

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

### Welcome Back!

It has been fantastic to welcome staff and students back to FPSS this week. Clearly refreshed from their summer breaks, students have had a very positive start to term. As well as all our existing parents and carers, I would like to particularly welcome all our new parents and carers, mostly in Year 7 and 12, but we have also said hello to new starters in other year groups. I hope that your children have an amazing experience at FPSS.



Students are returning to a FPSS far closer to the pre-pandemic school than we have experienced of late. This means a normal school day and excitingly for teachers and students, the chance to no longer sit in rows but instead experience a range of individual, pair and group learning experiences that Covid measures have previously prevented. In addition, our tutors are once more the primary point of contact each morning able to support students, as well as offering a range of House activities. Moreover, we are also able to run a far greater number of clubs, activities and educational visits so hopefully we can look forward to a highly enjoyable 2021/22 academic year.

I would like to thank all parents and carers who have ensured students have attended with the right uniform and equipment. As local residents commented, students look incredibly smart and ready for learning.

### New Staff

At the beginning of the new academic year we welcome a number of new colleagues. Due to our expanding numbers, as well as departing colleagues, we have been able to employ a number of new teachers. I am sure you will join with me in giving a warm reception to Denise Dee (Computing), Joe Harrison and Tom Green (Geography), Ryan Tomlinson and Lib Wright (English), Kayce Herrick and Michael Graham (Science), Elisa Fletcher (MFL), Selina Hirst (Food) and Andrew Wyles (Cover).



## UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

SPORTS CALENDAR

If information for any of our upcoming events changes due to the current situation, full details will be sent out to parents and carers.

### Next week (week 2)

TUE 7 SEPTEMBER	Year 12 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	6.15pm - 7.00pm
	Year 13 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	7.30pm - 8.15pm
THU 9 SEPTEMBER	Years 7, 10 & 12 School Photos	
	Year 7 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	6.30pm - 7.30pm

### Forthcoming Events

TUE 14 SEPTEMBER	Year 11 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	6.30pm - 7.30pm
THU 7 OCTOBER	Early School Finish	12.30pm
	School Open Evening	6pm - 9pm
FRI 8 OCTOBER	INSET Day	All Day

### SCHOOL TERM DATES 2021/22

We also welcome a number of new support staff including: Rebecca Peters (Shine Team), Nina Ashwell (Finance), Sarah Hill (School Medical Officer), Dan Tipp (Graduate PE Assistant), Megan White (Graduate Cover Supervisor), Gemma Couling (Attendance) and Caroline Aird-Rossiter (Counsellor).

I hope they all have a fantastic career at FPSS.

### Covid

Our day-to-day operations are now far closer to a pre-pandemic FPSS. However, precautions still exist including extra ventilation, enhanced cleaning regimes and encouraging hand sanitising (full details are in the Risk Assessment on our website). While masks are no longer compulsory, staff and students are welcome to continue to wear them and visitors to the school site are encouraged to do so (unless exempt).

We are also offering all students onsite tests. The first of these was this afternoon (Friday) and the second will be Tuesday. Students will then bring tests home so they can test twice a week at home during September. The aim of these is to stop the spread of coronavirus. If your son/daughter has symptoms, please help FPSS by keeping them at home and getting them tested.

### Social Media

New parents can find out more information about our school by following our Facebook and Twitter accounts here:

**FPSS TWITTER ACCOUNT**

**FPSS FACEBOOK ACCOUNT**

### The Start and End of the School Day

The vast majority of our students walk or cycle to and from school. This offers them independence and reduces our environmental impact. Should you need to drop off or collect your child please be considerate. This includes moving down the parking bays at the front of school and keeping the main highway clear. Parents and carers often arrange meeting points slightly away from school to avoid the inevitable congestion. If you do so, please be considerate of neighbouring driveways and other access requirements. Thank you.

I hope you have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing our students back at school on Monday morning.

Take care and keep safe.

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

### PREPARING TO SUCCEED FOR YEARS 12 AND 13

**TUESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**Preparing to Succeed in Year 12 Evening 6.15pm**

**Preparing to Succeed in Year 13 Evening 7.30pm**

Dear Parents / Carers

I am writing to invite you to the Preparing to Succeed evenings for both Parents and Students of Year 12 and Year 13.

This event will take place in the school Theatre and is designed to provide you with information regarding the Sixth Form and some tips on how you can help your son/

daughter be successful in their Sixth Form studies.

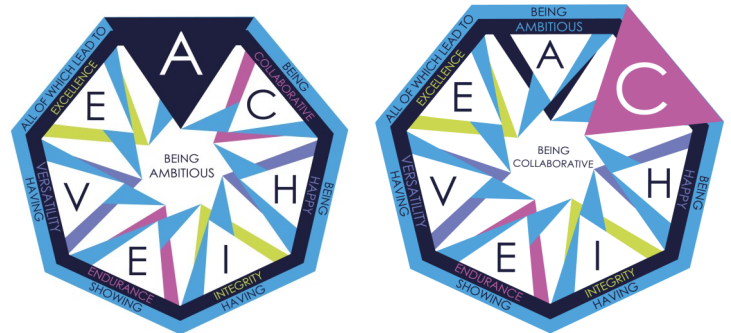
The presentation for Year 12 will start at **6.15pm** and finish no later than **7.00pm**.

The presentation for Year 13 will start at **7.30pm** and finish no later than **8.15pm**.

We very much look forward to seeing students and parents in school for these presentations.

Mr P Ging

Assistant Headteacher, Head of Sixth Form



### SCHOOL PHOTOS FOR YEARS 7, 10 and 12

**THURSDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

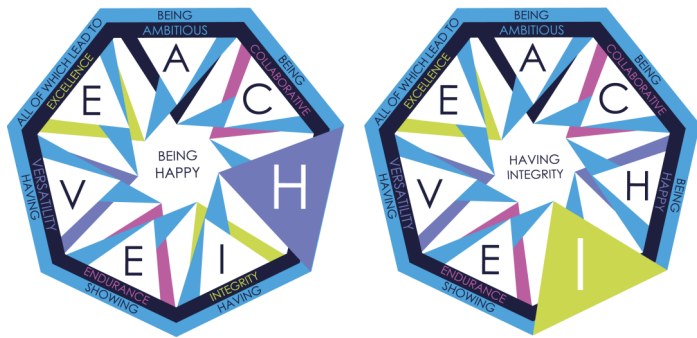
Students in Years 7, 10, 12 and anyone who has joined the school since last October will be having their photograph taken on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September.

### YEAR 7 AND 11 PREPARING TO SUCCEED EVENINGS

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September: Preparing to Succeed in Year 7 Evening 6.30pm**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September: Preparing to Succeed in Year 11 Evening 6.30pm**

Full details of these events will be sent out to parents and carers in due course.



## INVITATIONS TO CLUBS

Next week parents and carers of students in all year groups will receive invitations to clubs for their son/daughter. Our extra curricular clubs are always very popular and we have a huge range on offer. Please do encourage your son/daughter to sign up for as many as they are interested in.

## REQUEST FOR SHOE BOXES

Our Art Department are looking to create pinhole cameras and would love to take any shoe boxes off your hands!



Please ask students to drop them into our Art Department. Thank you.

## FURTHER USEFUL INFORMATION



You can find much more information at [furzeplatt.com](http://furzeplatt.com) including [term dates](#), [pastoral care](#), [free school meals](#), [our curriculum](#), full details on our Sixth Form including the [student handbook](#), [dress code](#) and you can even see where previous students went on to in our [student destinations](#) map!

## LAUNCH OF OUR NEW ACHIEVE FUND – PLEASE DONATE!



In order to bridge the gap from where government funding ends to the excellent facilities we strive to provide for our students, we ask parents, families and friends to contribute to our new ACHIEVE fund. This new fund replaces our School Development Fund which has been in existence for many years. Regular donations have paid for a new bike shelter, outdoor seating, playground upgrades, café and dining furniture, arts equipment, outdoor landscaping and many more projects.



We have a new page on our website and it is now very easy to set up regular payments to the ACHIEVE fund. Just a few pounds each month will build up over time and make a significant difference. Even better, you can gift aid your donations to increase them by 25%!

Please visit the new ACHIEVE fund platform to set up your regular donation today.

**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR ACHIEVE FUND**

**DONATE**

## NEW BIKE SHELTER



Thanks to generous donations from parents and the PTFA we now have a new bike shelter which was installed over the summer holidays. The two bike shelters at the front of the school have been getting very full, so this new shelter, which will hold 40 bikes, is a great new addition. It is situated at the rear of the Leisure Centre so will suit those students who come to school across the playing fields.





## OPEN EVENING / TOURS

Open Evening visits for 7th October do not need to be booked and all are welcome. Tours will be held from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September, booking details to follow.



**FURZE PLATT  
SENIOR SCHOOL**



## FURZE PLATT STUDENT ACHIEVES GOLD AWARD

Well done to Holly Bird, who has just graduated from Year 13, who successfully completed her Duke of Edinburgh Gold

Award in the summer. This is a fantastic achievement and she is the first one of her Gold group to do so.

We are delighted to let you know that Furze Platt will be offering the Bronze, Silver & Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards (DofE) to students in Years 9, 10, 12 & 13 from September 2021. Further details to follow, in the meantime you can find out more about our Duke of Edinburgh Awards here:

**DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS**

## NEW BABY GIRL



Congratulations to our Medical Officer Mrs Bowen and family who welcomed a beautiful baby daughter during the summer holidays.

Alys Jane weighed in at a healthy 8lb 7oz on 25<sup>th</sup> August and is pictured here with her big sister.

# Calling all parents/carers!



Join us on one of our parent webinars where a GCSEPod expert will give you lots of hints, tips and advice on how you can use GCSEPod to support your child.

**22** September  
@ 5pm

**07** October  
@ 5pm

**20** October  
@ 5pm

**04** November  
@ 5pm

**FREE**  
Webinars are free  
to all parents

Your child already  
has access to our  
award-winning  
platform

How to join

## Shout out to Year 7 Parents

**Special Guest host** and world-class speaker and coach Cameron Parker will be hosting a very special webinar and providing you with tips and tricks on supporting your child's move into Year 7.

Cameron will help to support you in making your child's first few weeks of secondary school as calming and relaxed as possible for an easier transition into their new school.

**22**  
September  
@ 5pm

[gcsepod.com/podup-presents-webinars](https://gcsepod.com/podup-presents-webinars)

[gcsepod.com](https://gcsepod.com) | [info@gcsepod.com](mailto:info@gcsepod.com) | 0191 3387830

## SCHOOL IS BACK - HELLO WEEKEND!

We are present on email and Facebook at most times of the day or night, you may have noticed?! Keep your queries coming, there's a font of knowledge between us!



Dear Year 7 Parents and Carers,

On behalf of the PTFA we would like to welcome you and your child to Furze Platt Senior School. The PTFA is a registered charity and run by a Committee of enthusiastic volunteers and has been very active over the past few years helping raise funds through a variety of different means - through one-off activities, by claiming Grants from Trusts, selling nearly new uniform, using Amazon.Smile and Easyfundraising Apps, and regular contribution schemes.

The chief similarity with a primary or junior school PTA is that our main role is, and will always be, FUNDRAISING. However, there is a distinct shift away from organising set piece events (such as fairs and raffles) to steady online fundraisers (such as the 200 Club, the School Development Fund, Amazon.Smile, Easyfundraising, Easy2Name).

If you'd like more information and/or how to be involved in what may well prove to be an exciting new era for you, then please view our webpage: <https://www.furzeplatt.com/page/?title=The+PTFA&pid=41> and/or follow our Facebook page: [fpsptfa](https://facebook.com/fpsptfa)

Feel free to get in touch, anytime, by email: [ptfa@furzeplatt.net](mailto:ptfa@furzeplatt.net) or message via [Facebook.com/fpsptfa](https://facebook.com/fpsptfa)

Lorraine, Caroline, Jean and Geraldine (the PTFA committee)

## A FEW MENTIONS...

Thank you for your donations of uniform over the summer holidays, these have helped many families greatly. We are intending to build stock again, so please donate your logo'd uniform if you are clearing the decks. Please contact us to drop off to a PTFA'ers home.

**Name your property** - every item of clothing, ties, footwear, bags, water bottles and lunchboxes. We have registered ourselves with the [Easy2Name.com](https://www.easy2name.com/) in order to claim 20% commission from each purchase, plus free delivery – use code **FR-FURZEPLATT SCHOOL-57**

*easy2name*

And click here: <https://www.easy2name.com/>

We are registered with [Easyfundraising.org](https://www.easyfundraising.org/) and [Amazon.Smile](https://www.amazon.co.uk/smile) to receive online donations, at no cost to you! Please use the links below to register yourselves.

<https://bit.ly/393NF8R+>  **easyfundraising**  
feel good shopping

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

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

# Are you ready to be motivated and inspired?

 **gcsepod**  
education on demand

## The Power of YET! Growth Mind-Set HOW and WHY!

Get your dose of motivation and healthy mindset from Cameron in this webinar which focuses on the topic of expanding and growing your mind and how helpful and beneficial it can be. School, exams, and friendships can be extremely daunting and scary, so we want to flip this on its head and allow the silver lining to shed light on somewhat worrying ideas.

This webinar will make new challenges so much easier to face as you will be shown the tools to take on whatever gets thrown your way with the determination to do your best no matter what the outcome is.



### 'Moving Up – Transitioning to Year 7'

Cameron understands how difficult it is to take the leap of faith into a completely new environment. Leaving primary school and moving up to secondary school is a daunting and confusing time filled with uncertainty and stress. This webinar will help you take this new chapter of your lives in your stride.

Primary is in the past, and now it's time to step into the future.

**07**

September  
@ 6pm

Saturday  
**25**  
September  
@ 11am

**LIMITED  
SPACE**

Secure your place on  
the webinar today!

**HE'S BACK!**

World-class speaker  
and coach, Cameron  
Parker is back to  
help you!

How to join



[gcsepod.com/podup-presents-webinars](https://gcsepod.com/podup-presents-webinars)

[gcsepod.com](https://gcsepod.com) | [info@gcsepod.com](mailto:info@gcsepod.com) | 0191 3387830



# Maidenhead's Secondary Schools OPEN EVENINGS

## Dear Parents...

The teachers and governors of the secondary schools in Maidenhead believe that parents should be given every opportunity to indicate an informed preference for secondary education. Our schools are working together to assist you in coming to the most appropriate preference. The following secondary schools in Maidenhead all approach excellence in education in their own particular way. You will be a welcome guest at the Open Evenings which will be organised by each of us individually. Our aim is to do everything possible to provide you with relevant information about our schools.

**Yours sincerely**

Mr N Dimpleby, Headteacher, Altwood Church of England School.  
Ms C Thomas, Headteacher, Cox Green School.  
Ms M Callaghan, Principal, Desborough College.  
Dr A Morrison, Headteacher, Furze Platt Senior School.  
Miss J Capon and Mr M Henshaw, Co-Headteachers, Newlands Girls' School.



**For children seeking school admission in September 2022**

### Altwood C of E School



**Thursday 30th  
September 2021  
6.30pm - 9pm**

The entire Altwood community warmly invite you to our Open Evening.

This is a wonderful opportunity to come and meet our exceptionally strong and committed team of staff and see our talented students at work.

The Headteacher will give an address at 7.30pm. There will also be an opportunity for you to meet with the staff and students as well as see the School's excellent resources and facilities.

We also warmly encourage you to come and see the School during a normal working day, and you are welcome to attend one of our Open Mornings on either 5th, 7th, 12th or 19th October between 9.45am and 11.00am.

Alternatively if these dates are not convenient, please contact the Headteacher's PA for a tour of the School to be arranged.

We look forward to welcoming you to Altwood and offer you the chance to hear from our current Year 7 students about their experiences and excellent induction to life in a positive, caring and high-achieving secondary school.

Our students will explain what makes Altwood exciting and unique.

**Altwood Road,  
Maidenhead, Berkshire  
SL6 4PU  
T: 01628 622236  
E: altwood@altwoodschool.co.uk  
www.altwoodschool.co.uk**

*'Aspire and Achieve'*  
Headteacher: Mr N Dimpleby,  
B.Ed (Hons) NPQH

### Cox Green School



**Tuesday 14th  
September 2021  
5pm - 8pm**

The Headteacher, staff and Governors are delighted to invite you to Cox Green's Open Evening.

We are very proud of our school: we are fiercely committed to providing an education of the highest quality to all of our students and value our strong sense of community.

Our staff are dedicated to delivering highly inspirational and strong curricula across the board, providing positive and exciting learning experiences within a secure and happy environment. Our students receive the support and encouragement they need to become successful, confident and mature young people.

The Headteacher will make her address at 5pm, 5.45pm and 6.30pm and she would be delighted to talk to any parents/carers afterwards. Should you wish to see our school during a working day, you are very welcome.

Open Mornings will be held on Thursday 30th September and Tuesday 12th October from 9.15am. Alternatively, you may visit on Monday 18th October but this is strictly by appointment only.

Please contact the school for more details: enquiries@coxgreen.com.

**Highfield Lane,  
Maidenhead, Berkshire  
SL6 3AX.  
T: 01628 629415  
E: enquiries@coxgreen.com  
www.coxgreen.com**

*'Committed to Achievement'*  
Headteacher: Ms C Thomas

### Desborough College



**Tuesday 21st  
September 2021  
5.15pm - 8.30pm**

The Principal, staff and students warmly invite you to attend our Open Evening on Tuesday 21st September 2021.

The school will be open for families from 5.15pm and Ms Callaghan, our Principal, will give addresses at 5.30pm and 6.30pm in the main school hall. You'll then be welcome to tour the school, meet students and staff and join in with a variety of engaging curricular activities.

Desborough College is an all-boys' school with a co-education sixth form. Come and see our classrooms, science and computer labs, two-storey library, drama and music studios, workshops, STEM room, the Year 7 base, our many playgrounds and our extensive sports facilities.

You'll have opportunities to ask questions to current students, meet our passionate staff and find out why our students enjoy coming to school every day. "Desborough College is a great school because of its many opportunities and facilities. I've enjoyed the many different subjects and the specialist teachers." - Hamza F (Year 8)

We're greatly looking forward to you sampling life at Desborough College.

Visits during the school day are highly recommended and we will share information about dates and times on our website and via our social media platforms.

**Shoppenhangers Road,  
Maidenhead, Berkshire  
SL6 2QB  
T: 01628 634505  
F: 01628 639263  
E: info@desborough-college.net  
www.desborough.org.uk**

*'Enjoy, Compete, Achieve'*  
Principal: Ms M Callaghan

### Furze Platt Senior School



**Thursday 7th  
October 2021  
6pm - 9pm**

The Headteacher, staff and governors warmly invite you to our Open Evening.

We are rightly proud of the excellent education we offer at Furze Platt. Students thrive due to the accomplished teaching and high quality support for personal development we provide. Standards are very high at the school and students make outstanding progress. Our curriculum combines a strong academic core with strength and breadth in the arts, computing and technology. You will see all our ACHIEVE aims in practice: Ambitious, Collaborative, Happy, Integrity, Endurance and Versatility, all of which lead to Excellence.

Our confident and enthusiastic students will escort visitors on a guided tour of the school to see the exceptionally high standard of work achieved by our students and our outstanding resources. These include our superb Leisure Centre and our state-of-the-art facilities for English, Science, Mathematics, Drama and Music.

The Headteacher will give an address at 6.30pm and 7.30pm in our new Theatre. We also welcome parents to visit our school during the working day, please telephone Main Reception on 01628 625308 to arrange a visit.

Our Sixth Form Open Evening will take place on Thursday 25th November, further details to follow.

**Furze Platt Road,  
Maidenhead, Berkshire  
SL6 7NQ  
T: 01628 625308  
E: office@furzeplatt.com  
www.furzeplatt.com**

*'ACHIEVE'*  
Headteacher: Dr A Morrison,  
BA Hons, PGCE, MA, PhD

### Newlands Girls' School



**Tuesday 5th  
October 2021  
5pm - 8pm**

The Co-Headteachers, staff, girls and Governors warmly invite you to our highly successful school.

Our happy and confident Sixth Formers will take you on a guided tour, where you can experience first-hand all that we have to offer here at Newlands.

You will see our facilities and our classrooms, where resources and girls' work will be on display.

Presentations from the Co-Headteachers and Head Girls will be at 5.15 p.m. and 6.15 p.m. in the School Hall.

Newlands is a high-performing school and we achieve outstanding academic results within a caring and supportive environment. There are also extensive opportunities for all-round development such as competitive sports, pupil leadership, school trips, public speaking, Latin Club and The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Our girls also enjoy individual voice and instrumental tuition and are able to participate in a wide range of musical and drama groups.

Parents who are unable to attend the Open Evening or who wish to have a personal tour and informal meeting with the Co-Headteachers should telephone the School Office on 01628 625068.

**Farm Road,  
Maidenhead, Berkshire  
SL6 5JB  
T: 01628 625068  
F: 01628 675352  
E: office@newlandsgirls.co.uk  
www.newlandsgirlsschool.co.uk**

*'Vincit Veritas'*  
Acting Co-Headteachers:  
Miss J Capon, Mr M Henshaw

**Bookings for Furze Platt's tours in October can be made from next week, please check our website for details.**



## Learning Support Assistant – to start asap

Part time, 30 Hours a week, start time usually between 8.45/9.15am, finish time between 3.15/3.45pm (includes a half hour unpaid break). Monday to Friday, term time only. Actual salary Scale 2c, £13,660 - £13,940 pa depending on experience

We are looking for an enthusiastic and reliable individual to join either the core Learning Support team to provide targeted support to our students with Special Educational Needs, or our Shine team who support students with ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder).

You will work under the direction of classroom teachers and, in line with any agreed special needs and other specialist plans, provide support to individual students in the completion of a wide range of learning activities at all key stages. You will support small groups of students for interventions and mentor nominated students. You will help students develop their social and communication skills and gain access to the curriculum by ensuring effective use of differentiated instructions and tasks provided by teachers.

We are looking for a team player, who is able to communicate sensitively and confidently with staff, students and parents. This role would suit someone who is able to use their own initiative and who has strong organisational and time management skills. This role might suit someone who is working with or has worked with students in a school setting with experience or knowledge of SEN (Special Educational Needs) or ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder).

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](http://www.furzeplatt.com). Application forms should be returned to [Kiran.smith@furzeplatt.net](mailto: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: Ongoing**

**Interviews will take place as soon as is practicable**

**CURRENT VACANCIES**