

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 2

It has been a pleasure to welcome students back to FPSS after Half Term. Students continue to demonstrate how much they value being back together at school. It is lovely to see them going about 'normal' school life following the lockdown of earlier this year.

Given Boris Johnson's announcement last Saturday concerning the national lockdown, I am sure there are mixed emotions in our community about the impact of the lockdown on families and students. From a school perspective we look forward to welcoming students onto site and maintaining their education as best we can under the current circumstance.

I have written separately to parents and carers on the matter today, but would ask you to reiterate to your children that:

Students should not be walking in large groups to and from school (including through Furze Platt Junior School if they come across the field).

All students should be wearing face coverings around site (unless exempt).

We continue to operate in as safe a manner as possible. Please could you ensure that if your child has symptoms they stay at home until advice is sought.

New Eating Spaces

Students returned to FPSS on Monday to find our old Hall resplendent with new furniture. The booth seats on the balcony have been particularly popular and it has been wonderful to see students responding to this new facility.

Cont. on page 2



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 2)

THURS 12
NOVEMBER

Year 13 Parents' and Students' Consultation
Information will be uploaded to our website

TERM TWO

THURS 26
NOVEMBER

Sixth Form Open Evening
Information will be uploaded to our website

MON 30
NOVEMBER

Year 10 Progress Reports Published (A2L Only) *All Day*

TUES 1
DECEMBER

Year 12 Progress Reports Published *All Day*

THURS 10
DECEMBER

Year 12 Parents' and Students' Consultation
Information will be uploaded to our website

FRI 11
DECEMBER

Years 9, 11 & 13 Progress Reports Published *All Day*

WEDS 16
DECEMBER

Years 7 & 8 Progress Reports Published *All Day*

FRI 18
DECEMBER

End of term



New Theatre

Sadly, students have not yet had the chance to sample our New Theatre which is now operational. We hope that gatherings can happen in there soon and we can demonstrate our excellent new auditorium.

Take care and keep safe.

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



SIXTH FORM VIRTUAL OPEN EVENING

Thursday 26th November

This event will be held virtually for current Furze Platt students, further details will be released shortly.

Sixth Form applications will open from Friday 27th November.

In the meantime, please click below for a message from Mr P. Ging, Head of Sixth Form:

WELCOME MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF SIXTH FORM



VIRTUAL
SIXTH FORM
OPEN EVENING

Thursday 26th November

YEAR
11

YEAR 11 CAREERS INFORMATION

YEAR
11

Careers Education Lessons.

Year 11 students are currently following a programme of careers education lessons in PSHE. This focuses on the options available for next year and allows students to plan and research their next steps as well as look further ahead towards higher education or employment.

Careers Guidance Interviews.

The school's Careers Leader, Mrs Bubb, is currently meeting with Year 11 students for one-to-one careers guidance interviews and hopes to see as many students as possible over the year. If any Year 11 students would particularly like an interview, please contact Mrs Bubb.

Local Colleges Open Days.

Our local colleges are also currently holding virtual open days, which may be of interest to any students who are interested in finding out what the colleges have to offer, and to their parents. These events are held in the evening or on Saturdays, details are on the college websites. Students need to register in advance. If the upcoming dates are not convenient, many of the virtual open days that have already taken place were recorded and are on YouTube.

For further information about any of the above, please contact the Careers Leader on judith.bubb@furzeplatt.net.

YEAR 8 PSHE

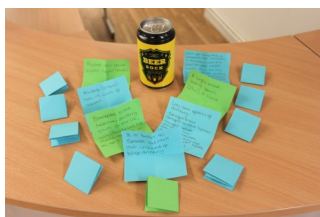
YEAR
8

Since September, students in Year 8 PSHE have been learning about alcohol; the law, the short and long-term effects and the impact of binge drinking. Year 8 were asked to be ambitious and produce a creative piece of work that reflected their learning during this topic.

The PSHE team have been amazed by the excellent work that has been handed in to teachers, with students showing

integrity and maturity in their work.

The work shown here is by Freya Stevenson and Sophie McLachlan, showing brilliant initiative and knowledge. Very well done to both girls.



ART DEPARTMENT - PROUD BOARDS

The Art Department want to say a big thank to all of our students who have been producing some amazing artwork last term and into this term. Below are two of our 'Proud Boards' which showcase pieces of work produced by some of our Key Stage 3 students. As you can see, they have set the bar very high and we have some very talented artists in our midst!

Well done everyone for all your hard work!



GCSE POD WEBINARS

The team at GCSEPod are once again thrilled to be collaborating with Cameron Parker, a renowned motivational speaker for schools and colleges. Through this collaboration we are recommending his free webinars to students to inspire them to succeed.

Cameron will host three fast paced, high energy student webinars, focusing on motivation, mindset, working smarter and achieving the optimum study/life balance.

Students (who can remain anonymous and be accompanied by parents / carers) can register for the webinars via the links below:

MOTIVATION & MINDSET

MONDAY 9TH NOVEMBER - 5PM TO 6PM

HOW TO WORK SMARTER, NOT HARDER

WEDNESDAY 25TH NOVEMBER - 6PM TO 7PM

ACHIEVING THE BEST STUDY/LIFE BALANCE

WEDNESDAY 9TH DECEMBER - 5PM TO 6PM

Watch here for some short introductory videos:

INTRODUCTION TO GCSEPOD

MOTIVATION

ACTION OVER ANXIETY



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS



Congratulations to the students below who have achieved their DoE Certificate of Achievement.

Charlotte Barrons	Bronze
Krish Jangra	Bronze
Niamh McCallion	Bronze
George Wood	Bronze
Nina Drenski	Silver
Georgie Moore	Silver
Bella Powell	Silver



FURZE PLATT
SENIOR SCHOOL

SPOOKY FOOD AT FURZE PLATT



Our café staff went all out for Halloween with their fantastic displays of delicious treats and desserts to accompany the main meals of the day. Thank you to Debbie and all her staff.



CALLING BUDDING WRITERS!



Short Story Competition

Announcing the launch of our enrichment programme



The English department is kick starting its enrichment calendar with the launch of the first of its choicest activities – a short story competition for Year 7, 8 and 9 students. The best story will receive a prime slot in our school newsletter and the writer's talent will be acknowledged by Dr Morrison with a Headteacher's Certificate of Excellence.

Word Count: 1000 words

- * Award – a best selling novel of your choice
- * Best story published in the school newsletter
- * Headteacher's Certificate of Excellence
- * HoD's recommendation

Closing date: Monday November 30th

Hand your stories in for shortlisting to your English teachers by this date.





Parents, Teachers & Friends Association

Charity Number 287878

The biggest and best news we can share with you is our Fundraising Total for last year.....drum roll please.....**a staggering £47,000!!** Much of our campaign was driven to provide the internal fixtures and fittings for the New Theatre, for which we raised almost £35,000.

We are extremely grateful to everyone who has volunteered their time, energy, expertise and skills over the last few years because we would not have reached such a phenomenal fundraising achievement without you. However, we would appreciate your assistance again (and everyone else's) this year, please, because we are seeking ways to raise funds to purchase more goods and equipment that the school budget prevents. We welcome all your ideas and thoughts on activities so please email us: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

Since every charity has seen their revenue stream and fundraising opportunities affected this year, we are no different. We imagine you have become quite masterful in using Zoom and Teams to join quizzes, campaigns, performances and classes now which will be handy as we may hold a Meeting this way in the next few weeks.

We consider it is beneficial that you see how we have spent your donations and hope it will encourage you to participate in our activities in the future.

So far this term, the PTFA have funded an extra £4038 for items below that were necessary for the new way of learning:

Food Tech - Food Mixers



Food Tech - Aprons



Technology Dept - Sewing machines



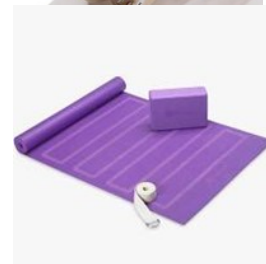
English Dept – Books to extend the diversity of reading



Psychology A level – life size Brain models



PE & Extra-Curricular - Yoga mats x 22 and Yoga blocks x 10 = £344

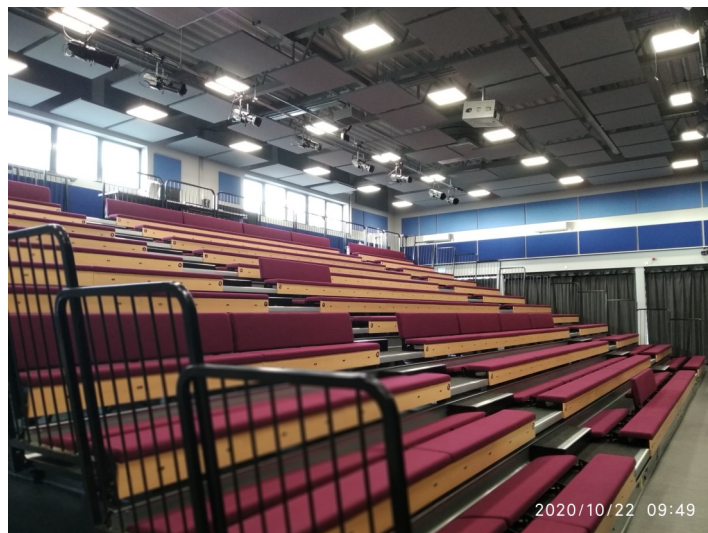


YOUR FUNDING IN ACTION IN OUR THEATRE



Our fantastic new seating!

Thank you once again to everyone who contributed.



Fundraising – we need your help!

At the moment, circumstances mean we are unable to hold 'en masse' Uniform Sales or our legendary Quiz night this November, so we are hoping to pick up the reins next year and bring you the Big Quiz 11 as soon as possible. In the meantime, we have a number of fundraisers in which we would encourage you to participate.

Who wants to be Cash Prize Winners? Then join The 200 Club

200 CLUB

Winning numbers

for our next draw



The Club runs 4 draws per year and you could win £200 cash per number. Your winnings are made by bank transfer very soon after each draw so there's no hanging around. The PTFA and school could earn £6000+ per year if everyone joined paying £5 per month. You're in control of the payments by direct debit, there's no contract (like your energy or phone!) and there's no spam emails either (we haven't got time to send them!). So it's a win win situation and we hope you'll click through here to join:

200 CLUB: ANNUAL PAYMENT (£57 PER YEAR)

200 CLUB: MONTHLY PAYMENT (£5 PER MONTH)



Who Shops online? Then you could Donate for FREE!

Did you know that eBay, Argos, M&S, John Lewis & Partners, Compare The Market and thousands of other retailers will donate a percentage of your shop to us? The PTFA and school will receive a donation from the retailer following your online purchases. Given that Black Friday, Primeday and 'gift day' is fast approaching for the Christmas shopping season, please register with your email address. We have earned over £4000 over the last few years so we'd like you to participate to increase our membership and potential income. It's FREE to register with Easyfundraising.org.uk, takes 3 minutes and a Win Win for both of us.....what's not to like?!

SUPPORT FPSS WITH EASYFUNDRAISING

Secondhand Uniform for Sale – who needs spares?

We still have a healthy stock of very good condition uniform (daywear and PE) plus some footwear at very reasonable prices. Payment can be made by bank transfer or by cash. Please email us your sizes and we'll get your order bagged up and ready for collection: ptfa@furzeplatt.net



Matched Funding/Community Support

Do you recognise your employer? If so, please make enquiries regarding their charitable scheme. We were awarded £14,000 last year from various companies. Our registered charity, Furze Platt Senior School PTFA and number 287878 will be required, plus some other details so please contact us: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

Can you help us access fundraising from your employer with **MATCH FUNDING** schemes?



Gift Aid – as if by magic, every £1 becomes £1.25!

We are a Registered Charity, **number 287878**, and entitled to reclaim thousands of pounds from the HMRC, so please always tick 'Yes' when asked.

Uniform – has it gone AWOL already?

Can we avoid building a Lost Property Snowman/ Mountain?

easy2name



We would greatly appreciate your purchase of any labels (not just clothing ones) from Easy2name because the PTFA will earn commission. Just choose 'Furze Platt Senior School PTFA SL6' at the checkout – there's no special code to remember either!

[HTTPS://WWW.EASY2NAME.COM/](https://www.easy2name.com/)

REQUEST TO PARENTS / CARERS

We would very much appreciate parents and carers checking with their children that they have the correct equipment, PE kit and / or packed lunch each day (if relevant).

This would minimise visitors to our Reception area.

If parents / carers do need to come to Reception, please ensure you are wearing a mask at all times.



REMINDERS

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.

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. For more details please visit:

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

HOW TO APPLY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

LATEST GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS

FITNESS CLASSES

If you have been unable to attend your fitness sessions usually held in the school's marquee, you can visit our website here:

movehappyfitness.co.uk

Or our Facebook page here:

www.facebook.com/movehappyfitness



Move Happy Fitness



THANK YOU

FOR PLANTING TREES

Furze Platt Senior School

This is to certify that your school has planted 1040 trees by taking part in the JUST ONE Tree Day 2020-2021.

During the next rainy season, your 1040 seedlings will be transported to their carefully selected new homes where they will be planted and nurtured over the coming years, removing approximately 320.3 tonnes of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere over the next 25 years.

With this contribution we will be able to help global reforestation efforts clean the air we breathe, clean the water we drink, increase biodiversity, protect against deforestation, improve livelihoods and most importantly combat climate change.



HM Government

NHS

GOT SYMPTOMS?
SELF-ISOLATE
FOR 10 DAYS

LIVE WITH SOMEONE WITH SYMPTOMS?
SELF-ISOLATE
FOR 14 DAYS

Parent Support Adviser – To start asap

Part time, 32.5 Hours a week, start time 8.30am, finish time 3.30pm (includes a half hour unpaid break). Monday to Friday, term time only. Actual salary £17,700 - £19,100 pa depending on experience

We are looking for someone with experience of working with children, young people and their families to work with the students, parents and carers at Furze Platt Senior School, providing early intervention, support and guidance to improve outcomes for students.

Working under the guidance of our Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral), you would be an important point of contact with families identified as in need of support. You will establish and foster good relationships with students' parents and carers offering them advice and guidance to reinforce their self-esteem, thus helping them to support student achievements. The role will involve working with a range of external agencies, including health professionals and Children's Centres as well as signposting parents and carers to agencies and charities who can provide help. You would receive any necessary training to enable you to deliver Triple P (positive parenting) seminars, individual and group training for parents and carers and 1-1 and group ELSA (emotional literacy support) sessions with students. The role will require you to work with our well established and experienced pastoral support team to support students to interact and engage with activities and promote self-esteem and independence.

We are looking for someone who is able to work purposely and collaboratively with families, staff, agencies and charities to improve positive outcomes for disadvantaged students and their families. If you have good organisational and time management skills and are willing to work both as part of a team and independently this is an exciting opportunity to work at our school and benefit many of our students and their families.

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 16th November at 9am
Interviews will take place week commencing: Monday 16th November