

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Parents/Carers

Christmas Music Concert

Thank you to all parents and carers who supported our superb Christmas Concert on Wednesday evening. Students entertained and achieved excellence in their performances. I was particularly struck by the leadership of our students who had led various choirs and bands. This commitment takes ambition, drive and a huge amount of collaboration to achieve the results evident in the concert. Many congratulations to the large numbers of students involved. A very special thank you goes to the whole of the Performing Arts team, led by Mrs Bradley, for putting on such a festive event.



Enrichment

Our Christmas Concert was not the only fantastic event this week. Thank you to all students and staff who participated in the Windsor Travel and Tourism visit and trip to Cliveden House as well as House Sports. Our staff were also 'enriching' their time in school this week with different departments competing to make the best gingerbread house. There was some excellence, some great collaboration, some versatility and for some, the need to show endurance.

Reporting on Progress

In the last few weeks of term, many parents and carers will have received or be receiving updates on their child's progress. I hope that the parents and carers of our Year 8 students will like the changes that have occurred to our Key Stage 3 progress checks. In Year 7, I trust that you will get a snapshot of how students have started at FPSS. In the upper years, I am sure that students, parents and carers will want to hone in on areas for development discussed at events such as last night's Year 12 Parents Evening.

Please do take time to celebrate your child's successes, talk to your children about lessons to be learned for the next term and contact subject teachers should there be specific concerns.



UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

SPORTS CALENDAR

Next Week (Week 1)

TUES 17 DECEMBER	A Level Trip - Ghost Stories (London)	4.30 - 11.30pm
FRI 20 DECEMBER	Christmas Jumper Day	All Day
END OF TERM - SCHOOL CLOSSES 12.30PM		

Forthcoming Events

MON 23 DECEMBER	FRI 3 JANUARY	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
MON 6 JANUARY		INSET DAY
TUES 7 JANUARY		START OF TERM (TERM 3)
THURS 9 JANUARY		Year 9 Theatre visit - Woman in Black (London) 4pm

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2019/20 & 2020/21

Staff Nominations

Finally, I would like to thank students for the hundreds of nominations they have made for our Christmas Staff Awards. Students have been nominating our staff who they feel represent our ACHIEVE values. Students' comments are absolutely heart-warming so please pass on my thanks to your children for the thought and time that has gone into these nominations.

Dr Andrew J Morrison (BA Hons, PGCE, MA, PhD)
Headteacher

YEARS 11 AND 13 REPORTS



The above 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 and clicking on the quick link 'Online Reporting', or by going

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directly to Go 4 Schools www.go4schools.com and selecting Parents.

Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at reports@furzeplatt.net.

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager

[VIEW REPORTS](#)

[VIEW CALENDAR WITH REPORTS DATES HERE](#)

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER

On the last day of this term, Friday 20th December, students are invited to wear Christmas jumpers with their usual smart uniform of shirt, tie, trousers/skirt and school shoes. If students do not wish to wear a Christmas jumper they must wear their blazers as usual.



FURZE PLATT MOCK ELECTION RESULTS 2019

- 79% of students voted in the mock election (in 2017 68% of people voted in the national General Election).
- The **Liberal Democrats** are the clear winners of the Furze Platt General Election achieving 33/50 seats (7 seat majority) and 44% of the votes.
- Despite winning fewer votes than the **Labour** and **Conservative** Parties, the formal opposition government of Furze Platt is a tie between the **Green** and **Labour** Parties.
- Each form acted as a constituency – thank you to all students who played a part either as party activists, 'polling station' staff or by voting in the election. A big thank you to Mr Colmer, Head of Furze Platt's own School Electoral Commission, for organising the election.

THANK YOU FROM US ALL NEW HALL THEATRE CAMPAIGN

We have received over £8,500 this week alone from fundraising by our amazing students, PTFA and some very generous donors, as well as all those who kindly contributed whilst purchasing Christmas Concert tickets.

If you have donated and have not arranged your patron reward, please contact Lynne Moore at lynne.moore@furzeplatt.net to claim. A reminder of the rewards available for donors:

PATRON REWARDS

- **£50** 'Thank you' mention in opening event program
- **£100** Large 'Thank you' in opening event program
- **£200** VIP invitation to opening event with best seats and champagne reception, limited to 25 seats
- **£500** Name on Patron's board and invitation to champagne reception
- **£2000** Programme advertising – corporate donors. Advert to be included in programmes for all school shows/concerts during the first year (approx. 5 shows)
- **£5000** Theatre sponsorship. In addition to adverts as above. Organisation will be thanked in permanent signage in foyer. Advertising for all shows in first 2 years of opening will mention organisation.

We would not be able to accomplish so much each year without your continued support. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our students, teachers and staff. You can see how much your support has helped raise on our campaign page here <https://donatemyschool.com/furzeplatt>

We still have a way to go so please contribute if you feel able.

Thank you.

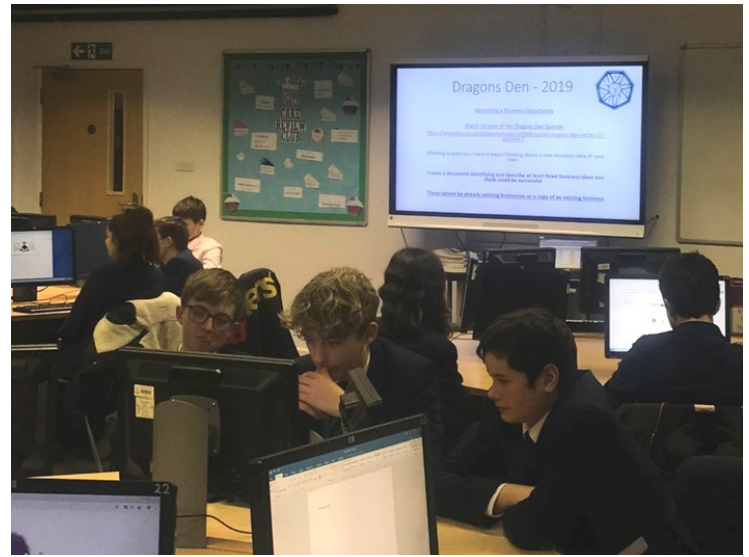


[CLICK HERE TO MAKE A DONATION](#)



YEAR 9 BUSINESS 'DRAGON'S DEN'

We had fun this week in Business with our Year 9's taking part in a Dragons Den Competition to develop collaboration and entrepreneurial skills. There were some great ideas presented showing collaboration in Business.



GO4SCHOOLS PRIVACY POLICY



Go4Schools will shortly be amending their privacy policy, which is due to change on Saturday 4th January 2020. This will mean that all staff, parents and students who access this service will be prompted to re-agree to the new privacy policy in the form of the box below.

This new version is purely a refinement of the documentation in response to some feedback from schools which includes an amended date to the Data Protection Act and more detailed clarity around Go4Schools acting as a data processor.

Privacy policy

You have not agreed to the current version of the GO 4 Schools Privacy Policy. You must agree to it before continuing use of the site.

By clicking "Agree and continue" I hereby agree to the GO 4 Schools Privacy Policy.

MICROSOFT CAREERS DAY



Our student tech team had a wonderful day out this week at Microsoft's Careers day. To much excitement, students were informed the day would include a Minecraft session. To top it off, the team won a prize - well deserved and well done to the team!

The team (led by Mr Fido):

Patrick Clarke
Jessica Kilbane
Ruby White
Oscar Lane
Ellis Binnington

James Parkinson
Rashaad Derby
Rosie McCarthy
Ella Oliver
Woody McCarthy



CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Students were offered a delicious meal for their Christmas lunch, which was served over two days to make sure everyone could have one. Thank you to Debbie and her staff for making such a festive feast!



HELEN AND DOUGLAS HOUSE MUFTI DAY

Thank you to everyone who donated to our recent Mufti Day fundraiser for Helen and Douglas House, we raised almost £2000.



GIRLS INTER-HOUSE RUGBY

We had a huge number of girls take part in this event and they played brilliantly – well done to them all.

Results:

1 st Cookham	5 th Eton
2 nd Marlow	6 th Henley
3 rd Bray	7 th Dorney
4 th Bisham	8 th Windsor



Thank you to all the PE staff for their management of these events – they are very much enjoyed by students and staff alike.

YEAR 7A TEAM NETBALL TOURNAMENT

Holly Cannon, Lizzie Dilley, Marina Brati, Elenia Reina, Annabelle Stratford, Lily Slater and Sophie McLachlan played against a number of local schools in the netball tournament.

This was their second round of the tournament and the girls performed excellently working collaboratively and supporting each other thoroughly. They also showed great resilience in such cold weather, by continuing to show great skills and high effort levels throughout the tournament. What was lovely to see was the sportsmanship within the team, where girls were encouraging other teams on the courts. There was even some sibling rivalry between students on our team and those on Newlands Girls' School's team!

Special mention goes to Sophie McLachlan for agreeing to play in the tournament last minute and who played wonderfully, scoring many goals for Furze Platt.

YEAR 9 INTERHOUSE BOYS FOOTBALL

The boys also showed great resilience and determination in our Interhouse football matches, working well within their teams despite miserable weather (theme of the week!).

Results:

1 st Eton	5 th Bisham
2 nd /3 rd = Bray and Henley	6 th Marlow
4 th Windsor	7 th Cookham
	8 th Dorney

FURZE PLATT SPORTS LEADER VACANCY

Are you passionate about sport?

Are you in Year 9 or Year 10?

We have a role for you...

Furze Platt Sports Leader

Job description:

- Promote sport at Furze Platt Senior School by becoming a sports leader
- Assist the PE department and the Sports Ambassadors to organise and run inter-house competitions, primary sports festivals and other sporting events
- Attend half termly meetings with the Sports Ambassadors to create whole school sports provision for the following terms
- Represent the PE department at events such as Open Evenings and Options Evenings
- Confidently collate student feedback and provide to Sports Ambassadors
- Support and guide students in the lower years within sporting events and activities

Who is this suitable for?

- Anyone in Furze Platt in Year 9 or Year 10
- Anyone with a passion for PE and Sport
- Anyone who may be considering a career in sport after school
- Anyone who wants to increase and improve PE provision at Furze Platt

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How to apply?

Write a letter of application to Miss Boseley.

Things to include:

- Why you want to take on the role?
- What characteristics/experience you have that will make you good at the role?
- What ideas do you have that will improve PE at Furze Platt?
- No more than 1 page of A4

Closing date: Thursday 19th December

Good luck!



YEAR
9

FURZE PLATT STUDENT ACHIEVES GOLD SCOUT AWARD

Many congratulations to Tim Golding, Year 9, who was awarded the Gold Scout Award last week after completing the last challenge over the summer, a 2 day orienteering and camping overnight whilst away at Scout Camp for the week. This is a fantastic achievement and Tim has also signed up for the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award with us. We wish him, and all other students at every level of the Award scheme, the very best.



You can read more about our Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme at Furze Platt Senior School here:

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS AT FPSS

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AMBASSADOR

By Anna Gambrell, Year 10

'On Sunday 1st December I made my way to Newbury to complete my Duke of Edinburgh Awards training so that I could properly become a DofE Ambassador. In a fun filled day, I learnt how to present DofE both to young people and parents, and looked at all aspects of the DofE. It was an exciting experience and I now hope I can improve DofE within the school and inspire more young people to get involved with the programme.'

DUKE OF EDINBURGH BRONZE AWARD

Michael Lee-Thorp, Year 9, pictured both cooking a delicious meal of shawarma chicken with pomegranate and tahini, and with the completed dishes, for the Skills section of his Bronze Award.



MENTORING



Mrs L Hawkins, Head of Technology, recently attended a Teach Meet event and gave a very inspiring presentation on effective mentoring to other teachers. These events are an 'organised but informal meeting for teachers to share good practice, practical innovations and personal insights in teaching' and are valuable sessions for all concerned.

FURZE PLATT JUNIOR SCHOOL VISIT FOOD AND NUTRITION



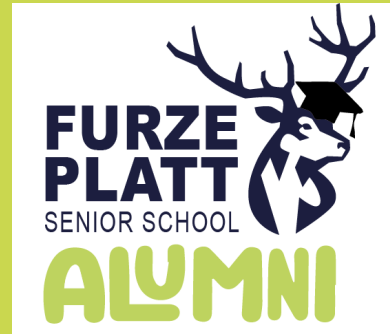
On Friday 29th November, Year 6 students from Furze Platt Junior School visited our Food and Nutrition rooms to make vegetable soup. They had all planned what soup they were going to make before they arrived, and worked hard to complete the task and clear up.

In total, we had around ninety Furze Platt Junior School students here who enjoyed using our rooms and having a look at the new facilities. We hope that this is the start of many collaborative projects to come.

Mrs S Crisford, Head of Food and Nutrition



FURZE PLATT ALUMNI



We are very keen to reconnect with as many of our alumni community as possible and will be sending out the first edition of our brand new Alumni newsletter in the New Year. We have an Alumni page on our website:

FPSS ALUMNI PAGE

featuring previous headteachers and famous Alumni. If you were a student, member of staff or the PTFA, a governor or a friend of the school please join us here:

JOIN OUR ALUMNI

Please share this link with anyone else who you know attended our school in any capacity. Thank you.

FURZE PLATT STUDENTS (PAST AND PRESENT) IN LOCAL PANTO

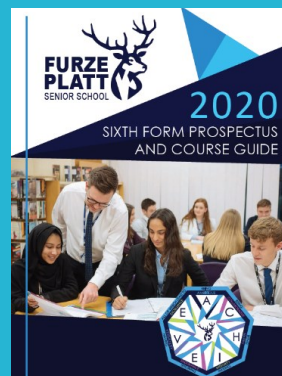


Performing in this year's popular panto Dick Whittington, alumn Kim Coulson; Anya Idrizi Year 12; Anna Gambrell Year 10 and Erin Hanna and Ben Roberts, both Year 9. The pantomime is a family event run annually by Maidenhead Drama Guild and is being shown at the Desborough Theatre this weekend. (Oh yes it is!)



SIXTH FORM APPLICATIONS

NOW OPEN



PROSPECTUS, COURSE
GUIDE & ADMISSIONS

CURRENT STUDENTS: PLEASE
APPLY HERE

GUEST STUDENTS: PLEASE
APPLY HERE

Thank you to everyone who came and supported us by purchasing drinks and snacks at the Christmas Concert! We hope you enjoyed your mulled wine and mince pies whilst watching the wonderful performances.

Dates for your diary:

PTFA Quiz & Dinner - Friday 27th March 2020
PTFA meeting Wednesday 22nd January 2020, 7pm - 8pm

Did you know that eBay, Argos, M&S, John Lewis & Partners and many, many more retailers will donate a percentage of your shop to us? Please, please, please log on here when you are doing your Christmas shopping online:

MONTHLY PAYMENT (£5 PER MONTH)

ANNUAL PAYMENT (£57 PER YEAR)

[HTTPS://WWW.EASY2NAME.COM/](https://www.easy2name.com/)

let's avoid increasing the Lost Property Mountain in the New Year!

Thank you from the PTFA.



EASY FUNDRAISING

200 CLUB

Winning numbers for Draw 9
on Friday 15th November 2019



MONTHLY PAYMENT (£5 PER MONTH)

ANNUAL PAYMENT (£57 PER YEAR)

LETTERS:

PGL TRIP 1 BISHAM, BRAY, COOKHAM, DORNEY

PGL TRIP 2 ETON, HENLEY, MARLOW, WINDSOR

YEAR 11 END OF SCHOOL CELEBRATION OPPORTUNITES

REMINDERS:

SIXTH FORM TOURS – THIS TERM

YEAR 11

We are offering limited Sixth Form tours before the end of this term.

Tours will begin at 9.15am from Main Reception and will be held on Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th December. To book, please call 01628 625308 and choose Option 2.

SCHOOL UNIFORM REMINDER



As the cold weather is setting in please can we remind parents and students of our expectations of school uniform. We have in particular seen lots of hoodies being brought into school in recent weeks. Please could no hoodies be brought into the school site, all students should wear appropriate winter coats as outerwear. Last academic year, to reflect student and parent feedback, we expanded our

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uniform to allow any colour of coat in school. School shoes should be smart style shoes. Please ensure shoes have no logos and are not trainers, canvas or boot style shoes. Please also be reminded that jewellery is inappropriate for school. A wristwatch and single stud in each earlobe is the only jewellery permitted. Any other piercings are not permitted and must be removed for school. Further details on all of our uniform can be found on the school website. We appreciate your support in these matters.



BIKE SAFETY



Please can you ensure students who bring a bicycle to school have a bike lock. While we have lockable bike sheds please be aware they are times when they are open. Especially in the darker evenings, please can you also encourage students to 'be safe and be seen' on the roads with working lights etc.

SKI TRIP 2021 - LA THUILE, AOSTA VALLEY SATURDAY 3RD – SUNDAY 11TH APRIL 2021



SKI TRIP 2021



Skiing £1,065
Snowboarding £1,075

This includes:

- Extensive 6 day lift pass that covers both La Thuile in Italy and La Rosiere in France.
- Five hours of ski/snowboard lessons per day.
- Full board accommodation including dinner out at a different restaurant every night.
- Exciting après ski programme.
- Travel to and from the resort on a luxury coach.

Open to all current Year 7-12 students who will be at the school in April 2021.

To apply and place a deposit please visit Wisepay and find the 'Ski Trip 2021-Ski' or 'Ski Trip 2021 - Snowboard' in the trips section.

Deposits due by
Friday 13th December 2019

kooth
We're still here to help over the festive season

24/7 access to self-help materials and daily online counselling available over the holiday period

- Chat to friendly counsellors online, 365 days a year
- Read self-help articles written by other young people
- Join peer-to-peer support forums

Visit kooth.com to sign up for free today

