

Co-Headteachers' Weekly Roundup

The Year 11 mock examinations began this week and we have been very impressed by the way in which our students have conducted themselves. There have been very few instances of lateness and students have been focused and well prepared. Some students were caught off-guard by the weather and have appeared in hoodies and we just need to remind Year 11 that hoodies are not allowed into the exam hall. Apparently young people are not fans of cardigans, what a shame!

We also started a crowd funding campaign this week to raise funds for the well-being support provided by the Place2be. The initial response from parents/carers and some in the local community has been very generous. Much has been made in the press of the difficulties faced by schools in keeping the level of provision needed while coping with the increased pressure on budgets but we are determined as a school that our students can access the support they need. The crowd funding is open until 2 December and if families are able to give we would be extremely grateful.

One of the key features of Fortismere is the depth of talent in our school community. In addition to our boys' and girls' table tennis teams doing so well we have students whose interests lie in other parts of the curriculum. On Thursday we learned that one of our Year 8 students, Sophie Yenidunya, came second in the Haringey Christmas card competition. Her design is wonderful; she captures the spirit of Haringey while giving her card a Christmas twist. Her drawing is also an entrant in the Fortismere Christmas Card competition, the results of which will be shared next

The winning entrants will be used for the official Fortismere Christmas card and will also be available for purchase at the Fortismere Christmas Fair.

Also on show this week were our very impressive Year 12 dramatists. Ms Overs and Ms Turner worked with the education group in Alexandra Palace to design and perform a piece of physical theatre with Haringey Sixth Form College. The performances took place in the Alexandra Palace Theatre, which is a lovely space. The performances were beautifully executed. The Fortismere students worked in two groups with the Haringey Sixth Form students and it was great to see the strength of the relationships formed in such a short space of time. We look forward to more collaboration with schools and colleges across the borough and also working with Alexandra Palace, who are extending their school projects in a creative and exciting way.

Finally, on Wednesday our Year 13 students were treated to a high powered and relevant study session delivered by David Didau, who is an important voice in the world of education. The students were inspired by his presentation but also, very usefully, they were given a revision tool kit which they were very positive about. David Didau's strategies will be followed up by Year 13 tutors and teachers and it was wonderful to see the students so engaged and enthused by the talk.

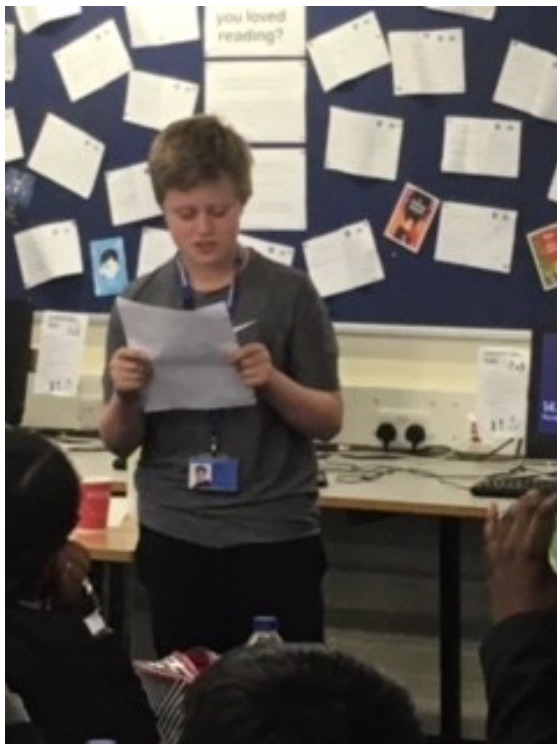
We wish you all a warm and cosy week end.



Department Messages

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

A group of year 8 students had an amazing time with the author, poet, and rapper, Rob Bradley who captured the students' imagination and inspired some fantastic writing. Rob performed a free style rap with words provided by the students. His exciting delivery and skilled use of vocabulary, puns and rhyming was a delight to witness. Rob also sung one of his songs and then encouraged the students to write a poem about an experience that was bitter and sweet. Fortismere students were very keen to share their wonderful poems with the rest of the group. Well done to all to all our creative, confident and articulate Year 8 students.



Climate Group

For the first time in history we face a problem that affects each and every living thing on earth directly and dramatically. The climate crisis is a problem that we, as humans, have created and therefore have a responsibility to solve.

Shockingly, food is the biggest contributor to carbon emissions in homes. The average person in the UK uses up 25% of their carbon footprint on food, be it waste, transport or the consumption of high carbon produce. That means that our biggest carbon emitter is the cheapest and easiest to solve.



Eat what you buy. In first world countries, most people throw away about 20% of their food and it all goes to landfills where it generates copious amounts of methane as it degrades. Stopping food waste around the world would have the same effect as taking one in four cars off the road but is a much more attainable goal. By cutting down your grocery list and using up your leftovers, you not only help the environment, but also your bank account, as around £13 billion is wasted on food in the UK per year.

No more cow. Cutting down on meat and dairy can drop a huge amount off your carbon footprint, and, here in England we are lucky to have loads of alternatives on our supermarket shelves that make it easy to replace beef with nut roast and swap cows milk out for oat milk.

Shop locally. Much of our food is imported from countries halfway across the world, chugging out carbon as it flies over to us, so try to shop locally, particularly with fresh, soft fruit and veg as they have to be refrigerated and flown rather than just brought over by ship.

Less packets. Try to buy loose fruit and veg to cut down on plastic packaging and remember to always check that your packets are recyclable as over 150 million tons of plastic packaging is produced per year and, in the UK, only 45% of it is recycled.

Shop seasonally. Buying seasonal fruit and veg is key as, in the off seasons, fossil fuels are used to heat and light greenhouses, producing unnecessarily copious amounts of greenhouse gasses.

Changing your diet is something that everyone can easily do and the positive effect that this could have is truly amazing. So next time you head out to the shops, please keep our planet and home in mind as you pile things into your trolley.

Written by Tara Mann

Drama Department

Rebellion in the Willows TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!!

The earth is dying, there is no planet B.

How will Moly, Ratty, Toady and Badger deal with their habitat destruction?

Rebellion in the Willows

Thursday 12th December 7pm

Friday 13th December 7pm

Saturday 14th December 7pm

Adult Ticket £12.50, Concession Ticket £8.50

Please see the 'Shop' section on the Parentmail payment system.

Terms and Conditions –

PARENTMAIL PROOF OF PURCHASE REQUIRED ON DOOR. Concessions for over 65s, students & children 4 and under. Tickets are non-transferable/ non-refundable. There will be some loud music/ flashing lights. Contact the Drama Dept if you require access arrangements.



12 - 14 DECEMBER 2019

7:00pm Doors open 6:30pm

£12:50 / £8:50 CONCESSIONS

Tickets available on Parentmail

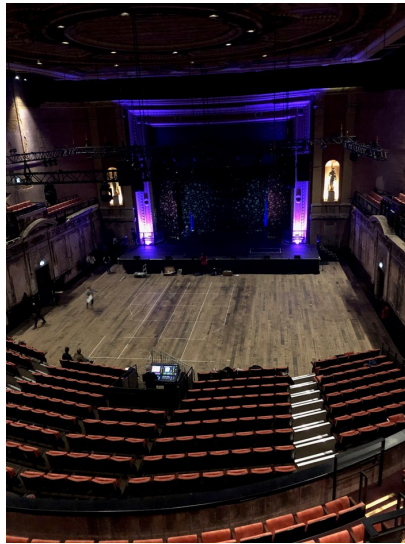
f i t @fortismere drama

North Wing Hall, Fortismere School,
Creighton Avenue, Muswell Hill,
N10 1NS

Drama Department

Place Uncovered at Alexandra Palace

The Year 12 Drama students and I had a wonderful 2 days in the Alexandra Palace theatre this week. Students were devising a short physical theatre piece, alongside students from Haringey Sixth Form college, in response to the theme of Inclusion and Otherness; part of the Palace Uncovered project. The students were considering that it has been 100 years since the Palace has been an Internment Centre during WW1 and 'home' to 3000 German, Austrian and Hungarian men. On Thursday the students performed to parents and friends 2 unique pieces detailing their ideas about how these men felt. Thank you so much to Alexandra Palace and the Creative Learning team for making this project possible.



Year 13 Drama A Level Performance Evening

On Thursday 21st November 6pm North Wing Hall Year 13 students will perform extracts from *6 Characters in Search of an Author* by Pirandello (a new adaptation by Rupert Goold) and *The Open Couple* by Dario Fo. Tickets will be £3 on the door for students and parents.

School Sports News

Fortismere 'Sports Leadership' Approved

I am delighted to report that, after a meeting with a representative of 'Sports Leaders UK' and a successful application, Fortismere has become an approved Sports Leadership centre. Currently we have our first crop of Sports Leaders – Y12 taking the Level 2 Course – attending leadership training every Wednesday afternoon. In addition these students are helping run/organise clubs all over school during the week. Sports Leadership is a major objective for the Sport & PE department and we aim to have it established as integral part of learning for every year group. Thus we are delighted to get the green light from the UK's biggest provider of Leadership courses.



Y7 RUGBY – Come and give it a TRY!

Over the next few weeks on Mondays after school we are running Rugby training sessions exclusively for Y7. This is an ideal opportunity to come and give this great sport a go. It doesn't matter if you have never played Rugby before or if you are an established club player



We are really keen to get rugby matches up and going at Fortismere so come along and have a go! Please note that this will replace Football training for a few weeks until the season gets going again in the spring term! You can still do the Cross-Country race series (see below) and play Rugby afterwards.

Hockey Club Flourishing

Mr Kays Thursday night Hockey Club has seen really healthy numbers with a great mix of experienced and beginner players. Mr Kay would like me to remind you that all years and boys and girls are welcome. The Club takes on Thursday evenings after school 3.20-4.45



Please not below important dates for Hockey competitions.

Boys Schools County Tournaments

U14 Tuesday 4 February / slip date 11 Feb

U16 Tuesday 11 February / slip date 25 Feb

U18 Wednesday 26 February / slip date 4 March

Boys and Girls Schools In2Hockey County Tournaments

Girls U13 In2Hockey – Wednesday 4th March Girls U12 In2Hockey – Thursday 5th March Boys U12 & U13 In2Hockey – Wednesday 11th March

All to be held at Ashford Hockey Club

School Sports News

Cross-Country Girls did us proud!

As I reported in the last newsletter our Intermediate girls, accompanied by Mrs Vangucci (thank you for giving up your Saturday) travelled to St Albans on Saturday morning to compete in the Regional (North London, Middlesex, Hertfordshire) final of the ESAA Cross-Country Cup. This is the first time that the girls have competed in this competition so just to make the regional final was a significant accomplishment. The girls ran superbly in a very high class field and finished in 7th team place.

Five of our runners were a year young and can run in the same event next year! 7th best school out of those 3 large Counties is pretty darn good! Well Done Girls. LaL Ergun, Louisa Stabb, Selin Ergun, Sophie Games, Siri Contino, Evie Underhill!



Y10 Basketball Boys in Action

It was a quick turnaround for our impressive Y10 Basketball team after their match at the end of last week. Monday evening saw them host a very strong St Greigs team. It was an absolute thriller of a match with our boys just losing out. Mr Cox reports that the boys are improving with every game and was rightly proud of their fantastic effort. The picture of the Scoreboard below tells the agonising story.



Fortismere Teams Looking Good – Get Your Hoodies & T-Shirts

Miss Jackson is delighted to announce that, in partnership with our supplier ORC sports, we are able to team hoodies for all the sports teams here at Fortismere. You should be rightly proud if you are selected for any of our teams and now you can show off by wearing one of our stylish Hoodies. I have included the link below which takes you to the Fortismere sports clothing range. There are different colour Hoodies for each of the

sports & teams and

a full range of sizes. If you are a KS4 student and/or a GCSE PE student you can also purchase your own Hoody and T-Shirt. <http://justteamsports.co.uk/products.php?cat=218>



School Sports News

Football Girls Continue Winning Ways!

After their success in the 6-a-side Haringey Borough competition Our U13 girls kept up their winning ways as they hosted APS in the 9-a-side version of the game. Goals from Taylor, Ella, Rosie C and Roberta saw the girls to a thoroughly deserved 4-1 Victory.



And Netball.....Well you know by now!

It won't surprise you to read about another set of successful results for our Netball teams this week with 3 out of the 4 age groups in action winning. Y7 won 9-2, Y8 won 7-5, Y9 lost 8-19 and our senior team raced to a 20-10 victory! Great Stuff Girls – as usual!!



Fortismere Cross-Country Race Series

Fortismere Cross-Country Race Series 2019

Come and take part in the Fortismere
Cross-Country Race Series!



A series of 5 races between October half-term and Christmas all taking place on Monday over varying courses on (or very near) the school field.

There are 4 categories:

Junior (Y7/8/9) Boys & Girls

Senior (Y10/11/12/13) Boys & Girls

Runners earn points, which are dependent upon their finishing place in each race, and these then make up a league table which is updated after each race. There are Prizes, Medals and Trophies for the first 3 in each category after all 5 races. Your best 4 races count so you can afford to miss one! There are also special certificates for all runners who compete in at least 4 of the races. This is an ideal competition to take part in over the dark winter weeks up to Christmas! The race series is open to all years 7-13 and staffs are also most welcome to compete!

The First Race is on Monday 13th November!

Come and take part!

**Ideal for GCSE students preparing for GCSE
and Athletics**



School Sports News

Fixtures and Activities Next Week Mon 18th – Fri 22nd November

Monday

Fortismere Cross-Country Race Series – Race 1 School Field 3.30 – 4pm

Y7 Rugby Training School Field

Y8/9 Football Training Astro

Tuesday

Morning Running Club – 7.45-8.20 Sports Hall

Y/9/10/11 Rugby Training – 3.30-4.45 School Field

All Years Table-Tennis 3.30-4.30 SW Gym

Y10/11 Fitness – Fitness Room – Lunch Time

Y9 Basketball v HWS (A)

Y10/11 Rugby v Park View (A)

Wednesday

Y10/11 Fitness – Fitness Room – Lunch Time

Handball Club all years – Sports Hall 2.55-4pm

Y9 Boys Football v Brent (A) 2.30 Kick Off



Thursday

Cross-Country Club Lunch Time All Years – Coldfall Woods & Fields

Badminton After School – All Years Welcome

Hockey Club – All Years Boys & Girls – Astro 3.20-4.45

Fitness Club – All Years – Fitness Room

Y9/10 Boys and Girls Volleyball Tournaments - @ STM School – Details to follow

Friday

Y11/12/13 Badminton – Lunch Time

Girls U16 Football v Highlands (H)

News from the Library



The wonderful author Jason Reynolds, popular with so many of our students, talks here about how he didn't read books until he was 17. Suggest your video/games loving student read this article <https://bit.ly/36YYwOe>

Quote of the Week

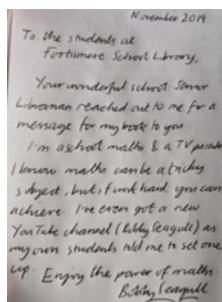
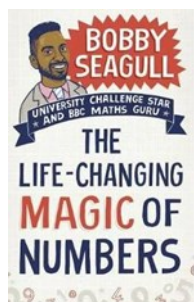
"To learn to read is to light a fire; every syllable that is spelt out is a spark"

[Victor Hugo].



Recommended Reads of the Week

It's National Non-Fiction Month (yes, that really is a thing). It's an opportunity for us "to promote reading non-fiction for pleasure, to allow young readers to indulge in their fascination for facts, and to celebrate the breadth, depth and richness of non-fiction writing, illustrating and publishing for children and young people". We have so many NF books on the shelves, so do suggest your students pick one or two up and give them a go. So much more fun (and more reliable?) than the internet... Here's one to get you going, written – and signed - by star of *University Challenge* and *Monkman and Seagull's Genius Guide to Britain*.



News from the Music Department

Fortismere Music Department and Music Centre

Extra-Curricular Ensembles at Fortismere

We are now preparing for the Christmas Concerts that are taking place in December so we are asking you to encourage your children to attend the weekly rehearsals that are taking place in preparation for these events. **Please have a look at the timetable attached and remind our young players to support the Music Department over the next five weeks.**

If you have any questions about these ensembles please email Mr Jefferies at: ejjefferies@fortismere.org.uk

Christmas Concert Auditions

Will take place on Tuesday 19th November

Thursday 21st November

Tuesday 26th November

Please check outside Music office for your audition time and all details are available on Parent-Mail



Upcoming Concerts – Autumn Term

Saturday, 23 November:

Fortismere Community Symphony Orchestra play Boulenger, Schumann and Tchaikovsky - St Andrews Church, Muswell Hill (7:30pm)

Saturday, 7 December:

Fortismere Community Choir present a *European Christmas* - St Andrews Church, Muswell Hill (7:30pm)

Tuesday, 17 December:

Christmas Concert 1– SW Hall (6:30pm)

Book tickets <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-concert-2019-tickets-82172256431>

Wednesday, 18 December:

Christmas Concert 2 - SW Hall (6:30pm)

Book tickets <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-concert-2019-tickets-82172256431>



Events and Fundraising

Fortismere Christmas Fair - Sunday 8 December

Due to popular demand, the Fortismere Christmas Fair is back on Sunday 8 December, 11 am - 4 pm. Please put the date in your diary and plan to come along and buy your Christmas presents, there will be some fabulous stalls!

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, chocolates and treats (but not meat or cheese products).

Other things: Christmas Crackers, beauty items and bath products.

Baskets, old hampers and nice boxes to put the things in.

Please send all items in as soon as possible (and no later than Friday 6 December) to the Library or to the South Wing reception.

Wines and drinks containing alcohol are very much welcome but must not be taken into the school by students. Please contact Maria Demetriou to arrange delivery alcoholic drinks.

Donation requests (drop off in South Wing): 2 Tombolas: bottles & 'stuff' (biscuits, beauty products, etc) and chocolate & sweets

Teenage and Vintage Clothing: vintage or interesting clothing, outgrown clothes from your teenager Also any hats, bags, sunglasses, jewellery, must be in CLEAN, WEARABLE condition

VOLUNTEERS: It won't happen without you. We really need volunteers. Please get in with mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk if you can help set up, help run a stall during the fair or help with clear up at the end of the day.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/student-mental-health-1>

Currently one in four Children and Young People are treated for mental health problems. Donations to our school will provide support for our students as they transition to adulthood .



Go Green for Halloween!

Mimi Needham-Hewavisenti and Liza Voloboeva (Year 11 student leaders and members of the Climate Group) came up with a brilliant idea where students were asked to bring their Halloween pumpkins into school (once used) and these were then placed in Vik Sharma's Memorial Garden for birds and squirrels to enjoy.

Mimi and Liza designed the posters, displayed them around school and came in early every morning for a week to collect in the pumpkins and carry them down to the garden. Fab work!



A huge thank you to Maria Demetriou for donating 8 native trees to Vik's Garden (from the Woodland Trust). A mix of Rowans, Hazels, Hawthorns, a Silver Birch and a Dogwood shrub. (The young trees can be seen on the teaching table next to Elise Denis-Fandre and Edison, the school dog, during Thursday's Gardening Club.)

