

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #64.10



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Water Safety Talks

Thank you to Neil Whiteman from Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service who delivered talks to every year group on Tuesday. Neil was able to share statistics on the numbers of young people who had died in water accidents (for example, forty-eight 15-24 year olds last year), highlight the specific dangers of cold water shock, weirs, tombstoning (jumping from high points like bridges into water) and the seaside, as well as sharing what to do in an emergency. His overall message was to enjoy the summer and water, but do so safely. A message that following recent tragic events we would all endorse.



KS3+ WATER SAFETY AWARENESS PRESENTATION

Enrichment Afternoons

Our Year 7 and 8 students had the chance to try out a whole range of opportunities on Tuesday and Wednesday during our enrichment afternoons. Walking around there were students doing Escape Room challenges, creating face scars (with theatrical make-up), building towers and bridges, orienteering, sculpting clay, programming robots, playing table tennis, taking part in martial arts, drumming and much more. You can read more about this and see photographs further on in this newsletter.

What made these activities even more special was that many were led by Year 12 students with the support of staff. It was great to see our Sixth Formers leading our younger students. Hopefully, they have inspired our Year 7 and 8s to take part in even more clubs and societies from September. I hope that Years 9 and 10 have an equally positive experience in a couple of weeks.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

SPORTS CALENDAR

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.

Next week (week 2)

MON 5 JULY	Year 8 GCSE Dance Workshop Year 10 PE GCSE Information Evening (Online)	5.30- 6.30pm
TUE 6 JULY	*Cancelled* Year 6 Taster Day 1 *Postponed* Year 6 Parents Q&A Drop in Evening	
WED 7 JULY	*Cancelled* Year 6 Taster Day 2	
WED 7 - FR 9 JULY	DofE Year 10 Closed Group Silver Assessment Expedition - New Forest	
THU 8 JULY	*Cancelled* Art Show *Cancelled* Lower School Production	
FRI 9 JULY	Year 7 & 10 Progress Reports Published Non Uniform Day in aid of Tear Fund and waterways safety Year 8 GCSE Dance Workshop	

Forthcoming Events

SAT 10 JULY	House Ties Sale (Reception) and PTFA Nearly New Sale (Music)	
SUN 11 - WED 14 JULY	Year 12 Geography Fieldtrip - Nettlecombe	
MON 12 - FRI 16 JULY	Year 12 (Virtual) Work Experience Week	
MON 12 JULY	Year 8 GCSE Dance Workshop	
WED 14 JULY	*Cancelled* Sports Award Evening Year 8,9 & 12 Progress Reports Published	
FRI 16 JULY	End of Term 6	12.30pm finish

Covid Testing

As has been much covered in the press, the numbers of students in England isolating due to coronavirus cases again rapidly increased last week. Some reports suggest one in every twenty children are isolating. While there is talk of alternative plans from September, we are still expected to ask your child to isolate should they be a close-contact of a positive case. Please keep testing and keep your child at home should symptoms occur.

Take care and keep safe.

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

NON-UNIFORM DAY – FRIDAY 9TH JULY 2021



We will be holding a non-uniform (mufti) day on Friday 9th July 2021 in aid of two fantastic causes. Part of the money raised will support the work of TearFund who currently work in 50 countries across the world including supporting with the Covid 19 crisis in countries such as India.

[HTTPS://WWW.TEARFUND.ORG/](https://www.tearfund.org/)

We will also be using money raised to support the incredibly important work of increasing safety around the waterways in our local area.



All donations to these charities' fantastic work are greatly appreciated and we would ask for participating students to make a £2 donation wherever possible. Furze Platt recognises that some families may not be in the financial position to make such a donation at this time and students

will of course not be prevented from participating in the non-uniform day if there are genuine financial challenges. Students should please give their donations to their tutor in registration on the day.

While students will be wearing their own clothes please be aware that we do expect them to dress appropriately. There should be no offensive slogans, crop tops, onesies, backless/halter neck tops or camisole style tops. Skirts/shorts should be of a suitable length to the knee and shoes or trainers (no flip flops or open back sandals) should be suitable for a day at school.



“Eric is in his early twenties, not quite at ease, half-shy, half assertive”

IT SYSTEMS FOR SEPTEMBER INCLUDING HOME LEARNING ON GO 4 SCHOOLS

From September 2021 all home learning will be set on Go 4 Schools rather than Show My Homework. The school has been using Go 4 Schools for a number of years to report attendance, progress and behaviour to parents and by moving home learning into Go 4 Schools parents and students will have fewer platforms to log into.

In addition students and parents can see all Go 4 Schools information including home learning, attendance, progress and behaviour via the Go 4 Schools app which is

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available for free from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store.

To login to the GO 4 Schools App, your username and password are the same as the GO 4 Schools site.

In addition, in the new academic year FP Online is being replaced with FP Cloud, a Microsoft SharePoint powered intranet site for students and teachers to share work and resources connected to Microsoft Teams. Further information will be provided on this new platform to students and parents shortly.

PARENT GO 4 SCHOOLS MOBILE APP QUICK START GUIDE

MASK RULE UPDATE:
MASKS TO BE WORN WHEN MOVING AROUND THE SCHOOL SITE



YEAR 8 GCSE DANCE WORKSHOPS

MONDAY 5TH, FRIDAY 9TH AND MONDAY 12TH JULY

I am delighted to tell you that in the coming weeks there will be Dance workshop opportunities for current Year 8 students to get involved in. Dance GCSE at Furze Platt has been slowly growing over the past couple of years, however pandemic restrictions and working from home have limited the opportunities for Key Stage 3 students to trial the subject.

In order for Year 8 students to get some Dance experience, I will be offering three workshops that will be taking place over the course of two weeks.

These workshops aim to give students the chance to learn some subject specific terminology, develop their dance technique and broaden their understanding of dance choreography. Students will also study a small section from a professional work.

These workshop will run **during period 5**. I am aware that during these periods students will have other timetabled lessons so any work missed must be caught up by the students in their own time. **Students who are interested must be available to attend all three workshops.**

If your son/daughter would like to sign up for these workshop please email me at sophie.gibson@furzeplatt.net and I will add them to the list.

Many thanks for your support.

Miss S Gibson, Performing Arts Teacher



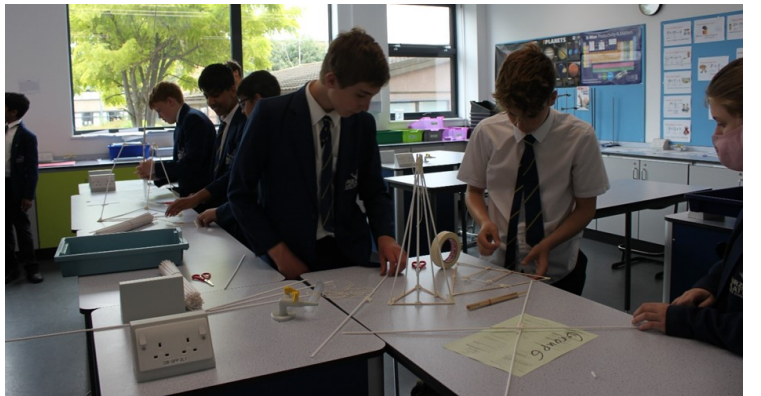
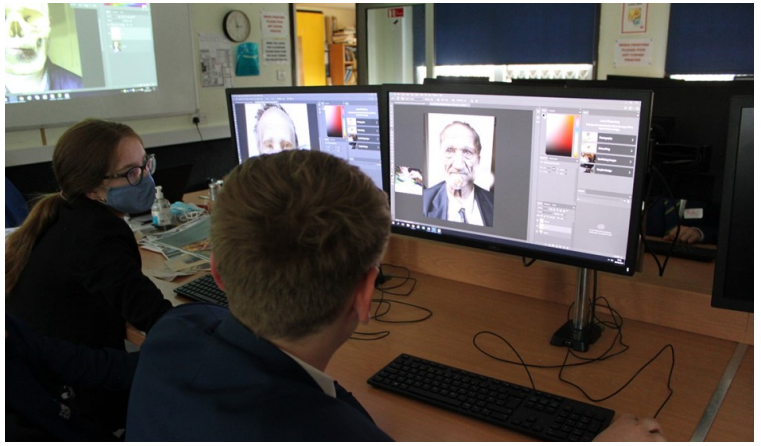
ENRICHMENT DAYS (YEARS 7 AND 8)



This week we have had the pleasure of seeing our Year 7 and 8 students engaging in some fantastic activities for our Enrichment Days (Years 9 and 10 are next week).

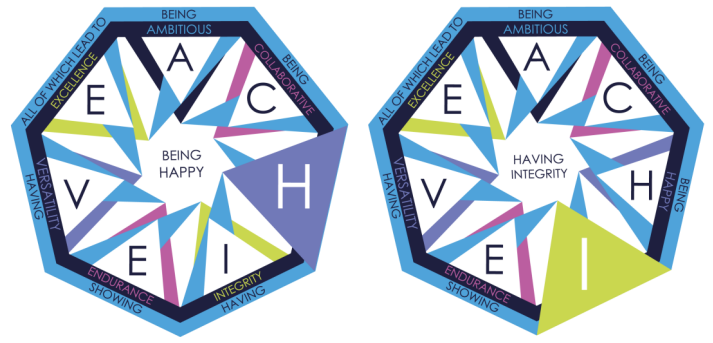
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Students could choose from an extensive list including: Martial Arts, I'm a Zombie, Secret Science, Escape Rooms, Orienteering, Table Tennis, Product Design, Robotics, Prosthetic Make-Up, Samba Drumming, Art and Gymnastics.



A huge thank you to all our wonderful Sixth Formers and staff who have been so involved with these sessions. The feedback from our younger students has been extremely positive and great fun was had in areas - and everyone heard the samba drumming!

In our Art and Design Enrichment activities, the FPSS letters show the clay activity completed with our enthusiastic Year 7 students where they had to make their own organic forms to adorn the letters and the fantastic animal lino prints have been completed by our talented Year 8 students.



LINGUISTS OF THE FORTNIGHT



Linguists of the Fortnight

Year 7

- Elena Balfe
- Luke Mattingley
- Adriano Cilia
- Megan Dewbury
- Aaran Hitschmann
- Bethan Hill
- Tom Harrison
- Bella Nucci-Hartley
- Katie Stratton
- Zainab Yusuf
- Harvey Malone

Year 8

- William Couling
- Alfie Hawkins
- Olive Owen
- Holly Cannon
- Luke Shaw
- Amy Barker
- Raihan Bashir
- Luc Colyer
- Samuel Cranch
- Gabriela Kedziora
- Abigail Leech-Baldwin
- Olive Bodiam
- Alexandros Antonas

Year 8

- Shay Webb
- Elenia Reina
- Freya Stevenson
- Ibraheem Ahmed
- Bailey Clarke

Year 9

- John Hern
- Lucas Norton

Year 10

- Lara Fair
- Aimee Croydon

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GERMAN

Linguists of the Fortnight

Year 7

Mohammed Alhashimi
 Illango Fekete
 Durusah Gulmez
 Connor Hollins
 Robert Hern
 Ben Peck
 Lorena Ribeiro
 Lashvein Srisankar
 Bruno Tomkiewiez
 Charlie Williams-Lock

Year 8

Holly Bennett
 Bethan Coulter
 Henna Hussain
 Gabriela Kedziora
 Phoebe Matthews
 Scarlett Oliver
 Matej Sutton
 Pacey Thandi
 James Wilkinson

Year 9

Raahi Singh
 Eleanor Foster
 Fatima Habbouli
 Sadie Huddleston
 Camelia Ionel
 Leonard Cory

Year 10

Max Fal
 Ashlyn Fray
 Katie Langford
 Lilly Vann
 Aela Martin
 Lauren Rangel
 Sian Tucker
 Jemima Bohdjalian
 Lucas Bourne
 Hadi Anabtawi
 Jess Bristow
 Finnley Tanner
 Mia Lawrence
 Balraj Kaur



SPANISH

Linguists of the Fortnight

Year 7

Jack Parkinson
 Isa Hussain
 Monty Lyall
 Savannah Lu

Year 10

Jack Dunn
 Lily Hatch
 Amy Matthews

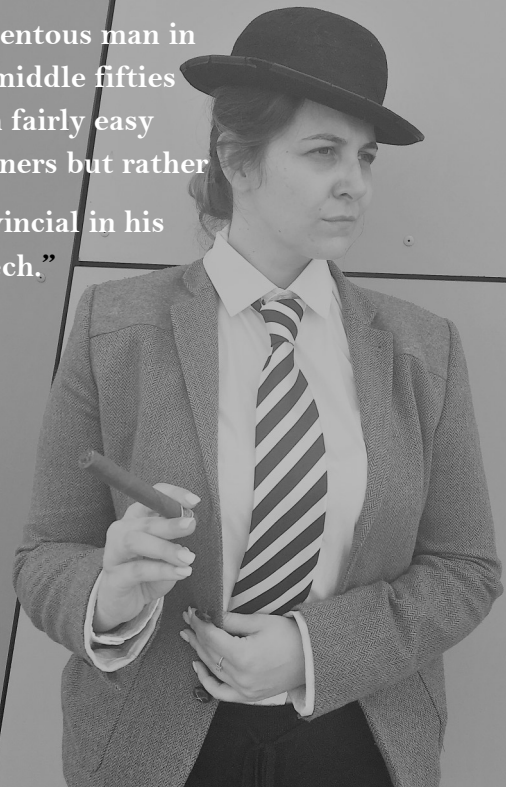
Year 8

Abigail Leech-Baldwin
 Luc Colyer
 Mia Banks
 Finlay Hayward



MASKS TO BE WORN WHEN MOVING AROUND THE SCHOOL SITE

“Birling is a heavy looking, rather portentous man in his middle fifties with fairly easy manners but rather provincial in his speech.”





**MY MASK
PROTECTS YOU,
YOUR MASK
PROTECTS ME.**

MASK RULE UPDATE:

**MASKS TO BE WORN WHEN MOVING
AROUND THE SCHOOL SITE**



**FURZE PLATT
SENIOR SCHOOL**

We have had a number of expeditions going out recently for our Bronze and Silver Awards. Well done to those who have taken part in these physically challenging hikes as well as all the other sections, it has been lovely to see students beaming from ear to ear on completion knowing they have achieved something very worthwhile.



“Need not be a big man but he creates at once an impression of massiveness, solidity and purposefulness.”



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The DofE UK statistics

April 2020 - March 2021

YOUTH WITHOUT LIMITS



330,000 young people actively doing DofE



1,862,627

total volunteering hours given by young people



£8,474,953

estimated total value of volunteering hours given in support of others



40,000

Leaders and volunteers delivering DofE programmes



3,781

Licensed Organisations actively delivering the DofE



179,241

young people started their DofE journey

22%

of new participants are young people facing disadvantage



127,196

Bronze Awards started



31,213

Silver Awards started



20,832

Gold Awards started

17% of 14 year olds in the UK started a Bronze DofE programme



45,020

Awards were achieved



27,575

Bronze Awards



11,273

Silver Awards



6,172

Gold Awards



62,400

Certificates of Achievement achieved



44,353

Bronze



13,864

Silver



4,183

Gold

Registered Charity No: 1072490, in Scotland SC038254 and a Royal Charter Corporation No: RC20/04/23 .000806/DW DofE.org #DofE F:theDofE

Message from the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme:

Despite the challenges we all faced during the 'Covid year' of 20/21, we were proud to support such a high level of DofE activity generated by the amazing 3,781 organisations and 40,000+ volunteers who continued to run DofE. Through organisations like yours, 180,000 young people across the UK started their DofE, including 40,000 from disadvantaged backgrounds. During the year, a staggering 330,000 participants developed their skills, confidence and resilience by doing their DofE and dedicated 1.8 million hours of volunteering during the pandemic.

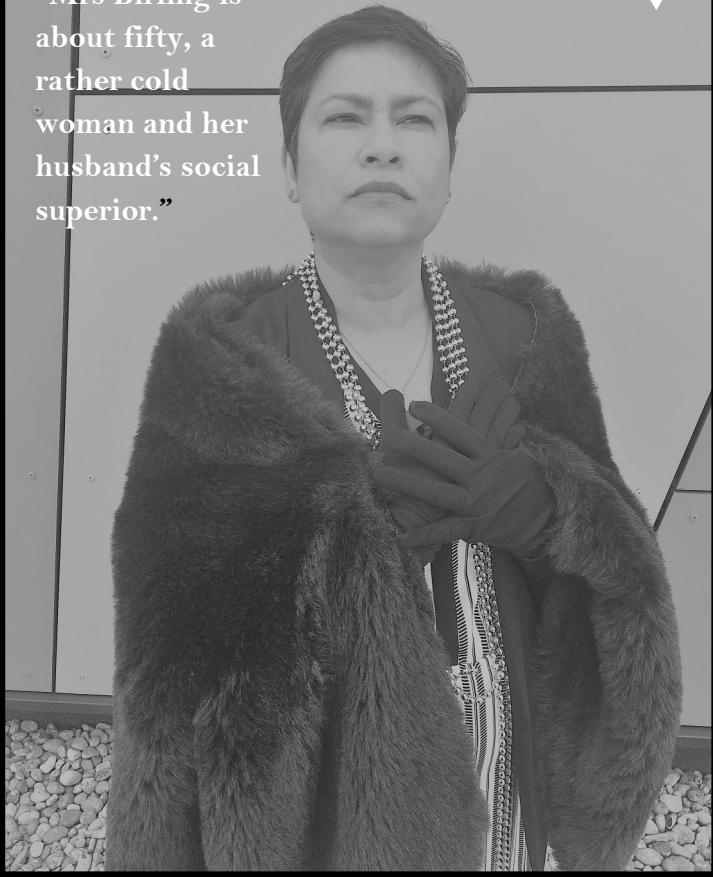
Operationally, the charity shifted to support our network virtually; delivering development meetings, workshops, conferences, parent information sessions and training courses online. We developed programme flexibilities so that Leaders and participants could, and still can, engage with their DofE while limitations to daily life remain. These programme flexibilities will be in place until December 2022 and your Operations Officer will continue to work with your DofE Manager to ensure your organisation's delivery can continue to thrive.

Throughout the year, we continued to recognise the achievements of participants who could not access their expeditions because of Covid with 62,000 young people gaining their Certificate of Achievement nationally. A further 45,000 participants completed their full Awards, partly enabled by the temporary expedition flexibilities we introduced so that expeditions are safely delivered and achieved under restrictions.

Recently, we have been celebrating the remarkable legacy of our Founder and Patron HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh as we mark his centenary. His passing in April brought sadness and reflection, but it has also been truly uplifting to hear how the DofE is valued by so many people through the messages and personal stories shared with us, posted on our Memories page and shared in media interviews. Our recently launched strategy 'Youth Without Limits' will build on the Duke of Edinburgh's legacy by expanding our reach to more young people, in particular those who are most marginalised in our society. Our ambition is to give a million more young people the life-changing opportunity of doing DofE in the next five years.



“Mrs Birling is about fifty, a rather cold woman and her husband’s social superior.”



WILD SL6

Is your child interested in helping the local environment? Gaining a new skill? Learning about biodiversity, a key part of the national curriculum?

If so, at the beginning of the new school year, late September and early October 2021, we have a lovely, local environmental group 'WildSL6' coming into school to help turn an empty patch of grass into a wildflower meadow. This will hopefully become a permanent wildflower habitat with yearly flowers. This activity will help the school work towards its goal of achieving the Eco-schools Green Flag Award.



WildSL6 is an environmental group for young people in the SL6 area who care about our local wildlife and want to help conserve their habitats. They are a relatively new group, who formed during the COVID-19 pandemic in summer 2020. The group

has already run various events including nature walks, wildlife surveys and online conservation campaigns.

The workshops will be held on Tuesdays after school for 3-4 weeks from the 28th Sept to 19th Oct (dates TBC). During the sessions pupils will have the opportunity to learn about how to prepare the soil, how to sow and care for seeds, as well as learning about the many benefits of wildflower meadows.



If you think your child would be interested please email Miss Holmes on emily.holmes@furzeplatt.net. To find out more about WildSL6 visit their website on the link below or check out their Instagram and Facebook pages @wildsl6.

[WILD SL6 WEBSITE](#)

[INSTAGRAM: @WILD SL6](#)

[FACEBOOK: @WILD SL6](#)



INVITATIONS TO CLUBS

Parents and carers of students in all year groups will have received invitations to clubs for their son/daughter. If you have not received an invitation please make sure you have saved evolve.furzeplattsnrvisits@edufocus.co.uk to your safe senders list and check your spam / junk folders. If you need further guidance please email catherine.johnstone@furzeplatt.net.

Please see below a list of clubs for next week for your information (these should be booked via the online invitation system which will be sent out on Monday – to book Monday’s clubs please see previous email). Please note: we advise students bring water to their sessions in the warmer weather. Some clubs may not apply to all students as they are sent out by year group – just sign up for those which are relevant or of interest to your son / daughter.

*Please note – change to clubs next week:

Year 7 and Year 8 Drama club next Wednesday 7th July will be cancelled due to GCSE performances after school.

[LINK TO CLUBS LIST](#)

CAREERS OPTIONS FOR
YEARS 11-13



We have received details about two opportunities for students in Years 11-13, one for volunteering at Thames Hospice and a job for a school leaver at Hewland Engineering:

Thames hospice

Volunteering at Thames Hospice

Thames Hospice is offering young people aged 16-18 the opportunity to volunteer. There are various roles that could be available e.g. in one of their shops, the café, or in the hospice itself – this would be very useful experience for any students thinking of applying to study medicine. In return, the hospice offers careers advice and a reference.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CLICK HERE

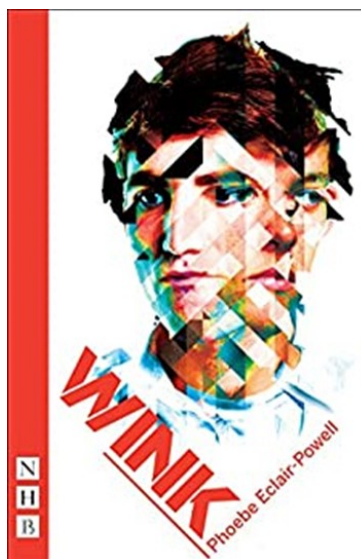


Career Opportunity at Hewland Engineering

Hewland Engineering are based at White Waltham and specialise in the manufacture of racing gearboxes. They have a vacancy for an Inspection & Calibration Trainee, a role which could lead to a career as a precision engineer. This full-time role is a job with training, and so would suit either a Year 13 or Y11 leaver. If interested, please email Mrs Bubb for further information judith.bubb@furzeplatt.net



WINK – PERFORMING ARTS



Over the last two weeks, Patrick Kelly from Year 11 has worked tirelessly alongside the Performing Arts department to develop an adaptation of Pheobe Eclair Powell's WINK, ahead of a final performance that took place on Friday 18th June. Even with limited rehearsals, the hard work has produced a fast paced, dynamic story that keeps audiences engaged from start to finish. In just 30 minutes the two actors take

the audience on an incomparably exciting story. Huge thanks to Mr Moyse and Miss Oldman for their directorial skills and congratulations to Patrick on an outstanding performance!

REMINDER

HOME TEST REMINDER



WHERE DO I NEED TO REPORT THE HOME TEST RESULTS?



Negative



Positive



Invalid

Results need to be reported both via the school's link and the NHS Test and trace site:

REPORT RESULT TO THE NHS

REPORT RESULT TO US



“We are members of one body”

English Department presents

An Inspector Calls



COMING SOON



**Parents, Teachers
& Friends
Association**



TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE

Contact us

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

WHAT'S HAPPENED, WHAT'S COMING AND WHEN...

AGM – held on Tuesday 29th via Zoom. We had a spirited and lively evening with 4 participants and 4 Officers who heard the 'in's and out's' of the year 2019- 2020. Thank you for joining in.



In short, a superb year end profit of £50k was achieved (in a pandemic, as of August 2020!). A massive thank you to everyone for your continued support and to the PTFA Committee for their sustained efforts and commitment.

Due to our income exceeding the threshold of £25k, our Accounts had to be verified by an

externally qualified person. So, our Special Thanks goes to our Independent Examiner, Lorna, for making our Trustees Accounts Return (an official HMRC document) as painless as possible!

A large proportion of the £50k was spent on the Theatre and almost £12k was spent on products for 6 departments.

We said goodbye to Juliet Stevenson after 2 years as our Secretary (only because she's moving house, again!).

Elections were also held to appoint the Committee Officers from Sept (see below). We welcome your help, advice and ideas at any time, so please contact us by email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net or through: [Facebook.com/fpsstfa](https://www.facebook.com/fpsstfa)

Chair: Lorraine Hughes

Treasurer: Caroline Golding (till Mar '22. New person needed asap to shadow Caroline)

Secretary: Jean Sutherland

200 Club Admin: Geraldine Ebenezer

200 CLUB - DOUBLE DRAW

Double draw graphic please

We achieved ONE new member before Monday 28th June so narrowly missing our target of three members. The Double Draw took place during the AGM and 6 numbers were drawn from the 'bucket' at random. £200 each will be winging its way to these

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lucky winners: James, Emma, Angela, Dominique, Rebecca and Caroline.
CONGRATULATIONS!

This concludes our draws for this academic year.



200 CLUB

Winning numbers for Draw 15
on Tuesday 29th June 2021



DOUBLE DRAW!



New members are always very welcome so please click here to join:

ANNUAL PAYMENT (£57 PER YEAR)

MONTHLY PAYMENT (£5 PER MONTH)

NEARLY NEW UNIFORM BIG SALE - ALL WELCOME!



8 helpers still required to setup, on the day and to clear up, so please get in touch asap.

Date: Saturday 10th July
Time: 10am - 3pm
Location: Music Department



Blazers, raincoats, trousers, skirts, white shirts, v neck sweaters, games kit, football boots and shin pads will all be laid out - please come and make it a sell out event, whilst fundraising for iPads, a Nintendo Switch, bike shelters and a NEW canopy. Don't forget to bring your carrier bags and mask!

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STRICT DISTANCING MEASURES WILL BE IN PLACE.



Please ensure face coverings are worn and sanitiser is used appropriately.

Payment please by card, bank transfer and/or cash, on the day.

Trying on: very limited opportunities!

Students, please wear shorts or skirts to aid changing

Parking: use the 'top' car park considerately, where possible please.

We really appreciate your donations and happy to accept more before 3pm Thursday 8th July.

A few reminders:

- Current logo'd uniform
- Clean and freshly laundered = we can't sell goods with pockets full of pens, rulers, paint brushes, keys, tissues or masks (nor can we add to our own washing mountains!)
- Intact and in excellent condition = no torn pockets or sleeves, no holes, no stains, with buttons (we've received plenty of unsaleable goods already!).
- Footwear in good, clean, saleable condition = Astro boots, trainers and/or daywear shoes that are uncreased and in nearly new condition (we have an abundance of muddy football boots to rehome already!).

Message us for addresses if you'd like to leave a bag on a PTFA's doorstep (or drop into school reception before Thursday 8th July).



BIG QUIZ, HOT BUFFET AND BAR

FRIDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2021, IN SCHOOL.

INFORMAL SOCIAL EVENT – ALL WELCOME!

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)



TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR FUTURE

GCSEPod are hosting an exciting and inspiring FREE program designed to support you with your learning this summer and get a head start on next academic year!

Join us for 'SummerPod' which is running for 3 weeks from July 26th with headline guest hosts and learn how to:

- Prepare for next academic year and target future goals and aspirations
- Use GCSEPod to get ahead this summer with learning and revision tips
- Build healthy habits and manage stress
- Give yourself the best chance to succeed next year

3 STUDENT WEBINARS RAN BY MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER, CAMERON PARKER

To register your interest please visit:

www.gcsepod.com/summerpod

ALSO INCLUDED:

Competitions, prizes and certificates, SummerPod Spotify playlists, worksheets, subject specialist interviews with learning and revision tips, and much more!

Keep an eye on www.gcsepod.com/summerpod for more details



info@gcsepod.com | +44 191 338 7830



Attendance Officer – To start 1st September 2021

Permanent, part time, 23.75 hours a week, term time only. Monday to Friday with a preferred start time of 8am and finish time of 12.45pm (negotiable for the right candidate). Actual salary £12,940 - £13,735pa depending on experience

We are looking for someone to work alongside our Attendance Officer, Persistent Absence within our pastoral team. With training and support you will play a key role in communicating with students, parents/carers and external agencies to promote excellent attendance and punctuality, and reduce levels of absence in line with school ethos and the school's Attendance Policy. Your main responsibilities would be to oversee the school's electronic attendance database, update registers with authorised absences, follow up incomplete registers, contact parents/carers of students whose absence has become a concern and provide information and reports for Heads of Houses and the Associate Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral). You would also support the Attendance Officer, Persistent Absence with monitoring the attendance of Pupil Premium students and ensuring school attendance records are up-to-date for central and local government.

We are looking for a team player with excellent interpersonal skills and written and verbal communication skills, who is passionate about ensuring that all our students thrive. The ability to apply excellent attention to detail and accuracy for recording purposes is really important as well as being able to maintain a high level of confidentiality at all times.

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 5th July 2021
Interviews will take place as soon as possible after the closing date

CURRENT VACANCIES