

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Update: Monday 5th December - Friday 9th December 2016

SCHOOL
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NEXT WEEK (Week 2)

Fri 16th December

End of Term (12.30pm finish)

Year 13 Business Studies: BMW Mini Plant (8am - 3.30pm)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Mon 19th December - Mon 2nd January

Christmas Holidays

Tues 3rd January

Start of Term 3 (Week 1)

Year 9 Drama Trip: Woman in Black (4.30pm - 11pm)



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 12TH JANUARY
2017

6th Form tour for external students
starts at 6pm
Main Presentation starts 6.25pm

UNABLE TO ATTEND THE SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING?

Tours need to be booked through our Main Reception on 01628 625308. All tours are scheduled for the following dates:

Wednesday 4th January 2017

Tuesday 10th January 2017

Wednesday 18th January 2017

Tuesday 24th January 2017

Wednesday 1st February 2017

Tuesday 7th February 2017



**DECEMBER PROGRESS
REPORTS AVAILABLE**



[Home](#) > [Parents](#) > [Reports](#)

Year 9,10 and 11 reports have been issued this week and are available online as usual via Go 4 Schools. Year 8 reports were issued last week via Go 4 schools.

Year 7 reports have all been printed and issued via the students today. We hope to have them available via our online service Go 4 Schools later in the year.

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. 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)



CHRISTMAS CONCERT 2016



Our Christmas Concert took place this week, on Wednesday 7th December, and was a great success. Approximately 120 students participated as well as 30 members of the adult choir. Mr Lewis and I were extremely proud of everybody who took part. Each item in the programme was of a high-standard and the students outdid themselves by performing confidently and enthusiastically. Particular congratulations to the soloists who were all fantastic. A special mention also has to be said of the audience too as they sang 'Merry Christmas Everybody' with gusto!

If you were inspired to join our community choir, then please do get in touch, katie.johnston@furzeplatt.net. We rehearse on Wednesdays at 7pm in the Music studio during term time.

It has certainly put us in the festive spirit and we wish a Merry Christmas to all who took part, helped behind the scenes and attended. We are looking forward to planning the repertoire for the 'Spring Concert' on Wednesday 26th April 2017.

Miss K Johnston (Head of Music)



Photos by Abi Wilcock (Year 13)

QUESTION TIME, MAIDENHEAD

I applied for tickets when I heard Question Time was coming to Maidenhead and was called last week to say I had been successful. Mrs Kennedy (Learning Support Assistant, Science) had also been notified so we were looking forward to the event. We arrived at the Town Hall yesterday (Thursday 8th December) and were asked to write down a question that was topical and provocative.

David Dimbleby came out and put everyone at their ease by chatting about the format, how he would like people to address the panel (ie not to one person as he likes to get everyone to speak) and how the main questions were chosen. We then took our seats and had a warm up session, with members of the audience sitting in the main seats to check sound and lighting etc which was very amusing as they were assigned the characters of the forthcoming panel!

The panel were a very diverse group: Former Conservative MP Louise Mensch; Chair for the Commons Health Committee and Conservative MP Dr Sarah Wollaston; author and journalist Will Self; Labour Shadow Justice Secretary Richard Burgon; and former UKIP leader Nigel Farage.

Questions asked included:

- Is Donald Trump a worthy recipient of Time Magazine's 'Person of the Year'?
- Could a deal for Brexit be realistically achieved in two years?

- Is Boris Johnson too much of a loose cannon to be Foreign Secretary?

The panel were lively which made for a really interesting evening. Filming took around an hour and a half and the actual programme was not much shorter so almost everything we saw was kept in. It was surprising how intimate the venue felt, and although we were aware of the cameras and microphones they were reasonably unobtrusive.

I am looking forward to the next time Question Time comes to Maidenhead as it was a fascinating experience.

Mrs C Johnstone (Marketing and Events Manager)



Dr Sarah Wollaston MP Conservative Richard Burgon MP Labour Nigel Farage MEP UKIP Will Self writer Louise Mensch author and former MP



6th

THANK YOU LETTER
FROM THE POPPY
APPEAL



ROWING

Congratulations to Abbie Bird (Year 13) and Victor Kleshnev (Year 12) who were both successful at the latest GB Junior trials and have been selected to go to a GB training day at Caversham (GB squad training centre) and then for a training camp in Spain over the Christmas holidays.



COMMUNITY NEWS



2017 PTFA MEETING
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Tues 10th January

Tues 7th March (AGM)

Tues 13th June

Each starts 7.30pm in the
library, all welcome.

Dear Parents & Carers,

This is a short but heartfelt plea to anyone reading this to assist with the running of the PTFA. At the last PTFA meeting there were 3 people present - myself, the treasurer and the secretary.

The (outdoor) Car Boot Sale, which ended when the leisure centre complex was being built/was completed, put a big dent in the potential funds coming into the PTFA but was proving difficult to maintain anyway as it required 10 volunteers once a month to step forward. In its place we've instigated the Indoor Table Top Sale – which is well supported in the wider community but is in danger of being abandoned due to lack of volunteer help to run it (5/6 people are needed 6 times a year). This event needs your help.

Refreshments are provided by the PTFA at various school events, but this also is in danger of not happening in the future as the stock replenishment is a job needing doing as well as the actual serving at the events (there's approximately 5 of these events a year).

You might think that PTA business finished when your children entered senior school but if it did then it wouldn't have been possible to fund a minibus purchase/minibus upkeep/sports colours/graduation gowns/musical instruments and much more.

So, I/we (all 3 of us) NEED you to step forward. There are 4 meetings a year and about 14 events of varying size to cover in a calendar year.

Yours sincerely

Jeff Lloyd (PTFA Chair)



YEAR 11-13 RESIDENTIAL &
SHAKESPEARE WEEKEND

13th-15th January 2017

For details please click here.



CHRISTMAS TREE

Thank you to Stubbings Nursery for providing our lovely Christmas trees this year.



2017

Wild Training Marlow is offering an 8 week transformation package to kick start your New Year



A number of Furze Platt students are appearing in Maidenhead Drama Guild's production of Jack and the Beanstalk, with Furze Platt staff helping behind the scenes too.

PLEASE CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS



REPORTS AVAILABLE



[Home](#) > [Parents](#) > [Reports](#)

Please be advised that the Year 8 December Progress Reports for your children are now available via our online reporting service.

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. 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)

GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION – 'SCHOOLS THAT WORK FOR EVERYONE'

The government is currently consulting on its new education proposals. These include a proposal to return to selection at age 11 through the expansion of the grammar schools. Governors at Furze Platt are very concerned that the reintroduction of a grammar school in Maidenhead would have an impact on the strong comprehensive schools that serve the community currently. The consultation ends on 12th December 2016 and if you also feel strongly about this we would urge you to respond to the consultation by following the link below.

Please be aware that it is a long consultation covering a number of topics but respondents are not required to complete every question.

Thank you in anticipation,

Ms T White (Headteacher)

[GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION](#)

LOST PROPERTY

[Home](#) > [Parents](#) > [Useful Information](#) > [Lost Property](#)

If you think your child has lost or mislaid anything, you are welcome to come along to the Learning Resource Centre (Library) on Monday 12th or Tuesday 13th December from 3.15 - 4pm to have a look through the numerous items we have.

[CHECK LOST PROPERTY ONLINE](#)

CAREERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR - QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you to all parents who attended our recent Careers Fair. We are always keen to hear our visitors' comments, please would you fill in the brief questionnaire below. We look forward to your feedback.

[QUESTIONNAIRE](#)

PUNCTUALITY AND WINTER WEATHER

As parents and students appreciate, it is vital that students are punctual to school. Over the past week there has been a decline in punctuality. This is clearly associated with the onset of winter weather, causing journeys to school to take longer. Please may I ask all students and parents to allow plenty of time for their journey to school, and thus ensure that all students once again arrive on time. I do appreciate there are some circumstances where this is beyond the control of parents and students, for example where trains are cancelled.

Mr E Towill (Deputy Headteacher)



STEEL PAN WORKSHOP



Monday 9th January 2017

I am writing to advise you of an opportunity for your son/daughter to participate in an hour long Steel Pan Workshop that will take place during the school day on Monday 9th January. It would be beneficial to all Year 8 students to participate in this workshop, however there is a limit of 90 available spaces.

Year 8 will be studying World Music later in the school year and this workshop will give them the opportunity to experience playing in a Steel Pan band and an understanding of the context of Calypso music. It will also particularly be good experience for those wishing to pursue GCSE Music as there are elements of World Music and Fusion Music within the GCSE syllabus.

The workshop will be run by an external company 'Inspire-works' who are an established world music company offering many different musical experiences and workshops. More information can be found at www.inspire-works.co.uk.

There is no cost to participate in this workshop, however due to the limited spaces it is necessary for a reply slip to be returned to the Music Department. Spaces will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Please complete the slip below indicating whether or not you give permission for your son/daughter to participate in the Steel Pan Workshop and return it to Miss Johnston by Friday 9th December.

Miss K Johnston (Head of Music)

STEEL PAN WORKSHOP PARENTS' REPLY SLIP



SCIENCE TALK FOR YEARS 10-13

Thursday 15th December, 3.30 - 4.15pm, Room S5

Furze Platt's Science department is hosting a talk with special guest Jack Cooper, FP alumnus, who will be discussing auditory neuroscience, Oxbridge admissions and studying Biomedical Science at Oxford. All students in Years 10-13 are welcome to attend, please see poster below for full details.

SCIENCE POSTER



EXAM CERTIFICATES

[Home](#) > [Parents](#) > [Exam Information](#)

Exam Certificates are now available for students in Year 11, 12 and 13 Summer 2016 exams.

They can be collected from the Exams Office by the students only or visit the school website (Exams Information) to download the Certificate Collection Form.

Mrs S Hemsley (Student Support Manager)

Bracknell Forest Partnership

12 December
2016

6:00 - 7:30pm

Venue:
Garth Hill College
Bull Lane
Bracknell



Further information:

Bracknellforestschooldirect.co.uk



Getintoteaching.education.gov.uk



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Live outside Bracknell? Primary and Secondary teacher training providers from across Berkshire will also be there.

For further information and to confirm your attendance, please email: teacher.recruitment@bracknell-forest.gov.uk



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