



Transforming Lives
Through Education

Newsletter: Friday 6th June 2025

School Leadership Messages:	Contents			
<p>Update to Fortismere Parents on Change for 2025/26</p> <p>Parents will shortly be receiving a letter via email from the CoHeadteachers outlining the finalised plans for the school day timings from September 2025 and confirmed dates for the two week October Half term 2025.</p> <p>We'd like to thank those who took the time to complete our feedback survey over the half term. We found your comments incredibly useful and there were questions raised around how we intend to manage break and lunchtimes, the impact on pastoral support time that these changes may have and some queries on how teachers will manage the delivery of learning in larger groups. We will address frequently raised points in our longer communication.</p> <p>In terms of significant changes two key points to note are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> There will be a 2 week half term for students in Years 7-10, and Year 12 in October 2025 The dates for the October half term 2025 are from Monday 27th October - Friday 7th November. Year 11 and Year 13 Mock exams will commence in school from Thursday 6th November. School will be open for Year 11 and Year 13 students only on Thursday 6th and Friday 7th November. We will review this arrangement with parents at the end of the autumn term in order to inform October half term arrangements for subsequent years. Most lessons in KS3 will be taught in groups of 30 students This means that Key Stage 3 tutor groups (Years 7-9) will be reorganised from groups of 27 to groups of 30. The current Year 9 tutor groups will also be re-organised for Year 10 as those students move to their new tutors in North Wing. A letter from Ms Brooks, Assistant Head (KS3 Pastoral and Inclusion) which explains how this is being arranged will be sent to parents of Key Stage 3 students early next week. 	CoHeads' Weekly Roundup			
	Friends of Fortismere			
	Departmental News & Notices			
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	<div data-bbox="1034 869 1193 904" data-label="Section-Header"> <h3>Calendar</h3> </div> <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1034 958 1145 994">16.06</td><td data-bbox="1166 958 1469 994">Y10 & 12 exams begin</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1034 1032 1145 1068">06.07</td><td data-bbox="1166 1032 1469 1090">Fortismere Summer Festival 12-4pm</td></tr> </table>	16.06	Y10 & 12 exams begin	06.07
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06.07	Fortismere Summer Festival 12-4pm			
<div data-bbox="1043 1182 1485 1653" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="1050 1697 1481 1809" data-label="Text"> <p>Eid Mubarak to all members of our Fortismere community celebrating Eid-ul-Adha</p> </div>				

Co-Headteachers

Weekly Roundup

Welcome to Y6 parents! As you can see from the Newsletter, Fortismere tends to be a very busy place. A great way to get to know the school (in addition to reading the Newsletter!) is to come to our Summer Festival. The Friends of Fortismere parents/carers group (FoF) are planning a spectacular event and you are all very welcome. It is a significant fundraising event but more importantly, it is also a great community event. From dog shows to the staff band, with a bit of throwing wet sponges at staff (including one very prominent staff member...) it is a lot of fun and a good way to meet others and get a feel for the school. The FoF are also looking for volunteers so if anyone is interested (not just Y6 parents!), please see the appeal below.

It is the end of the first week back and it does not feel like Summer! The cooler weather is quite beneficial to Y11 and Y13, supporting their revision and ensuring that exam spaces are not too hot but for the rest of us it has been a bit disappointing. We are used to seeing our field covered in groups of students during lunch times and although the hardier ones have been out, all wrapped up, it hasn't been quite the same. We are anticipating an improvement in the weather and are looking forward to seeing our site being fully used.

Those hardier types were very much in evidence earlier this week on the Y10 Duke of Edinburgh expedition to the Peak District. The expeditions are an excellent way for students to experience self-reliance and navigation skills, while coping with all that the great British weather can throw at them! The DofE has gone from strength to strength at Fortismere and we would encourage any Y9s who are thinking of joining to give it a go. It isn't just about the rugged outdoors: the volunteering aspect provides a useful opportunity to engage with the local community. Students volunteer at charity shops, homes for the elderly and supporting local environmental campaigns such as cleaning up parks. Parents and carers can model volunteering by helping the FoF! (And this week is Volunteer Week...).

As many of you are aware, the last half term of the year tends to be packed with different enrichment opportunities, from year team outings to events such as the Oscars. Please can we remind parents and carers to be on the lookout for specific parentmails or items in the Newsletter that require parental permission. We want as many students as possible to enjoy at least one enrichment activity; it supports school engagement and provides students with brilliant memories of school. There is funding available for students on free school meals: Heads of year and the Finance Team can provide information for parents and carers for support.

June is Pride Month and as you can see from the Library section we will be recognising the month in school. It is important that we build knowledge and respect about all members of our community and that inclusivity is visible in Fortismere. As with all aspects of school life, we welcome parent and carer feedback and are happy to hear observations and suggestions from our local community.

We wish you all a happy, not too windy, rainbow coloured weekend!

Friends of Fortismere

Parent Volunteers Needed for the Summer Festival

The countdown is on - just **4 weeks to go** until the Fortismere Summer Festival! You'll be hearing more from us as we come together to make it a brilliant day for the school community. **Advance entry tickets, ride tokens, raffle tickets, and dog show entries** are now available via [GoodHub | Fortismere Summer Festival](#)

Grab yours early! We will have amazing rides and activities, fantastic raffle prizes up for grabs, and we can't wait to see Fortismere's top dogs at the show!

We now need parent volunteers! 2-3 volunteers per year group please - We've allocated stalls and activities by year group and need parent volunteers to help coordinate a team. If you can take this on, please get in touch ASAP at friendsoffortismere@fortismere.org.uk It's definitely a fun way to get involved and it makes a huge difference to the success of the festival. And it is Volunteer Week!

This is what we have assigned to the year groups so far (if you would like to run another stall, let us know):

- **Year 7:** Soak the Teacher, Ice Lollies, Cakes & Watermelon, BBQ *already covered, thank you!*
- **Year 8:** Coconut Shy, Dog Show, Sporting Events (ticketing/money collection)
- **Year 9:** Bottle Tombola, Chocolate Tombola, Second-hand PE Kit Stall
- **Year 10:** Bar, Book Stall
- **Year 11:** *No assigned stalls yet- let us know if you'd like to lead one!*

We also need donations please - We'll soon start collecting for: **Bottle Tombola, Chocolate Tombola (any bars will do, the bigger the better!)** and **Cakes & Biscuits** From Monday 9th June - Bottles and chocolates can be left at the South Wing Security Gate during school hours. Children can leave donations of chocolate (no bottles) at South Wing and North Wing Main Offices.

Cakes & biscuits - we are counting on this being organised by **Year 7 parent volunteers** ahead of the event.

Student Stalls - We're thrilled to have students running their own stalls again this year. If your child would like to host a stall or just help out on a stall, please get in touch as soon as possible so we can make sure there is enough time to organise.

Thank you so much for all your support - let's make it the best Fortismere Summer Festival yet!

Friends of Fortismere

Contact us: friendsoffortismere@fortismere.org.uk **Check out:**  [fofo.rtismere](https://www.instagram.com/fofo.rtismere)

Year 7 Notice

Year 7 Trip to Stubbers Activity Centre: Thursday 12th June 7.30am-6.00pm

The Year 7 Summer Trip is on Thursday 12th June. The trip is a celebration of Year 7's successful transition to Fortismere. The children will be participating in fantastic outdoor pursuits such as raft building, kayaking, abseiling, climbing and archery at the fantastic Stubbers Outdoor Activity Centre in Essex. Year 7 parents and carers should look out for the final pre-trip information email in their inboxes from Ms Fox, Head of Year.

Music Department Notice

Next Symphony Orchestra Concert - Sunday 15th June

Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra's next concert will be an out-of-this-world spectacular perfect for Father's Day! The programme features iconic themes from E.T., Star Wars, and Superman, alongside the instantly recognisable Mars and Venus movements from Holst's The Planets. Also featured will be the famous Blue Danube waltz famously featured in 2001: A Space Odyssey. It'll be a night of epic music that everyone will enjoy! **FREE tickets for all Fortismere students** - just use code FORTSTUDENT25 when checking out. Online tickets £13 for adults, [available here](#).

Auditions for Summer Concert - Friday 13th Lunchtime

Fortismere's last concert of the year will be on Thursday 10th July. Auditions will be held in MU2 **next Friday 13th June at lunchtime**. Please note: students who want to audition for a solo also need to be taking part in at least one ensemble/choir as well.

Drama Department Notices

Year 10 GCSE Drama Practical Exam - June

The Year 10 GCSE Drama Practical Exams will be taking place on 16th, 17th, and 18th June.

KS3 Drama Club performs 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!)

KS3 Drama Club will be performing their version of
'A Midsummer Night's Dream'
for ONE NIGHT ONLY!

Tickets are £5 and are now available from
<https://www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk/>



In Rehearsal with KS3 Drama Club and 'A Midsummer Night's Dream (Reimagined!)

A little snapshot of some of our cast members deep in rehearsal and bringing their brilliant creativity and imagination to the stage during show rehearsals this week. We love working with these fantastic actors and are excited for them to perform for you all!

Pictured: Bottom, the Fairies, Queen Titania, Lysander, Hermia, Helena, and Demetrius.



Year 9 Film Project

During Year 9 Drama this term, the students have been working on a film project, each week exploring - through theory and practice - a new aspect of filming and development, from storyboarding, to acting on screen, to composition, to editing and overall elements of visual storytelling. We are excited to see what this year's Year 9 cohort have come up with for their films and how they have put their filming and production skills into action!



Year 9 Parents: Please Complete Oscars Trip Form

We are organising a school trip to the Phoenix Cinema for the Fortismere Year 9 Oscars on Thursday 3rd July 2025 during the school day. The event will include a screening of the films they have been producing in Drama lessons this term. Year 9 will watch their films and there will be awards for the best films. The entire year group will be attending and the trip presents a unique opportunity for pupils to view their own work on the big screen in professional surroundings.



Parents must complete the consent slip electronically by Monday 16th June. Please use this link <https://bit.ly/cinematrip25> or scan the QR code.

If you have done this already, thank you. You do not need to do a second form.

Funded Bursaries for BRIT kids in Kings Cross

BRIT Kids was set up by The BRIT School to offer performing and creative/media arts classes to the local community at the weekend. Horizons and HEP have created a new partnership and are able to offer 10 funded bursaries to students who will be in Year 8 or 9 next year and who meet the criteria below. If you meet these criteria and are interested please email Ms Overs on lovers@fortismere.org.uk

- Open to current Year 7 and 8s only (Year 8 and 9 next school year)
- Children in receipt of Free School Meals
- Have the means to travel to Kings Cross each Saturday of term
- Have an interest in either the Creative/Media or Performing Arts

Courses on offer for the Horizons Bursary are listed below and course outlines can be found [here](#)

- Specialist Theatre
- Specialist Singing
- Screen Acting
- Fashion
- Art
- Music Production

Hackney Empire Auditions

Calling all 14-19 year-old actors, dancers, instrumentalists, designers, singers, rappers, and spoken word artists. Join the ADP 2025 company! The Artist Development Programme is a company of young artists aged 14-19 years old, chosen through an audition process, who will spend two weeks creating an exciting new piece of musical theatre to perform on the Hackney Empire Main Stage on Saturday 9 August 2025. Please note you can apply to audition for more than one discipline.

Audition Dates and Times:

Band Auditions: Fri 27 Jun, 5pm - 8pm (any instrument/beatmaker/producer)

Dance Auditions: Sat 28 Jun, 10am - 2pm (any style of dance)

Drama & Vocal Auditions: Sat 28 Jun, 3pm - 7pm (singers, rappers, spoken word, acting & devising)

Drama & Vocal Auditions: Sun 29 Jun, 10am - 7pm, (singers, rappers, spoken word, acting & devising)

Design Applications: Deadline to apply Mon 23 Jun

ADP runs from 25 Jul-9 Aug with an intro workshop taking place on Thu 3 Jul from 6-8pm. You must be available for all programme dates to join the company.

Deadline to apply is 26 June - [Apply here](#)

National Youth Monologues Competition: Enter a Monologue and Be a Part of NYM!

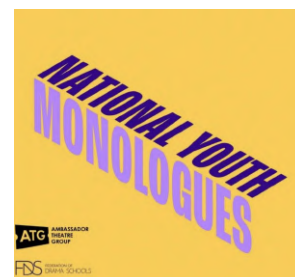
In conjunction with *Ambassador Theatre Group* - the world's largest live-theatre company - and the *Federation of Drama Schools*, National Youth Monologues are running a new competition for young people from 9 to 19 years old. Have you got what it takes to be crowned the best actor in the country?

There are four categories to choose from: Contemporary, Classical, Screen, and Devised – and four age groups, so you'll be competing with others your own age.

You can enter through your school, youth theatre group, or independently.

Perform on a West End stage. Win amazing prizes. Grow as an artist and develop your craft. Go for it!

Full information, including deadlines and how to enter: <https://nationalyouthmonologues.com>



Sport & PE Notices

Fortismere Sports Leaders to the Rescue!

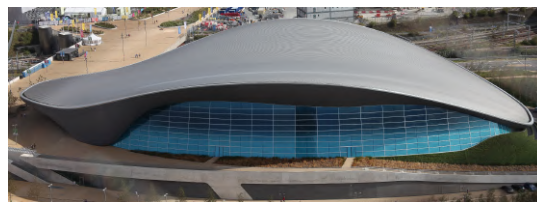
Haringey know that they can depend on Fortismere students when they need help to lead and officiate Primary School Sports Tournaments. On Wednesday, our leaders were asked, at the last minute, to help with the annual Primary School Cricket Competition as the school that were due to help had let them down. Thank you and well done to our Year 8 students that stepped up to the task and were brilliant! I received many positive comments from the primary school teachers and Haringey sports staff on how great our students were.



Haringey London Youth Games - Can you Swim and Run?

Team Haringey is calling out for swimmers that can also run to join the team to represent the borough at this year's London Youth Games Aquathlon. The event takes place at the famous swimming pool in the Olympic Park Aquatics Centre.

Please contact Ms Vangucci for further details.



Boys Tennis News

Well done Connor Dixon, Leo Brick, Ethan Moreno and Sami Matti who won every game in their matches against Northbridge House School just before half term. Unfortunately, they weren't as successful against University College School (last year's national champions) in their most recent matches. Fortismere finished in second place in the Middlesex A group. Well done to all.



Haringey Rounders Tournaments in Week Starting 16th June

We will soon be selecting the team representatives for the Annual Haringey Rounders competitions taking place at Fortismere during the week beginning Monday 16th June. Rounders Clubs are after school on Monday and Tuesday. Please be sure to attend the Clubs if you would like to be selected for the team.

Upcoming Fixtures

Monday 9th June	U13 Boys Cricket v King Alfred (Away)
Wednesday 11th June	U13 & U15 Girls Middlesex Cricket Competition at Winchmore Hill Cricket Club 9am-2pm

Library Notices

Recommended Reads of the Week

Happy Pride Month!



LINC Notices

SEND Parent Forum

We have recently written directly to the parents/carers of students on our SEND register, inviting them to take part in our SEND Parent Form but we also wanted to make all parents aware of developments in LINC.

Our SEND parent forum plays an important role in bringing home and school together; enabling the school to gather parents' views and for parents to share their ideas and get more involved in school life. The forum is open to all parents of students on the SEND register and we hope to have parents from a range of year groups involved. The parent forum is not about individual student progress, it is an opportunity for the school and parents to meet and to share views, aims and visions. It allows parents to gain more information on new initiatives and the focus of the next meeting will be our SEND and Inclusion priorities for next year.

If any SEND register parents want to attend the meeting please register using this [link](#)
Mr Fari

Mr Kabbie Condolences Book

Students and staff are able to share their memories of Mr Kabbie in a condolences book and a memorial in the Library. If any parents and carers want to write a message you can use [this link](#)

We have also organised a collection and any parents and carers that would like to make a contribution can do so using this link <https://www.paypal.com/pools/c/9frAfKvIFZ>. All contributions and messages will be shared with Mr Kabbie's family. The school is also planning a memorial for Mr Kabbie on the school site, like a tree or a bench and we will share our plans in due course.

Fortismere Alumni

Can You Support Former Student Frankie Reach Her Target

Hello, I'm Frankie and I was a Fortismere student from 2016 to 2023 and I'm now studying at the University of Leeds. This August, I'm taking on a huge challenge and climbing the tallest freestanding mountain in the world – Mount Kilimanjaro – to raise money for a charity called [Student Minds](#).



Mental health is something I've personally struggled with, and it's impacted people close to me - especially during school and university. Even when you're surrounded by a supportive community, I know it can be incredibly hard to know who to turn to or how to ask for help. That's why I'm so passionate about what Student Minds is doing - changing the way mental health is supported in education across the country and making sure students aren't left to struggle alone.

Our team is aiming to raise over £50,000 for this amazing, Leeds-founded charity. I recently ran the Leeds Half Marathon as part of my training and fundraising and now I'm getting ready to take on Mount Kilimanjaro in a few weeks! Fortismere played such a huge part in shaping who I am. Being part of the school sports teams helped build the strength, resilience and confidence I'm now using to take on this challenge.

If you're able to donate – even a small amount – it would be the world. Or if you can share my story and fundraising page with anyone who might want to support the cause, that would be amazing too. And I hope this is just a small reminder to check in with the people around you. Thank you so much for the support! This is a link to [my Justgiving fundraising page](#)

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.



FRIENDS OF FORTISMERE PRESENT



FORTISMERE

SUNDAY 6TH JULY

SUMMER

12PM- 4PM

FESTIVAL

**MUSIC STAGE FEATURING
PUPIL & TEACHER BANDS AND THE
FORTISMERE COMMUNITY CHOIR & ORCHESTRA**

CLASSIC CAR SHOW
DOG SHOW
ARTS AND CRAFTS STALLS
FAIRGROUND RIDES
CANDYFLOSS
DELICIOUS FOOD
HOMEMADE CAKES
PIMMS & STRAWBERRIES
DRINKS BAR

**SCAN FOR
TICKETS**



**ADULTS £3 IN ADVANCE, £5 ON THE DOOR
UNDER 18 FREE!**

