

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thames Hospice Fundraising

We are only few days away from the culmination of our fundraising efforts next Wednesday when heads will be shaved and colleagues get covered in gunge. There are a whole host of activities next week including a non-uniform day and raffle. Please give generously as we make a final push to raise as much as possible for Thames Hospice. Thank you! More details are on page 4.

**Uniform And Mobile Phones**

Following my note in the newsletter last week, thank you to all parents/carers who have ensured their children are wearing the right uniform and are prepared for school.

We are also having to confiscate too many phones in school. Please remember that phones should be switched off from when students arrive in school until the last lesson ends. This follows recent government guidance:

GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE ON PHONE USE IN SCHOOL

Sadly, some of these confiscations are the result of parents and carers texting or phoning during the school day. Please do contact the office should there be an urgent issue.

A Date for Your Diaries – Music Concert – Tuesday 26th March

Finally, ensure you have booked your seats at our forthcoming musical extravaganza. It promises to be a tremendous evening of entertainment!

Take care,

Dr Andrew J Morrison (BA Hons, PGCE, MA, PhD)

**UPCOMING EVENTS****ALL EVENTS****TERM 4 EVENTS**

TUE 19 MARCH	Year 9 Greece Parents Information Evening	6-7pm
THU 21 MARCH	Year 10 Parents' & Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm-7.15pm
TUE 26 MARCH	Spring Concert	7-9pm
THU 28 MARCH	END OF TERM (TERM 4)	12.30pm finish
FRI 29 - FRI 12 MARCH - APRIL	EASTER HOLIDAYS	
MON 15 MARCH	START OF TERM 5 (Week 1)	

SCHOOL TERM DATES

**NON-
UNIFORM
DAY**

19/3/24



IN AID OF THAMES HOSPICE

Please see page 4 for more details.

YEAR 9 REPORTS

The above reports have now been issued and are available online as usual via Go 4 Schools. The service is available either by going directly to Go 4 Schools www.go4schools.com and selecting Parents or by clicking the link below which takes you to our website and includes our latest Guidance to Grading document.

[VIEW REPORT](#)

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager



refraction* (Separate Science only)

- Remember, you do NOT need to memorize the equations!

*To revise at home, you should make a revision timetable and stick to it as much as possible:

- **Recap the topics** using Youtube ("Free science lessons") or GCSE Pod activities that are set for you

- **Make revision cards or notes** using a revision guide or BBC Bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zsc9rdm>

- **Put your knowledge into practice.** You can either do this by the questions at the end of each page on Bitesize, or try some old exam questions by using Physics and Maths tutor site (Paper 2 only) <https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/physics-revision/gcse-aqa/>

Revision guides are available to buy from the main science prep room for £13 for all 3 of the science books if you don't yet have one – these can be purchased via ParentMail.

Mr H Curnow, Head of Physics

YEAR 11 SCIENCE PRE PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS

Year 11 students will be sitting their Science Paper 2 PPEs in each of the three sciences over the next two weeks.

They have been informed about these since February in their Science lessons.

Tuesday 19th March – Physics

- Topics P8-16 Separate science, P8-13 Combined Science.
- Practicals: Hooke's Law, Force & extension, Infrared radiation, Waves – water & string, Reflection/ refraction (Separate science only)

Friday 22nd March – Chemistry

- Topics C8-15 Separate science, C8-12 Combined Science.
- Practicals: Concentration and rate of reaction, Using chemical tests to identify unknown compounds, R_f values, Purifying and testing water

Monday 25th March – Biology

- Topics B10-16 Separate science, B10-15 Combined science.
- Practicals: Response time, Sampling, effect of light & gravity on seedlings (Separate science only)
- Practicals: Hooke's Law, Force & extension, Infrared radiation, Waves (ripple tank & string), Reflection &

YEAR 9 TURTLE TRIP TO GREECE JULY 2025

INFORMATION EVENING: TUESDAY 19TH MARCH

We are holding an information evening on Tuesday 19th March in the school Theatre for next year's Turtle Conservation Trip to Greece. This trip is open to our **current Year 9 students**. If you plan to attend, please indicate this by completing the form found on the link below.

Mr D Randall, Outdoor Education and Enrichment Coordinator

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO CONFIRM ATTENDANCE](#)

YEAR 11 EASTER SESSIONS

Revision Packs

Revision resources for each subject are on FP-Cloud under Raising Achievement and Year 11. Within this site there are links to subject-specific revision websites, revision guides, how to revise tutorials, and past papers with their associated mark schemes, examiners' reports etc.

Cont. on page 3

Easter Holidays 29.3.24 – 12.4.24

Deadline to book: Wednesday 27th March

Revision

The school will be open during the **Easter holidays** and staff will be offering a range of revision workshops. Details of these have been sent to Year 11 parents and carers this week via ParentMail and we **strongly encourage** all Year 11 students to attend. Full details of how to pay, timetables and bookings can be found in the ParentMail letter sent last week.

Please complete the online booking form, which can be found on the link below - **by Wednesday 27th March**.

ONLINE BOOKING FORM

Please take care to only select the revision classes that your child will definitely be attending. RA (Raising Achievement) revision workshops are by invitation only and students attending these sessions will be invited separately by Mrs Feather.

w/c 22.4.24: Exam Timetables

Personalised exam timetables have been given out. It is important that students check these thoroughly so they know when their exams are. Making a copy of this timetable is often a good idea. Students will also receive the official JCQ exam regulations information with their timetables. We recommend that you discuss these with your son/daughter to ensure that they are absolutely clear about expectations of how they conduct themselves during exams.

9.5.24 – 22.5.23: Exam Phase 1

The main body of exams starts in full on Thursday 9th May. During Exam Phase 1, students will either be in an exam, a revision session for that exam or in their normal lessons. However, students will not be expected to attend tutor time and will thus not be required in school until 8.45am if they have a 9.00am exam or 9.10am if they are going to normal lessons or a revision session. When students have an afternoon exam they will be permitted to leave the school site as soon as the exam finishes.

23.5.24 – 19.6.24: Exam Phase 2

From Thursday 23rd May Exam Phase 2 starts. During this phase students will attend their exams and the associated revision sessions. When they are not in an

exam or a revision session they will have Home Study, where they will be expected to be working at home preparing for their next exam.

Details of the revision programme that will run during Exam Phases 1 & 2 will be published shortly after the exam boards confirm the final exam timetable.

In addition, Elevate Education are also offering a Live Parent Webinar: How You Can Support Your Child During Exams on Tuesday 19th March 6-7pm.

This will cover:

- Helping your child prepare in the week before an exam
- Establishing a good routine for your child the night before
- Helping your child to optimise their exam performance

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR FREE

Best regards,

Mr J Dollery, Assistant Headteacher



YEAR 13 EASTER REVISION SESSIONS

YEAR
13

We are able to offer Easter revision sessions for the following subjects:

- Psychology
- Physics
- History
- Politics
- Drama
- Fashion and Textiles
- Product Design

We have shared the timetable of the Easter revision sessions with students this week, and have also shared a link with students to the MS Form that students will need to complete to let us know they will be attending the sessions.

Cont. on page 4

I would take this opportunity to say how important some additional time with teachers could be for our young people and so I would encourage all students taking one or more of the subjects here to take advantage and sign up for as many as they can. I would be very appreciative if parents and carers could encourage their children to sign up to the relevant revision sessions.

My thanks to all parents and carers for their support and encouragement.

Mr P Ging, Head of Sixth Form



NON UNIFORM (MUFTI) DAY

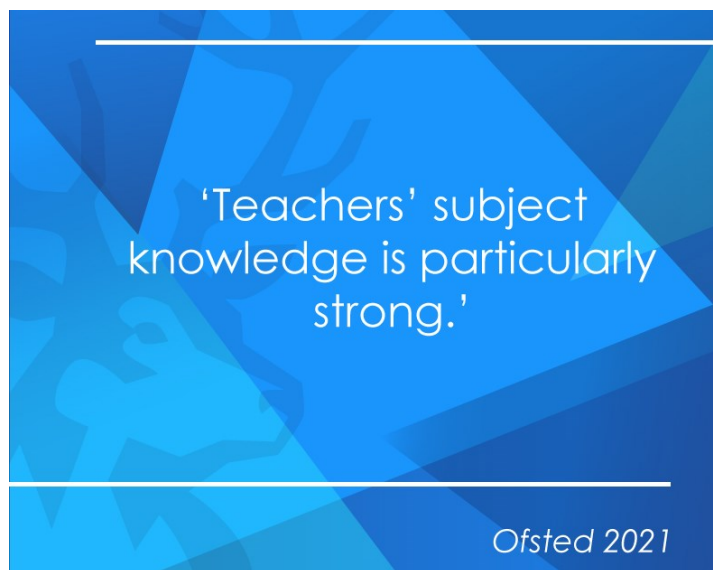
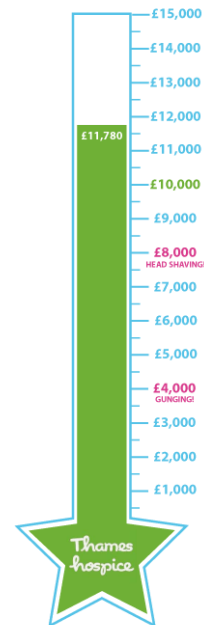
TUESDAY 19TH MARCH

Following a request from a group of our students we will be holding a range of events in aid of Thames Hospice.

The first of these will be a non-uniform (mufti) day on Tuesday 19th March. In addition, we will be holding a cake sale, a ribbon and knitted sunflower sale and a raffle; and one student has nominated themselves for a sponsored silence. Students will be informed by their form tutors when these events are taking place.

All donations to the Hospice's work are greatly appreciated and we would ask for participating students for the non-uniform day to make a £2 donation wherever possible. Following the success of using ParentMail last term we will continue to use this moving forward and payments can therefore be made online (Payments - Shop), or students can give their donations to their tutor in registration on the day. We recognise that some families may not be in the financial position to make such a donation at this time and students will of course not be prevented from participating in the non-uniform day if there are genuine financial challenges.

While students will be wearing their own clothes, please be aware that we do expect them to dress appropriately. There should be no offensive slogans, crop tops, onesies, costumes, backless/halter-neck tops or camisole style tops. Skirts/shorts should be of a suitable length to the knee and shoes or trainers (not flip-flops or open back sandals) should be suitable for a day at school. We request no fashion or cultural headwear should be worn, only religious head coverings as per our usual uniform policy.



THE BIG DAY!

WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH

17 of our teachers have volunteered to be gunged by students at Furze Platt on Wednesday 20th March, with five putting themselves forward to have their heads shaved. There will be an early break 2 that day for students.

Students who donate will have their

Cont. on page 5

So who might you want to get their head shaved?



Mr Gill



Dr Graham



Mr Harrison



Mr Wright



Mr Sheppard



20 MARCH
2024
HEAD
SHAVING

names put into a hat, with winners being selected to either tip the buckets of gunge or wield the clippers to shave their teachers' heads. There is still time for your son or daughter to win this amazing opportunity!

So, who might you get to gunge?



Mrs Barnard



Miss Boseley



Mrs Boucher



Miss Cochrane



Mr Corbett



Mr Djaelani



Mrs Feather



Mr Frankis



Mr Ging



Mr Green



Miss Gumbs



Ms Herrick



Mrs Ridgley



Mrs Stimson



Mr Tipp



Mr Wellard-Jeffs



Mr Wyles

20
MARCH
2024
GUNGING



FURZE
PLATT
SENIOR SCHOOL



WWW.JUSTGIVING.COM/PAGE/FPSS-THAMES-HOSPICE



FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

SPRING CONCERT

TICKETS AVAILABLE TO BOOK FROM MONDAY

TUE 26 MARCH 2024

Doors open at 6.20pm
for a 7pm start

The Year 12 music students have had a busy couple of days preparing for this years Spring Concert. Like many of our ensembles, they have all shown commitment to ACHIEVE excellence at this years concert to be held on Tuesday 26th March by attending additional rehearsals in their own time. On Thursday the Year 12 students had time to practise as a band to prepare for their performance of 'Mr Blue Sky' with the Whole School Choir and then professionally ran Rockstars Jr, who will be performing a Rick Astley classic, 'Never gonna give you up'. Tickets go on sale Monday 18th March priced at £5 for adults and the concert will be held on Tuesday 26th March 7pm.

Pictured: Year 12 students running Rockstar Jrs



Preparing for Mr Blue Sky as a band



Our PTFA are looking for volunteers on the evening; for more details please see page 8 of this newsletter.

DRAMA TRIPS

Over the last few weeks the Drama department has taken students to two different performances, Metamorphosis at the Lyric Hammersmith and Hadestown at the Lyric. Both performances very different but very impressive. The first was an adaptation of Kafka's Metamorphosis where Gregor is turned into a bug. This version was produced by Frantic assembly, a key practitioners for our GCSE and A Level students who use Physical Theatre to tell the story.

The second trip was to the outstanding Hadestown. This is a musical based on the Greek Myth of Orpheus and Eurydice. Having seen this performance when it originally came to the UK in 2018, I was worried that it wouldn't live up to my expectations. However, I was not disappointed and neither were the students. The blue/jazz music, played live on stage is spellbinding and coupled with the acting, singing and set, there wasn't a dull moment. This is definitely a must-see

Also to add that for both trips, members of the public commented on the excellent behaviour and attitudes of our students. One member of the public commented how wonderful it was to see students so animated about the theatre. Thank you to all that attended!

Up and coming:

Next week is a big week for our A Level and GCSE Drama students who have their final practical examination with the visiting examiner. The GCSE performance takes place on 20th March at 12.45 and the A level on Friday the 22nd March at 6pm. Good luck to all students involved!

Extra curricular:

For Term 5 we will be having the return of Technical Theatre club who will be working on the design aspects for the Summer Showcase in July. We also have a new club for Year 9 students. Here we will be working on a performance for the Summer showcase. All the other clubs will remain the same!

Mrs K Kalinowski, Head of Performing Arts



YEAR 7 FOOTBALL

BEAT DESBOROUGH COLLEGE 1-0

Our Year 7 Boys' Football team battled gamely against a classy Desborough team this week to emerge victorious, winning 1-0 despite heavy pressure at the start of the game.

Lewis Garrett in goal was Man of the Match whilst Captain and goal scorer Patryk Kurenda led the way on the pitch, ably assisted by his collaborative squad. A great result boys, well done.

The team:



Pablo Chicote Amigo
Raf Cunliffe
Henry Eckersley
Lewis Garrett
Rhys Harris
Patryk Kurenda

Thomas Ling
Woody Mackenzie-Baker
Toby Mastrilli
Noah McLaughlin
Dominic Terry

'Teachers' subject knowledge is particularly strong. Most teachers are subject specialists.'

Ofsted 2021

LOST PROPERTY

We would like to encourage parents to ask students



to collect any outstanding lost property items; we still have a large amount of unclaimed, un-named lost property (blazers, coats, PE kit and water bottles).

Thank you.



ONLINE SAFETY TIPS

TIKTOK

Please see the link below for useful tips on how to get the best from TikTok. These resources are appropriate to be shared with students and we would encourage them to take a look.



TIKTOK

'The school is rightly proud of its extra-curricular provision.'

Ofsted 2021



TERM 4

CLUBS 2024

Parents and carers may wish to sign up to My EVOLVE for an overview of clubs, what's on etc – you can do this from the club or academic support clinic emails sent to you in two easy steps:

1. Click on the link in the email as usual to see clubs/clinics
2. Click 'create account' button.

Please note:

- * once in the list of clubs or academic support clinics, click on the name of the activity or session you wish to book and press confirm

- * please do not duplicate club bookings per session

- * students in upper years may see invitations to academic clubs that are not part of their specific academic programme; emails are sent to year groups so please only choose sessions that are relevant to your son/daughter

SCHOOL CLUB LIST

GARDENING CLUB

The rain on Tuesday failed to dampen Gardening club



spirits and we were very pleased to uncover a crop of Jerusalem artichokes (as demonstrated by George and Frayne, pictured).

We sowed mange tout peas and radishes, did a spot of raspberry management and planted some honeysuckle around the pergola, as well as litter picking the quad.

Gardening club runs on a Tuesday in S12 whatever the weather! All welcome.

FITNESS CLUB



Our hardy early risers once again battling whatever Mr Djaelani puts in front of them – great endurance from them all!



‘Parents and guardians speak enthusiastically about the school. They value the school’s commitment to academic and personal development.’

Ofsted 2021



Contact us Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

facebook.com/fpsptfa Website: [click here to access](#)

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT YOUR CHILD’S SCHOOL?

Did you know? We've recently donated around £6,500 to the school to spend on lathes and other tools for the Design Dept, and lab coats and calculators for the Science Dept. These will all greatly enhance your children's learning experience at the school, and we and the school staff are really grateful to everybody who has put in time and money to make this possible.

Now we need your help to carry on and make even more of a difference! Here's a short video that explains how you can help:

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Volunteer to help serve refreshments at the Spring Concert on 26th March

Help run the 200 Club - one of our main fundraisers and really important to keep the funds flowing but does not take very much time at all

Become a Uniform Coordinator and help manage our supplies of donated second hand uniform - makes us a lot of money but also provides a vital service to the school and parents

Join the 200 Club to donate £5 a month (literally less than the cost of a hot chocolate!) and be in with the chance of winning £200 at the next draw - sign up on the link below:

200 CLUB - MONTHLY DONATION

Please drop us a line under the Facebook video, or email ptfasecretary@furzeplatt.net if you would like to find out more.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Exam Invigilators - Casual

EDV/2024/FPSS/16576

Term time only. Casual contract.

📍 Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 7NQ

🕒 Casual Contract | N/A

💷 £14.15 Hourly



[Apply Now](#)

Cover Supervisor

EDV/2024/FPSS/04579

Usually 32.5 hours a week with a start time of 8.30am and finish time of 3.30pm (including half hour unpaid break) Monday to Friday, term time only plus two INSET days. Part time/Job Share/Flexible...

📍 Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 7NQ

🕒 Permanent | Full-Time

💷 £19,600.00 - £21,000.00 Annually (Actual)

depending on experience and pro-rate if part time.



[Apply Now](#)

30 Days Remaining • Apply by Midnight, Sunday 31st Mar, 2024



Easter

Monday 8 to Thursday 11 April

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & FOOD PROGRAMME

For children with access to free school meals

The programme is known
as **FUEL** in RBWM



**The Royal Borough of
Windsor and Maidenhead**

E: HAF@achievingforchildren.org.uk
Funded by the Department for Education



**achieving
for children**



YEAR
9

MINI HOUSE COMPETITION

Write a poem about your recent trip to the Imperial War Museum.

It could be about something you have seen in the museum or about your day as a whole.

PRIZES:

- 50 house points for the winner
- 25 points for 2 runners up
- 5 points for each entry

Deadline:
**21st March
2024**

Submit your poem in person or by email to your Head of House.

POETRY COMPETITION



Get writing and good luck!



Elevate Education's Spring Term

Parent Webinar Series

Elevate Education delivers high-impact workshops to our students that help to develop their study skills, motivation, and exam preparation. Over the next term, you're invited to join their parent webinar series, where you can help support your child at home by reinforcing the skills they're learning at school.

How to Help Your Child Improve Their Note Taking

23rd January 6:00pm

How You Can Make Technology an Ally

6th February 6:00pm

How You Can Help Your Child Prepare for Exams

5th March 6:00pm

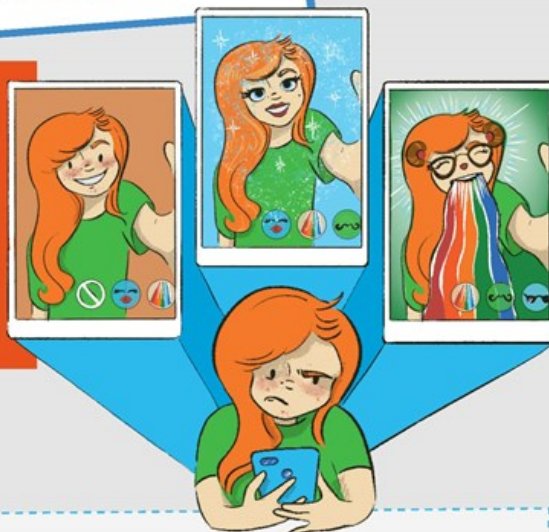
How You Can Support Your Child During Exams

19th March 6:00pm

Register today at: <https://go.elevateeducation.com/ukschoolwebinar>

Online Safety and Social Media

Social media is an online platform that allows users to connect with others online. Depending on what platform you use, social media can allow you to communicate and share information with others with the intention to update or engage a specific audience. This can often include sharing videos, images, status updates or posts with a group of followers that can sometimes cover a global scale.



A lot of the time, social media is a positive place where users support each other. Despite this, it can also house toxic and harmful behaviours, which can be directed towards specific individuals or groups with the intention to harass, or cause upset.

Benefits of Social Media

- 1 Available and accommodating to most audiences
- 2 Can promote positivity and healthy expression
- 3 An accessible platform to connect with others
- 4 An instant platform for news and global awareness

Considerations for Social Media

- 1 Harmful and offensive content may be seen across platforms
- 2 Can be used to promote misleading information
- 3 Can promote unhealthy expectations and pressure for young people
- 4 Can impact digital wellbeing if not managed correctly

Harm on Social Media

Many social media platforms have adapted to include reporting features in order to tackle certain types of online harm. Some of these harms to watch out for include:

- 1 Fake online profiles
- 2 Misinformation or fake ads
- 3 Scamming or fraud attempts
- 4 Radical online content



Socialising Online

Social media provides a lot of freedom in how to connect with other users as well as how information and content is made available. This has provided certain platforms with worldwide appeal, giving anyone an opportunity to connect and engage with others. To promote keeping safe on social media, ensure that young people know how to:

- 1 Report harmful content online
- 2 Block and report users who are being offensive or harmful
- 3 Manage privacy settings to limit exposure to known friends and family members
- 4 Speak to a trusted adult if they are concerned about something online

To find out more about Social Media visit the SWGfL hub:
swgfl.org.uk/topics/social-media/

or scan the QR code



Further Support

Professionals Online Safety Helpline: saferinternet.org.uk/professionals-online-safety-helpline

Harmful Sexual Behaviour Support Service: swgfl.org.uk/harmful-sexual-behaviour-support-service/

Report Harmful Content:
reportharmfulcontent.com

