

Weekly Update: Monday 7th March - Friday 11th March 2016

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NEXT WEEK (Week 1)

Tues 15th March	Year 11 Pre-Public Exams: English Lit. Poetry (Period 2-3) Year 10 BTEC Parents' Information Evening (5.30pm - 6pm)
Thurs 17th March	Year 7 Parent and Student Consultation Evening (4pm - 7.30pm)
Fri 18th March	Year 11 Pre-Public Exams: Maths (Period 5-6)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Mon 21st - Thurs 24th March	Year 13 Drama Exams
Tues 22nd March	Mufti Day
Thurs 24th March	End of Term 4 (12.30pm finish)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Yr 7 REPORTS AVAILABLE

Please be advised that the Year 7 and Year 9 March Progress Reports for your children are now available.

The new 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 reports@furzeplatt.net

For any questions regarding your son or daughter's progress please contact Mr Sheppard, Assistant Head.

Mrs Watford (M.I.S. Manager)

Yr 9

DIFFERENT BREAK TIMES ON FRIDAY 18TH MARCH

To accommodate an important Year 11 Maths exam we are moving Break 2 forward by an hour. For Friday 18th March only, Break 2 will run from 12.45pm-1.15pm (rather than the usual 1.45pm-2.15pm). Period 5 will then run from 1.15pm-2.15pm (rather than 12:45pm-1:45pm). The rest of the day will run as usual and the café will continue to offer its usual full range of hot and cold meals at both breaks.



DANCE SHOW



Many thanks to all who were involved in making the Dance Show such a successful event.





LESSONS FROM AUSCHWITZ PROJECT

Two of our Year 12 girls, Chloe Smith and Bethany Wright-Paramio, visited some of the Holocaust sites in Poland as part of their studies. This impressive article (printed here in full) was written by the girls.



'We applied to take part in the 'Lessons from Auschwitz Project' provided by the Holocaust Educational Trust. This entailed a seminar in London with 200 other young people from the West London area, where we met Zigi Shipper, a holocaust survivor. Through Zigi, we learnt about pre-war Jewish life and the importance of remembering the individuals rather than the statistics. He recounted his holocaust experience which shocked us because he was younger than us when he arrived at Auschwitz-Birkenau (15).

A week later, at five in the morning, we arrived at Gatwick for our day long trip to Poland where we would visit Auschwitz I and Birkenau. When we arrived in Poland it was heavily snowing as we made our way to the town of Oswiecim, renamed Auschwitz during the war. The town felt it like it was stuck in the 1940's and the colourful buildings made it feel as if the town's population was trying to distinguish the new town of Oswiecim from the horrors that had occurred there over 70 years ago.

On the coach to Auschwitz I, we were both very apprehensive as we didn't know how we would react. We were told that seeing was very different to hearing, and this was very true. We started our tour under the infamous "Arbeit Mach Frei" gates (work sets you free) which impacted us in the sense that the sign and the architecture of the place was so deceiving to what actually happened there. We were surprised by how small Auschwitz I was and each brick barrack was devoted to telling parts of the history of the Holocaust. Through seeing belongings and pictures of the victims, we were struck by the attempt to re-humanise as many people as possible, who could so easily be forgotten. Our tour guide took us past the Commandant's house that is now inhabited by a normal Polish family, and we just couldn't comprehend how the Commandant could be responsible for sending thousands to their death every day and then go home and play with his children, 500 yards from a gas chamber. This is something that particularly made us think about the blurred line between perpetrator and bystander. Can we really blame one person for the horrors, or do we share the blame to include anyone who had even the smallest amount of involvement of the systematic persecution of minorities.'

(continued on next page)

LESSONS FROM AUSCHWITZ PROJECT (continued)

When we got to Birkenau, we were met by the bleak tundra which reflected the emptiness of the site. The scale of Birkenau was overwhelming, twenty two times the size of Auschwitz I so there was no way we could see it all, however the most poignant symbol of the holocaust ran directly through the middle. The railway track that stretched from Toulouse in the west and the island of Rhodes in the south made Auschwitz-Birkenau the central destination of all transportations. Meaning that right where we stood was the inevitable last stop. The railway was symbolic as the selection process occurred there, where hundreds of thousands of families were separated and each individual was either sent right if they were capable to work or left, if they were considered 'undesirable'. These people were sent to certain death. Staring in disbelief at the ruins of gas chambers and crematoria, we found it hard to fathom the enormity of what had happened.

The candlelight ceremony marked the end of our day. All 200 of us gathered together at the end of the railway track and listened to the Rabbi that came with us recite prayers to those who suffered in the holocaust. It provided comfort for all of us as we forgot about the numbing cold and the blisters on our feet and we focused on remembering the events of over seventy years ago. We lit the candles and placed them on the track that seems so ominous and foreboding, we felt hope as they filled a place so full of darkness with a little bit of light. We had mixed feelings when leaving Birkenau as there was a certain guilt of walking out of a place where over one million people never did but we also felt uplifted and determined to make sure the evidence of the atrocities committed here would never happen again.

From this experience we have learnt the importance of not being a bystander in times of injustice and standing up for what is morally right. We have taken from this that if everyone can provide a little bit of light in a world that has the potential for so much darkness, then a lot of good can be done.'

By Chloe Smith and Bethany Wright-Paramio, Year 12





There were no hockey or netball results this week. Year 8 football team lost to The Forest School 4-3 in a close game. In the Berkshire 7s, our Year 8 rugby team lost to Maiden Erlegh, but beat both Holyport College and The Oratory School.

Year 10 beat Edgebarrow School 3-2 * Year 7 beat Cox Green School 5-4
Year 9 beat Ranelagh School 7-2 and last week beat Maiden Erlegh 1-0



COMMUNITY NEWS

LONDON MARATHON 2016

This year I will be competing in the London Marathon 2016. The challenge has now become very real and I have been training hard since the beginning of January. The race day is Sunday 24th April 2016.



I would really appreciate it if you could give 2 minutes of your time to read my fundraising page. I will be raising money for Great Ormand Street Hospital as it is a charity that is very close to my heart.

Thank you,

Miss C Hussey (Head of Windsor House)

<https://www.justgiving.com/charlottehusseymarathon>



Following the fantastic response we had to the all-new big quiz in November we're pleased to announce that The Big Quiz 2 is on Friday 15th April.

Featuring games-style rounds as well as the usual music, trivia and pictures.

Food from Giant Pan Catering - Paella, Tartiflette, Champignons Forestiere and Cassoulet, plus a bar and prize raffle.

Start time: 7.30pm until 10.30pm

Only £15 per person. Table max size: 8 but you can book in any numbers from 1-7 and we'll find teams for you.

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 fpss.pta@hotmail.com. We will confirm receipt. No tickets will be issued. For payment by cheque, please email fpss.pta@hotmail.com to order tickets and hand cheque in to FPSS Reception (PTFA drawer).

Jeff Lloyd (Head of PTFA)



CURRENT VACANCIES

Language Assistant (German)

Clerk to the Governing Body



Yr8 YEAR 8 GCSE OPTIONS Yr8

There are some major changes to the GCSE process for our current Year 8 students. For more details, please read the attached information and email Edwin Towill, Deputy Headteacher edwin.towill@furzeplatt.net if you have any queries regarding option choices.

Yr10 DOUBLE AWARD SCIENCE INFORMATION Yr10

TUESDAY 15TH MARCH

There will be an important Year 10 Double Award Science Information Evening on Tuesday 15th March at 5:30pm in the Main Hall.

The purpose of this evening is to provide information about how to prepare for the Year 10 exams and the dates of the Pre-Public Exams (PPEs). In addition there will be revision guides available to purchase for £3.50.

Mrs J Heales (Head of Science)

6th A-LEVEL REVISION PROGRAMME FOR THE EASTER AND MAY HOLIDAYS 6th

We are pleased to be able to offer a range of revision sessions for A-Level students, which will run during the Easter & May holidays. Please click [here](#) to view the letter with full details.

SIXTH FORM TOURS 2016

Please book tours by contacting furzeplatt@office.com. All tours are scheduled for 9.10am until 10.10am on:

Tuesday 15th March 2016
Tuesday 22nd March 2016

[Sixth Form Prospectus and Course Guide 2016](#)

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

5TH JULY 2016

Students who take part in extra curricular music activities are invited to join a trip to see the London production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory on Tuesday 5th July. Letters will be given out to these students this Monday.

This trip serves as a reward for all those who have taken part in extra-curricular music activities throughout the year. We hope that the production will inspire them to continue performing next year. For many taking GCSE and A-Level, it will also help with their understanding of musicals – a topic which is studied in both exams. The trip is not compulsory, but we would warmly recommend it.

The coach to London will leave school at 4.15pm on the Tuesday, so please be at school by **4pm** and we will return by 11.30pm. Students will be advised of a more accurate return time when we leave London. Once we arrive, we will stop for dinner at McDonald's before heading to the theatre. Students should bring money to be able to purchase dinner.

In order for the trip to proceed, we require payment of **£30**. If you require help with covering the cost of this trip, please contact Mr Dingley as soon as possible. You may pay using online banking (details on the reply slip on the letter), or by cheque (payable to 'Furze Platt Senior School').

If you wish to take part, please return the form on the letter **labelled 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Trip'** and make payment by Tuesday 12th April. Tickets will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Students who are not part of the extra curricular music groups but who would like to participate in this trip should see Mrs Gregory or Mr Dingley.

THE BIG QUIZ

?

2



Friday 15th April

7.30pm - 10.30pm

At Furze Platt Senior School in the Main Hall



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

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 fpss.pta@hotmail.com.

We will confirm receipt. No tickets will be issued.

For payment by cheque, please email fpss.pta@hotmail.com to order tickets and hand cheque in to FPSS Reception (PTFA drawer).



FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL SIXTH FORM TOURS

Missed our Sixth Form Open Evening?
Call us to book
a tour!



Tours are scheduled for
9.10am–10.10am every
Tuesday from 19 January
to 22 March 2016.

► **Call 01628 625308 to book.**

Furze Platt Senior School, Furze Platt Road, Maidenhead SL6 7NQ
Tel: 01628 625308 • www.furzeplatt.com



BASKETBALL CAMPS
THIS EASTER 2016!
AT THE
JOHN MADEJSKI ACADEMY,
NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE, READING, RG2 8DF

Camp 1 – Rockets MiniBallers Camp

Age 5-10 year olds
Day Tuesday 5th April
Time 10am-12pm
Cost £12

Camp 2 – Rockets ‘Just Play’ Camp

(For Rockets Under 12-18 club players only. 3 v 3 and full court games)

Age 12-18 year olds
Day Tuesday 5th April
Time 1-4pm
Cost £12

Camp 3 – Rockets Community Camp

Book and pay before 31st March 2016 and receive 10% off this camp!

Age 11-16 year olds
Days Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th April
Time 10am-3pm each day
Cost £45

***ROCKETS BASKETBALL CAMPS -
BOOK NOW!!***

AT www.readingrockets.co.uk or call
the Basketball Hotline on 0118 926 3040



Our successful school is a happy, safe and caring learning community where achievement is promoted, potential realised and young people flourish.

Learning together our students will:

- Be prepared for the future
- Achieve
- Aspire
- Be curious
- Be creative
- Enjoy and value their learning
- Understand and respect others
- Be kind and courteous
- Be confident
- Be resourceful, independent and resilient
- Have broad horizons
- Participate and contribute
- Be active citizens
- Take responsibility

