



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

New English and Science Teaching Block Opening

This afternoon The Right Honourable Theresa May MP officially opened our new teaching block. We are very grateful to Mrs May for taking time out of her busy schedule to open our new facility.

The official opening was also a great chance to say thank you to all the companies and organisations who have helped our new £6 million block come to fruition including The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead who helped fund the project.

Following the unveiling of the plaque, guests were able to tour classrooms meeting students and staff, as well as seeing learning taking place. I am sure that many students will have stories to share this weekend.

Oliver's Funeral

Thank you to the many members of our school community who attended Oliver Darlington's funeral on Tuesday. It was a very moving service as we remembered Oliver who sadly died of sepsis over the New Year. His family are keen that we are all more aware of the condition that killed Oliver. Details of Oliver's story and sepsis are available online including <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-beds-bucks-herts-51176438>.

At the service we gave Oliver's family a book containing the memories of him that students and staff had shared. We hope that our memories offer Oliver's family and friends some condolence at this deeply sad time.

Canine Detection Team

At the start of term, I shared with students, staff, parents and carers that at intervals I would be inviting a Canine Detection Team into Furze Platt. The aim is to ensure that our school is clear of illegal substances. As parents and carers may have heard the team made their first visit on Monday spending the day around lessons and our school. No illegal substances were found.



UPCOMING EVENTS

[ALL EVENTS](#)
[SPORTS CALENDAR](#)

Next Week (Week 2)

MON 3 FEBRUARY	Year 12 Criminology & Psychology Trip (London)	8.30am - 5.45pm
FRI 7 FEBRUARY	Muffi Day - in aid of SportsAble	All Day
MON 10 - THU 13 FEBRUARY	School Musical	7pm
THU 13 FEBRUARY	Year 13 Progress Reports Published	
FRI 14 FEBRUARY	End of Term 3	3.15pm finish

Forthcoming Events

MON 17 - FRI 21 FEBRUARY	FEBRUARY HOLIDAY	
MON 17 - FRI 20 FEBRUARY	P&R Trip - Rome, Italy	
	Term 4 starts (Week 2)	
MON 24 FEBRUARY	Year 12 Maths & Computer Science Trip - Bletchley Park	8.30am - 4.30pm
	Parents' Community Group Meeting	6pm - 7pm

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2019/20 & 2020/21

SCHOOL CLUBS LIST

Year 11 Progress Reports

Parents and carers should now have access to the Year 11 Progress Reports. These are an important marker of how your children are doing. They represent a chance to praise achievements and highlight areas requiring greater focus. This is particularly true for our Year 11 who now have around three and a half months before their first exam. Please contact your child's subject teacher should you wish to discuss particular issues.

Good Luck Next Week to...

All those Year 11 students in their Maths PPE, Year 10 in their MFL examinations and all students taking the Maths Challenge.

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



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Governors this term have been heavily involved in various committee work; Resources, Pupil and Parents, Teaching and Learning, Site Expansion and Governance as well as many of them attending subject review meetings with members of the Senior Leadership Team and Heads of department.

It is terrific to see our fabulous new building in place and that the work on the new hall is progressing well. These new facilities are a real boost to our school. There is however still much work to be done with the rest of the school buildings and infrastructure and the school continues to submit bids to central government for much needed funding. It is sometimes easy to forget that the School was built in the early 1960's and for a student population of only 400.

Last year we had an external governance review conducted to help ensure that we are being as effective as possible as a governing body. One of the suggestions made following this review was that we publish more information about individual governors so you can see who is working hard on your behalf.

I therefore thought it a good idea to introduce the team to you one at a time whenever there is some governor news to pass on. First to 'kick start' the process is an incredible lady, Sue Le Page, my predecessor as Chair (for 13 years) and our longest serving member who has been on the full governing body for some 24 years.

Sue Le Page – Governor

I started as a Parent Governor in 1996 and have enjoyed my association and work with FPSS so much that I am still on the Board. I am currently working as Pupil Premium Governor and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Verifier. I am a member of the Teaching & Learning and the Pupils & Parents Committee. I



enjoy a full time 'retirement' with Pilates and going to the gym to keep fit for my wide range of interests and young grandchildren. I am treasurer for the local Methodist Church, help run a Come & Play session and a Rainbow Guide unit as well as being a trustee of two small charities serving the local community and a member of the Cookham Twinning committee organising visits to St Benoit near Poitiers.

NON UNIFORM DAY FRIDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 2020

We will be holding a non uniform Day in aid of the charity SportsAble on Friday 7th February. Students will be asked to contribute £2 via their tutor in registration.

SportsAble provide sporting activities to those with a physical and/ or sensorial disability. On the day, they have kindly agreed to come in so that students can try some of the activities they offer.

These activities include:

- The Wheel Chair Roller Challenge, where students attempt to cover as much distance as they can in a set time frame
- Boccia, a Paralympic sport similar to bowls. Students will be in teams of 8 and they should attempt to get their coloured ball as close as they can to the white ball
- New Age Kurling, where students, in teams of four, should try to get as close as can to the centre

If students would like to take part in any of these fun activities during period 4 & 5 on Mufti Day, the Year 9 Construction group will be visiting tutor groups next week to sell tickets at the cost of £1 per activity. Students MUST have a ticket in advance so teachers know to release them from their lesson.

In addition, the café will be serving a Japanese themed menu on the day in recognition of the Olympics and Paralympics being held in Japan this year.

Spaces are limited for these activities so please remind your child to bring cash in from Monday to secure their space.

URINE TOWN, THE MUSICAL

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Performing Arts department would like to invite you to come and see this year's production of Urinetown.

Cont. on page 3

HOW TO REVISE SESSIONS – YEAR 11 STUDENTS

The Raising Achievement Department has recently been into every PSHE lesson to deliver a session on 'how to revise'. In it, we showed students how to condense information and pick out the key words and then use them to create a revision resource – mind map or cue card.

This is part of the on-going programme to help support and motivate students throughout Year 11 – below lists events that have already taken place:-

- Preparing and planning for Year 11 session at the end of Year 10
- Creating revision timetables
- SLT Revision Conference
- Preparing to Succeed evening at the beginning of the academic year (another one due on 5th March).

Attached is a PowerPoint presentation that was used during the sessions for your perusal.

HOW TO REVISE - POWERPOINT

If you would like any more information or have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact debbie.feather@furzeplatt.net.

In a Gotham-like city, a terrible water shortage, caused by a 20-year drought, has led to a government-enforced ban on private toilets. The citizens must use public amenities, regulated by a single malevolent company that profits by charging admission for one of humanity's most basic needs. Amid the people, a hero decides he has had enough, and plans a revolution to lead them all to freedom!

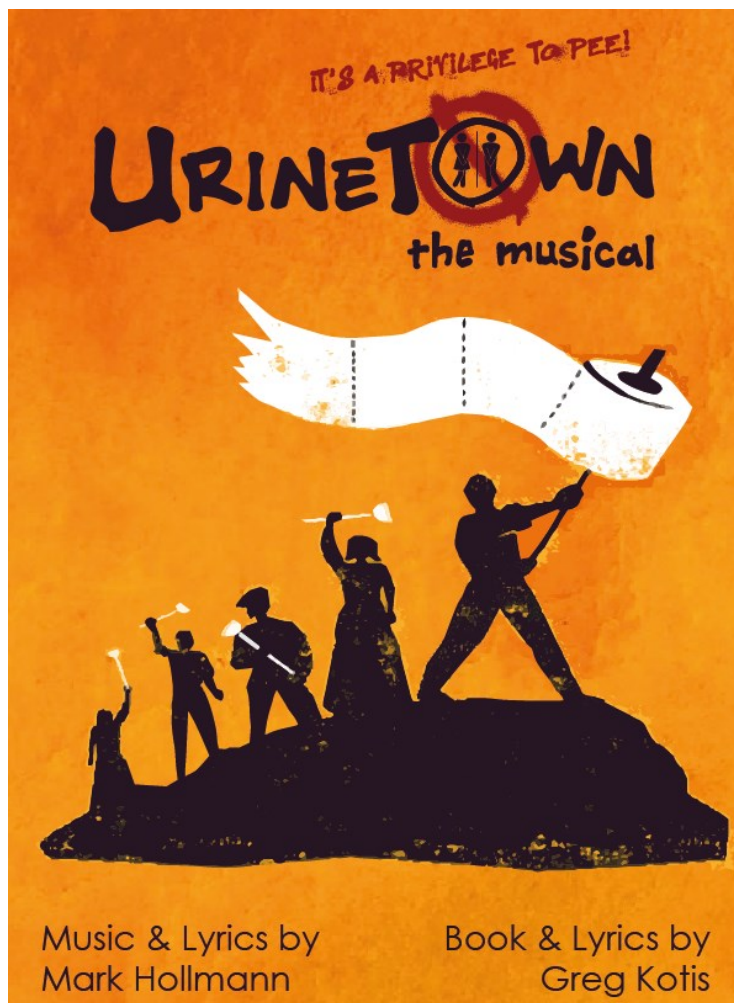
There will be four performances, Monday 10th, Tuesday 11th, Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th February. All performances will begin at 7pm in the Drama department.

You can purchase tickets through your child's Wisepay account. You will find the booking page in the 'Seat and Events Bookings' area. Tickets are priced at £5 for students/children/OAPs and £10 for adults and go on sale on Friday 31st January. This year, you will have the opportunity to pay for a programme through Wisepay.

Refreshments will be available to buy from the PTFA during the interval.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A. Bradley
Head of Performing Arts



LEAVERS' HOODIES ORDER BY FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY

These should be ordered via your child's WisePay account, indicating hoodie size and colour (plus nickname if required). Hoodies cost £25.00, are available in a range of sizes and colours and can be personalised with an acceptable nickname for an additional £5.00.

There is a size Medium hoody in reception for your child to try on should they wish to.



YEAR 8B NETBALL

On Wednesday 29th January, our Year 8B team competed in a netball tournament against seven other neighbouring schools. The team consisted of Kirsty Steed, Georgia Owen, Anna Orzel, Angelina Shaba, Jessica Thomas, Florence Leo, Natasha Harris, Charli Arnold and Bre Siyawareva.

The girls played incredibly well as a team, despite such freezing weather conditions. They won 1 match, drew 2 and lost 4. Jessica Thomas got player of the match for an excellent all-round performance over all their games.



flavoured crisps to let them experience first-hand how packaging can change the perception of taste. It was a yummy lesson indeed. If your child is attending our club, be prepared to be experimented on at home.

Miss R Paradowska,
Head of Psychology and Child Development

YEAR CHILD DEVELOPMENT / CONSTRUCTION

Ham & pea risotto, chocolate roll, chilli bean JP, carbonara... and a good old classic, Macaroni Cheese – with our combined Year 9 Child Development/Construction/Duke of Edinburgh group we've done it all and so much more. Our last cooking session is next week, when students will be showing off their cookery skills producing apple cakes. Then, we will have a swap, and students who were currently doing cooking will start first aid training, while our fully qualified first aiders will have a chance to stand behind the cooker. Thank you to Mrs M Bowen and Mrs J Robbins, who are running the sessions for our groups.

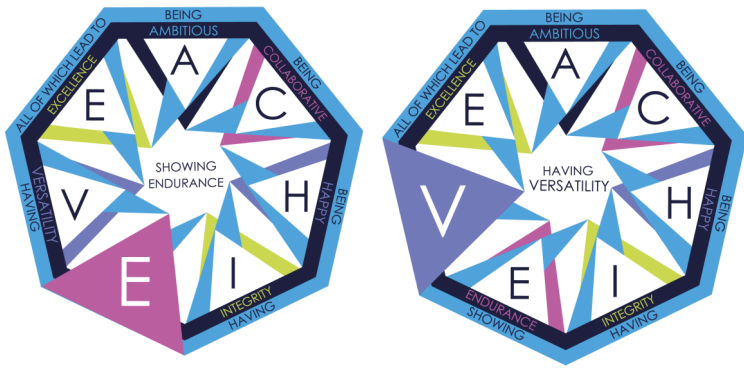


Picture: Amelia Hardy and Ellie Ovens

PSYCHOLOGY GCSE CLUB



We have lots of fun in Psychology GCSE club. This week students were investigating the role of expectation on perception. I discreetly swapped the content of different



SCIENCE IN OUR CAFÉ



Stunning display by our café staff yet again on the theme of Science – we look forward to the next themed delicacies!



YEAR 11 CONSTRUCTION



Year 11 Construction pictured in our Food and Nutrition rooms as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award Challenge.



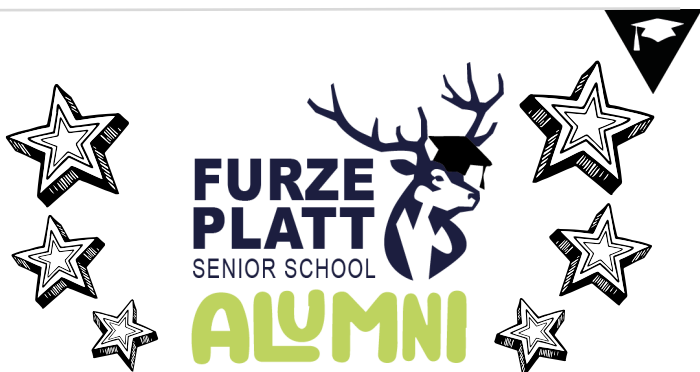
CHILD DEVELOPMENT



It's that time of the year when Child Development can take the electronic babies home for the weekend. Last week, it was Emi Larsen's and Levi Woodward's turn. The girls loved the experience. In Levi's words: 'You get attached to the baby. When he cries, you get sad, and you want to help him.' This weekend, it's Polly Wallis and Ellie Ovens who play mums – good luck to them!

PLEASE READ THE LETTER BELOW MESSAGE FROM HEADTEACHERS

LETTER FROM SECONDARY SCHOOL
HEADTEACHERS OF RBWM



ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

To receive a copy of the first edition of our Alumni newsletter please click here:

[ALUMNI NEWSLETTER](#)



FOR MORE INFO PLEASE
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MUSIC



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Lessons with Berkshire Maestros start from less than £10 for a small group lesson. Individual lessons are also available. We provide professional tuition from qualified, DBS-checked teachers. As well as learning music, our students have fun, make new friends and develop important life skills such as discipline, confidence, self-esteem and social skills.

We teach at our music centres across Berkshire as well as in many local schools and offer a wide range of lessons (subject to availability), including:



Guitar:

acoustic, classical, electric, bass

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Woodwind:

bassoon, clarinet, flute, oboe, recorder, saxophone

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Voice:

all styles

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with us you can
hire an
instrument from
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£22 per term

The benefits of learning to play music

- Children and young people who study music outperform, academically, their peers who don't
- Children who play music learn that hard work, practice and discipline is rewarding
- Playing a musical instrument helps develop creative thinking and motor skills
- Music helps to develop active listening skills
- Music can also enhance health and wellbeing

www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk

Outreach Team Worker in Shine

Salary scale – 5. Actual salary range £15,900 To £17,500

30 hours per week, term time only

Starting at 8.45am and finishing at 3.15pm (includes a 30 minute unpaid break) may be negotiable for the right candidate

The Shine Unit at Furze Platt Senior School helps young people with autism thrive and succeed in a mainstream school environment. The Outreach Team working within Shine provides support and training to students, their teachers and parents within the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead mainstream education settings.

We are looking for someone to join the outreach team and work with both teaching and support staff at a range of mainstream schools in order to support them with meeting the needs of Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 4 pupils with autism. This involves whole school, whole class and individual pupil work ensuring that standards of attainment are raised and that pupils are successfully included and succeed in a mainstream school setting.

Specialist training would be provided early on to enable you to manage a caseload of pupils with a diagnosis of autism. You would work with schools providing them with the skills, understanding and competencies to enable them to maintain and embed practice across the whole school for all pupils with autism. You would also support parents of pupils with autism and create and maintain materials required to deliver student programmes as well as attend multi-agency meetings to provide advice and support as appropriate.

We are looking for a good communicator with previous experience of working with students with autism or Special Educational Needs perhaps as a Learning Support Assistant in a school or other educational environment. A willingness to embrace the specialist training and acquire a good knowledge and understanding of students with autism is key as well as the ability to manage students in a classroom setting, prioritise workload, and work as part of a team. Use of a car is essential to enable you to visit RBWM schools.

For further information about this role and in order to complete an application form please refer to our school website www.furzeplatt.com. Application forms should be returned to Gill Dandridge – gill.dandridge@furzeplatt.net. Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered.

Closing date: Monday 3rd February 2020
Interviews will take place week commencing Monday 3rd February 2020

CURRENT VACANCIES