



FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #56.8



YEAR 13 PARENTS' EVENING



Thursday 8th November, 4.30 - 6.30pm

On Thursday 8th November there will be a consultation evening for Year 13 parents.

We request that parents limit conversation to a maximum of five minutes with each member of staff. If you feel that you need to have a more in depth discussion, please would you make a separate appointment with the individual teacher. Attendance by your son/daughter is preferred, although not compulsory.

Parents who book up first will have the most flexibility. If you do not have easy access to the internet, please contact the school office who will be happy to add appointments on your behalf.

Please follow the Parents' Evening Bookings link under News and Events on the school website, or click on the link below.

Appointment slots have been available to book online from 30th October and will very quickly fill up. We advise you to book as soon as possible.

If you have any problems, please contact the school office on 01628 625308.

We look forward to seeing you.

Mr J Dollery, Head of Sixth Form

[BOOK AN APPOINTMENT](#)

YEAR 10 GCSE PE



Test date: Monday 5th November

Students taking GCSE PE will be sitting a GCSE PE test on Monday 5th November. In order for them to fully prepare they were given revision materials before half term. The topic areas they will be tested upon will be:

The muscular system; the respiratory system; the skeletal



UPCOMING EVENTS

[ALL EVENTS](#)

[SPORTS CALENDAR](#)

[SCHOOL CLUBS LIST](#)

Next Week (Week 1)

WED 7 NOVEMBER	Year 8 - Private Peaceful Theatre Trip - Aylesbury Waterside	12pm - 6pm
	PTFA Meeting	6pm - 7pm
THU 8 NOVEMBER	Year 13 Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	4.30pm - 6.30pm
SAT 10 NOVEMBER	Years 9 and 10 - ESSA XC Cup - SW England Round at Downside School	

Forthcoming Events

MON 12 NOVEMBER	Parents' Community Group	6pm - 7pm
WED 14 NOVEMBER	Year 12 Safe Drive Stay Alive	Within school time

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2019/20

system; the cardiovascular system; levers, planes and axis; social, emotional and physical effects of participation in physical activity; sedentary lifestyle; energy; diet; and optimum weight.

Please feel free to quiz them on these topics and thank you for your continued support.

Miss K Tomlin
2 i/c Physical Education

DUKE OF EDINBURGH EXPEDITIONS



Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards

Huge congratulations to all our intrepid students who were out over the half term doing either their Bronze, Silver or Gold expeditions. The weather stayed dry, albeit with

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freezing temperatures at the end of the week, but they did really well and were a credit to the school and themselves.



BRONZE DUKE OF EDINBURGH MEETING

Tuesday 6th November 5.30pm

There will be a meeting for our Bronze applicants and their parents at 5.30pm on Tuesday. If your son/daughter is taking their Bronze Award you are strongly advised to attend as these meetings will cover a range of informative topics.



Paul Barnes, Year 12, is our Young DofE Leader and students are welcome to approach him to ask his advice on expeditions etc. Paul, who is currently taking his Gold Award, has a wealth of experience and can advise on kit lists, food and much more.

NETTLECOMBE COURT FIELD TRIP

By Megan Green, Year 13

From 14th to 17th of October, 32 Year 13 biologists visited Nettlecombe Court Field Centre in Somerset for a four day field trip focused around our assessed practical coursework. Once we arrived, the remainder of the day was spent getting settled in and after dinner we went out and set mammal traps to detect the type of mammals in the woodland, we then had the evening to ourselves so some decided to go for a bat walk using ultrasonic detectors to detect bat activity and a few went up a hill to see the stars. Exmoor National Park is home to some of the darkest skies in the country so it's a great place to gaze at the stars as there is no light pollution.

On Monday, we got the coach to Porlock Bay where we sampled and identified Gastropods and other invertebrates and plants in salt water compared to freshwater. In the evening after dinner, we were taught how to analyse these results statistically to determine if there was any difference in the samples taken in salt water compared with freshwater using the student t-test. Although this wasn't a required practical, it was good practice for Tuesday's practical, which was one of our assessed ones.

We went to Exmoor National Park, Embercombe on Tuesday in order to carry out our required practical, which was finding out how environmental factors affect the behaviour of a species. The hills and moorlands that we visited were one of the most extensive in different locations and in those locations, we had to identify the type of invertebrates and record the data in which we later analysed. After dinner, we carried out another required practical which involved using chromatography to separate

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and identify the different pigments present in the leaves of nettles found in light and dark areas, as well as seeing if the difference in the amount of light they received had any influence in the pigments present in the leaves. We had to crush up the leaves in order to release the pigments from the cells, and then used thin layer chromatography to separate them.



Before heading home on Wednesday, we carried out another required practical. This time we stayed at Nettlecombe Court and used the hill there. We were investigating the species diversity up the hill. We used a point quadrat as our method of random sampling which allowed us to record the types of plants that were on the hill. We later had to calculate Pearson's Correlation Coefficient to interpret the results. We then set off on our journey back home.

The residential field trip was a great way to get our assessed practical work completed as it allowed us to visit some naturally beautiful places and explore the moorlands and woodlands that is in Somerset.



go on this expedition, please submit a letter to either Mr Molin or Dr Scott detailing why you should be considered for the trip. Please include what you are currently studying and what you hope to study in Sixth Form and post Furze Platt, what you hope to get out of the trip and how you think you will raise the funds for your expedition (no more than a side of A4). Please note the deadline for applications is Friday 9th November.

Mr. A Molin and Dr M Scott, Expedition leaders

BORNEO INFORMATION EVENING

Tuesday 30th October

On Tuesday evening, we welcomed Dr. Heather Gilbert who gave a talk about the upcoming school expedition to Borneo in 2020. Dr. Gilbert works for Operation Wallacea as their Regional Director of Research and her talk included an insightful look at what the expedition would involve. She talked in detail about the importance of conservation in the region and some of the threats to the very diverse flora and fauna. She highlighted the direct effect our students could have in protecting the habitats in this part of the world. The evening was incredibly well attended and we look forward to receiving applications from students who are interested in this unique experience.



If you are currently in Years 11 or 12 and wish to apply to

RELAUNCH: TUESDAY AFTER SCHOOL FITNESS

In order to deal with the volume of students wishing to participate in these popular sessions we will be introducing a booking system. The booking register will be held at sick bay and students can register at Break 1 or Break 2 by writing their names down on the appropriate page.

Students who have booked in will have priority when arriving at 3.25pm. Any students turning up at the door may still enter as long as the Fitness Centre is not too busy. This will be at the member of staff's discretion.

On arrival students will select from the desk which workout programme, or programmes, they wish to follow. Exemptions will only be made if the student is currently following their own workout plan which they must produce to the member of staff for approval.

Whilst all reasonable care will be taken to ensure the students are all safe, the club requires that the student exercises in the appropriate way with the age appropriate equipment. Students have all received a gym induction within their lessons and should not under any circumstances use equipment that they have not been inducted upon and/or feel they cannot use safely.

Any student not following the above will be asked to leave the gym.

YEAR 11 NETBALL

Well done to all our Year 11 Netball team girls who played in the RBWM tournament last night, an excellent performance by all. Players' player was Brook Hanson and Coaches' Player was Shannon Doyle.

The team:

Polly Watkins Lewis
 Shannon Doyle
 Louisa Holborn
 Taylor Crawford
 Jess Cleary
 Chloe Savage
 Brook Hanson



FURZE PLATT STUDENT GAINS LORD-LIEUTENANT CADET'S AWARD

Many congratulations to Amy Tarrant, Year 13, pictured accepting the Lord-Lieutenant cadet's Award.



HALLOWEEN TREATS AT FURZE PLATT

Our café really celebrated Halloween in style! Thank you to Debbie and all her staff for the fantastic display and delicious food.



LINGUSITS OF THE FORTNIGHT

French

Freya Allen Year 11
 Alexander Bate Year 10
 Polly Clements Year 9
 Jade Winsor Year 8
 Nathan Hedges Year 7
 Jess Bristow Year 8
 Callum Lloyd Year 7
 Nicolai Harrit Year 7

German

Taylor Crawford Year 11
 Emil Magdzinski Year 11
 Hashim Nazeer Year 7
 Kornelia Jankowska Year 8

Spanish

Maja Nawrocka Year 9
 Lloyd Hunat Year 9
 Freddie McGuinness Year 7
 Amber Hemsley Year 11

POPPY APPEAL

We are selling a range of poppies at Main Reception to support this year's Poppy Appeal.

Poppy Lapel Pin - suggested donation £3

Wooden Cross with Poppy attached - suggested donation £2

Traditional Poppy and pin/or stick on Poppy - suggested donation 50p / £1

Reflective Poppy with clip (ideal for handbag, zip, or rucksack) - suggested donation £1

All monies to The Royal British Legion.

Thank you.





ATHLETICS

Well done to Frank McGrath, Euan Russell, Alex Bate, Iwan Hughes and Edwin Isted, who as an Inter team of Year 9/10 boys finished 3rd in the English Schools County Cup (Berkshire), qualifying for the English Schools Cup Regional Finals (South West).



REMINDERS



YEARS 11 AND 12 REPORTS

Years 11 and 12 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 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 during term time.

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager



Our PTFA is very successful, raising thousands of pounds to purchase equipment and resources to further improve the school. Additionally, the PTFA brings staff and parents together socially in working towards a common goal. This fosters greater links between home and school. And it's great fun! We always need more helpers, though, to help lighten the load.

We invite all our parents to join the 200 Club. Numbers are drawn 4 x per year (once per quarter) and if all 200 numbers are in play, three lucky winners could win up to £400 per draw.

Please click below to purchase your numbers:

MONTHLY PAYMENTS (£5 PER MONTH)

ANNUAL PAYMENT (£57 PER YEAR)



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR YEAR 11 STUDENTS

PERSONAL TIMETABLE: Our Year 11 students have been issued with a personal timetable for the Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) which begin on 9th November 2018. Details of timings for the PPE Week are on the following link:

YEAR 11 PRE PUBLIC EXAM ARRANGEMENTS

YEAR 11 REVISION PROGRAMME: Over the past weeks, all our Year 11 students have received a full lesson on 'How to Revise' during one of their PSHE lessons. The session enabled students to work through how to pick out key words to then produce either a mind-map or cue card. The PowerPoint used during these sessions is attached which explains in a step-by-step way, how this is done.

Another part of the preparation for exams took place on Thursday 18th October. All Year 11 students took part in an informative session on how to plan and organise their time. This entailed looking at a subject and assessing each topic to see which components they understood well, which they needed to quickly review, and which they needed to go over again completely. As well as cue cards, post-its and other learning materials, they were also furnished with a timetable to use at home. Again, the PowerPoint used during this session is attached for your information.

This means to date, Year 11 students have had support to help them plan their revision, plan their time as well as how to produce revision notes. We hope this will help make the next few months go as smoothly as possible. If you would like more information or have any questions, please speak to Mrs D Slater, Senior Learning Mentor at debbie.slater@furzeplatt.net.

HOW TO REVISE

YEAR 11 PLANNING AND ORGANISING REVISION

SUPPORTING LEARNING IN YEAR 11

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

SIXTH FORM ADMINISTRATOR

Part time, 29 Hours per week, Monday to Friday term time only plus 5 days

Actual Salary £12,910 - £13,630 pa depending on experience

We are looking for someone with excellent communication and organisational skills to provide a high quality administrative support for the Head of Sixth Form. You will support the Head of Sixth Form in the organisation of specific Sixth Form events such as Open Evening, Year 12 Taster Days, Year 12 induction day and other events. You will also be responsible for collecting, collating and presenting data using ICT and other internal systems, for analysis by the Head of Sixth Form and for assisting the school data team with the Sixth Form Census return. Other administrative duties include diary organisation, general correspondence, co-ordinating requests for references for alumni and stationary orders for the department and co-ordinating data for our school website and internal Sixth Form systems.

If you are a team player with experience of using Microsoft Office, particularly Excel and you would enjoy working in an education environment please refer to our school website www.furzeplatt.com for further information. Application forms should be returned to gill.dandridge@furzeplatt.net. Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered.

SENIOR COVER SUPERVISOR

Part time, 31.25 Hours per week, Monday to Friday term time only

Actual Salary £16,180 - £17,740 pa depending on experience

We are looking for someone with excellent communication skills and confidence working with secondary school students to lead our team of Cover Supervisors in their supervision of classes during the short-term absence of the assigned teacher as well as provide cover. You will lead the team of Cover Supervisors in relation to induction training, performance management, development and co-ordination. You would be the key point of contact and liaise with staff, including the Senior Leadership Team regarding cover. Ensure that cover work is delivered to students using the tools provided, including completing the class register, managing the behaviour of students whilst in the classroom within the guidelines of the school's behaviour policy.

If you are a team player who is interested in working with young people in a classroom environment, perhaps with previous experience as a Cover Supervisor in an educational environment 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: Wednesday 14th November 2018, 9.00 am
Interviews will take place: week commencing 19th November 2018

PEDAL FOR A CAUSE

24 November 2018

Ride the Bike
#powerthelights



Join **Active Health Clinics** at the
Maidenhead Christmas
Lights Switch On
9am - 7pm

Raise Funds for Local Charities



Charity number: 1170288



Maidenhead
CYCLEHUB

Charity number: 1164172

Ways to Get Involved:

- Put a team together and get sponsored to **ride and power the lights**
- Ride for a chance to **win a prize** for the furthest ride in 2 mins

For more information on how to get involved contact us at:
01628 626565 info@activehealthclinics.com

Learn to teach in some of the country's most successful secondary schools

Secondary Teacher Training Opportunities in Maidenhead

Join us at a Train to Teach event on Wednesday 7th November 2018 at Reading University, London Road Campus, Building L22, Room GO3 from 4.30pm to 7.30pm

TEACH MAIDENHEAD

In partnership with the Institute of Education



Teach Maidenhead is the foremost teacher training provider west of London, providing tuition-fee and salaried secondary School Direct places in a wide range of subjects. Founded in 2013, the partnership consists of five secondary schools in the Maidenhead area. We offer a unique school-based learning opportunity in partnership with the University of Reading where intensive subject based training is delivered. Trainees gain QTS (Qualified Teacher Status) and PGCE (Postgraduate Certificate in Education) as well as 60 credits towards a Master's Degree.

If you are interested in further information please join us at the Train to Teach event at Reading University on Wednesday 7th November.



COX GREEN SCHOOL



DESBOROUGH COLLEGE



www.teachmaidenhead.co.uk

ASPIRING MOTIVATED CONFIDENT CONSIDERATE

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