




Transforming Lives
Through Education

Newsletter: Friday 27th June 2025

School Leadership Messages:	Contents
<h3>Hot Weather Next Week</h3> <p>At the time of writing it looks like the temperatures on Monday 30th June could get up to 33 degrees.</p> <p>We will be doing our best to keep classrooms cool and will be encouraging students to spend break and lunch time in shaded areas.</p> <p>Please could parents support by reminding their children to wear sunscreen and dress appropriately for school in loose clothing (which must, of course, adhere to our dress code).</p> <p>Also, students should all bring water bottles which we will be reminding them to refill at regular intervals.</p> <h3>Y6 Transition Days 3rd & 4th July</h3> <p>Our new Year 7 cohort will be in school next week for their transition days to meet their tutors, attend lessons, try the canteen and enjoy a music concert. There will be lots of the cohort who will be excited but there will also be a lot of nerves. Thank you to our Year 10 and Year 12 students who have volunteered to help and will be accompanying the Year 6s throughout the day to help them around the school.</p> <h3>Refund of Cashless Catering Balances – Year 11 and Year 13</h3> <p>The Finance Team will be refunding the cashless catering balances remaining on Y11/Y13 students’ accounts to parents/carers over the next few weeks. Once a refund has been actioned it can take up to 7 days for the balance to be returned to the bank card or Applepay/Paypal account on which it was originally paid.</p>	<h3>CoHeads’ Weekly Roundup</h3>
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23.06-27.06	Y7 Celebration of Learning
10.07	School Summer Music Concert 6-8pm NW Music Hall
15 & 16.07	School Sports Days
	



Co-Headteachers

Weekly Roundup

Our students have been enjoying lots of STEM based learning activities this week. The whole of Year 7 went on a maths department trip to London Zoo where they undertook a project aimed at developing their skills as statisticians and smaller groups of scientists were lucky enough to attend either the Big Bang Science and Engineering Fair at the NEC Birmingham or the Science Jamboree which took place at the University of Cambridge. Our staff consider carefully how to bring learning and our curriculum alive and such expeditions really do give our students the opportunity to apply learning from the classroom into real world contexts. We understand that all students who attended trips this week had wonderful experiences to report on their return. We'd like to thank our Maths and Science teams for leading these 'expeditions'. Next week our Year 12 Geographers are off to the Lake District for a week of fieldwork in a stunning backdrop. We are sure they will achieve lots and wish them well.

Meanwhile, in North Wing last Friday night our Art department opened their doors for their second exhibition of the summer, our A Level Art Exhibition. Yet again the standard of artwork was exceptionally high and our A level Art and Photography students' work was incredibly well received by all who attended. The art work has continued to be on display in North Wing this week so that all of our students have been able to marvel at the talent we have here at Fortismere and be inspired to create their own art.



We loved seeing our Year 11 students celebrate the end of their exams at their Prom on Wednesday. They all looked fabulous. It was equally lovely seeing them all again back in school this week for their transition to 6th Form days. Students were inducted into the life of our 6th form by attending lessons in the new subjects and engaging with some of the ideas that are fundamental to the study of A level and BTEC in their chosen subjects. We know many of them felt challenged by the experience but all excited that they had the opportunity to be challenged, in a very supportive way of course, as they prepare to take the next step in their educational journey. We think they are going to love learning at Fortismere's excellent 6th Form.

Also this week, Year 7 students wowed their parents (and their tutors too!) with their supreme confidence as public speakers as they shared their learning highlights of the year with their parents in the Year 7 Celebrations of Learning. It has been so impressive to see how far they have come in this, their first year as Fortismere students and to hear them talk about what has inspired them most.

Next week we are very much looking forward to welcoming our next Year 7 cohort and their parents for their first Fortismere experience as our Year 6 new recruits join us for their transition days. They can expect to have lots of exciting learning experiences themselves in the two days they are with us (their new teachers have lots planned) and they should know that we are very much looking forward to meeting them and welcoming them to their new school!

It should be a beautiful summery weekend and with just one more weekend to go before our Summer Festival (Sunday 6th July) we wanted to invite you all again to come along and soak up the atmosphere, food, fun and music. It's a shame Rod Stewart (Fortismere alumni) is playing Glastonbury and not our Festival but we have got our teacher band, Cover Lesson on our main stage and they are not to be missed!

Friends of Fortismere

Summer Festival Countdown

Just over a week to go until the Fortismere Summer Festival on Sunday 6th July, 12-4pm! We hope to see lots of you there! Thank you to everyone who has already volunteered, donated, lent gazebos and bought tickets and tokens in advance – this is very much appreciated. The countdown is on but there is still time left so if you can help out on the day, donate a tombola or raffle prize or just buy your tickets and tokens early – please do so now! **You can buy all your ADVANCE TICKETS, RAFFLE TICKETS, BARGAIN RIDE TOKENS and enter the DOG SHOW using [this link](#)**

If you can help on the day, even an hour would be great, please get in touch. You can also help by spreading the word and telling all your friends, family, neighbours, and the kids' friends too to come along! Get in touch here if you can help friendsoffortismere@fortismere.org.uk Hope to see you on 6th July!

And don't forget to follow us on Instagram for updates: @fofo.rtismere

Sixth Form News

Sixth Form Induction and Taster Days

We were delighted to welcome over 260 students to Fortismere across three successful induction and taster days this week as part of our transition programme for the incoming Year 12 cohort. Each day began with a welcome from Ms Judge (Headteacher), Ms Common (Director of Sixth Form), and Ms Bailey or Mr Kenny (Heads of Year), who shared their enthusiasm for the year ahead and outlined what students can expect from life in the Sixth Form. Students then had the opportunity to attend taster lessons in any of the 25 subjects offered at Sixth Form, as well as explore the additional qualifications we offer such as the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and KS5 Mandarin. These sessions gave students a real flavour of Sixth Form learning and helped them start to picture what studying their chosen subjects will be like in September. Between lessons, students enjoyed socialising with their peers and tutors. On Monday, the sunny weather allowed for a picnic on the school field, while on the slightly wetter days of Tuesday or Thursday, students took the opportunity to relax and eat in the Sixth Form Café. The enthusiasm and engagement we saw throughout the week has left us very excited for September, when this new cohort officially joins us. We look forward to seeing everyone again soon!



Welcome (Back) to Fortismere

The Sixth Form team was delighted to welcome Ms Richard as our new Sixth Form Administrator this week. Ms Richard is new to the role but not new to the school, as she herself is a Fortismere alumni. She is taking over from Ms Jackson, who left just before half term, in being the first point of contact for parents and students with questions about the Sixth Form. Ms Richard can be contacted via our email address SixthForm@fortismere.org.uk

Year 12 End of Year Exams - Well Done!

We are extremely proud of how our Year 12 students conducted themselves throughout their first full exam period of Sixth Form. Across the two-week period, we saw students taking their preparation seriously, arriving punctually and well-equipped, and making the most of revision support offered by their teachers. It was encouraging to see such maturity and focus from the year group, and we're confident this experience has helped build valuable skills for next year's public exams. We'd like to thank all our staff for the guidance and feedback they provided students throughout the exam period, and to parents and carers for supporting students through this intense time.

A reminder that all Year 12 students are expected to return to full-time lessons from Monday 30th June. In many subjects, this marks the formal beginning of Year 13 content, making full attendance essential to ensure a confident and well-prepared start to the final year of A Level study. Alongside this, form time will now focus on supporting students with planning and drafting their personal statements for university applications, so full attendance to form is equally essential for students to fully benefit from the guidance and expertise of their tutors.

Ms Common

House News

The Great Fortismere Show! Friday 11th July

A reminder that on Friday 11th July, students in Years 7-10 will take part in The Great Fortismere Show! This is an inter house competition consisting of 19 different creative competitions and there really is something for everyone - from decorated cupcakes to poetry, pasta art and photography, and even, inspired by the Lambeth County Show, ([link here](#) if you've not read about it) the best vegetable animal!

Entries will be made ahead of time and then displayed at school for all to admire. All students need to enter at least one competition and will be discussing this in tutor time. On the day, students will have the chance to explore all the amazing creations and house points will be awarded to the best entries. The winning house will proudly take home the coveted cup! We can't wait to see Fortismere's creativity shine! Please keep an eye out on Google Classroom for more information and encourage your child to participate, have fun and get creative.

Science Department News

Mad Scientists Visit the Big Bang Science & Engineering Fair

Last week, a group of Mad Scientists (this is the name of the Science club that takes place each Monday after school in Lab 5) visited the Big Bang Science & Engineering Fair. The trip was led by Ms Hall, who leads the Mad Scientists' Club and was supported by Mr. Commons, the Head of Physics. The event took place at the Birmingham NEC and included stands from commercial groups like; Rolls-Royce, the National Grid, Johnson & Johnson and a long list of others. As well as academic teams from universities including; Imperial College and Oxford University, there was also a wide range of environmental organisations and charities such as the Canal & River Trust and the Wildlife Trust. All of these groups provided interesting, informative and often hands-on experiences, designed to inspire and highlight the great opportunities to be had with a STEM



career. Throughout the day there were also live demonstrations which looked at the volatile history of chemistry (which one of our students got to help out with) and also the role of biomimicry in developing new materials. Students described the experience as “brilliant” and said that “the nuclear fusion display was fascinating”. We are already looking forward to next year and again taking all of our Mad Scientists on this most excellent adventure!

Mr Commons

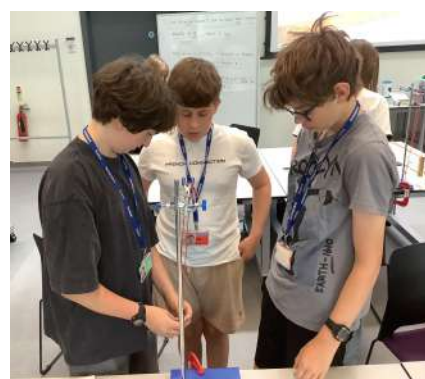


Science Jamboree at the University of Cambridge

The Isaac Science Group runs an annual KS3 Science Jamboree at their home in the University of Cambridge. This year Fortismere was lucky enough to get 15 places and on Wednesday this week we took a group of students that we felt could be inspired by this opportunity to the event. This was the first time any KS3 students have been given the chance to visit the brand new Roy Dolby Centre, home of the Cavendish Laboratory, the University of Cambridge's Department of Physics.

Our students got to complete experiments investigating the elastic features of strawberry laces and peach rings which was sweet (physics attempt at a joke!) and then use that data to plot graphs and analyse their findings. In the next session the Isaac Science team of education experts helped them develop the calculation skills relating to weight and stretching. Students worked diligently in the very impressive lecture theatre.

As well as seeing inside exciting state-of-the-art science buildings, on the journey back, students also got to see the historic colleges. I really hope the trip will inspire some future Cambridge students. It was a great day and couldn't have taken place without the support of Ms Izzet.



Maths Department News

Year 7 Do Maths at London Zoo

On Tuesday and Wednesday this week, the Maths Department took Year 7 students on a trip to London Zoo. As part of their recent unit of work on data, the students had the opportunity to put their learning into practice in a real-world setting. Using data collection sheets that they had designed themselves, Year 7 gathered information on animal habitats, conservation status, and diet. They also timed how long penguins spent underwater and estimated the heights of various animals.

It wasn't all maths though! Students also had time to enjoy the animals and loved seeing baby gorillas, lions, tigers, spider monkeys, sloths, and much more. And as with any trip to the zoo in June, it ended with ice creams all round! Well done to Year 7 who were all great at applying their maths learning in the real world and thank you also to Mrs Chapple for organising such a memorable trip.



Geography Department Notice

Year 12 Residential Field Trip 30th June to 4th July

Our Year 12 Geography students will be attending a residential fieldwork trip to the Lake District as part of their Geography A Level course. This trip is an important part of the course in supporting students' coursework investigation and fulfilling the course requirement for practical fieldwork. We know past groups have both enjoyed and benefited hugely from the trip. All students participating have been reminded to make sure they contact their other A Level subject teachers regarding work they may miss. They should regularly check Google Classroom to access uploaded work. We wish this year's group good weather for their fieldwork. Please do contact Ms Sheldon with any questions or concerns

Library Notices

Recommended Reads of the Week

You don't just have to visit the zoo to meet animals (like lucky Year 7 did this week). You can also find some amazing beasts in books!



PRE Department News

Year 7 Trip to St James' Church

Last week all of Year 7 visited St James' Church in Muswell Hill, as part of their study of religion in Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (PRE). Students were shown around the building and learnt about the work that the church does in the local community. All of our students engaged enthusiastically with all the activities, and the Youth Minister was very impressed by their thoughtful questions. I'd like to thank all the students for their mature and respectful behaviour, and St James' Church for inviting us.

If you are involved with a faith group in the local community, and would like to get involved with our work in PRE, please get in touch with me.

Mr Aldridge

Drama Department Notices

KS3 Drama Club perform A Midsummer Night's Dream (Reimagined) - Tuesday 8th July

Tuesday 8th July, 6pm, North Wing Hall:

Fortismere Drama Club presents:

'A Midsummer Night's Dream' (Reimagined!)
for ONE NIGHT ONLY!

Tickets are £5 and are now available from

<https://www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk/>



Year 9 Parents: Please Complete Oscars Trip form

The annual school trip to the Phoenix Cinema for the Fortismere Year 9 Oscars is on Thursday 3rd July 2025. The event includes a screening of the films students have been producing in Drama lessons this term and there will be awards for the best films. The entire year group will be attending. **Parents must complete the consent slip electronically now - the deadline was Monday 16th June.** Please use the link or scan the QR code. [Year 9 Cinema Trip Consent Form](#)



Upcoming Auditions for Next Year's Show!

Calling all students....no preparation needed!



Year 12 Performance Evening

Please see details of the upcoming Year 12 Performance Evening on **Thursday 10th July at 5pm in North Wing Hall.** Free admission

Year 12 A level Drama students present extracts from musicals: **Sweeney Todd** And **London Road**

Note: Adult content



Sport & PE Notices

Rounders News - Haringey Champions!

Congratulations to our Year 9 Rounders Team, they beat Highgate Wood School and APS in a very close match to become the champions of Haringey! The girls worked brilliantly together and used their knowledge of the rules as well as their skill to overcome what was some very tough opposition.



Cricket News

Well done to our very keen and enthusiastic Year 7/8 Girls Cricket Team. They earned silver medals, only just missing out on top spot after losing by 3 runs in the final against Highgate Wood School. They have all made such a lot of progress in their fielding, bowling and batting ability and also in their knowledge and understanding of the tactics of the game. It is a delight to watch them playing and enjoying the game so much.



Elkie Sets New Record!

Well done to Y11 student Elkie Baker who while completing her GCSE exams has won the Middlesex Schools Inter Girls Discus Competition with a throw of 38.25m setting a new County Championship Record. Elkie already held the Junior Girls Record. She has been selected by Middlesex for the English Schools Championships in Birmingham on 11th-12th July and with a season's best of 41.61m she is currently ranked No1 U17W in the UK. Good luck in Birmingham Elkie!



Upcoming Fixtures

Mon 30 June: Middlesex Schools Athletics Event - All day at Allianz Park. Meet at Sports Hall at 8.30am.
Tue 1 July: Eden Primary Sports Day - 9am-11.30am. Sports Leaders meet at Sports Hall at 8.35am..
Thur 3 July: Y8 Tennis v Wren Academy - Home 2.30 pm start. Year 6 Transition Day.
Fri 4 July: Year 6 Transition Day.

School Sports Days - Tuesday 15th July & Wednesday 16th July

Form tutors will be sharing a powerpoint with students next week with information about the upcoming Sports Days and how to participate. Please encourage your child to sign up for events.

Pickleball Club

Unfortunately the funding has ended for Pickleball Club on Wednesdays after school. But there are still opportunities to carry on playing locally with Lemon Pickleball at their after school clubs, summer camps and parties. Have a look at the [Lemon Pickleball website](https://www.lemonpickleball.com) for full details or contact them by email jonah@lemonpickleball.com or call 07824174441



Music Department Notice

Summer Music Concert - Thursday 10th July

Don't miss the chance to see the last student concert of the year and see Fortismere's talented line-up of ensembles, bands and soloists. Tickets £10 adults, £5 students [available here](#) or on the door.



Careers & Work Related Learning Notice

NHS Careers Event

North Middlesex Hospital is offering up to 30 young people aged **14-16 years old** who live or go to school in Enfield or Haringey a chance to attend a two-day careers event for those who have an interest working in the NHS. The event will provide an opportunity to meet professionals working at North Mid Hospital and to hear about their career pathways and journeys. Students will participate in a workshop hosted by NHS professionals. This event will run for two full days on Wednesday 27th August and Thursday 28th August. Details have been placed in google classroom – if your child is interested in an NHS career have a look at the full details with them as they may want to apply. The deadline for applications is Sunday 6th July

And remember to look at the **Fortismere Careers Newsletter** added to the website weekly - [link here](#)

LINC Notice

SEND Power Parent & Carer Forum Events

SEND Power in Haringey is organising a **coffee morning for parents of children with Dyslexia and literacy difficulties** at Chestnuts Community Centre on Tuesday 8th July, 9.30am-11am. No need to sign up, parents/carers can just drop by.

We also have our **monthly Walk and Talk** coming up on Monday 7th July in Finsbury Park at 11.30am.

Find details of these two events and others coming up are on on the [SEND Power website here](#)

Holiday Camps

Summer Holiday Camps - Booking Now

Fortismere Holiday Camps are running during the first four weeks of the summer holidays (Week 1: 22/07, Week 2: 28/07, Week 3: 4/08, Week 4: 11/08). There are different clubs running in different weeks and we're offering a wide range of activities, led by experienced practitioners that provide a full day of fun. **Full details and links to book via EventBrite are 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.

