

School Leadership Messages	Contents						
<p>Covid Update</p> <p>A small but significant rise in cases have been recorded locally. We are therefore incredibly conscious that school opening, without the previous restrictive measures increases the risk of a further rise in cases, particularly amongst secondary school aged children.</p> <p>While masking in school corridors and communal areas is not mandatory it remains highly recommended to avoid a rise in cases at Fortismere. School staff will be actively encouraging students to bring masks to school and to wear them in corridors. We would ask parents to support this approach in order to work with us to keep new cases down to a minimum. This is not only to protect the safety of our students, their families and staff but also to minimise the potential risk to students missing further schooling due to needing to isolate.</p> <p>We must continue to work together as a community to keep case rates as low as we can. Good hand and respiratory hygiene also continues to be important to ensure that students and staff remain safe.</p> <p>We ask parents to reinforce these critical messages with their children.</p>	<p>Co-Headteachers</p> <p>Extra-Curricular</p> <p>English Department Notices</p> <p>Music Department Notices</p> <p>Art & Photography Notices</p> <p>Library</p> <p>Sports & PE Notices</p> <p>Fortismere Holiday Camp</p>						
<p>Open Evening</p> <p>Please note that our Open Evening is taking place from 5pm on 22nd September. On that day students will finish school at 1.05pm to enable school staff to prepare for this important event in our calendar.</p> <p>In order to allow time to prepare the site for teaching, school will open on the 23rd September for students from 9.35 am for registration.</p>	<div data-bbox="1075 1079 1434 1348" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="1011 1384 1474 1478">Congratulations to Londoner Emma Raducanu. Good luck for her in the US Open Final!</p> <p>Calendar</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="995 1585 1514 2069"> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="995 1585 1123 1715">14.09</td> <td data-bbox="1123 1585 1514 1715">CoverUp 7:00pm in school library (parent/staff reading group)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="995 1715 1123 1966">22.09</td> <td data-bbox="1123 1715 1514 1966">Fortismere will close for lessons at 1.05pm for lessons. Fortismere Open Evening 5:00pm-7:30pm (click here for more details)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="995 1966 1123 2069">23.09</td> <td data-bbox="1123 1966 1514 2069">Late start: 9.35am</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	14.09	CoverUp 7:00pm in school library (parent/staff reading group)	22.09	Fortismere will close for lessons at 1.05pm for lessons. Fortismere Open Evening 5:00pm-7:30pm (click here for more details)	23.09	Late start: 9.35am
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Co-Headteachers

Weekly Roundup

It has been a joy to welcome all our students back to Fortismere this week. It has been 18 months since we have had the full use of our school for all students and Year 8 have only now had the opportunity to familiarise themselves fully with the site. Although we are no longer organising the school in year group bubbles and zones, we are still cautious and the fabulous weather we had until today encouraged students to be outdoors and make full use of our back field, a much safer way for the students to be together.

Although we welcomed Year 7 and Year 12 last Friday, this has been their first week at school. It has been lovely getting to know Year 7, although some of them feel like old hands, after their week at Summer School in July. Year 12 is a mixture of old and new faces and already, those new to Fortismere have been making friends with those students who have been here for a long time. There is a Year 12 trip planned to support further the settling in of new students and to ensure that they have the best possible experience of transition.

We are settling back to a routine of assemblies and other face to face opportunities. However, we are also going to keep some of our newly acquired lockdown skills. We will be using virtual platforms such as GMeet for some of our tutor group interactions and blending learning for students when appropriate. Both Co-Heads are enthusiastic users of the oral feedback function on Google Classroom which allows us to record feedback to students individually. For many students, hearing feedback rather than reading it is more supportive of learning.

Sport always has a full and exciting list of events and fixtures but will find more competition from the Music Department this year. Now that restrictions on all types of music making have been lifted, Mr Jefferies is working on a full programme of musical events. Watch this space!

For our Jewish families observing Yom Kippur next week: 'G'mar Hatimah Tovah'.



Extra-Curricular

Creative Writing

A weekly extra-curricular Creative Writing workshop will be held from Monday 13th September from 3:40pm to 4:40pm, upstairs in the back of the Library.

We will be exploring how to shake up your writing using imagination and fun. The workshop starts each week with a trigger word or object(s) and then we do some free flow writing. Some of the writing is shared with other members of the group who then use their own words and include some of the words given to weave their own poems, stories, comedy, tragedy, horror or whatever other genre takes your fancy on any given day.



The sessions are based on enjoyment and spontaneous creativity, exploring the process of writing and inventing. There is some sharing and sometimes...biscuits. I only take 15 participants so, if you're interested please get in touch with me.

Ms Massey in the PRE department: smassey@fortismere.org.uk

Latin Club - Beginners Classes Starting Soon



Our popular after-school Latin club started up again this week for continuing students and we will be starting weekly classes for beginners and more advanced learners on Wednesday 22th September (starting at 3:05pm) and Thursday 23rd September (starting at 3.30pm). New students should come to room S12 South Wing where we will register them and allocate them to groups.

We welcome students of all ages and abilities who relish the challenge and find it valuable support in their English and modern foreign language work. It is also popular with our Sixth Form, particularly A level Classical Civilisation students, and enhances their university applications.

The Latin Club is now in its ninth year and we have seen lots of students progress from beginners to intermediate level or GCSE (the majority obtaining grades A*/9) and several have gone on to study classics at Oxford, Cambridge and other Russell Group universities. However, those who learn basic Latin for only a few terms also derive considerable benefit from it. Classes are taught by a team of volunteers, including university classics students and recent graduates, led by governor Pat Dugdale.

If you would like further information, please email Pat Dugdale: pdugdale@fortismere.school

KS3 Crafty Afternoons

Enjoy an afternoon of crafting and chat every Monday, 3.30-4.30pm. The club will start on Monday 27th September in DT2 with Ms Bhambra.



English Department Notices

Reading Champions



Picture: Year 7 Students at the event

The English department and the library staff would like to congratulate Isabella Doku (with Rebound) and Jonny Redland (with A Night To Remember) on being awarded first prize, of a Kindle eReader each, for Fortismere's 2021 Reading Champions! On Monday 19th July, as part of the Year 7 Reading Champions project, the students created a presentation convincing other students to read their chosen book. Fortismere Reading Champions are reading role models who encourage other students to read.

We appreciate the effort both students made with preparing and delivering their presentations.

Congratulations also goes to the following fantastic runners up who were awarded Book vouchers: Olivia Blackie , Melissa Hansen, Leo Zikic, Cosmo Perret, Aidan Greenberg, Melissa Asare, Gabriel Betancort, Mirielle Nevin, Leo Edwards and Wilf Wallis. All of the presentations were of an incredibly high standard.

Thank you to the parents who joined the event via video link and for their positive feedback in the chat.

Music Department Notices

Ensembles 2021/22

Ensembles will start from 13/09/21 for Senior Strings and Big Band. All other groups will start on 20/09/21

	Lunchtime	After School
Monday	Senior String Group	KS3 Music Tech School Orchestra
Tuesday	Percussion Group	Junior Choir Wind Band Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra (7-9pm)
Wednesday	MusicalTheatre Group Big Band	Bands (Rooms available for practice) Gospel Choir
Thursday	DJ Club	KS4 Music Tech Senior Choir
Friday	Junior String Group	Classical Guitar Group
Saturday	Music Theory Classes (10am - 12pm) Fortismere Community Choir (10am - 1pm)	Afternoon (1 - 4pm) Chamber Groups Rock Bands

Instrumental and Vocal Lessons - IN SCHOOL



Instrumental and vocal lessons will begin from 27/09/21 for students. Timetables will be sent out to parents the week before lessons start.

If you are interested in your child taking part in these classes please contact Mel Izzet: mizzet@fortismere.org.uk.

School Concerts 2021/22

We are looking forward to the many concerts and performances that will be taking place this academic year.

- **Autumn Term:** *Welcome Back Concert, Pure Piano Concert, Year 11 Recital Evening, Christmas Concerts*
- **Spring Term:** *Music and Poetry, Year 12 and 13 Recital Evening, An Evening of Song, Battle of the Bands*
- **Summer Term:** *Appalachian Spring, Music Festival.*

Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra Concert - Saturday 18th September 2021



The Fortismere Symphony Orchestra will be performing *Ulveshale Strand*, *Death and Transfiguration* and the *Schumann Cello Concerto* performed by our very own Haru Ogiwara at St Andrews Church, Muswell Hill on Saturday 18th September 2021 at 7:30pm.

Tickets are available online: www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk for £12 (£8 concession) and under 12's are free.

Fortismere Music Centre - CONCERTS 2021/22

There are three performances for our community groups this term. On Saturday 27th November the Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra will perform the *Adagio from Spartacus*, *The Paganini Variations* by Rachmaninov and Dvorak's *8th Symphony*.

This will be followed by a performance of Bach's *Magnificat* on Saturday 4th December and then you are all invited to come and join us for drinks and merriment for our annual *Come Caroling* on Saturday 11th December at Fortismere.

Tickets and further details can be found for all of our concerts at: www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk

Fortismere Music Centre - Saturday Centre

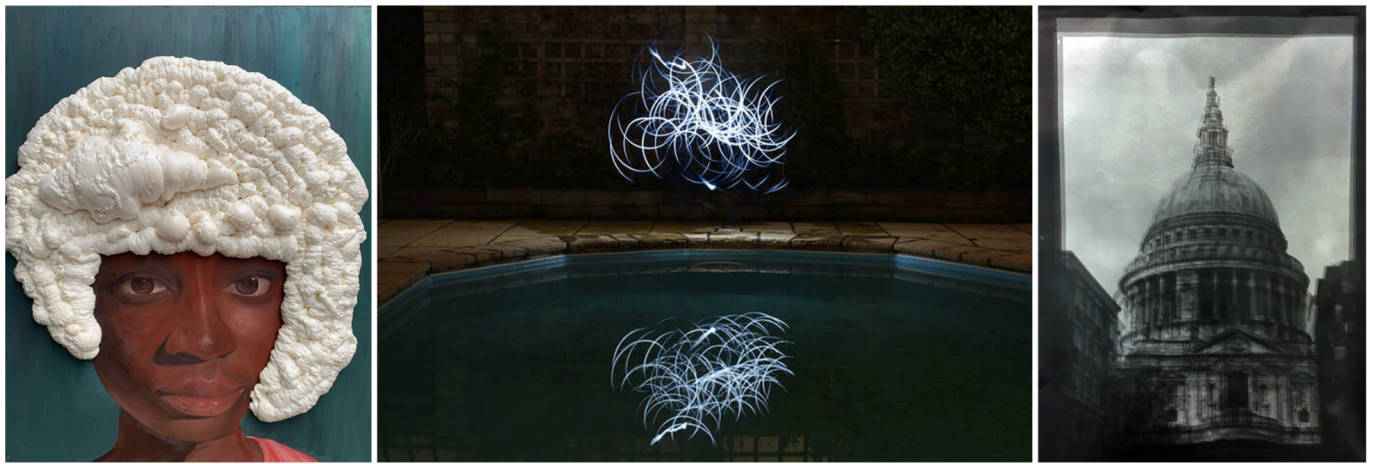
The Fortismere Music Center is open for business from Saturday 11th September, if you would like to take lessons please get in touch! The Community Choir is also meeting again in the mornings and is socially distanced so come also and enjoy singing safely with like minded people.

There are also instrumental and theory lessons available and we will be acting as a centre for students that wish to take their Theory Exams in November 2021.

Contact the Music Centre manager Joe Winters: FMCinfo@fortismere.org.uk if you want to get involved.

Art & Photography Department

A level Exhibition 2021



Unfortunately, due to a rise in cases of Covid 19, the A level Art & Photography Department Exhibition could not take place in the usual way last term.

However, you can now take a virtual tour of the A level Art and Photography Exhibitions. Click on the links below to appreciate the work, resilience and talent of our students. We are very proud of them and wish them all the best for the future.

[A level Art Exhibition](#)

[A level Photography Exhibition](#)

Library

Library Info

The library is open from 8:00am-5:00pm every day and we welcome students who arrive early in the morning and those who want to get their homework done before they go home!



It's a safe and fully staffed place for exploring our gorgeous shelves, playing board games, watching films, doing homework and getting to know each other. And borrowing books (don't forget that school expects students to have a reading book in their bags at all times).

We also have a well-stocked stationery shop where items are sold at cost price to ensure that our students are always fully equipped and ready to learn – price list attached.

CoverUp



Please note that the first meeting of Fortismere's parent/staff reading group is next week, Tuesday 14th September. (Unusual, it's usually a Thursday). New members are always welcome. We are a friendly bunch, meeting once a half term to talk about a particular book for a short time then chat about books, reading, films, telly, theatre etc for most of the evening.



Refreshments are provided, and for the first time in a while we will be meeting face to face in the library at 7pm – no more horrific Zoom meetings! The books we will be discussing this time are "The Art of Failing" by Anthony McGowan in all his tragic hilariousness and "Pine" by Francine Toon, a chilling thriller. Read one or both or neither, but please come for an excellent evening.

Email: gward@fortimere.org.uk if you have any questions.

Phoenix Freebie



Don't forget that reading comics still counts as reading! We have 8 volumes of Phoenix on our graphics shelves and they are very popular at break and lunch (as is Beano – especially with Lola!)

[Phoenix have shared their 500th edition online here](#)

Author Visit



On Monday 19th July, Dr Holly Pester came to the library to deliver a workshop to Year 12 students who are studying her recent poetry collection 'Comic Timing' (Granta, 2021). Students discussed the collection and tried out a few of the processes and methods that were used in the creation of the poems. Some lovely fragments and starting points were created, working with text messages, dreams and 'one truth and a lie'.

The second part of the visit was a talk and Q&A with all Year 12 English students, where Holly explained her journey to poetry via undergraduate study of history of art, working as a receptionist, secretly performing early poems at open mic nights, inserting her home-stitched poetry pamphlets onto the shelves of bookshops and finally studying for a doctorate in writing.

Year 12 students proved to be an attentive audience and asked some excellent questions. Whilst no one was prepared to publicly declare themselves an embryonic writer at this stage, there's no telling how many poems might be being crafted in secret.

Recommended Reads of the Week

We are all concerned about current events in Afghanistan, so our focus this week is on a few of the many books we have in the library that promote empathy and understanding.



Sport & PE Notices

Extra-Curricular Timetable

	Lunch Time	After School
Monday	Y7 Badminton -Sports Hall GK Y7 Table-Tennis - SW Gym SC Y7 Games - Astro SO & AB Y11 BB – BB Courts MV Y10 Fitness – Fitness Room MH	All Years - Cross-Country – Field – SO Y7 Boys Football – Field – GK Y7/8 Girls Football – Astro – MV Y9/10 Netball – Netball Courts – KJ Y7/8/9 Rugby – Field – SC MH SO 6th Form Handball – Sports Hall
Tuesday	Y8 Badminton -Sports Hall SO Y8 Table-Tennis - SW Gym SC Y8 Games - Astro MV & AB Y11 BB – BB Courts GK Y11/12/13Fitness – Fitness Room MH	Y10/11 GCSE Practical Club – Badminton- Sports Hall – MH Y8/9 Football – Field – SO SC Y8 Netball – Courts – KW All Years Hockey – Astro - GK
Wednesday	Y9 Badminton -Sports Hall MV Y9 Table-Tennis - SW Gym SC Y9 Games - Astro SO & AB Y11 BB – BB Courts MH Y10 Fitness – Fitness Room KJ	6 th Form Football – Field – SO 6 th Form Netball – Courts – AB 6 th Form Badminton – Sports Hall 6 th Form Fitness – Fitness Room
Thursday	Y10 Badminton -Sports Hall MH Y10 Table-Tennis - SW Gym SC Y10 Games - Astro GK & KW Y11 BB – BB Courts AB Y11/12/13 Fitness – Fitness Room MV All Years Cross-Country – Coldfall Woods - SO	All Years - Cross-Country – Field – SO 6 th Form Handball – SW Gym - Y9/10 Girls Football – Astro – MV KS3 Badminton - Sports Hall – LB Y7 Netball – Courts - AB
Friday	Y12/13 Badminton -Sports Hall SO Y11/12/13 Table-Tennis - SW Gym GK Y711/12/13 Games - Astro MH, AB, MV Y11 BB – BB Courts SC Y12/13 Fitness – Fitness Room LB	

Fixtures (wk beg. 13th Sep)

Tuesday 14th September: Tennis Girls U14 V C of London
Regional Knockout Stage: At Fortismere, 3.15 Start

Wednesday 15th September: U15 Boys v Clare Court– U15 Regional Knock out Stage
Bisham Abbey, 1.30 Departure Return around 6pm

Wednesday 15th September: Y7/8, Y9/10, Y11/12 Cross-Country – London Mini Marathon Trials
New River, leaving at 3.15pm Return 6pm

Fortismere Holiday Activity Camp

October Holiday Camp Book Now! Open to the Community

With lots of fun and games to enjoy from D&T, Chess, Robotics and Coding to Drama and Multi Sports, holiday camps are ideal if you find it hard to juggle work and keep the children entertained.

Activities will run between 9:00am-3:00pm each day at Fortismere School, Tetherdown London N10 1NE.

The full 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 on subsidised places: mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk

Holiday Club Activities: Limited Spaces

Monday 26th October Ballet, Tap and Musical Theatre: **5 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. **This holiday club is open to children aged 7-15 years.**

Monday 26th October Chess Club: **5 Spaces Available**

[Chess Club Tickets](#)

Chess has been growing in popularity (online), boosted also by the popularity of the recent Netflix TV series The Queen's Gambit. This course aims to develop students' chess skills which can also indirectly help analytical and evaluative skills needed also in the classroom.

This holiday club is open to children aged 7-15 years.

Monday 26th October Drama Club: **10 Spaces Available**

[Drama Club Tickets](#)

The children will work on improvisation and comedy skills.

This holiday club is open to children aged 7-15 years.

Monday 26th October Drawing Animation and Comics Club: **5 Spaces Available**

[Drawing Animation and Comics Club Tickets](#)

Overview of the comic and cartoon industry and how they have been used as tools for storytelling and communication over the years. Children will be shown how the human body works and is designed to move. As well as character design for different types of characters and how they fit into the stories you want to tell and overview of comics storytelling, layout and structure.

The children will also look at writing comics and how to produce clear lettering by hand for comics and different colouring techniques both traditional and digital. Using the skills gathered so far, children will work on their own comic stories. By the end of the course each student will produce their own complete 8 - 12 page comic strip. **This holiday club is open to children aged 7-15 years.**

Monday 26th October Little Imaginations: **5 Spaces Available**

[Little Imaginations Tickets](#)

Our camps cover all areas of creative arts, as well as active play and science experiments. **This holiday club is open to children aged 3-6 years.**

Monday 26th October Multi Sports: **10 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 for the chance to win a fabulous prize. **This holiday club is open to children aged 7-15 years.**

Monday 26th October Robotics: 5 Spaces Available

[Robotics Tickets](#)

Children will gain an overview of how robotics is used and integrated in computer science, IT and STEAM. The children will look at the robotic creation, design, operation and the use of robotics in everyday life and in the professional working world. **This holiday club is open to children aged 9-15 years.**

Monday 26th October Street Dance: 5 Spaces Available

[Street Dance Tickets](#)

Students will learn routines and steps from this popular dance style. **This holiday club is open to children aged 7-15 years.**