


Friday 27th January 2023

School Leadership Messages	Contents								
Strike update Please see the letter attached for an update on arrangements for the NEU strike on Wednesday	CoHeadteachers' Message								
Term Dates 2023-24 Fortismere is in the process of finalising dates with the other secondary schools. We should be in a position to circulate this to our families with next week's Newsletter.	Charity Fundraising								
Year 9 Options Thank you to everyone who attended the Year 9 Options Evening on Wednesday. We hope you found the evening informative and helpful. Y9 parents/carers should have received an email prompt to book an options conversation on Tuesday 31st Jan. Please note that morning time slots are in person and afternoon slots are on our schoolcloud platform (same as parents evening). Please click this link to take you to your booking options https://fortismere.schoolcloud.co.uk/	Departmental Notices								
Top Positive Points This Week Well done to the following students for earning top positive points - Anna Arsientieva Y8; Ruby Kaye Y7; Alexandra Mann Y8; Brandon Dervishi Y8; Freia Contino Y8; Peter Dolan Y9; Annie Bass Y7; Onur Sahin Y10; Anthony Trzcinski Y8; Isobel Ayres Y8; Julian Olleson Y8; Neri Gordon Y8; Niccolo Cipriani Y8; Samuel Balint-Kurti Y8; Ben Cawley Y7; Isabel Banisar Y7; JJ Kelly Y7	Community Notices								
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	International Holocaust Memorial Day 2023 Ordinary People is this year's theme see www.hmd.org.uk								
	 <p>We're marking Holocaust Memorial Day</p>								

Co-Headteachers

Weekly Roundup

Music at Fortismere is an inclusive experience. While we celebrate our outstanding elite musicians, we also encourage and support participation from everyone, even staff members...last night witnessed the inclusive approach in action with the Charity Band Night. Whatever your favourite flavour of music, there was a performance to deliver it. It was wonderful seeing the night return after a prolonged Covid interruption and even better to see it run by our sixth formers. The planning, organisation and marketing were exemplary and enabled such a joyous event to take place. We would also like to thank Mr Jefferies and the Music Department for their support of the sixth form students. As Mr Jefferies writes in his piece below, Charity Band Night will return as a regular fixture in the music calendar. We are very proud of the amount of money raised for Shelter, an excellent choice of charity during the current cost of living crisis. Raising money while dancing in the aisles (thank you, staff band) is a perfect event.



Charity Band Night is not the only community focused element of this week's Newsletter. Haringey are undertaking a survey of the impact of Lower Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) with schools, looking at the impact on journey times for students and staff and also, the delivery of services such as catering deliveries. There is a link for parents and carers in today's Newsletter and we would urge you to complete it.

In addition, we have information from Haringey on support for families during the cost of living crisis. Schools are an important source of support for families and we will continue to offer help using the resources available to us.

There is more information above on the strike action next wednesday (1st February). The day coincides with a train strike which further reduces our capacity to provide for students on site. We are still inviting some students into school for the day but the numbers are limited.

Today is Holocaust Memorial Day and with the theme of 'Ordinary People' we will be thinking of those lost during the Holocaust and the impact of war and genocide, from Myanmar to the Ukraine, on ordinary people trying to live their lives in extraordinary circumstances. Please encourage your children to visit the Holocaust Memorial Day display set up in the Library.

We wish everyone a peaceful weekend with time with their families.

Charity Fundraising

Charity Band Night - Well Done to Everyone Involved

Last night we were treated to another incredible night of music making by the students of Fortismere School, but this concert was different because it was arranged by the students themselves, who all did an amazing job. **Huge congratulations to the Sixth Form students that arranged the evening and in the process of doing so raised over £1300 for SHELTER.** We hope that this will become a staple concert at Fortismere and that the evening, which was led by music students Nathan Joseph and Aaron Rambow Czarny can be built upon every year. Thank you to everyone that attended and supported the event including the Fortismere Staff Band - pictured with the student organisers below.



Sixth Form Notices

Personal Development & Enrichment Opportunities 2023-24

The Sixth Form Team is keen to work with businesses, organisations and individuals to develop enrichment programmes for our students with specific interest in the areas of business and law. Are you (or can you connect us with someone) in a senior role in a law firm, a "Big 4" consultancy or do you lead a successful business? Would you be interested in you or your firm supporting Fortismere Sixth Formers to build their experience in these areas? Every year our students compete with those from public schools who are given incredible opportunities and experience, and we wish to ensure that Fortismere students have access to the same. Any help would be very much appreciated. If you are interested in exploring this, have any advice or questions please email the Director of Sixth Form, Mr Robson via Sixthform@fortismere.org.uk

Y13 Supervised Independent Learning - Weds 1st Feb 2023

Supervised, silent study in the Sixth Form will be available on 1st February for any Year 13 student who requires a place to work. Students need to book in advance (by 12 noon on Tuesday) by emailing Ms. Montague cmontague@fortismere.org.uk. Students can come in for the whole day only and will be expected to spend the full day working silently in the Study Room, with a break for lunch. Students should arrive between 9.15-9.30am **entering via Twyford Gate only** and be working in T19 by 9.30am. Lunch break will be 12.30-1.00pm, and students will be dismissed at 3.00pm and will need to leave the site.

Fortismere Holiday Camps

February Half-Term Camps - LIMITED SPACES - Book Now

Fortismere runs school holiday camps that cover a broad range of activities for children aged 3 years and up including arts, dance, drama and sports. Bookings are now open for February half-term (13th-17th Feb).

Full details of all the activities, dates, times and prices can be found by following the links from our website - [please see here](#). The camps are very popular and fill up fast so don't delay making a booking.

School Fundraising Event

Quiz Night - Saturday 25th February 2023 6.30pm SW Hall

Here's a date for your new 2023 diaries - The **Fortismere Annual Quiz Night** is happening on Saturday 25th February 6.30 pm in South Wing Hall. This is our main spring fundraising event and we've set an ambitious target of £7000 and need your help to reach this. Our host for the event is the award winning Pauline Eyre and we know that she's going to make the Quiz a lot of fun and a great night out. Tickets are £10 per person to make up teams of 8-10 people. If you're a smaller group don't worry we can put you with others to make a full team. There will be a bar but bring your own food to share.



Please get your tickets early - you'll have a fun night and you'll be helping the school to raise much needed extra funds. **Tickets available from** [Eventbrite](#) Contact mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk with any queries

Careers & Work Related Learning Notice

National Apprenticeship Week 6th-12th February 2023

Haringey's employment and skills team is hosting events during National Apprenticeship Week including an open day, 'Apprenticeships Your Way' on Thursday 9th February at Wood Green Library, from 11am. For more information and details of the events [see this link to Haringey website](#)

Remember to check the [Careers & Work Related Learning pages](#) on the Fortismere website as we regularly add details of new opportunities including apprenticeships.

Library Notices

CoverUp

Our parent/staff reading group had a lovely evening last week when we talked about the amazing work of Anthony McGowan, whose YA Barrington Stoke novels feature heavily on our students' reading lists. All agreed that our young people are lucky that there is so much rich and well written literature for them these days. (There is plenty of rubbish too – but we don't talk about that!)

Our next meeting is on Thursday 9th March when we'll be reading and discussing "The Sea, The Sea" by the late, great Iris Murdoch. 7pm in the library, all welcome, refreshments provided.



Royal Society Judging Panel

A big thank you to all the students who took part in our Royal Society Children's Book Prize judging panel. This award aims to promote literacy in young people and to inspire them to read about science, and we certainly received lots of insightful reviews from our KS3 students.

The winner will be announced in March, but our favourite book, as you can see from the chart modelled by two of our Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh library assistants, was "Beetles for Breakfast... and Other Weird and wonderful ways to Save the Planet" Madeleine Finlay, illustrated by Jisu Cho.



Alumnus News

Delighted to be invited to the launch at Hatchards of Eve Wersocki Morris' second middle grade novel, "The Wildstorm Curse".

Eve left Fortismere in 2011 and her first widely acclaimed book ("The Bird Singers") has been shortlisted for the Alexandra Palace Children's Book Award this year. The message Eve has written in our library copy of her latest is "Remember: Never Give Up!" which refers to her early struggle with dyslexia.



Recommended Reads of the Week

International Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January encourages remembrance in a world scarred by genocide. Books can help with understanding and empathy.



Music Department Notices

Music & Poetry Night - Thursday 9th February 7pm - South Wing Hall

Please come and support this collaborative concert between the English Department, the Library and the Music Department taking place on Thursday 9th February in South Wing Hall at 7pm. There will be items from the String Orchestra, Cello Ensemble, Jazz Group, Big Band, Junior Choir, Ladies Choir and Man Choir as well as a large range of solos from some of our very best young performers. There will also be original poems from students at Fortismere who have been working with Miss Ward and Miss Fox on a variety of themes. This evening is always quite special and if you are interested in attending tickets will be available both on the door and through the Music Department Website. www.fortismereperformingartscentre.co.uk See the poster *attached* to the Newsletter.

Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra - Tuesdays 7pm-9pm

The FCSO has resumed and meets on Tuesday evenings at 7pm in the Music Concert Hall. If you or your child would like to join then please get in touch. We are always keen to have new players but be advised that we require players to be of the following standard in order to play the repertoire:

Strings - Grade 7+; Brass - Grade 7+; Woodwind - Grade 8+; Percussion - Grade 7+

We are particularly keen to hear from Violinists, Double Bass, Bassoonists, Trombonists and French Horns.

Appalachian Spring Dance Project - Monday Evenings 7pm-9pm

The Appalachian Spring Contemporary Dance Project has resumed and meets on Monday evenings 7-9pm in the Music Concert Hall. This is a cross generational piece and open to all dance styles and all standards (Beginner to Advanced). It is a new choreography by Luis Gallo Muddera and will result in a public performance with a live orchestra of twenty three musicians later this year. Please contact the Director of Music for more details by emailing ejefferies@fortsmere.org.uk

Night Dances- Saturday Afternoons 3.30pm-5.30pm

The Night Dances Project has resumed and meets on Saturday afternoons from 3.30-5.30pm in the Music Concert Hall. This is a cross generational piece and open Ballet dancers. (Beginner to Advanced). It is a new choreography by Simone Pinchera and will result in a public performance with a live orchestra of 23 musicians later this year. Please contact the Director of Music for more details by emailing enjefferies@fortsmere.org.uk

Fortismere Community Choir- Saturday 10.30am-1.00pm

The Fortismere Community Choir resumes on Saturday 14th January and welcomes new members. This term they are preparing for their Easter Concert of Rachmaninov's Vespers. If you are interested in singing please come along - it is a non audition choir and everyone is welcome! Please contact the Director of Music for more details by emailing enjefferies@fortsmere.org.uk

Ensembles This Term

	Lunchtime	After School
Monday	String Group - Concert Hall	KS3 Music Tech - MU1 Chamber Orchestra - Concert Hall
Tuesday	SSA 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 Cello Group - MU2
Friday	Male Voices - Concert Hall Classical Guitar Group - Concert Hall	
Saturday	Music Theory Classes - 11:30am-12:30pm Fortismere Community Choir - 10:30am-1pm	Bands (Rooms available for practice)

PE & Sports News

After School Clubs

Badminton Club is back on Tuesdays in the Sports Hall after school 3.20-4.30pm.

Trampolining Club Y8 will start on Tuesday 31st January in the Sports Hall 3.20-4.30pm for Year 8 only to begin with, all other year groups will have a chance to attend later on in the year

Well Done Team Trampoline

On Monday, we travelled to Hornsey School for Girls to take part in the annual Haringey Trampoline Competition. There were ten teams from other Haringey schools with some very talented performers. Our team was great and we came 5th overall. Well done to Xanthe, Anna, Boux, Zuri and Taisia for their efforts.



Year 7/8 Cricket Success

Congratulations to our Year 7/8 boys cricket team - on Tuesday they won bronze in the Haringey Schools Cricket Competition. Well done!



Year 7 Kick Off Basketball Season

Our Y7 boys got the basketball season underway with two good performances this week. Despite the score lines going away from us in both games, our newly formed team showed lots of promise and certainly improved in the second match.

Fortismere 13-34 STM

Fortismere 14-20 APS



Year 7 Indoor Athletics Medals

Congratulations and well done to our Y7 teams who took part in an indoor athletics competition on Wednesday evening at St Thomas More School. Y7 boys won the bronze medal and our Y7 girls took the silver medal. There were a total of ten Haringey schools taking part and there were some great team and individual performances on the night..



Middlesex Cross Country

Fantastic performances by our students in the Middlesex Cross Country Championships this week. Well done to the whole team - Tal, Aiden, Ivy and Jess and to Amy who secured 4th place and Alex 14th.



Other Results & Fixtures (Week Monday 30.01.23)

Y9 Football: Fortismere 1 - APS 4. A closer game than the score line suggests and a special mention to Joly Sze who scored an outrageous bicycle kick to give us the lead!

Monday: Year 9 Boys A & B team v Mill Hill School (Away). Meet at 12.45pm in the Sports Hall.

Monday: Year 8 Football v APS (Home) KO TBC

Tuesday: U16 Girls Middlesex Cup v Highlands (Away) Meet at 1pm

Thursday: KS3 Badminton Competition at Dukes Academy Meet at 1.15pm in the Sports Hall

Thursday: Senior 2nd XI v Compton (Away) Q/Final of Middlesex Cup

Friday: KS4 Badminton Competition at Dukes Academy Meet at 1.15pm in the Sports Hall.

Community Notices

Lower Traffic Neighbourhoods - Let Haringey Know What You Think

We've been contacted by Cllr Zena Brabazon as Haringey are collecting views on their lower traffic neighbourhoods (LTNs) and want to hear from as many people as possible. They've got in touch with all Haringey schools as they particularly want to hear from parents/carers about perceptions of road safety, how the school run is changing and the impact of LTNS on walking and cycling. Do you think the LTNs do what they are supposed to do to reduce traffic, pollution and improve safety? What changes and improvements do you think are needed? You can give your views on the Bounds Green LTN by visiting [this page](#) before 31st January 2023. There's also more information on all three trial schemes on our Streets for People webpages: [Haringey Streets for People | Haringey Council](#).

Information & Activities for Families

Haringey Half-Term Activities

Haringey are offering an extensive programme of activities for children and young people this coming February half term. Please follow [this link](#) for the programme booklet.



Which? Family Newsletter

Which? have launched a free Family Newsletter with monthly advice on ways to keep your family living costs down, and children of all ages happy. You can sign up for the family newsletter, and other Which? newsletters using [this link](#)

Cost of Living Support Factsheet for Families

See the Factsheet *attached* to this week's Newsletter for advice on where to get cost of living support - the links in the Factsheet are to local and national sources of support.

Haringey Occupational Therapy Team - Online Information Session 10th March 2023

The Haringey Occupational Therapy Team are holding a free virtual information session, discussing sensory differences and behaviour.; understanding why children have sensory differences and what can be done to support them. This is for all parents who live in the borough of Haringey, and there is no need for an OT referral to access the event.

The session is being held at 10.00am-12.30pm on the following dates: 10th March 2023; 12th May 2023; 14th July 2023; 15th September 2023 and 10th November 2023

To book a place please email: makela.foster1@nhs.net with your preferred date and contact details.

Safeguarding at Fortismere

Drugs & Alcohol Information Session

We were delighted to have Martin and Ayo from Insight visit yesterday evening. They led a very informative session for parents on drugs and alcohol use and were really pleased with the engagement from those who came. The session focussed on drugs of choice for young people in Haringey and the dangers associated with drug usage. PC Jonathan Eldered was also on hand to answer questions around drugs and the law and the issues that drug and alcohol use can lead to in the local community.

As a school we think it is vital to have these difficult discussions with our students and we hope that the evening empowered the parents there to feel more confident to do the same. The Insight presentation will be available on the [school website - safeguarding pages](#)

If parents would like us to try and source speakers for other issues please do get in touch with me at safetalk@fortismere.org.uk as we are keen to try and support families where we can.

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 alternatively contact your child's Tutor or Head of Year:

Year 7 ejones@fortismere.org.uk

Year 8 icuenca@fortismere.org.uk

Year 9 kwilliams@fortismere.org.uk

Year 10 kjackson@fortismere.org.uk

Year 11 dward@fortismere.org.uk