

Weekly Update: Monday 5th September - Friday 9th September 2016

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NEXT WEEK (Week 2)

Mon 12 th September	Year 7 and 10 Photos (9am - 12pm)
Tues 13 th September	Year 12 Preparing to Succeed (6.30pm - 7.30pm) Year 13 Preparing to Succeed (7.30pm - 8.30pm) PTFA Meeting (7.30pm - 8.30pm)
Thurs 15 th September	Year 7 Supporting Learning (7pm - 8pm)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thurs 22 nd September	Celebration Evening (7pm - 9.30pm)
Fri 23 rd September - Mon 26 th September	Year 13 School Trip to Nettlecombe Court



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



INFORMATION EVENINGS FOR PARENTS



I hope that your sons and daughters have enjoyed a successful start at Furze Platt Senior School. I am writing to inform you of two events in the first term which are aimed specifically at parents of Year 7 students.

Supporting Learning in Year 7 - Thursday 15th September 2016 at 7.00pm

This is an information evening aimed at helping you understand more about how to promote learning and giving you guidance about how to support your child at home.

Heads of House Consultation Evening - Thursday 13th October 2016

This is an opportunity to meet your child's Head of House for a brief consultation. By this time the tutor and Head of House have got to know your child and can give you feedback on how well they have settled. You will be provided with an appointment nearer the time.

More details on academic progress will be provided by progress reports issued three times a year and by a Parents' Evening which will be split between two dates: **Thursday 16th March and Thursday 23rd March 2017**. At these meetings you will have an opportunity to meet your child's teachers.

If you wish to speak to us at any time the relevant contact details are in the blue 'Guide for Parents' issued in the summer term.

If you change your email address at any time, please inform the school by contacting Mrs Pritchard on 01628 625308 so that we can keep our records up to date.

Ms T White (Headteacher)



GCSE OPTION CHANGES



A small number of students have requested to change their GCSE options. I will review all requests and make any necessary changes on Monday 19th September. Students must remain in their original option classes until then.

Mr E Towill (Deputy Headteacher)



One or two students have asked if they can change from Spanish to German or vice-versa. This is something we will only consider once students have had a full two weeks of their timetabled language lessons. I will contact students and parents who have expressed that they want to change in the week beginning Monday 19th September.

Mr E Towill (Deputy Headteacher)



INFORMATION EVENING FOR BOTH PARENTS & STUDENTS

**Tuesday 13th September 2016
Year 12: 6.30pm - 7.30pm in the Main Hall**

I am writing to invite you to the information evening for both parents and students of Year 12. The purpose of this evening is to provide you with information regarding the Sixth Form and some tips on how you can help your son/daughter be successful in Year 12. There will be a presentation from myself and some students.

The evening will start at 6.30pm and finish no later than 7.30pm. Please could you arrive for 6.15pm as it will be a prompt 6.30pm start.

The change from GCSE to studying A levels and level 3 BTECs is the biggest leap your son/daughter has made at school so far and we very much hope you are able to attend this information evening, as your support will be vital throughout the year.

Mr J Dollery (Head of Sixth Form)

[YEAR 12 INFORMATION EVENING LETTER](#)



INFORMATION EVENING FOR BOTH PARENTS & STUDENTS

**Tuesday 13th September 2016
Year 13: 7.30pm - 8.30pm in the Main Hall**

I am writing to invite you to the information evening for both parents and students of Year 13. The purpose of this evening is to provide you with information regarding the Sixth Form and some tips on how you can help your son/daughter be successful in Year 13. There will be a presentation from myself and also a representative from Student Finance to guide you through the process to help pay for any future university or college tuition fees and to help with living costs.

The change from AS to A2 level is a big leap for your son/daughter so we very much hope you are able to attend this information evening, as your support will be vital throughout the year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr J Dollery (Head of Sixth Form)

[YEAR 13 INFORMATION EVENING LETTER](#)



HOME LEARNING TIMETABLES



Please can parents support their children with their home learning. Our home learning expectations are:

Years 7 and 8 follow fixed home learning timetables (please see below). Each piece of home learning should take 30 minutes, giving students between 1 hour and 1 ½ hours of home learning per night.

Years 9-11 do not have a fixed home learning timetable, but will be set the following home learning. Each piece of home learning should take 1 hour, giving students an average of 2 hours of home learning per night:

English and Maths – 2 pieces per week

Science – 1 piece for each of the 3 sciences per week

Option subjects – 1 piece per week

Philosophy and Religion (Years 10 and 11) – 1 piece per week for those taking double or combined science; 1 piece per fortnight for those taking triple or separate sciences.

I will be talking more about the importance of home learning at the forthcoming parents' information evenings for Years 7, 9, 10 and 11.

Mr E Towill (Deputy Headteacher)

[YEAR 7 HOME LEARNING TIMETABLE](#)

[YEAR 8 HOME LEARNING TIMETABLE](#)

POLITE REMINDER

Please can parents of children at Furze Platt Junior School access the school via Oaken Grove and not through the Senior School.

Thank you.

NEW SCHOOL WEBSITE

Our school website has been redesigned over the summer. We hope you like it – please visit us at www.furzeplatt.com.

SCHOOL CLUBS LIST - AUTUMN TERM 2016

Please see below for a full list of our current school clubs. We are proud to be able to offer a huge variety of activities. Please encourage your son/daughter to attend any which may be of interest to them.

[School Clubs List](#)



PGL TRIP



FINAL PAYMENT DUE TODAY - FRIDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2016

This is just a reminder that the final payment for the Year 7 PGL trip is due by Friday 9th September.

If you would like your child to go on the trip and have not yet applied, please complete and return the form with full payment.

Details about the parents' information evening will be sent out in due course.

If you have any questions please contact Miss Hussey on 01628 625308 or by email at charlotte.hussey@furzeplatt.net.

[PGL FORM 2016](#)

Follow us on Twitter



[@furze_platt](https://twitter.com/furze_platt)

CYBER ESSENTIALS CERTIFICATION

Congratulations to Furze Platt's IT department, which has successfully achieved Cyber Essentials Certification for the school.



TEAM PHOTOS

Monday 12th September



Please remember to bring all kit as advised for the team sport photos which will be taking place on Monday 12th September.



SCHOOL NEWS

A/AS LEVEL AND GCSE RESULT 2016 - HEADLINES

- GCSE results 2016:** 76% of students achieved five A* to C grades.
- GCSE results 2016:** Pupils achieving five A* to C grades including English and Maths rises by 7%.
- GCSE results 2016:** Students make significantly better progress than national averages.
- A level results 2016:** 23% of grades are at A* or A.
- A level results 2016:** 74% of grades are A* to C.
- A level results 2016:** Pass rate 99%.
- A level results 2016:** Three students gain places at Oxbridge.



A/AS LEVEL AND GCSE RESULTS 2016



Congratulations to all of our students for a bumper crop of GCSE and A level results. Both results days were a joy, with so many smiling faces as the months of hard work and sleepless anticipation were truly rewarded.



Just as impressive were the many other students who smashed their targets by making exceptional progress during their time in the Sixth Form; the dedication and tenacity of these excellent young people is truly commendable. We wish them all the very best in their future studies at university and in their chosen career.



Our A level results continue to delight with a 99% pass rate with nearly a quarter of all grades awarded being A* or A. An astounding 74% of grades were A* to C. This is an excellent achievement and the vast majority of students gained places at their first choice university, including three who will be heading for Oxbridge. Top performers were Olivia Edwards, Steven Fan and Anna Kohn achieving an impressive 3 A* grades each. A further fourteen students achieved a clean sweep of A* or A grades.

GCSE results day brought with it more tremendous news for the school with 76% of students achieving five A* to C grades. As the sun shone down on what was one of the hottest days of the year, the tension was tangible as results envelopes were carefully opened to reveal some remarkable achievements.

Polly Batstone and Louisa Snape both achieved 12 A* grades. A further 12 students achieved 10 or more A and A* grades.



Across the ability range students did exceptionally well, and once again the progress made by our students is well above national averages. Indeed in a year when nationally GCSE results fell, ours have risen significantly.

Congratulations to all of our students for their outstanding achievements, and thank you to the parents and staff who have supported them so wholeheartedly through this year's examinations. A job well done.



MEXICO 2016

Nineteen students from Years 12 and 13 enjoyed the most amazing two weeks in Mexico over the summer carrying out conservation work in the jungle followed by a week learning to scuba dive. These photos will give you a flavour of what they got up to. A full write-up by one of the students will appear next week so watch this space!

Dr M Scott (Acting Head of Science)

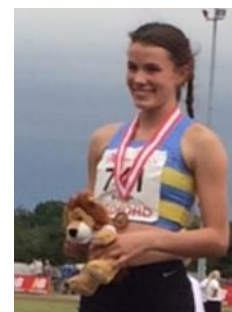
[MEXICO PHOTO GALLERY](#)

FURZE PLATT SUCCESS AT ENGLAND ATHLETICS AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIPS, BEDFORD



Harrison Thorne - Year 10 – 7th U15 Boys HJ – 1.76m, a height which places him 17th in the UK rankings .

Orla Brennan – Year 10 – 1st U15 Girls 300m – 40.39s, a time which places her top of the UK rankings. Orla was also 3rd in the 75m Hurdles – 11.10s , which places her 3rd in the UK rankings.



COMMUNITY NEWS



"It's accepted wisdom that when you leave the gates of junior school as a parent your involvement with secondary school is not required. I'd like you all to ignore this as the help and support the PTFA can provide this fantastic school is irreplaceable."

Jeff Lloyd, Head of PTFA, Furze Platt Senior School

The first PTFA meeting of the academic year will be held in the Learning and Resource Centre/Library at 7.30pm on Tuesday 13th September. Everyone welcome.



CURRENT VACANCIES

[Head of Learning Support](#)

[Outreach Team Worker](#)

[Cover Supervisor](#)

[Full Time Assistant Site Controller and Part Time Assistant Site Controller](#)

YOUNG FIREFIGHTERS

The Royal Berkshire Fire & Rescue Service are seeking young people aged 12- 16 years, who are enthusiastic and self- motivated to join their Young Firefighters programme. The programme offers young people a chance to work in a team and develop life skills through taking part in fire and rescue service based training activities. These activities are supervised by qualified fire fighters and non- operational fire and rescue staff. The fire fighters scheme will give them the opportunity to work towards a nationally recognised qualification.

Please e-mail [Miss Carty](mailto:Miss.Carty@rbfrs.gov.uk) for an application form.



FURZE PLATT
SENIOR SCHOOL



Open Evening
Thursday 6th Oct 2016
All Welcome

School Tours Available
Sept and Oct 2016
All Welcome*

01628 625308 | office@furzeplatt.com | www.furzeplatt.com

*Please contact us to reserve a space for these events.

Furze Platt Senior School offers:

- ▶ A broad, stimulating and rewarding education for girls and boys
- ▶ Outstanding academic, sporting and 'the arts' facilities
- ▶ Supportive transition activities for all our Year 7 students
- ▶ A wealth of extra-curricular interests, trips and visits

"Excellent student and staff relationships encourage a positive learning atmosphere that permeates through the school."
- OFSTED

How to find us:



Furze Platt Senior School, Furze Platt Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 7NQ



Top 20% nationally of non-selective schools for GCSE attainment.
(SSAT 2016)