

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back

I hope that you and your families had an enjoyable half term break. We welcomed students back this week to a busy Term 4 with numerous trips, activities and events, not to mention much hard work as we build towards impending examinations.

**Imperial War Museum**

Indeed, students were straight into trips with Year 9 visiting the Imperial War Museum this week. Speaking to students on their return I know many found the stories and artefacts fascinating and I hope it has spurred them to further investigate our past.

Year 10 PPEs and Year 11 Food and Nutrition Practicals

There have been many enticing smells from the Food rooms this week as our Year 11 complete their Food and Nutrition practical assignments. The dishes look amazing and congratulations to all involved.

Good luck also to our Year 10 students who began their PPEs today and continue through next week. These are a great chance to practice examination and revision techniques in preparation for the real thing.

Thames Hospice Fundraising

Finally, this Wednesday Deputy Headteacher James Sheppard launched our fundraising efforts for Thames Hospice. Much of our community has experienced sadness and loss from cancer, including some current cases within our FPSS family. We want to bring our FPSS community together to help an amazing local world-class palliative care centre.

The passion and desire to help is seen in the number of colleagues and students wanting to support this cause. There will be much publicity on our fundraising over the

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

TUE 27 FEBRUARY	PTFA & 200 Club Meeting	7.30-9pm
SAT 2 MARCH	DofE Silver Training Day	9am-2pm
THU 7 MARCH	Year 8 Parents' & Students' Consultation Evening	3.45pm-7.45pm
FRI 8 MARCH	Late School Start	9.15am
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

next few weeks leading to events on Wednesday 20th March. I know our community will get behind these efforts and thank you for all your donations and offers of support.

Take care,

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

EARLY BREAK 2**FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY – FRIDAY 1ST MARCH**

In order to accommodate the Year 11 Pre Public Exams (PPE) our Break 2 will run an hour earlier than usual from Friday 23rd February to Friday 1st March inclusive.

For all students, Break 2 will therefore be from 12.45-1.15pm with P4 moving back to 1.15pm – 2.15pm.

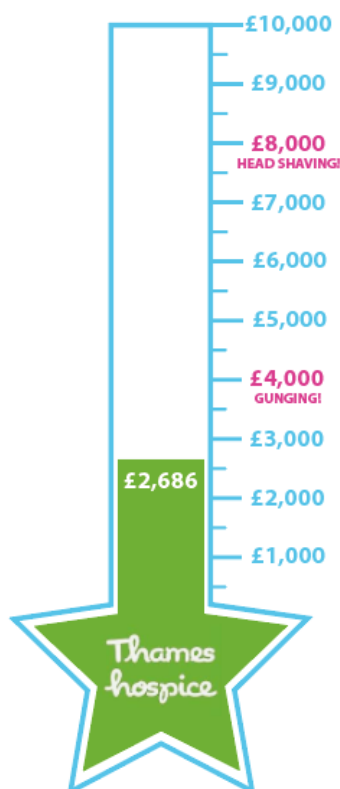
The rest of the day will run as normal.



****NEW** FURZE PLATT FUND RAISING FOR THAMES HOSPICE**

As your son or daughter may already have told you following this week's assemblies, staff at Furze Platt have today launched a fund-raising campaign to raise as much money as possible to help Thames Hospice continue with the amazing work it does every day of the year in support of our community.

A HUGE thank you to everyone who has donated to our newest fundraising challenge; since it went out at the end of the day on Wednesday, you have helped us raise - so far – over £2000 of our £8000 target!



- £25 could fund a Nurse for an hour
- £62 could fund a physiotherapy treatment for a patient
- £99 could fund a Nurse to visit a patient in their own home

To put this in context, your money so far could have funded over 2 weeks of a nurse at home.

Led by Mr Sheppard, 17 teachers have volunteered to be gunged by students at Furze Platt on the 20th March, with five putting themselves forward to have their heads shaved.

Students who donate will have their 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.

DONATE TODAY



You can donate using the link below.

At Furze Platt Senior School we are proud of the central role our school plays within our local community, but the incredible work the team at Thames Hospice do day in, day out, supporting people and their families and friends at the most challenging of times, is one of the most essential in Maidenhead, Windsor and around East Berkshire.

With the likelihood that all of us will be affected, directly or indirectly, by cancer at some point in our lives, the service provided by the wonderful staff and volunteers at Thames Hospice deserves every bit of support we can give it – particularly as it also needs to raise nearly £40,000 every single day in order to maintain those essential services. It is an essential community facility.

We are asking our students (current and former), parents, staff, friends, families and anyone else in our community to support our initiative by giving as generously as you can. 25 Furze Platt staff are taking part in the process – with 3 running the Thames Meander on 3rd March, followed by 17 who will be gunged on the 20th March, with 5 teachers having their heads shaved on the same day.

We are setting a minimum target of £4,000 for students to gunge their teachers and £8,000 for heads to be shaven, but we hope to raise far in excess of that. We see this not just a short fund-raising initiative, but as the start of a long-term relationship between the school and Thames Hospice. Please give all that you can!

The good news is that we have also already made a start. Before Christmas, Mrs Barnes, from our Design & Technology department, very generously offered to sell stock from her business to staff, with all the proceeds going to Thames Hospice. Sales to staff raised an impressive £670 to start the ball rolling and this has now been matched – and more – by your generosity.

We have already made a start...

Before Christmas, Mrs Barnes very generously offered to sell stock from her business to staff, with all the proceeds going to Thames Hospice.

Sales raised an impressive £643 to start the ball rolling!

OUR TARGET IS TO RAISE

OVER

£8,000

Cont. on page 3

DONATING

As well as the Just Giving link:

[WWW.JUSTGIVING.COM/PAGE/FPSS-THAMES-HOSPICE](https://www.justgiving.com/page/fpss-thames-hospice)

you can also stay up-to-date via the Thames Hospice section on our website or via our X (formerly Twitter) or Facebook.

The links for all of these are below.

OUR THAMES HOSPICE WEBPAGE

FURZE PLATT X (TWITTER)

FURZE PLATT FACEBOOK

For every £2 donated, the student's name will go into a hat to be selected to either tip the gunge over one of their teacher's heads, or to use the clippers to shave the heads of one of the five. We simply ask that student's first and last names, along with their tutor group and house are listed when donating in Just Giving.

If as parents you choose to donate on behalf of your son or daughter, please could we ask that you also select the GiftAid option where possible, as that will help us raise additional funds; cash donations can be made via our Pastoral Managers.

Thank you so much in advance for any support you can give - Thames Hospice is an incredible place.

Mr J Sheppard
Deputy Headteacher
james.sheppard@furzeplatt.net

Furze Platt staff taking part:

THAMES MEANDER

- Mr Nic Jones (Head of Progress for Year 9)
- Miss Laura Sharp (Former Head of Progress for Year 7, having left the school at Christmas)
- Miss Annie Towell (Head of Progress for Year 8)



Thames hospice

3 MARCH 2024
THE THAMES MEANDER

Miss Towell, Mr Jones and Miss Sharp (making a special return to FPSS duties, even after she has left), will be running the Thames Meander.

All money they raise is going to Thames Hospice.

GUNGING

- Ms Ellie Barnard (School Medical Officer)
- Miss Danielle Boseley (Head of PE)
- Mrs Melanie Boucher (Student Services Assistant)
- Miss Nicki Cochrane (PE Teacher)
- Mr Ben Corbett (PE Teacher)
- Mr Chris Djaelani (Head of Progress for Year 10)
- Mrs Debbie Feather (Raising Achievement Manager)
- Mr Rob Frankis (Co-Head of Science)
- Mr Pete Ging (Assistant Headteacher)
- Mr Tom Green (Geography Teacher)
- Miss Sasha Gumbs (Pastoral Manager for Year 8)
- Ms Kayce Herrick (Science Teacher)
- Mrs Charlotte Ridgley (Head of Progress for Year 11)
- Mrs Julia Stimson (Co-Lead, SHINE ASD Resource Base)
- Mr Dan Tipp (PE Teacher)
- Mr Joe Wellard-Jeffs (Head of Geography)
- Mr Andrew Wyles (Assistant Headteacher)



So, who might you get to gunge?

20 MARCH 2024
GUNGING

Teachers included: 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.

HEAD SHAVING

- Mr Chris Gill (Head of Eagle House)
- Dr Michael Graham (Science Teacher)
- Mr Joe Harrison (Head of Progress for Year 7)
- Mr James Sheppard (Deputy Headteacher)
- Mr Richard Wright (Science Teacher)

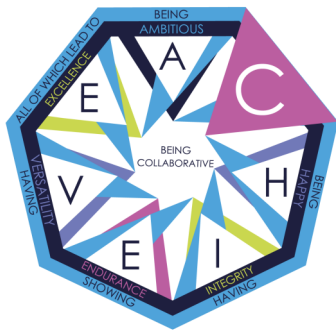


So who might you want to get their head shaved?

20 MARCH 2024
HEAD SHAVING

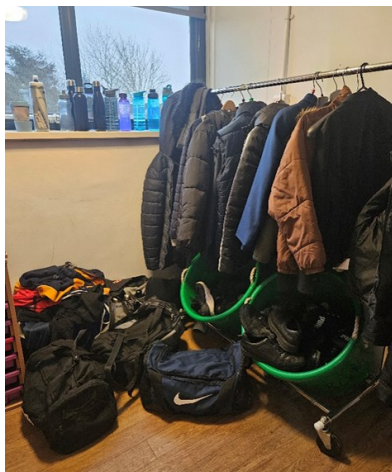
Teachers included: Mr Gill, Dr Graham, Mr Harrison, Mr Wright, Mr Sheppard.

Thank you for any donation - however large or small - you feel able to give.



LOST PROPERTY

The wet weather always brings an accumulation of unnamed lost property! We have over twenty coats, several water bottles and at least 4 full games kits that need to be reclaimed. If you recognise any of these items please ask students to come and collect them at breaktimes or at the end of the day.



Thank you.

YEAR 9 VISITS TO THE IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM, LONDON

Over 250 Year 9 students went to London this week to visit the Imperial War Museum. The aim of the trips were for students to understand more about 20th Century British history, which they did by seeing and interacting with a range of displays accompanied by presentations from the experienced museum staff.

Students are now invited to write a poem on their experience for a mini House competition.

Thank you to everyone involved and especially to Mr Constable for organising the visits.







Deadline:
21st March 2024

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

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

POETRY COMPETITION






Get writing and good luck!

TRIP TO AUSCHWITZ

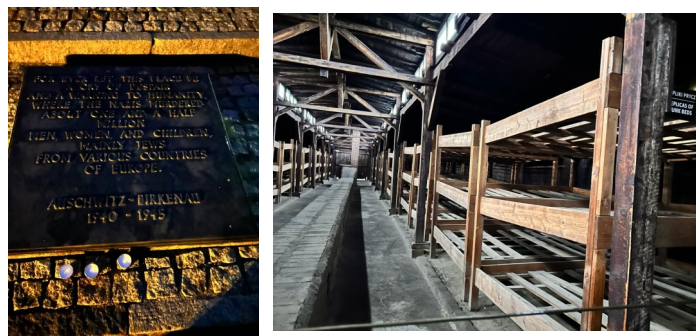
It's not just our students who are out on learning experiences – Miss Carty, our Alternative Curriculum and Duke of Edinburgh Awards Manager spent a day at the Auschwitz Memorial and Museum and Auschwitz Birkenau site in Poland.



The Holocaust Education Trust are organisers of these visits, and their mission is to educate every person from every background in the UK about the Holocaust - in which millions of people lost their lives - and its contemporary relevance.



Along with staff from other schools in the UK, Miss Carty attended a memorial at the site where they heard poems written by holocaust victims and a Rabbi's wife talked about the importance of never forgetting, with candles placed on the memorial plaques. Thank you to everyone involved.



U13 GIRLS' FOOTBALL

U13 girls secured a confident 1-0 win over Newlands School on Wednesday. Battling the rain, wind and a very strong opposition, the girls were relentless in their efforts and after an early goal, managed to hold the lead for the remainder of the game. It was amazing to have so many spectators offering support and encouragement to both teams. It certainly created a competitive atmosphere.

The Team:

Niamh Smith
Hannah Peck
Chloe Henry
Sophia Mormech
Zara Wibberley
Katie Ellis
Isabella Keane
Tiegan Glaysher
Mia Harris
Rosa Mullins (not pictured)



U16 BASKETBALL

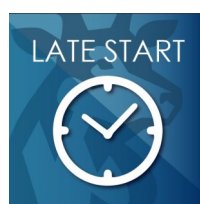
On Monday, our U16 Basketball team beat Shiplake College 53-51 in overtime, a brilliant result for Furze Platt in a very exciting match. Well done to the boys.

The Team:

Joe Challis
Ethan Clements
Trey Hamilton
Daniel Higley
Aaran Hitschmann
Jaheil Nunes
Anwaar Salaam-Williams



LATE START - FRIDAY 8TH MARCH



On Friday 8th March students will have a slightly later start than usual.

Students in all year groups should go to their first lesson that day (not Form).

MORNING FITNESS

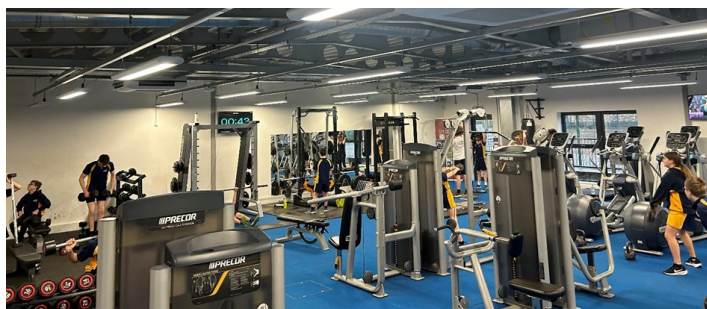
Wednesdays

7.40 - 8.30

Fitness Suite

All Years

eat sports work also from our dedicated students of Morning Fitness Club, with challenging circuits on the kettlebells, dumbbells, box squats, recline rows and travelling lunges this week.



'Teachers' subject knowledge is particularly strong.'

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



WILD MAIDENHEAD



Please see the link below for the latest newsletter from Wild Maidenhead.

WILD MAIDENHEAD NEWSLETTER

Contact us Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

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

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

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL?

Your PTFA needs YOU!

NEXT PTFA MEETING: TUESDAY 27TH FEBRUARY

7.30-9pm, Windsor Castle pub

Maidenhead SL6 4JT

All parents, carers and staff of Furze Platt Senior School are automatically members of the PTFA. You are invited to join us for our third meeting of the academic year, including the 200 Club draw, on Tuesday 27th February from 7.30-9pm at the Windsor Castle Pub, Bath Road (next to Tesco Express). Come along and meet the committee, find out more about what the PTFA does, how we raise money and how we spend it to support all our children at school.

Please also consider joining the 200 club, which is our main fundraiser. For just £5 a month you have the chance to win £200 at one of our quarterly prize draws. Please sign up here:

200 CLUB - MONTHLY DONATION

200 CLUB

**Winning numbers
for our next draw**



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

Ofsted 2021



Attend a Get Into Teaching event.



What?

Whether you're ready to start your career in teaching or just curious, we can answer your questions.

When?

29 February 2024, 5pm - 8pm.

Where?

The Great Hall, University of Reading.

Register now.

Limited places available.



Teaching



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>



GEMS

Autism & ADHD Support Service
East Berkshire

Educational Support -Online Session for Parents and Carers

Thursday 29th February 10am to 11am

Join our online session to:

Learn more about Educational support whether formal or informal (educational setting/tutoring) with an opportunity for a question and answer at the end

- Facilitated by Kate Fuller
- Qualified teacher
- School leader and autism advocate
- Current manager of the Tuition Service for Bracknell Forest Council

Sign Up Today!

Available for families who reside
in or have a registered GP in East Berkshire with a child who is Autistic/ADHD
(suspected/pathway/diagnosed)



To book your place contact GEMS:



Gems.4Health@nhs.net



0800 999 1342



part of
mademoiselle
DESSERTS

Charity Cake Sale

We are hosting a charity cake sale
to raise money for Food Share.



Caramel
Shortcakes



Round
Cakes



Tiffins

£1 Per Portion

When: Monday 26th February 12pm-4pm

Where: Gardner Rd, Maidenhead SL6 7TU

Payment: Cash & Card

We will have food collection boxes on the stall,
so feel free to drop in any donations you have.



QUEST FAMILY FEST

FRIDAY 29 MARCH

**JOIN US AT NORDEN FARM THIS EASTER FOR A DAY OF BRILLIANT
WORKSHOPS TAILORED FOR DIFFERENT AGES**

WORKSHOPS £4.50 PER SESSION OR £16.00 FOR 4

9.30 SCULPTURE - OLD BOOKS INTO NEW CREATURES

9.30 MAGIC - BACK STAGE TRICKS AND TIPS

10.45 VISUAL ARTS - MAKE YOUR OWN BOOK

10.45 CERAMIC ANIMAL COIL POTS

12.00 DRAMA - INTRO TO TV AND FILM MAKING

1.30 CHOCOLATE EGG AND LOLLY MAKING

1.30 SPECIAL EFFECTS STAGE MAKEUP

2.45 CIRCUS SKILLS

2.45 SILKSCREEN PRINTING

**ALL WORKSHOPS
1 HOUR**

AGE 11+



Norden Farm

Careers for the Arts (Maldenhead)

Want to Get Active & Have Fun?



Come and Enjoy



Girls Cricket at

Boyne Hill CC

"ALL ABILITIES WELCOME"

No kit or equipment required.



**BAR & BBQ
FRIDAY NIGHTS**



**All Ages from
Under 5 (Reception)
up to U13 (Year 8)**



**Girls Training
Fridays**

U7-U9 6.15pm-7.30pm (Softball)

U10-U13 6.00pm-7.30pm (Softball & Hardball)

Saturdays

U5-U6 All Stars 10.30am-11.30am (Softball)

Contact

Jack Spencer Jones

jackspencerjones@yahoo.co.uk 07595463584



@BoyneHill CC



Boyne Hill CC



boynehillcc1890

Address: BoynGrove, HighwayRoad, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 5AE



Richmond upon
Thames College

Open Events 2023-24

**YOUR
FUTURE
STARTS
HERE**



Scan code or visit
www.rutc.ac.uk/openevents
to BOOK NOW



Join us at one of our Open Events and find out what it's really like to be a part of our exciting and diverse college community. You'll get to meet our Principal and have a friendly chat with our brilliant teachers about our courses, the support and extra enrichment activities you can enjoy.

We offer the following courses and training programmes:
A Levels vocational courses including BTECs and UAL qualifications; Apprenticeships; Access to HE and Higher Education courses; professional qualifications; ESOL...
and more

Spring/Summer 2024

Wednesday 6 March 2024, 5-8pm

Thursday 25 April 2024, 5-8pm

Tuesday 18 June 2024, 5-8pm

Scan code or visit
www.rutc.ac.uk/openevents
to BOOK NOW
or drop in on the day



#BeExtraordinary



HRUC
HARROW, RICHMOND & UXBIDGE COLLEGES