



FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #62.14



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Student Awards for Staff

An enormous thank you to all students who have nominated members of staff for our awards. Reading through the hundreds of nominations really makes you realise the impact that FPSS staff have on our students. To give you a taste, below are a sample of ten reasons students have nominated staff:



"They are always positive and brings good energy every class."

"For helping me get through my anxiety."

"They taught me how the mark scheme works so I can get top marks."

"Sir cares deeply about the school and its students, he will always gladly stop and chat with you and is an all-round amazing person and teacher."

"At the start of the year I did not look forward to lessons but now he is my teacher I really like the subject."

"Miss is such a great teacher, she has helped me in all subjects and given up lots of free time to help me improve my education. I appreciate all the work she puts in and how dedicated she is. She genuinely has such a good heart and is amazing at what she does!"

"They always produce brilliant lessons."

"He always provides interesting and well explained lessons that I really benefit from. The homework he sets is just the right amount and he awards us with positive points when needed which motivates me and my classmates."

"Helping students to persevere, and providing excellent lessons and being dedicated to the progress of her students, even in incredibly unprecedented circumstances."

"He always puts a smile on my face as I enter and leave the classroom, he helps everyone in the class to excel in their



UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

SPORTS CALENDAR

Some of our upcoming events may change due to the current situation (eg virtual or adjusted events). Full details will be sent out nearer the time of the specific event.

NEXT WEEK (WEEK 1)

WEDS 16
DECEMBER

Years 7, 8 and 11 Progress Reports
Published

All Day

FRI 18
DECEMBER

End of term 2
Years 7 & 9: 12:15pm
Years 8, 10, 11, 12 & 13: 12:45pm
Christmas Jumper Day (2)



learning and behaviour. His great attitude towards teaching motivates us to work our hardest, helping everyone to understand the topic we are learning about."

Next Week

In the build up to Christmas a number of parents and carers have contacted us this week to offer thoughts on how FPSS should operate in the last week of term. I want to express my appreciation for all your positive comments about FPSS in these communications, while also acknowledging that there is no perfect outcome that will suit all opinions. I have shared the current plan with parents and carers in my letter today. Please do have a read as it includes arrangements for next week, confirms plans for the last day of term and how to report any positive Covid cases over the Christmas break.

Take care and keep safe.

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



MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR OF GOVERNORS



Operating as an effective Governing body using Zoom for all our meetings presents an interesting challenge for all parties.

Whilst it is not the same as our usual face to face ones in some ways they have led to greater focus and resulted in shorter meeting times.



We have also incorporated training sessions as part of these meetings which have been delivered brilliantly by the School and been highly effective. The School's determination to find such effective ways of working for the benefit of our Student and Staff community has been a real highlight amidst an otherwise very challenging year.

It has also been great to see how supportive and responsible the majority of parents and students have been. This combination has enabled the school to deliver vital ongoing education to our young people despite the frustrations and setbacks along the way. As we now move to a vaccination programme for our entire population we should be able to look forward later in 2021 to a full and much needed return to normal school life.

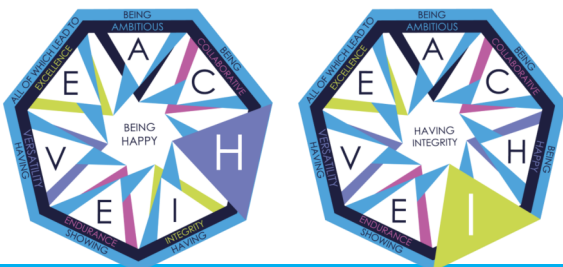
In our 'meet a governor' feature in this newsletter you are introduced to another stalwart of our Governing Body, Diane Flood.

The 24th October was a special day in the history of our governors. After an incredible 24 years of service to the School Sue Le Page stepped down as a governor. During this time Sue was Chair for an incredible 14 or so of these years and has worked tirelessly for the benefit of our Furze Platt school community. Sue has such a wealth of experience she will be difficult if not impossible to replace.

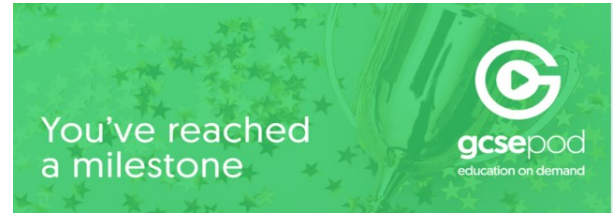
Fortunately Sue has agreed to continue her role as our Duke of Edinburgh verifier so we haven't lost her completely.

Sue on behalf of Governors and the School, thank you for all your hard work and commitment, you have been amazing.

Mr G Tisshaw

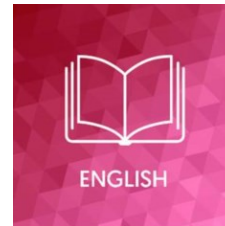


GSCE POD USAGE - A FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENT



Congratulations!

You've doubled last year's usage.



In addition to the current English Language tips for Exam Success, we now have a full suite of resources available for English Language GCSE.

YEARS 9 AND 13 PROGRESS 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 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.

Please see here for our Guidance to Grading document:

GUIDANCE TO GRADING

VIEW REPORTS

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager

YEAR 11 REVISION AND LEARNING RESOURCES

YEAR 11

The Raising Achievement Department have created a Google Classroom just for Year 11 students and they have been sent the link with an invitation to join. Students can find access to every GCSE subject (differentiated between foundation and higher where applicable)

Cont. on page 3

providing work and revision resources for each subject. It also has a section dedicated to Revision Skills, including:-

- How to create a revision timetable video
- Slides from preparing to success evening (delivered in September this year)
- Guide to Revision booklet for Year 11
- How to revise video - walk and talk session on how to produce revision notes

We have put this together to help Year 11 students prepare for next year's exams so that they can dip in and out when they choose and have access to everything in one place.

It can also complement the learning of students having to isolate, work is now always available for them to use for revision/catch up purposes.

We hope students find this useful – please note we will be adding resources on a regular basis.


REVISION & LEARNING RESOURCES FOR YEAR 11

If you have any questions, please contact me:
Debbie.Feather@furzeplatt.net

Mrs D Feather, Raising Achievement Manager

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Now online and available for applications



FURZE PLATT
SENIOR SCHOOL

**VIRTUAL
SIXTH FORM
OPEN EVENING**

SIXTH FORM VIRTUAL OPEN EVENING 2020

MEET A GOVERNOR

Diane Flood - Governor (Co-opted)

I am a Chartered Librarian with many years' experience of working with young people in school, public and university libraries. I was originally appointed as a staff governor when I worked in the school library at Furze Platt and am now a co-opted governor.

I am currently working as a librarian at Claire's Court school. My son is Head Boy at Furze Platt and my eldest daughter attended Furze Platt and is now in her third year at university.



ARTISTIC TALENT AT FURZE PLATT

The Art Department are so pleased to see that lots of our students are producing their own independent artwork in their free time. We have been inundated with students coming to show us their outcomes and as a result have made a display space in the gallery for us to showcase such fantastic talent.

If you are currently producing or have already completed a piece of artwork (not related to your school work/even if you don't take art as a GCSE) that you would like to see displayed on our wall then please do bring it in and show it to your art teacher. They will take a photocopy so that you can keep your original and we will regularly update the newsletter with the display as it grows.

We look forward to seeing what hidden talent we have!

The Art Department Team

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS

Information has been sent out for the Bronze (Year 9) and Silver (Year 10) Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Cont. on page 4

Scheme. If you are interested in enrolling your child for either Award, please pay the deposit of £60 via your ParentMail account. Consent forms will be sent out at a later date

You can find more details on our website here:

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS

Please feel free to contact us on dofe@furzeplatt.net if you have any questions.

Miss D Carty, DofE Manager

YEAR 10 PRACTICAL – COOKING AT HOME



Year 10 students were set a task to cook at home during one of the online lessons. They were sent the recipes and the suggestions for each grade:

Without exception they all did a fantastic job, and I felt proud (and hungry) as the pictures were sent through!

Mrs S Crisford, Head of Food and Nutrition

Options were:

Make a spaghetti bolognaise and present on a plate
Make a spaghetti bolognaise and serve with a salad with a dressing.
Make a bolognaise and use to make a lasagne with béchamel sauce.
Make a lasagne with béchamel sauce and salad with dressing.
Make a lasagne with béchamel sauce and a slaw with homemade mayonnaise.
Make a lasagne, a slaw with homemade mayonnaise AND garlic bread/doughballs.
Make a lasagne with homemade pasta sheets, a slaw with homemade mayonnaise AND garlic bread/doughballs.



Jack K



Louise



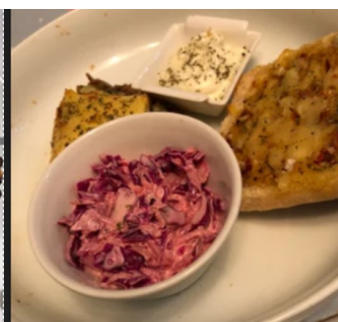
Charlie



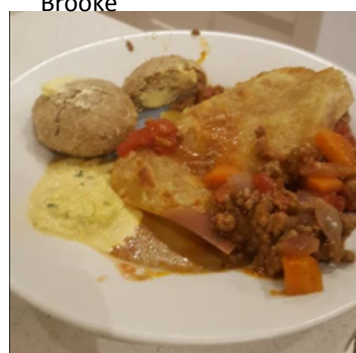
Summer



Brooke



Januki



Tim



Leo



Eddie



katie



Pippa





YEAR 8 - CHEESY SCONES

Well done also to our amazing Year 8 students who cooked delicious cheesy scones!



AND FINALLY...

**FORMER FURZE PLATT PUPIL TO PRESENT
ON BBC RADIO 1 OVER CHRISTMAS**



"A former Furze Platt pupil who won at the National Student Radio Awards last year has been given a chance to present on BBC Radio 1 over Christmas.

Starting Boxing Day and through to New Years Day, Radio

Cont. on page 6



1 is 'being taken over' by Christmas presenters.

Applications opened back in September and from thousands of entries, 33 new presenters were picked to go on air, including Sam MacGregor.

Last November, Sam won best male presenter at the National Student Radio Awards at the Indigo O2 in London.

Now he and his best friend and co-host Danni Diston have been selected as part of BBC Radio 1's Christmas Presenter Search.

They will be presenting Life Hacks and The Official Chart: First Look, sitting in for Vick Hope and Katie Thistleton.

"It's a pleasure to be sitting in for them," said Sam. "We want to take the fun we had together as mates at uni and share that with everyone over Christmas," said Sam.

"It's an absolute dream of mine that I get to fulfil, not only alongside my best mate but along with the nation."

The 22-year old works as a social media manager for a tech start-up, while his friend Danni from Cornwall teaches at a special educational needs school.

This is Sam's second crack at entering the Christmas Presenter Search since it launched last year. He and his co-host got a call from the head of Radio 1, letting them know they were successful.

"We're beyond ecstatic. I listened to Radio 1 for years, it's one of the very first stations I listened to. It was my inspiration to get into radio. It sounds like you're in the pub with your mates – I thought, if I could do this as a career, it would be the most fun ever," he added.

In our Alumni newsletter earlier this year we featured Sam winning his award (pictured) for Best Male Presenter at the Student Radio Awards.



Well done to Sam and Danni and we look forward to hearing them at Christmas!

Click on the Alumni newsletter below to read our 2020 edition:



MAIDENHEAD ADVERTISER ARTICLE



The show will be live on Sunday, December 27, from 4pm-7pm."

Written by Adrian Williams, Maidenhead Advertiser

All photos courtesy of Sam MacGregor





Parents, Teachers & Friends Association

Contact us

Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net | Facebook: [facebook.com/fpsptfa](https://www.facebook.com/fpsptfa)

Charity Number 287878

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/furzeplattsenior/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=cpl

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/furzeplattsenior/>



AMAZON·SMILE - REGISTRATIONS REQUIRED PLEASE

If 100 of us bought £10 worth of eligible products, then the PTFA would earn £5 from Amazon·Smile! Just think of the earning potential if we spent £50 each! Easy money!

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/287878-0>

smile.amazon.co.uk

EASYFUNDRAISING - RAISED £53.45 IN THE LAST 30 DAYS



Do you buy insurance online? Use Uswitch, Comparethemarket, Confused.com? Shop with Boohoo? Buy through Just Eat? Buy Apple Music? Use Audible? plus many other retailers? Then please register with your email address (there's no spam!). Download the App for mobiles and use the portal or download the DONATION REMINDER on your computer so your purchases are automatically added to our account - simple, free and a no brainer!

THE 200 CLUB - 2 NEW MEMBERS THIS WEEK, MORE WELCOME!

Question: Can you repurpose your coffee or commuting expenses and join our Club? If all our parents/carers joined paying just £5 per month then the School could earn £6000+ per year. The PTFA may be able to claim Gift Aid as well so please ensure you tick the box. Hence, we need you to click here now to join:

200 CLUB: ANNUAL PAYMENT (£57 PER YEAR)

200 CLUB: MONTHLY PAYMENT (£5 PER MONTH)

200 CLUB

**Winning numbers for Draw 12
on Tuesday 1st December 2020**



WHAT'S COMING UP SOON - STAY TUNED...

Quiz date TBC and PTFA Meeting Tuesday 26th
January 2021



COPAS DONATION CASHBACK SCHEME

Thanks again to our local independent farm,
COPAS for their generous offer. Please add our
'PTA TURKEY CASHBACK' product to your
basket when ordering:

<https://www.copasturkeys.co.uk/our-shop/>

Steps to follow:

1. Add a Turkey product to your basket first
2. Scroll through the product list or search "PTA" for the "PTA Turkey Cashback" item
3. Select Furze Platt Senior School from the dropdown list & add to basket.

Navigate to checkout & complete your order.



We've raised

£ 4,470.88

with easyfundraising!

Help us raise **EVEN MORE** when you do your Christmas shopping online.

Find us on **easyfundraising.org.uk** by searching for:

Furze Platt Senior School

You **Shop**. 4,300 sites will **Donate** to us. For **Free**



Get the easyfundraising App




£ Over £33 million raised

★ Trustpilot ★★★★★

👤 1.8 million users

CHRISTMAS TREE BUYING GUIDE

For each tree sold, we'll plant one in the Amazon with our chosen charity...  ONETREEPLANTED

- SUSTAINABLY SOURCED
- UK GROWN
- CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING



Nordman Fir

- A lovely rich green colour.
- Our most popular choice, due to its long soft needles and excellent needle retention.
- The 'Stubbings' Nordman is usually very bushy so not always ideal to fit in tight spaces.



Noble Fir

- Blue/green colour.
- Long soft needles and excellent needle retention.
- Generally narrower and more layered in style than the popular Nordman, providing plenty of space for baubles, tinsel and other decorations.



Fraser Fir

- A lovely green colour with silver sheen under needle with fantastic balsam aromas.
- Shorter, rounder needles and excellent to good needle retention.
- Bushier than Noble, but narrower than the other Fir varieties, a very popular choice for the modern home.



Ledgepole Pine

- Dark green colour.
- Long needles in a classic pine shape with good needle retention.
- Bushy and generally wider than Firs.

The largest range of cut and pot grown Christmas trees



Blue Spruce

- Blue/green colour.
- Medium thin (and sharp) needles, so gloves are required, with medium needle retention.
- A stunning Christmas tree, most beautiful when the needles are bluish in colour.



Norway Spruce

- Green colour
- Medium sized thin needles and medium needle retention.
- The traditional Christmas tree but less popular now due to its less favourable needle retaining qualities, but generally more cost effective than Fir varieties.

Pot Grown Trees

- Many varieties that can be planted in the garden after the festive season.
- Will need some TLC after being in a warm home.
- Please do consider where you plant the tree as they can get very big.

CHRISTMAS TREE CARE

PREPARATION - Make sure you unwrap your tree outside and bang firmly on the ground to remove any debris and loose needles before bringing into your home.

A FRESH CUT - Make sure you take a fresh cut off the base of the trunk (at least 1 inch) before bringing the tree indoors. We can cut this for you if required.

WATER, WATER, WATER - Your tree stand should have a water reservoir. You'll be amazed how much a tree will drink in the first weeks indoors. Keep watering but note that the tree will drink less and less as the season progresses.

STANDS - Alongside the ability to provide sufficient water, you should also check your stand is suitable for the size of tree you wish to buy. Ensuring you have a solid stand is especially important if you have young children or pets.

NEEDLE DROP - As a fresh product, grown outdoors, trees will inevitably drop needles, the extent of which will depend on many factors.

AVOID TOO MUCH HEAT - Don't forget that Christmas Trees are grown outside. Radiators are their worst enemy so if possible turn off (or down) any radiators in close proximity to your tree.

Bring your tree back to Stubbings in early January for recycling by our local Council.



www.stubbingsnursery.co.uk | tel: 01628 825454 | email: info@stubbingsnursery.co.uk

❄️ FRESH CHRISTMAS TREES AND DECORATIONS ❄️ CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE ❄️ FESTIVE TREATS IN THE CAFÉ ❄️

Holiday Hunger Project

December 2020

We would be grateful for the following donations

Tinned Macaroni
Tinned Ravioli
Tin/Jar Hot Dogs
Crisps
Cereal Bars
Small pots of Jelly
Small pots of Rice pudding
Packets of biscuits
Multipacks Penguins/kitkats/clubs
Small cheeses
Cheese strings
Dairy Lee Packs Ham/cheese
Yoghurt Tubes (easier for us to store)
Chocolates & Sweets
Dried fruit
Small boxes of Raisins
Small cartons of juice
Packets of fairy cakes (longer life)
Swiss rolls
Small fruit-filled pies
Cartons of custard
Crackers

**Thank you to
Grocer on the Green &
The White Oak in Cookham
for your donation of fresh fruit .**



For large or company
donations please contact
Debbie on 07782 345 935

Merry
Christmas!

Foodshare will be extending
the Holiday Hunger Project
throughout the month of
December. This will give
every family the opportunity
of having a wonderful &
festive end to the year!



FOODSHARE
MAIDENHEAD





FOODSHARE

MAIDENHEAD

Holiday Hunger & Christmas Food Donation Official Drop Off Locations

Foodshare, Unit 65 (Old Tesco Store),
Nicholson's Centre, SL6 1LL

Drop Off Times: Wednesday 4:45 – 6pm
Saturday: 9:30am – 11:30am

Cox Green

Sam Chalk
72, Wessex Way
Cox Green

SL6 3DH **07817 008 543**

Holyport

Adi Stephen
Pygmalion
Holyport Rod
SL6 2HA **07702 432 926**

Pinkneys Area

Debbie Gee
16 Harefield Road
Maidenhead
SL6 5EA. **07782 345 935**

Furze Platt Area

Louise Ferriman
3 The Chase Canon Court Road,
Furze Platt
SL67QW **07506 147 773**

Cookham Dean Village Hall

Cookham Dean, Cookham,
Maidenhead SL6 9PY

Drop off in the porch

