

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #52.12



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

REPORTS



Year 9 reports have been issued this week and are available online as usual via Go 4 Schools.

The service is available either by going to our website www.furzeplatt.com and clicking on the quick link 'Online Reporting', or by going directly to Go 4 Schools www.go4schools.com.

.Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at reports@furzeplatt.net.

Mrs K Avery (Data Manager)

LOST PROPERTY



Tuesday 18th & Wednesday 19th July 3-4pm

If you think your son/daughter has lost anything, you can come and check through Lost Property in the Learning Resource Centre on 18th and 19th July from 3-4pm.

UNIVERSITY TRIP



Tuesday 18th July 2017

We estimate we the Royal Holloway group will arrive back at school by 3.15 pm. However if they do arrive back slightly earlier we will be giving students permission to go home.

PROM PHOTOS



You have probably seen that I have now shared the prom pictures with you via google docs. Several of you have sent me requests for access from personal email accounts. For safeguarding reasons I can only share these images with email addresses from Furze Platt to ensure they are not shared with people from outside our school. If you cannot access your school google docs then you will either need to politely contact the IT department at school to ask if they can reset your password or will need a friend to download the images for you.

Miss L Lewis (Teacher of PSHE/Citizenship)



UPCOMING EVENTS

- [ALL EVENTS](#)
- [SPORTS CALENDAR](#)
- [SCHOOL CLUBS LIST](#)

Next Week (Week 1)

MON 17 JULY	Year 12 Careers Day	All day
TUE 18 JULY	Year 10 - University Visits (University of Sussex / Royal Holloway)	All day
WED 19 - SUN 23 JULY	WW1 Battlefields trip	
FRI 21 JULY	End of Term 6	Finish 12.30pm

Forthcoming Events

MON 4 SEPTEMBER	Year 7 & 12 Induction Day (for Year 7 & 12 only)	12pm - 3pm
TUE 5 SEPTEMBER	Start of Term 1 (All Years)	8.40am - 3.15pm

SUMMER READING AND ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS



With the long and hopefully hot summer holidays approaching, many students and parents have asked for suggestions for enjoyable but educational books to read and activities to do. Our Reading and Activity List in the link below covers all subjects and all key stages. It includes films, websites, places to visit and things to do, as well as books to read. It is suitable for all students who want to broaden their horizons, and is a great way for students to stretch themselves as well as having fun.

Mr Towill (Deputy Headteacher)

SUMMER READING AND ACTIVITY LIST 2017



NETTLECOMBE

Over 4 days, the Geography A Level students went on a residential field trip to Nettlecombe Court in Somerset, to complete our practical course work, which is worth 20% of our final grade. Nettlecombe Court is situated within the Exmoor National Park, a 90.4 hectare Special Site of Scientific Interest, turned into a fieldwork centre in 1967.



After a 3 hour minibus journey, we finally arrived at our home for the next few nights. Once arrived, unpacked and settled in we were introduced to Verity, who would be our mentor during our stay. We were given a brief introduction about the area and what we would be doing, before having a tour of the building and grounds. Nettlecombe Court is a beautiful Elizabethan building, with a grand dining hall, stairs, pantry, church and common room. The views were incredible, miles and miles of hills and green spread all around us. Later on in the day we visited the town of Watchet, to focus on regeneration. In groups we looked around the town measuring the environment quality, what people were doing, how many shops and services there were, to help us gain a better understanding on what fieldwork techniques we could possibly use.

On Monday, we woke up early in the morning to travel to another coastal town nearby called Minehead. Whilst we were here we were taught how to perform beach profiles,

sediment analysis, flood risk and bipolar counts. All these techniques were to help us prepare for our own investigation.

Tuesday was the most important day for us; data collection day! We were split into two groups, those who were focusing on human geography (regeneration) took a minibus with Mr Fraser to Watchet, and the rest went to Minehead with Mr Angier, to focus on physical geography (coasts). We were split off into smaller groups, whereby we were allowed to look around and collect appropriate data for our own investigations. It was a long day, 6 hours long! But it was very useful as everyone came back to Nettlecombe Court with a huge amount of information and data that could be used for our coursework. In the evening we had a lesson looking at methodology, and learning how to develop our methods and design of collecting data.



On the final day, after having breakfast, we had our final 2 hour session. This session was mainly focused on data presentation, whereby we learnt new techniques to present our data at a much higher level. Once everything was packed onto the minibuses we were ready to go, after a short goodbye to Verity we were off, driving down the tiny country lanes for the very last time.

Overall, Nettlecombe was a great experience, we collected lots of valuable data that will be very useful for our coursework, as well as stepping away from the busy pace of life for a couple of days, in the beautiful Exmoor National Park. Thank you to Mr Fraser and Mr Angier for taking us, and arranging the trip!

Sarah-Jane Hampton, Year 12



FURZE PLATT STUDENT WINS YOUNG FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR FOR MAIDENHEAD



Furze Platt students have taken part in a number of activities over this academic year, learning various aspects of operational Fire & Rescue Service work and taking part in team building activities, which have helped to develop their personal skills and increase their self-confidence.



The young people at Maidenhead had their Passing out Parade yesterday, along with other Young Firefighters from Crowthorne, Whitley Wood and Pangbourne, and were awarded certificates from the Chief Fire Officer/ Chief Executive.



Pictured are Tom Stimson, Sean Farrell, Tilly Pink-Costello (all Year 8) and Katie Slater (Year 9).

Tilly Pink-Costello (on the right of the photo above) was awarded the Young Firefighter of the Year for Maidenhead.

Katie said, "As a Young Firefighter, I learned that doing a club like this is a great way to make friends and a great way to become part of a team. I highly recommend doing something like this. It was a great opportunity and I am glad that I did it and had fun whilst doing it."

Katie's mother, Mrs Slater, further supported the scheme.

"It's the best activity for young people to get involved in, in terms of what they gain and what they do. It's great value for money, and an awesome experience."

There are still spaces available for this scheme, which starts in September. Please give application forms to Miss Carty (Alternative Curriculum Worker).

JOIN THE YOUNG FIREFIGHTERS

NOW RECRUITING IN:

- NEWBURY
- MAIDENHEAD
- CROWTHORNE
- WHITLEY WOOD

ROYAL BERKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
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YOUNG FIREFIGHTERS LEAFLET

YOUNG FIREFIGHTERS APPLICATION FORM

DUKE OF EDINBURGH



Good luck to our Year 12 Silver Duke of Edinburgh group, who will be doing their practice and assessment expedition in the South Downs during the summer holidays.

Azida Fernandes, Shannon Carpenter, Samantha Coombs, Keisha Carty, Dan Hazel, Tom Schilling, Will Parsons, Ben Stepney, Jack Shine, Arun Wellman, John Conacher, Jonathan Otun, Olivia Flood & George Jensen.

UNIVERSITY VISITS



Over 80 of our Year 10 students visited the University of Reading and Bucks New Uni this week to find out about higher education.

As part of our programme of activities to help students make choices for their future, we took over 80 of our Year 10 students to visit a university. Students had the opportunity to see a university at first hand, took part in a tour of the campus and attended various talks and activities about the benefits of Higher Education.

- **Bucks New University.** Our local university at High Wycombe, it became a university in 1999 and offers a wide ranges of courses including some which are not found at many other universities. Courses include nursing, health and social care, cyber fraud detection, textiles, aviation (including getting a pilot's licence), policing, sports and exercise science, music management and film and television production. 8,500 students.

Cont. on page 4

- **University of Reading.** Began in 1926 and is now ranked in the top 1% of universities worldwide. Offers more than 200 courses in arts, humanities, business, social science and science. 17,000 students.



Students enjoyed the visits and now know a lot more about what universities offer and what it is like to be an undergraduate student. Hopefully, it has made them aware of some of the opportunities available to them in the future.

Next week there are visits to the University of Sussex and Royal Holloway University.

Thank you to everyone involved in these trips, especially Mrs Bubb.

COOKHAM RUNNING CLUB



Well done to our sporty students who run for Cookham Running Club, trained by Peta Bee. The boys were invited to the Warwickshire County Athletics Association invitational 1,500m event, with Frank McGrath quickest of the club;s U13 boys lowering his pb, as well as the club record, to 4.58.60. Euan Russell (5.04.31) and Edwin Isted (5.19.13) both also ran fastest times.



Photo of Frank and Euan courtesy of the Maidenhead Advertiser

FUTURECHEF COMPETITION



On Wednesday 12 July, ten of our students cooked for the Springboard FutureChef national competition. The winning student was Abbie Stares, who along with runner up Louisa Holborn (both Year 9), will go on to represent the school at a local event where they can then progress to the regional or national finals.

All the students cooked with confidence to produce delicious and well-presented meals within an hour and impressed the judge Mr Duplock, our school Cafe Manager from Innovate.



FOOD TECH



Great creativity by Jaydon Mellor (Year 8) who not only created an original Shepherds' Pie by changing the ingredients, he also developed a creative presentation design!

THORPE PARK



Thorpe Park - Business students from Year 9 (yesterday) and Year 10 (today) learning about how Thorpe Park markets and promotes its business.



ATHLETICS SUCCESS

Five of our Year 7 students won medals at the Berkshire County Athletics Championships in Bracknell this week.

Congratulations to:

Brogan McCafferty - 3 Golds in 75m, 150m and 4x100m

Martha Garner - Gold in 4 x 100m

Frank McGrath - Silver in 1000m

Josh Dilley - Silver in 600m

Hannah Britton - Silver in Long Jump.



February this year, with the winner going onto represent Ascot & Maidenhead at the Berkshire School Games County Finals at Bisham Abbey.

25 teams from 15 primary schools across Ascot & Maidenhead are taking part in the Y5/6 category. Organisers were overwhelmed with the entries this year, which is great news meaning more children playing netball.

Pupils will be competing for a place at the Berkshire School Games Finals at Bisham Abbey on 16th March.

Just over 200 young people (aged between 9 and 11 years of age) from Furze Platt Junior, Courthouse, Oldfield, St Edmund Campion, St Michaels, Cookham Rise, Holyport, St Lukes, Riverside, St Mary's and Wessex schools took part in this entry game for netball designed by England Netball. High 5 consists of 5 players being on court at any one time, with the key principle being that they rotate around the positions, therefore experiencing every position on court, which produces fitter more adaptable players as they get older, and progress to the full game.

The tournament was extremely well organised by the PE team, with a plate competition meaning all the children got lots of games & thoroughly enjoyed themselves! The eventual winners were St Mary's Catholic Primary School, with Furze Platt Junior a close 2nd place, with another St Mary's team in 3rd place and a great finish for Riverside Primary in 4th place.

The event was repeated the following week in March, but for Y3 & Y4 this time, and just as a local participation event – not leading onto anything else. A great opportunity for younger children to experience competitive netball and all just for fun. Over 150 children took part from 9 different primary schools, and yet again the tournament was a roaring success! The winners were Oldfield Primary, with Courthouse in 2nd place & Holyport Primary in 3rd place.

The competitions were organised by Mr Carter and supported by a number of Furze Platt PE teaching staff on the day, and not only provides competition for the primary schools, but also some valuable leadership opportunities for the Furze Platt Senior students. All matches were umpired by FPSS students who did a fantastic job!

Ascot & Maidenhead School Sport Partnership Development Manager, Emma Fitzgerald, said, "It's great to see so many children playing netball, in such fantastic surroundings. The number of comments from visiting teachers about the amazing facilities at Furze Platt Senior was a lovely bonus and we were made to feel very welcome. I would like to thank Furze Platt Senior School for organising this competition and providing a team of outstanding Leaders, who were such strong role models for the younger children. All the schools look forward to coming back to Furze Platt Senior School again soon for some more great primary school sports competition."

For further information please contact Emma Fitzgerald, Ascot & Maidenhead School Sport Partnership on 07912 415950

COMMUNITY NEWS

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL HOSTS PRIMARY SCHOOLS SPORTS

The Ascot & Maidenhead School Sport Partnership was very pleased to re-establish links with Furze Platt Senior School in 2017, and work closely with them to organise & deliver high quality sports opportunities for local primary schools.

The Partnership's Junior Dance Company (JDC) has been based at Furze Platt Senior School as a hirer for many years, as it enables the gifted & talented dance club for Years 5 and 6 to use a specialist dance facility on a regular basis. Over 200 local youngsters, boys & girls, from a variety of local schools have passed through the JDC, including some West End performers. The highlight of their performance year is taking part in the Partnership's Primary Dance Festival, every February at the Pearce Suite at Magnet Leisure Centre, where over 25 primary schools & 800 children perform across the 2 days in a celebration of schools dance. This year the SSP are also looking to extend & run a Boys only Junior Dance Company too – watch this space!



This year Furze Platt Senior School's PE team took on the delivery of the popular Primary Schools High 5 netball competitions. The mixed Year 5/6 competition is the local qualifying round of the National School Games High 5 Netball Competition for primary schools, and took place in

TEACH MAIDENHEAD TEACHER TRAINEES 2017-18

Welcome to the nineteen trainee teachers who have joined the Teach Maidenhead teacher training partnership (Furze Platt Senior School, Cox Green School, Altwood Church of



Cont. on page 6

England School, Desborough College and Holyport College) and who will commence their training in September 2017.

FPSS would like to welcome the following trainee teachers who will join us for their main placement in September:-

- Miss Katie Alston - Science Department
- Miss Hayley Howard - Geography Department
- Mr Lewis Smith - PE Department
- Mrs Sophie Walters - MFL Department
- Mr Chris Burrows - History Department
- Dr Andrea Turkson - Science Department
- Miss Shakeela Khalid - English Department
- Mrs Manjula Saraswatula - Maths Department

If you are interested in considering teacher training, information about courses for 2018-2019 will be available in UCAS www.ucas.com and on our website www.teachmaidenhead.co.uk in October.

Mrs D Harding (HR Manager)

EASY FUNDRAISING



Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be collecting free donations for Furze Platt Senior School?

There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline and Sainsbury's – it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

easyfundraising.org.uk
feel good shopping

Help out when you check out

Collect **FREE** donations for us when you shop online via easyfundraising.org.uk

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/furzeplattsenior/> and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and we at Furze Platt Senior School will be really grateful for your donations.

GRANT MELVILLE



A brilliant effort by Mr Melville saw him compete the Three Peaks Challenge in memory of a friend. With decent weather, he and his friends managed over 13 hours of climbing and covered more than 36.7km.

We are delighted to announce he has raised over £1650 for the school in the process.

Thank you to Mr Melville, and to everyone who sponsored you and walked with you.

(If you have any 1p or 2p coins there is still time to donate!)

SPONSOR MR MELVILLE & RAISE MONEY FOR THE SCHOOL

Ben Nevis Summit



Scafell Summit



Snowdon Summit





YEAR 8 YEAR 12

REPORTS

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Mrs K Avery (Data Manager)



SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT FUND

You may have seen in the news recently that schools are about to experience the first real time cuts in education costs. At Furze Platt we are always looking for ways to ensure our students have access to facilities that will further their learning and socialising here. The standard budget does not include extras that we believe are extremely important to facilitate your child's future education. Please see the letter below for further information.

Ms T White (Headteacher)

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT FUND LETTER



**Open Morning
Monday 3rd July 2017
For Year 5 Parents***

**Open Evening
Thursday 5th Oct 2017
All Welcome**

**School Tours Available
Sept and Oct 2017
All Welcome***



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

'An increased number of pupils achieved top grades at key stage 4 [and] made very strong progress in both academic and vocational subjects. The most able make similar or greater progress than other pupils nationally.'
- Ofsted



How to find us:



'Pupils achieve highly at this school'
- Ofsted 2016

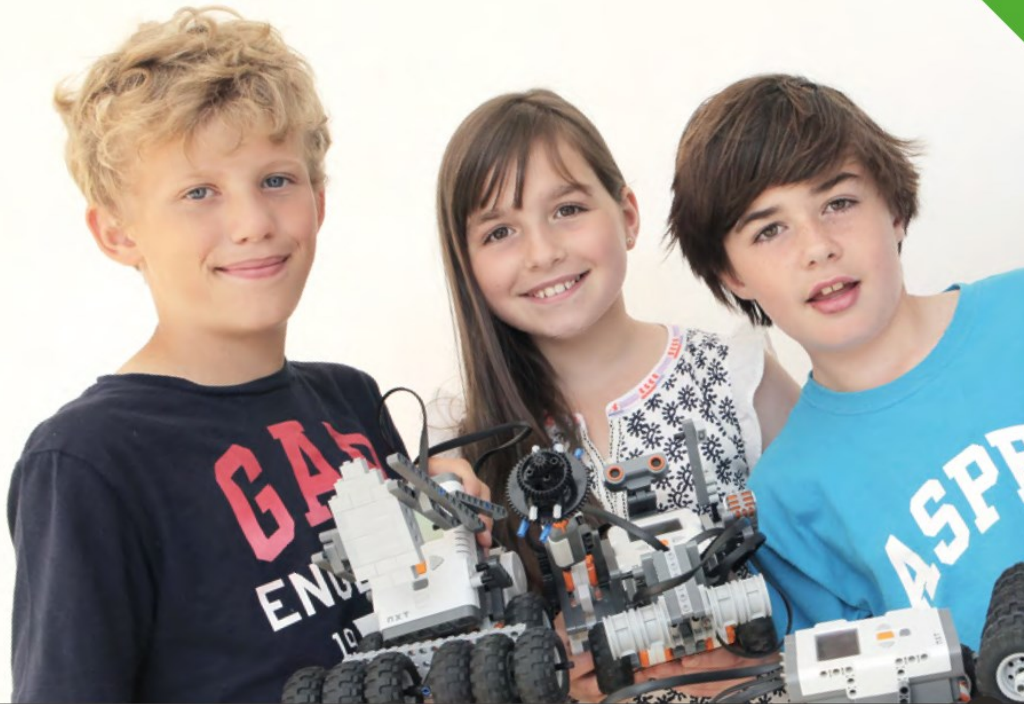
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*Please contact us to reserve a space for these events.

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GEORGE (AGED 12)



"BEST CAMP"

HARRIET (AGED 11)



"IT WAS SO FUN!"

FREDDIE (AGED 10)

7-10 YEARS

NEW

ALL AGES



MINECRAFT
WITH MODS



LEGO
ROBOTICS
LEVEL 1



SCRATCH
PROGRAMMING



FUNTYPER
TOUCH TYPING

10-13 YEARS

NEW

NEW



MINECRAFT
REDSTONE
ELECTRONICS



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ROBOTICS
LEVEL 2



APP
DESIGN



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DESIGN

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CODER
LEVEL 1



JAVA
CODER
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2017

SUMMER

FUN

Monday 24th July - Friday 28th July

Monday 31st July - Friday 4th August

Monday 7th August - Friday 11th August

9 am to 3 pm

SUMMER FUN 2017

Due to the popularity of Furze Platt's annual Summer Fun, we are delighted to announce that this year's activities will run for 3 weeks.

This fabulous opportunity is open to all 9-14 year olds – come along and make new friends, play team games, interact positively with younger and older students and learn from our qualified instructors. For children in their last years at junior schools, being on site can help with the transition to secondary school and for all younger people, a chance to polish their leadership skills and have lots of fun!

Weeks 1 and 2

**Monday 24th - Friday 28th July and
Monday 31st July – Friday 4th August**

Summer Sports and Activities

We are offering a huge range of sports and activities every day plus each week you can enjoy a fantastic water day on the lake*

Including: Fencing, Raft Building, Hockey, Team Games, Basketball, Swimming, Football, Kayaking, Athletics, Softball, Badminton, Capture the Flag, Table Tennis, Paddle Boarding, Netball, Rounders and much more!

£95 per person per week
(no water day included)

£130 per person per week
(water day included)

*please note: there are limited numbers for water activities

Week 3

Monday 7th - Friday 11th August

Furze Platt's Summer Sketch Show Extravaganza

Spend a week with us and let your imagination soar. Over the week, you will have the chance to write, learn and rehearse sketches specifically designed for young performers. Supported by older students who will provide lighting, sound and all technical elements, as well as experienced Drama staff, no experience is necessary to take part. This is a wonderful opportunity to develop performance skills, as well as having a lot of fun!

£95 per person per week

There is no water day during the Sketch Show week as there will be a performance on the Friday.

CLICK HERE TO BOOK

To book, please complete the booking form online using the link above and pay online to Lloyds Bank a/c no: 42740560 sort code: 30-95-36 marked 'Summer' and your child's surname.

Participants will need to bring appropriate clothing and a packed lunch.

Concessions available.

For more information please e-mail media@furzeplatt.net or call Catherine Johnstone on 01628 625308 ext 347.