

## Co-Headteachers' Weekly Roundup

Welcome back to all our families, we hope you had a peaceful and relaxing holiday. It is full swing back at school, with in-class tests for Y12, report writing for Y11, Mock preparation for Y13 and the start of the Options process with Y9.

Staff were back at school for Monday's training day. The focus was Fortismere's new Behaviour Policy (available on the website), punctuality and attendance and our continued work on our curriculum. The Behaviour Policy introduces the 'Fortismere Four', the four rules which govern the school. The rules are; ready, respectful, safe and kind. All the school's expectations sit under those four rules. In order for students to succeed in these areas we need to work collaboratively with our parents and carers. We would ask again that students follow the dress code and wear clothing appropriate for school, including only having short acrylic nails (or as a preference, no acrylic nails). Too many students are still bringing smart phones into school and seem to be surprised when these are confiscated and not returned for a week. Students have the option to have a non-smart phone turned off at the bottom of their bags which will enable them to contact parent/carers to or from school. In school, students can ask to use the school phones in the Head of Year offices or either of the two school offices. We also need students to wear their lanyards in school, this is a safeguarding issue (with no school uniform, the lanyard allows us to identify staff and adults who should be on site). We would ask that parents and carers to support us in maintaining high expectations of student conduct. The Behaviour Policy will be the focus of this term's Parent Forum which will give parents/carers the opportunity to ask questions about our approach to student conduct and also, our evolving rewards system.

We have adopted Haringey's toughened stance on unauthorised absence from the

start of this term and hopefully all our parents and carers have received the letter via ParentMail explaining the fining system. Our expectation is that this will rarely be used as student attendance matters to us all. Also of concern is punctuality, both to school and lessons during the day. There can be a 'Fortismere shuffle' where students amble rather than briskly walk towards lessons. This is obviously disrupting to learning and students will find that punctuality will be closely followed up by the year teams. Our intention is not to punish, but to instil good habits which support learning in our children and young people. We will also recognise and reward those who always attend and are never late.

Some of the discussion regarding the curriculum looked at what information is available for parents and carers on the Fortismere website. Our Heads of Department are revisiting their curriculums and there will be changes during this term to the information on the website. Our aim is to make sure that the information available is useful to our families and also easy to find. Please continue to let us know about the effectiveness of our communication and any issues (or positive comments!) regarding the website.

We are looking forward to a happy and successful term and the gradual arrival of spring. We hope you all have a lovely weekend.



Ms Zoe Judge

Ms Jo Davey

## Dates For Your Diary

- 15 January Year 8X Parents Evening 3.30-6.30pm
- 16 January Year 11 Business Trip to Madame Tussauds

## Messages

### Attendance and Punctuality

Tuesday, January 7th was the official day we introduced our new approach to improving attendance and punctuality. If you have not read the letter that was sent out on Tuesday, please do so as it clearly outlines the systems now in place to improve both. All other information can be found on the school website.

### KS3 Art Club

Art Club restarts on Tuesday 14th January (3.30-4.30pm). This half term we will be creating Cubist inspired masks.



### Year 8X Parents Evening 3.30 -6.30pm, North Wing - Wednesday 15th January 2020

Year 8 Parents Evening booking site will open at 10am on Tuesday 7th January 2020. Parents/Carers of Year 8 students will receive a Parentmail communication on Monday 6th January 2020, which will contain the booking link and booking instructions. Only 8X bank parents should book appointments.

Booking for 8Y Parents' Evening will open on Tuesday 21st January. The 8Y parents evening is on Wednesday 29th January.



### Quiz Night—Saturday 29 February 6.30 pm SW HALL

Get your tickets for this brilliant event and tick another task off your To Do list!

Pauline, our excellent host for the night who we know will ensure our quiz is a night to remember:

Tickets are £10 per person to make up teams of 8-10 people. Smaller groups will be arranged to make up a full team. There will be a bar but bring food to share with you.

Tickets available from <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fortismere-quiz-night-tickets-86807699165>



# Sports News

## Spring Term off with a Bang

What a week! Coming back to school after the Christmas break, on a freezing cold January day, Cricket was the last thing on my mind. Thankfully our U13 girls were a bit more focussed as they competed in the borough indoor cricket championship that evening. Then on Wednesday, continuing the summer theme, our Y7 Boys and Girls competed in the Borough Sports Hall Athletics Champs. On Tuesday our school hosted an international Netball match as our own AP Saints competed against a touring Australian side. It was a bust start to the term and continues in the same vein next week. Happy & Active New Year to everyone!!

## HOWZATT ?– Bronze Medal Position for Fortismere Girls.

There was no easing back in or slow start to the term for our U13 Girls who competed in the Borough Indoor Cricket Competition which we also hosted. The girls quickly shook of their Christmas malaise as they performed superbly in all their matches and eventually ran out in the bronze medal position. Well played girls and our first shield points on the board!



## On Your Marks Y7

Wednesday evening saw our Y7 Sports Hall Athletics teams make the short trip over to St Thomas More school to compete in the Haringey Borough Championships. Although we haven't had much time to train all our athletes gave everything they had and performed so superbly. Our Girls finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place with our Boys going one better and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> overall just missing out on the runners up spot by a miserly 2 points. This is only half-time as the event is repeated in two weeks' time with the scores put together and the overall positions worked out. We are confident that with a couple of weeks of training under our belts, and a few weeks here and there we can go even better. Next week is the turn of the Y8's to test their Running, Throwing and jumping skills! ***For the next 3 weeks we will have Sports Hall Athletics Practise on Monday after school from 3.20 until 4.45 this is open to all students in Yrs 7 & 8. Let's see you there!***



# Sports News

## Fortismere Teams Looking Good!

Don't forget that you can purchase Hoodies specific to the sport and team you play in for a very reasonable price. The link is below. There are a range of sports covered and the cost includes all printing. These 'Team Hoodies' can be worn in PE lessons. We have also designed and produced specific KS4 Sportswear and hoodies as well as the GCSE PE range. I understand money may be a bit tight after the Christmas festivities but these are well worth investing in!

<http://justteamsports.co.uk/products.php?cat=218>



## Table Tennis Boys in Regional Final

A very big weekend looms for our amazing U13 Table-Tennis team as they head down to the Docklands for a full day of competition taking part in the ETTA National Championships Regional Final. WYou may remember my report when the boys won the hotly contested North London Region event. Well on Saturday they meet the winners and runners up from the rest of the capital and from Essex. A big day for Sam Gabriel, Noah Hacking, Cody Sweet Purcell and Ishay Hairn. Good Luck Boys!!

## Clubs & Activities Spring Term

Our new Extra-Curricular Timetable has been put together for the new term There are numerous and varied activities available every day! Please come and take part – our clubs are open to all!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School 7.45-8.25		<b>Fitness Club (FR)</b> COSI			Friday Fun Run! All Years (Off Site) ORS
Lunch Time 12.20 – 1.10	Y9 Football (Astro) KIW All Years Badminton (SH) ORS Y10/11/6 <sup>th</sup> Girls Fitness (FR) KAG 1/BAL 2 Y11/6 <sup>th</sup> Form Table-Tennis (G&B) COSI (SW Gym)	Y7 Football (Astro) ORS All Years Badminton (SH) HAM 6 <sup>th</sup> Form Fitness (FR) JAC Y8 Table-Tennis (G&B) COSI (SW Gym)	Y8 Football (Astro) ORS All Years Badminton (SH) VAM Y10/11 Fitness (FR) HAM Y7 Table-Tennis (G&B) (SW Gym) COSI All Years Yoga VC	Y11/6 <sup>th</sup> Form Football (Astro) VAM All Years Badminton (SH) JAC1/WIK2 6 <sup>th</sup> Form Fitness (FR) HAM Y10 Table-Tennis (SW Gym) COSI All Years Cross-Country (Off Site) ORS	Y10 Football (Astro) KAG Y11/6 <sup>th</sup> Form Badminton (SH) ORS Y9 Table-Tennis (G&B) COSI (SW Gym)
After School 3.20-4.45	Y7& 8 Boys & Girls Sport Hall Athletics (SH) ORS Y9 Football Training – Field/SW Gym COSI	All Years Rugby – Field ORS KS3 Table-Tennis (SW Gym) MAP Indoor Cricket (SH) (Various) All Years Fitness (FR) HAM Netball All Years (Courts) All Saints VC	All Years Handball – VC (Sports Hall) Senior Football – Field HAM/ORS	All Years Hockey (Astro) KAG All Years Badminton BAL & STD All Years Fitness (FR) HAM Y10 Basketball SW Gym Trampoline (SH) (WIK)	<b>GONE HOME!</b>

**FORTISMERE** Extra-Curricular Timetable – Spring Term 2019/20

**SH- Sports Hall FR-Fitness Room G&B – Girls & Boys**

***This Timetable does not include Fixtures – These will be announced on the weekly produced Time-Table!***

***Sometimes staff attending fixtures may not be able to run their normal clubs. They will try to get somebody else to cover for them but very occasionally clubs may have to be cancelled!***

***Heavy rain may lead to puddles on the Astro in which case it will be closed!***



## Art & Photography Department

### Royal Academy Young Artist's Summer Show

The Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for young people aged 5 - 19 years, taking place both online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts. Artworks can be submitted online by students or on their behalf by a teacher, parent or guardian by **Friday 24th April**.

The piece on the right by Fortismere student, Megan Hannaford was shortlisted from over 6,000 entrants last year. Please follow this link for more information, details how to enter and a clip of the 2019 exhibition.

<https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/>



### The Fourth Plinth Schools Award

This Award is a chance for schools to produce a work of art inspired by the contemporary art commissions for Trafalgar Square's Fourth Plinth. There are winner and runner-up prizes (provided by Cass Art) for different age categories: 5-7 years, 8-11 years and 12-15 years, as well as prizes for the best work from each borough. There'll be a presentation ceremony at City Hall and all winning entries will appear in an exhibition in late spring.

The 2020 judge is Michael Rakowitz, current Fourth Plinth artist. (right)

The department is already entering the Year 7 'Aliens' project as a collaborative piece of work however, if your child would like to enter their own piece they should contact Ms Powell. The deadline for entries is **6<sup>th</sup> March**.



<https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/arts-and-culture/current-culture-projects/fourth-plinth-traffic-square/fourth-plinth-schools-awards-2020>

### Leake Street Live

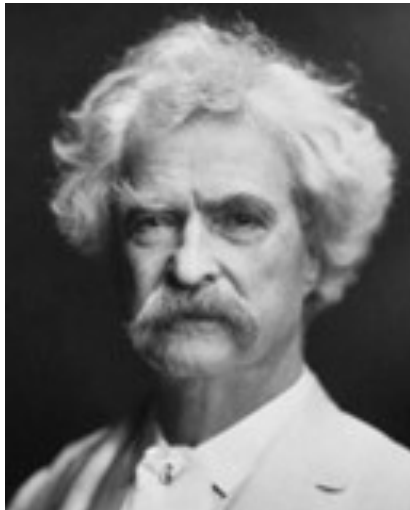
Leake Street Arches are hosting **FREE** graffiti workshops every Thursday night. Workshops will be led by Sophy Robson (aka SoFLY). Sophy will give a brief introduction to the world of graffiti before demonstrating a few techniques. Guests will then be invited to leave their own mark on the walls of Leake Street. Running from 6.30pm to 7.30pm, these workshops will include overalls, masks and spray paint.

Visit this website to sign: <http://leakestreetarches.london/leakestreetlive/>



## News from the Library

It's looking like it's going to be a busy first half of term. Our Year 7s and Year 8s are doing their STAR Reading tests – hurrah?! - before settling down to lots of reading and being read to, Harry Potter Night is just around the corner (Friday 7th February, 5.00-9.30pm in the library, just so you can put a note in your diary now), our joint Poetry and Music Concert is being planned (Thursday 13th February), the Alexandra Palace Children's Book Award club for Year 7s is in full swing (more members accepted...), author visits are being organised... phew! We have an exciting 2020 ahead!



### Quote of the Week

*“Classic – a book which people praise but don’t read” [Mark Twain] – so please don’t force them on your children because this is a face not to be argued with!*

### Recommended Read of the Week

I'm a huge fan of Jessie Burton (*The Miniaturist*, *The Muse*) so was intrigued to get a copy of her book *The Restless Girls*. With extraordinary illustrations by Angela Barrett, this is a reimagining of the fairy tale by the Brothers Grimm. It's lyrical, feminist and diverse with strong female characters and a brilliant ending. If you have any book tokens or cash left from Christmas, get this book. Or borrow it from the school library.

