

# FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #54.3



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### LATE SCHOOL START

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January at 9.10am**

I am writing to inform you that school will start at 9.10am on the following occasions:

- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

Students should go straight to period 2 which starts at 9.10am.

The reason for this late start is because on these occasions, there are Year 7 or Year 8 parents' evenings taking place on the previous evening.

Mr E Towill, Associate Headteacher

### YEAR 11 EXAM PREPARATION EVENING



**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 6.30pm - CHANGE OF DATE**

I would like to invite you and your son/daughter to our Year 11 Exam Preparation Evening, taking place on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 6.30pm in the Main Hall. We have brought this event forward from the published date of Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March, following requests from parents and students. During this evening we will share:

How students should identify what to revise

1. The best methods of revision
2. Information on revision resources available
3. Support the school is giving students both in lessons and outside of lessons
4. How parents / carers can support their sons / daughters
5. Preliminary information on the last minute revision sessions that will be offered over the Easter holidays

Please do make every effort to attend with your son / daughter. I apologise that this is in the same week as the Year 8 Options Evening.

Mr E Towill, Associate Headteacher



### UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

SPORTS CALENDAR

SCHOOL CLUBS LIST

#### Next Week (Week 2)

<b>WED 24</b> JANUARY	Year 11 Music Recording Day	All Day
<b>THU 25</b> JANUARY	Year 8 Band 'P' Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm
<b>FRI 26</b> JANUARY	Late School Start	Starts at 9.10am

#### Forthcoming Events

<b>MON 29</b> JANUARY	Interhouse Football & Netball	
<b>FRI 9</b> FEBRUARY		
<b>TUE 30</b> JANUARY	Year 11 Exam Preparation Evening	6.30pm
<b>THU 1</b> FEBRUARY	Intermediate Maths Challenge	All Day
	Year 8 Options Evening	6pm - 9pm

SCHOOL CLUBS LIST 2018 FOR TERMS 3-4

TERM DATES 2018 - 2019

### SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS & COURSE GUIDE 2018

All of our course details and how to apply are now available on our website.

VIEW OUR  
NEW PROSPECTUS



**YEAR 11 ENGLISH LITERATURE -  
JEKYLL AND HYDE AT NORDEN FARM**

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March, 7.15pm for 7.30pm



Please click the link below for details regarding the Year 11 Jekyll and Hyde Theatre Trip.

**JEKYLL AND HYDE TRIP LETTER**

**YEAR 11 END OF SCHOOL  
CELEBRATION OPPORTUNITIES**

As your son/daughter reaches the end of their GCSE courses and the end of compulsory education, a number of traditions to mark this time have evolved in recent years. This is to let you know exactly what they are, and enable you to be aware of the financial implications of some of these.

**YEAR 11 END OF SCHOOL CELEBRATIONS LETTER**

**YEAR 8 OPTIONS EVENING**

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018

Event: Year 8 Options Evening

Times: 18.00 – 21.00

1<sup>st</sup> Talk: 18.00 Houses: Bisham, Bray, Cookham, Dorney

2<sup>nd</sup> Talk: 19.00 Houses: Eton, Henley, Marlow, Windsor

Place: Talk will be in the Main Hall followed by an Options Fair in the Maths Block

Furze Platt Senior School would like to invite you and your child to the Year 8 Options evening on the 1<sup>st</sup> February. The event is an information evening designed to guide you and child through the process of choosing the subjects that will

be studied over the next three years. We will highlight the subject choices available and offer advice on how to pick a curriculum best suited for your child.

This event is always incredibly well attended which is why we split the talks over two sittings. After the talk has finished, there will be an opportunity to talk with the subject teachers should you have any questions. Please be advised that due to the number of people attending, the carpark can sometimes be quite busy, so we would ask that where possible, parents walk to school for the talk.

**REPLACEMENT BOOK COSTS**

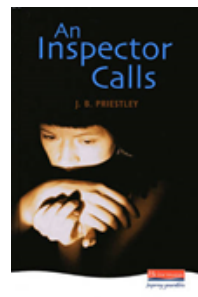
I am sure that you are all aware that there continues to be a squeeze on education funding and that as a school we have to look carefully after all of our resources. In the English Department, one of our largest financial outlays is the purchase of textbooks.

At the beginning of the GCSE English course, all students were given hard copies of the English texts they are studying. However, we need to ensure that all these textbooks are returned for future use.

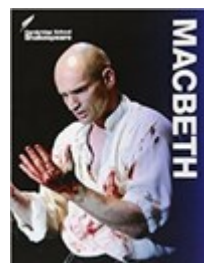
Unfortunately, experience has shown that we have struggled to get back all of the textbooks at the end of the year. The cost of replacement books is now prohibitively expensive for the Department.

In light of this, we have decided to request payment from students who lose or do not return their textbooks at the end of the module.

The textbooks and replacement costs are as follows:



An Inspector Calls  
(hardback version)  
£6.00



Macbeth  
£6.00

Students will of course be reminded of when they have to return their books at the end of each module, and are given many opportunities to bring them in before any charges are levied. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation with this matter.

Miss S Jayne, Acting Head of English and Media Studies



## NEXT WEEK'S SPORTS FIXTURES

TUESDAY - Year 7 football v Desborough (Away)

Year 9 football v Kennet (Away)

Girls hockey training

Year 10 boys football training

NO GYM CLUB

WEDNESDAY - Year 9 netball

Year 8 football training

THURSDAY - Year 10 boys football v Leighton Park (Home)

Netball training

Furze Platt has been offering DofE awards to students from 2015 and since it was introduced as an extra-curricular activity this year, we have almost 250 students taking part across Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13.

Miss Carty, Alternative Curriculum Support Worker, said, "It has been lovely to see friendship groups developing and the progression in confidence as students challenge themselves. In the future we hope to be offering the Gold Award alongside the Bronze and Silver."



## A-LEVEL RESULTS

2017

99% PASS RATE  
OUR NEW RECORD

31%  
OF GRADES  
ARE  
A\*-A  
UP 8%  
FROM 2016

59%  
OF GRADES  
ARE  
A\*-B  
UP 15%  
FROM 2016

80%  
OF GRADES  
ARE  
A\*-C  
UP 9%  
FROM 2016

SIXTH FORM APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN - APPLY NOW

## SCHOOL NEWS

### DUKE OF EDINBURGH

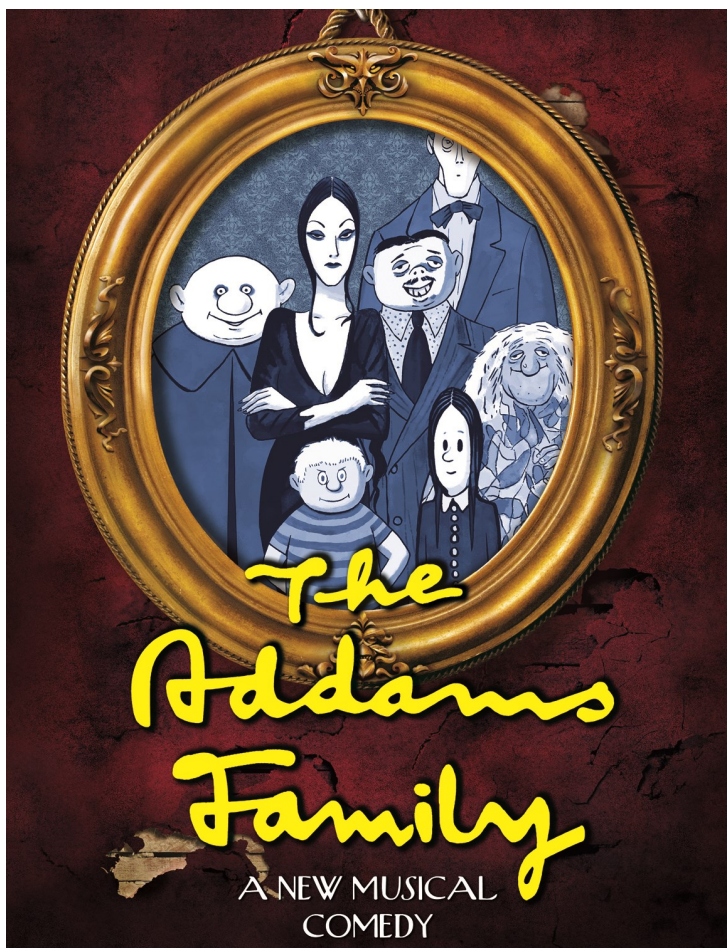
Mrs Alston, our Curriculum Support Worker, was invited to St James' Palace, London, for the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards.

Around 500 people had successfully completed their Gold Awards and Mrs Alston was a marshal for the day, meeting successful students and hearing inspirational stories of those who had gained the top award, which was presented by the Earl of Wessex.

### ADDAMS FAMILY

Tickets for the year's Upper School musical of The Addams Family will go on sale on 29<sup>th</sup> January. The performance dates are 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> February. Here is a little musical teaser from our rehearsals this week...

SNEAK PREVIEW MUSIC CLIP  
'WHEN YOU'RE AN ADDAMS'





## LINGUISTS OF THE FORTNIGHT

### FRENCH

Niamh McCallion Y7  
Dylan Gardener Y8  
Jayden Evans Y7  
Amy Carpenter Y7

### GERMAN

Kyle Ovens Y9  
Viktor Harrit Y8  
Ashlyn Bull Y7

### SPANISH

Liberty Webb Y9  
Abby Jones Y9  
Lily Hatch Y7  
Millie Ballard Y9

## PTFA DONATION

Thank you to the PTFA for funding visualizers for our Geography department. Here you can see one of them being used by our Sixth Form students (in a very fun experiment!) to demonstrate how different chocolate bars can be used to compare to different rock types of the UK coastline.



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### 200 CLUB

#### 200 CLUB

Winning numbers for Draw 2  
on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018



Our next draw will be on the evening of the finale performance of our Upper School Addams Family musical. Three lucky winners will win large cash prizes! One number costs either £57 as an annual payment or you can pay a monthly payment of £5 for 12 months. You may purchase more than one number.

Our PTFA could benefit up to £6000 per year - so please do support us and have a chance at winning a large cash prize.

If you have not purchased your numbers yet Please click here for more details or below:

#### HOW DOES THE 200 CLUB WORK?

ANNUAL PAYMENT

MONTHLY PAYMENTS

## RBWM FIT FOR LIFE

Please see below an electronic link to the RBWM Fit for Life Week booklet.

FIT FOR LIFE BOOKLET



## VACANCIES

We are looking for someone who is a qualified Drama Teacher and who might have some time to help us out with a small amount of Drama teaching. This would be for three hours a week teaching several of our Year 7 classes. There would be no requirement to develop lesson plans or mark work. If you would like further information please contact Mrs Harding, HR Manager on 01628 762231.



## PETER PAN

Four Year 10 Furze Platt students have been 'treading the boards' this week in Bourne End, as part of the Forum Players' production of 'Peter Pan'. Zoe Hopson plays Peter Pan in the title role, Rebecca Fisk plays Wendy, Anya Idrizi is Tiger Lily and Elise Brammer plays Nibs, one of the Lost Boys. The play runs this weekend and next, visit <http://www.forumplayers.com/> for more details.

## EASYFUNDRAISING UPDATE



The total raised so far is over £2600, thank you to everyone who has supported us so far.

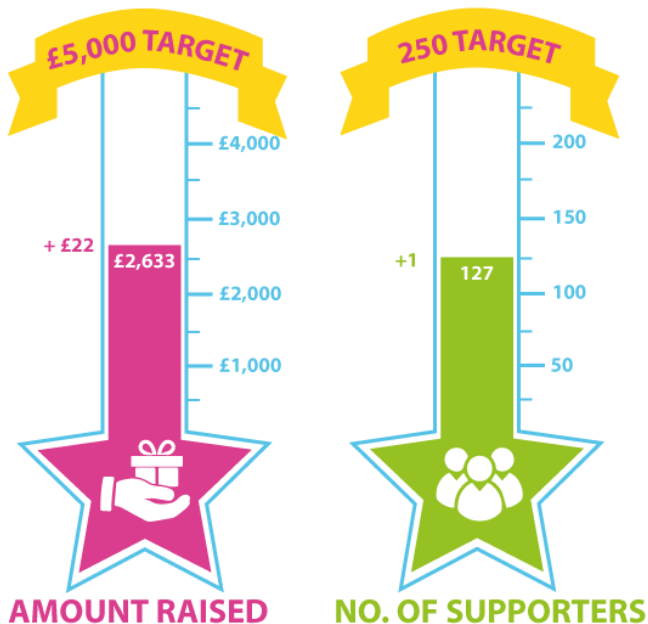
Remember, it doesn't cost you a penny more. Simply:

1. Log in to [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) and choose Furze Platt Senior School as your cause
2. Choose your retailer or shop

Carry on with your online shopping as normal

Thank you.

## EASY FUNDRAISING TOTALISERS



## TAG & TOUCH RUGBY CAMP - FEB HALF TERM



Please click the links below for details of local Tag & Touch Rugby Camp for boys and girls ages 5 – 14years taking place at Maidenhead Rugby Club during February Half Term.

[MINI MOHAWKS - TOUCH RUGBY DETAILS](#)

[TOUCH RUGBY REGISTRATION FORM](#)

## CLEARANCE ENDS SUNDAY

**John Lewis** John Lewis  
Donations increased up to 2.5%

**John Lewis Clearance**  
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YEAR  
11

## SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Thank you to all our visitors who attended last week's Sixth Form Open Evening event. It was a thoroughly informative and enjoyable evening, where current Year 11 students were able to learn about the fantastic opportunities and courses on offer in the Sixth Form. The evening's Main Hall presentations were predominantly and impressively led by current Sixth Form students.

For those of you who could not attend, we will be organising tours.

Tours need to be booked through our Main Reception on 01628 625308.

All tours are scheduled for 9.15am until 10.15am on the following dates:

### Sixth Form Tours

- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January
- Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February

[VIEW OUR NEW PROSPECTUS](#)

## YEAR 8 PARENTS' EVENINGS (CONT.)



YEAR  
8

internet, please contact the school office who will be happy to add appointments on your behalf.

Appointment slots for 8p will be available to book online from 6pm on the 15<sup>th</sup> January. They will very quickly fill up. We advise you to book as soon as possible after bookings open.

Please follow the Parents' Evening Bookings link under News and Events on the school website, or click on the link below.

If you have any problems, please contact the school office on 01628 625308.

We look forward to seeing you.

Mr J Sheppard, Deputy Headteacher

[BOOK APPOINTMENTS](#)

## YEAR 8 PARENTS' EVENINGS

**For 8p - Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018, 4.15pm–7.15pm**

We will be running our parents' consultation for Year 8 students over two separate evenings – in order to ensure that you are able to see as many of your child's teachers as possible. Half the year (8f) have had their evening on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January. The other half (8p) will have their event on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January. If you are unsure, please double check with your son or daughter which band they are in. (If they are unsure, it will be visible on their timetable!)

We request that parents limit conversation to a maximum of five minutes with each member of staff. If you feel that you need to have a more in depth discussion, please would you make a separate appointment with the individual teacher. Attendance by your son/daughter is preferred, although not compulsory.

Parents who book up first will have the most flexibility. If you do not have easy access to the

## YEAR 11 SCIENCE REVISION SESSIONS



YEAR  
11

Science revision classes will be starting on Tuesdays after school from next week (16<sup>th</sup> January). These are primarily aimed at those doing separate sciences (those doing combined will have far more in-class revision time as their courses are shorter) but combined students may also attend if they so choose. The subjects will rotate round as per the timetable below and students can pick the sessions that will be most helpful to them. At present they do not need to sign up in advance. However, if we find that the first session is significantly oversubscribed, we may ask them to sign up to subsequent sessions in advance. We suggest that if they intend coming to a session, they prepare by reading through that chapter/chapters in their revision guide/class books in advance to maximise what they get out of the session.

Also, just a reminder that revision guides are available for combined and separate sciences at a cost of £13 for all three subjects. In addition, for combined science we also have workbooks available that will help you to structure your revision. These are priced at £12 for three. All of these resources can be bought from the science prep room during break or before/after school.

Dr M Scott, Head of Science

Cont. on page 7



## YEAR 11 SCIENCE REVISION SESSIONS (CONT.)



YEAR 11

Date	Subject	Topic(s)	Room
16-Jan	Biology	B1 & B2 Cells & cell division	S8
23-Jan	Chemistry	C2 The periodic table	S5
30-Jan	Physics	P4 & P5 Electricity	S1
06-Feb	Biology	B3 & B4 Organisation	S8
20-Feb	Chemistry	C3 Structure & bonding	S7
27-Feb	Physics	P8, P9, P10 Forces & motion	S1
06-Mar	Biology	B5, B6, B7 Disease	S8
13-Mar	Chemistry	C4 Chemical calculations	S5
20-Mar	Physics	P12 & P13 Waves	S1
27-Mar	Biology	B8 & B9 Photosynthesis & respiration	S8

## YEAR 11 GCSE PREPARATION – PRE-PUBLIC EXAMS (CONT.)

YEAR 11

### Key PPE Dates:

- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 – Maths PPE 3
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – English PPE 2
- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – Maths PPE 4
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – English PPE 3
- Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – Philosophy & Religion PPE 2

PPEs take place during the normal school day, and students will be expected to be in lessons if they do not have an exam. There is no 'study leave' for PPEs and students will be in school from 8.45am to 3.15pm as usual. However, when students have afternoon exams they will be permitted to leave after the exam finishes. Please note that, while some exams will finish before 3:15, there are some subjects that will not finish until after 3:30 (particularly where a student qualifies for extra time in their exams).

Mr J Sheppard, Deputy Headteacher

## YEARS 10 AND 11 GCSE MUSIC -'WICKED – THE MUSICAL' THEATRE TRIP



YEAR 11

YEAR 10

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2018**

Please see a letter regarding our Years 10 & 11 GCSE Music Trip in the link below. Please return reply slips by Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January.

**WICKED MUSICAL TRIP LETTER AND REPLY SLIP**

## YEAR 11 GCSE PREPARATION – PRE-PUBLIC EXAMS

YEAR 11

We are entering a very important time for Year 11s, as they prepare to excel in this summer's GCSE exams. Pre- Public Exams (PPEs) are a crucial part of that preparation – both testing students' progress across their different subjects and familiarising them with the rigours of exam papers and the environment of the exam hall. A programme of PPEs has been scheduled between September and March for Year 11. There will be further PPEs for English, Maths and Philosophy & Religion over the next few weeks.

## ENGLISH REVISION PROGRAMME

YEAR 11



The English Department will be running Revision Sessions for Year 11 students. These sessions will cover GCSE revision for both the English Language and English Literature papers, including all set texts. This programme of revision has been put in place to help students manage their workload and alleviate exam pressure.

Students will be able to choose the areas of study they feel they would most benefit from extra revision. At present the sessions will be filled on a 'first come first served' basis, up to a maximum of 20 per class. However, after half term pre-booking will take place – more details to follow later.

All sessions will take place after school on Wednesdays from 3.15pm-4.15pm. They will take place in the following classrooms:

English Literature - E4

English Language Component 1 - E5

English Language Component 2 - E6

The revision class options are listed in the link below, along with a reminder of the contents of the GCSE English Literature and Language exams.

We hope you find this information useful and if you have questions or concerns, please email [samantha.jayne@furzeplatt.net](mailto:samantha.jayne@furzeplatt.net).

Miss S Jayne, Acting Head of English and Media

**ENGLISH REVISION PROGRAMME**



**weight  
watchers**

Leonie, London,  
Meetings + Online member



# Furze Platt Senior School

**SL6 7NQ**

Furze Platt Road,  
Maidenhead

**Tues 5.30pm  
in the library**



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# Welcome to Doushikai martial arts

Self Defence · Fitness · Strength · Flexibility  
Co-ordination · Body Conditioning · Confidence · Self-discipline

## Doushikai Martial Arts



Doushikai Martial Arts is open to all, children and adults, male and female, of all abilities and martial arts experience, whatever level of fitness



from the age of 6 years old. We teach from beginner to advanced black belt.

The main purpose of the school is to teach martial arts, principally Shotokan Karate, Ryukyu Kempo (pressure points), social awareness skills and general principles of self-defence to the community.

As well as learning the techniques of the martial arts students develop increased fitness, co-ordination, strength and flexibility, self-discipline and confidence.

People who enrol in the club find a friendly and open atmosphere of learning, where the instructors aim to make visits pleasant whether you just come to train or combine training with socialising.



### **Times – Saturdays:**

09.00 - 09.30 Black Belts

09.30 - 11.00 Adults and higher juniors

11.00 - 12.00 Juniors and Infants

### **Venue:**

Woodlands Park Community Centre  
Manifold Way, Waltham Road, Maidenhead  
SL6 3GW

### **Contact:**

Duncan.penny@gmail.com - 07776 178018

[Phil.sheppard@btinternet.com](mailto:Phil.sheppard@btinternet.com)

- 07782 326073

**Please see our website for more details:**

<http://www.doushikai.info/>

