

# FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Update: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> January - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2017

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## NEXT WEEK (Week 2)

Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> January	PTFA Meeting (7.30pm - 8.30pm)
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Sixth Form Open Evening (6pm - 9pm)
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> January	Sixth Form Mufti Day

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 8 Band 'F' Parents' and Students Consultation Evening (4.15pm - 7.15pm)
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Late start: school starts at 9.10am</b>



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### LATE STARTS TO THE SCHOOL DAY

On the following days school will start for students at 9.10. They will miss registration and assembly and go straight to Lesson 2.

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March

This adjustment is in recognition of the fact that we have doubled the number of parents' evenings that teachers need to attend for students in Year 7 and 8. Parents' Evenings are so well attended that parents told us they were struggling to make appointments with all the teachers they wished to see. We hope this arrangement will allow every parent to meet all their child's teachers.

Ms T White (Headteacher)



### GCSE TASTER LESSONS



Year 8 students will be choosing their GCSE options this year. To start this process, they will have GCSE taster lessons over the next fortnight in all subjects they currently study. Separate arrangements will be made for subjects not currently studied in Year 8, including Business, Child Development, Construction, ICT and Computing.

The Year 8 Options Evening takes place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February. During this evening parents and students will be able to find out in detail about our options process and about what each subject involves at GCSE.

Mr E Towill (Deputy Headteacher)



## SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2017  
Sixth 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 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2017  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2017



SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING: INVITATION TO YEAR 11



## CAN YOU HELP?

Our Food and Nutrition department needs 'Gu' style glass ramekin dishes. If you have any spare, please bring to Reception. Thank you.

Mrs S Crisford (Head of Food and Nutrition)



## SCHOOL CLUBS SCHEDULE - SPRING TERM 2017

[Home](#) > [Parents](#) > [Useful Information](#) > [School Clubs - Spring Term 2017](#)

Please see below for a full list of our current school clubs. An online list is also available to view on our website in the 'Parents' section, under 'Useful Information' - please click [here](#) for a link to this webpage.

We are proud to be able to offer a huge variety of activities. Please encourage your son/daughter to attend any which may be of interest to them.

### Please note changes to sporting activities for next week

Tuesday – No Year 7 Boys football training due to fixture away

Thursday – No Year 7 Boys football training due to Year 8 fixture at home

Day	Activity	Start Time	Finish Time	Where	Members	Department
Monday	Girls' Choir	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	MU1	Years 7-9	Music
	Jazz Band	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	Music Studio	Grade 3+	Music
	Year 7 Morning Maths	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	M3	Year 7 by invitation only	Maths
	Year 11 Paired Maths Support	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	M3	Year 11 by invitation only	Maths
	Basketball (Drop-in)	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	Sports Hall	All year groups	PE
	Child Development GCSE Drop in Revision Sessions	3:15pm	3:45pm	GEN1	Year 11	Child Dev/ Psychology
	Homework Club	3:15pm	4:15pm	Library	All year groups	General
	Science Homework Drop in Clinic	3:15pm	4:15pm	S4	All year groups	Science
	Girls' Football	3:15pm	4:30pm	Astro Turf	All years	PE
	KS5 Maths Support Clinic	3.30pm	4.30pm	M5/M6	Years 12-13	Maths
	Fitness Suite, Leisure Centre	3:30pm	4:30pm	Leisure Centre	Year 7 & Sixth Form	PE
	Graphics Catch-up Club	3:30pm	4:30pm	Tech 2/Tech 3	Year 11	Art Design & Tech
	Food and Nutrition Catch Up	3:30pm	4:30pm	FT2	Year 11	Art Design & Tech
	IT KS4 Support Clinic	3:30pm	4:30pm	IT1	Years 10-11	ICT and Computing

Day	Activity	Start Time	Finish Time	Where	Members	Department
Tuesday	Chamber Choir	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	Music Studio	Years 9-13 by audition	Music
	Boys' Choir	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	MU2	Years 7-9	Music
	Year 7 Morning Maths	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	M3	Year 7 by invitation only	Maths
	Year 11 Paired Maths Support	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	M3	Year 11 by invitation only	Maths
	Engineering Club	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	S3	Years 7-11	Science
	Glee Choir	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	MU2	Year 9 & over by audition	Music
	Ukelele Group	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	MU1	All year groups	Music
	German Support / Revision	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	MFL5	Year 11	MFL
	A-Level Business Surgery	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	BS2	Years 12-13	Business
	Basketball (Drop-in)	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	Sports Hall	All year groups	PE
	Science Homework Drop in Clinic	3:15pm	4:15pm	S4	All year groups	Science
	STEP Preparation: Year 12/13 Further Mathematicians	3:15pm	4:15pm	M2	Years 12-13	Maths
	Psychology Clinic	3:15pm	4:00pm	GEN1 / GEN2	All Sixth Form Psychology students	General
	English Coursework Clinic	3:15pm	4:30pm	English Block	Years 10-11	English
	Homework Club	3:15pm	4:15pm	Library	All year groups	General
	Drama Production Rehearsals	3:30pm	5:30pm	DS1/2	Years 9-13	Drama
	KS3 ICT/Computing	3:30pm	4:30pm	IT2	Years 7-9	ICT and Computing
	Physics Olympiad Training	3:30pm	4:30pm	S3	Year 12	Science
	German GCSE Support/Revision	3:30pm	4:30pm	MFL1	Years 10-11	MFL
	Year 7 Football	3:15pm	4:30pm	Astro Turf	Year 7	PE
	Netball	3:30pm	4:30pm	Tennis Courts	Years 7-8	PE
	Badminton Club	3:30pm	4:30pm	Sports Hall	All year groups	PE
	Fitness Suite, Leisure Centre	3:30pm	4:30pm	Leisure Centre	Year 8 & Sixth Form	PE

Day	Activity	Start Time	Finish Time	Where	Members	Department
Wednesday	Fitness Club (Boot Camp)	7:30am	8:15am	Leisure Centre	All year groups	PE
	Music Support & Intervention	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	MU1	Years 10-11	Music
	A-Level Economics Surgery	11:15am (BREAK 1)	11:45am	BS3	Years 12-13	Business
	Intro Band (Studio)	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	Music Studio	All year groups	Music
	Basketball (Drop-in)	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	Sports Hall	All year groups	PE
	German GCSE Support/Revision	3:15pm	4:30pm	MFL3	Years 10-11	MFL
	French GCSE Support / Revision	3:15pm	4:30pm	MFL4	Years 10-11	MFL
	History GCSE Support / Revision	3:15pm	4:15pm	H5	Year 11	Humanities
	Homework Club	3:15pm	4:15pm	Library	All year groups	General
	Year 8 Football	3:15pm	4:30pm	Astro Turf	Year 8	PE
	Biology A Level Drop In Clinic	3:20pm	4:00pm	S9	Years 12-13	Science
	Y11 Physics Olympiad Training	3:30pm	4:30pm	S3	Year 11	Science
	KS3 IT Club	3:30pm	4:30pm	IT2	Years 7-9	ICT and Computing
	Fitness Suite, Leisure Centre	3:30pm	4:30pm	Leisure Centre	Year 9 & Sixth Form	PE

Day	Activity	Start Time	Finish Time	Where	Members	Department
Thursday	String Group	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	MU1	All year groups	Music
	Lads' Choir	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	MU2	Years 10-13	Music
	Year 7 Morning Maths	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	M3	Year 7 by invitation only	Maths
	Year 11 Paired Maths Support	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	M3	Year 11 by invitation only	Maths
	Sixth Form Science Club	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	S4	Years 12-13	Science
	Puzzle Club	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	M1	Years 7-8	Maths
	Glee Choir	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	MU2	Year 9 and over, by audition	Music
	Theatre Choir	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	MU2	All year groups	Music
	English Coursework Clinic	3:15pm	4:30pm	English Block	Years 10-11	English
	Homework Club	3:15pm	4:15pm	Library	All year groups	General
	Chess Club	3:15pm	4:15pm	Library	All year groups	General
	Maths GCSE Revision / Support	3:15pm	4:15pm	Maths classrooms	Year 11	Maths
	Football	3:15pm	4:30pm	Astro Turf	Years 9-10	PE
	Chemistry A Level Drop in Clinic	3:15pm	4:15pm	S5	Years 12-13	Science
	Level 3 IT Catch Up Sessions	3:15pm	4:15pm	IT4	Year 12	ICT and Computing
	Drama Club	3:15pm	4:30pm	DS1/2	Years 7-8	Drama
	Drama Surgery (Theory)	3:30pm	4:30pm	DS1/2	Years 9-11	Drama
	ICT Support Clinic	3:30pm	4:00pm	IT4	Year 13	ICT
	Resistant Materials	3:30pm	4:30pm	Tech 4/Tech 2	Year 11	Art Design & Tech
	Netball	3:30pm	4:30pm	Netball Courts	Years 9-10	PE
	Badminton Club	3:30pm	4:30pm	Sports Hall	All year groups	PE
	Fitness Suite, Leisure Centre	3:30pm	4:30pm	Leisure Centre	Years 10-13	PE

Day	Activity	Start Time	Finish Time	Where	Members	Department
Friday	Fitness Club (Boot Camp)	7:30am	8:00am	Leisure Centre	All year groups	PE
	Orchestra	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	Music Studio	Grade 2+	Music
	Year 7 Morning Maths	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	M3	Year 7 by invitation only	Maths
	Year 10 Maths Master Classes	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	M7	Year 10 by invitation only	Maths
	Year 11 Paired Maths Support	8:45am (TUTOR TIME)	9:10am	M3	Year 11 by invitation only	Maths
	Debating Club	11:15am (BREAK 1)	11:45am	H7	All year groups	General
	Cross-Examine Club	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	H4	All year groups	Religious Studies
	Basketball (Drop-in)	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	Sports Hall	All year groups	PE
	A Capella Choir	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	MU1	Sixth Form Girls	Music
	Science Club	1:45pm (BREAK 2)	2:15pm	S4	Years 7-9	Science
	GCSE Physics Olympiad	3:15pm	4:15pm	S3	Year 11	Science
	Year 7 Maths Master Classes	3:15pm	4:15pm	M3	Year 7 by invitation only	Maths
	Further Maths Support: Years 12-13 Further Mathematicians	3:15pm	4:15pm	M2	Years 12-13	Maths
	Art Catch-up Club	3:15pm	4:30pm	Art Block	Year 11	Art Design & Tech
	Philosophy Catch up / Revision Club	3:30pm	4:30pm	H8	Year 10 -11	Humanities
	Year 7-8 Futsal	3:30pm	4:30pm	Sports Hall	Years 7-8	PE



## STAFFING UPDATE

In December Mrs B Ridgeway, Head of History, left us to start her maternity leave and relocate to Birmingham. Mr M Hewitt, languages teacher, left to take up another post. As a result, there have been a few adjustments to History and Languages classes. Mr Colmer and Miss Inwood will take some of Mrs Ridgeway's classes. Currently Mr Cannon is also taking some History classes for us.

Mr Cocker will take Mr Hewitt's languages classes. Mrs Benham returns from maternity leave in February.



## SCHOOL NEWS

### BUSINESS TRIP TO MINI PLANT - DECEMBER 2016



On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December, Mrs. Wood took myself and six other A-Level Business Studies on a trip to the Mini Plant in Oxford for a tour. Our tour guide was a man called Terry who had spent the last fifty years working at the plant. He showed us in and gave us a quick briefing as well as a high vis jacket and a pair of safety goggles. The tour started in the 'Body-In-White' facility, which was where the main shell of the Mini is assembled, it comprised of 1000 robots and just a handful of engineers and technicians looking after them. This is where we witnessed robots being divided up into different cells for different parts of the car and this was just like what we had learnt in our curriculum about cell production. It was also fascinating how Mini utilised the Just-In-Time production method to ensure that they were only making a car if an order had been placed for it. For the second part of the tour we were shown into the assembly facility where the car would then follow a snake-like pattern as they make their journey through the facility on a wooden conveyor belt. As the cars make their way around, they go through different sections, another example of cell production, where things like the electrical wiring, cockpit and engine are all fitted. The cars are then driven off the belt ready for their new owners. Overall it was a great day out and was great to witness some of the theory we had learnt in a real business environment.

Layth Al-Wakil (Year 13)

### SCIENCE DEPARTMENT SEMINAR – DECEMBER 2016

The winter term was brought to an end by a riveting talk by Furze Platt alumnus Jack Cooper.

Now studying biomedical sciences at Oxford university, Jack continues to inspire Furze Platt students with his talks on biomedical related subjects. On this occasion a cohort of Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 scientists enjoyed a 60 minute presentation in which Jack gave an insight into life at Oxbridge, attaining positions at these prestigious places of study and finally a fascinating introduction to the cutting edge work Jack and his team are conducting.

With festive refreshments to hand, the audience watched captivated, in both bemusement and awe as Jack showed off one of his fascinating projects - bionic crickets whose direction could be controlled wirelessly by way of a smartphone. Jack moved on to present his latest work, the study of neural crest cells. Utilising a technique known as *RNAscope*, Jack was able to observe embryonic neural crest cells in specially prepared chicken embryos. Jack explained the function of these cells, '*... they migrate huge distances across the embryo to form many different structures – such as sensory neurons, pigment cells in skin, and veins.*' He explained their movement across the chicken embryo in streams, something which was depicted by both video and imagery.

The resolution of the talk was an exposition into auditory neuroscience. As the name implies this was the study of sound perception. Jack described the use of sound in identifying an object's location and explained that this could be recreated artificially using headphones. A video of the McGurk effect - an audio illusion involving the perception of sounds by way of lip reading, concluded the talk, which once again had the audience in bewilderment and fascination.

Needless to say Jack's talk was both inspirational and intriguing. We hope to see Jack visit again in the future and we urge you to come along next time!

Evan Charles (Year 12)



Gregor Webster, 12, who plays at Maidenhead Tennis Club, won the second national (Grade 2) level tournament of this season in Nottingham on 28<sup>th</sup> December. This follows on from a fantastic year in which he played for GB in June and on great recent form after Grade 4 tournament wins this month in both singles and doubles 16 and under events.

Gregor's victory means he now has enough ranking points to make the end of season Grade 1 Tournament (where the top 16 boys in the age group all play each other). He will also play the last Grade 2 of the season in Bath in February to try and improve his national ranking.



## COMMUNITY NEWS

**PTFA MEETING THIS TUESDAY: TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2017, 7.30PM - 8.30PM IN THE LIBRARY (LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE). ALL WELCOME.**



### 2017 PTFA MEETING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

**Tues 10<sup>th</sup> January**

**Tues 7<sup>th</sup> March (AGM)**

**Tues 13<sup>th</sup> 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



### CURRENT VACANCIES

**Cover Supervisor**



FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

# SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January  
6pm – 9pm



## Prepare to Succeed!

- ▶ Exceptional range of A-level and BTEC courses, taught in small classes by subject experts.
- ▶ Impressive examination results put Furze Platt Senior in the top 25% of schools nationally.



**'The Sixth Form is a strength of the school' – Ofsted 2016**

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

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# Indoor Table Top Sale

**Furze Platt Senior School Main Hall**

**Time: 9am-12pm (Sellers from 7.30am, Buyers from 9am)**

**Entry: Adults (over 16) 50p per person,  
Children Free**

Table spaces can be booked  
for £10 per table by contacting [jeff@iifa.co.uk](mailto:jeff@iifa.co.uk)

- Bring, buy and sell your unwanted gifts, clothes, toys, books, DVDs and general jumble.
- This is the time to do a full spring clean.
- It's like a car boot sale, but indoors!  
And without the bad weather!
- All entry and table hire money to the Furze Platt PTFA

**SUNDAY  
29<sup>TH</sup> JAN**

