

End of Term Newsletter : Spring Term 3-4 (January - March 2017)

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IMPORTANT DATES NEXT TERM

Saturday 1 st - Sunday 9 th April	Ski Trip 2017
Monday 3 rd - Monday 17 th April	Easter Holidays
Sunday 9 th - Wednesday 12 th	Geography Trip to Iceland
Tuesday 18 th April	Start of Term 5 (week 1)
Thursday 20 th April	Year 9 Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening (4.15pm - 10pm)
Friday 21 st April	PTFA Big Quiz 4 (7.30pm - 9.30pm)
Wednesday 3 rd May	Spring Concert (7.30pm - 9.30pm)
Monday 15 th May - Friday 30 th	Public Exams
Sunday 21 st May	PTFA Table Top Sale (9am - 10pm)
Monday 22 nd May	Parents' Community Group
Friday 26 th May	End of Term 5 (3.15pm finish)
Monday 29 th May - Friday 2 nd June	Half Term Holiday
Monday 5 th June	Start of Term 6 (week 1)

Highlights for this term include a number of sporting successes, science competitions and a fantastic showcase drama production performed over 4 evenings. Many of our students have led extracurricular activities to challenge themselves including Debate Club, Duke of Edinburgh and much more, including raising over £1000 for charity this term. Two Sixth Formers had the privilege of visiting Auschwitz.



We welcomed parents to Options Evening and our Sixth Form Open Evening as well as numerous parents' evenings, and the number of applicants for September reminded us just how popular this school is as we are yet again over subscribed. For the Summer term, alongside the curriculum we have a number of trips and fun events to look forward to as well as our wonderful Spring Concert. Thank you to everyone who has supported us this term – have a good Easter break.

Ms T White, Headteacher

i IMPORTANT INFORMATION



REPORTS OUT THIS WEEK



Please be advised that the Year 9 and 11 Progress Reports for your children are now available via our online reporting service. 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. Please click [here](#) for instructions to log on. Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at reports@furzeplatt.net.

Mrs S Watford (M.I.S. Manager)



PARENT AND STUDENT CONSULTATION EVENING THURSDAY 20TH APRIL



The Year 9 Subject Consultation Evening takes place on Thursday 20th April from 4.15pm to 7.15pm. This is an opportunity for parents to meet their child's subject teachers. Students should also attend.

The online appointment booking system is now open and can be found by following the link below or by visiting our website.

Please contact us should you have any difficulty making appointments.

Mr G Bown (Deputy Headteacher)

NEW VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

Our Governors are in the process of developing a new vision and mission statement for Furze Platt. This is a part of their work in producing a five year strategic plan for the school. To help them with this process we would be very grateful if you could spend a few moments completing the very short questionnaire which you can find at the link below.

[VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE](#)

[ONLINE APPOINTMENT BOOKING SYSTEM](#)



BUSINESS GCSE MASTERCLASS

Thursday 20th April
3.30 - 4.30pm in BS2



The Business team are running Masterclass sessions for Year 11 students to get ready for final exams in May.

The first session is on Finance. We will be covering both Year 10 and Year 11 Finance topics during this session.

Mrs F Wood (Head of Business)



GCSE CHOICES



Year 8 students will be bringing letters home on Friday 31st March explaining which GCSE subjects they have provisionally been allocated. On rare occasions I have had to use students' reserve choices, and have discussed this with students. If any parents believe a mistake has been made, or any student has had a change of heart, they should contact me immediately after Easter.

Mr E Towill (Deputy Headteacher)



CAN YOU HELP?



Our Food and Nutrition department needs chocolate tin or tub containers (pictured right). If you have any spare, please bring to Reception next term. Thank you.

Mrs S Crisford (Head of Food and Nutrition)



SPRING CONCERT Wednesday 3rd May 2017

Tickets will be available for this event on our website after the Easter holidays. Please see the letter below for full details.

[SPRING CONCERT 2017 LETTER](#)



SCHOOL NEWS



Team Indonesia

Hi my name is Zac, I am currently in Year 11 studying for my GCSEs and hope to do Computer Science, Drama, and Biology for my A Levels at Furze Platt Senior School next year. I will be part of a small team of people going on an expedition to Indonesia in 2018.

More specifically we will be going to Sulawesi where we will be aiming to aid the scientists currently operating there with conservation work. I am going with a company called Operation Wallacea, who have been surveying and completing conservation work in Sulawesi since 1995. I hope that from travelling with Operation Wallacea I will gain valuable experience as I will be working with scientists and conservation experts, and this will allow me to learn how professional scientific research is carried out in exceptionally special areas such as Indonesia. Furthermore, I will also have an opportunity to see the jungle and all the wildlife that inhabits the area, as well as have an amazing chance to also see the marine life off the beaches. While this will be an amazing experience seeing a new and fascinating place, I will also be helping to gather information that will be used to increase our understanding of the local area.

Why is this conservation work so important? Recently it was established around 130 mammals out of the estimated 500 have become threatened, and so it is vital that we try to raise this concern and make it known that this is a serious issue that shouldn't be dismissed. Therefore, we would greatly appreciate it if you could donate even a small amount to our expedition so that we can try to save our unique and wonderful jungles that populate our world.

We would love to hear from anyone with any possible ideas about how the team could continue to raise funds for the expedition. If so, please contact either:

Mr A Molin andrew.molin@furzeplatt.net

Dr M Scott michele.scott@furzeplatt.net

If you would like to make a donation you can either do so online into account sort code 309536, account 59194168 or by writing a cheque to Furze Platt Senior School and delivering it to School Reception. In both cases please ensure that you give the reference IND18.

Thank you,

Zac Gordon-Smith

On Wednesday, five Year 13 Economics students attended a 'Grades Booster' workshop run by Tutor2u in London as they begin to prepare themselves for their final exams in June. They took part in five sessions aimed at improving their exam technique and 'boosting their grade'. They were introduced to case studies and examples that can be used in their essays from a range of important topics covered in their A level course such as the labour market, market structures and financial markets. The students commented throughout the workshop on how useful the day was and I hope that it helps them to achieve the grades that they deserve for in their examinations in the summer.










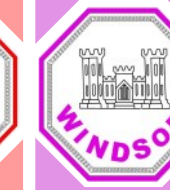
Mrs L Boswell (Teacher of Business Studies)

FOOTBALL RESULT

Brilliant result by our Year 7 Boys' Football team, beating St Bartholomew's School (Newbury) 4-1 to be worthy winners in the semi final of the County Cup.

MARLOW HOUSE ARE OUR END OF TERM WINNERS

A special mention to all of the students nominated below by their respective Heads of Houses. These students have been put forward for their positive attitudes and helpful behaviour, and contribute to a wide range of school activities.


							
Lucy Harris & Zhenhe Liu	Natalie Finnigan & Patrick Kelly	Katerina Despiniadis & Joshua Mallett	Hannah Dobson & George Geeves	Amber Hemsley & Alexander Norris	Nicola Oakley & Thomas Clark	Rafaela Souza Sales & Benjamin Sheppard	Melissa Hing & Ollie Stares

SUBJECT NOMINATIONS

The following students have been nominated for their work in specific subjects. Well done to them all.



ART & DESIGN



Year 7	Maja Mikolajczyk/Alfie Windsor
Year 8	Melissa Barnby/Ben Alberts
Year 9	Elise Brammer/Farhaan Razaq
Year 10	Holly Foster/Jake Streatfield
Year 11	Lily Harrison/Finn Geraghty
Year 12	Naomi Ross-Masson
Year 13	Abigail Wilcock



BUSINESS



Year 10	Mia Powell/Alex Webb
Year 11	Tilly Richards/Joshua Mallett
Year 12	Finlay Palethorpe
Year 13	Ashleigh Mather

ECONOMICS

Year 12	Hemshika Gopee
Year 13	Elle Holloway



CHILD DEVELOPMENT



Year 9 Hannah Parkman
Year 10 Rafaela Souza Sales
Year 11 Dee Pickering



CONSTRUCTION



Year 9 Zac Hudson-Clark
Year 10 Max Welland-Billam
Year 11 Joseph Bolger



DRAMA



Year 7 Amelie Owen/Felix Earl
Year 8 Ava Neeves/Harry Shrimpton
Year 9 Emily St Lawrence/Joseph Tarbit
Year 10 Gemma Higley/Evan Lloyd
Year 11 Cara McEvoy/Shawn Elliott
Year 13 Cameron Turner



DUKE OF EDINBURGH



Year 9 Amiee Elson/Jake Bucket
Year 10 Frazer Finlan
Year 11 Yumeng Dai/Shoaib Mahmood



ENGLISH



Year 7 Poppy Butler/Enes Kaynatmalar
Year 8 Daisy Stibbs/Chris Harris
Year 9 Gaia Goldberg/Patrick Flood
Year 10 Jolene Gardner/Dhev Bhogal
Year 11 Manmeet Saundh/Benjamin Annereau
Year 12 Louisa Snape
Year 13 Amy Dickens

MEDIA

Year 12 Madeline Smith
Year 13 Elsie Brown



PROGRESS IN ENGLISH



Year 7 Megan Griffin/Ralph Sewell
Year 8 Isha Hodge/Mujtaba Ishaq
Year 9 Lucy Turner/Rhys Mills



GEOGRAPHY



Year 7 Martha Garner/Luke Thomson
Year 8 Claire O'Brien/Milan Patel
Year 9 Zoe Hopson/Kyle Bramwell
Year 10 Charlotte Williams/Daniel Impey
Year 11 Ella Wheatley/Alexander Norris
Year 12 Shannon Carpenter
Year 13 Harry Gray



HISTORY/GOVERNMENT & POLITICS



Year 7 Mariana Gouveia/Christian Correia
Year 8 Mia Shields/Charlie Ferriman
Year 9 Sophie Sutton/Taylor Wormleaton
Year 10 Liv Howley/Thomas Marland
Year 11 Jessica Matthews/Lewis Penman
Year 12 Shay Bottomley
Year 13 Florence White



ICT



Year 9 Kim Malone/Alex Ash
Year 10 Elliott Roels
Year 11 Sophia Smith/Alex Bohdjalian
Year 12 George Banks
Year 13 Arandeep Bharaj

COMPUTING

Year 12 Siu Hung Cheung
Year 13 Samuel Sheppard



LANGUAGES



Year 7 Anna Gambrell/Nicholas Holdsworth
Year 8 Gemma Antinoro/Tom Lonsdale
Year 9 Amber Hemsley/Finlay Griggs
Year 10 Bethany Admans/Dev Gopee
Year 11 Emilia Forman/Luc O'Kelly
Year 12 Oliver Baldwin
Year 13 Claudia Morales



MATHEMATICS



Year 7 Ellie Gavin/Victor Harrit
Year 8 Rebecca Matthews/Adam Cuva
Year 9 Holly Bird/Rajveer Notay
Year 10 Elizabeth Healey/Joshua Bourne
Year 11 Maria Hussain/Harvey Fraser
Year 12 Victor Kleshnev
Year 13 Callum Lennie



MUSIC



Year 7 Amy Lillywhite/Charlie Myall
Year 8 Carmen Hernansanz Santos/Iwan Hughes
Year 9 Caitlin Murray/Jacob Tanner
Year 10 Jemima Hutchinson-May/Harrison Stevens
Year 11 Charlotte Gould/Elliot Busby
Year 12 John Conacher
Year 13 Bethany Wright-Paramio



PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION



Year 7	Francesca Dale/Sam Rollett
Year 8	Eliza Stevenson/Ewan Halliday-Hogg
Year 10	Maisie Pink-Costello/Oliver Kennedy
Year 11	Gabrielle Ford/Cody Leahy

PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

Year 12	Sarah-Jane Hampton
Year 13	Chloe Smith



PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Year 7	Kate Lindley/Maison Cockram
Year 8	Mia Steadman/William Morrison
Year 9	Shannon Doyle/Max Levenhagen
Year 10	Emily Bristow/Louis Forisky
Year 11	Charlotte Piggott/Humza Zaman
Year 12	William King



PSHE



Year 7	Kiki Quibell/Keith Cory
Year 8	Florence Checkley/Fraser Quin
Year 9	Freya Allen/Rhys Jones



PSYCHOLOGY



Year 12	Giulia Mubeen
Year 13	Sam MacGregor



SCIENCE



Year 7	Scarlett Phillips/Arian Smith
Year 8	Lauryn Tagne/Henry Edwards
Year 9	Bethan Terry/Ijtaba Ishaq
Year 10	Sophie Caldwell/Pawel Kowalski
Year 11	Joanna Gould/Sergio Collett

BIOLOGY

Year 12	Amy Slater
Year 13	Cameron Aird

CHEMISTRY

Year 12	Olivia Flood
Year 13	Richard Baker

PHYSICS

Year 12	Maya Tetteh
Year 13	Idris Al-Ghabra



TECHNOLOGY



Year 7	Lillia Bowsher/Dylan Gardner
Year 8	Abby Jones/Sean Wilson
Year 9	Grace Piggott/Joe Payne
Year 10	Daisy-Leigh Rawlings/Paul Barnes
Year 11	Lucy Harris/Oliver Humphreys

PRODUCT DESIGN

Year 12	Max Bateson
Year 13	Adam Mitchell



COMMUNITY NEWS



Parents, Teachers & Friends Association

2017 PTFA MEETING DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

Tues 13th June

Starts 7.30pm in the library, all welcome.

Upcoming events:

- Big Quiz (No.4) on Friday 21st April (food, bar and raffle available). Tickets £15 a head.
- 200 Club – only £5 per month, cash prizes available.

Can you help?

- Two more volunteers required for our Indoor Table top sale. (Any parent who has a stall at the event and is willing to assist in the set up and set down will receive 50% off their stall fee)
- Does your company offer Match Funding? We are keen to hear from parents whose companies offer this. If you have any other ideas that may support our PTFA please do get in touch.
- For further details on any PTFA related queries please email: jeff@iifa.co.uk



WALK FOR LAYNE SUNDAY 2ND APRIL 2.30PM

Layne Bairstow, a former Cookham Rise student, sadly collapsed with a brain tumour on his 14th birthday. For further details please click here:

<https://www.youcaring.com/mellissabairstow-752197>

Layne's former classmates invite you to join them on a 5k walk along the river to help raise funds for his ongoing medical costs in the US. The suggested donation is £10 per family and the walk will start and finish at The Crown, Cookham Moor.

FURZE PLATT TENNIS ACADEMY APRIL 6 WEEK COURSES

The Tennis Academy starts in April for both students and parents*

Sunday 23rd April: 9 - 10.30am for Students Age 11 - 16 (6 week course)

Tuesday 25th April: 7-8.30pm for Adults (6 week course)

*The courses are at a special discount offer price for Furze Platt students and parents

The booking website is www.thamestennis.co.uk or see attached for details.

MARLOW AND WINDSOR TENNIS ACADEMIES

25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE



REMINDERS

Yr12

REPORTS OUT THIS WEEK

Yr13

Please be advised that the Year 12 and 13 Progress Reports for your children are now available via our online reporting service.

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. Please click [here](#) for instructions to log on. Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at reports@furzeplatt.net.

Mrs S Watford (M.I.S. Manager)

Yr12

ACCESS TO PROGRESS REPORTS

Yr13

Please be aware that the information in the letter below has been supplied to the Students in Year 12 and 13 to be able to access their own progress reports.

I confirm that this is an additional service and the progress reports will still be available for parents and carers to access via signing in through the "Parents" icon.

Mr J Dollery (Head of Sixth Form)

[ACCESS TO REPORTS LETTER TO STUDENTS](#)



CAREERS WEEK AND WORK EXPERIENCE JULY 2017



Please see the letter below for full details and reply slip.

Mr J Dollery (Head of Sixth Form)

YEAR 12 CAREERS WEEK AND WORK EXPERIENCE LETTER

SAFE PARKING / DROP OFF ZONE

Please be aware that cars can park on the left and right hand sides of the slip road outside school to drop off students in the morning and after school. This would help students safe from vehicles driving through the main gates into school as well as keeping traffic moving outside school.

Thank you for your consideration.

A VERY SIMPLE GUIDE TO THE NEW GCSE GRADES

Starting in 2017 with English and maths, new GCSEs in England will be graded from 9 to 1, with 9 being the top grade.

PLEASE CLICK HERE FOR A SIMPLE GUIDE

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT FUND

You may have seen in the news recently that schools are about to experience the first real time cuts in education costs. At Furze Platt we are always looking for ways to ensure our students have access to facilities that will further their learning and socialising here. The standard budget does not include extras that we believe are extremely important to facilitate your child's future education. Please see the letter and form for further information.

Ms T White (Headteacher)

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT FUND LETTER

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT FUND FORM

AFTER-SCHOOL SUPERVISED STUDY

There are a limited number of places available every day for students who wish to complete work after school. These 'Supervised Study' sessions run from 3.30 - 4.30pm in IT4. Students will need to work silently and independently. In order for students to attend, parents must complete the form in the link below and return it to Reception, marked for the attention of Mrs Diane Flood. Students may come for any number of days, but need to commit to coming the same days each week.

Mr E Towill (Deputy Headteacher)

SUPERVISED STUDIES LETTER



SUPPORT, REVISION & EXAM ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2017



As you will appreciate, this is a very significant time for Year 11. As their examinations approach, the end is in sight, and students realise the importance of working hard in order to achieve the grades of which they are capable. Parents and carers are providing a great deal of support and motivation at home. Please find in the link below a letter that details the extra support and revision we are providing in school, and to explain what will be happening in the weeks running up to and during the exam phase.

Please do get in touch with me (james.sheppard@furzeplatt.net) if you have any questions.

Mr J Sheppard (Assistant Headteacher)

SUPPORT, REVISION & EXAM ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2017



GCSE REVISION EVENING PRESENTATION AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE



GCSE REVISION EVENING PRESENTATION



Please be advised that the Year 7 Progress Reports for your children are now available via our online reporting service.

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. Please click [here](#) for instructions to log on. Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at reports@furzeplatt.net.

Ms S Watford (M.I.S. Manager)

UNDERSTANDING YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER'S YEAR 7 REPORT

This report gives valuable information on your child's progress and on their attitude to learning.

Progress

We have high expectations for students in Year 7. We look at how they have done in the past including in their Year 6 SATs exams to work out what they are capable of in every subject. We therefore have different baselines or benchmarks for each student. Students do a number of assessments in each subject. We then award the following progress descriptions:

Excellent progress: at present, your child is doing better than expected.

Good progress: at present, your child is doing as expected.

Just behind: at present, your child is doing slightly less well than expected.

Cause for concern: at present, your child is doing less well than expected.

Attitude to Learning

We want students to focus well in school and at home. We award the following attitude to learning descriptions:

Outstanding: Consistently displays an attitude that promotes rapid and sustained learning.

Good: Consistently displays an attitude that enables them to make good progress.

Requires Improvement: Does not consistently display an attitude that enables them, or others, to make good progress.

Cause for Concern: Consistently displays an attitude that hinders them, or others, from making progress.

Frequently asked questions

1. *Why don't you give grades to students?*

Two reasons. Firstly, if you give a student a grade, they automatically ignore any feedback that is given about how to improve. And it is feedback that leads to progress, not grades. Secondly, there are no national tests or assessments for Key Stage 3 (Year 7 or Year 8), so any grades would be meaningless. Students will be given GCSE grades from Year 9 onwards.

2. *My child has better attitude to learning than progress. How is this possible?*

Progress information is based on how your child has done in school assessments. If you are concerned about your child's progress, then talk to their teacher and find out exactly what let them down in their assessment. Be aware that students are given feedback at the mid points of their assessments. The better students are at acting on their feedback, the better their progress will be.

3. *My child got very high SATs results in Year 6 and is doing really well in Year 7, but his progress is only coming out as good rather than excellent. How is this possible?*

Our expectations are based on how students did in the past. We have very high expectations of those with high SATs grades. Sometimes our expectations are so high that students struggle to exceed them so their progress comes out as good rather than excellent. If your child continues to make good progress, they are likely to get the very highest grades at GCSE.

Mr E Towill (Deputy Headteacher)

For ages
9 - 14



From
£95*

2017

SUMMER

FUN

Monday 24th July - Friday 28th July

Monday 31st July - Friday 4th August

Monday 7th August - Friday 11th August

9 am to 3 pm

SUMMER FUN 2017

Due to the popularity of Furze Platt's annual Summer Fun, we are delighted to announce that this year's activities will run for 3 weeks.

This fabulous opportunity is open to all 9-14 year olds – come along and make new friends, play team games, interact positively with younger and older students and learn from our qualified instructors. For children in their last years at junior schools, being on site can help with the transition to secondary school and for all younger people, a chance to polish their leadership skills and have lots of fun!

Weeks 1 and 2

**Monday 24th - Friday 28th July and
Monday 31st July – Friday 4th August**

Summer Sports and Activities

We are offering a huge range of sports and activities every day plus each week you can enjoy a fantastic water day on the lake*

Including: Fencing, Raft Building, Hockey, Team Games, Basketball, Swimming, Football, Kayaking, Athletics, Softball, Badminton, Capture the Flag, Table Tennis, Paddle Boarding, Netball, Rounders and much more!

£95 per person per week
(no water day included)

£130 per person per week
(water day included)

*please note: there are limited numbers for water activities

Week 3

Monday 7th - Friday 11th August

Furze Platt's Summer Sketch Show Extravaganza

Spend a week with us and let your imagination soar. Over the week, you will have the chance to write, learn and rehearse sketches specifically designed for young performers. Supported by older students who will provide lighting, sound and all technical elements, as well as experienced Drama staff, no experience is necessary to take part. This is a wonderful opportunity to develop performance skills, as well as having a lot of fun!

£95 per person per week

There is no water day during the Sketch Show week as there will be a performance on the Friday.

CLICK HERE TO BOOK

To book, please complete the booking form online using the link above and pay online to Lloyds Bank a/c no: 42740560 sort code: 30-95-36 marked 'Summer' and your child's surname.

Participants will need to bring appropriate clothing and a packed lunch.

Concessions available.

For more information please e-mail media@furzeplatt.net or call Catherine Johnstone on 01628 625308 ext 347.

THE BIG QUIZ 4



Friday 21st April 2017

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 1-7 and we'll find teams for you.



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



bar & prize
raffle

Booking Details:

Account Number: 64289788, Sort Code: 60-13-35,

Account Name: Furze Platt School PTFA

Reference: Parent's initial & surname and number of tickets (e.g J Lloyd x 4)

Please also email your ticket request to the treasurers at jeff@iifa.co.uk.

We will confirm receipt. No tickets will be issued.

For payment by cheque, please email jeff@iifa.co.uk to order tickets and hand cheque in to FPSS Reception (PTFA drawer).

