

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #55.4



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



YEAR 7 EXAMINATIONS

This is to inform you that Year 7 examinations in English, Maths and Science will take place during the week of 11th June. Students will have a one hour exam in both Maths and Science, during their normal lessons. They will have a speaking and listening examination in English, which will take place across their lessons during that week. Students will be prepared for the examinations by their teacher, and will be told which lessons the exams will take place in. I will inform parents and carers of the dates in due course. Examination results will contribute towards students' overall progress grades, which will be published in early July.

Mr E Towill, Associate Headteacher



YEAR 8 EXAMINATIONS

This is to inform you that Year 8 examinations in English, Maths and Science will take place during the week of 4th June. Students will have a one hour exam in both Maths and Science, during their normal lessons. They will have a speaking and listening examination in English, which will take place across their lessons during that week. Students will be prepared for the examinations by their teacher, and will be told which lessons the exams will take place in. I will inform parents and carers of the dates in due course. Examination results will contribute towards students' overall progress grades, which will be published in early July.

Mr E Towill, Associate Headteacher



YEAR 11 GCSE REVISION TIMETABLE

Please find the Year 11 GCSE Revision Timetable in the link below.

[YEAR 11 GCSE REVISION TIMETABLE](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Next Week (Week 1)

MON 14 MAY	Public Exams Start	Until 18 th June
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Forthcoming Events

MON 22 MAY	Parents' Community Group Meeting	6pm - 7.30pm
FRI 25 MAY	End of Term 5	3.15pm finish
FRI 25 - FRI 1 MAY JUNE	Half Term Holiday	
MON 4 JUNE	Start of Term 6 (Week 1)	8.40am start



NEW TELEPHONE SYSTEM – INFORMATION

Please be aware that previous direct dial numbers to school departments may have changed. The list below shows up to date numbers:

- Main Reception Number** - 01628 625308 - then press 0
- Student Absence (Years 7 - 11)** - then press 1
- Admissions (Years 7 - 11)** - Ext 131
- Sixth Form (Including Admissions)** - 01628 625308 Ext 600
- Sixth Form Absence** - Ext 650
- Exams Office** - Ext 132
- Finance Department** - Ext 159
- Shine** - Ext 440

This system replaces any previous DDI numbers with new internal extension numbers with immediate effect.

[CONTACT US](#)

YEAR 10 GCSE GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK

Friday 18th May & Friday 25th May

Please find attached information about the Geography Fieldwork trip to Box Hill in the link below.

YEAR 10 GCSE GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK

SQUID REFUND

As your child approaches the end of their time in school, we would like to remind you to reduce the balance on their dinner money account. Students and parents are encouraged to plan top-ups and spending so that their accounts are at a minimum by the time they leave school. This will help reduce administration for Squid and Innovate Customer Services.

Please note that Squid/Innovate do not refund account balances of less than £5. Instead the total value of all leavers account balances under £5 will be donated to the school.

If your balance is above £5 then you may request a refund by emailing Squid directly – customerservice@squidcard.com. Otherwise the balance will be donated to the school.

Many thanks for your co-operation in this matter.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - DUKE OF EDINBURGH BRONZE AWARD ASSESSMENT EXPEDITION

We hope your son / daughter is looking forward to their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award practice expeditions over the weekend.

Further to feedback from students, staff and expedition leaders, please see below for important information relating to the assessment expedition on the 12th & 13th May.



- To make it less chaotic when dropping your child off, we have decided to stagger the start times. Please bear this in mind if you are lift sharing and ensure if lifts are shared they are with the correct groups as groups will be starting at different places.
- Groups 1- 6 from Group A, and Groups 12- 17 from Group B should arrive at their start point for 9.30am.
- Groups 7- 11 from Group A, and Groups 18- 22 from Group B should arrive at their start point for 10am.
- Parents must wait for students to be signed in by the Instructor before making their way home.
- Students must not use their phones during the assessment. Only one person in the group is permitted to bring their phone, for emergency use only, and this should be kept in a sealed bag. Any student caught using their phone could contribute to the whole group being deferred.
- Students are expected to demonstrate excellent behaviour and treat staff from BXM with respect at all times.
- Please encourage your child to pack their own rucksack for the assessment (tips on how to do this can be found online), and plan their own meals.

TIPS FOR PACKING YOUR RUCKSACK

- Please remind your child about the 20 Conditions, which they should follow for a successful assessment

20 CONDITIONS

- Please remind them to ensure they carry their litter with them and put it in the bin when they're able to.

We have had a lot of positive feedback from students, and we wish them every success.





SPORTS DATES FOR DIARY

- U15, 17 & 19 District trials – Wednesday 16th May 4pm-5.30pm at TVAC
- If students qualify for district team, they will be expected to compete on Saturday 9th June Palmer Park Reading
- U13 District trials – Thursday 24th May 4pm-5.30pm at TVAC
- If students qualify for district team they will be expected to compete on Thursday 5th July Palmer Park Reading (evening)
- Year 7/8 Knight Frank League – Thursday 27th June 4pm -5.30pm TVAC
- Knight Frank Finals – Monday 2nd July 10am – 12.30pm TVAC
- RBWM schools Championships Monday 9th July all day TVAC



500 WORDS COMPETITION



The Unwelcome Visitor

By Polly Clements (Year 8)

We were a happy, quirky in a funky kind of way family. Everything was perfect with mum, dad, brother and sister. The Clements' of five. Little eight-year-old me saw the world in a bright perspective. I was in year three, seeing monsters under the bed, my sister was in year six, approaching her years of a moody teenager, my brother had just started Nursery school and was just as clueless to the world as any three year old would, and mum and dad worked, mum part time. We did the kind of things any normal family would; argue, laugh, and dance around the kitchen whilst doing the washing up. Like I said, everything was perfect. Until an unwelcome, unwanted and un-needed visitor took a stroll into our lives, and he wouldn't leave.

Cancer. He latched onto my mum and wouldn't let go. His body was a dark, shadowy mass, shallow almost invisible flames were shooting out of his torso, hands and feet. He had no facial features, just a pair of deep, blood-red, piercing eyes that stared straight back into my own round, brown pair. He moved around like a sly cat that ruled the house. It was a creepy, tip-toe, monster-like walk that made you stand statue-like. As you can probably tell, he wasn't a pretty sight, not at all. But I had a strong inkling that he

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SCHOOL NEWS



ESAA TRACK AND FIELD CUP – BERKSHIRE ROUND.

Year 7 and 8 boys competed in the first round of the ESAA track and field cup at Palmer Park Stadium in Reading.

The team of 14 athletes finished 4th place out of 12 schools from across Berkshire.

Place	Points	School
1 st	357	Reading Blue Coat School, Reading
2 nd	286	Kennet School, Thatcham
3 rd	278	The Forest School, Wokingham
4 th	265	Furze Platt Senior School, Maidenhead
5 th	248	Charters School, Ascot
6 th	246	St. Bartholomew's School, Newbury
7 th	240	Dedworth Middle School, Windsor
8 th	215	Cox Green School, Maidenhead
9 th	213	Park House School, Newbury
10 th	208	Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre, Reading
11 th	193	Maiden Erlegh School, Reading
12 th	125	Holyport College, Holyport

wouldn't be leaving anytime soon. Cancer was our, or my, monster under the bed.

The next months were strange, mum was back and forth to the hospital. The poison they were giving her to make her stay alive had taken her hair and was making her tired. But she seemed stronger in a way. However there he still lurked, taking over our lives and thoughts. He would strut around our home like he owned it. I would see him in the corner of the living room, blending in with the shadows if it wasn't for the eyes.

Slowly, day after day I noticed him getting smaller and weaker, the odd flames on his body were dying down as the medicine began to take over and roam mum's body. It was finally happening, he was starting to leave! But only gradually and bit by bit.

The weeks went by and I hardly noticed him. Then one day, he seemed smug about something. Mum went into hospital with an infection that made her weak, yet again, but that wouldn't stop her, or us. More medicine and treatment sent her home and she punched through the thin wall that cancer had been trying to desperately build, but he didn't know her strength, and he hadn't had the full blow yet!

The day finally came that mum went into hospital and cancer was attacked with scalpels and more medicine that dug and eventually ripped him out of his shelter that didn't belong. I watched as he withered and disappeared from our lives.

We are a happy, quirky in a funky kind of way family.



A Step Up

By Mia Lawrence (Year 7)

Moving up was a big step for me. New stationary and lunch boxes to carry around with bright and vibrant colours and scented rubbers. It was a brand new start (way better than being looked at in a dull box with dull writing)

Oh sorry.... You probably don't know who or what I am. I am a rucksack; yeah, that's right..... A boring old rucksack. I

don't exactly have a name but I was thinking of the name Reece..... yeah that sounds right.

Guess what..... I had my first day of school with my owner Robby. When we went to school it was suuuuuper busy with a million gazillion u's. People were being shoved into me. The school was massive compared to me. It was as if I was a dot and the school was the piece of paper. The school hall had big red curtains and shiny wooden floorboards, (well not for long anyway) There was already dust and rubbish scattered around the floor.

With no warning the bell rang and Robby took me and scurried along to class. He sat next to this girl who carried around a beautiful black leather Louis Vuitton handbag. I stared at her the whole entire lesson and dared not look at anyone else but she just ignored me. I really liked her; I mean really, reaaaally liked her. Then the bell rang; it was lunchtime.

We went into the lunch hall. There was sticky icky and freshly chewed gum everywhere and bits of the disgusting, revolting and sickening school lunches on the floor; the school lunches were thick, sloppy pastes with bits that no child or living creature could ever say was meat!

Robby threw me down with the other bags who were big and scary but were actually really nice. One of the bags looked at me whispered," Between you and me I think Mrs leis Vuitton over there likes you..... Oh sorry you must be new, I am Addi.... Addi das. I've been through the exact same thing as you... new school... new people... but let me tell you this get your eye on a good girl keep it there."

Without me letting me introduce myself, the bell rang, again. I kept in mind what Addi said and looked at the handbag all day... and when I say all day, I mean aaalllllll day. It wasn't too long until it was the end of the day and we went home. I could not stop thinking about that handbag, she was just too beautiful to forget about.... But then I remembered I had to go back tomorrow... another longgg day. Oh no!



DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Congratulations to our Duke of Edinburgh students pictured here receiving their Bronze, Silver and sectional certificates.



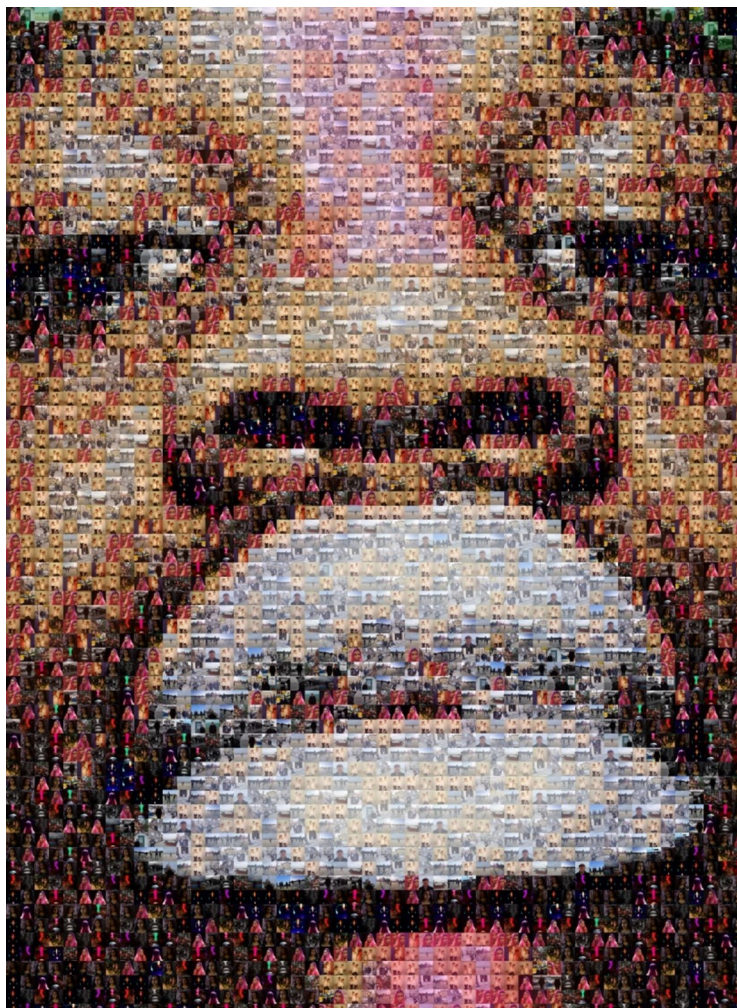
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FEATURED ARTWORK

Holly Allen Year 12

Photography: A-Level Coursework



COMMUNITY NEWS



VACANCIES AT FURZE PLATT

We are looking for cleaners to help our busy site team keep our school looking its best. For details, please click the link below:

[CLEANERS](#)



PTFA BIG QUIZ 6

Friday 11th May, 7.30pm, Main Hall



After our record-breaking turnout for Big Quiz 5, come and join us for our next Big Quiz 6 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, to be in with a chance of winning please click below:

[HOW DOES THE 200 CLUB WORK?](#)

[ANNUAL PAYMENT](#)

[MONTHLY PAYMENTS](#)

To book for the quiz please click the link below so we can supply our caterers with final numbers.

[BIG QUIZ 6 - BOOK TICKETS FOR TONIGHT](#)

Thank you.

The PTFA




REMINDERS



YEAR 11 PROM, GRADUATION AND HOODIES


[YEAR 11 PROM TICKETS , GRADUATION & HOODIES LETTER](#)



SUMMER TERM SCHOOL CLUBS LIST

An updated school clubs list can now be found on our website. Please follow the link below for full details.

[NEW SCHOOL CLUBS LIST](#)



NEW HEAD TEACHER FOR FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

On behalf of Governors I am delighted to announce that our new Head from 1st September 2018 will be Dr. Andrew Morrison. Dr Morrison is currently Head Teacher at Bradon Forest School and brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience. He is very much looking forward to joining us here at Furze Platt and to meeting; Students, Parents and Staff at the earliest opportunity.

This appointment follows a rigorous process of selection from an original field of 19 applicants for the post, Governors are firmly of the belief that this significant appointment will help to secure an even more successful future for Furze Platt Senior School as we move forward in our next stage of growth and development.

I am sure you will all join me in welcoming Dr. Morrison to our community and in wishing him every success in his new role.

Gavin Tisshaw MSc
Chair of Governors



PARENTS' COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING

Monday 21st May, 6pm -7pm

'Your child, social media and the law'

Do you know what your son or daughter is doing with their smart phone? Would you like to know more about the legal framework and how to prevent them from getting into trouble?

We are delighted that PC Graham Slater, Schools Safeguarding Officer, will join us for a presentation on this important topic, followed



PARENTS' COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING (CONT.)

Monday 21st May, 6pm -7pm

'Your child, social media and the law'

by time for questions and discussion. PC Slater is a very experienced police officer with significant experience of working with young people in schools. He will be joined by PC Shaunagh Hall. PC Hall is also a very experienced officer with a specialism in safeguarding. The meeting will be hosted by Ms White.

All parents are welcome. The event will be free. However as we anticipate it will be a popular event please reserve your place(s) online via Little Box Office, found on our website (under parents tab) or www.thelittleboxoffice.com/furzeplatt

Ms T White, Headteacher



YEAR 11 ENGLISH REVISION PROGRAMME

Following the Year 11 PPE in English Language and subsequent Literature revision now taking place in every English lesson, we would like to bring to your attention the next phase of the revision programme.

We would like to invite students who are experiencing difficulty with any aspect of Language or Literature revision to book in with their class teacher for additional tuition. The slots will be booked for a set day and a set time; these will be dependent on the availability of each individual Year 11 teacher. In the event that the class teacher is not available then the Head or Second of Department will give the revision support that is needed.

This system allows for specific revision that responds to the independent work that the students are doing at home. As the exams get nearer, we believe that this form of revision support will best serve the needs of our students.

Ms S Jayne, Head of Department, and Mrs K Martin, Second in Department

EVENT TAKING PLACE TONIGHT!

THE BIG QUIZ



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

SPACES STILL AVAILABLE

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK FOR A FUN EVENING!](#)

PTFA
Parents, Teachers & Friends Association

**FURZE
PLATT**
SENIOR SCHOOL

ASPIRING

MOTIVATED

CONFIDENT

CONSIDERATE

If you have any news items you wish to feature in our newsletter please email: media@furzeplatt.net

7



CHARITY ZUMBA GLOW PARTY!

FRIDAY 18th MAY

7pm - 9pm

£10 per ticket (or £12 on the door)

Charity Raffle and Glow Sticks

- WEAR SOMETHING RED -

Raising Money

Maggie was in Great Ormond Street with Eden (2) and Siobhan (2) who are fighting neuroblastoma. We are raising money to get these girls to America to take part in a research trial that has the potential to prevent life threatening relapse.

If we can help other children in their fight against this devastating disease Maggie-Mae's fight will not have been in vain.



Maggie-Mae

FOR TICKETS

NIKI: 07775653051 | [facebook.com/nikikittfitness](https://www.facebook.com/nikikittfitness)

KATE: 07920152790 | [facebook.com/zumbawithkatew](https://www.facebook.com/zumbawithkatew)

RACHEL: 07971646443

LUCILE: lubrchet@gmail.com

WHERE

Furze Platt Senior School

Furze Platt Road

Maidenhead

SL6 7NQ

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](#)

