



# FURZE PLATT FOCUS

End of Term Newsletter - Issue #57



## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE



Welcome to the Christmas edition of Furze Platt Focus, our termly round up of everything that has been happening at school. I would like to thank the Furze Platt community for your warm welcome to the school. I have been very impressed with your commitment and enthusiasm to ensuring our students are academically successful, as well as with their development as human beings. Since September we have had a

number of reasons to celebrate including more excellent examination results in the summer which contributed to such a high number of applicants for our Sixth Form. The vast majority of our young people are committed to getting the best out of their school experience and it has been a joy to recognise and reward their achievements over the last two terms. Alongside meeting our students, I have enjoyed meeting many parents, guardians and other members of our community at various events including parents' evenings, our annual Celebration Evening, Open Evening and our fantastic Careers and Higher Education Fair, along with numerous House Challenges. Thank you to everyone who supported these events. It has also been wonderful to see so many success stories from our students, staff and alumni with such a wide range of talents and achievements, both in and out of school. I am looking forward to many more of our students taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Awards as extra-curricular activities this year. Our Year 7 students have settled in to senior school life well and I am sure will make a significant contribution to Furze Platt and we have had record numbers of applications for those wishing to join us in September 2019. At the other end of the school, I look forward to seeing many of you at our popular Sixth Form Open Evening in January where we welcome students from not only our own school but from neighbouring counties. I hope that you have a restful break. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Dr A Morrison, Headteacher



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Important Dates Next Term

ALL EVENTS

SPORTS CALENDAR

<b>THU 20</b> DECEMBER - <b>WED 2</b> JANUARY	Christmas Holidays	
<b>THU 3</b> JANUARY	Start of Term 3 - All Years (Week 1)	8.40am - 3.15pm
<b>WED 9</b> JANUARY	PTFA Meeting	6pm - 7pm
<b>THU 10</b> JANUARY	Sixth Form Open Evening - Main Hall Guest Students start at 6pm Current Students start at 6.20pm	6pm - 9pm
<b>FRI 11</b> JANUARY	Late Start	9.10am
<b>THU 17</b> JANUARY	Year 8 Band 'F' Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm
<b>THU 24</b> JANUARY	Year 8 Band 'P' Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm
<b>FRI 25</b> JANUARY	Year 13 French Visit to British Film Institute	8.30am - 6pm
<b>WED 30</b> JANUARY	Year 11 Photos	
<b>THU 31</b> JANUARY	Year 11 Parents' Information Evening - Examination Preparation and Revision	7pm - 8.30pm
<b>THU 7</b> FEBRUARY	Year 8 Options Evening	6pm - 8.30pm
<b>FRI 8</b> FEBRUARY	Late Start	9.10am
	Year 12 & 13 Art & Photography Trip	All Day
<b>MON 11 - THU 14</b> FEBRUARY	School Musical (Evening)	
<b>FRI 15</b> FEBRUARY	End of Term 3	
<b>MON 18 - FRI 22</b> FEBRUARY	Half Term	
<b>MON 25</b> FEBRUARY	Start of Term 4 - All Years	8.40am - 3.15pm

**SCHOOL TERM DATES 2018/19 AND 2019/20**

## FIRST EDITION – FURZE PLATT STUDENT NEWSPAPER



### 'Student Insight'

Many congratulations to editor Lizzie Sneller (Year 12) and her intrepid team of newshounds, who have produced a wonderful first edition of the student newspaper, 'Student Insight'. Please click the link below to read it.

### 'STUDENT INSIGHT' - FPSS STUDENT NEWSPAPER

## RETURN TO SCHOOL

### THURSDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY – WEEK 1

We return to school on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January for a prompt 8.40am start. **Please note this is week 1**, not week 2, as stated in the student planners. Students have been asked to correct this, and subsequent weeks, in their planners.

Mr E Towill, Associate Headteacher



## SIXTH FORM PROM

As Year 13 is our final year of secondary education, it is our intention to offer an event which unites the year group for one final time to celebrate the success and time we have spent together during our years at Furze Platt, whether that be from Year 7, or throughout the last few years.

We are pleased to announce that we will be holding our Year 13 Leavers Prom on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at Badgemore Park Golf Club, Henley on Thames, Oxfordshire, RG9 4NR. The event will take place from 7.30pm until 12:30am.

After reviewing the costs that come with the venue and the organisation of this event, the ticket prices will be set at £35 per person. The ticket price will include full hot buffet, DJ,



photo booth, arrival drink and fully licenced bar. We will be requiring a deposit of £15 per person by Thursday 31st January 2019 to secure your son/daughter's booking for the event. We would kindly request that if your son/daughter or yourself are making the payment(s), may this be through your school WisePay account. Every student has a WisePay School account. If you require login details for this system, please contact the finance department at mila.coombs@furzeplatt.net or claire.eadie@furzeplatt.net who will be happy to assist. If your son/daughter need to pay for more than one person under one name (e.g for a plus one), you are able to do so, as long as you notify the Head Boy or Head Girl (Adam Simmonds and Gaby Ford) of the names that come under your payment.

How to use WisePay when on the application/website:

Find the tab 'Payments & Bookings'

Click on 'Trips and Visits'

Select 'Yr 13 Prom' – then add the payment(s)

Once again, if this is proves to be difficult, please contact the Finance department.

As an alternative option, if this method of payment is of great inconvenience, there will be the option to pay via cash upon agreement with the Head Boy and Girl.

In terms of transport to the event, students who can drive will have the option of leaving their car overnight to then be collected the following day by 1pm. Please feel free to arrange different methods of transport to the event otherwise.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation and look forward to this celebratory evening for Year 13.

Head Boy & Head Girl

Adam Simmonds and Gaby Ford

**BUY YEAR 13 PROM TICKETS**

**FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL**

**SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING 2019**

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

**GUEST STUDENTS START 6PM**

**CURRENT STUDENTS START 6.20PM**

**A-LEVEL RESULTS 2018**

**98% PASS RATE**

33% OF GRADES ARE A\*-A RECORD RESULT

56% OF GRADES ARE A\*-B

78% OF GRADES ARE A\*-C

## BERKSHIRE XC CHAMPIONSHIPS

Furze Platt pupils performed excellently in the Berkshire County Cross Country Championships at St George's School, Pangbourne at the weekend. Callum Bleazard (Year 8) and Adam Gambrell (Year 12) both gained automatic county selection and will represent Berkshire at the UK Inter-County championship to be held in Loughborough in February. Adam also took individual Bronze in the Under 17 men's race. Alex Bate (Year 10) and Ben Reynolds (Year 11) are both county reserves.

Well done to our team:

Callum Bleazard, Charlie Shervill, Alex Bate, Frank McGrath, Edwin Isted, Nick Holdsworth, Adam Gambrell, Ben Reynolds, Sammy March

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS

A group of our Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh/Child Development students have just completed their DofE skills section, in which they took part in TV workshops. Students enjoyed the whole experience and many were amazed by how much confidence they have built throughout the last 13 weeks. During the last session, students collected their mini-Oscar trophies and delivered their final speeches thanking their friends and teachers for support. Our special guest for the day was Gemma Alexander – radio presenter from Marlow FM, who happily answered students' questions related to her career. Gemma is one of the leaders of the TV Training Academy based in Pinewood Studios (the company who organised the workshops). Details of their sessions can be found on the company's website on the link below.

### TV TRAINING ACADEMY



Special thanks to our TV coach Tilly Pink-Costello (Year 10), who was an absolute pleasure to work with.

## FURZE PLATT BUILDING PROJECT

We are now in Week 36 of our major building project (which started in April) and which is being managed by Beard Construction. So far, the site teams have laid the concrete foundations and completed the drainage and steelwork. Four science classrooms have been demolished for this project, which will be based around an atrium, and will ultimately create four science labs, a science prep room and eleven additional classrooms, as well as two seminar rooms and two staffrooms for the school.



## BISHAM HOUSE ARE OUR END OF TERM WINNERS

A special mention to all of the students nominated below by their respective Heads of Houses. These students have been put forward for their positive attitudes and helpful behaviour, and contribute to a wide range of school activities.

<b>10,620 HP</b>  <b>Eloise Downes &amp; Luka Wilson</b>	<b>10,520 HP</b>  <b>Sylvie Dominte &amp; Lucas Norton</b>	<b>8,890 HP</b>  <b>Laura Harrit &amp; Chris Harris</b>	<b>8,880 HP</b>  <b>Leah Harris &amp; William Atkinson</b>
<b>10,130 HP</b>  <b>Ilona Yanou &amp; Amaan Munir</b>	<b>9,800 HP</b>  <b>Mabila Kalam &amp; Adam Gibbon</b>	<b>9,600 HP</b>  <b>Sophie Sutton &amp; Maverick Afonso</b>	<b>9,810 HP</b>  <b>Eleanor Foster &amp; George Lykov</b>

## END OF TERM SUBJECT NOMINATIONS

### Art & Design Nominations

- Year 7: Rosie Lewis & Connor Webb  
Year 8: Ella Clark & Jose Sanchez-Giron  
Year 9: Bella Powell & James Huband  
Year 10: Megan McArdle & Harry Shrimpton  
Year 11: Elise Brammer & Farhaan Razaq  
Year 12: Emily Archer  
Year 13: Lily Harrison

### Photography Nominations

- Year 12: Rose Cooper  
Year 13: Jonathan Otun

### Drama Nominations

- Year 7: Florence Leo & Sam Bryant  
Year 8: Madeleine Sellman & Max Mitchell  
Year 9: Lara Torok & Alfie Windsor  
Year 10: Abra Tounani & Hugh Rickard  
Year 11: Bethan Terry & Daniel Wallace  
Year 12: Gemma Higley  
Year 13: Zac Gordon-Smith

### Physical Education Nominations

- Year 7: Megan Delahaye & Lucas Norton  
Year 8: Jemima Bohdjalian & Joshua Keane  
Year 9: Kourtney Lennon & Charlie Sinnott  
Year 10: Izzy Nobles & Ted Lyall  
Year 11: Taylor Crawford & Oliver Annereau  
Year 12: Emily Shieldhouse  
Year 13: Max Yuill

### History and Government & Politics Nominations

- Year 7: Emily Dutton & Nathan Hedges  
Year 8: Sharanya Singh & Kieran King  
Year 9: Amy Lillywhite & Lucas Bolger  
Year 10: Loren Cakebread & Matthew Simpson

- Year 11: Gaia Goldberg & Suhayb Reghif  
Year 12: Richard Booth  
Year 13: Zoha Naser

### Geography Nominations

- Year 7: Sarah Kafori & Ben Linton  
Year 8: Tilly Adaway & William Tarbit  
Year 9: Georgie Moore & George Webb  
Year 10: Liberty Webb & Thomas Jackson  
Year 11: Tahlia Ratcliffe & Peter Somerville  
Year 12: Joshua Hewitt  
Year 13: Gabrielle Ford

### Music Nominations

- Year 7: Eloise Downes & Nicolai Harrit  
Year 8: Isobelle Phipps & George Stratford  
Year 9: Anna Gambrell & Jacob Gould  
Year 10: Eliza Stevenson & Charlie Ferriman  
Year 11: Rebecca Fisk & Jacob Tanner

### Effort in Learning Nominations

- Year 7: Mia Chopra & Kyle Botha  
Year 8: Ariadne Englezos & James Tapponnier  
Year 9: Lucy Walmsley  
Year 10: Mujtaba Ishaq  
Year 11: Luke Kersey

### Maths Nominations

- Year 7: Abbie Harley Waters & Musa Ali  
Year 8: Kate Lee & Leo Harris  
Year 9: Morgan Dean & Victor Harrit  
Year 10: Katie Dutton & Joseph Collyer  
Year 11: Ella Boland & Kai Drenski  
Year 12: Daniel Juden  
Year 13: Matthew Ashworth

### Technology, Food Tech Nominations

- Year 7: Holly Bray & Jack Britton

Cont. on page 5

## Technology, Food Tech Nominations (cont.)

- Year 8: Chanel Gratton & Brandon Newport  
Year 9: Lillia Bowsher & Ryan Jones  
Year 10: Tallulah Werrett & Oliver Pearce  
Year 11: Nancy Huband & Alfie Hall

## Product Design Nominations

- Year 12: Jake Streatfield  
Year 13: Charlotte Annereau

## ICT Nominations

- Year 9: Ellie Gavin & Samuel Mizik  
Year 10: Leah Lesner & Ben Alberts  
Year 11: Rachel Kirtland & Jonah Mokfi  
Year 12: Dev Gopee  
Year 13: Shoaib Mahmood

## Computing Nominations

- Year 12: Kieran Pettigrew  
Year 13: Alex Bohdjalian

## Languages Nominations

- Year 7: Rajanae Derby & Freddie Astrup McGuinness  
Year 8: Mia Lawrence & Will Lonsdale  
Year 9: Anya Clayton & Jay Keyte  
Year 10: Emma Dawson & James Badham  
Year 11: Louisa Holborn & Sam Davies  
Year 12: Tobias Lattimer  
Year 13: Anna Gregory

## Philosophy & Religion/Ethics Nominations

- Year 7: Heidi Grant & Luke Maddox  
Year 8: Macey Yazdi & Finley Cozens  
Year 9: Brogan McCafferty & Riley Moore  
Year 10: Emily Fraser & Sean Wilson  
Year 12: Elizabeth Healey  
Year 13: Edward Curry

## Psychology Nominations

- Year 12: Katie Carpenter  
Year 13: Jessica Matthews

## Business Nominations

- Year 9: Martha Garner & Matthew Cooley  
Year 10: Justine Anne Dela Vega & Bilal Benassar  
Year 11: Lilia Klibi & Abbas Bashir  
Year 12: Kitty Cogswell  
Year 13: Mariam Ahmed

## Economics Nominations

- Year 12: Ife Ogidan  
Year 13: Nick Davies

## PSHE Nominations

- Year 7: Tia Seamons & Callum Lloyd  
Year 8: Sabrina Lee & Joshua Woodhatch Webb  
Year 9: Maya Ciesielska & Patrick Kelly  
Year 10: Chloe Pounce & Fraser Quin  
Year 11: Katerina Despiniadis & Billy Green

## English Nominations

- Year 7: Tia Mattingley & Rizah Khan  
Year 8: Amelia Hadley & Ed Fisher  
Year 9: Scarlett Phillips & Elroy Colaco  
Year 10: Abby Jones & Marcus Brienza  
Year 11: Natalie Finnigan & Abdur-Rehman Mahmood  
Year 12: Riona Lenehan  
Year 13: Ellie Dickens

## Media Nominations

- Year 12: Lizzie Sneller  
Year 13: Alekh Mehat

## Child Development Nominations

- Year 9: James E Sutton  
Year 10: Rebecca Matthews  
Year 11: Shannon Doyle

### Construction Nomination

Year 10: Taylor Barry



### Duke of Edinburgh Nominations

Year 9: Maja Nawrocka & Joshua Dean

Year 10: Sophie Young & Thomas Stimson

Year 11: Hannah Parkman & Andreas Bohdjalian



### Character Award Nominations

Year 7: Camelia Ionel & Louis Mormech



### Determination and Resilience Award Nominations

Year 11: Saffron-Scarlett Minter & Eliot Heitz



### Science Nominations

Year 7: Sadie Huddleston & Oscar Lane

Year 8: Lara Fair & James Harper

Year 9: Amy Winhammar & Ashvath Ajith Kumar

Year 10: Tilly Pink-Costello & Milan Patel

Year 11: Mia Langley & Philip Harrit



### Biology Nominations

Year 12: Lewis Warner-Jones

Year 13: Charlotte Piggott



### Chemistry Nominations

Year 12: Pawel Kowalski

Year 13: Marley Dey



### Physics Nominations

Year 12: Sophie Caldwell

Year 13: Navjyot Notay



### Leadership Award Nominations

Raahi Singh, Ella Mokfi, Freddie Grant, Kate Lee, Tanner Finnley & Alex Evans



## REMINDERS

### REPORTS

#### YEARS 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

The above year groups' reports have now been issued and are available online as usual via Go 4 Schools. The service is available either by going to our website [www.furzeplatt.com](http://www.furzeplatt.com) and clicking on the quick link 'Online Reporting', or by going directly to Go 4 Schools [www.go4schools.com](http://www.go4schools.com) and selecting Parents.

Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at [reports@furzeplatt.net](mailto:reports@furzeplatt.net).

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager

[VIEW REPORTS WEBPAGE](#)



Would you like to join the support staff team of an extremely popular and expanding secondary school?

## Attendance Officer required – January start

Part time, 35 hours per week, term time only

Actual salary £18,120 - £19,870 pa depending on experience

We are looking for someone to join our growing pastoral team and work alongside key school staff. With training and support you will play a key role in communicating with students, parents/carers and external agencies to promote excellent attendance and punctuality, and reduce levels of absence in line with school ethos and the school's Attendance Policy. Your main responsibilities would be to oversee the school's electronic attendance database, update registers with authorised absences, follow up incomplete registers, contact parents/carers of students whose absence has become a concern and provide administrative support to the Associate Assistant Headteacher, Inclusion – Student Support and Achievement.

We are looking for a team player with excellent interpersonal skills and written and verbal communication skills, who are passionate about ensuring all our students thrive. High levels of confidentiality are important as well as excellent attention to detail and accuracy for recording purposes.

**For further information about this role and in order to complete an application form please refer to our school website [www.furzeplatt.com](http://www.furzeplatt.com). Application forms should be returned to [kiran.smith@furzeplatt.net](mailto:kiran.smith@furzeplatt.net). Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered.**

*Furze Platt Senior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff to share this commitment. Posts are subject to an enhanced disclosure via the Disclosure and Barring Service.*

Closing date: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019  
Interviews will take place: week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019