



Weekly Update: Monday 2nd November - Friday 6th November 2015

SCHOOL
WEBSITE

CALENDAR

SPORTS
FIXTURES

TRIPS & VISITS

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SCHOOL MEALS

TWITTER

ALUMNI

NEXT WEEK

Mon 9th November	UCAS Deadlines Parents' Community Group Meeting (6pm - 7pm)
Tues 10th November	PTFA Meeting (7.30pm - 8.30pm)
Wed 11th - Thurs 12th November	Year 12 Art pre-public exams
Thurs 12th November	Year 13 Parents' Evening (4.30pm - 6.30pm)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Mon 16th November	Year 12 Media (12D) pre-public exams
Mon 16th - Tues 17th November	Year 12 Photography pre-public exams
Wed 18th November	Year 9 Theatre Trip - War Horse (4.45pm - 11pm)
Fri 20th November	Year 11 pre-public exams
Sat 21st November	PFTA Big Quiz Night



SCHOOL NEWS



WORLD CHAMPION



The main sporting news of the week at Furze Platt was that Mr Djaelani won his 3rd WKU World Championship and is again the title holder of the mens under 80kg, which this year was held in Alicante, Spain. This is a hugely impressive achievement, all the more so this year as he was competing against a number of much younger kickboxers. Mr Djaelani is Head of Dorney House and PE teacher, as well as running a Bootcamp for students wishing to increase their fitness.





SPORTING RESULTS



Well done to:

Year 8 boys' rugby who beat Theale Green this week 34-29 in the County Cup

Year 9 girls' hockey team who won one match and lost the other against St Mary's B and A teams respectively

Year 7 and 8 girls' football who played against The Piggott School, losing 2-0

Year 11 girls' netball team who lost against Charters School

Year 7 A and B team rugby matches yesterday were postponed due to the weather

MRS JACK'S ADOPTION LEAVE

Congratulations to Mrs Jack, Head of Modern Languages, who has adopted two boys. She has now begun her adoption leave. Ms Lee is now acting Head of Department, and Mr Mark Hewitt has joined the department to teach French and German.



SAFE DRIVE STAY ALIVE



Last year over 2,000 people were injured on roads in Thames Valley and Hampshire and an average of 4 young people per week were killed or seriously injured. Mr Dollery, Mrs Wrenn and Miss Tomlin took the whole of Year 12 to the Wycombe Swan for the 'Safe Drive, Stay Alive' performance which aims to educate teenagers about staying safe on the roads. Students were extremely well behaved and a credit to the school.

MISS EVANS' MATERNITY LEAVE

Congratulations to Miss Evans, Head of Geography, who had her baby earlier in the term. Both mother and son are well. We are delighted that Mrs Christine Kaiser has now joined the Geography department. Mrs Kaiser will take over most of Miss Evans's timetable, though Miss Evans's Year 12 and 13 classes will be taught by Mr Sheppard, and her Year 11 class will be taught by Ms Gajewska. Some other Key Stage 3 classes will see a temporary change of teacher. After Christmas, Mr Ed Fraser will join the school as temporary Head of Department, and will take over Miss Evans's original timetable.



PGL WEEKEND



On Friday 16th October 2015, we took 148 very excited Year 7 students to Osmington Bay in Dorset for their PGL trip. In recent years we have been blessed with glorious sunshine, however this year we had to face a weekend of cold, blistering winds. Despite this, it was an excellent weekend and the weather did not faze students or staff and everybody got stuck in from the offset.

As a group we were privileged with the activities that we had on offer over the course of the weekend. Students were able to participate in the trapeze, giant swing, Jacobs's ladder, archery, abseiling, sensory trail, aero ball and the zip wire. Due to the nature of these activities, students were faced with challenge and adversity during the weekend, with many overcoming their fear of heights.

During the evening times, students continued with their high levels of enthusiasm and took the annual PGL disco to a whole new level. Students came with their best outfits, best moves and even a competitive streak, challenging the very keen members of staff to dance offs. Undoubtedly, the teachers were victorious with Mr Harris and Mr Dingley taking the crown.

The trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all and it was such a good opportunity for the students to get to know each other and create new friendship groups. It was also fantastic for the staff to get to know a brilliant group of year 7s in a completely different environment. Thank you to all the staff who gave up their weekend to help the students enjoy the heights, weather and activities. It was a fulfilling, dry and great weekend for all those who came.

Miss Hussey





PTFA EASY FUNDRAISING

To all parents, students, teachers and friends

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online from almost any of the biggest and most popular retailers - you could be raising a free donation for Furze Platt Senior School?

There are nearly 3,000 retailers on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline, and Sainsbury's - it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

It's really simple, all you have to do is:

1. Join - Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/furzeplattseniorschoolmaidenhead> and sign up for free.
Or
Download the app and shop from there every time!
2. Shop - Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first, pick the retailer you want and start shopping.
3. Raise - After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever!

Please help us this Christmas by giving more than a gift - there are no catches or hidden charges and Furze Platt Senior School will be really grateful for your donations.

PTFA funds are used for:

- All annual running costs for school minibuses, including insurance and servicing.
- Contribution to new mini bus
- Projects such as Sixth Form Patio area improvements, Drama studio raised seating, Art department equipment, Graduation gowns and Sports colours
- Current requests for funding include: New outdoor furniture, Ukeleles and storage

Did you know that some schools manage to raise thousands of pounds a year through this method alone?

There are currently less than 10 regular users who have raised £159 over the last year. Imagine how much we could raise if all 1200 students and their parents simply used one app or website for their shopping.

Please sign up now. It costs you nothing at all.

Thank you for your support.

Sharon Price (PTFA)



PTFA QUIZ NIGHT Saturday 21st November 2015

The All-New Big Quiz Night is on Saturday November 21st. Featuring games-style rounds as well as the usual music, trivia and pictures. Plus food from Giant Pan Catering - Paella, Tartiflette, Champignons Forestiere and Cassoulet (and dessert too. Plus a bar and prize raffle.

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 FPS Reception (PTFA drawer).

Jeff Lloyd (PTFA Chair)

PTFA VOLUNTEERS

The PTFA are looking for volunteers for the Christmas Music Concert on Wednesday 9th December – please contact Jeff Lloyd at jeff@iifa.co.uk if you can help. Thank you.

PARENTS' COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING

The first meeting of this academic year will be held on Monday 9th November at 6pm in the library. Every parent at Furze Platt Senior School is a member of the Parents' Community. There are four meetings a year. They last no more than one hour, from 6pm – 7.15pm on Monday evenings.

The meetings are informal - hosted and minuted by the headteacher. Parents have the opportunity to email discussion items in advance. The headteacher will also raise items for discussion and feedback.

If you would like to join us on Monday 9th November, please contact Wendy Pritchard at wendy.pritchard@furzeplatt.net.

Regards

School Office



CURRENT VACANCIES

- Cover Supervisor
- Part-time Science Technician
- Assistant Site Controller
- Midday Supervisor
- Clerk to the Governing Body



POLICE MESSAGE: WINTER BURGLARY CAMPAIGN

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

PARENTS' EVENING

Thursday 12th November

On Thursday 12th November, there will be a subject consultation evening for Year 13 parents. We are using our online booking system for our parents' evenings which as you know has proven to simplify the whole process and put parents firmly in control of their own appointments. 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 link on the school website.

Please note:

There are some special arrangements for Science and parents should book with the following teachers:

Chemistry - 13A - Mr Bruno, 13C - Mrs Heales

Physics - 13B - Mr Foster Smith, 13D - Mr Varnam

Biology - 13B - Mrs Bennett, 13C Dr Scott

Human Biology - 13A Mr Molin

Mr Bown

Deputy Headteacher

PHILOSOPHY

GCSE Philosophy revision guide is now available for £1. This has been produced by the RE department and covers the content for the whole of Year 10. Please take the money to reception in a named envelope. Thank you.

MESSAGE FOR AS AND A LEVEL MATHS ONLY

Warwick University Maths in Action Day

Tuesday 8th December 2015

The Maths Department is planning a trip to Warwick University to attend their Maths in Action Day. The day will comprise of 5 distinguished and passionate speakers discussing how Maths impacts almost every realm of the modern world. Some examples of topics under discussion are Fermat's last theorem, how mathematical modelling saves lives and how not to be hoodwinked by statistics.

We expect this visit to be extremely popular and as places are limited they will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis.

Please [click here](#) to view the letter with full details and reply slip.

Mrs Fawcett

Maths Teacher



AFTER SCHOOL CATCHUP / SUPPORT / REVISION



Term 2 – November / December 2015

The information below is designed to help students in Year 11 organise their after school study activities.

The table shows which subjects will take priority for catchup / support and revision for Year 11, and on which days. Some subjects may also offer after school sessions on a second day as well. If a student isn't needed in one of the priority subjects on a particular day, then they may, of course, attend sessions from another department. They should arrange this through discussion with their subject teachers.

Three subjects are not on this list: Business Studies, which, where possible, will have a small number of students each day after school for the first week only, and both Music and Food Technology, which will require students on assorted occasions, and will avoid days when students have priority subject sessions.

This information replaces any that has been issued previously.

Day	Priority Subjects
Monday	Graphic Products Resistant Materials Science tbc ICT Computing
Tuesday	English
Wednesday	Drama (Practical) History Modern Languages Religious Education
Thursday	Maths
Friday	Art PE Drama (Written)



TRIP TO BELGIUM AND FRANCE 2016



The History and French Departments are planning to run a trip to France and Belgium from 16th – 20th July 2016, visiting some well-known sites connected to the First World War including the Ypres Salient and the Somme. Students will also get an opportunity to practice their French speaking and listening skills, through visits to a French market, a sweet factory and a snail farm. The trip will end with a shopping trip to Bruges on the final morning. This residential trip is open to all students in Years 9 and 10. Studying French and/or History is not a requirement. For further details, [please click here](#). The trip can accommodate 40 students and the first deposits are due in by Friday 6th November.

Ms Ridgway

Head of History



PROGRESS REPORTS



We are in the process of transitioning to a new reporting system that will give you easier online access to your child's progress and attendance information. In the interim we are providing printed reports as the Furze Platt Portal is no longer in use. During Term 2 we will be writing to you with login information for the new system.

Please do get in touch with me (james.sheppard@furzeplatt.net) or Sarah Watford, our Data Manager (sarah.watford@furzeplatt.net), if you have any questions or did not receive a copy of your son/daughter's report.

James Sheppard

Assistant Headteacher



DATA COLLECTION



In order for us to ensure that our information is kept up to date, if you have recently changed any contact details e.g. home address, email address, telephone numbers etc., or have any medical information for your child that may need updating, please let the school know by contacting Mrs Spuffard at jan.spuffard@furzeplatt.net or by calling the school on 01628 625308.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Regards
Mrs Spuffard



PRE-PUBLIC EXAM INFORMATION



Please [click here](#) view information about Pre-Public Examination arrangements for Year 11 students.

RUNNING CLUB

Running Club starts this term and will take place every Monday after school from 3.30pm - 4.30pm. All year groups welcome.

Please click on the link below for the full list of school clubs available for this term.

[School Clubs List](#)



CAREERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR

Thursday 26th November

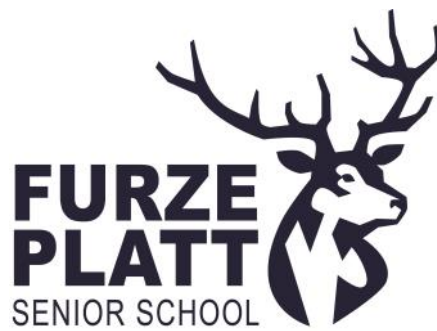
We will be holding our third Careers and Higher Education Fair on 26th November from 6pm to 8pm, for students in years 9 to 13 and their parents.

So far over 20 universities have agreed to be there, including several Russell Group universities and some who will be here for the first time this year, e.g. Cardiff, Goldsmiths, Leicester, the University for Creative Arts.

We will have individuals and organisations here representing a wide range of careers, e.g. science and technology, the police and armed forces, healthcare, veterinary work, childcare, teaching, scriptwriting, journalism, retail, accountancy – and more. There will also be several organisations here that provide apprenticeships in a variety of career areas.

Over the evening there will be a number of short talks on offer too, including two new ones this year – one about setting up your own business and one on why you should go to university.

It promises to be a fantastic opportunity for students to find out about some of the opportunities available to them in the future. For further information please contact judith.bubb@furzeplatt.net



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

