

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #63.10



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Thank You Testing Team!

We have now completed the three in-school tests for all our year groups as advised by the government. I hope that our community will be reassured to hear that we have returned no positive tests of the 4500 we have carried out on site.



A huge thank you must go to the over 30 members of staff who have stepped forward for testing. They have undertaken the training and ensured 12 days of well-organised tests. Moreover, they have created an environment through music and camaraderie that has massively helped relax our students in the Test Centre.

Home Testing

Hopefully, parents and carers at home can match the atmosphere of the Test Centre as testing now moves home. All our students will have been sent home today with Home Test Kits. The request is that students test twice weekly at home. Please do log results as per my letter of Thursday.

Staying Vigilant

That said, we have been told of Covid-19 cases in our area this week so please do stay vigilant for symptoms and prevent the spread of coronavirus and need to isolate by keeping your child at home should they have symptoms.

School Expectations - Adapting Back to School Life

Following the excitement of our return to school, this week has been about getting back into routines. I would like to thank the vast majority of students who have quickly adapted to school life once again. There are a few students who are pushing boundaries as they readjust to five lesson



UPCOMING EVENTS



Some information for our upcoming events may change due to the current situation. Full details will be sent out nearer the time of the specific event.

TERM 4 EVENTS

WED 24 MARCH	Year 10 Progress Reports Published	
THUR 25 MARCH	Year 10 Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening (online)	4.15pm - 7.15pm
FRI 26 MARCH	Year 12 Progress Reports Published	
WED 31 MARCH	Years 7 & 8 Progress Reports Published	
THU 1 APRIL	END OF TERM (TERM 4)	
THU 1 - FRI 16 APRIL	Spring Holiday	
MON 19 APRIL	START OF TERM 5 (Week 2)	

days. One of these areas is uniform and equipment. Please could you help by ensuring your child is ready for school and Pastoral Managers know should there be any issues. A reminder of who our Pastoral Managers are for each House is included in this newsletter.

Take care and keep safe.

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



SIXTH FORM OFFERS**DEADLINE 9AM MONDAY 19TH APRIL 2021**

Sixth Form conditional offers have been posted this week for both internal and external applicants. The deadline to confirm acceptance is 9am Monday 19th April 2021. Updates and information will be emailed to students on their school email addresses and will be available on the website under 'Sixth Form'.

In addition, students will be offered two Taster Days to provide the starting transition into Sixth Form.

During the Taster Days, students will experience the start of their A-Level or Applied courses along with a variety of Sixth Form pastoral activities. Summer work, to be completed by the first day of term, will also be issued in students' subjects on these days.

Taster Days will run on:

Tuesday 22nd June 2021

Wednesday 23rd June 2021

Information will be sent out nearer the time with a full programme for these days.

If you are unable to attend the consultation via video call, please let us know in the booking system comments section and we will arrange a time to contact you by phone about your child's progress. Appointment slots are available to book now. We advise you to book as soon as possible as appointment are likely to book up quickly. Please note that one teacher will cover the three sciences (and will appear under Biology). As you will know from parents' evenings in previous years, we always have a member of our Senior Leadership Team available should you have any additional questions or concerns you wish to raise. Details of how to access our SLT during this event were sent with the email to Year 10 parents and carers this week.

If you have any problems, please contact the school office on 01628 625308.

We look forward to seeing you.

Miss L Lewis, Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral)

**YEAR 10 PARENTS CONSULTATION EVENING (ONLINE)****Thursday 25th March 4.15-7.15pm**

On Thursday 25th March there will be a consultation evening for Year 10 parents. Due to the current social distancing measures in place this event will be held virtually. Appointments are booked online and are available from 4.15pm until 7.15pm. To book appointments and for full instructions, either follow the link below or go to the Parents' Evening Bookings link under 'News & Events' on the school website.

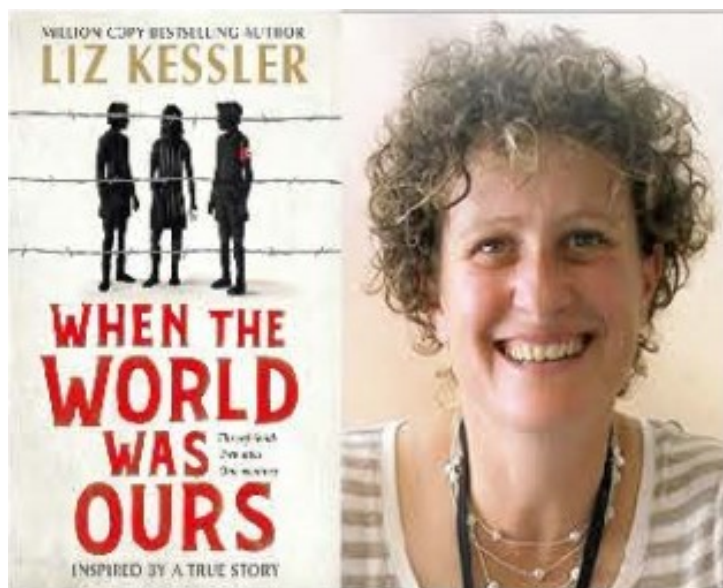
PARENTS' EVENING BOOKINGS

Guidance on how to use our virtual parents evening system can be found below. Please ensure you read the below guide as this system works very differently to other platforms such as Zoom. You will need to log into the Parents' Evening booking system on the night in order to access your appointments. We would advise using a desktop or laptop for your appointment and to use Wi-Fi rather than mobile phone data. This guidance includes information on how parents/carers can join from two different locations if required, please note in order to do this the parent booking the appointments is the only person who has the ability to invite another parent to the appointment.

VIRTUAL PARENTS' EVENING GUIDE**ENGLISH AUTHOR TALKS - YEARS 8 AND 9**

At the end of their period of remote learning, selected students in Years 8 and 9 were nominated by their English teachers to attend some talks by published authors as a reward for their hard work. Year 8 students listened to Liz Kessler discussing 'When The World Was Ours'. Inspired by the true story of Liz's father's escape from Nazi-occupied

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Europe, this novel shows how the bonds of love, family and friendship allow glimmers of hope to flourish, even in the most hopeless of times. Similarly, Year 9 were spoken to by Holly Bourne about a range of her books, and the issues of mental health and women's rights that they contain. We are grateful to Jeanette Kemp from RBWM who made these events possible.



VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS:

'Health and Families'

TODAY - Friday 19th March - 4pm

'Overcoming Anger - Responding with Peace'

Friday 26th March - 4pm

We continue to recognise the current times are not only a challenging time for young people but also for parents too. Our Parent Support Worker will be running virtual workshops on 'Overcoming Anger – responding with Peace' and 'Health and Families' via Microsoft Teams.

Health & Families Workshop – (19th March at 4pm)

- An informative discussion for parents and carers to explore the best approach supporting a family member diagnosed with a learning condition, physical disability, mental health illness, long health conditions and/or the terminally ill
- To promote dialogue, honesty and inclusiveness in families
- Awareness of where families can access further support, information & guidance

Overcoming Anger – Part 2 – (26th March at 4pm)

- Following on from the Overcoming Anger Workshop – this will be specifically tailored for parents & carers on how to deal and support their child/children experiencing emotions of anger
- Exploring Boundaries and the impact on the rest of the family
- Learning how to implement de-escalating skills through peaceful strategies
- Returning to the calm
- Support links

Previous workshops include:

- Self-Care – Cares Better for Others
- Overcoming Anger – Responding with Peace
- Health & Families
- Supporting our children to overcome anger

If you would like to book to attend these workshops or to find out more about the previous sessions, please email Benvenuta.DiBartolomeo@furzeplatt.net

If you cannot make these sessions please do contact her and she will arrange a one to one session.

COMPUTING - AMBITION AND EXCELLENCE

Showing Ambition in Computing:

Four Year 11 students - Elroy Colaco, Keith Cory, Sam Mizik and Alessio Reina - will be taking on the final round of the Perse Coding Team Challenge next week (Tuesday 23rd March) where they will be competing against other students across the country in a timed series of programming challenges. Best of luck to them all.

Achieving Excellence in Computing:

The computing department has been absolutely blown away following the creation of a CPU by Ben Reynolds, Year 13. Ben's creation is a logical model of a CPU capable of carrying out basic instructions, executing simple programs and storing and holding information in memory. Keep up the excellent work Ben!





STUDENT PASTORAL MANAGERS

At Furze Platt Senior School staff seek to respond to communications within two working days. Should a matter require longer to resolve we will acknowledge your email and reply in more depth thereafter. If your issue is urgent (for example affecting the health and safety of a student) please telephone the Student Pastoral Manager for your child's House.

Mrs J Barney: Cookham & Windsor

Mrs M Carpenter: Bray & Henley

Miss S Gumbs: Bisham & Eton

Mrs B Harper: Dorney & Marlow



TESTING FOR YOUR HOUSEHOLD BUBBLE

We understand that households with a student in school can either attend a test site and be tested or collect kits for home testing other members of the family. Please follow this link for more information including where to find your local test site or where to collect kits:

TEST KIT INFORMATION & LOCAL COLLECTION POINTS



NATIONAL CITIZEN SERVICE

The National Citizen Service (NCS) is a highly-regarded voluntary personal and social development programme for 16–17 year olds. The programme aims to engage, unite and empower young people, building their confidence so they can go out there and achieve their dreams, no matter where they're from or what their background is.



A number of Furze Platt students have attended NCS in

recent years, usually during the summer holiday after the end of Year 11. In their PSHE lessons this week, Year 11 students have watched a video about the NCS and about the programme on offer this summer. Students have also received an information leaflet about it via school email. NCS has provided a parents' booklet and short video about this summer's programme.

PARENTS' BOOKLET

PARENTS' VIDEO



CAN YOU HELP (1)?

NEW FURZE PLATT FISH WELCOMED!

Our Tropical Fish tanks in Science are looking a little sorry for themselves. We are looking for some live bearers like guppies, mollies and platies if any parents are over-run with them in their own tanks and wouldn't mind donating a few? Please email grant.melville@furzeplatt.net for details or how to donate.

Thank you.



CAN YOU HELP (2)?

THE BRETT FOUNDATION

REQUEST FOR EASTER EGGS BY 29TH MARCH

Message from the Brett Foundation: Easter is fast approaching and we would love some Easter eggs please to pass on to the children we are supporting.

Please can any eggs be dropped off to our centre in King Street (49-51 King St, Maidenhead SL6 1DZ) on a Sunday or Wednesday evening 7-7.30pm.

We need eggs by Monday 29th March so we can pass them on in time through the schools, children's services and our drivers.

Thank you.





Parents, Teachers & Friends Association

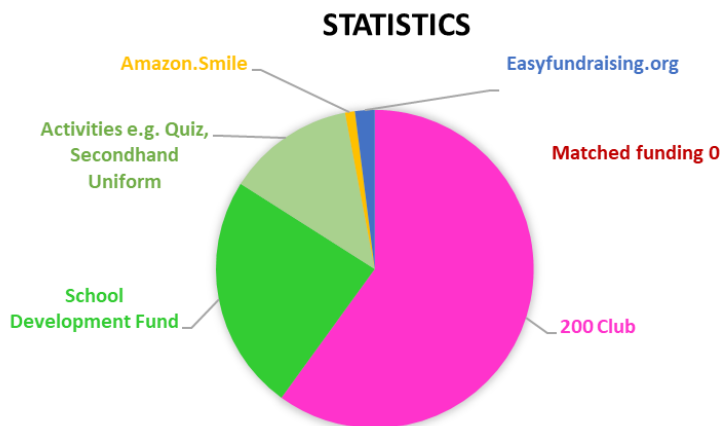
Contact us

Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net | Facebook: facebook.com/fpssptfa

Charity Number 287878

TWO WEEKS IN SCHOOL ALREADY!

We are delighted to see an increase in registrations and purchases via Amazon.Smile and Easyfundraising.org. Thank you very much to our 151 supporters. If you haven't registered or purchased through these apps yet, then please don't delay, because it's free money! As requested, here are the scores on the doors...



We are a long way off from funding the New Bike Shed and Canopy right now, but we hope with your help this will change.

As a reminder, here's how to register, join our Club and add funds to the School's savings accounts:



EASYFUNDRAISING.ORG



AMAZON.SMILE

200 CLUB

Winning numbers
for our next draw



200 CLUB

ANNUAL PAYMENT (£57 PER YEAR)

MONTHLY PAYMENT (£5 PER MONTH)

School Development Fund for large projects - please email us or message us through Facebook.

Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net
Facebook: facebook.com/fpssptfa

Activities and fundraisers for general requests - please email us or message us through Facebook.

Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net
Facebook: facebook.com/fpssptfa

Matched Funding - a workplace giving scheme; most companies operate one! - please email us or message us through Facebook.

Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net
Facebook: facebook.com/fpssptfa

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SECOND-HAND UNIFORM



It's a remarkable fundraiser and has raised over £1000 in 18 months. This activity will continue for the foreseeable future but needs a team of 3 extra people to run it efficiently now. We have not received any

enquiries from our previous requests, so is anyone around for approx. 2 hours a week, in the day or evening or weekend, to look after this with us? Get in touch asap, please.

It's been great to fulfil a number of uniform orders over the last few weeks and months which supports the environmental ethos of reuse, repurpose and recycle goods. This means we will need more stock over the coming months, so please have a clear out, launder, remove/deface name labels and hang onto till May. Depending on the restrictions, we hope to arrange a fundraising Sale Day (or more) in the summer.

Orders for blazers, trousers, ties and games kit, please email us or message us through Facebook.

Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

Facebook: [facebook.com/fpsptfa](https://www.facebook.com/fpsptfa)

VIRTUAL FAMILY QUIZ

FRIDAY 7TH MAY,
8PM - 9PM



Add to your diary/kitchen organiser/Google calendar & Outlook notes now!! Entry details will follow shortly.

We appreciate your feedback greatly and welcome comments and ideas by email ptfa@furzeplatt.net or through our Facebook Page [facebook.com/fpsptfa](https://www.facebook.com/fpsptfa)



FRIDAY 19 MARCH

RED NOSE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Thank you to our wonderful café staff for laying on a delicious and beautifully decorated spread for Red Nose Day.

A percentage of sales were donated to the charity.



TEACH MAIDENHEAD



Interested in training to teach?

TEACH
MAIDENHEAD

is now recruiting for September 2021 in many subjects.

If you are passionate about working with young people and enriching their lives, then why not consider a career in teaching?

Imagine how you could develop their knowledge of the fascinating worlds of science, arts, technology, languages or humanities when you become an inspiring teacher.

Information on the courses available can be found at: www.teachmaidenhead.co.uk

[Find further advice for prospective applicants on the Get into Teaching website.](#)

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Find out how you can use GCSEPod to support your child's learning.

Join a GCSEPod webinar and find out how you can use GCSEPod to support your child's learning plus get tips and guidance on effective home learning practices. All your questions will be answered by a GCSEPod expert and you will learn about the best way to make full use of the resource during this time. Spaces are limited so please book your place below.

Webinars are free but spaces are limited so secure yours today:
www.gcsepod.com/gcsepod-webinars/

All webinars start at 5pm and last 1 hour.

22TH MAR

7TH APR

22ND APR

5TH MAY



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THE GAMES HAVE BEGUN

POD GAMES

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WIN



TRACK STARS

FUN IN ATHLETICS

All the Fun and Excitement of Running, Jumping & Throwing - key skills for ALL Sports and great training for Sports Day!

Designed especially for ages 7 to 11 years old

TIMES: 9.30AM TO 3.20PM

Tuesday	6 April
Thursday	8 April
Friday	9 April
Monday	12 April
Tuesday	13 April
Wednesday	14 April
Thursday	15 April

Price: £33 per day

Use this code for 10% Discount
TS21E- ELC



Venue: Little Marlow Athletics Track

For more info and to make bookings:
www.bucks-speed-demons.info
Queries? Mobile 07762-252044

MASK UP

