



## MESSAGE FROM HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

### Languages Week

Bonjour! Guten Tag! Hola!

We have had a terrific week celebrating languages across the school. The highlight for me was judging the amazing creations in the cake competition. Each cake was themed to a particular culture, country and language. I know from speaking to the entrants how many hours they spent on the designs and I want to congratulate all those who entered a design.



Learning languages is one of the trickiest parts of the school curriculum but I know that if students harness the energy and enthusiasm from this week in learning vocabulary, grammar and practising their language skills, they can be highly successful in French, German and Spanish.



## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Next Week (Week 1)

<b>THU 3</b> OCTOBER	Whole School Open Evening	6pm - 9pm
<b>FRI 4</b> OCTOBER	<b>INSET Day</b>	All Day
<b>SUN 6 - WED 9</b> OCTOBER	Year 13 - Nettlecombe Biology Trip	

### Forthcoming Events

<b>MON 7 - FRI 11</b> OCTOBER	Learning Walk Week 1	
<b>TUE 8</b> OCTOBER	Year 9 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	6.30pm - 7.30pm
	Year 10 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	7.30pm - 8.30pm
<b>THU 10</b> OCTOBER	Year 7 - Head of House/Parents' Consultation Evening	4.30pm - 7pm

**SCHOOL TERM DATES 2019/20**



### Year 11 Information Evening

On Tuesday I had the pleasure of welcoming our Year 11 students, along with their parents and

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carers, to an evening designed to help our students gain excellent GCSE results next summer. The evening demonstrated how by utilising key study skills, teachers, students, parents and carers can work together to support our young people to be successful.

Over the next few days Year 11 students will be receiving the papers back from their recent Maths and English PPEs. This will be an excellent opportunity to involve parents in the lessons they have learned and plan to address areas of weakness in future weeks.

### Duke of Edinburgh Award

This week I met Liz Pate our local Duke of Edinburgh link. She was incredibly positive about Furze Platt and the commitment of students, staff, parents and carers to DoE. We are one of the biggest centres in the area and Liz was very impressed by the value we put on the award. I know that there will be many conversations at home about whether our young people should embark on DoE and I would encourage all our young people to consider the award.

### Our New Teaching Block

I had the pleasure on Thursday of touring the new 17 classrooms and laboratories in our new block. Approaching completion the rooms will provide amazing extra facilities for our young people. We are still aiming to move in after half term and hopefully parents and carers will have the chance to look around during Term 2.

### Open Evening

Next Thursday we are holding our Open Evening. Firstly, I would like to thank you in advance for allowing your children to attend. They are the best advocates for the school and I appreciate them giving up time to assist.

As parents and carers you are also important in sharing the news about Furze Platt Senior School. Please do encourage neighbours, friends and relatives to attend.

Dr Andrew Morrison



### OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER

12.30PM FINISH FOR STUDENTS

School will be closing at 12.30pm on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October for our Open Evening. All welcome. Thank you to everyone who has offered to help, it is appreciated.



### FRIDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

INSET DAY

School will be closed to students all day.



**Furze Platt Senior School offers:**

- ▶ A broad, stimulating and rewarding education for girls and boys
- ▶ Outstanding academic, sporting and 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:**

'Pupils achieve highly at this school'

- Ofsted 2016

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

**Open Evening**  
**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct 2019**  
**All Welcome**

**School Tours Available**  
**Sept and Oct 2019**  
**All Welcome\***

01628 625308 | office@furzeplatt.com | www.furzeplatt.com

\*All tours must be booked in advance, please contact Main Reception.

**SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING**  
**THURSDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**



If your son/daughter is in Year 11, we look forward to seeing you all for our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November. The evening showcases a range of subjects to help students decide what they wish to study in the Sixth Form.

**YEAR 11 SUPPORTING LEARNING EVENING**



For those who were unable to attend this session, please see links below for a letter with important information and dates, as well as a copy of the informative presentation.

[PPE LETTER](#)

[SUPPORTING LEARNING IN YEAR 11 PRESENTATION](#)



**WINNERS OF THE CAKE COMPETITION**



Most creative cake: Kiera Connell (ET5) / Abbie Taylor (CM1)  
 Most representative of language / culture: Anya Clayton (MW4) / Maya Mikolajczyk (MW4)  
 Presentation: Eliza Gjergo (BM5) / Hannah Foote (BM1)



**PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY**

**DEADLINE 3.30PM, FRIDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor, if you are interested please click the link below for further details. The letter includes details on how to nominate, how you can choose to receive the voting paper and a nomination form. Please note the deadline is 3.30pm, Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October.

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

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**ONE OF MAIDENHEAD'S LARGEST HALL THEATRES**



[#JOINOURCROWD](#)

### Natural History Museum Trip Newsletter

Recently, on the 11<sup>th</sup> of July 2019, the whole of year 8 went on a fascinating trip to the Natural History Museum. It was a very interesting trip with plenty of interactive and educational learning experiences.

The main two themes we saw were the Human Biology section and the volcanoes and Earthquake section. One of the most popular areas of the human biology were the exciting animation of human reactions. The most exhilarating part of the volcanoes and earthquakes were the earthquake simulator, it was a carit miss! And, of course the gift shop was a nice round off to the day.

In the volcano & earthquake expedition, the year learnt what to put in an emergency kit for a fast escape. We saw a very interesting exhibit on Pompei, and all the animals and humans trapped under the dust. The adventure started from the very entrance, where we saw zodiac signs on the wall and went up an escalator that seemed to be a plow of some kind.

Our first exhibit was the volcanoes and earthquakes where, like I said earlier, we went on the volcano adventure as we saw every element of a volcano, from the rock types to the devastating effects. We also learnt about the volcano Krakatoa and how it erupted in 1883 and triggered a tsunami, all with verible effects on the coastal towns. One of the most amazing things of the natural history Museum was how interactive it was. For example, in this particular exhibition, we were allowed to touch an example of pillow lava specimen. They had rock specimens from around the world and so much more.

After that, the teachers and students met up and went to the human biology section. Here we learnt about puberty in humans, pregnancy and the human body. This section was very high tech with some mechanical exhibits and some traditional ones. One of the most interesting areas of this exhibit was the reactions to events, for example seeing how the human body will react when scared or frightened. They showed us how quickly the body will change. We also learnt about bone movement and 'hinges' within the bones. I learnt a lot including how we never stop growing. (We can still grow mentally or in weight ect.) We had to write and note down any facts we found in a booklet which helped us learn.

Then came lunch. This was a very good time to relax and unwind after a whole two hours of exhibitions (we were all very hungry!) Then after about half an hour, we moved on to the gift shop. This was a good way to round off what had been a very educational and fun day. One of the best parts being the volcano exhibit which had the earthquake simulator

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Class learning

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Follow up report from Natural  
History Museum  
(Newsletter article)

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July, Furze Platt Senior School Year 8 students attended the Natural History Museum. But only half of the year group attended, as we couldn't take everyone in one day! "It was an extremely fun day!" Reportedly said by Eini Larsen - student also. They had 2 booklets to fill out during their visit, which allegedly helped them find out and learn ten times more! They had one hour exactly to explore the one area and to complete the booklet. Their first booklet was: "Explore and Discover... Volcanoes and Earthquakes." It was a very interesting topic to read through and go more into depth about. They had an actual Earthquake Simulator which was terrifying to some, and not that shocking to others.

Also in that section they had demonstrations and structures on how erosion can work and the difference between squeezing water out of larger rocks versus smaller rocks. They also had a hologram to look through, one of a rock and a larger one of the Earth which was unsolvable! They also had a machine which had shown how sand moves throughout water. But it was extremely satisfying! They also had a skull and two fossils on display, the Cynothagus Skull, Glossopteris fossil, and ~~mesosaurus~~ mesosaurus fossil. All were unique and different in many ways which made them way more enjoyable to learn about. Some information found from the Cynognathus skull: Continents that it's been found: South America and South Africa. What does the fossil give evidence of?: "It gives proof of an extinct animal lived 230 million years ago, it looked like a dog." Written by a pupil in their booklet.

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Soon after, the year group visited the Human Growth section which may have been found as strange and funny but also helpful, and interesting. Almost immediately the year group had walked into a dark space with a massive statue (kind of) where a <sup>statue of a</sup> baby was lit up. It was a representation of what the baby would look like inside of the mother, with the umbilical cord etc. And also the first two things you see are how an arm is formed in a short video of the growth of a baby inside of its mother. Going back to the statue of the baby: it only had one baby, fully grown inside of its mother. Its arms and legs had fully grown and the baby had also grown nails. With the booklet giving key facts like:

- The fetus will grow bigger just before birth, but won't change very much.
- The uterus grows from its normal size of a pear to as big as a watermelon during pregnancy.

Also talking about puberty young adults go through. Giving more key facts and diagrams to help work out and give examples from questions. Altogether, this was a very good school trip, extremely enjoyable too!



By Ami Larsen

## NATURAL HISTORY TRIP



### WISEPAY

Everyone should be receiving school communications via WisePay mailing.

You should also be able to log in to Wisepay to pay for food and trips etc. If you are having problems you can check the instructions on our website or contact [Claire.eadie@furzeplatt.net](mailto:Claire.eadie@furzeplatt.net)

The best way to use Wisepay is by using the App – organisation code for this is 67367869

Our Year 11 Construction class were fortunate to gain access to the new building for a follow up visit. Thank you to Mr McCartney at Beards for arranging the visit. Students



## YEAR 10 CONSTRUCTION

Last week our Year 10 Construction group had their first



practical lesson, learning how to cut a corner halving joint. A great start to the course.



## YEAR 11 CONSTRUCTION

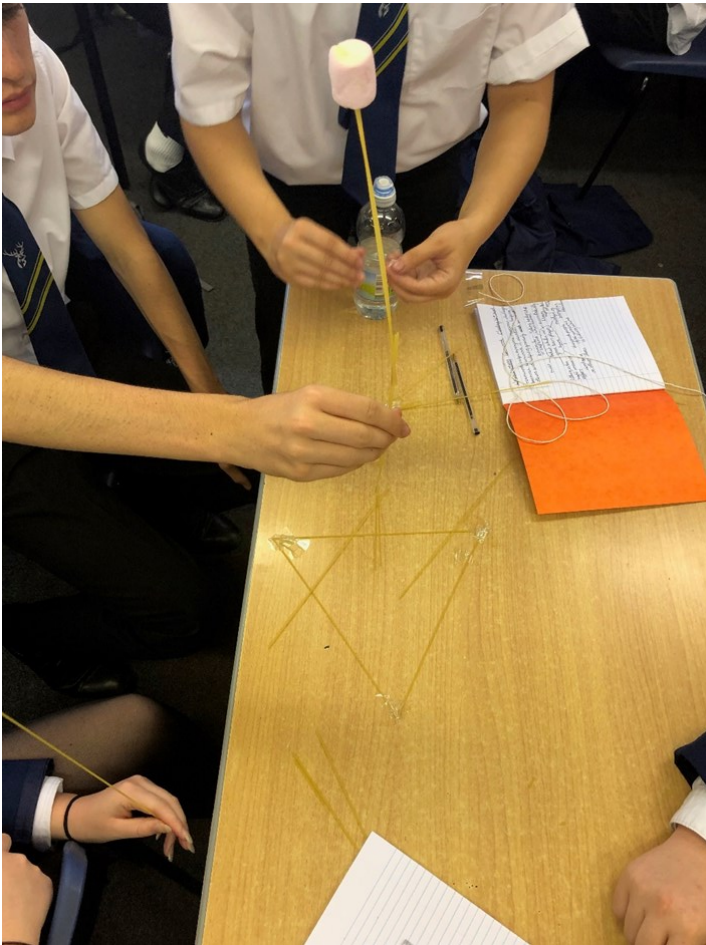


said they were "impressed with the progress since the last visit", that "it's well built" and that they "like the views".

Pictures from our new building, courtesy of Miss Carty.

**MARSHMALLOW CHALLENGE**

Pictured are some of our Year 11 students attempting the



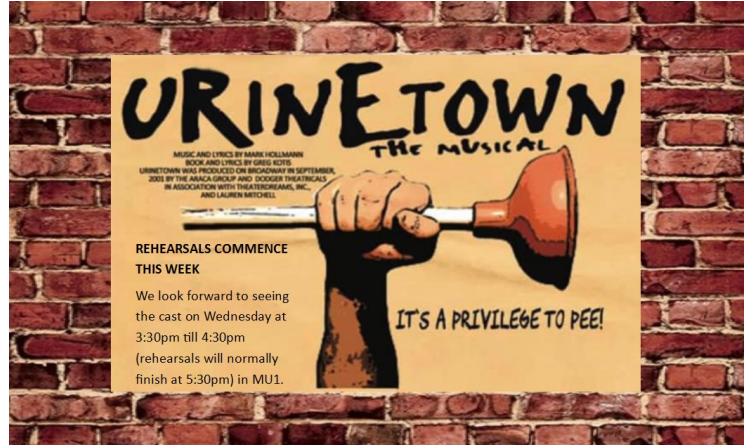
Marshmallow Challenge – creating the highest tower from

spaghetti, a metre of string and a metre of sticky tape. Students were able to link this to teamwork and employability skills.



**UPPER SCHOOL MUSICAL**

Congratulations to everyone who auditioned for this year's

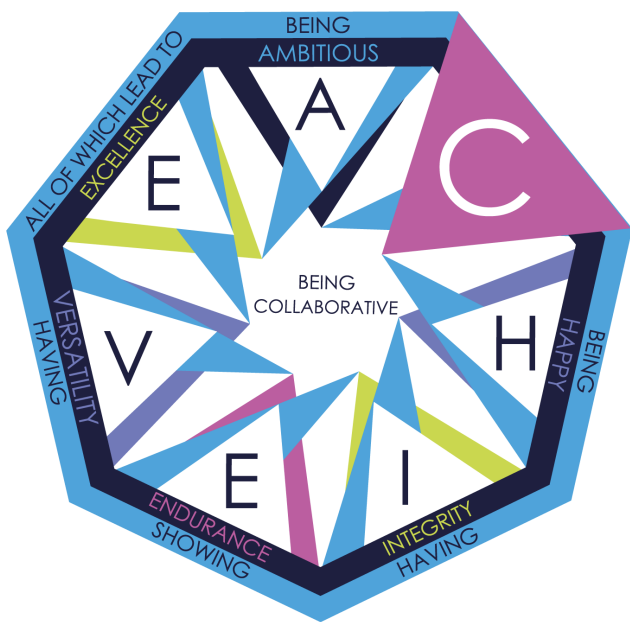


Upper School musical of Urinetown. There was a lot of excitement last Friday when the list went up and we are now eagerly awaiting rehearsals to begin. Rehearsals commence this week – we look forward to seeing the cast on Wednesday at 3:30pm till 4:30pm (rehearsals will normally finish at 5:30pm) in MU1.



**SPORTING NEWS**

Year 8 Rugby team won their first game of the season this week against Maiden Erlegh School – well done to them!







Our Year 9 girls played fantastically well in their first league tournament of the season. Having beaten Charters, Windsor Girls and Claire's Court the girls now sit 3<sup>rd</sup> in the A league so far. Players' player was won by Lola Ogden for her faultless shooting and positivity. All girls played brilliantly and did both themselves and their



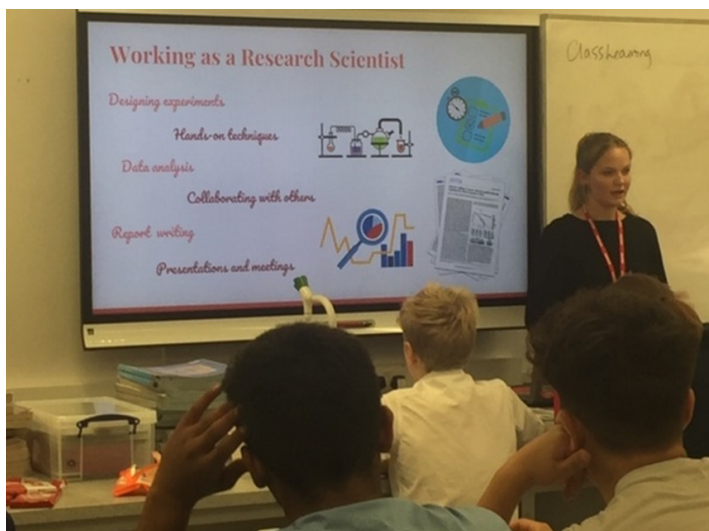
school proud. Special thank you to Lily Bushell for being scorer and motivator on sidelines throughout. Roll on the next round...



### FURZE PLATT LADIES' RUGBY SQUAD

The wet weather this week didn't put the Furze Platt Ladies Rugby Squad off playing. They really enjoyed their first training session at Windsor Rugby club. The sessions are running for the next six weeks on Tuesday after school at Windsor RFU. Spaces can be booked on WisePay.

### FURZE PLATT ALUMNI VISIT



On Wednesday, former Furze Platt Senior School student Olivia Edwards came in to talk to some of our keen scientists about studying science at university and beyond. Olivia left Furze Platt in 2016 having secured a place at Trinity College, Cambridge to study Natural Sciences. She graduated in July with a First Class Honours in Genetics and is going on to study for a PhD at the Sanger Institute in Cambridge. The talk was really well attended by students mainly from Years 10-13 and covered life at university as well as an excellent Q&A session at the end. However, we were disappointed that only 3 girls attended. Come on girls, you are letting the side down! The Science department would like to thank Olivia for her informative and inspirational talk and we wish her every luck as she embarks on her career as a research scientist.

Dr Scott



### 50 YEARS OF FURZE PLATT FAMILY!

Many congratulations to Mrs Julie Croxford and her husband Aubrey, who are celebrating 50 years of marriage today. Mrs Croxford, who is one of our Lunchtime Supervisors,





knew her husband throughout their time when they both attended Furze Platt Senior School and have lived in Furze Platt almost their entire married life, after marrying at Holy Trinity Church in Cookham. Their children attended Furze Platt too and carrying on the family tradition, their granddaughter, Florence is currently in Year 8. (Pictured, Mr and Mrs Croxford on their wedding day, 27<sup>th</sup> September 1969)

We wish them all the best for the next fifty years!

### ARRIVING AT AND LEAVING SCHOOL OUTSIDE NORMAL TIMES

Please can parents be aware that, for safeguarding reasons, both the Ostler Gate entrance and the Junior School gate (off Oaken Grove) are locked during normal school hours.

There have been a number of incidences of students trying to climb over the fences, risking both injury to themselves and damage to the fences.

To facilitate travel at both the start and end of the school day, as well as for after-school activities, the gates are open at the following times:

- 7:45-9:15am
- 2:45-6:00pm

Should your son or daughter need to arrive or leave school outside these times, please note that they must use the main gate on Furze Platt Road.

Thank you for your support.

Mr J Sheppard  
Deputy Headteacher

### DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS

This information is for students choosing to complete the programme as an extra curricular activity.

Cont. at the top of the page

Students can collect their badges and certificates from Miss Carty during break times in the portacabin.

### Important Dates for your Diary

BXM Expeditions meeting for parents - Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 6pm, in the Main Hall at Furze Platt Senior School. Attendance is mandatory.

BXM Expeditions one-day training for Bronze, Silver & Gold participants - Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at Furze Platt Senior School. Attendance is mandatory.

### DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS CONT.

**Expedition Dates - students must be available to attend:**

#### Bronze

Practice - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Assessment - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> & Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020

#### Silver

Practice - Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Assessment – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2020

#### Gold

Practice – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Assessment – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020

APPLICATION FORM

MEDICAL FORM

### Section Deadlines

3 month - Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020

6 month - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020

12 months - November 2020

18 months - May 2021

### To enrol

Applicants need to fill out the application and medical forms below, along with their deposits to be enrolled onto the programme. This can also be accessed on WisePay.

**Costs (all final balances to be paid by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December)**

#### Bronze



Full cost - £200

Deposit - £75

**Silver**

Full cost - £300

Deposit - £105

**Gold**

Full cost £450

Deposit - £170

**SHOW MY HOMEWORK / SACHEL ONE**

**PARENTS' LOGIN PAGE**

**Parent Accounts**

Parents who wish to take a more active role in their children's home learning can achieve this by having their own Show My Homework / Sachel One account. It enables them to take a more proactive role in driving homework prioritisation, and keeping tabs on homework without having to be intrusive.

**STUDENTS' LOGIN PAGE**

