



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



REPORTS

Year 7 reports have 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 and clicking on Parents, then Reports 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

[VIEW REPORT](#)

YEARS 7 AND 8 REPORTS – UPDATE

I am writing to give you an update on Year 7 and 8 reports. The first set of reports were issued just before Christmas. In those reports we focused on:

1. **Attitude to Learning** – how well students were working in lessons and at home;
2. **Progress** – whether students were making the progress we expected given how well they did in previous years.

We have since received feedback from students and teachers. On 26th February we held a Parents' Community Group meeting where approximately 50 Year 7 and 8 parents gave their views. It is clear that there are aspects of the current system that are confusing, and that parents would like greater clarity. Some parents want greater follow-through when a student is not doing well. Many, though not all, parents, would prefer a simple attainment grade rather than the focus on progress. There was also concern at the language used, including 'just behind,' and especially 'cause for concern.' Several parents were uncomfortable with the use of colour coding, especially the use of red for 'cause for concern.'

We are therefore reviewing our current reporting arrangements in order to ensure they are clear and accurate, and enable both parents and teachers to provide extra support to those who need it. This work will be completed by the summer term.



UPCOMING EVENTS

[ALL EVENTS](#)

[SPORTS CALENDAR](#)

[SCHOOL CLUBS LIST](#)

Next Week (Week 2)

THU 15 MARCH	Year 7 (Band 'F') Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm
FRI 16 MARCH	Late school start	9.10am

Forthcoming Events

THU 22 MARCH	Year 7 (Band 'P') Parents' and Students' Consultation	4.15pm - 7.15pm
FRI 23 MARCH	Late school start	9.10am

As a result, the next set of reports will only report on Attitude to Learning. Year 7 parents will be able to find out exactly how their child is doing during the forthcoming parents' evenings, which are being held on Thursday 15th March and Thursday 22nd March.

Our end of year reports, which will be issued in July, will then report on Attitude to Learning, plus either Progress or Attainment (or perhaps both).

I would like to thank all Year 7 and 8 parents who have provided feedback on our reporting system.

Mr E Towill, Associate Headteacher

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



INFORMATION PROJECT

We are looking at the different ways in which we as a school communicate with you electronically and how we collect online payments, and the different systems we use to do this. If you have any comments or feedback on this please click and complete the attached survey or send comments to mila.coombs@furzeplatt.net. Thank you.



NEW TEACHING BLOCK AND NEW HALL: INVITATION TO PARENTS' INFORMATION EVENING



We are delighted to confirm that construction of our new teaching block will commence during the Easter holidays. This is the first of two phases of site improvement and expansion:

Phase 1: April 2018-February 2019

Construction of new teaching block, with 4 new Science classrooms and 12 teaching rooms. This is being built towards the rear of the school, on the site currently occupied by one Science laboratory and two Philosophy and Religion classrooms.



Phase 2: February 2019-November 2019

Construction of second, additional hall. This will replace the current (old) gym and will also result in the demolition of four classrooms.

These are very exciting developments that will considerably enhance students' experience in and out of lessons. Great care and attention has been taken to minimise the impact on

students and staff during the construction process. Four classrooms will be re-roomed, and new timetables will be issued to all students after Easter. We are working very closely with the contractors to ensure that any noise is kept to an absolute minimum, and that both lessons and, of course, examinations, are unaffected. New routes around school have already been devised, and will be shared with students after Easter.



I would like to invite interested parents to a Parents' Information Evening, to be held on Tuesday 27th March at 6pm. This will be in the Hall or a designated classroom, depending on numbers. If you would like to sign up, please do so via the link below.

Thank you

Mr E Towill, Associate Headteacher



MUFTI DAY

Monday 19th March

There will be a Non-Uniform Day on Monday 19th March. If students wish to wear their own clothes, they must purchase a ticket during form time for a minimum donation of £2. All monies raised will be split equally between helping to fund additional break time equipment and Cookham's House charity, The Brett Foundation, who support the homeless and families that are living in poverty and those who have fallen on hard times. Tickets will be on sale during tutor time next week.

Mr Morbey and Miss Lewis, Associate Assistant Headteachers

MUSIC TOUR - IMPORTANT INFORMATION



The Music Tour is taking shape however there are still payments to be made. Some payments are now really quite late – please note the due dates below:

- 3rd instalment was due by Friday 2nd February 2018 (£110)
- 4th and final instalment is due by Friday 23rd March 2018 (£110).

Cont. on page 3

Please can you ensure that you pay these in the same way you paid the deposit (either by Squid or Bank Transfer).

Please note: places on this trip are depended on payment being made in full by the final instalment date of Friday 23rd March.

I will be in contact in the near future with information about polo shirts, passports, EHIC and OA4 documentation.

Thank you for your continued support of the Music Department. If you have anything you would like to discuss regarding payments please contact me at katie.johnston@furzeplatt.net.

Miss K Johnston, Head of Music



DO YOU HAVE ANY SPARE LEGO?

If you would like to donate some Lego to the school we can make very good use of it for a number of our students at lunchtimes.

Thank you.

Miss C Lewis, Shine Administrator

YEAR 7 ENGLISH LITERATURE THEATRE TRIP TO SEE 'A MONSTER CALLS' Thursday 19th July 2018



"Stories are wild creatures, the monster said.
When you let them loose, who knows what havoc they might wreak?"

In line with the Key Stage 3 Curriculum, students have the opportunity to study literature that appreciates the depth and power of the English literary heritage. Year 7 have read the text of 'A Monster Calls' from both a critical and creative perspective; this trip will refine their ability to evaluate the themes and ideas rooted within this text. In addition, it will consolidate their creative skills when observing the transformation of a novel from the page to the stage.

This trip will cost £33, which includes the ticket price and coach journeys between the school and the theatre. We have secured 38 tickets for this sold out performance. Therefore, tickets will be issued on a 'first come, first served' basis. We advise students to bring a packed lunch with them on the day as we will not be able to purchase food at any point throughout the trip.

If you are happy for your son or daughter to participate, please pay, give permission and provide an emergency contact number on the FPSS Box Office via the link at the bottom of this article or through the school website by Thursday 29th March 2018.

Please be aware that this trip is now taking place in the newly extended summer holidays; we hope students and parents will see this as both an opportunity to engage in a love of extra-curricular learning, as well as enjoying an immersive cultural experience in central London. Furthermore, the performance is still in the rehearsal stages and consequently there is no final run-time yet; this will be updated later in the year but we anticipate arriving back at school at approximately 7pm.

Venue details:
The Old Vic Theatre
The Cut,
Lambeth,
SE1 8NB

If financing this trip is difficult for you or your family, please contact samantha.jayne@furzeplatt.net to enquire about funding.

Miss N McDonnell, English Teacher

BOOK A PLACE ON THE TRIP



SCHOOL NEWS



FURZE PLATT STUDENT TO COMPETE IN FRENCH OPEN

Year 10 student Mimi Gray (pictured right) at Heathrow Airport last week with fellow GB swimmers on their way to Italy for a training camp. The group then flew to Paris on Monday to prepare for the French Open this coming weekend. The girls are members of the Senior GB squad which comprises the 10 best swimmers in the country. We wish them all the very best of luck.





SANDERS STREET

Some of our Year 9 DofE groups have been working with Sanders Street learning Street Dance for their skills section of their Bronze Award.



ALUMNI NEWS

FURZE PLATT ALUMNI'S POP DANCE CLASSES



Furze Platt Alumna Emily Scowen has returned to Furze Platt Senior School to set up her Pop Dance classes, currently held at Furze Platt Leisure Centre.

She attended Furze Platt Juniors then Furze Platt Senior School leaving in 2009. During her time here, she left for a year to train in Germany with a relative who owns a Ballet School, coming back to take GCSEs and AS levels in both Dance and German.

At Furze Platt, she loved dance and was awarded the coveted Dance Prefect badge. Emily participated in many school dance shows and could always be found practising for her exams or helping with other peoples' choreography.

Following her successful audition for a Professional Dance School in London studying Tap, Jazz, Ballet, Musical Theatre, Street, Contemporary, Singing and Acting, she graduated with a BA Hons degree in Performing Arts after her 3 years of training.

She is now aiming to set up her own dance school within the Maidenhead area. If you would like to find out more about her classes please contact emily@popdanceworld.com

MARCH FOR WOMEN

Sumayah Siddiqi, Year 7, pictured with Sandi Toksvig OBE in London at the March For Women.



POP DANCE FIT CLASSES

at Furze Platt Leisure Centre, SL6 7NQ

Tone up - Lose weight - Get fit

TUESDAY EVENINGS

1 hour 7:30pm - 8:30pm

All ages, levels & accompanied children welcome!

FIRST CLASS IS FREE

then £6 pay as you go or block booking offers available

Dance to the likes of Wham!, ABBA, Take That, Beyoncé, Olly Murs & many more...

Dance warm ups, different levels of cardio routines, toning & cool downs

Please get in contact for more details

Email: emily@popdanceworld.com

Facebook Page: Popdance Maidenhead



COMMUNITY NEWS

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN THE SUPPORT STAFF TEAM OF AN EXTREMELY POPULAR AND EXPANDING SECONDARY SCHOOL?

- ASSISTANT SITE CONTROLLER
- RECEPTIONIST
- CLEANERS
- CURRENT VACANCIES PAGE

YEAR 7 PLAYGROUND / PTFA

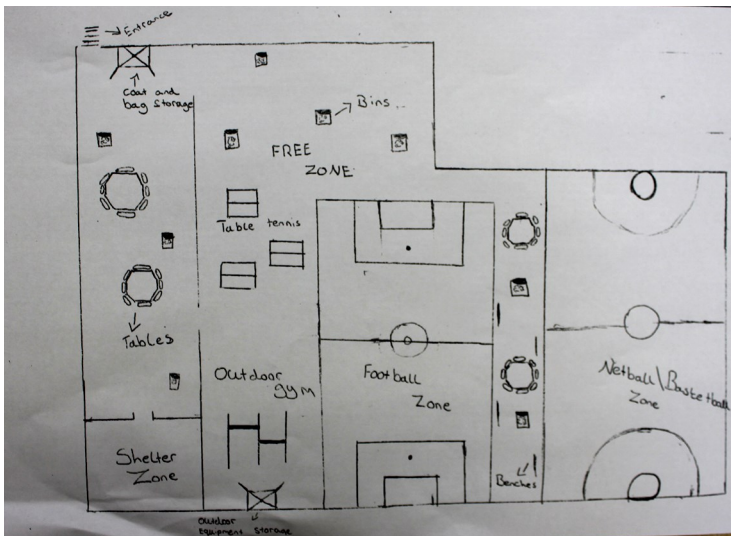


A huge thank you to our PTFA for part funding improvements to our Year 7 Playground, which we hope will take place over the summer holidays. Students will also be fundraising for extra funds via a number of sponsored events. We also hope to secure significant external funding to action their requests, which include: zones for football; netball / basketball; shelter and viewing areas; storage; push up bars; table tennis tables and more. If you would like to make a donation, you can do so online:

Furze Platt Senior School
Lloyds Bank account number: 42740560
sort code: 30-95-36
marked 'Yr7Play'.

Following a meeting of House representatives these Year 7 students presented their ideas to the PTFA earlier this week and did really well dealing with the 'Dragon's Den' panel, who quizzed them about all aspects of the proposed design.

Liam Fitzgibbon
Mia Lawrence
Januki De Alwis
Karina Mehta
and
George Stratford, who drew the designs* for the group



*a proposal design which may be subject to change.

BIG QUIZ 6

7.30pm, Friday 11th May

After the record-breaking turnout of 20 teams for Big Quiz 5 make sure you book early for our next quiz on Friday 11th May. Jeff and Oz will be your quizmasters, with questions, music and fun team challenges. Teams of up to six, food and bar available. The next 200 Club winners will be drawn at the quiz.

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK TICKETS](#)

JOIN THE 200 CLUB TODAY!

Many congratulations to our three 200 Club Winners who are £170 richer after our last draw which took place just before the Finale performance of The Addams Family.

200 CLUB

**Winning numbers for Draw 2
on Thursday 8th February 2018**



HOW DOES THE 200 CLUB WORK?

ANNUAL PAYMENT

MONTHLY PAYMENTS



REMINDERS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

You will have heard the news that Ms White will be leaving us at the end of the Summer this year. It was with mixed emotions that, on behalf of governors, I recently accepted her resignation. Mixed because as a then new Year 7 parent I remember her arrival some 14 years ago and have seen the school go from strength to strength under her leadership ever since. So I personally (as indeed will many of you) will be sorry to see Ms White leave.

The school is very fortunate however to have in place excellent and committed governors, senior leaders, teachers and support staff covering all aspects of our community. We are about to embark on a £7 Million + building and expansion plan including a significant upgrade to our dining facilities which should be of tremendous benefit to both current and future students when completed.

This means that we now need to find an exceptional new Head to lead the school forward over the next few years. Rest assured that the process to find such an individual is underway.

Cont. on page 6

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS (CONT.)

Our aim is to be offering the position to the right person by the end of the first week back after the Easter holidays for a start in September. Should any of you know of such a person do please ask them to contact the school for further information as word of mouth can often be the best form of advertising.

As soon as we have any further news for you I will be in touch.

Gavin Tisshaw, Chair of Governors

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER - SENT ON 26TH FEBRUARY

I am writing to inform you that I have taken the decision to retire from my post this summer (August 2018). The decision has been an extremely difficult one but after fourteen years of headship I feel that it is time for me to step down.

It has been a privilege to be the Headteacher of Furze Platt Senior School and I am very proud of what we have achieved. However, I know that much of our success is down to the highly talented and committed staff and governors at the school and I am very confident that the school's future is in safe hands.

The process to appoint a new Headteacher is already underway and Mr Tisshaw, Chair of Governors, has provided parents with more information in the article above.

I would like to reassure you that I remain wholeheartedly committed to the school and will work as hard and as passionately in maintaining our high standards in the last few months as I always have.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for the unwavering support that you have provided for your sons and daughters, for the school and for me. It is very much appreciated. Furze Platt Senior School is a very special place and I am confident that this is a fantastic opportunity for a new Headteacher.

Ms T White,
Headteacher



ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2018

We are delighted to announce we have a full complement of students for September from our highest ever number of applications. The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead handle all applications and will require responses by Friday 16th March 2018.

IMPORTANT GCSE DRAMA DATES AND INFORMATION

I am writing to inform you of some important dates for our GCSE Drama students. These are different for students in my class and Miss Satterthwaite's class – please see the letters below for the specific dates your son/daughter needs to attend.

Thank you.

Mrs A Bradley, Head of Drama

DRAMA LETTER FOR CLASS 11C1 - MRS BRADLEY

DRAMA LETTER FOR CLASS 11B1 - MISS SATTERTHWAITE

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD FINAL PAYMENT REQUIRED TODAY

Your child will shortly be nearing the end of their three month section. When participants have completed the minimum time requirements and achieved their goals, the DofE requires a written report, which is a record of their progress. This is called an Assessor's Report, and it is mandatory in order to complete each section.

With this in mind, please access the Assessor Report pack in the link below, which gives information about how to approach the Assessor to complete the report.

You will also see a link for the Expedition Information Pack, detailing the necessary information for the upcoming expedition.

Please note, that in order for your child to attend the expedition and ultimately complete their Duke of Edinburgh Award, the assessor's report for the three month sections must be submitted, and payment for the Award must be received in full.

Cont. on page 7

**DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD
INFORMATION (CONT.)**



Reminder: Silver award training Saturday 17th March 2018

If you have not already done so, please pay your outstanding balance on Box Office, which can be accessed via the school's website. BXM will shortly be invoicing us for the expedition, therefore we require full payment from you no later than Friday 9th March. If we have not received full payment by this date, unfortunately we cannot permit your child to attend the expedition.

I would be grateful if you could complete and the enclosed Medical Consent form as soon as possible. These can be handed into reception, and we require them no later than Friday 2nd March.

Please read the information carefully. For any information regarding the Assessor Reports contact Desrene Carty at desrene.carty@furzeplatt.net; for any information regarding the expedition contact Leigh Rose, from BXM at leigh@bxmexpeditions.co.uk.

USEFUL EXAM INFORMATION FOR ALL STUDENTS

- BRONZE BXM MEDICAL CONSENT FORM
- BRONZE ASSESSOR REPORT PACK
- BRONZE EXPEDITION PACK
- SILVER BXM MEDICAL CONSENT FORM
- SILVER ASSESSOR REPORT PACK
- SILVER EXPEDITION PACK



EXAMS HANDBOOK - INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

EXAM INFORMATION WEBPAGE



Interested in a career in teaching?

TEACH
MAIDENHEAD

The best schools - The best pupils - The best teacher training

Train to Teach Information Evening
19 March 2018

7.00 – 8.30pm, talk at 7.15pm

AT MAIDEN ERLAGH SCHOOL - Silverdale Rd, Earley, Reading RG6 7HS

This information evening is for anyone who is considering training to teach, including current teaching assistants, career changers, teachers trained overseas, and those graduating in summer 2018.

If you are interested in finding out more about getting into primary or secondary teaching, come along to meet recent, locally trained, beginning and newly qualified teachers and talk to our specialist school mentors. The evening will be mainly informal with a short presentation and the opportunity for Q&A.

Training is provided in our schools working together with the University of Reading. All our programmes lead to Qualified Teacher Status with tuition fee programmes also earning PGCE (and 60 masters credits). You may be eligible for a salaried place or a bursary.

Please confirm your intention to attend by emailing teachingschool@maidenerleghschool.co.uk

The information evening will be hosted by Maiden Erlegh School, Silverdale Road, Reading, RG6 7HS 0118 9262467

www.berkshireteachingschoolalliance.co.uk





Learning Together

Furze Platt Road, Maidenhead,

Berkshire SL6 7NQ

Tel: 01628 625308

Email: office@furzeplatt.com

Website: www.furzeplatt.com

Would you like to join the support staff team of an extremely popular and expanding secondary school?

Due to expansion we have the following exciting opportunities to start as soon as possible:

Assistant Site Controller

Full time, 37 hours per week. Actual salary range £16,993-£17,728 pa depending on experience (pay review pending)

We are looking for a team player, with good communication and time-management skills who is able to undertake minor maintenance activities such as repairs, painting and cleaning and other general maintenance, to join the site team as the school embarks on an exciting expansion project. You will assist the Site and Facilities Manager in ensuring that the school buildings and site are maintained to a high standard and are secure. Working hours to be considered within a daily time period of 8am to 9pm.

Receptionist Thursday and Friday preferably with an 8am start (negotiable)

Term time only, 15.5 hours per week. Actual salary range £6,390-£6,765 pa depending on experience (pay review pending)

We are looking for someone ideally with some experience of using switchboards, IT systems and working in a customer based environment. As well as operating the switchboard you will be the first point of contact with visitors in school. You will also support the student services team by triaging medical assistance requests from students and carry out ad-hoc administrative tasks when time permits.

Cleaners, Monday to Friday before and after school - £9.50 an hour (pay review pending), casual relief basis

Term time only although opportunities for holiday work may be available

We are looking for people who are physically fit, able to work independently as well as be an effective team player and interested in helping us to maintain a high standard of cleanliness within our school? You will have a cleaning rota to follow and be given the necessary training to ensure that you can operate the cleaning equipment confidently and effectively.

For further information about these roles and in order to complete an application form please refer to our school website www.furzeplatt.com. Application forms should be returned to Gill.dandridge@furzeplatt.net . Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered.

Closing date: Monday 19th March at 9.00am • Interviews: w/c 19th March onwards

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.

SKI TRIP 2019

TO LA THUILE, AOSTA VALLEY

SATURDAY 13TH – SUNDAY 21ST APRIL 2019

Skiing £1,015
Snowboarding £1,025

This includes:

- Extensive 6 day lift pass that covers both La Thuile in Italy and La Rosiere in France.
- Five hours of ski/snowboard lessons per day.
- Full board accommodation including dinner out at a different restaurant every night.
- Exciting après ski programme.
- Travel to and from the resort on a luxury coach.

Open to all current Year 7-12 students who will be at the school in April 2019.

Application forms available from Reception, PE department or Drama department.

[CLICK HERE FOR PDF SKI TRIP 2019 LETTER AND APPLICATION FORM](#)

Deposits due by 23rd March 2018



THE BIG QUIZ



6

Friday 11th May 2018

7.30pm - 10.30pm

At Furze Platt Senior School in the Main Hall

Featuring music, trivia, and picture questions as well as two 'team challenges'.



per person



people per table

But you can book in any numbers from 1-6 and we'll find teams for you.



Giant Pan Catering from Ashridge Delicious
Paella, Tartiflette, Champignons Forestiere and Cassoulet



bar & prize raffle

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK TICKETS](#)

