

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #54.4



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

TOP A-LEVEL 'VALUE ADDED' STATE SCHOOL IN WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD

Furze Platt Senior School has the highest VA (Value Added) score for Sixth Form in Maidenhead.

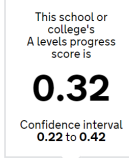
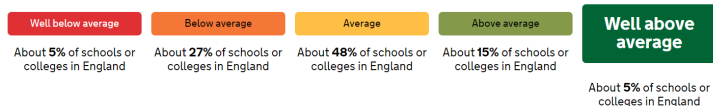
What does this mean?

These figures tell you how much progress students who studied A levels at this school or college made between the end of key stage 4 and the end of their A-level studies, compared to similar students across England.

The scores are calculated by comparing the A-level results of students at this school or college with the A-level results of students in schools and colleges across England who started with similar results at the end of the previous key stage – key stage 4.

The majority of schools and colleges have progress scores between -2 and +2.

A levels progress score for Furze Platt Senior School



[VIEW FULL REPORT](#)

[SIXTH FORM APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN - APPLY NOW](#)

GCSE RESULTS IN TOP THIRD FOR 'VALUE-ADDED' NATIONALLY

Furze Platt Senior School has a 'Progress 8 score' of 0.17, placing it in the top third of schools in the country for progress at GCSE. Within this, progress of students in Humanities subjects is in the top 20% of schools nationally and in the top 10% for Science.



UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Next Week (Week 1)

MON 29 JANUARY	Interhouse Football & Netball	
FRI 9 FEBRUARY		
TUE 30 JANUARY	Year 11 Exam Preparation Evening	6.30pm
THU 1 FEBRUARY	Intermediate Maths Challenge	All Day
	Year 8 Options Evening	6pm - 9pm

Forthcoming Events

MON 5 FEBRUARY	Year 11 Photographs	
MON 5 - THU 8 FEBRUARY	School Musical - Addams Family	7.30pm - 9.30pm
FRI 9 FEBRUARY	End of Term 3	
MON 12 - FRI 16 FEBRUARY	Half Term	
FRI 19 FEBRUARY	Start of Term 4 - All Years (Week 1)	8.40am - 3.15pm

[SCHOOL CLUBS LIST 2018 FOR TERMS 3-4](#)

[TERM DATES 2018 - 2019](#)

YEAR 11 EXAM PREPARATION EVENING

Tuesday 30th January at 6.30pm - CHANGE OF DATE

I would like to invite you and your son/daughter to our Year 11 Exam Preparation Evening, taking place on Tuesday 30th January at 6.30pm in the Main Hall. We have brought this event forward from the published date of

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Thursday 1st March, following requests from parents and students. During this evening we will share:

- How students should identify what to revise
- The best methods of revision
- Information on revision resources available
- Support the school is giving students both in lessons and outside of lessons
- How parents / carers can support their sons / daughters
- Preliminary information on the last minute revision sessions that will be offered over the Easter holidays

Please do make every effort to attend with your son / daughter. I apologise that this is in the same week as the Year 8 Options Evening.

Mr E Towill, Associate Headteacher

YEAR 8 OPTIONS EVENING

Thursday 1st February 2018

I would like to invite you and your child to the Year 8 Options evening, to be held at school on Thursday 1st February. The event is an information evening designed to guide you and your son /daughter through the process of choosing the subjects that will be studied over the next three years. We will highlight the subject choices available and offer advice on how to pick the curriculum best suited for your child.

This event is always extremely well attended which is why we split the talks over two sittings. After the talk has finished, there will be an opportunity to talk with the subject teachers should you have any questions. Please be advised that due to the number of people attending, the car park can sometimes be quite busy, so we would ask that where possible, parents walk to school for the talk.

Event	Year 8 Options Evening
Times	18.00 – 21:00
1 st Talk	18.00 Houses: Bisham, Bray, Cookham, Dorney
2 nd Talk	19.00 Houses: Eton, Henley, Marlow, Windsor
Venue	Talk will be in the Main Hall followed by an Options Fair in the Maths Block

Mr A Molin, Key Stage 3-4 Co-ordinator

YEAR 11 PHOTOS

Monday 5th February

As well as the whole year photograph, students will be able to have friendship group photos taken. Please can you encourage them to liaise with the groups they would like to be with.

YEAR 11 LEAVERS' HOODIES

Deadline Friday 9th February

If you would like to order a Furze Platt Senior School Leavers' Hoodie for your son / daughter, you can do so on the order form via this link:

[ORDER A LEAVERS' HOODIE](#)

Please note: the deadline for orders and payment is Friday 9th February. Any orders received after this date may not be processed.



Our Leavers' Hoodies are 80% cotton and 20% polyester, and a range of sizes are offered on the order form. If a nickname is requested this will appear on the back of the hoodie, with our school logo on the front.

If students would like to see a colour chart they are welcome to come to my office at breaktimes.

If you have any queries please do email me: catherine.johnstone@furzeplatt.net

Mrs C Johnstone, Marketing and Events Manager

YEAR 11 END OF SCHOOL CELEBRATION OPPORTUNITIES

As your son/daughter reaches the end of their GCSE courses and the end of compulsory education, a number of traditions to mark this time have evolved in recent years. This is to let you know exactly what they are, and enable you to be aware of the financial implications of some of these.

[YEAR 11 END OF SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS LETTER](#)

ART AND COOKHAM HOUSE STAFF CHANGES

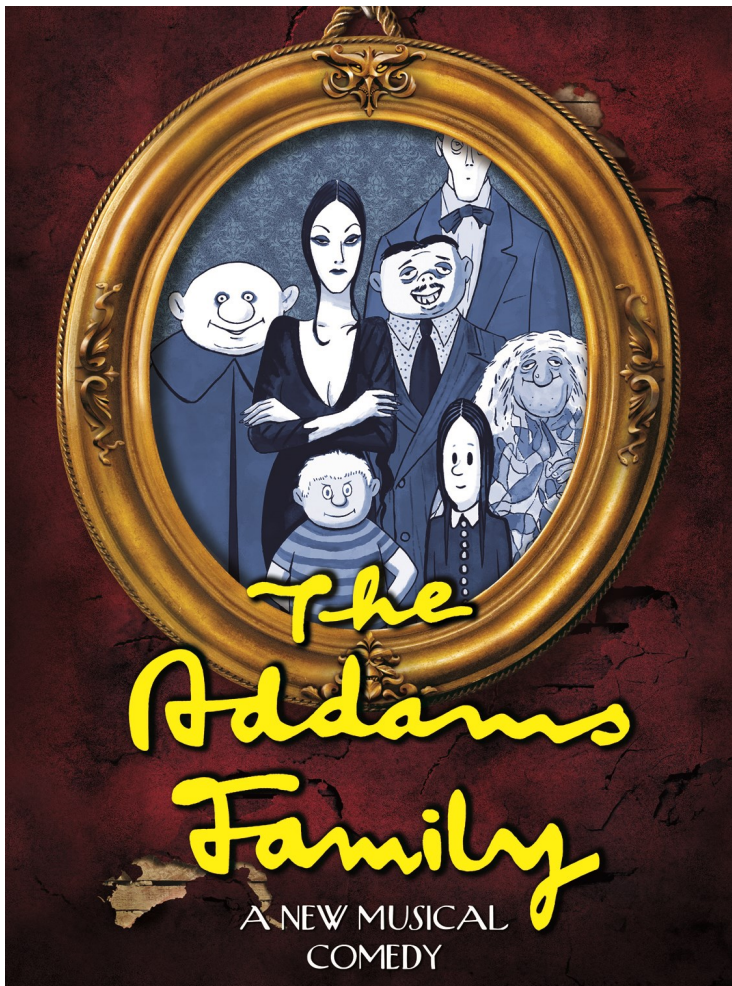
We wish Miss Holmes the very best as she begins her maternity leave on Monday 29th January. We welcome Ms Amanda Taylor and Ms Lily Elms as replacement Art teachers, while Miss Tomlin will take over as Head of Cookham. We have made a small number of changes to Art classes to accommodate this transition, while Miss Tomlin's History classes will now be taken by Mr Summers.



ADDAMS FAMILY

Tickets for our Upper School musical 'The Addams Family' go on sale on Monday 29th January at 9am via The Little Box Office on our website. Here's a little teaser from our singing rehearsal last week:

SNEAK PREVIEW VIDEO CLIP



The U13 team consisted of Callum Bleazard, Harry Holbrook, George Stratford, Charlie Shervell and Tim Golding, and Ava Neeves and Kensa Horner competed in the U15 Girls' event, with Sophia Blake in the U13 race.

Adam, Sammy and Frank have qualified to represent Berkshire Schools at the SE Schools Inter-Counties Champs in February.



YEAR 11 MACBETH AND JEYKLL AND HYDE COMPETITION



Well done to the winners of our English poetry competitions:
Macbeth Elizabeth Healey – excellent use of couplets and change of tone at the end.

Macbeth



*Macbeth was known as a courageous fighter,
The captain thought that his future was brighter.
He had one fatal flaw, his excessive pride,
Egged on by Lady Macbeth, his blushing bride.
One day he met with the three witches
They told him the truths of his future and riches.
"Thane of Cawdor", "future king", they said,
This was soon to play with Macbeth's head.
Later he told his wife of the good news,
And then, she said, he had to chose.
"Thou must" kill the King she said,
Your fortune is certain once the man is dead.
That night Duncan stayed at their castle,*

FURZE PLATT WINS BERKSHIRE SCHOOLS' U17 XC TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS



The winning team, consisting of Adam Gambrill, Sammy March, Ben Reynolds and Toby Ralphs (pictured), beat runners from across the region to claim the hotly contested title.

The championships, which took place on Saturday 20th January at Newbury Showground, featured students from both independent and comprehensive schools battling for victory in cold, wet weather. In addition to our victorious U17 team, our U15 team did well to come sixth, with Edwin Isted, Iwan Hughes, Josh Dille, Sid Baker-Smith, Jack Staunton and Frank McGrath finishing strongly. Frank was 6th in the U15 boys race.

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Macbeth knew that he had to get rid of that rascal.
 After the murder, he blamed everybody,
 Even a bell, his excuses were shoddy.
 Act 2 scene 4, Ross was suspicious,
 But was worried Macbeth would become even more vicious.
 Soon after wanted to kill his good friend Banquo,
 His fate with Banquo alive? He did not know.
 "To be thus is nothing" now he cried,
 And that day after, Banquo died.
 But his guilt was catching up with him, he felt really bad
 He saw Banquo's ghost, his actions made him sad!
 He then met with the three witches again,
 Down the road in a small local glen.
 They held more prophecies, he had good fortunes
 But beware Macduff, they said that day in June.
 But Macduff soon left, to England for help
 "Macbeth's a traitor" he yelled and yelled.
 His family weren't happy, they called him unroyal
 But they were soon killed, ordered by the royals.
 Lady Macbeth started to sleepwalk, a true sign of guilt
 The royalty's pride had started to wilt.
 Soon after, Macbeth and Macduff met again,
 There in battle in the pouring rain.
 'I am caesarean' Macduff cried
 and he stuck Macbeth dead,
 Malcolm became King,
 what Macbeth had dread.

Jekyll and Hyde Peter Anderson – use of jolly tone,
 emulating that of Roald Dahl and creative using use of
 vocabulary.



Roald Dahl Challenge – Jekyll and Hyde

There once lived a lawyer called Utterson,
 His life was a bore, he had no fun.
 His very favourite part of the week,
 Was a boring old Sunday walk, how bleak?
 It chanced on one such ramble,
 That his friend remembered a scandal.
 A little girl was pushed over,
 By a man in a bulldozer
 And so the man paid a very large fine,
 To try to make up for his horrible crime.

Utterson dealt with many wills
 But none had puzzled him until,
 One client called Dr Jekyll
 Almost begged and tried to heckle
 To give his money – his pride,
 To a despicable Mr Hyde.

He sought guidance in one Dr Lanyon
 For his knowledge was vast like a canyon.
 The lawyer asked 'Do you know Mr Hyde?'
 'I'm afraid not' the Dr replied
 Although the Dr could help him not,
 Gabriel Utterson began to plot,
 'I shall be Mr Seek' he cried
 'If he be Mr Hyde.'

Utterson hid in the dark alley,
 Watching drunkards walk past and dally.
 He waited and waited, taking his time
 Until he saw a brute, covered in grime.
 'That must be Hyde,' he thought
 'But he looks more like a juggernaut.'
 So for a while he studied his face
 And even learnt his dwelling place.

Dr Jekyll was also his friend
 And he lived close, just around the bend.
 He knocked on the door
 Admiring the house in awe,
 And was greeted by the servant Poole,
 And this old man was no fool.
 He pushed the matter but what he found
 Was that he could get no further than the ground.

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Almost one whole year on,
 Another ghastly deed had been done.
 Sir Danvers Carew, Hyde did meet,
 But his body lay sprawled across the street.
 A maid witnessed it was Hyde,
 An act so bad she fainted and cried.

Both of his friends were acting strange,
 Especially Lanyon who acted deranged.
 He fell deeply and gravely ill,
 And soon enough they paid his funeral bill.

Many letters were exchanged
 Before he knew why his friends acted strange.
 Lanyon learned something of Jekyll and Hyde
 And the pure shock was why he died.
 Jekyll had locked himself in his study
 With nobody, not even a buddy.

Utterson and Poole
 Grabbed some stools
 And smashed the study door to bits,
 It only took them a few hits.
 Inside they found Hyde's body,
 A mangled corpse that looked so shoddy,
 But in his hand he held a letter
 That FINALLY explained everything, that's better!

Jekyll and Hyde they were the same
 And poor Dr Jekyll was to blame.
 He created a strange potion
 That tasted like sun lotion
 And when he drank it,
 This is the best bit,
 He emerged as Mr Hyde
 And all of his kindness died.

YEARS 7 AND 8 – NATIONAL '500 WORD STORY COMPETITION'

Over the next few weeks, students from Years 7 + 8 will be competing in BBC Radio 2's National '500 Word Story Competition'.

The competition aims to showcase imagination and originality, and the prize is the chance to attend an awards ceremony with their work being read out by a celebrity and even tea on the Queen's row barge if they win. Winners and runners up will also win an abundance of books

Good luck to everyone involved.



SPORTS NEWS

Fantastic result by our Year 9 Boys' Football team, beating Kennet School, Thatcham, 3-0 on Tuesday. Superb play from the whole team with Leon Best-Martinez awarded MoM and a great debut from Ben Shepherd!



COMMUNITY NEWS

200 CLUB

Our next draw will be on the evening of the finale performance of our Upper School Addams Family musical. Three lucky winners will win large cash prizes! One number costs either £57 as an annual payment or you can pay a monthly payment of £5 for 12 months. You may purchase more than one number.

Our PTFA could benefit up to £6000 per year - so please do support us and have a chance at winning a large cash prize.

If you have not purchased your numbers yet Please click here for more details or below:

200 CLUB

Winning numbers for Draw 2

on Thursday 8th February 2018



HOW DOES THE 200 CLUB WORK?

- ANNUAL PAYMENT
- MONTHLY PAYMENTS

FREE FOOTBALL TICKETS

On Sunday 4th February, Reading Women are beginning their Women's FA Cup campaign at Adams Park against Birmingham City Ladies (Kick Off 2:00PM).

Here at Reading FC, as part of our commitment to help grow the Women's game we see this as an excellent opportunity to invite local schools to this fixture, completely free of charge.

To register for your complimentary e-tickets, please click the link below! Please click the link below.

REGISTER FOR FREE TICKETS



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Once registered, we will aim to send you your tickets via e-mail within 7 days.

If you have not attended a Reading Women match day at Adams Park and would like to know more, please click here!

These complimentary tickets have been sent onto local schools around Adams Park.

EASYFUNDRAISING UPDATE

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

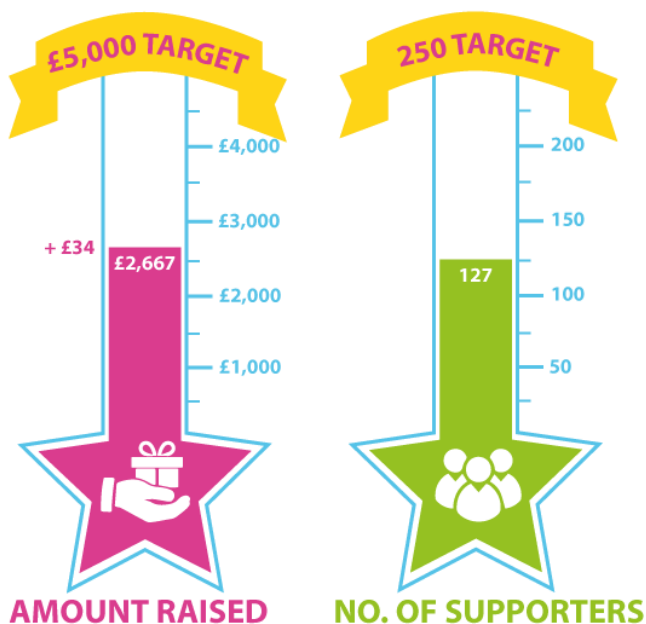
Remember, it doesn't cost you a penny more. Simply:

1. Log in to 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.

EASY FUNDRAISING TOTALISERS



REMINDERS

LATE SCHOOL START

Friday 16th March at 9.10am

I am writing to inform you that school will start at 9.10am on the following occasions:

- Friday 16th March
- Friday 23rd March

Students should go straight to period 2 which starts at 9.10am. The reason for this late start is because on these occasions, there are Year 7 or Year 8 parents' evenings taking place on the previous evening.

Mr E Towill, Associate Headteacher

YEARS 10 AND 11 GCSE MUSIC 'WICKED – THE MUSICAL' THEATRE TRIP

Wednesday 21st February 2018

The letter regarding Year 10 & 11 GCSE Music Trip is in the link below.

[WICKED MUSICAL TRIP LETTER AND REPLY SLIP](#)

REPLACEMENT BOOK COSTS

At the beginning of the GCSE English course, all students were given hard copies of the English texts they are studying. However, we need to ensure that all these textbooks are returned for future use.

Unfortunately, experience has shown that we have struggled to get back all of the textbooks at the end of the year. The cost of replacement books is now prohibitively expensive for the Department.

In light of this, we have decided to request payment from students who lose or do not return their textbooks at the end of the module.

The textbooks and replacement costs are as follows:

- An Inspector Calls (hardback version) - £6.00
- Macbeth - £6.00

Students will of course be reminded of when they have to return their books at the end of each module, and are given many opportunities to bring them in before any charges are levied. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation with this matter.

Miss S Jayne, Acting Head of English and Media Studies