

### School Leadership Messages

#### Exam results are official

The DfE have published the national GCSE results and Fortismere is proud to announce our best ever results. Our progress score of 0.6 and an attainment score of 60 puts us in the top 5% of all schools nationally. A big thank you to the staff, students and parents/carers for working collectively to enable us to transform so many lives!

#### Time out of lessons

We need our students in lessons and learning and so we do not give permission to leave the classroom for toilet breaks or to refill water bottles. Some students have toilet passes for medical reasons and others have timeout request passes to enable self-regulation. If a student is given permission to use their timeout card the expectation is that they remain just outside the classroom and can be seen by their teacher. It is imperative for safeguarding that students do not use this time to wander off.

#### Student Whatsapp Groups - Safeguarding notice

It has been brought to our attention by the metropolitan police that some of our students are members of pan-london whatsapp chat groups and that on occasion inappropriate content is being shared including inappropriate visual images. We would urge all parents to regularly check their child's phone to ensure they are only accessing appropriate content. We also strongly recommend that parents discuss the risks of socialising with groups of unknown people in this way. We have a great deal of information about online safety on our website. Please click [here](#) to access this content.

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### Calendar

23/10-27/10	Half term holiday
30/10	Y7 Halloween Disco 5.30pm
2/11	Fortismere Fireworks Display
8/11	6th Form Open Evening



The Fortismere Fox

## Co-Headteachers

### Weekly Roundup

It's hard to believe that we are at the end of the first half term already. It has been an incredibly busy start with many events taking place to welcome new parents and share developments at the school with parents. It was a pleasure to host our first face to face subject evening this week with parents of students in Year 13.

This week we are also delighted to be able to confirm with our parents that this summer's GCSE results were the best ever achieved by a cohort of students at Fortismere. Student attainment was the highest we have ever had but more importantly our progress score (progress 8 +0.6) puts us in the highest category for progress as defined by the DfE (and roughly in the top 5% nationally). This important score recognises that all students, across all subjects, made well over half a grade's progress more than the national average, simply because they studied at Fortismere. Our bold statement, 'Transforming Lives Through Education' is our guiding principle. These outcomes underscore that transformative learning is exactly what takes place at Fortismere. This therefore marks an incredibly proud moment for the school: pride in our students for succeeding following a period of challenge and uncertainty and pride in our staff for working so hard to support our students in delivering the high standards of education that make this incredible level progress achievable.

This week's Newsletter makes excellent reading in regards to celebrating achievements outside of the classroom. We congratulate the Jack Petcehy award winner, our very own chess champion striking again (Stanley in Year 9) and also Tyggi in Year 9 who having become the local British junior indoor karting champion last month competed in the regional final last weekend alongside our 6th form Mathematician who received awards as part of the UK Maths Trust Senior Challenge. Well done to all involved.

The next half term will begin with a bang as Fortismere will be hosting its annual Fireworks display on Thursday 2nd November. This is a huge local family event so tickets are selling fast as we speak. We look forward to seeing our community there. This event is a big fundraiser for Fortismere so please do support by attending if you can.

We are hoping the sun might make an appearance during the half term but regardless of that we trust that everyone enjoys a well-deserved rest next week and returns ready and charged up for the run up to Christmas.

## Student Achievement Awards

### Jack Petcehy Achievement Awards

Well done to the winners of the Jack Petcehy Achievement and Leader Awards 2023. Students Toby Yorston, Christabella Chau, Goktay Tujen, Berk Demir, Camille Turner and staff member, Ali Akbar attended the evening event held at the Bernie Grant Arts Centre last month to receive their awards, presented to them by former Haringey Mayor and Councillor Eddie Griffith.



## LINC Department Notices

### Meet the Team

While we do get to meet lots of parents/carers in LINC, we thought it would be helpful and hopefully interesting, for those we don't know to learn more about the members of the LINC Department Team. First up this week is **Marian Nankervis, Deputy SENDCO** at Fortismere.



#### Why do you want to work in the SEND department?

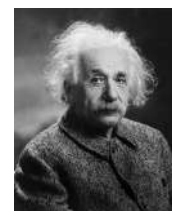
*When I was 17 I volunteered at a local day centre for adults with disabilities. I really enjoyed it and found it a positive and fulfilling experience. I met Henry, who was labelled as 'having a learning disability', but all I could see was his talents and abilities. He was funny, caring and brilliant at making models. We became firm friends (he actually became an honorary member of my family). I realised that I wanted to be an advocate for changing people's attitudes: so that was the start of my journey to become Deputy SENDCO..*

#### What's the best thing about your job?

*Definitely working with the students they have such an amazing way of looking at the world and so open to future possibilities.*

#### What would you like to share with the school community this week?

*Every student has a superpower and this week I want our community to explore the superpower of **Dyslexia**. Albert Einstein is regarded as one of the greatest and most important physicists of all time but despite all his accomplishments, he struggled with dyslexia. Einstein serves as evidence that having a dyslexia diagnosis does not preclude someone from succeeding in the classroom.*



*GCHQ, the UK intelligence, security and cyber agency, has implemented a recruitment drive aimed at adults with dyslexia. LinkedIn has changed their settings to allow 'dyslexic thinking' to be listed under a member's skillset. GCHQ reported that dyslexia is mission critical in their fight against cybersecurity attacks as it equips its spies with a unique ability to "see the bigger picture". Rather than a weakness, GCHQ sees dyslexia as a neurodiverse skill to disrupt threats to the UK from abroad.*

*It's not unusual for individuals with dyslexia to feel labelled and not understood, but with determination and encouragement there are always ways to counteract challenges and harness potential. Discover more about the way you learn best - find a way to counter the challenges, for example write things down to avoid forgetting them, or make use of technology. Recognise your talents and never be limited by dyslexia. Celebrate your difference. In Marcus Buckingham's book 'Now discover your strengths' he talks about the need to spend less time fixating on what we can't do and more time identifying our talents and building them into strengths. As a school community we can place value on recognising and celebrating the differences that exist between us. I hope we can find opportunities to draw the best out of each other, to give us all the chance to thrive. Find out more about Dyslexic achievers [here](#)*

### Time Out Request Provision

Please keep in mind that the following information pertains to parents/carers of a small percentage, less than 5%, of our student population. For various reasons, certain students may encounter significant challenges when it comes to regulating and managing themselves during a lesson. These particular students, who have been identified through our rigorous procedures, as well as in consultations with specialist professionals, may have the option of briefly leaving their lesson for a maximum of 5 minutes as a support mechanism. This provision aligns with our commitment to making reasonable adjustments and accommodations to support students with special and additional educational and emotional needs. However, it is essential to understand that this provision is not an automatic entitlement. Instead, it is a request that should be directed to the teacher of the lesson, who will exercise their discretion in determining its appropriateness or necessity. Students who are granted this provision will receive a special pass, and its

use will be closely monitored. Additionally, it is important to note that, in most cases, this provision is temporary, as we expect students to work on enhancing their self-regulation skills over time. We ask that parents/carers work with us in ensuring that their child, who has access to this provision, understand its purpose and make appropriate use of the provision.

## LINC Clubs

A reminder that LINC run regular clubs at lunchtime and before and after school. Please contact [lhudson@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:lhudson@fortismere.org.uk) with any queries

**After School Homework Club** for EHCP students on Mondays to Fridays from 3.30-4.00pm in Linc 4.

**Breakfast Club** for all LINC students on Mondays to Fridays from 8.00-8.30am in Linc 8.

**Lunch Club** for all LINC students on Mondays to Fridays from 1.00-1.35m in Linc 4.

During October, the LINC Lunch Club have taken part in Q&A sessions on Black female personalities including Dianne Abbott, Rosa Parks, Mary Seacole, Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock and Rose Hudson-Wilkin. Students discussed the significance of BHM and enjoyed learning facts about these women, while using their critical thinking skills.

## Haringey Autistic Youth Club

The Haringey Autism Support Team have asked us to share details of the Rising Green Autistic Youth Club, which takes place every Thursday (term-time) from 4-5pm at 2A Lymington Avenue, London N22 6JA. This will be an opportunity to meet other young people and take part in activities like gaming, table tennis, pool and using the sensory room. If your child is interested please contact Aarti Meisuria on 07980316725 or [aarti.meisuria@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:aarti.meisuria@haringey.gov.uk)

## Haringey SEND Newsletter

You can sign up to receive copies of the Haringey SEND Newsletter [on this page](#), the newsletter is full of useful information and events for families of children and young people with SEND.

## Year 7 News

### Halloween Disco - Reminder & Request For Donations

A reminder that the **Year 7 Halloween Disco takes place on Monday 30th October, from 5.30-7.30pm** in SW Hall (entry through Tetherdown gate). Entry will be £3 cash on the door and free entry for students eligible for free school meals. The money raised from the event will go towards our year group charity. Y7 parents will have received a parentmail about the event and a form to complete.

And **we are still looking for the following donations** to help make it a really fun event: Halloween Decorations, Disco lights and Polaroid cameras. If you can help by lending or donating any of the above items we would be really grateful. Please email [kfox@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:kfox@fortismere.org.uk)

## Year 9 News

### Well done Stanley - Chess Champion!

Y9 student Stanley Badacsonyi, won the 2023 UK Chess Challenge U14 Terafinal at Blenheim on Sunday. Thousands of chess players across the UK enter the qualifying stages of this competition at the start of



spring and then the top 12 in each age group compete for the final. This is Stanley's third Terafinal. In 2021, Stanley was the British Junior Rapid U12 Champion. In 2022, Stanley won the U12 UKCC Blitz tournament and he was also selected to represent England U14 team in the Glorney Cup. In the same year, Stanley won the UK Chess Challenge U12 Northern Gigafinal and in early 2023, Stanley participated in the World Schools Chess in Rhodes and in the World Youth Rapid and Blitz in Georgia. What an incredible talent!



### **Well done Tyggi - Indoor Karting Champion!**

Year 9's Tyggi Brown is making tracks in the indoor karting world! After winning the Junior Category (12-15 year olds) of the British Indoor Karting Championships finals last month, Tyggi competed in the regional finals in Brighton at the weekend. It was a tough, all day long battle but Tyggi made it through to the final where he finished a respectable 11th against other racers older than him and with more years experience. Tyggi is also involved in championships at Rye House (where Lewis Hamilton began his karting) and Brentwood Racing, one of the toughest championships on the circuit. Well done Tyggi - this is amazing!



## **Geography Department News**

### **Battersea Power Station Year 9 Visits**

Over the past two weeks, the Geography department have really enjoyed taking the whole of Year 9 out to visit Battersea Power Station. Pupils have been looking at the redevelopment of the area, which reopened in October 2022. Pupils carried out a variety of activities, including a service tally, an environmental quality survey and a transport tally, whilst building and developing their team work skills. They also had the opportunity to use some of our new Geographical equipment, such as our new sound meters. The pupils conducted themselves in a really positive way around the Power Station and on the journey to and from school - we were really impressed with them.



## **Maths Department News**

### **Y12 & Y13 Students Rise to the UK Maths Trust Senior Challenge**

A group of enthusiastic mathematicians in Year 12 and Year 13 embarked upon the UK Maths Trust Senior Maths Challenge this term. The challenge involves solving problems which require students to apply their

maths knowledge in creative and stimulating ways. We are so impressed with all the students who chose to take part. A special congratulations to the following students who achieved certificates:

**Gold** - Daniel Kennedy. **Silver** - Frankie Badacsonyi; Thomas Hinchliffe; Christabella Chau; Enzo Chorley; Miko Kwasow; Olalla Montes Moreno; Annabelle Richmond Ruff; Isabel Sheldon-Floyd

**Bronze** - Saoirse Barron; Mabel Buxton; Megan Carley; Lucas Carter; Arisa Dacaj; Sian Flanigan; Noah Laurens; Theo Macaulay; Edith Shammai; Arun Solanki; Sofia Artjomova; George Bisset; Kledja Cela; Sayed Husson; Lukas Kershaw; George Lau; Thomas Lowery; Kiran Sharma; Siena Smith; Maryam Uddevik

## Library Notices

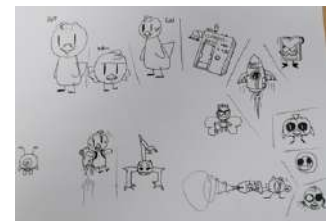
### Top Tips to Keep Your Children Reading



Top Tip 5: Less can be more. Don't let huge books put your children off. There are lots of shorter, less intimidating books out there. Suggest they browse our "Quick Reads" twirlies, or take a look at the huge variety of Barrington Stoke books

### Manga/Graphic Club

Every Wednesday after school, 3.30-4.30pm in the library. "We just want to read and draw" – a lovely calm way to finish a day.



### Creative Writing at the Bookshop

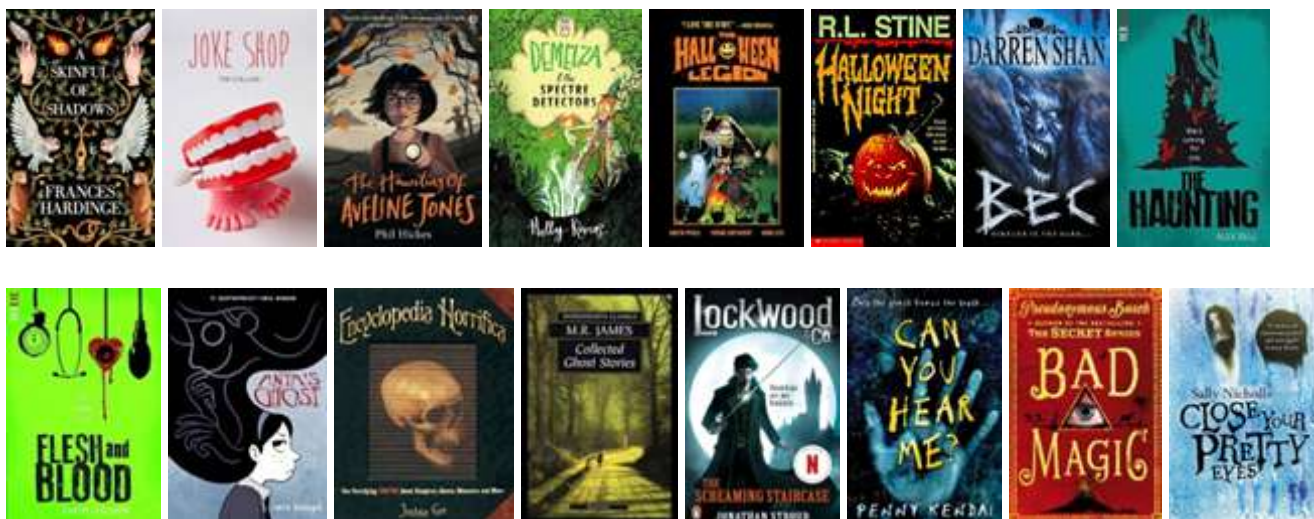
Exciting news! Starting from November, Muswell Hill Children's Bookshop will be holding a creative writing workshop. Join best-selling children's author Steven Butler – the newest member of the team at the bookshop -- for a fun-filled five week creating writing course. Starts from **Tuesday 7th November** - find out more information [here](#) or ask in the bookshop.





## Recommended Reads of the Week

Some spooky reads for All Hallows Eve...



## Art & Photography Department Notices

### Christmas Card Competition

Design the school Christmas card for 2023! To celebrate 40 years of Fortismere, this year's theme is 'Festive 40'. We are looking for original, creative and colourful designs that also include the number 40. You can use any media including, painting, collage, recycled materials or digital art. Entries must be handed into the Art department by 3.30pm on Thursday 30th November. The winning Christmas card will be chosen by the CoHeads and shared with the school community. The winning designer will receive a bumper pack of art materials.



### Art & Photography Trips

The Art & Photography Department has been very busy this half term, visiting some of the best exhibitions in London. Year 13 Photography students visited the Paul McCartney exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery and the Photographer's Gallery whilst Year 11 Art students saw the new Chris Offili mural at the Tate Britain. They were also able to appreciate the rehang of the permanent collection. Finally, Year 11 Photography students visited the fantastic Hiroshi Sugimoto exhibition at the Hayward Gallery and took hundreds of photographs on a photographic tour of the Southbank. More exhibitions are planned for next term including a study visit to Paris for A level Art & Photography students.



## Great Exhibitions for October Half Term!

**Japan: Myth to Manga** Take an exciting and atmospheric trip through Japan – and explore how landscape and folklore have influenced Japanese art, technology and design.

**Hiroshi Sugimoto: Time Machine** at the Hayward Gallery

The largest survey to date of Hiroshi Sugimoto, an artist renowned for creating some of the most alluringly enigmatic photographs of our time.

**The Art of Banksy** Drawing critical acclaim, The Art of Banksy is the world's largest collection of original and authenticated Banksy artworks showcasing more than 150 pieces.

**The Cult of Beauty** at the Wellcome Collection (free) Featuring over 200 items, including historical objects, artworks, films and new commissions, this exhibition considers the influence of morality, status, health, age, race and gender on the evolution of ideas about beauty.



## PE & Sports Department News

### PE & Sports People of the Month

Congratulations to the following students who have been nominated by their PE teachers for their excellent effort, attitude and performances in PE lessons and extra-curricular sport;

**Year 7: Viktor Haga & Felicieenne Castle**

**Year 8: Flynn Clark & Orla Forkan**

**Year 9: Ahan Shetty & Mia Goldstone**

### PE & Sports Clubs Timetable - After half-term

Please see *attached* our updated timetable for clubs after half-term. This will also be added to the website.

## Haringey Football Week

This week we travelled down to New River Sports Centre everyday to compete against the nine other schools taking part in the Haringey 5-a-side football competition. Everyone involved had a great time competing and enjoyed some real team cohesion and some great results. Here are the results so far:

Year 7 Boys 3rd; Year 7 Girls 2nd

Year 8 Boys 8th; Year 8 Girls 3rd

Year 9 Boys 8th; Year 10 Boys 1st Other year group results not yet played. Well done all.





## Y8 Netball v APS

### Year 8 Netball v APS

Great win in a very end to end match - our girls battled through with a 9-7 win v APS last Thursday, well done all.



## Fixtures After Half Term

Monday 30th October	Dance Club - All years, Football - Year 8 Netball club - All years
Tuesday 1st November	Badminton - All years 7 football club Hockey - All years
Wednesday 2nd November	Senior 1st XI v Enfield Grammar Away Gym club Girls football - All years
Thursday 3rd November	Year 7 A & B v Heartlands Away Girls cricket - All years Volleyball - All years
Friday 4th November	Basketball Y10-13

## Reminder PE Kit Footwear & Clothing

Crocs are in no way suitable footwear for PE. Negatives will be issued to students if no suitable shoes are brought in for PE lessons. Students are permitted to wear sports trousers/sweatshirts but they must be black or navy. PE kit must only be worn during PE lessons and not around school. Many thanks.

You can purchase Fortismere PE kit from our supplier

<https://orcprintwear.co.uk/>.

## Breast Cancer Awareness Day 20th October - Please Help Ms Vangucci

Today, Friday 20th October is Breast Cancer Awareness Day - please wear **pink** and make a donation to help Breast Cancer Now. You can read about Miss Vangucci's fundraising and donate online on the [Just Giving page here](#) Thank you for your support.

Ms Vangucci

## School Fundraising Event

### Fortismere Fireworks Night - Thursday 2nd November 2023 from 5.00pm

It's already Firework time again so please remember remember the 2nd November! Put the date in your diaries because we will be putting on another spectacular firework display on the school field. Gates on

Twyford Avenue will open at 5pm so you will have plenty of time to enjoy the Fun Fair, the bar with mulled wine, hot drinks and various hot food stalls before the fireworks start from 7.30-8.00pm. The event closes at 9pm. Apart from being a great night out you will be supporting the school to raise much needed extra funds so please buy your tickets now. If you purchase tickets in advance you can save money: Tickets are £7 each in advance or £9 on the gate. Tickets are on sale now from the school library (during break and lunch) or online via [Eventbrite here](#) We also need help on the night so if anyone would like to volunteer please get in touch with me [mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk](mailto:mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk)

## 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>