

## Co-Headteachers' Weekly Roundup

While Year 11 students have been working hard this week as they continue to sit their GCSE mock examinations our Year 13 students are starting to realise that they are entering the final stretch of A levels. They attended their final ever parents evening this Wednesday, and more specifically Year 13 Drama students performed their examination pieces for parents last night. Year 13 parents evening is always an important event for us in the school calendar as each year, for many families it marks the last official point of contact with the school for parents. Indeed, Year 13 find themselves spinning lots of plates at the moment as they are not only studying hard they are applying for UCAS and, by all accounts, receiving all sorts of fantastic offers on a range of courses at a range of institutions. We very much look forward to hearing more about this in the coming weeks.

Today we had the pleasure of welcoming 21 students to the Conference Room to join us for hot chocolate (it was very welcome on a winter's morning). We invited these students to spend some time with us as we were keen to congratulate them all on their participation in wider school events this term. This included some of our sports stars: our Year 7 Table Tennis team and our Year 9 girls' cross-country team who have seen recent competitive successes, our budding artists who submitted the winning entries in our Christmas Card competition and we wanted to thank our inspirational

students in Year 10 who are supporting Year 8 students with their reading. We also invited along Biba Betteridge in Year 9 who has inspired us with her fundraising efforts in the summer break; she completed a rollerblading triple marathon challenge to raise money for WaterAid with her dad. They skated three back to back marathons in Germany over the summer in 30 degree heat. Biba managed to raise over £3500 for WaterAid which we think is well worth celebrating. We are so proud of these students doing their own bit to either participate or to make a difference.

We are busy with our own fundraising efforts and were featured in an article in the Ham & High this week talking about how we are trying to raise funds to ensure we continue to be able to provide the very best mental health support for our students. We are hoping that our community will be able to support our efforts in this regard so please, if you are able to contribute and haven't done so already use the link later in this newsletter. You really will be helping us to make a difference to students who need a little bit of extra support.

Apart from all of the above it was a pretty regular week at Fortismere, oh, apart from bumping into Sandi Toksvig and Prue Leith in the Fortismere corridors on Tuesday. But that's a story for another time!



Ms Zoe Judge



Ms Jo Davey



## Fortismere Christmas Card Competition

We are delighted to share the winning entries for this year's Christmas Card Competition. Congratulations should go to:

1st.Prize: Sophie Yenidunya

Runners up: Roberta Krasniqi Daisy Fox (Sylvanian Family)

Congratulations to all who entered. We really enjoyed looking at the designs submitted. The winning designs will be available for purchase at the Christmas school fair. We will be using Sophie's design as our official school Christmas card. Extra congratulations should also go to Sophie as her design was the runner-up in the Haringey Christmas card competition this year.

### First Prize Entry—Sophie Yenidunya 8TM



### Runner-up: Daisy Fox 8SK



### Runner up: Roberta Krasniqi 7DW





# News from the Music Department

## Christmas Concert

Thank you to the many students who have signed up to audition for the Christmas Concert, we have enjoyed listening to your performances! There is still another day of auditions to go next week and if you have yet to sign up can you please contact Mr Jefferies as soon as possible before all the slots are taken. So far the concert is shaping up to be an eclectic mix of musical styles including Spanish Flamenco, Orchestral Film Favourites, Argentinian Tango, Christmas Songs, Gospel Numbers and some Earth Wind and Fire to name but a few.

A letter including the rehearsal schedule will be made available to all parents, staff and students from next Friday. This will cover the rehearsals that will take place in the days preceding the concerts and will also give all students an outline of dress code and expectations. **Please be aware that there is a rehearsal for the School Orchestra on Sunday 1st December from 11am to 1pm in the Music Block and we would like all students involved in this ensemble to attend for these two hours.**

## Concert Dates

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Concert 1 - 7:00pm SW Hall

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Concert 2 - 7:00pm SW Hall

**Tickets for the Christmas Concerts are on sale now priced at £8 for Adults and £5 for Children. Please click on following link to purchase your ticket <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/christmas-concert-2019-tickets-82172256431>**



## FORTISMERE MUSIC CENTRE (FMC)

Tomorrow evening, Saturday 23rd November, is the first concert of the Fortismere Symphony Orchestra Season and will take place at St Andrews Church in Muswell Hill at 7:30pm.

The programme will start with *D'un Matin Printemps* by Lili Boulanger followed by the Clara Schumann *Piano Concerto* played by the 16 year old Pianist Deniz from the Purcell School of Music.

The concert will finish with a performance of Tchaikovsky's *Manfred Symphony* and promises to be an incredible night of music making. Tickets are available from [www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk](http://www.fortismeremusiccentre.co.uk) or on the

# School Sports News

## Key Stage 3 Badminton Players In Action

The final fixture of the week sees our KS3 Badminton teams contest the Haringey Championships at Gladesmore School. We will let you know the results next week.

## Y9 Basketball Team in Action!

Our Y9 boys were involved in a very close match with Highgate Wood School losing out to a flurry of late baskets by the host team. A very fine, and improving, performance nevertheless. Well done lads!



## Soooo Close for Y10 Volleyball Team

Our Y10 Boys Volleyball team travelled to STM for the annual Haringey Borough Championships. Despite a lack of practice time the boys performed amazingly well and were just pipped to the Gold medal by the host school. However their 2<sup>nd</sup> place was a real achievement and we are all very impressed by their efforts! Superb Boys!



Borough Runners Up – Y10 Volleyball Team!

## Y10 Runners Leading the Way

Monday evening saw the first race in our own Fortismere Race Series. I am delighted that two of our superb Y10 Runners – Lucas Maher & Maccabee Forman came along to lead the Y7's around the new design course. We had a fine field of 30 plus runners on a freezing cold night many of which stayed on for Rugby Training afterwards. What an Effort!

## Rugby Numbers Growing!

The day when a Fortismere fifteen runs out on the Rugby pitch for a competitive fixture is getting ever nearer. We had a wonderful turnout of 22 Boys for Y7 training this week followed by similar numbers for the older years on Tuesday. There are some really good players and players with potential at Fortismere. If Rugby is your thing, or you've been inspired by the World Cup or you just want to give it a try please come and join us. Y7 on Mondays all other years Tuesdays.

## Woodside latest to suffer at the hands of Fortismere Netball

No surprise that the Netball teams were in action again this week and no surprise that they were again very successful. These girls really are on form and performing magnificently week after week. This doesn't just happen of course and their success is a real credit to their hard work, commitment to training and the dedication of their teachers/coaches. Well Done All!



# School Sports News

## National Call Up for Sophie

Many, many congratulations to Y9's Sophie Games who has been long listed for the England U16 Girls Ice Hockey team. WOW! Sophie also has trials for the GB squad before Christmas. Sophie is one of our real star all-rounders, having been a member of our successful Intermediate Girls Cross-Country. We are so proud of your achievement Sophie and good luck with the GB Trials.



## Football Result

Y9 v Queens Park (A) Middlesex Cup 2-4

A Close game decided by a couple of late strikes by our opponents.

## Next Week's Fixtures

### Wednesday

Y10/11 Rugby v PVS (A) 3.30 Kick Off Return 5pm

### Friday

Haringey Borough Cross-Country Championships

New River Sports Centre 1.30-3pm Return 3.45



# School Sports News

## New Extra-Curricular Opportunities!

We are delighted to announce that from next Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November we are rolling out a revamped extra-Curricular timetable.

This contains more opportunities than ever for Fortismere students to enjoy being active and participating in sport and physical activity. With a minimum of 4 clubs on every lunchtime and activities after school every (except Friday) evening there really is something for everybody and for every age. We hope that as many students as possible come along. The Sport & PE section of the website is currently being completely overhauled and I am hoping to have this live by the time you read this.

The extra-curricular timetable will be available on the website, along with fixtures for the week ahead, by the close of play every Friday. Here you can also read results, reports of matches, future fixtures and events, leadership opportunities and a whole host of other Fortismere sport related matter. Please feel free to email Mr Orton with any feedback and/or comments.

### FORTISMERE Extra-Curricular Timetable – Autumn Term 2019/20

	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	<b>Y9 Football (Astro)</b> KIW <b>Y7/8 Boys Badminton (SH)</b> ORS <b>Y10/11 Fitness (FR)</b> KAG 1/BAL 2 <b>Y11/6<sup>th</sup> Form Table-Tennis (G&amp;B)</b> COSI (SW Gym)	<b>Y7 Football (Astro)</b> ORS <b>Y9/10 Boys Badminton (SH)</b> HAM <b>6<sup>th</sup> Form Fitness (FR)</b> JAC <b>Y8 Table-Tennis (G&amp;B)</b> COSI (SW Gym)	<b>Y8 Football (Astro)</b> ORS <b>Y9/10 Girls Badminton (SH)</b> VAM <b>Y10/11 Fitness (FR)</b> HAM <b>Y7 Table-Tennis (G&amp;B)</b> (SW Gym) COSI <b>All Years Yoga VC</b>	<b>Y11/6<sup>th</sup> Form Football (Astro)</b> VAM <b>Y7/8 Girls Badminton (SH)</b> JAC1/WIK2 <b>6<sup>th</sup> Form Fitness (FR)</b> HAM <b>Y10 Table-Tennis (SW Gym)</b> COSI All Years Cross-Country (Off Site) ORS	<b>Y10 Football (Astro)</b> KAG <b>Y11/6<sup>th</sup> Form Badminton (SH)</b> ORS <b>Y9 Table-Tennis (G&amp;B)</b> COSI (SW Gym)
After School 3.20-4.45	All Years Cross-Country – Field ORS <b>Y7 Rugby Training</b> ORS <b>Y8/9 Football Training – Field</b> MAP/COSI/HAM <b>Girls Football All Years (Astro)</b> VAM/JAK/WIK <b>Y10 Basketball (SH)</b> ALS	<b>Y8/9/10 Rugby – Field</b> ORS/COSI <b>KS3 Table-Tennis (SW Gym)</b> MAP <b>All Years Fitness (FR)</b> HAM <b>Netball All Years (SH)</b> All Saints VC	All Years Handball – VC (Sports Hall) <b>Senior Football – Field</b> HAM	<b>All Years Hockey (Astro)</b> KAG <b>All Years Badminton</b> BAL & STD <b>All Years Fitness (FR)</b> HAM	<b>GONE HOME!</b>
	<b>SH- Sports Hall</b>	<b>FR-Fitness Room</b>	<b>G&amp;B – Girls &amp; Boys</b>		

*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!*

*You do not need to get changed for most of these activities – just indoor / outdoor trainers required.*



# Drama Department

## Year 13 Drama A level Performance Evening

A fantastic night was had by all at the Year 13 Exam performances on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November. The audience was treated to the weird world of Luigi Pirandello's *6 Characters in Search of an Author*, a dark parable for a media-obsessed age and a hilarious farce about sexual politics in Dario Fo's *The Open Couple*. It was a wonderful opportunity for Year 13s to share their exam work with family and friends. Thank you to all who came.



## 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?

**N** PRODUCTIONS AND **fortismereDRAMA**  
PRESENT

# Rebellion In The Willows

**12 - 14 DECEMBER 2019**  
**7:00pm** Doors open 6:30pm  
**£12:50 / £8:50** CONCESSIONS  
Tickets available on Parentmail

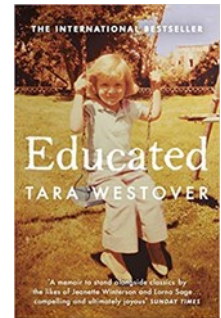
@fortimeredrama

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

# News From The Library

## CoverUp

As the wonderful Katherine Rundell says in her book *Why You Should Read Children's Books, Even Though You Are So Old and Wise*, "Children's books are not a hiding place, they are a seeking place. Ignore those who would call it mindless escapism: it's not escapism, it's findism". And in our exploration of YA (Young Adult) verse novels at our CoverUp meeting on Thursday, our members found this to be true. Children's books, we agreed, have to grab the reader from the first sentence, otherwise interest is lost. They can't waffle waffle on for pages before getting down to the nitty gritty. And verse novels cut out superfluous words and descriptions. Our group of adults loved them and can understand why they are so popular with our students. The next meeting of our parent/staff reading group is on Thursday 23rd January, 7.00pm, when we return to memoirs with Tara Westover's *Education*. Some have called it "misery lit", some have hailed it as a masterpiece. Now this should make for a very interesting discussion... All welcome, as always. Refreshments provided.



## Save your postage stamps!

At this time of year, you may get more "traditional" post than usual. Please save all your used postage stamps and send them to the library, where we collect them for the Hearing Dogs for Deaf People charity. (We actually collect all year round, so keep a jar to save them!)



## Recommended Read of the Week

At the time of writing, I'm immersed in *Hey, Sherlock!* By Simon Mason, which has reminded me how much I loved the previous Garvie Smith novels, *Running Girl* and *Kid Got Shot*. Fans of exciting and clever crime thrillers will love this series, starring a disaffected genius teenager (like Sherlock, but lazier) and his Sikh detective inspector sidekick. These are real page turners that will keep your student engrossed for hours. Promise.





## Other Messages

### CrowdFunding

Please support our crowdfunding request to enable us to maintain and improve our Mental Health provision by clicking on the link below

<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 .



### Year 9 Parents' Evening 3.30 -6.30pm, North wing - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December– Mr Lewis

Year 9 Parents' Evening booking site will open at 10am on Tuesday 26 November. Parents/Carers of Year 9 students will receive a Parentmail communication on Monday 25 November, which will contain the booking link and booking instructions.

### Making it: Careers in Art and Design

There is free event for 16 -24 year olds interested in finding out more about career opportunities in art and design at the Victoria and Albert Museum on Saturday 23rd November, 11.00-17.00. There will be talks, taster workshops, demonstrations, displays and 1-2-1 advice. You can also take in your portfolio and CV for advice and feedback.

Please find more information here: <https://www.vam.ac.uk/event/YOQL1xVE/making-it-careers-in-art-and-design-2019-16-24-yrs-nov-2019>

### Mayor of London Competition

#### Photojournalism Programme: Our Content - Change the Game

Our Content - Change the Game, is an exciting new programme supported by the Mayor of London which gives young Londoners from underrepresented groups the opportunity to fulfil a career in sports media and photojournalism.

The programme is looking to recruit young Londoners aged between 14 and 25 years old who are aspiring to be the next generation of sports photographers. Under the guidance of photographer Ernest Simons, participants will learn techniques and skills in the classroom, but also have the unique opportunity to access some of London's major sporting events, to test these out.

#### Apply for a place

Positions on the course are now open for application. Before applying, please read the full details in the posting to give yourself the best chance of being shortlisted.

Applications need to be submitted by **23:59 15 December 2019**.

All applicants will be notified by 8 January 2020 if they have been successful or not.

[Click here for further information and to apply](#)



# Events: Fortismere Christmas Fair

## 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

Please bring all donations to South Wing Reception

**VOLUNTEERS:** It won't happen without you. We really need volunteers. Please get in with [mdemetriou@fortismere.org.uk](mailto: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.