

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #56.1



A - LEVEL RESULTS

A Level results 2018: A* - A – 33% [RECORD RESULT].
A 1% rise on the previous record, set last year, and a 9% rise from 2016.

A - LEVEL RESULTS

A Level results 2018: 100% pass rate in Further Maths, English Literature, History, ICT, German, French, Music, Drama, Business BTEC and Sports Studies.

WELCOME TO THE 2018/19 ACADEMIC YEAR



Thank you to all students, parents, carers and members of our community who have welcomed me to Furze Platt this week. It is a pleasure to be joining such a successful school and I am looking forward to helping Furze Platt Senior School evolve.

Exam Results

I am sure that you will join with me in congratulating all our students who did so well in their examinations this summer. There were many individual success stories with our students gaining the grades that have enabled them to progress to university, apprenticeships and Sixth Form. All these individual success stories added up to the second best results in Furze Platt's history. However, within the results were some new records: for example, students gained more A-A* grades at A Level than ever before. Similarly, the number of students passing GCSE maths and English was a best ever result.



UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

SPORTS CALENDAR

SCHOOL CLUBS LIST

Next Week (Week 2)

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| TUE 11 SEPTEMBER | Year 12 Preparing to Succeed Evening | 6.30pm - 7.30pm |
| | Year 13 Preparing to Succeed Evening | 7.30pm - 8.30pm |
| THU 13 SEPTEMBER | Years 7 & 10 Photos | 8.40am - 3.15pm |
| | Year 7 Preparing to Succeed Evening | 6.30pm - 7.30pm |

Forthcoming Events

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| TUE 18 SEPTEMBER | PTFA Meeting (Meeting Room) | 6pm |
| THU 20 SEPTEMBER | Celebration Evening | 7pm - 9pm |
| THU 27 SEPTEMBER | Year 11 Preparing to Succeed Evening | 6.30pm - 7.30pm |
| | Year 10 Preparing to Succeed Evening | 7.30pm - 8.30pm |

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2018/19

Sad News

As many of you will be aware Max Cook, who was in our Year 11 last year, sadly died during the summer holidays. I know that Max's death impacted upon staff and students, as well as parents, carers and other members of our community. Within school, support has been offered to

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UPDATE ON NEW CANTEEN AND DINING FACILITIES

This week, students will have noticed considerable changes in our canteen and dining facilities, a result of significant building work that took place over the summer holidays. We now have two serveries – an upper servery focusing on hot meals, and a lower servery which will serve cold food. There is now far more space for students to eat inside, sitting at tables, and students are able to eat their hot food from plates with metal cutlery. Having heard feedback from students last year, we have also focused on the quality of food. We have employed a new head chef / kitchen manager – Debbie Horsfall – and students are already saying they are enjoying the food more. There has been a lovely atmosphere in the canteen and the hall, with more staff and students eating together. Ms Horsfall has produced a 3-week menu showing the hot food that will be available, in addition to the cold food that is served on a daily basis.

The new facilities are, however, a work in progress. We are awaiting a delivery of new kitchen equipment, which will further improve the quality and range of hot food that we can offer. We have not yet opened the lower (cold) servery, and hope to open it in the coming days. We are awaiting further deliveries of trays, crockery and cutlery, to ensure that all hot food can be eaten from plates. Further down the line we will be ordering more chairs and tables, to enable even more students to eat in a leisurely and relaxed fashion. Some of these changes will happen in the coming weeks; others will take place in the longer term.

Students should pay for food using the money in their Wisepay account. Parents can top this up online (there is a link on the home page of our website), or can bring cash into the school reception which will then be uploaded to Wisepay. Students may, of course, bring packed lunches in.

Mr E Towill, Associate Headteacher

[3 WEEK MENU - SEPTEMBER 2018](#)

[WISEPAY LOGIN PAGE](#)

students. I am aware that many of you attended the remembrance service and have left flowers outside the school and I would like to thank all of you who have offered support. In addition, this Friday afternoon our students and staff close to Max have met to share their memories of him.



Improvements to Our School

Over the summer there has been a lot of work to improve the school site notably around our Catering Facilities. Many students and staff have commented on the improved menu and I hope that your child tries some of the food on offer.

My Assemblies with Students

In my assemblies with students this Tuesday and Wednesday I have shared our summer news with students before talking to them about how they can live our school values of Aspiring, Motivated, Confident and Considerate. Whether academically or as young adults I am keen that students take responsibility for their learning and behaviour, enjoying what they are good at but also practising their areas for development. By knowing themselves, their strengths and weaknesses our students will become more confident people and learners ready for the next steps in their development.

At the start of the new school year I have also reinforced expectations in relation to behaviour, equipment and uniform. Thank you for your support in ensuring your child adheres to these. As you will appreciate our staff want to focus their energies on supporting students with their learning rather than chasing them on these matters.

Finally, I look forward to meeting parents and carers at many of the upcoming events and getting to know you as well as your children.

Dr A Morrison, Headteacher



YEAR 7 PREPARING TO SUCCEED EVENING

Thursday 13th September 2018 6.30-7.30pm

Parents and carers are warmly invited to our Year 7 Preparing to Succeed Evening, on Thursday 13th September in the Main Hall.

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This is an opportunity for parents to meet the Headteacher and other key members of the Year 7 team, as well as to find out detailed information about what their children are learning and the practices and procedures we have in school. This will include how to access Show My Homework (where students access their homework) and Go4Schools, our parent portal, where you will be able to see timetables, attendance and progress reports.

We anticipate a high level of parental attendance so for this event, we advise that Year 7 students do not attend. Please note parking is limited so we recommend early arrival or walking to school if possible.

We look forward to seeing you there.

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

Every term, students are invited to attend clubs that are of interest to them and we encourage attendance. Please see the attached link which will show you all those on offer this term:

SCHOOL CLUBS LIST

For students in Year 9, 10 and 12, we offer Duke of Edinburgh Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD DETAILS

USEFUL INFORMATION

Our Year 7 Parents' Guide will explain some of our school routines and systems for new parents and provide you with useful information.

YEAR 7 PARENTS' GUIDE

Start and end of day reminders:

All students must be in their forms promptly at 8.40am.

Please note: parents are not permitted to drive in to the school grounds to drop off or pick up their sons/daughters.

Communication:

We will email you with important school information which will also appear in our weekly newsletter, and we encourage parents to follow our Twitter account and/or Facebook account:

 Twitter - @furze_platt

 Facebook – @furzeplattsenior

Easy Fundraising:

By visiting <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/furzeplattsenior/> the school will benefit from your purchases without costing you a penny extra. We would strongly encourage parents to sign up for this and download the donation reminder onto your computers.

FPSS EASY FUNDRAISING



Our PTFA is very successful, raising thousands of pounds to purchase equipment and resources to further improve the school. Additionally, the PTFA brings staff and parents together socially in working towards a common goal. This fosters greater links between home and school. And it's great fun! We always need more helpers, though, to help lighten the load.

All parents are automatically members of the PTFA. The association makes a huge contribution to the success of the school, supporting students in so many ways.

We invite all our parents to join the 200 Club. Numbers are drawn 4 x per year (once per quarter) and if all 200 numbers are in play, three lucky winners could win up to £400 per draw.

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

Please click here for more details or below to purchase your numbers:

ANNUAL PAYMENT (£57 PER YEAR)

MONTHLY PAYMENT (£5 PER MONTH)

PTFA meeting dates for your diary:

Tuesday 18th September 2018, Wednesday 7th November 2018, Wednesday 9th January 2019, Tuesday 5th March 2019, Tuesday 11th June 2019

Meetings are held in the Meeting Room and begin at 6pm.

WEDDING NEWS

Congratulations to:

Miss Wadhams, who is now Mrs Sharp

Ms Curtis Thomson, who is now Mrs Curtis Logan

Miss Singhnarula who is now Mrs Bharara

ASPIRING

MOTIVATED

CONFIDENT

CONSIDERATE



**FURZE
PLATT**
SENIOR SCHOOL



Open Evening
Thursday 4th Oct 2018
All Welcome

School Tours Available
Sept and Oct 2018
All Welcome*

01628 625308

office@furzeplatt.com

www.furzeplatt.com

*Places on these events must be booked in advance.

ASPIRING

MOTIVATED

CONFIDENT

CONSIDERATE

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

Furze Platt Senior School offers:

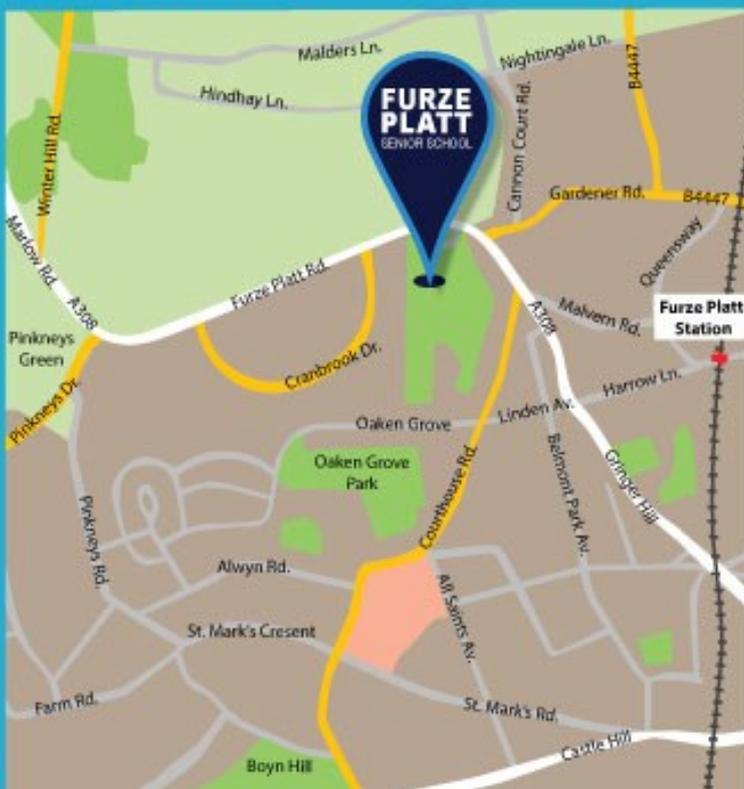
- ▶ A broad, stimulating and rewarding education for girls and boys
- ▶ Outstanding academic, sporting and 'the arts' facilities
- ▶ Supportive transition activities for all our Year 7 students
- ▶ A wealth of extra-curricular interests, trips and visits

'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:



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



'Pupils achieve
highly at this
school'
- Ofsted 2016

Maidenhead's Secondary Schools OPEN EVENINGS

Dear Parents...

The teachers and governors of the secondary schools in Maidenhead believe that parents should be given every opportunity to indicate an informed preference for secondary education. Our schools are working together to assist you in coming to the most appropriate preference.

The following secondary schools in Maidenhead all approach excellence in education in their own particular way. You will be a welcome guest at the Open Evenings which will be organised by each of us individually. Our aim is to do everything possible to provide you with relevant information about our schools.

Yours sincerely

Mr N Dimbleby, Headteacher, Altwood Church of England School.
Ms F Walsh, Headteacher, Cox Green School.
Mr P Frazer, Principal, Desborough College.
Dr A Morrison, Headteacher, Furze Platt Senior School.
Dr L V Ceska, Headteacher, Newlands Girls' School.



For children seeking school admission in September 2019

Altwood C of E School



**Thursday 13th
September 2018
6.30pm – 9pm**

The Headteacher, staff, students and Governors warmly invite you to our Open Evening.

This is a wonderful opportunity to come and meet our strong and committed team of staff and see our talented students at work.

The Headteacher will give an address at 7.30pm. There will also be an opportunity for you to meet with the Headteacher, staff, students and Governors. You will also see the School's excellent resources and facilities and find out how students are enabled to aspire and achieve.

Should you wish to see the School during a normal working day, we would encourage you to attend one of our Open Mornings on either 2nd, 4th or 16th October starting at 9.45am through to 11.00am. Alternatively if any of these dates are not convenient, please contact the Headteacher's PA for a tour of the School to be arranged.

Our mission is:

- to be a high achieving academic community
- to identify and develop the full potential of every member of our community and give them the skills and qualifications they need to achieve their ambition
- to do this within the context of the culture and values of the Christian faith, emphasising the strong moral and spiritual values shared with other faiths

We look forward to welcoming you to Altwood and offer you the chance to hear from our current Year 7 students about their experiences of our transition programme and excellent induction for life in a secondary school. The students will explain what makes Altwood exciting and unique.

Altwood Road,
Maidenhead, Berkshire
SL6 4PU
T: 01628 622236
E: altwood@altwoodschool.co.uk
www.altwoodschool.co.uk

'Aspire and Achieve'

Headteacher: Mr N Dimbleby,
B.Ed (Hons) NPQH

Cox Green School



**Tuesday 18th
September 2018
5pm – 8pm**

The Headteacher, staff and Governors are delighted to invite you to Cox Green's Open Evening.

We are very proud of our school: we are fiercely committed to providing an education of the highest quality to all of our students and value our strong sense of community.

Our staff are dedicated to delivering highly inspirational and strong curricula across the board, providing positive and exciting learning experiences within a secure and happy environment.

Our students receive the support and encouragement they need to become successful, confident and mature young people.

We seek to build active partnerships with our parents, based on shared goals and supported by clear and regular communication.

The Open Evening will provide you with an opportunity to meet our highly dedicated staff and our fantastic students. You will be able to view the high standard of work that leads to our excellent examination results, and see the result of the £4.7m investment into the school, including our amazing new teaching spaces and dining facility.

The Headteacher will make her address at 5pm, 6pm and 7pm and she would be delighted to talk to any parents/carers afterwards.

Should you wish to see our School during a working day, you are very welcome.

Open Mornings will be held on Monday 1st October, Thursday 11th October and Wednesday 17th October between 9.15am and 10.15am. Please contact the school for more details on enquiries@coxgreen.com.

Highfield Lane,
Maidenhead, Berkshire
SL6 3AX
T: 01628 629415
E: enquiries@coxgreen.com
www.coxgreen.com

'Committed to Achievement'

Headteacher: Ms F Walsh
MA

Desborough College



**Tuesday 2nd
October 2018
6pm – 9pm**

The Principal, staff and trustees warmly invite you to learn more about The Desborough Way at our Open Evening on 2 October. The school will be open to parents and boys for tours from 6pm onwards. The Principal will give an address in the main hall at 6.30pm and 7.30pm, and he, together with our staff and partners from Radley College will be available to talk to parents during the evening.

Visitors will be invited to visit our classrooms, newly built performing arts centre, STEM room and enviable sports facilities, where our students will be working with their teachers. Your son will have the opportunity to join in with the projects and experiments taking place and experience a sample of life at Desborough and you, as a parent, will come to appreciate the benefits of single-sex education and understand how Desborough has transformed itself over recent years and achieved spectacular improvements in examination results and a 'Good' Ofsted judgement in September 2014.

We particularly invite you all to visit our exciting and innovative Year 7 Base – a specially designed building with its own suite of classrooms and playground. This is a unique facility that removes all of the anxieties that boys (and parents) feel when moving to the secondary phase of their education and at the same time accelerating their academic progress.

If you would like to arrange a further, more personalised tour of the School during the working day, please telephone the School to arrange a visit.

Shoppenhangers Road,
Maidenhead, Berkshire
SL6 2QB
T: 01628 634505
F: 01628 639263
E: info@desborough-college.net
www.desborough.org.uk

'Enjoy, Compete, Achieve'

Principal: Mr P Frazer,
BA (Hons)

Furze Platt Senior School



**Thursday 4th
October 2018
6pm – 9pm**

The Headteacher, staff and governors warmly invite you to our Open Evening.

We are rightly proud of the excellent education we offer at Furze Platt. Students thrive due to the strong teaching and high quality support for personal development we provide. Standards are very high at the school and students make outstanding progress. Our curriculum combines a strong academic core with strength and breadth in the arts, computing and technology.

Our confident and enthusiastic students will escort visitors on a guided tour of the school to see the exceptionally high standard of work achieved by our students and our outstanding resources. These include our new Leisure Centre and our state-of-the-art facilities for mathematics, drama, dance and music. Our highly qualified staff will be available to greet visitors and explain how we achieve our excellent results. Yet again, we are celebrating record breaking exam results in 2017. We are very proud of our happy and caring learning community.

The Headteacher will give an address at 6.30pm and 7.30pm in the main hall.

We also welcome parents to visit our school during the working day in order to see great learning in action. Tours will take place in September. Please telephone the school to arrange a visit.

Furze Platt Road,
Maidenhead, Berkshire
SL6 7NQ
T: 01628 625308
F: 01628 782257
E: office@furzeplatt.com
www.furzeplatt.com

'Learning Together'

Headteacher: Dr A Morrison,
BA (Hons), MA, PhD

Newlands Girls' School



**Tuesday 2nd
October 2018
5pm – 8pm**

The Headteacher, staff, girls and Governors warmly invite you to our highly successful school.

Our happy and confident Sixth Formers will take you on a guided tour, where you can experience first-hand all that we have to offer here at Newlands.

You will see our facilities and our classrooms, where resources and girls' work will be on display. During the course of the evening, pupils will be taking part in music and drama rehearsals and sports activities, enabling you to see their enthusiasm and engagement. Our dedicated, highly qualified and expert teachers will be on hand to talk to you about how they help all our girls to achieve their full potential.

Do not miss out on the presentation from the Headteacher and Head Girls at 5.15pm or 6.15pm in the School Hall.

We are designated as a high-performing school and we achieve outstanding academic results within a caring and supportive environment. There are also extensive opportunities for all-round development such as competitive sports, pupil leadership, school trips, public speaking, Latin Club and The Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Our girls also enjoy individual voice and instrumental tuition and are able to participate in a wide range of musical and drama groups.

Parents who are unable to attend the Open Evening or who wish to have a personal tour and informal meeting with the Headteacher should telephone the School Office on 01628 625068.

Farm Road,
Maidenhead, Berkshire
SL6 5JB
T: 01628 625068
F: 01628 675352
E: office@newlandsgirls.co.uk
www.newlandsgirlsschool.co.uk

'Vincit Veritas'

Headteacher: Dr L V Ceska