

**MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER**

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

Welcome to the first Newsletter of Term 6. I hope you enjoyed Half Term and managed to have some of the limited adventures offered by the current restrictions.

**VIDEO MESSAGE FROM HEADTEACHER****A Return for our Year 10 and 12 students**

Over the Bank Holiday weekend secondary school colleagues across the country were surprised by the Prime Minister moving the day when Year 10 and 12 could return to school back to 15th June. This, together with further guidance indicating only a quarter of students in each year group could be back on-site each day, has led to a need to change our plans.

Students, parents and carers have received an extensive letter from me today. This is on our Covid 19 website page should parents and carers of other years wish to see how we are shaping a return to FPSS. It is not a return to a normal school day but it is a start.

As I emphasise in the letter and accompanying video we all have a role in keeping students, our friends and families, staff and ourselves safe so please can Year 10 and 12 students, parents and carers take time to read the letter.

**FPSS COVID 19 INFORMATION WEBSITE**

Thank you in advance for your support.

**Year 7, 8 and 9 Online Tutor Group Catch-Ups**

As I mentioned in newsletters before half term, we have been looking at ways to bring some of our younger students together and offer some live online activities in order to keep them connected with each other and our staff. We will be

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

ALL EVENTS

SPORTS CALENDAR

All events are postponed until schools reopen fully.  
Further information will be sent out in due course.

starting this with online Tutor Group events next week. The aim is to bring students and their tutor together in a fun activity more than to teach. I hope that students in Year 7, 8 and 9 enjoy the experience.

**Year 6 Induction**

Now that plans for Years 10 and 12 are finalising we have been able to plan for the induction of our new Year 7s. Mrs Crisford, our Transition Leader, is looking to do a series of events in Term 6 to give Year 6 students an experience of FPSS and prepare them for September. Please look out for details.

**Sixth Form Induction**

Likewise, our Head of Sixth Form Mr Ging has been able to plan a Sixth Form induction. This will be online and give students the chance to join online seminars as well as have online assemblies to gather further information. We will send details to Year 11 shortly.

**Keep Exploring Opportunities!**

On several occasions in the newsletter, I have encouraged students to try something new. This is really important for our Years 7, 8 and 9 for whom a return to school is not imminent. I have been sent examples of students learning about other cultures, countries, hobbies, skills and much more. I also know that many of our young people have been researching and sharing thoughts on news events. These have not always been coronavirus related and I read a wonderfully well-written piece on the protests in the USA this week. Keep exploring such opportunities!

Take care and keep safe.

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



If you are eligible, you will receive £15 per week per child via the government's national voucher scheme. Please do however be aware that the response may not be immediate as the Borough are trying to cope with an increase of demands.

EMAIL: [FSM@FURZEPLATT.NET](mailto:FSM@FURZEPLATT.NET)

## THANK YOU TO YEARS 7 AND 8

Our Year 7 and 8 students were asked to write messages to our upcoming Year 6 students to give them advice about starting at Furze Platt from their own experiences. We still have more to collate but we have uploaded many of those received to our website here:

## MESSAGES TO YEAR 6 FROM YEARS 7 & 8

as well as using some of the quotes on our homepage. The level of writing and insight into the advice our students would give to new Year 7's has been a joy to read – interesting, empathetic and at times, funny!

THANK YOU to:

Filip Blin  
Alfie Wiggins  
Alistair Bailey  
Rosita Papoff  
Abigail Leech-Baldwin  
Andzhelika Ivanova  
Josh Cutter  
Sara Rendon  
Fatima Habbouli  
Amy Barker  
Marcus Downie  
Verity Lakovic  
Alex Callaby  
Joshua Barton  
Marina Brati

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Following the recent untimely death of George Floyd and protests in USA and across the world, including Blackout Tuesday, the English and Media Department felt it important that students construct their own voice on the issues raised. In normal circumstances, students would be able to discuss the ideas raised in the media with both their teachers and peers. Given the current situation, instead we put together an Off-Curriculum Day for students to complete remotely. Given the sensitivity of the situation, the resources shared with students were differentiated to their age group. In each activity, students are exposed to multiple forms of expression, including: Music, spoken word poetry, traditional media outlets and infamous historical speeches. We asked our students to accumulate their changing views throughout the sequence of activities before sharing them with someone. Ultimately, the main thing we can all do is to discuss issues raised by George Floyd's death. Should you wish to join in with these discussions with your child, please find the link below. We can all still make a difference, even from a distance.

## BLACK LIVES MATTER POWERPOINTS

## FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If your status of employment may have unexpectedly changed, there is potential government funding to support your child. You can use the link below to check if you are eligible or please do email if you have any queries.

## FREE SCHOOL MEAL ELIGIBILITY CHECK

## YEAR 12 OXBRIDGE WEBINARS

Over the past couple of weeks some of our ambitious Year 12 students have been tuning in to several webinars on Oxbridge. The first, led by Dr Joe Organ, highlighted the main reasons why students should consider applying to Oxbridge. He started with a poignant photograph of former Oxford students to compare with current JCR presidents to

Cont. on page 3

emphasise that study at Oxbridge is no longer elitist becoming more multicultural, tolerant and diverse each year.

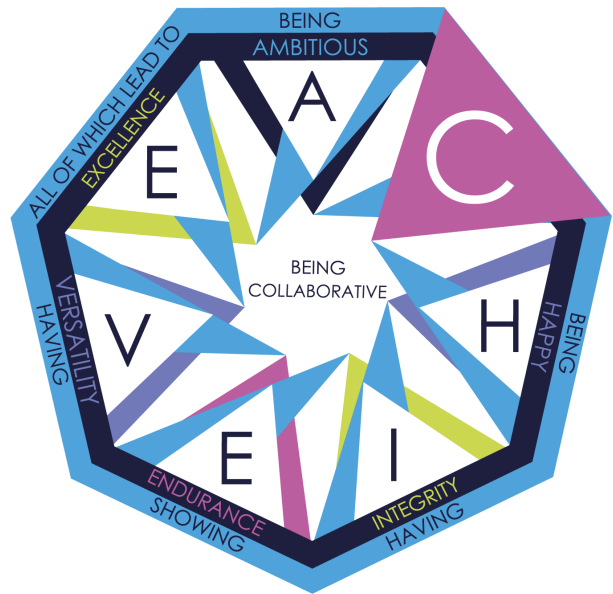


Source: [www.oxfordmail.co.uk](http://www.oxfordmail.co.uk)

Joe also clarified that studying and living at Oxford is relatively cheap compared to other universities and feels homelier owing to the collegiate system. While he admitted that there is a heavy focus on independent study and the work load is somewhat heavier, there is plenty of time to engage in clubs, sports, socials and other (possibly eccentric) events. It was evident throughout his webinar that students must have a genuine love of learning and engagement with their subject. He helped to remove students’ concerns over the admissions tests and application process, revealing that the tests aren’t necessarily about what you know, but more about how you approach the subject with your thinking.

We were also grateful to hear from two Furze Platt Alumni – Gaby Ford and Olivia Edwards. Gaby is currently reading French at Oxford and Olivia graduated from Cambridge last year in Natural Sciences. Gaby’s webinar described her personal experience of the application process and her first year at university. Our Arts and Humanities students appreciated the insight into BA degrees and were surprised to hear how the gap between A-level study and degree level is relatively small in the first year.

Olivia’s webinar focused more on STEM degrees, particularly how her degree in Natural Sciences has led to further research in a PhD in genetics. She discussed the



pro and cons of the course, indicating that its flexibility in choosing modules and the ability to develop a specialism over time meant that it was a fantastic course for students who are currently struggling to decide on an area of science they’d like to pursue further. She also offered some great advice on considering courses with integrated Masters and placement years.

If anyone is interested in finding out more about the Oxbridge process, or would like to listen to the recordings of the webinars, then email Miss Inwood who will be happy to help and share resources with you via Google Drive.

## WEEKLY TIMETABLE PLANNERS



Mrs Feather has created some helpful ‘Planning your week during lockdown’ presentations which you can find on our website along with editable timetable planners for each year group and an updated list of seminars for our Year 10 students. All students should still check emails/SMHW each week in case there are changes made.

**FAMILY LEARNING RESOURCES**

**EDITABLE TIMETABLE PLANNERS**





Week 5 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Miss Holmes and Mr Goswell Cookham House



## FINAL TASKMASTER RESULTS

Over the last two weeks, students and staff have continued to battle it out in TaskMaster challenges. Week 5 saw the recreation of famous artwork and we were delighted to receive a record number of entries! The top three are shown below – very well done to them. For the final week, competitors were asked to create a lockdown song. This task was won by Samuel Cranch who wrote an entirely original song. We were also very impressed with Mr Harris' entry for Bray House, a rendition of 'It's Coming Home' where he demonstrated his songwriting, singing and piano playing skills! Sam's win in this task secured Bisham's place as the winners of the TaskMaster House Challenge with Dorney in 2<sup>nd</sup> place and Windsor in 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you to all who have taken part over the weeks.

Week 5 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Kacper Wrobel Windsor House



Week 5 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Jack Gulliver Dorney House





*Lockdown, lockdown here we are  
Stuck at home we can't go far*

While at Johnson people scoff  
Kids are bored cause schools are off  
We are zooming family  
While old people grow lonely  
Others' shopping people bring  
Still with social distancing  
Keeping two meters apart  
Is no longer such a lark

*Lockdown, lockdown here we are  
Stuck at home we can't go far*

The rich run to their resorts  
Gaining many angry retorts  
Flour is rarer than gold  
As not enough can be sold  
Many businesses are lost  
People can't go and pay the cost  
Lots of people have been furloughed  
While others have a huge workload

*Lockdown, lockdown here we are  
Stuck at home we can't go far*

There are banners and rainbows  
In nearly all the windows  
Supporting NHS heroes  
Stopping deaths reaching five zeros  
While PE with Joe Wicks  
Takes the place of the Olympics  
Some people have been so kind  
But I will be glad when it's behind

House	Score
Bisham	770
Bray	250
Cookham	100
Dorney	600
Eton	150
Henley	40
Marlow	270
Windsor	300



## CREATIVITY AT FURZE PLATT

Before half term students made masks in school showing how creative they could be artistically...



Cont. on page 6

...and out of school, Emma Astrup-McGuinness (Year 7) made these delicious looking doughnuts!



## TRAINING AT HOME GUIDANCE

**Message from Mr Djaelani, Teacher of PE and Head of Dorney House (who has won five World Kickboxing Championships U80kg and is now a CrossFit enthusiast):**

With all the online training that's popped up recently I just wanted to write a little piece regarding safety and focus.

Most importantly, it is a positive thing! Getting up and moving about will bring you all sorts of benefits and should be encouraged.

There are few things I wanted to highlight your awareness of to as many people are training more now than they ever

have before. In order to keep your motivation and momentum going there were a few things I wanted to raise.

1. Firstly, most have a lack of fitness kit, few weights or equipment, so we are limited with our choices to bodyweight movements. Eventually this can cause some structural imbalances as body weight movements tend to lean toward pushing/pressing movements. This will ultimately strengthen our front much more than our back. Further down the line it could lead to inflexible shoulders, tight hamstrings and sore lower backs. Try and balance this out with some pulling/rowing/pull up type of movements. Some examples are attached at the bottom of the article.
2. Secondly, most of the online videos/classes focus on jumping about and making you tired with fast and explosive plyometric movements. If you're not moving correctly and pain free then adding speed and jumping about is not a safe way to go about your training. Online fitness personalities tend to do this to make you feel tired and sweaty which most translate as "a good workout, I was dead!". It also makes that online coach look flashy and showy which is how they get their sign ups! HIIT sessions ask a lot of your body which means that your muscles and connective tissue take a long time to be ready for it. Being overly tired and sweaty is not always the sign of a good workout.

My advice would be to balance out your training as best as you can. Train your top half as much as your bottom half, left side as much as your right, and your front as much as your back.

Steps moving forward:

1. Start by simply adding 2-3 pulling or hip hinging

**WATER BOTTLE REAR FLYS**

**BODY WEIGHT GOOD MORNINGS**

**WALL SLIDES**

movements to every workout.

2. Limit your HIIT training to 1-2 sessions a week and supplement it with slow and controlled body weight movements like squats, Nordic curls, pull ups/rows, slow runs, longer walks, extended stretching or yoga/ Pilates sessions.
3. Keep notes of everything you are doing.

**MULTI PHASE WORKOUT**







In collaboration with researchers at the University of Oxford, Furze Platt has signed up to take part in the 'Online Pupil Survey', which aims to monitor the wellbeing of school pupils during lockdown and to assess the impact of COVID-19 on mental wellbeing and learning.

There are different versions of the survey for different age groups in order to provide an age appropriate questionnaire. The surveys look at a wide range of areas relating to wellbeing and mental wellbeing including areas such as internet safety, bullying, sleep and mental wellbeing. All questionnaires are anonymous and both the school and researchers will only receive access to key trends across the survey. This information will allow Furze Platt to review our mental health and wellbeing provisions based on the areas identified in the survey.

Further information has been sent out via parent mail and there is more information about the survey on the research team's webpage, including Frequently Asked Questions (<https://www.psych.ox.ac.uk/research/schoolmentalhealth>). You might also find it useful to watch the 3-minute video for children: <https://youtu.be/gbwVdBuf1zA>

All students who have not opted out will be sent a link via their school email account applicable to their year group. The survey is not compulsory but the greater level of responses the school receives will allow the most appropriate support to be put in place.

If you **do not** want your child to take part in the survey, please notify Miss Lewis [laura.lewis@furzeplatt.net](mailto:laura.lewis@furzeplatt.net) before Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June.



## FRENCH

### YEAR 7

Kata Bloomfield, Alfie Hawkins, Mia Banks  
Jessica Hulme, Aston Smith  
Phoebe Matthews, Rosita Papoff  
Alex Callaby, Alistair Bailey  
Harry Sandhu, Joshua Barton  
Lucas Escott, Marina Brati, Amy Barker

### YEAR 8

Dylan Williams-Lock

### YEAR 10

Bella Powell

## SPANISH

### YEAR 8

Asim Malik, Nathan Hedges

### YEAR 9

Amy Matthews, Zain Shabir  
Januki De Alwis

### YEAR 10

Ellie Gavin

## GERMAN

### YEAR 7

Phoebe Matthews, Pacey Thandi  
Jon Sanchez Ansuategui

### YEAR 9

Balraj Kaur

### YEAR 10

Nina Drenski

## AMAZING ARCHERY

Great piece of Sports Marketing by Freddie Chalk (Year 9) showing all the benefits of learning archery along with useful information.



### AMAZING ARCHERY!!!!



Archery is the practice or skill of using a bow to shoot arrows and was created in 10,000 BC and is played by around 24m people across the world. The word comes from the Latin arcus meaning 'bow' or 'arch'. The USA and South Korea dominate the sport of Archery with famous players including Brady Ellison (USA) and Lee Woo Seok (Korea)

#### How Can Archery Benefit Your Health?

- Improves hand-eye coordination
- Strength building
- Patience
- Focus
- Improves confidence
- Socialize
- Form of exercise
- Relaxing



#### Like to compete?

Archery offers several competitions include the World Championships as well as many other country specific competitions

#### Fun Fact!

Archery is often in the public eye thanks to famous films like:

- The Lord of the Rings trilogy
- The Hunger Games
- The Avengers
- The Hobbit franchises



Maidenhead Archers are a local Archery club and would love to encourage new members of all ages and abilities. For more info go to [WWW.MAIDENHEADARCHERS.COM](http://WWW.MAIDENHEADARCHERS.COM)



## ORDERING UNIFORM

### Message from Hawkinsport

With the challenges caused by the Coronavirus pandemic, things are unlikely to be normal with the social distancing measures all retailers have in place and we are planning so that all students are able to get the necessary school wear well in advance of September, so we ask for your support to shop as early as possible. We wish to ensure that you have the best shopping experience and at the same time look after the health of our customers and colleagues, while meeting Covid-19 Government guidelines.

### SHOPPING ON-LINE

**Free delivery** for all orders placed at [www.hawkinsport.co.uk](http://www.hawkinsport.co.uk) before 30 June – use Coupon **'FREEJUNE'**

### CLICK & COLLECT

This service provides a safe and secure way to get your uniform. It is located to front of store, please advise Hawkinsport person on the door that you are just collecting goods.

### SHOPPING IN-STORE - COVID-19 GUIDELINES

In accordance with Government guidelines, as of Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020 we intend to open the shop doors to

YEAR  
9



## 200 CLUB

### Winning numbers for Draw 11

### on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020



Well done to our lucky 200 Club winners who have each won a cash prize of £200.

For your chance to win a large cash prize and support our school please visit our PTFA page:

### PTFA PAGE

**ANNUALLY (£57 P/A)**

**MONTHLY (£5 P/M)**

customers. To ensure the continued safety of our customers and employees, and assist with minimising queues, we are putting in place certain measures:

Pre booked appointment slots - these can be booked online now at <https://www.hawkinsport.co.uk/content/appointment-days>

Provision of hand sanitisers upon entrance at the store

Reminders throughout the store to maintain social distancing of 2m

Marked out floor markers indicating 2m social distancing at the shop counter

Limited access to changing rooms

We are requesting that customers do not touch products if simply browsing, and save their interaction for the item they wish to explore further

Payment by card only

If you have any queries, please contact Hawkinsport directly – 01628 819242 or [sales@hawkinsport.co.uk](mailto:sales@hawkinsport.co.uk)



**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS MONDAY 8TH JUNE**

## Graduate Cover Supervisor – To start September 2020

Fixed Term for One Year. Part time, 31.25 hours a week, start time 8.30am, finish time 3.15pm (includes a half hour unpaid break). Monday to Friday, term time only. Actual salary £15,000 - £16,200pa depending on experience

We have an exciting opportunity for a graduate who is keen to gain some experience working in a school prior to considering teacher training with Teach Maidenhead. You would be supervising classes during the short-term absence of the assigned teacher giving you opportunities to gain experience working in a classroom environment alongside students at Key Staff 3 and 4. Your main responsibility would be to instruct students about the work set by the teacher and assisting them to stay on task and complete the work set to the best of their ability. The provision of cover will be varied. For example, you might introduce the work by talking through a Power Point, showing video clips or reading through texts with students. You may be asked to lead a class discussion, organise group work or supervise PE and Drama activities. An important aspect of the role will also involve learning about school policies and how they are implemented including the school's behaviour policy and Ready2Learn rules, and have the chance to improve subject knowledge in all areas including your specialist subject in readiness for an application to train to teach.

In addition to this, you will have the opportunity to spend time in some of the other departments in the school responsible for supporting our students. For example, in our Raising Achievement Department. This team work hard to ensure progress and development of students at all Key Stages including Sixth Form by offering them high quality academic mentoring using intervention and support programmes, one-to-one and small groups support and help with building their confidence and self-esteem. Also in our specialist Autistic Spectrum Disorder Unit with specially trained teachers and Learning Support Assistants who support students with ASD enabling them to flourish in a classroom environment wherever possible, with additional support in subjects or other areas of the curriculum which they find challenging. You may also spend some time with our Alternative Curriculum Manager whose main objective is to source and oversee the provision of alternative curriculum for those students in school who will benefit and help to enhance their education and career opportunities when they leave school. Throughout the school there is a team of Learning Support Assistants who support a wide range of students with Special Educational Needs and there would also be opportunities to work alongside them as well.

If you a team player, with plenty of initiative and an interest in a career working with young people in education we would be delighted to receive your application.

For further information about this role and in order to complete a **Support Staff 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**. Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered. For further information about Teach Maidenhead please refer to [www.teachmaidenhead.co.uk](http://www.teachmaidenhead.co.uk)

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. This post is subject to an enhanced disclosure via the Disclosure and Barring Service.]



**Closing date: Monday 8th June**  
**Interviews will take place week commencing 8th June**

**APPLY TODAY**