

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #62.4



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,



Open Events

Given the Covid limitations we are not able to hold our normal Open Evening this year and show FPSS as we would like. Instead we will have a variety of opportunities for prospective parents, carers and students to see the school including a virtual Headteacher talk, interactive map, prospectus and tours for small family groups. I know that our existing parents and carers are often the best advocates for the school, so please do share these resources with friends and neighbours who may be considering secondary choices for their children this year.

Year 13 PPEs

I would like to thank all Year 13s who conducted themselves so well around their PPEs this week. I hope that you get the grades your efforts deserve.

Duke of Edinburgh

I would also like to send my best wishes to our DoE group. While the expeditions have been changed by Covid restrictions I hope that students still find them rewarding.

Face Coverings

I appreciate student, parent and carer efforts in ensuring students are wearing face coverings this week. The number of masks we are handing out has reduced. We are left with a small number of students who are unable to fund washable masks. I was contacted by a parent last weekend who was keen to make and gift masks to the school for this purpose. If you do have any washable masks please do pop them into



UPCOMING EVENTS TERM 1

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

Some of our upcoming events may change in the current situation (e.g. social distancing etc.). Full details will be sent out nearer the time of the specific event.

TUE 29 SEPTEMBER	DoE Open Group Expedition Parents' Meeting	7.00pm - 8.00pm
THU 8 OCTOBER	School Open Evening Events Information will be uploaded to our website	
THU 8 - FRI 9 OCTOBER	DoE Year 10 Closed Group Expedition - Hurley	All Day
FRI 9 OCTOBER	INSET Day Year 10 Progress Reports Published	All Day
TUE 13 OCTOBER	Year 7 Progress Reports (A2L only) Published Preparing to Succeed in Year 9 Information will be uploaded to our website Preparing to Succeed in Year 10 Information will be uploaded to our website	
THU 15 OCTOBER	Year 7 Head of House/Parents' Consultation	
FRI 16 OCTOBER	Years 8,9 & 11 Progress Reports Published	All Day
MON 19 OCTOBER	Year 13 Progress Reports Published	All Day
THU 22 OCTOBER	Year 11 Parents' and Students' Consultation	
FR 23 OCTOBER	Year 12 Progress Reports Published (A2L Only) End of Term 1	All Day

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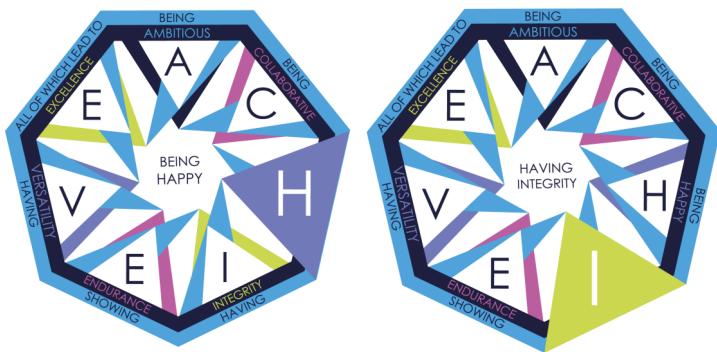
our reception and we will ensure they go to the right students.

Living with Covid 19

As has been much covered in the press cases of Covid 19 are increasing, including in our community. Please keep vigilant, keeping your child at home and seeking NHS advice should they have symptoms. We know of several local cases where students and/or staff have had a positive test. We will update you if and when our circumstances change. Please ensure we have accurate contact details so that you are receiving all correspondences.

Take care and keep safe.

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



YEAR 7 AND YEAR 10 PHOTOS

Please note the deadline for returning photos has been extended to Wednesday 7th October.

LANGUAGES WEEK



Competition Deadlines:

Virtual Bake Off - Monday 28th September

Routes Into Languages Poster Competition - Friday 1st October

Thank you to all students who have already taken part in our Languages Week activities, we have received some wonderful examples of students' hard work and creativity. Please remember that if you would like to enter the Virtual Bake Off, you should send a photo of your creation to Miss Spence (alice.spence@furzeplatt.net) by Monday 28th September. If you would like to enter the Routes into Languages Poster Competition, you should hand your poster in with your name, age and year group to Miss Spence in ML5 by Friday 1st October. Full information can be found in last week's newsletter or on SMHW and we look forward to sharing photos of students' entries with you in next week's newsletter.



SUPPORTING LEARNING IN YEAR 11

Our Supporting Learning in Year 11 presentation along with our GCSE Tips and Revision Guide can be found here:



LOCKERS



Lockers for Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 are now available to buy on Wisepay for £5. Once purchased students may place their lock on any unused locker. They should then notify the pastoral team of the locker number and location for our records. Each half term we will remove locks from any lockers which have not been purchased so please ensure students do notify the pastoral team of the locker number they have purchased.

Miss L Lewis, Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral)



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LINGUISTS OF THE FORTNIGHT

Students have been nominated for their outstanding attitude to learning, encompassing a fantastic display of school values in their French, German or Spanish lessons. Well done to them all!



FRENCH

Linguists of the Fortnight

Year 11

Zulfiqar Subhani
Kiki Quibell
Josh Dille
Kourtney Lennon
Erin McEvoy
Alessio Reina

Year 10

Catherine Barker
Jade Winsor
Brooke Stevens

Year 9

Eloise Downes
Ellis Binnington

Year 8

Natalie Darmon
Summer Rawbone
Sophie McLachlan
Freya Stevenson
Lydia Annoura
Edward Foxton
Daniel Gibbon
Jacob Hopson
Fred Fletcher

Year 7

Anwaar Salaam-Williams
Tyler Suddaby
Olivia Keating
Aaran Hitschmann
Anna Cook
Lara Holuss
Daniyah Ahmad
Noah Moss



SPANISH

Linguists of the Fortnight

Year 11

Ellis Ovens
Scarlett Phillips

Year 10

Sean Pow
Brandon Newport

Year 9

Arlo Challis
Dylan Williams-Lock
Jack Britton
Charli Arnold
Heidi Grant
George Terry

Freddie Astrup Year 8

Manuel Mizik
Alexandros Antonas
Lizzie Johnstone
Elenia Reina
Mustafa Amin

Year 7

Murphy Camp-Overy
Ascanio Cuth
Pablo Cruz-Dom
Piper Webb
Olivia Keating
Annabelle Lemon

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STUDENTS WITH APPOINTMENTS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

We recognise that occasionally students may need to leave site during the school day to attend appointments. Ideally appointments would be at the start or end of the school day to minimise learning missed. Where possible make any appointments after 1.45pm. When a student in Years 7-11 has an appointment we request that parents please email Attendanceofficers@furzeplatt.net to notify our attendance team. Students in those years must sign in and out at Main Reception when leaving for/returning from appointments; Sixth Formers must do the same at Sixth Form Reception and emails should go to our Sixth Form Manager, Mrs Pasa at mary.pasa@furzeplatt.net.



YEAR 7 – USEFUL INFORMATION

Many queries can be answered by reading our Year 7 Parents' Guide:

YEAR 7 PARENTS' GUIDE

IT Help

If students need help with IT access etc please do let them know about the links below. Further useful information for our Year 7 parents and carers can be found on our 'Welcome to Year 7' page:

WELCOME TO YEAR 7 WEBPAGE

Getting started with IT at FPSS

GETTING STARTED WITH THE COMPUTERS AT FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

Please click on the link above for some very helpful information - here are specific slide guides:

- Slide 4 – How to access FP Online
- Slide 5 – Using your email account
- Slide 6 – Using Google Classroom
- Slide 7 – How to access Show My Homework/SatchelOne

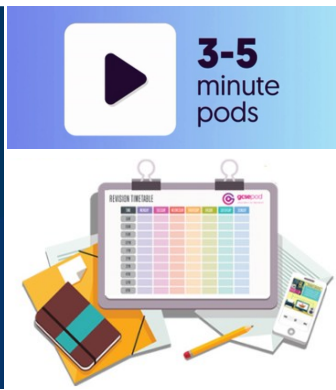
If you are having any problems logging in or have any further questions please contact transition@furzeplatt.net.

GERMAN

Linguists of the Fortnight

Year 11	Sadie Huddleston Camelia Ionel
Georgia Rooney George Webb Keith Corey Lawra Torok Anna Gambrill Patrick Kelly Damir Bajohr	Year 8
	Holly Bennett Elena Del Campo Henna Hussain Gabriela Kedziora Matej Sutton Pacey Thandi
Year 10	
Balraj Kaur Sahil Mahdizada Jessica Bristow Liam Fitzgibbon Karim Anabtawi	Year 7
	Quenisha De Abreu Durusah Gulmez Gilad Kader Charlie Williams-Lock
Year 9	
Beatriz Bararin Eleanor Foster Fatima Habbouli	





GCSEPOD UPDATE

Year 11 Students

GCSEPod will prove to be an invaluable tool to help students catch up/fill the gaps as well as being used throughout the whole of Year 11 (and) by teachers setting them tasks and assignments as part of their homework and revision.

All other year groups

There are plenty of webinars taking place delivered by the experts at GCSEPod for parents to register onto to find out more about GCSEPod and how you can help your child. If you are unable to attend, there are recordings that you are able to watch. See link below for dates/details.

GCSE POD WEBINARS

HOT OFF THE PRESS – GCSEPod is now available as an App from your phone. You need to log onto GCSEPod from a computer selecting the Office 365 option and this will then enable you to log on once you've downloaded the app.

The Raising Achievement Department will be going into Year 10 PSHE classes to get them set up in the next few weeks.

DO YOU QUALIFY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

At Furze Platt Senior School, we know and appreciate that our growing teenagers need to fuel their body and mind to get through the school day, especially whilst we adjust to being back to school. We are also aware of the cost this will have on parents. If this is a struggle for you, it may be worth seeing if you are eligible for free school meals.

If you are now in a position where the below applies to you, please keep reading because your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

- younger than the compulsory age for starting school
- in full-time education

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) they're in on 31 March 2022.

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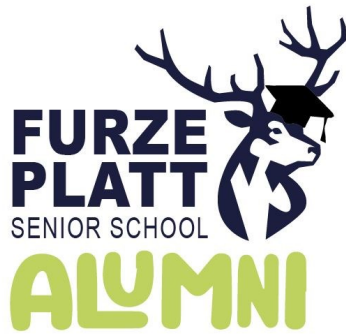
You may find it easier to see if you are eligible via the link below:

HOW TO APPLY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

My child already gets free school meals; how does it work?

If your child is already in receipt of free school meals and is new to the school, you may be wondering how it works. Your son/daughter will get £2.30 a day, this will not appear on their Wise Pay account, but will appear on the checkout till at the café. They must spend this on the day because it doesn't roll over. This is enough money for your son/daughter to get a hot meal and a pudding, this is what we recommend as it is the best value for money. If your son/daughter wishes to get a panini or baguette, the money won't stretch as far because this doesn't come with a pudding. We advise you discourage purchasing drinks due to the fact that this won't leave much money for food, instead they should bring a large water bottle with them. When restrictions ease, they will be able to fill these up at various locations around the school.

Any queries can be directed to our fsm@furzeplatt.net email address.



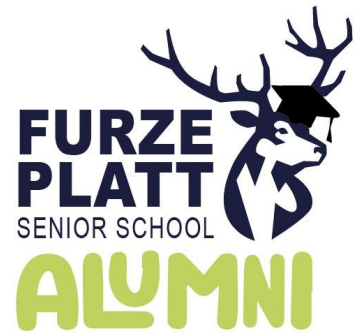
ALUMNI

Kieron Maddox, who left us last summer, successfully gained an Apprenticeship with Active Security. He visited the school today to help fix a faulty fire alarm – thank you to him and all at Active.



GOLFING SUCCESS

Well done to Alfie Forisky, 21, who has won both the Maidenhead Golf Club Men's Championship and Castle Royal Men's Championship this month.



Following his amazing success, Alfie is keen to become a pro golfer after taking up the sport age 13. We wish him the best of luck.

(Picture courtesy of the Maidenhead Advertiser)



Outreach Team Worker – October 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 £15,910 - £17,240 pa depending on experience

Furze Platt Senior School is proud to host the Shine Department, which helps young people with autism thrive and succeed in a mainstream school environment. We have an exciting opportunity for someone to work with the outreach team and provide support and training to schools within the Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead.

The successful applicant will be responsible for managing a caseload of students with a diagnosis of autism in mainstream education settings. This will involve working collaboratively with school staff to provide strategies and skills and enable them to improve their understanding of autism to allow them to support ASD students with their progress and attainment. You would also deliver targeted programmes to students either on a one to one basis or in groups, observe and record your observations and attend multi-agency meetings to provide advice and support in relation to students' needs within their school.

If you are a Learning Support Assistant or have experience of working with students with ASD we would welcome your application. Specialist training will be provided to the successful candidate. Use of a car is essential for this role as it requires visiting other schools in the Windsor & Maidenhead area.

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: Monday 28th September 2020
Interviews will take place week commencing 28th September 2020

CURRENT VACANCIES



REQUEST FROM MAIDENHEAD HERITAGE CENTRE

The museum is hoping to launch a 'Back to School' exhibition created from memories from students both past and present.

The exhibition aims to capture experiences from all age groups and from students who studied in and around Maidenhead.

If you would like to submit your memories, please email info@maidenheadheritage.org.uk.



Frimley Health and Care



Are you worried that your child is seriously ill?

Use this flowchart to help with deciding whether to keep your child off school during the pandemic

Would you have kept your child off school before COVID-19?

YES

Keep your child off school as you normally would do. Do they have any of these symptoms?

NO

Do they have:

- 1) A new continuous cough?
- 2) A fever (high temperature greater than 37.8 degrees measured by a thermometer)?
- 3) A complete loss or change of smell and/or taste?



Keep your child off school and at home. Call 119 or go to the www.gov.uk/coronavirus website and arrange for a self-test for COVID-19 to be done. (Please note your GP cannot arrange a test)

Your child and your household must self-isolate until you have the result of this test. If there are no tests currently available in your area you still need to keep your child off and follow this guidance until you can get a test or they are better.

YES

NO

Does your child have an underlying chronic medical condition?



A 'continuous cough' is defined currently as coughing for at least three hours a day. This is difficult to determine in a child. Any child who is coughing a lot throughout the day and night has a continuous cough. There can also be a very small percentage of children who may develop fever later.

YES

Speak to their specialist team about testing criteria if you haven't already seen or spoken to them or had a letter in the post telling you what to do.

NO

Children who are otherwise well and don't have a temperature but do have:

A runny nose OR sore throat OR mild cold without a fever **can go to school as normal**