

# FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #54.1



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING



**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

I am delighted to be able to invite you to this event, the primary purpose of which is to inform you of the full range of opportunities available to those wishing to take courses post 16. We are very proud of our Sixth Form and its record of high achievement. The evening will hopefully provide students with the information they need to make informed choices when selecting their courses. Please could we ask you to arrive at 6.15pm, so the presentation in the Main Hall starts promptly at 6.25pm.

The new prospectuses will be available on the evening.

The programme for the evening is outlined below. The main presentation will be followed by the possibility of attending up to FIVE talks on various 'A' Levels and Level 3 Applied courses.

6pm – 6.20pm External Applicants: Welcome Meeting

6.25pm – 6.55pm Main Presentation in the Main Hall: introductory talks by:-

1. Amy Slater, Sam Lloyd and Will Parsons (Student Leadership Team) - Welcome.
2. Mr J Dollery, Head of Sixth Form, Mr E Towill, Associate Headteacher and Ms T White, Headteacher – The Admissions Process; The Curriculum; Induction; Tutorial Programme; Academic Monitoring/Reporting; Preparation for Careers and Higher Education.

All subject presentations will be available at the following times:



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ALL EVENTS
- SPORTS CALENDAR
- SCHOOL CLUBS LIST

### Next Week (Week 2)

<b>MON 8</b> JANUARY	Year 8 World Music Day	
<b>MON 8 - FRI 19</b> JANUARY	Year 8 GCSE Taster Lesson Fortnight	
<b>TUE 9</b> JANUARY	PTFA Meeting (Meeting Room)	6pm - 7pm
<b>THU 11</b> JANUARY	Sixth Form Open Evening (Main Hall) Guest Students arrive at 6pm Current Students arrive at 6.15pm for prompt start at 6.25pm	6pm - 9pm

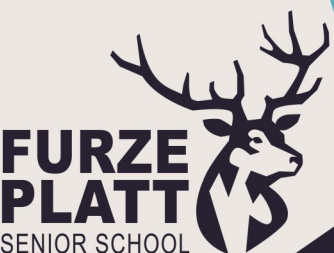
### Forthcoming Events

<b>THU 18</b> JANUARY	Year 8 Band 'F' Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm
<b>THU 25</b> JANUARY	Year 8 Band 'P' Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm

1. 7.00pm – 7.20pm
2. 7.25pm – 7.45pm
3. 7.50pm – 8.10pm
4. 8.15pm – 8.35pm
5. 8.40pm – 9.00pm

In EACH session, you will be able to listen to, and ask questions about one of the subjects below. Time will be available for questions at the end. For any talk you are unable to attend, information will be available in the

Cont. on page 2



# SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING 2018

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January**

**GUEST STUDENTS START 6PM**

**CURRENT STUDENTS START 6.25PM**

## A-LEVEL RESULTS 2017

**99% PASS RATE**  
OUR NEW RECORD



prospectus and online. Senior staff and Sixth Form students will also be available for consultation.

### **A level Courses and Level 3 Applied Courses**

- Art and Design A Level
- Biology A Level
- Business Extended Certificate (BTEC Level 3) Single
- Business Diploma (BTEC Level 3) Double Qualification
- Business Studies A Level
- Chemistry A Level
- Computer Science A level
- Digital Media, Level 3 Cambridge Technical
- Drama A Level
- Economics A Level
- English Literature A Level
- Extended Project Qualification
- Further Maths A Level
- French A Level
- Geography A Level
- German A Level
- History A Level
- IT Level 3 Cambridge Technical
- Maths A Level
- Music A Level
- Philosophy, Religion and Ethics A Level
- Physical Education A Level
- Physics A Level
- Photography A Level
- Politics A Level
- Product Design A Level
- Psychology A Level
- Sociology A Level
- Spanish A Level
- Sport Extended Certificate (BTEC Level 3)

Availability of courses will depend on there being sufficient demand. The option timetable is constructed once subject preferences have been indicated after Open Evening. In addition, some subjects may be taught at another Maidenhead Consortium School and as a result some consortium subjects may not be represented during the Open Evening.

I do hope you will be able to attend this valuable meeting.

Mr J Dollery, Head of Sixth Form

### **DUKE OF EDINBURGH**

Thank you to all students who met with me last term to log onto their E DofE account. I have seen some fantastic activities logged for individual sections, and I hope you enjoy working towards them. Please can you ask your son / daughter to check their accounts to ensure I have approved their activities.

Please continue to spend at least one hour per week on your activities, and I will meet with you again shortly to check your progress.

If there are any students who still need to upload their programme planners, please click the links below to a couple of YouTube tutorials to help with this. I can be contacted by email if you need help with any usernames or passwords.

**TUTORIAL 1: GETTING STARTED, SETTING TIMESCALES**

**TUTORIAL 2: GETTING STARTED WITH YOUR SECTIONS**

Please see group lists in the link below:

**DUKE OF EDINBURGH GROUP LISTS**

Groups need to meet with Miss Carty after school in IT2 on the following dates:

- Groups 1-3 on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January
- Groups 4-6 on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January
- Groups 7-9 on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January
- Groups 10-12 on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January
- Groups 13-15 on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January
- Groups 16-18 on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January
- Groups 19-21 on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January
- Groups 22-24 on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January

### **DofE Payments**

Any outstanding payments need to be paid as soon as possible, these can now be made on My Little Box Office using the links below.

Please contact me at [desrene.carty@furzeplatt.net](mailto:desrene.carty@furzeplatt.net) if you have any questions.

Miss D Carty, Alternative Curriculum Support Worker

**BRONZE AWARD - FINAL PAYMENT**

**SILVER AWARD - FINAL PAYMENT**

### **SPORTS FIXTURES**

Tuesday - U14's Girls football v Windsor (Home)  
4pm KO on Astro

U13's Boys football v Trinity (Away)

Year 7 football training. Be prepared to train on grass or Astro

Thursday - U14's Girls football v Garth Hill (Home) on Astro  
Year 9 and 10 football training. Be prepared to train on grass or Astro.



## YEAR 10 GCSE PREPARATION – PRE-PUBLIC EXAMS

YEAR  
10

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) are a crucial part of our students' preparation towards excelling in their GCSEs in 2019, both testing students' progress across their different subjects and familiarising them with the rigours of exam papers and the environment of the exam hall.

Details of timings for the PPE Week are in the link below.

If you have any queries, then please do not hesitate to contact me either by phone (01628 625308) or email ([james.sheppard@furzeplatt.net](mailto:james.sheppard@furzeplatt.net)).

Mr J Sheppard, Deputy Headteacher

### YEAR 10 PPE DETAILS AND TIMETABLE

## YEAR 11 GCSE PREPARATION – PRE-PUBLIC EXAMS

YEAR  
11

We are entering a very important time for Year 11s, as they prepare to excel in this 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. A programme of PPEs has been scheduled between September and March for Year 11. There will be further PPEs for English, Maths and Philosophy & Religion over the next few weeks.

### Key PPE Dates:

- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2018 – PE Assessed Practical
- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 – Maths PPE 3
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – English PPE 2
- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – Maths PPE 4
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – English PPE 3
- Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – Philosophy & Religion PPE 2

PPEs take place during the normal school day, and students will be expected to be in lessons if they do not have an exam. There is no 'study leave' for PPEs and students will be in school from 8.45am to 3.15pm as usual. However, when students have afternoon exams they will be permitted to leave after the exam finishes. Please note that, while some exams will finish before 3:15, there are some subjects that will not finish until after 3:30 (particularly where a student qualifies for extra time in their exams).

Mr J Sheppard, Deputy Headteacher

## STAFF CHANGES IN MATHS AND BUSINESS / ECONOMICS

### Maths Department

After many years of excellent service to the school, Mrs Bull has left to join her husband and family in the Czech Republic. Mr Alami, who joined the school in September, has also left. We are very grateful to both Mrs Bull and Mr Alami for their contributions to the Maths department and wish

them well. Mrs Bull will still be providing some consultancy and support services to the Maths department.

They are replaced by Ms Lucy Wrench and Ms Dori Nemeth. We have taken this opportunity to reorganise the teaching of a large number of Maths classes. Students will be told who their new teachers and which rooms they should go to during their first Maths lesson this week.

### Business and Economics Department

Due to promotion, Mrs Wood has taken up a post in another school. We are very grateful to Mrs Wood for her contribution to the Business and Economics department, and wish her well in her new post.

Ms Lucy Naylor has been appointed as Head of Business and Economics. Mrs Nisbat Mhearban has also joined the department, and will initially be shadowing Mrs Boswell, who begins her maternity leave in February. There will be a small number of changes to Sixth Form timetables in Business and Economics, and students will be told about these during lessons.

We are very excited by the appointment of these new teachers, and wish them an enjoyable and fulfilling time with us at Furze Platt.

Mr E Towill, Associate Headteacher

## ENGLISH REVISION PROGRAMME

The English Department will be running Revision Sessions for Year 11 students, starting on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January. These sessions will cover GCSE revision for both the English Language and English Literature papers, including all set texts. This programme of revision has been put in place to help students manage their workload and alleviate exam pressure.

Students will be able to choose the areas of study they feel they would most benefit from extra revision. At present the sessions will be filled on a 'first come first served' basis, up to a maximum of 20 per class. However, after half term pre-booking will take place – more details to follow later.

All sessions will take place after school on Wednesdays from 3.15pm-4.15pm, starting on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018. They will take place in the following classrooms:

English Literature - E4

English Language Component 1 - E5

English Language Component 2 - E6

The revision class options are listed in the link below, along with a reminder of the contents of the GCSE English Literature and Language exams.

We hope you find this information useful and if you have questions or concerns, please email [samantha.jayne@furzeplatt.net](mailto:samantha.jayne@furzeplatt.net).

Miss S Jayne, Acting Head of English and Media

### ENGLISH REVISION PROGRAMME





## SCHOOL NEWS



### FIREFIT SUCCESS



Congratulations to all our Firefit students who completed their awards, held in conjunction with Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Services (RBFRS).



Sessions were run by firefighters and members of RBFRS' Prevention team, all of whom hold a range of qualifications, including nutrition for physical activity, children's fitness, and a mental health first aid course. Each week, the young people took part in different activities included training, a mixture of fire service activities such as running hose reels and hydrants, and learning about the sugar content in food and swapping unhealthy snacks for more nutritious ones.

Well done to all our students for gaining their certificates of achievement.

### BERKSHIRE CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS



Frank McGrath and Euan Russell (Cookham Running Club) gain county selection with 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> respectively.

Furze Platt pupils put in some outstanding performances at the Berkshire County Cross Country Championships held recently in Prospect Park, Reading. In cold, wet and muddy



conditions, three students - Frank McGrath (Year 8), bronze in the U13 race; Euan Russell (Year 8), 4<sup>th</sup> in U13; and Ben Reynolds (Year 10), 7<sup>th</sup> in the U15 - won automatic county selection with a further two students, Elliot Lowe and Adam Gambrell, being nominated as reserves for the county team heading to the UK Inter-Countries in Loughborough on 10<sup>th</sup> March. Other Furze Platt students competing in Reading were Edwin Isted, Sammy March, Sid Baker-Smith and Beth Murray. Well done to them all.

Thank you to everyone who sends us news and photos of all our students' successes.



## ALUMNI NEWS



### EX FURZE PLATT STUDENT WINS

#### MASTERCHEF: THE PROFESSIONALS

Congratulations to Craig Johnston, who has won the BBC competition MasterChef: The Professionals.

Craig, who is now 22 and is a sous chef at the Michelin-starred Royal Oak Paley Street near Maidenhead, said he was inspired by his food technology teacher whilst at Furze Platt Senior School. He then went on to do an NVQ in professional cooking at Henley College.

Before working at Royal Oak Paley Street, which is owned by Michael Parkinson, he was chef de partie in a restaurant in Mayfair, London.

The judges were unstinting in their praise of Craig in the competition, which tested the cookery skills of almost 50 professional chefs. Gregg Wallace said: "The best chefs in the world learn and create their own style and that is what I've watched Craig doing in this competition dish after dish, after dish."

Marcus Wareing added: "You don't come across chefs like this very often. It's very rare. I have to say that, truthfully we've just found a star of the future."



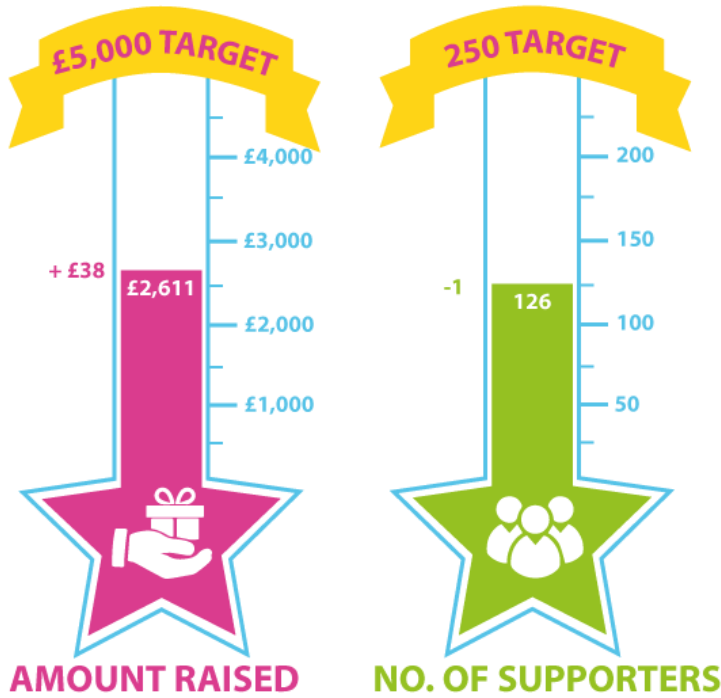


## EASYFUNDRAISING UPDATE

The total raised so far is over £2600, thank you to everyone who has supported us so far.



## EASY FUNDRAISING TOTALISERS



Remember, it doesn't cost you a penny more. Simply:

1. Log in to [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) and choose Furze Platt Senior School as your cause
2. Choose your retailer or shop

Carry on with your online shopping as normal

Thank you.

## RBWM WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS AND CARERERS



Workshops for parents/ carers on the following issues are available:

### Online Safety

- What children are accessing online
- What the outline dangers are

- How to reduce the risks
- Sexting
- Grooming
- What to do if there is an incident
- Where to get help

### Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

- What is CSE
- Signs of CSE
- Young peoples vulnerabilities
- Grooming
- Sexting
- Where to get help and supporting young people

### Awareness & Substance Misuse

- Reasons why young people may use drugs
- Types of drugs that young people may use
- Effects of drugs and dangers
- Street names of drugs
- Drugs and the law
- How to talk to your child about drugs
- Links to peer pressure & how young people can be supported

[CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS - VENUES AND TIMINGS](#)

## PTFA MEETING



The next PTFA meeting will be on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 6pm in the Meeting Room. Everyone is welcome to come along. Refreshments will be available.

## 200 CLUB



The PTFA has reinstating the popular 200 Club with large cash prizes for the lucky winners.

With 200 numbers in play there will be 3 prizes of £400 each, and the PTFA could also make £6,000 per year to help fund requests for the school, so we are keen to ensure as many numbers are sold as possible.

If you would like to join, please do click on the links below for either annual or monthly payments - it is a very easy and straightforward process. Each number costs £5 per month or an annual cost of £57 (this is for 4 draws, 1 per quarter).

[ANNUAL PAYMENT](#)

[MONTHLY PAYMENTS](#)



## REMINDERS

### STEEL PAN WORKSHOP

YEAR  
8



**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

Reminder about Year 8 Steel Pan workshop. Please return the slip if you would like your son/daughter to participate. It is a fantastic opportunity to play some instruments we don't offer regularly in the Music Department.

Miss K Johnston, Head of Music

**YEAR 8 STEEL PAN WORKSHOP - REPLY SLIP**



YEAR  
7

YEAR  
8

YEAR  
9

YEAR  
10

YEAR  
11

YEAR  
12

YEAR  
13

### REPORTS

All year groups' reports have now been issued and are available online as usual via Go 4 Schools. The service is available either by going to our website [www.furzeplatt.com](http://www.furzeplatt.com) and clicking on the quick link 'Online Reporting', or by going directly to Go 4 Schools [www.go4schools.com](http://www.go4schools.com).

Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at [reports@furzeplatt.net](mailto:reports@furzeplatt.net).

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager



YEAR  
9

### YEAR 9 INJECTIONS

#### (FEMALE STUDENTS)

Please could you return reply slips giving permission for your daughter to receive injections (these are for all Year 9s (Td/IPV) Tetanus, diphtheria and polio) as soon as possible.



**FOUND** – Bank card in the name of Mr Clementson. Please call Main Reception for details.



FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

# SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January

6.00pm – External Applicants:  
Welcome Meeting

6.25pm – Main Presentation for current students  
and external applicants

**FURZE  
PLATT**  
SENIOR SCHOOL



## The Right Choice!

- ▶ Exceptional range of A-level and Level 3 Applied Courses, taught in small classes by subject experts.
- ▶ Impressive examination results put Furze Platt Senior in the top 25% of schools nationally.

**'The Sixth Form is a strength of the school' – Ofsted 2016**

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

Tel: 01628 625308 • [www.furzeplatt.com](http://www.furzeplatt.com)