

# FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #59. 1



## MESSAGE FROM HEADTEACHER



It is with great pleasure that I warmly welcome you to the first newsletter of the 2019/20 academic year. In particular, I would like to welcome all new members of our Furze Platt community. I hope that you have had a wonderful summer and our young people are refreshed and excited about the year ahead.

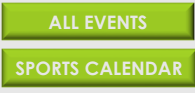
I was delighted to be able to welcome our new Year 7 students on Tuesday. They have made a great first impression and I look forward to watching them grow as learners and people during their Furze Platt Senior School careers.

I would also like to congratulate all our students on their results this summer. I was very pleased to see students' hard work pay off with some excellent results. There was much celebration as students achieved their places in our Sixth Form, colleges, apprenticeships and university. As ever, results days are emotional for staff, parents and carers who are aware of the efforts and struggles that have gone into achieving the results. I would like to thank all parents and carers for their support in achieving these results. I wish all our students every success as they embark on the next stage of their educational journey.

As we start 2019/20 there is much to look forward to at Furze Platt Senior School. We have our largest number of students and staff for several years and I am excited to see what we can achieve. This September we have also crystallised our school values into our ACHIEVE logo and I look forward to seeing our students live these values and achieving excellence.



## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Next Week (Week 2)

TUE 10 SEPTEMBER	Year 12 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	6.30pm - 7.30pm
	Year 13 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	7.30pm - 8.30pm
THU 12 SEPTEMBER	Year 7 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	6.30pm - 7.30pm
	Years 7, 10 & 12 School Photos	

### Forthcoming Events

WED 18 SEPTEMBER	Year 11 Geography Fieldtrip 3 - Box Hill	
THU 19 SEPTEMBER	Celebration Evening	7pm - 8pm
MON 23 - FRI 27 SEPTEMBER	Languages Week	

**SCHOOL TERM DATES 2019/20**

At the end of this term we should take ownership of our new teaching block and the state of the art classrooms and science laboratories therein. The old Gym is being demolished and we will start to see our new Hall rising from the ground. This summer has also seen additional improvements around site, including to our old Hall and Art/ Science block where facilities, including toilets, have been refurbished.

At the start of the new year we are joined by several new colleagues. I am sure that you will join with me in welcoming the following teachers to the Furze Platt Senior School community: Peter Ging (Head of Sixth Form), Lynne Hawkins (Head of Technology), Laura Sharp, Hannah Brookling and Alana Senior (English), Shilpa Pandey and Hayley Bull (Maths), Adrian Earle (Computing), Anne Dixon (MFL), Gareth Osborne-Lewis (Maths and Music), Joe Wellard-Jeffs (Geography) and Nosheen Yousaf (Business). We also welcome back Raphaëlle Roujansky from maternity leave.

Cont. on page 2

Joining our Support Staff team are Mary Bowen (School Medical Officer), Lisa Schofield (Science Technician), Gillian Harris (Learning Mentor), Milena Balfe (Shine Administrator), Sally Dahlbom (LSA) and Katya Dworkin (PE Technician). In addition, some of our current staff have new roles: Rob Frankis is now Deputy Head of Sixth Form, Danielle Boseley and Jess Thorogood have positions as Heads of Houses, Lynne Hawkins is Head of Technology, Sarah Crisford is our Head of Transition/Year 7, Katie Tomlin is now Head of PE and Dave Randall is our Outdoor Education and Enrichment Leader. Within our Senior Leadership Team, Laura Lewis is now Assistant Headteacher in charge of Pastoral, Andy Morbey is our Assistant Headteacher in charge of Curriculum and Timetabling and James Dollery is Assistant Headteacher in charge of Data and Assessment.

I look forward to working with the Furze Platt community to ensure our young people continue to ACHIEVE in 2019/20.

Dr A Morrison

as possible to either walk or cycle the short distance they need to travel to and from school. Doing so provides the triple benefit of reducing congestion on local roads, improving the health and fitness of your children and protecting the environment.



## IMPROVED DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP FACILITIES AT THE FRONT OF SCHOOL



Many of you will have already seen the great work that has been done over the summer holiday to double the drop-off and pick-up lanes at the front of the school – with the intention of making it both quicker and safer to both drop and collect your sons and daughters.

The end of the school day can get particularly busy. In order to help keep all of our young people safe when leaving school please could we ask that all parents who collect their children via car to:

- avoid parking stopping on the double yellow lines at any time
- keep moving up towards the exit gate (Cranbrook Drive end) as far as you can (children have been instructed to wait for collection at the top end, near the exit gate)
- pull into one of the designated parking lanes if you are waiting
- turn your engines off while waiting in order to preserve air quality
- circulate back round onto the road, if there are no spaces in the parking lanes, in order to help keep things moving
- when traffic is built up at the traffic lights at the Furze Platt Road and Switchback junction, please consider turning left and travelling via Pinkneys Road.

Please can we also ask that parents refrain from entering the school gates at 3.15pm, unless meeting a member of staff. It is important to keep routes as clear as possible for our students to exit in an orderly manner.

However, while we now have improved vehicle collection facilities, we actively encourage as many of our students

## SCHOOL CLUBS



We are delighted to be able to offer a large number of clubs for all our students to participate in, covering a wide range of interests including sports, the arts, academic study, foreign languages, music and many more.

Our new Year 7 students are invited to attend clubs in the list below. These are fun activities with the aim of meeting friends. All the clubs will run up to the October half term and we will provide further information as to what will be available after that time. Please do encourage your son/daughter to participate.

### TERM 1 – YEAR 7 CLUBS:

Club	Day	Time	Location
Yahtzee Club	Monday	3.15 - 4.00	FT2
Pétanque Club	Monday	3.15- 4.00	Meet in MFL1
Cooking -5 ingredient, half hour bake challenge	Monday	3:25- 4:30	FT1
Science club	Wednesday	3:15 -4:15	S3
Sing-A-Long	Monday	3:15-4:00	MU1
Jewellery making club	Monday	Break 1	BU3
Pony Club	Wednesday week 1	Break time 1	BU2
Gaming - Computers	Tuesday (Week 1)	3:15 - 4:00	IT2
Coding Club	Tuesday (Week 2)	3:15 - 4:00	IT1

Cont. on page 3

Club	Day	Time	Location
Gaming - Board and Card Games	tbc		
History	Tuesday (Week 1)	3.15-4.15	H5
Sudoku and other logic puzzles	Wednesday	3.15-4.15	M1
Cake Review Club - cakes will be supplied, students are welcome to also bring their own. The aim of the club is to develop writing to review skills whilst enjoying a slice of cake!	Wednesday in E6	3.15-4pm	E6
Magic club- please bring along a trick!	Wednesday WEEK 2	Break 2	PS1
Molkky - Throwing Game	Monday B2	1.45 - 2.15	Meet outside the library.
Cheerleading club	Wednesday	3.15 - 4pm	Dance Studio
Dungeons and Dragons	Tuesday (Week 1)	15:15 - 16:30	IT1
DIY Eco/recycling project club	Monday	15:15-16:15	TE1
Mindfulness and Calm	Wednesday	15:15 - 16:15	Library
Liverpool Supporters Club	Wednesday	Break time 2	BS2
Disney Club	Friday	Break 1	LS2
Book club	Friday Week 1	Break 2	Art 3
Debate club	Tuesday	Break 1	Gen 1
Polish club	Thursday week 2	break time	PS1
Religion and art club	Monday	3:15-4	Gen 2
Food Cupboard Monitors	Every Day	Break 1	FT2
Circus skills	Friday	Break 2	Drama
Italian Club	Wednesday	15:15-16:00	Library

## YEARS 8 - 13 SCHOOL CLUBS LIST

### SUPERVISED STUDY WILL BE RUNNING AGAIN THIS YEAR!

Supervised Study is an optional after-school arrangement whereby students can complete any work they need to do in a quiet and supervised environment. If you are interested in your child/ren attending Supervised Study, please complete



the form attached to the letter and return to Main Reception. There are limited spaces, so please ensure you respond quickly if you wish for your child/ren to attend.

Miss S. Gorton

## GENERAL & EVENT INFORMATION & LETTERS WEBPAGE

### 'MUSIC HANDS ON EVENING' TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 3.15-4.30PM



All Year 7 and 8 students who wish to have a go at the different instruments we offer as lessons through Berkshire Maestros and Celia Armstrong (piano) are invited to attend on Tuesday 10th September from 3.15-4.30pm in the Music Department. We also welcome parents who may want to talk to the different teachers.

## MUSIC LETTER

### EMOTIONAL WELLBEING CHAMPIONS: SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH AT FURZE PLATT



The Emotional Wellbeing Champions are a team of students from across Years 7-13 who have volunteered their time to help the school raise awareness and tackle the stigma surrounding mental health. Last term the team delivered a series of assemblies to students to raise awareness of how we all have mental health and suggestions of how to support your own mental health.



This term we are launching our 'Worry Box' and 'Shelf Help' initiatives. The worry box is a new box located outside reception where students can discretely post their concerns. If a student had concerns or worries about either themselves or their friends they can confidentially write it down and post in the Worry Box. Staff will check the box weekly and provide appropriate support for anyone who has raised a concern.

Cont. on page 4



We have also set up a 'Shelf Help' section of the school library using funding kindly given by the PTFA. Shelf Help is a national library initiative of books providing advice and guidance on a range of mental health and emotional wellbeing topics such as anxiety, bullying and exam stress. All titles come from a nationally recommended reading list of 35 titles and are now available to borrow from the school library.

The Emotional Wellbeing Champions are committed to working to further support mental health and wellbeing at Furze Platt over the next academic year.

Written by Katie Carpenter (Year 13) and Leyth Klibi (Year 12)



Our Emotional Wellbeing Champions:

- Leyth Klibi
- Katie Carpenter
- Anya Idrizi
- Tori Appleton
- Amelia Hadley
- Oliver Bond
- Olivia Smith
- Samia Alumi-Choudry

## STUDENT PASTORAL MANAGERS

At Furze Platt Senior School staff seek to respond to communications within two working days. Should a matter require longer to resolve we will acknowledge your email and reply in more depth thereafter. If your issue is urgent

(for example affecting the health and safety of a student) please telephone the Student Pastoral Manager for your child's House.

Mrs J Barney: Cookham & Windsor

Mrs M Carpenter: Bray & Henley

Miss S Gumbs: Bisham & Eton

Mrs B Harper: Dorney & Marlow

## ROME TRIP - ONE SPACE AVAILABLE



We have one space available for this trip in February next year, which promises to be an unforgettable experience to Rome, including seeing the Vatican City and much more. For full details please email [lisa.stirling@furzeplatt.net](mailto:lisa.stirling@furzeplatt.net).

## FURZE PLATT SPORTING SUPERSTAR



Orla Brennan (Year 13) recently competed over 400m Hurdles for England U20 at the Welsh International and England U18 at the Youth Nations Cup in Dublin, winning both races.



## DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS



We hope you enjoyed your summer break and your child has settled well at school this year.

Congratulations to the 169 students who successfully achieved their Bronze & Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award

over the last academic year. Students can now collect their certificates and badges from Miss Carty.

I am delighted to inform you that we will continue to deliver the Bronze, Silver & Gold Award to students in Years 9, 10 & 12 this year.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is the world's leading youth achievement award. It is a non-competitive programme of activities for anyone aged 14-24.

Participation in the D of E gives young people the opportunity to experience new activities or develop existing skills.

There are three progressive levels which, when successfully completed, lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold award. The award is completed by choosing volunteering, physical and skills activities, going on an expedition, and for Gold only, taking part in a residential activity.

Volunteering- undertaking service to individuals or the community

Physical- improving an area of sport, dance or fitness activities

Skills- developing practical and social skills and personal interests

Expedition- planning, training for and completion of an adventurous journey in the UK or abroad

Residential- staying and working away from home during a shared activity

We will be running assemblies to students on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September, explaining how the scheme works, and the benefits of taking part.

Prior to that, we would like to welcome you to a parents' information evening, on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September**, from 6pm in the Main Hall.

We anticipate that this event will be oversubscribed, therefore it is essential you reserve a space on Wise Pay.

### Bronze

BRONZE DOFE PROMO VIDEO

BRONZE DOFE PROMO VIDEO

### Silver

SILVER DOFE PROMO VIDEO

SILVER DOFE PROMO VIDEO

### Gold

GOLD DOFE PROMO VIDEO

Our website has more information on the Duke of Edinburgh Awards which will be updated with dates after the meeting.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH WEBPAGE

## FURZE PLATT STUDENT AWARDED TRIP TO GERMANY

YEAR  
11



Last term, Noemie Roels (Year 11) was invited on a trip to Germany following her hard work with our RBWM colleagues. This is a letter from their Youth Service Manager:

"I wanted to let you know how well Noemie did on the twin town trip to Goslar, Germany. The 8 day programme was very exciting with various activities in the locality -climbing park, lake swimming, walking a high suspension footbridge, bubble soccer to name a few plus a trip to Berlin, all alongside their German counterparts.

The group showed great team spirit and have got so many outcomes from the project - making new friends, experiencing a new culture, trying new activities, gaining confidence and so much more. Having been nominated by James & then selected because of her positive attitude on the D of E programme, it was great to be able to offer such an opportunity & for Noemie to have benefited so much from it."

Helen Smith Youth Service Manager, Achieving for Children

Congratulations Noemie!

## PTFA SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE



We will be running a sale after school on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September in the library, please do come along if you are in need of uniform or kit.

From then on once a term, dates will be confirmed nearer the time.



200 CLUB

Winning numbers for Draw 7

on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2019



ANNUAL PAYMENT (£57 PER YEAR)

MONTHLY PAYMENT (£5 PER MONTH)



# REMINDERS

Some useful information for the new term:

All letters for trips and visits can be found here:

**TRIPS AND VISITS - INFORMATION AND LETTERS  
WEBPAGE**

Our Year 7 Parents Guide can be found here:

**YEAR 7 PARENTS' GUIDE**

## WEEK ONE AND WEEK TWO - ORGANISATION

Please help new students to ensure they have the correct books, PE kit etc. Next week is Week 2, the weeks are always listed on the calendar at the front of the newsletters.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Please follow us on Twitter and Facebook to see more of our students' achievements.

If you have anything you think may be of interest for our newsletter, please email [media@furzeplatt.net](mailto:media@furzeplatt.net).

If you send in photos, please ensure everyone in the photo has given their permission for us to use it.

We are always keen to feature the successes of current students and alumni.



### Furze Platt Senior School offers:

- ▶ A broad, stimulating and rewarding education for girls and boys
- ▶ Outstanding academic, sporting and Arts facilities
- ▶ Supportive transition activities for all our Year 7 students
- ▶ A wealth of extra-curricular interests, trips and visits

'An increased number of pupils achieved top grades at key stage 4 [and] made very strong progress in both academic and vocational subjects. The most able make similar or greater progress than other pupils nationally.'  
- Ofsted



### How to find us:



'Pupils achieve highly at this school'  
- Ofsted 2016

Furze Platt Senior School, Furze Platt Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 7NQ



**Open Evening  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct 2019  
All Welcome**



**School Tours Available  
Sept and Oct 2019  
All Welcome\***

01628 625308 | [office@furzeplatt.com](mailto:office@furzeplatt.com) | [www.furzeplatt.com](http://www.furzeplatt.com)

\*All tours must be booked in advance, please contact Main Reception.

# COOKHAM & MAIDENHEAD ARTS TRAIL

Visit local artists in their studios with refreshments, demos and a range of original work for sale

FREE ENTRY Saturday 14th - Sunday 15th September, 10am - 6pm



## Group Exhibition

The Gallery, Norden Farm Centre for the Arts

Altwood Road, Maidenhead, SL6 4PF

Open Tuesday September 3rd - Sunday 22nd

Tuesdays - Saturdays: 5pm-10.30pm • Sundays: 10.30am-10.00pm

Brochures with trail map are available at Norden Farm Centre for the Arts, Maidenhead Library and The Stationery Depot, Cookham



CRAZY ahead framing

— SHANLY —  
FOUNDATION

From the Kiln

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AMBITIOUS COLLABORATIVE HAPPY INTEGRITY ENDURANCE VERSATILITY EXCELLENCE

7

If you have any news items you wish to feature in our newsletter please email: [media@furzeplatt.net](mailto:media@furzeplatt.net)