

Weekly Update: Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November - Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2016

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CALENDAR &  
SPORTS FIXTURES

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ONLINE PAYMENTS

APPLY FOR FREE  
SCHOOL MEALS

TWITTER

PTFA FACEBOOK  
PAGE

## NEXT WEEK

Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 11 BCA Taster Day
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Indonesia Expedition 2018 Information Evening (6pm - 7pm) PTFA Meeting (7.30pm - 8.30pm)
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 13 Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening (4.30pm - 6.30pm)

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> November - Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> November	Year 11 Pre-Public Exams
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## IMPORTANT INFORMATION



### PRIME MINISTER VISITS FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL



The Rt Hon Theresa May, Prime Minister, attended Furze Platt Senior School's Debate Club on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

During the student-led debate, the Prime Minister answered questions on a number of subjects including Brexit, grammar schools, the Heathrow expansion and the environment.

After a 10 minute introduction by Mrs May, there followed a 45 minute Q&A session in which students from all year groups had taken part in a ballot to attend.

Hosted and organised by Patrick Ashe and Sam MacGregor (both Year 13), the event was attended by over 100 students and staff. Patrick and Sam had first contacted Mrs May over a year ago to invite her to the event. Both boys have a keen interest in politics and are hoping to further study political subjects at university. Patrick said: 'It was very interesting to hear how the Prime Minister discussed big issues in an accessible way.'

The Prime Minister said: 'I was delighted to take part in today's discussion at Furze Platt Senior School. Students of all ages asked a range of questions and it was clear they were extremely engaged in politics and current affairs and had strong views on the issues we face. It was a very lively and engaging debate.'

For details on how to become Furze Platt's Debate Club guest of honour please email [office@furzeplatt.com](mailto:office@furzeplatt.com).

(Photographs of Mrs May at Furze Platt Senior School courtesy of the Maidenhead Advertiser.)





Home > News & Events > Parents' Evening Bookings

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November, there will be a subject consultation evening for Year 13 parents.

We are using our online booking system for our parents' evenings which as you know has proven to simplify the whole process and put parents firmly in control of their own appointments.

Parents who book up first will have the most flexibility.

If you do not have easy access to the internet, please contact the school office who will be happy to add appointments on your behalf.

Please follow the Parents' Evening Bookings link under News and Events on the school website, or click on the link below.

Mr G Bown (Deputy Headteacher)

PARENTS' EVENING BOOKINGS

CAREERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016, 6pm - 8pm



This year's Careers and Higher Education Fair, for students in Years 9 to 13 and their parents, will be on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November from 6-8pm. Representatives from over 20 universities will be here, including from Oxford and Cambridge, plus approximately 40 different employers or organisations showcasing a wide variety of careers. In addition to our regular participants, there will be a range of exciting new careers on show here this year including IT/computing (Microsoft), health and leisure (David Lloyd club), drama, law (an education lawyer and a barrister), finance (accountancy, banking and private equity), surveying, and more.

As well as the university and careers stalls there will also be talks taking place over the evening, including new ones for this year – examples include careers in IT and Computing (by Microsoft) and the benefits of volunteering/taking a gap year.

A copy of the final programme will be published here nearer the time. It promises to be a very good event.



I would like to invite you to an informational session about a potential two week expedition to Indonesia in summer 2018 to help with biodiversity surveys run by Operation Wallacea. The presentation will be given on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 6.00pm in the Main Hall and is open to Year 11 and 12, but any student interested in biology, ecology and conservation is welcome to attend.

For their first week, students will be based in the endemic-rich rainforests of Buton Island in South-East Sulawesi. Here they will help scientists and academics collect data on biodiversity, which will be used to measure how well the forests are being protected under their proposed conservation management strategies. They will complete jungle survival skills training and help take part in various surveys such as forest measurement (to quantify the amount of carbon stored), butterfly surveys, bird point count surveys, herpetofauna surveys (conducting both pit line surveys and spotlight searches), large mammal and bird surveys (looking for macaques, hornbills, anoa and wild pig) and bat surveys. They will also complete a course on the Ecology of the Wallacea Forests and have the chance to learn how to access the canopy with a half day training course from the Canopy Access Ltd team.

For the second week the group will be based in either Bau Bau or Hoga. This is at the centre of the Coral Triangle – the most diverse reef systems in the world. Here they will learn to dive to PADI Open Water level, or if they are already dive-trained or just wish to snorkel, complete an Indo Pacific reef ecology course. The reef ecology course will cover the importance of the marine environment, along with underwater.

It is also possible to use the expedition to gain extra UCAS points by doing an EPQ, and the expedition covers key aspects of biology and geography syllabuses. In addition, if they are applying for UK universities then they automatically qualify by completing the expedition for a University Award that can be included on their UCAS form.

We estimate the total cost of the expedition to be approximately £2770. This price includes participation in the Operation Wallacea programme, flights, internal travel, park fees, reef fees, PADI Manual and dive hire.

Operation Wallacea have a professional fundraising team who can visit and help the school group raise a substantial proportion of the total sum needed.

We look forward to seeing you on the evening.

Dr M Scott (Head of Science) and Mr A Molin (Head of Henley House)



6<sup>th</sup>

## SIXTH FORM ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY TRIP

6<sup>th</sup>

The trip was an opportunity to experiment with my photography outside of the studio, which meant I could put into practice the skills I have been developing in the first few weeks of my photography A level. The work we were set really helped me to produce interesting photographs to use in my photography portfolio and my A level coursework. The day overall was very good as we had lots of opportunities to gather exciting images and we could work independently to produce the photos in our own styles. I had a really fun day and was really pleased with the work I produced.

by Max Selby, Year 12

Photography by Ellie Harding, Year 12



x<sup>2</sup>

6<sup>th</sup>

## SIXTH FORM MATHS CHALLENGE

6<sup>th</sup>

x<sup>2</sup>

Four of our Sixth Form Maths students attended an 'Enrichment for Mathematicians' event in Oxford this week. The aim of the visit was to develop their maths ability through a series of mathematical challenges. These included working in pairs to solve clues to cross-numbers (a maths equivalent of the crossword). Well done to John Conacher and Polly Batstone (both Year 12), Alex Hill and Sam Sheppard (both Year 13).

Yr10

## HOCKEY NEWS

Yr10

Great start to the season for our Year 10 hockey team with a 1-1 draw against Charters School (Ascot).



## Family Fun Evening

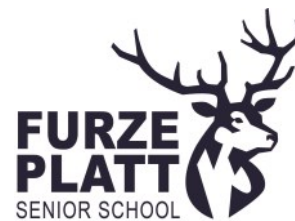
*Fundraising for Emma's London Marathon Journey for Barnardo's*

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

**Marlow Football Club**

- Oak Tree Road, Marlow, Buckinghamshire, SL7 3ED

Starting at **4pm**



### CURRENT VACANCIES

[Home](#) > [Vacancies](#) > [Current Vacancies](#)

**Cover Supervisor**



## REMINDERS

### OFSTED REPORT 2016

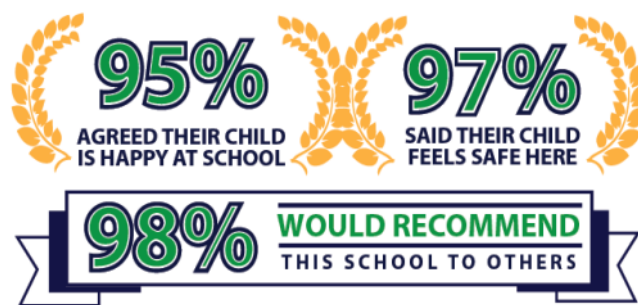
I am delighted to attach a copy (below) of the latest report from the recent Ofsted inspection which judges Furze Platt Senior School to be a 'Good' school. The report highlights the many strengths of our school, and praises the achievements and behaviour of students as well the effectiveness of teaching and leadership.

We are all extremely pleased with the report which recognises us as the high achieving and successful school we work so hard to be. Staff and students deserve to be very proud.

#### The many strengths identified include:

- 'Pupils in this school achieve highly'
- 'The quality of teaching and learning is strong. Teachers' strong subject knowledge and good behaviour management skills help pupils to learn effectively'
- Pupils are supported well by high quality verbal and written feedback which is clearly focused on the particular needs of the individual'
- Teachers use a wide range of techniques to help students expand and challenge their thinking'
- 'Good behaviour in lessons contributes to good learning'
- 'The behaviour of pupils is good in lessons and around school. Pupils are smart, polite and mature [and] are supportive of each other'
- 'Teachers and pastoral leaders have created a happy community where pupils are respectful of each other's views and opinions. Pupils value knowing that teachers will go out of their way to help them'
- 'Teaching in the Sixth Form is consistently good... students made very strong progress in both academic and vocational subjects [and] are excellent role models for younger pupils... the proportion of A\* and A grades has also increased.'

Thank you to everyone who filled in the Ofsted questionnaire:



95% of respondents agreed their child was happy at this school; 97% said their child feels safe here and an overwhelming 98% of you would recommend this school to others.

Mr Gavin Tisshaw, Chair of Governors, writes on behalf of the Governing Body: 'We are pleased that findings from the recent Ofsted visit clearly demonstrate what a good school Furze Platt Senior School truly is. The commitment and support of teachers, staff, students, parents and governors alike continue to make this a safe, successful, inclusive and ambitious comprehensive school.'

As ever, we remain committed to securing the best possible education for all our students and would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support.

Ms T White (Headteacher)

**OFSTED REPORT 2016**



## PRE-PUBLIC EXAMS - IMPORTANT INFORMATION



[Home](#) > [Parents](#) > [Exam Information](#)

We are entering a very important time for Year 11s, as they prepare to excel in next summer's GCSE exams. Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) are a crucial part of that preparation both testing students' progress across their different subjects and familiarising them with the rigours of exam papers and the environment of the exam hall.

Please see below for a letter with key dates and schedule of arrangements.

Mr J Sheppard (Assistant Headteacher)

[PPE KEY DATES & SCHEDULE OF ARRANGEMENTS](#)



## STUDY SKILLS



The Raising Achievement team have just finished delivering a series of sessions on study skills to Year 11 during the past few weeks. This is to help them prepare for their GCSEs next year by equipping them with:-

A revision timetable that is adaptable to them individually and their needs and commitments.

How to revise: – teaching students the skills required to devise revision notes according to their own learning styles.

They have each been given a revision timetable to take home and use. Please ask them about this, how it's been set up and how it works.

If you would like any further information or have any queries, please contact:

Mrs D Slater (Senior Learning Mentor)

[debbie.slater@furzeplatt.net](mailto:debbie.slater@furzeplatt.net)

Extension 127



## VISIT TO WWI BATTLEFIELDS IN FRANCE AND BELGIUM



19<sup>th</sup> July - 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2017

Some places are now available for the annual Years 9 and 10 visit to France and Belgium. During this exciting trip, we will visit the First World War battlefields in Ypres (Belgium) and the Somme (France), and take part in the famous Last Post commemorations. We will also have lots of opportunities to practise our French, including during a town trail at St Omer and while visiting a market at Desvres. We will enjoy learning about the life cycle of the snail at L'Esgargoterie de Choquel, before devouring some of the slimy delicacies (purely optional, but most students do choose to!), and will also try our hand at making sweets at Besouac sweet factory. The trip is particularly suitable for GCSE French and History students in both Years 9 and 10, but is open to those not studying these subjects too. The cost of £395 covers just about everything, including food, travel and accommodation in a nice hotel outside Ypres. The only things not covered by the cost are presents for parents (Belgian chocolate is a favourite; waffles don't travel so well). Although the closing date is Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November, this trip is always popular and places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Further details including the trip letter and consent form can be found below.

[VISIT TO FRANCE AND BELGIUM LETTER](#)



## CLASS OF 2017 YEARBOOK



We are working with Fizz-Yearbooks, the UK's premier supplier of Yearbooks, and are eagerly anticipating what is sure to be a wonderful keepsake for the students to treasure throughout the rest of their lives.

We are currently in the process of collecting information, portraits, photographs, comments and memories that will fill the pages of the Yearbook. The finished book is sure to bring back many happy memories for years to come, and is the perfect way of capturing all of those priceless moments from the school years that have flown by so quickly. The professional designers at Fizz are putting together a bespoke Yearbook for us, based entirely on the students' input and ideas that will be unique to the Furze Platt Senior School Leavers of 2017.

All of the students now have the opportunity to purchase a Yearbook. It is essential that their orders are placed in plenty of time so that they don't miss out. There will only be one print run; students will not be able to place orders after. The cost for a Yearbook is £24. Payment can be made by cash or cheque and all cheques should be made payable to Furze Platt Senior School. Alternatively, you may pay by electronic transfer to Sort Code 309536, Account Number 42740560. Please label any electronic transfers with 'Yearbk' and your child's name.

If you would like to buy a Yearbook please ensure your child hands in full payment by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2016. Unfortunately we will not be able to place any further orders after this date. Yearbooks will be available to order from Sick Bay at break times. Completed Yearbooks will then be available for collection in May 2017.

Miss L Lewis (KS 4- 5 Transition Coordinator)



*Learning Together*

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Email: [office@furzeplatt.com](mailto:office@furzeplatt.com)

Website: [www.furzeplatt.com](http://www.furzeplatt.com)

## COVER SUPERVISOR

Term time only, 31.25 hours per week

£13,700 - £15,300 pa, depending on experience

Furze Platt Senior School is a highly successful and oversubscribed 11-18 co-educational comprehensive school which is committed to continuous school improvement.

Students do very well at Furze Platt but we want to support them to do even better.

This role might suit someone with previous experience of working or volunteering with children and/or young people, or someone who may be considering teacher training in the future.

You will:

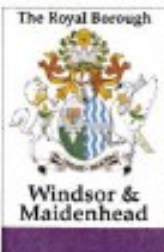
- be joining a strong team of colleagues across our school and will be required to supervise classes when regular teachers are unavailable.
- instruct students about the work set by the teacher and make sure they understand the task and complete it to the best of their ability.
- have at least grade C or above in GCSE English and Maths (or equivalent).

A full job description and application forms are available on our website [www.furzeplatt.com](http://www.furzeplatt.com).

Please return to Mrs D. Harding via email: [debbie.harding@furzeplatt.net](mailto:debbie.harding@furzeplatt.net). Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered.

*Furze Platt Senior School is committed to the protection and safety of its students.*

*Posts are subject to an enhanced disclosure by the Disclosure Barring Service.*



## The Parent Factor in ADHD

For parents of children aged 6 -14yrs who have had an ADHD diagnosis in the last 24 months

### Aims of the Course:

- To increase parents' knowledge of ADHD and its treatment
- To give parents insight into how it feels to be a child with ADHD
- To give parents advice on how to promote a more positive relationship with their child
- To educate parents on strategies for effective behaviour management

### 8 week group

**Windsor - Tuesdays from 27<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

**9.30am-12.00pm**

*The Lawns Nursery School, Imperial Road, Windsor, Berks SL4 3RU*

**Maidenhead - Thursdays from 26<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

**9.30am-12.00pm**

*The Town Hall, St. Ives Road, Maidenhead, Berks, SL6 1RF*

Please note that to qualify for the course you must live in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. Places are limited and only confirmed following an assessment visit with a facilitator.

**New**

# Reach

**Start date: 8th Nov 2016**

**Health**

**Self Esteem**

**Confidence**

**Fun & informal activities**

**to support young people aged 12-15yrs with**

**Learning Disabilities, Tuesdays**

**From 7:30pm till 9:00pm at The Manor**

**The Manor Youth Centre, Hanover Way**

**Dedworth, Windsor**

**SL4 5NW**

**Social Skills**

**Friendships**

**Active Lifestyles**

**For more information contact Louise Hildreth on:  
07795 061954 or [Louise.hildreth@rbwm.gov.uk](mailto:Louise.hildreth@rbwm.gov.uk)**

