

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Students, Parents and Carers

Welcome to our weekly Newsletter. I hope that you and your families are well. As ever we would be delighted to share your news so please do send in details of what you are up to at this time.



VIDEO MESSAGE FROM HEADTEACHER

Year 10 and 12 to Return

As the pictures below show our site team have been busy preparing for our Year 10 and 12 students to return next week. I look forward to welcoming them all back. Please could students, parents and carers in these year groups remind themselves of the contents of my letter of last Friday before returning to school. This will help jog your memories in regard to matters like only using the front gate, not wearing uniform and students needing to bring their own equipment and a bottle of water.



UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

SPORTS CALENDAR

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

Years 7, 8 and 9

With the news that others are returning to FPSS, I appreciate this is a difficult time for students, parents and carers in our younger years. This week, I have had some parents and carers express frustration at their child not being included in the return and also concern about September.

I can only share this frustration. I want all our students to be back at FPSS as soon as possible. However, you will appreciate that we are following the guidance of government as to which years and how students return. I am hopeful for September and we are planning a normal whole school timetable for next year. I hope that matters have sufficiently progressed and we are able to have all students on site from then.

In the meantime, we are looking to expand on the tutor activities started this week. I would also encourage students, parents and carers to think about activities that can support classwork. This is something schools regularly do with trips, visits or theme days at this time of year. How about studying the Magna Carta and taking a family trip to Runnymede to see where it was signed? Why not take some paper and sketch along the Thames or dissect a flower to see the various parts?

Cancellation of 6 July INSET Day

Given our wish to have students return to school on a regular timetable we have cancelled the INSET day planned for July.

Take care and keep safe.

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



YEAR 7 PGL – INFORMATION EVENING TUESDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 2020



Dear Parent/Carer

As we wait for further guidance from the Government regarding the reopening of schools and other non-essential establishments, we are continuing with the organisation in the hope that by October, all restrictions will have been lifted and the trip can go ahead as planned. Please rest assured, if this is not the case, we will make a decision nearer the departure date with the health and safety of your child at the forefront of our decision making.

I am now able to invite you all to attend the Parents Information Evening on the revised date of **Tuesday 8th September 2020**. The evening will start at 6pm in the Main Hall and it is very important that you should try and attend as you will be given more information on activities, rooming arrangements, daily itinerary and the general running of the trip. This will also be your chance to ask any questions you or your child may have.

Included in the cost of the trip was a Furze Platt PGL hoodie for your son/daughter to keep. In order to ensure our suppliers have enough time to produce these hoodies,

we ask that you use the link below to order a specific size for your child by **Monday 22nd June**. Further information regarding sizing is on the form:

PGL HOODIE FORM - ORDER BY 22ND JUNE

We can now confirm that the final payments must be made by **Friday 10th July 2020**. Payments should be made via WisePay; your account will show your outstanding balance. If no outstanding balance is shown than you have already paid the full £220 cost of the trip. If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact me on the email below.

Finally, I would like to remind you about the three mandatory forms that we require you to complete:

BEHAVIOUR AGREEMENT

MOBILE PHONE AGREEMENT

MEDICINE/PHOTO CONSENT FORM

Please return all completed forms to reception or electronically by emailing them to

danielle.boseley@furzeplatt.net by **Friday 10th July 2020**. The forms can be downloaded from the 'Trips & Visits' section within the 'New & Events' tab on the Furze Platt website here:

TRIPS & VISITS FPSS WEBPAGE

For further information on the trip do not hesitate to contact me, or look on the PGL website at:

HTTP://WWW.PGL.CO.UK

Miss D Boseley, PGL Trip Leader 2020-2021

PREPARE FOR TAKE OFF

An exciting new
e-learning platform
to help with your GCSEs



gcsepod
education on demand

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www.GCSEPod.com



AMBITIOUS **C**OLLABORATIVE **H**APPY **I**NTEGRITY **E**NDURANCE **V**ERSATILITY **E**XCELLENCE

If you have any news items you wish to feature in our newsletter please email: media@furzeplatt.net

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS

REFUNDS

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your patience in waiting for an update regarding the D of E expeditions, as I am sure you can appreciate with so much uncertainty surrounding walking and camping it has taken some time for us to put plans into place. In this letter I would like to explain the developments so far and our plans moving forward to ensure that students can complete their awards in the future if they wish to.

As BXM have been unable to run the expeditions this summer we took the decision to cancel the expeditions rather than postpone the expeditions. This was a difficult decision knowing the huge benefits to young people's development the award brings and the amount of work that students have put into the other sections of the award.

Our decision was based on the following reasoning - 1. If we had postponed the expeditions and rearranged dates for 2020/21 we could not have been sure that BXM would have survived the pandemic and gone into liquidation – in this situation it would have been difficult for us to reclaim your money. 2. We had no idea when walking and camping would be allowed again - this made it very difficult to arrange new dates. 3. If we had re-arranged the expeditions, the dates may not have been suitable for all families, some students are moving into examination years and students will have other commitments.

As I am sure you can appreciate, it would have been difficult for us to find a suitable resolution for everyone. The school has been successful in making an insurance claim which means we are able to refund the vast majority of your money. Unfortunately, we were unable to reclaim the student's registration fee with D of E or the administration fees. Please note - Students remain registered with D of E for a number of years and can complete their awards in this time. If students go on to complete their awards while they are at Furze Platt they will not have to pay administration or registration fees again. Over the coming weeks we will be able to refund each family the cost of the expedition less the student's registration and administration fee. Please be patient, as you can imagine we are trying to refund families for various school trips and are working through the system as fast as we can. For families that have paid the full amount we will be able to refund the following

Bronze - £165 Silver - £265 Gold - £410

For those of you that paid by card the money will be refunded to the card that you paid with. If you paid cash

please email me with your bank details and we will transfer the funds – david.randall@furzeplatt.net

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Moving forward we are very keen for the students not to miss out on gaining their awards, especially as we know how hard they have been working towards the other sections. We are still unsure when camping and walking will be allowed but we are determined to provide opportunities and options for students to complete their current awards and move onto the next if they wish over the coming year. I will be writing to you again before the end of the term with more information. Once again thank you for your patience and understanding.

Mr D Randall, Outdoor and Enrichment Activities Leader

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS INFORMATION



LOCKDOWN TECHNOLOGY

Throughout lockdown we have been asking students to complete a variety of design challenges, this week they were asked to design a card or board game. Verity Lakovic, Year 7, has made hers look fantastic by adding lots of detail and colour to her work.

Well done Verity!





Caitlin Bennett



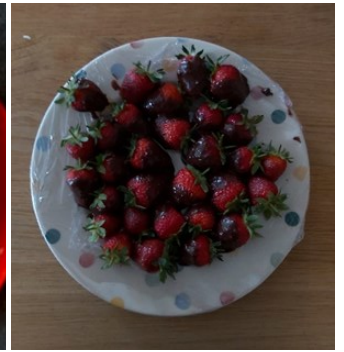
Nathan Hedges



Leo Ing



Arlo Challis



Eliza McLaughlin



Harry Willett



Zac King



Abigail Leech-Baldwin



Amy Barker



Alex Breen



Rosita Papoff



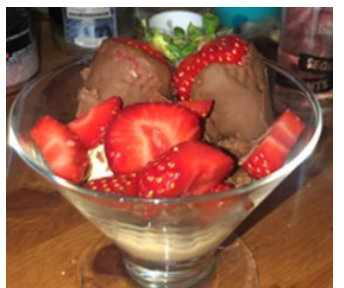
Connor Fitzgibbon



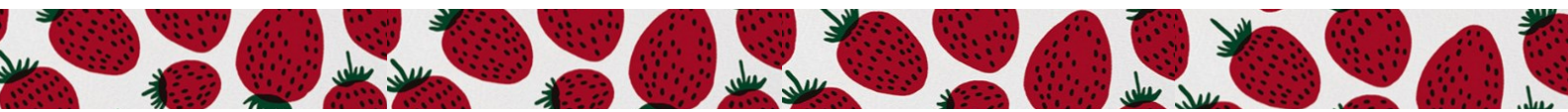
Eugenia Sanchez-Giron Moreno



Emily Dutton



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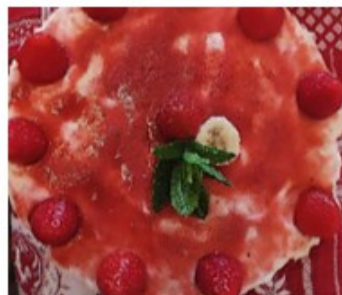
Matej Sutton



Finley McLaughlin



Elisa Gjergo



Annabelle Stratford



Louie Prestipino



Karim Ahmed



Ben Hearsey



Jamie Metcalfe



Florence Leo



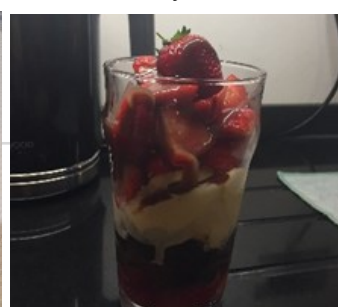
Marcus Downie



Lars Cheli



Elsa Hayford



Holly Cannon



WELL DONE TO HARRY AND ELIZA FOR THEIR FANTASTIC FOOD LOGS!

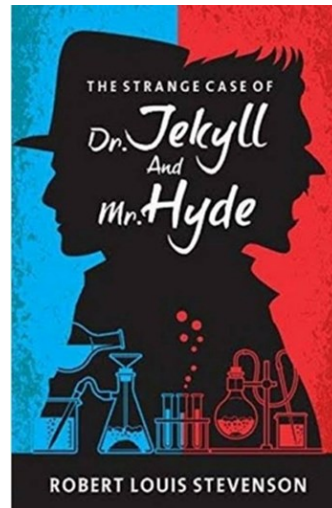


HOW TO MAKE...

CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

Finlay has also made a video of how to make chocolate chip cookies which you can find here:

CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES VIDEO

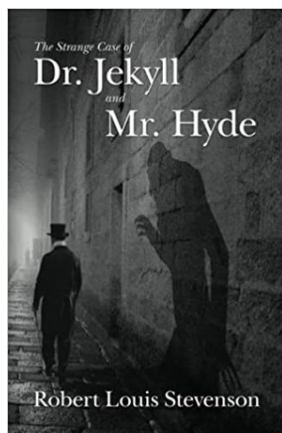


adventure; 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde' is fascinating from the very first page. I would recommend this book to all my friends as they will surely enjoy it, including anyone else who loves reading spooky, gripping and riveting books with lots of suspense!



'DR JEKYLL AND MR HYDE' REVIEW

BY LARS CHELI, YEAR 8

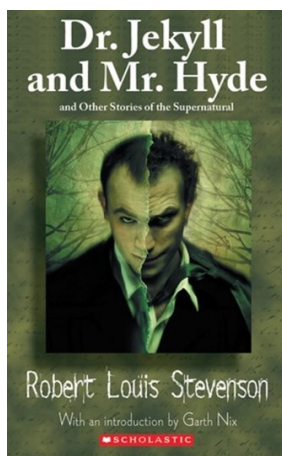


During this lockdown I read the novella written by the Scottish writer -Robert Louis Stevenson 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde'.

This book takes you through a horrifying and mysterious story. The main theme of the novella shows the difference between two opposite characters: the good and the evil, the realistic and the spiritual, the self-controlling and the frustrating. It also builds a picture of England under the shadow of Queen Victoria and its changing.

Adding on, the story is about taking science too far and if scientific research can be controlled. I found Jekyll's character a bit like an early version of the Incredible Hulk or Anakin Skywalker in Star Wars. You will have to read until the end to discover the terrible secret that connects Dr. Jekyll with Mr. Hyde.

I personally found the book a combination of Gothic horror, science-fiction, detective and



FAMILY LEARNING RESOURCES



Learning Support Assistant – to Start 1st September 2020

Part time, 30 Hours a week, start time 8.45am, finish time 3.15pm (includes a half hour unpaid break). Monday to Friday, term time only. Actual salary Scale 2c, £13,300 - £13,500 pa depending on experience

We are looking for an enthusiastic and reliable individual to join the Shine team and provide targeted support to our students with ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder).

You will work under the direction of classroom teachers and, in line with any agreed special needs and other specialist plans, provide support to individual students in the completion of a wide range of learning activities at all key stages. You will support small groups of students for interventions and mentor nominated students. You will help students develop their social and communication skills and gain access to the curriculum by ensuring effective use of differentiated instructions and tasks provided by teachers.

We are looking for a team player, who is able to communicate sensitively and confidently with staff, students and parents. This role would suit someone who is able to use their own initiative and who has strong organisational and time management skills. This role might suit someone who is working with or has worked with students in a school setting with experience or knowledge of either SEN (Special Educational Needs), ASD or both.

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. Application forms should be returned to 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. This post is subject to an enhanced disclosure via the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Closing date: Friday 3rd July 2020 at 9.00am
Interviews will take place week commencing 6th July

APPLY TODAY

Special Educational Needs Administrator – to Start 1st September 2020

Full time, 37 Hours a week, start time 8.30am, finish time 4.30pm (includes a half hour unpaid break). Monday to Friday, term time only. Actual salary Scale 4, £17,700 - £18,490 pa depending on experience

We have an exciting opportunity for an experienced Administrator to support our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) and Learning Support Department during term time. You will support the SENCo with a range of administrative tasks including responding to emails and telephone queries, maintaining SEN records and preparing reports for students' annual reviews. You will also help set up a transition day for primary year 6 students with additional needs which requires liaising with feeder primary schools to make appropriate arrangements. You would also support the department with managing exam access arrangements for students who are eligible by liaising with parents, school staff and other stakeholders. Attendance at review meetings and taking minutes is sometimes required.

Strong organisational and time management skills with an ability to meet deadlines are key requirements of this role. If you have excellent administrative skills, enjoy using your initiative as well as working with a part of a team and are happy working in an environment with young people where no two days are ever the same then we would be interested in hearing from you.

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