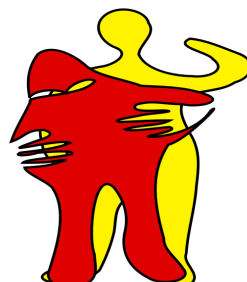


School Leadership Messages	Contents										
<p>Covid Lateral Flow Tests</p> <p>A reminder to parents and students that everyone in our community should be taking lateral flow tests twice weekly while COVID rates in the community continue to be high.</p> <p>In the event of a positive result please follow guidance on our Covid pages here.</p> <p>Very close contacts</p> <p>Students (from reception age or above) who live with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, should in addition to arranging a PCR test also take an <u>LFD test every day for 7 days</u> while they continue to attend school: testing should start from when the first person in the home tests positive as household transmission is very likely to happen. If at any time the student becomes symptomatic, they must stay at home and arrange for a PCR test immediately (regardless of having already had a negative PCR test result).</p> <p>Self Isolation</p> <p>Please find attached a poster from the NHS which summarises the current guidance for self isolation.</p> <p>Teacher Assessed Grades (TAG) Contingency Planning (DfE)</p> <p>The DfE released its guidance a couple of weeks ago for the contingency plans in the case of the cancellation of GCSE and A level exam series.</p> <p>We are working hard to ensure that the steps we take do not disrupt the students' studies and the normal timetable of the year. We will be able to provide you with more details next week.</p>	Co-Headteachers										
	Art & Photography Dept										
	Drama Department Notices										
	Music Department Notices										
	Library										
	Sport & PE Department Notices										
	Christmas Craft Fair										
	Fortismere Holiday Camp										
	Calendar										
	<table><tr><td>29/11/21 30/11/21</td><td>Drama Production</td></tr><tr><td>01/12/21</td><td>Year 8 X Parents' Evening</td></tr><tr><td>07/12/21 08/12/21</td><td>Christmas Music Concert</td></tr><tr><td>12/12/21</td><td>Christmas Craft Fair</td></tr><tr><td>15/12/21</td><td>Year 8 Y Parents' Evening</td></tr></table>		29/11/21 30/11/21	Drama Production	01/12/21	Year 8 X Parents' Evening	07/12/21 08/12/21	Christmas Music Concert	12/12/21	Christmas Craft Fair	15/12/21
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<p>Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde</p> 											

Co-Headteachers

Weekly Roundup

This week saw a return to events that have been put on hold during the pandemic. Every year we participate in the Jack Petchey Speakers Trust Speak Out Challenge but last year this was a casualty of Covid. This was particularly disheartening as we had a student representing Fortismere in the national finals. Last Wednesday Ms Williams started this year's process with a selected group of Year 10. Fortismere students are very talented at speaking out and we look forward to hearing their speeches later this year.

Today, the Music Department has invited Tadashi Imai to host piano masterclasses for music students. Tadashi is a piano teacher at the Junior Royal Academy and the Queen Elizabeth's School and is a resident piano accompanist for the Academy. The students (and the audience) are extremely fortunate to have this opportunity.

On a less cultural note, we had our half termly fire drill this week for the whole of Fortismere. We have a complex set of buildings covering a large site and the students' response to the drill was really positive. We could do with more silence on leaving the buildings but they were exemplary during the lining up outside. Given the difficulties of our site, this is a key area of health and safety for us and the mature attitude of the students reassures us that they understand the importance.

The next three weeks see a traditional Fortismere approach to Christmas: a drama production, the music concert and 2 parents evenings! We strongly recommend both Dr Jekyll and Hyde and the Christmas Music Concert. Both Co-Heads have been audience members for immersive theatre before at Fortismere (A level students in a production of 'Rear Window') and it is an extraordinary experience. We are also looking forward to the Music Concert enormously: the GCSE rehearsals were amazing and we know that the quality of music goes from strength to strength, and it began already at a high point. We also see a return to the Christmas Craft Fair (12/12/21) which manages to be both a lovely community event and an important fundraising event for us. We hope to see many of our parents and carers at all our events.

We'll be wrapping up warm and staying indoors to avoid Storm Arwen. We wish you all a peaceful and cosy weekend.

Art & Photography Department

Black Friday Art & Photography offers and more

MoMA has pulled together a breadth of Art and Photography suppliers who are offering some great discounts on Black Friday. There are also deals for software, online courses, photobooks and artists' work.

Follow this link for information: [MoMA UK](https://www.moma.co.uk/black-friday)

The link will also take you to Art Competitions, Art residencies and opportunities as well as details about an exhibition by David Shrigley involving tennis balls!



Drama Department Notices

Year 13 A Level Performance Exam



Year 13 produced outstanding exam pieces this year. They really challenged themselves, directing and developing their extracts from published plays contained gritty, controversial and hard-hitting issues. Plays included *Masterpieces* by Sarah Daniels, *Monsters* by Niklas Rådström, *Everyday I make Greatness Happen* by Richard Molloy and *Yerma* by Lorca. Well done to all.

Limited Tickets for Jekyll and Hyde



MONDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2021
TUESDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 2021

6:00PM & 7:30PM 2 SHOWS EACH NIGHT
CHOOSE BETWEEN A STEAMPUNK TICKET OR A VICTORIAN TICKET

LIMITED TICKET AVAILABILITY DUE TO IMMERSIVE NATURE OF THE SHOW. ADVANCE SALES ONLY

£6.50 A TICKET AVAILABLE ON PARENTMAIL
SEE PAYMENTS AND THEN SHOP

AUDIENCE ARE ENCOURAGED TO WEAR EITHER STEAMPUNK OR VICTORIAN DRESS ACCORDING TO YOUR TICKET CHOICE. PLEASE BE WEATHER PREPARED AS SOME PARTS OF THE PERFORMANCE WILL BE OUTSIDE. PLEASE ARRIVE AT SOUTH WING TETHERDOWN ENTRANCE, 15 MINUTES BEFORE YOUR PERFORMANCE TIME.

Don't Miss Fortismere's first Immersive Site Specific piece of theatre on 29 and 30 November!

Please see Parentmail Payment system for last minute tickets.

There is limited availability left.

Please see our TRAILER [HERE](#)

ALL ENQUIRES TO MS TURNER DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Music Department Notices

Ensembles 2021/22

The Christmas concert is nearly upon us so please make sure that you are on time to rehearsals. Please note that we cannot walk students to the front of queues so they need to bring a packed lunch into school.

Day	Lunchtime	After School
Monday	Senior Strings (G5+) Concert Hall	KS3 Music Tech MU1 School Orchestra (Gr2+) Concert Hall
Tuesday	Percussion Group MU1 Popular Guitar Group MU2 Senior Choir (Yr 10-13) Concert Hall	Chamber Choir Concert Hall Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra (7-9pm)
Wednesday	Musical Theatre Group MU1 Big Band (Gr3+) Concert Hall	Bands (Various) Gospel Choir Room A
Thursday	DJ Club Top Studio Junior Choir (Yr 7-9) Concert Hall	KS4 Music Tech MU4 Jazz Octet Concert Hall
Friday	Junior Strings (G1-4) MU2 Classical Guitar Group Concert Hall	Jazz Group Concert Hall
Saturday	Music Theory Classes (11:30am - 12:30pm) MU1 Fortismere Community Choir (11:30am - 1pm) Concert Hall	Afternoon (1 - 4pm) Chamber Groups Rock Bands

Instrumental and Vocal Lessons - Endangered Species

If your child would like the opportunity to play one of the endangered species instruments on offer this year please get in touch with the Director of Music as soon as possible. **We still have some free lessons for new starters available on French Horn, Bassoon, Double Bass and Trombone.** Email jefferies@fortismere.org.uk for more details.

Christmas Concert - Extra rehearsals

A reminder that we have asked that students come into school for extra rehearsals on **Sunday 5th December**. The following groups will rehearse in the Music Concert Hall at these times. Rehearsal schedules have now been sent out to all students in Google Classrooms and a parent mail will outline commitments to those children taking part:

School Orchestra	10.00 - 11:30am	Concert Hall
Big Band	12:00 - 1:00pm	Concert Hall
Junior Choir	2:00 - 3:30pm	MU1
Senior Choir	2:00 - 3:30pm	Concert Hall

Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra Concert- Saturday 27th November

Next week we have a concert with the FCSO that will take place on **Saturday 27th November in St Andrews Church, Muswell Hill at 7:30pm**. The programme for this event is a real treat for lovers of the *Romantic* repertoire with Khachaturian's *Adagio from Spartacus*, Dvorak's *8th Symphony* and Rachmaninoff's *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*. Our soloist for this concert will be Japanese pianist Tadashi Imai who has performed all over the world including Carnegie Hall, Wigmore Hall and The Royal Festival Hall. Tickets are selling fast so book now for what promises to be an amazing evening.



Fortismere Community Choir Concert - Saturday 4th December

The next concert for the Fortismere Community Choir will be on Saturday 4th December at St Andrews Church in Muswell Hill. They will be performing Bach's *Magnificat* as well as traditional festive hymns which will include audience participation.



Fortismere School Christmas Concert - Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th December

Our annual Christmas Concert returns this year with two evenings of music making from the pupils of Fortismere. There will be performances from the school ensembles such as Orchestra, Senior Strings, Junior Strings, Big Band, Classical Guitar Group, Popular Guitar Group, Percussion Group, Junior Choir, Senior Choir and Chamber Choir. We will also have some solo and band items from students across all key stages.



Tickets for Music Concerts

Tickets for all school and community concerts can be purchased at the Music Department website.
www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk

Library

Patronus of Reading Visit



Sita Brahmachari spent the afternoon with students from Years 7 and 8 on Tuesday 23rd November. Her dystopian book "Where the River Runs Gold" is especially relevant in the light of COP26 and, as always, there were some wonderfully thoughtful and intelligent responses from our students who created beautiful seed packets whilst Sita was talking. They joined in with Sita's role playing activities enthusiastically, especially as asking too many questions and being militant resulted in being sent to "prison" with Billie the dog!



Book Club News



The November meeting of **CoverUp**, our parent/staff reading group was really well attended, and it was great to welcome some new members. The prison diaries of Chris Atkins in "A Bit of a Stretch" led to some lively discussion (and disagreement!) and we all had our thoughts provoked! Our next meeting is on Thursday 20th January when we'll be talking about the winner of this year's Women's Prize for Fiction, "Piranesi" by Susanna Clarke.

Our historical fiction group, **Young Quills**, meets during Friday lunchtimes in the library, and the next book we're reading is Carnegie winning "Tamar" by Mal Peet, a fascinating story based on the SOE in Holland in World War II. The group is being sponsored by a very kind parent, which means we can get a copy of the book for every member.



Members of the KS3 science club will form the judging panel for the **Royal Society Young People's Book Prize**; Ms Hall from the science department will be organising some fun experiments based around the books on the shortlist.

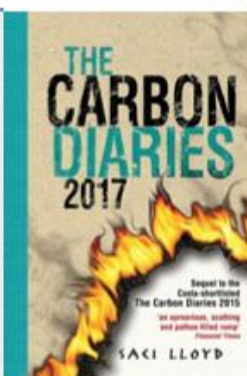
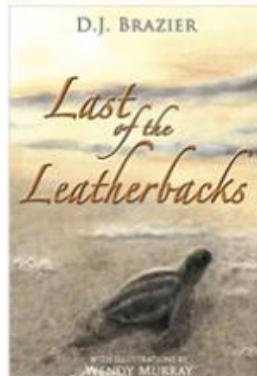
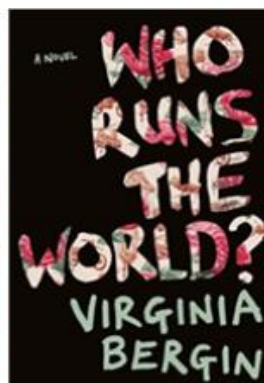
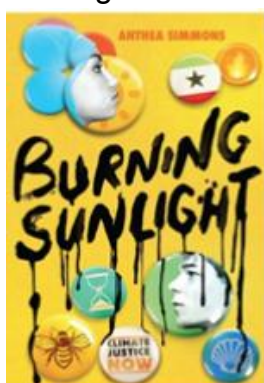
Postage Stamps



As we're coming to the time of year when you may receive a little more post than usual, please save your used postage stamps and send them to the library. We then forward to the Hearing Dogs for Deaf People charity.

Recommended Reads of the Week

30th November is Remembrance Day for Lost Species. If we don't stop climate breakdown, Earth could suffer another mass extinction. Here is a small selection of books in our library to get you thinking.



Sport & PE Department Notices

Extra-Curricular Timetable

Boots and Shin-pads are required for football

Monday Lunchtime: Y7 Badminton (Sports Hall), Y7 Table Tennis(SW Gym), Y7 Games (Astro), Y11 BB (BB Courts) and Y10 Fitness (Fitness Room).

Monday After School: All Year Group Cross Country(School Field), Y7 Boys Football(School Field), Y9 and Y10 Netball (Netball Courts), Y7, Y8 and Y9 Rugby(School Field) and Sixth Form Handball (Sports Hall)

Tuesday Lunchtime: Y8 Badminton (Sports Hall), Y8 Table Tennis(SW Gym), Y8 Games(Astro), Y11 BB(BB Courts) and Y11,12 and Y13 Fitness (Fitness Room)

Tuesday After School: All Year Group Hockey (Astro), Y8 and Y9 Football, (School Field), Y8 Netball (Netball Courts) and Y10 and Y11 GCSE Practical Club/ Badminton (Sports Hall)

Wednesday Lunchtime: Y9 Badminton (Sports Hall), Y9 Table Tennis (SW Gym),Y9 Games (Astro),Y11 BB (BB Courts) and Y10 Fitness (Fitness Room)

Wednesday After School: Sixth Form Badminton (Sports Hall), Sixth Form Football (Field), Sixth Form Fitness (Fitness Room), Sixth Form Netball (Netball Courts)

Thursday Lunchtime: Y10 Badminton (Sports Hall), Y10 Table Tennis (SW Gym), Y10 Games (Astro), Y11 BB (BB Courts), Y11,12 and 13 Fitness (Fitness Room) and All Years Cross-Country(Coldfall Woods)

Thursday After School: All Year Group Cross Country (School Field), Y7 Netball (Netball Courts), Sixth Form Handball (SW Gym), KS3 Badminton (Sports Hall) and All Girls Football (Astro)

Friday Lunchtime: Sixth Form Badminton (Sports Hall), Y11,12 and 13 Table Tennis (SW Gym), Y7, Y11 and Sixth Form Games (Astro), Y11 BB (BB Courts) and Sixth Form Fitness (Fitness Room)

Christmas Craft Fair

Christmas Craft Fair

Our Christmas Craft Fair will be held on Sunday 12th December from 11:00am-4:00pm. This Silent Auction is set up to help raise funds for Fortismere.

We will have an online shop where you will be able to bid on our fabulous silent auction.

Could you donate some of your time, skills or another type of prize to raise money for the school? Christmas Hampers, put together by us, raised a lot of money last year.

Please can you help us this year?

We need food: mince pies, preserved fruits, jams and marmalade, biscuits, Christmas Puddings, teas and coffee, wine, chocolates and treats (but no meat or cheese products).

Non edibles: Christmas Crackers, beauty items and bath products



Fortismere Holiday Activity Camp

Christmas Holiday Camp Book Now! Open to the Community

We are pleased to announce we are running a four day Christmas Camp.

If you have been struggling to find a spare moment to buy and wrap Christmas presents without the kids looking, this is the perfect opportunity. Give your child the opportunity to have a fun filled day, whilst you spend a day or two relaxing before the Christmas madness.

These activities will run between 9:00am- 3:00pm each day at Fortismere School, Tetherdown London N10 1NE. The 4 day week will cost £80*, an 8:00 am drop off option will be offered, where the children will be provided with a light breakfast of toast, cereal & juice.

Please contact Maria Demetriou for information: mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk

Holiday Club Activities: Limited Spaces

Monday 20th December -Thursday 23rd December

Art Club: Spaces Available

[Art Club Tickets](#)

This Christmas, Art Pole will be bringing art exploration to Fortismere. Our students will make life sketches, colleges and cut-outs from old magazines and plain paper and will also build towers and spaceships out of cardboard and glue then turn these structures into graphics or technical drawings. These activities will open the eyes of young people to the world of artists, designers and architects. Anyone from 8 years old is welcome. Our environment is encouraging, inclusive and non-competitive allowing students to move at their own pace and thus develop their unique skill-set.

Monday 20th December -Thursday 23rd December

Ballet, Tap and Musical Theatre: Spaces Available

[Ballet, Tap and Musical Theatre Tickets](#)

Each day the children will explore different styles of dance with an emphasis on ballet and tap. Children will work on technique, dance routines and choreography, as well as projects designed to encourage creativity when storytelling through dance. The participants will work towards final pieces and will be given plenty of time to interact with others and make lasting friendships! Leaders are professional performers with a background in theatre and dance.

Monday 20th December -Thursday 23rd December

Drama Club: Spaces Available

[Drama Club Tickets](#)

This week, the children will work on improvisation and comedy skills.

Monday 20th December -Thursday 23rd December

Little Imaginations: Spaces Available

[Little Imaginations Tickets](#)

Perfect for 3-6 year olds led by professional actors with a love for early years! Each day the children will explore all genres of creative arts- learning songs & dances, acting out role play adventures, exploring arts & crafts plus lots of games and fun!

Monday 20th December -Thursday 23rd December

Multi Sports: Spaces Available

[Multi Sports Tickets](#)

This will give the children the opportunity to have fun and interact with others through a range of sports such as football, rounders, tennis and competitions.