family home. There is no doubt that Mr Orton breathed fresh life into School Sports at Fortismere since he joined in 2019. As you will have seen in evidence every week in our Newsletter, participation in Sport is at the highest it has ever been, our fields and sports courts are packed at lunchtimes and after school with students who have a range of sporting interests and abilities but are all engaged, excited and included in our enviable school sports programme. To top these unprecedented levels of participation we have also seen our young sports men and women excel at local and national levels in sports from table tennis, to cross country and football. This morning we joined with a group of students who have been the leading lights in Fortismere sport over the last few years to thank Mr Orton but also to recognise and celebrate their wonderful achievements with some Hot Chocolate.

This week it was a pleasure to meet with our new Year 7 parents at the welcome event that took place in the North Wing on Tuesday Evening. The evening was well attended and parents and carers had the opportunity to meet other parents and hear about the range of opportunities available to our students outside of the classroom following presentations from our directors of Sport and Music, our Librarian and our Latin teacher. It also gave us the opportunity to create links with parents via the FSA (Fortismere School Association). We have had dwindling numbers of volunteers over the past few years in terms of FSA events like the Fireworks (coming very soon!) and The Summer Festival. We are very keen to attract parents, not just in Year 7, so if you can spare time to support us in our fundraising and community events then please do let us know. Our Head of Fundraising, Maria Demetriou can be contacted at the school if you are interested. Thanks go to Maria and Ms Jones, Head of Year 7 for organising the event.

Our Year 12 students were taking the opportunity to get to know each other as well on Tuesday as they went on a team-building trip to Margate. We understand they had great beach weather and had plenty of opportunities to build sandcastles in their teams. Thanks to Mr Lewis and the Sixth Form team for organising and leading this event.

We are all looking forward to a week to unwind and hope that you all take time to rest and relax before the start of the new half term on 31st October.



*Goodbye Mr Orton - we'll all miss you!*

## School Catering Notice

### Food Price Increases November 2022

School Canteen Price Increases from November 2022 - Harrisons Catering have informed us that the cost of food served in the school canteens will increase from the 1<sup>st</sup> November by an average of 7%. More detail is provided in an attachment to this week's Newsletter but Harrisons Catering have confirmed to us that there will be no further price increases during this academic year and that they will try to minimise the impact of price increases on the healthier food options.

## School Fundraising Event

### Fireworks Display - Thursday 3rd November 2022

Remember, remember the 3rd of November is the Fortismere Fireworks display! From 5pm-9pm there will be music, food, fun and fireworks all for only £5 if you buy your ticket in advance (£8 on the gate) Students can purchase tickets from the Library or you can book online via [Eventbrite](#) Contact Ms Demetriou [mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk) if you can help us with advertising the event. Thank you.



## Sixth Form Notices

### Year 13 Information Evening - Tuesday 8th November 5.30pm-6.30pm

The Year 13 Parents Information Evening is on Tuesday 8th November, from 5.30pm-6.30pm. This will be an in-person event, led by the Sixth Form Team. Full details will be sent by ParentMail.  
Mr D Robson, Director of Sixth Form

## Extra Curricular Activities

### Year 7 Maths Booster Lessons

Maths Booster lessons for Year 7 students who need extra support to fully benefit from our robust Maths Mastery curriculum. Come and join us and enhance your love for mathematics. Places are limited and will be offered on a first come first served system.

**When:** Every Friday after school

**Where:** Room S22

For more information, please contact Mr Hasan: [ahasan@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:ahasan@fortismere.org.uk)

## Year 7 Notices

### Charity Ambassadors News

Year 7 are delighted to announce that the charity they will be supporting this year is the Noah's Ark Children's Hospice. This week, the charity ambassadors put together wonderful presentations on six charities that they thought we should support. The tutor groups watched all the presentations and then took a vote. The Noah's Ark Children's Hospice narrowly pipped the Dog's Trust to the post! We look forward to holding many fundraising events throughout the year to raise money for this important cause. See below for details of the first one....

## Year 7 Disco - Tuesday 1st November 5-7pm SW Hall

On Tuesday 1st November from 5-7pm there will be a Halloween disco to be held in the SW hall. All Year 7 students are welcome! This has been planned by our charity ambassadors to raise money for our chosen year group charity, the Noah's Ark Children's Hospice and is being supported by four brilliant Year 12 volunteers. A Parentmail has been sent out with all the details. We would love to see as many Year 7s there as possible. It promises to be spooky and fun in equal measures and a great start to our year of fundraising.

## Library

### Author Visit

On 18<sup>th</sup> October we were delighted to welcome Sammy Wright back to Fortismere library. Sammy used to teach English here – he is now Vice Principal at a school in Sunderland and has served on the Social Mobility Commission. Sammy spent time with three of our Year 13 classes, talking movingly about the deprivation and poverty he has encountered and which inspired him to write his novel "Fit", a recent winner of the Northern Book Prize. His visit was hugely enjoyed and certainly got the students talking after he left.



### Fortismere's Patron of Reading

We all know that reading for pleasure is vital. We all know about more sophisticated vocabulary, better understanding of grammar, enhanced imagination, improved test scores. But there's so much more. "A reader can empathise, feel love and pain, glow with joy and crumble with staggering heartbreak, win battles and suffer losses, feel true passion way beyond their years" (Natalie Scott). It's that increase in empathy which is so important. Our fabulous Patron of Reading, Sita Brahmachari, calls it "walking in someone else's shoes". Author visits are important. They promote excitement, reading and use of the library. Meeting them provides inspiration and insight into the creative process, and offers a complementary side to literature. And proves that not all writers are men and dead! Having a Patron of Reading, a "designated author with whom the school forms a special attachment", is the icing on the cake. The students have a sense of "ownership"; they have an author who they know and who knows them. The long term engagement means a strong relationship is built that the whole school community can join. Sita first became our Patron of Reading in 2012. Our 2 year agreed stint turned into 3 years, and Sita then helped us to recruit our next PoR, the wonderful, award-winning S F Said, author of Varjak Paw and Phoenix. We had great bookish adventures with SF for 2 years, and then invited YA author and all-round wonderful person, Non Pratt, to join us for another two. Our next Patron of Reading was adventurer, film maker and Everest summiteer, Matt Dickinson who worked with us through the difficult Covid years sending brilliant videos that teachers could use online. We've now come full circle and last year invited Sita (and reading dog Billie!) to come back to us. This photo shows Sita with S F Said which I took last week at the launch of his novel "Tyger" (and for students who remember S F at Fortismere, it eventually took him 9 years to write!)



### Poppy Appeal

The ever popular Poppy Day merchandise is available in the library, including snap bands, zip pulls, pencils, wrist bands and of course, poppies. All proceeds to the Royal British Legion.





## Firework Tickets

Remember, remember 3<sup>rd</sup> November... and get your tickets (£5) in advance from the library!

## Recommended Reads of the Week

Whilst on the subject of Patrons of Reading, take a look at some of their extraordinary books, all obviously available in our library!



## Drama Department Notices

### Hitchhiker's Guide... Rehearsal Diary

**Esme Little Year 11, Assistant Director writes for us this week....** "A Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy' is my third production with the school and Miss Turner. My two previous experiences have been amazing, having acted in both I have learnt so much about myself and what it takes to create a big production. The friends you make and the fun you have makes all the hard work so worthwhile. Assistant Director is a great job as you can see what's going on behind the curtain and see your work and ideas play out in the real thing. My job mostly consists of helping the younger students choreograph and act sufficiently in their scenes, giving them tips and tricks to enhance how they speak and move throughout. Sometimes it's tough to keep everyone focused but I am really looking forward to the end result!! See you there!!"

[Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy](#)

## Year 12 Theatre Review from Tammy Faye Trip

A level Drama students were privileged to be invited to the third preview of [Tammy Faye at the Almeida](#). Directed by Rupert Gould, it is a new musical from legendary songwriter Elton John, Scissor Sisters' Jake Shears and award-winning writer James Graham. We met the lead actress Katie Brayben after the show (second from right) which was really exciting. Year 12 students review the show for us here: "Following the eccentric and wild story of Tammy Faye Bakker and her husband



televangelist Jim and their experiences of spreading their faith through a camp, and the over the top, but truly engaging and exciting TV show - PTL (Praise the Lord), Katie Brayben delivered the most ground breaking, immaculate representation of Tammy with the voice of an angel that left us all with our jaws dropped. The whole cast, and production created the most incredible and immersive performance with singing, dancing and acting. An impressive performance all round. \*\*\*\*\* Try to catch it while you can!"



## Music Department Notices

### Autumn Pure Piano - 10th November 2022 South Wing Hall

A reminder to ask your children to contact Mr Jefferies, Director of Music, [ejjefferies@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:ejjefferies@fortismere.org.uk) if they want to get involved in the Music Department's Autumn Pure Piano taking place on Thursday 10/11/2022. Tickets are available by going to <https://www.fortismereperformingartscentre.co.uk> This is your last chance to get involved since the concert takes place very soon after half term.

### Cello Masterclass - DATE CHANGE - Tuesday 15th November - Music Hall - 4pm

The cello Masterclass with Norwegian Cellist Jonathan Aasgaard will now take place on Tuesday 15th November from 4-6pm in the Music Concert Hall. Mr Aasgaard is the principal cellist of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra as well as a busy international soloist. We are extremely fortunate that he has agreed to come in and coach some of our students and I would urge you to attend this masterclass since he is both an exceptional player and teacher. If you would like to know more about him please visit his website at [www.jonathan-aasgaard.com](http://www.jonathan-aasgaard.com)

### GCSE Showcase - Thursday 17th November - South Wing Hall - 7pm

Please come along and support our Year 11 GCSE students on Thursday 17th November in the South Wing Hall for their Showcase Recital. The evening will consist of solos and ensembles that the students have put together as part of their GCSE coursework and promises to be an evening of high quality. Tickets are available at <https://www.fortismereperformingartscentre.co.uk>

**Can parents of Year 11 music students please ensure that they have read and understood the email from the Director of Music about the Mock Exams** that will take place the week after (21/11/22 - 25/11/22) and make sure that their children have sent in scores and have both a solo and ensemble ready for the exams. For the purposes of this recital they can choose to perform either as a soloist or as part of a group.

### Community Symphony Orchestra Concert - Sat 19th Nov - St James Church N10 7:30pm

Please take this opportunity to come and listen to the epic programme of Tchaikovsky's 5th Symphony, Mussorgsky's Night on Bald Mountain and Walton's Cello Concerto which will be played by Norwegian Cellist Jonathan Aasgaard. This concert will be a night of exceptionally high standard music making and

given that it is taking place in Muswell Hill and there is no need to go into town to hear a soloist of international repute I would strongly suggest that you buy tickets now.

Tickets are available at <https://www.fortismereperformingartscentre.co.uk>

### **Mozart and Christmas Carols - Saturday 10th December - St James Church N10 7:30pm**

Please come along to hear Mozart's Coronation Mass with a live symphony orchestra on Saturday 10th December at St James Church, Muswell Hill. For this event the Junior Choir from Fortismere will also be singing *Carol of the Bells*. It's the perfect concert for feeling festive!

Tickets are available at <https://www.fortismereperformingartscentre.co.uk>

### **Christmas Concerts - 13th and 14th December in South Wing Hall**

On Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th December we will have our annual Christmas Concerts in the South Wing Hall. These concerts are two of the biggest events in the Fortismere Calendar and will feature performances from every single ensemble that runs at school. There will also be some additional groups such as a Salsa Band and the return of Man Choir who will be regaling us with a football stand classic!

For this concert we also need soloists and groups from across the school year groups so if your child is interested in performing they need to get in touch as soon as possible. They can do this by emailing the Director of Music at [ejefferies@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:ejefferies@fortismere.org.uk) or popping into the music office for a chat.

Auditions for this concert will take place the week beginning 8th November and we would ask that students are well prepared so that they can be mentored on their performances for this memorable evening.

Tickets are available at <https://www.fortismereperformingartscentre.co.uk>

### **Free Lessons - Endangered Species**

Another shout out to parents and carers about the opportunity for your child to play one of the endangered species instruments on offer this year. Please get in touch with Mr Jefferies, the Director of Music, as soon as possible. We have some free lessons for new starters available on French Horn, Bassoon, Double Bass and Trombone. Email [ejefferies@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:ejefferies@fortismere.org.uk) for more details.

### **Music Ensembles**

	Lunchtime	After School
Monday	String Group - Concert Hall	KS3 Music Tech - MU1 School Orchestra - Concert Hall
Tuesday	Senior Choir - Concert Hall Percussion Group - MU1 & Popular Guitars - MU2	Jazz Band - Concert Hall Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra - 7pm-9pm
Wednesday	Big Band - Concert Hall	Bands (Rooms available for practice)
Thursday	Junior Choir - Concert Hall & DJ Club - MU4	KS4 Music Tech - MU4
Friday	Cello Ensemble - MU2 Classical Guitar Group - Concert Hall	
Saturday	Music Theory Classes - 11:30am-12:30pm Fortismere Community Choir - 10:30am-1pm	Bands (Rooms available for practice)



## Sports & PE News

### Farewell Fabulous Fortismere

By now, many of you will know that Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October is my final day at Fortismere. I go with a very heavy heart but the long weeks spent away from my home and family have started to take their toll and so the offer of a role at a more local school in Cheltenham was impossible to turn down. I feel privileged to have worked at such an amazing school with such amazing young people. I will miss you all dreadfully and will be checking that you are still all keeping active! Thank you to everyone for a wonderful few years – I feel blessed to have worked here.

### Fortismere shine in a big week of Football!

This week has seen many of our Football Teams in action. All Year groups have competed in the annual Borough 5-a-side Competitions held at Powerleague. On Monday our Y7's performed admirably with the Girls finishing in the bronze medal position and Boys losing out in the final to finish runners up. On Tuesday the boys came 5<sup>th</sup> whilst our Girls lost in a thrilling final to win the silver medal. Wednesday saw our Y9 teams in action with both teams on top form and I'm delighted to report that both won their respective competitions. Amazing!. Thursday was the turn of Y10 and once again how girls shone as they took the title. Unfortunately, the boys had an off day! Friday saw Y11 teams complete the week and results will be out in the first newsletter after half-term.

We also had a block of Football fixtures with Latymer this week. Y7' A, B and C teams travelled to Edmonton for a great, sunny afternoon of Football. The 'A' team were beaten by a very strong Latymer side but our 'B's' restored the balance with a fine 7-2 victory. The 'C' somehow conspired to lose 2-3 in a game in which they completely dominated possession but couldn't get the ball in the back of the net enough times to get the win which their performances really deserved. On Wednesday we hosted Latymers 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI's and again two thrilling matches. Our 1<sup>st</sup> XI got off to a flyer, being 3-0 up in the first half eventually holding out for the win as the game finished 4-2 to Fortismere. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI had a brilliant, very even match with nothing to split the teams at the end as the game finished 2-2.



### Netball Team in Winning Action

Our Netball Teams were also in form as they hosted Heartlands on Tuesday afternoon. Our Senior girls recorded a 30-22 and Junior Girls cruised to a 20-2 victory – well done girls.





## Results & Fixtures

### Results this week

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> – Football Y7 Boys Borough 5-a-side Champs @ Powerleague **Runners Up**  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> – Football Y7 Girls Borough 5-a-side Champs @ Powerleague **3rd**  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> – Netball Y9/10 v Heartlands (A) **Won 30-22**  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> – Netball Y7/8 v Heartlands (H) **Won 20-2**  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> – Football Y7 A, B & C Teams v Latymer (A) 3.15 KO **A Lost 2-6, B won 7-2 C Lost 2-3**  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> – Football Y8 Boys Borough 5-a-side Champs @ Powerleague **5th**  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> – Football Y8 Girls Borough 5-a-side Champs @ Powerleague **2nd**  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> – Football 1<sup>st</sup> XI v Latymer (H) 4pm KO **Won 4-2**  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> – Football 2<sup>nd</sup> XI v Latymer (H) 4pm KO **Drew 2-2**  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> – Football Y9 Boys Borough 5-a-side Champs @ Powerleague **Champions**  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> – Football Y9 Girls Borough 5-a-side Champs @ Powerleague **Champions**  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Football Boys Y10 a & B v Latymer (H) 4pm KO **Postponed**  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> – Football Y10 Boys Borough 5-a-side Champs @ Powerleague **6th**  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> – Football Y10 Girls Borough 5-a-side Champs @ Powerleague **Champions**  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> – Netball Y7/8 v Heartlands (H)  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Football Boys Y9 'A' v APS Middlesex Cup 2.30pm KO (H)

### Next Week's Fixtures (Week Beginning 31<sup>st</sup> Oct)

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> – Table Tennis U13 Girls Borough Champs at APS 3.30-6pm  
Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> Nov – Boys Football Y9 A, B, C v Latymer (A) 3.15 KO  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov – Boys Football 3<sup>rd</sup> XI v Latymer (A) 3.15 KO  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov – 2<sup>nd</sup> XI v Beaumont (H) ESFA 2.45 KO  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov – Boys Football – Y10 'A' v Fulham Boys School (H) 2.30 KO ESFA Cup

## Community Fundraising

### Wear Pink and Raise Money For Breast Cancer - Ms Vangucci

Fortismere has a strong tradition of wearing pink and supporting Breast Cancer Now. Please join in and help raise important funds. Donate via the Just Giving Page [here](#) Thank you.

Ms Vangucci



