

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Christmas Concert

Live music and performance returned to FPSS on Thursday with a fantastic concert highlighting some of the wonderful musical talent within our school. It was a pleasure to see and hear students and staff show their virtuosity on instruments and in song.



Thank you to all the parents and carers who supported the evening and I hope that it put you all in the mood for Christmas!

Early finish on Friday 17th December

Please note, students will finish at 12.30pm next Friday, the last day of term.

Covid

This week, parents and carers will have received a letter from me about Covid numbers, our continued precautions and testing in January. With Berkshire cases increasing please do stay vigilant for symptoms and keep your children off school and test them should they have symptoms.

Rugby

It has been a pleasure to see the enthusiasm around site for Inter-House rugby and our first Sixth Form fixture. Whether winning or losing I have had many conversations with students who simply enjoyed the experience. Congratulations to all students who participated.

Awards Assemblies

Lastly, many congratulations to those students who have earned sufficient ACHIEVE points to be in the awards assemblies next week.

Take care,

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



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 1)

FRI 17 DECEMBER	Christmas Jumper Day (2)
	End of Term 2 Early 12.30pm finish

Forthcoming Events

MON 20 - MON 3 JANUARY	Christmas Holidays
TUE 4 JANUARY	Start of Term 3

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2021/22

YEARS 10, 11 AND 13 REPORTS

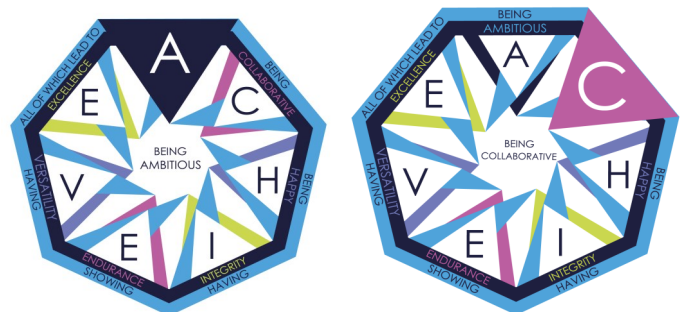


The above reports have now been issued and are available online as usual via Go 4 Schools. The service is available either by going to our website www.furzeplatt.com and clicking on the quick link 'Online Reporting', or by going directly to Go 4 Schools www.go4schools.com and selecting Parents.

Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at reports@furzeplatt.net.

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager

OUR GUIDANCE ON GRADING



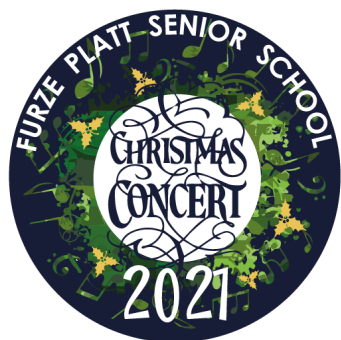
CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAYS

Friday 17th December (last day of term)

Students are invited to wear Christmas jumpers on Friday 17th December (in addition to today) with their usual uniform of shirt, tie, trousers/skirt and smart school shoes. If students do not wish to wear a Christmas jumper they must wear their blazers as usual.



CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Thank you to everyone involved for a wonderful concert on Wednesday. It truly was a night for all to enjoy – featuring both traditional and modern festive songs and music performed by our wonderfully talented musicians (including our staff band!), soloists and choirs.

A very special thank you to the Performing Arts Team; Miss Bailey, Miss Clapperton, Mrs Bradley and Mrs Armstrong for their support and encouragement of our amazing students and staff.

Our Student Performers

Tilly Adaway
Eliza Fradin
Noah Moss
Maverly Afonso
Poppy Gethin
Charlie Nickels
Damilola Akinjobi
Alice Grayson
George Norton

Ben Alberts
Callum Gunn
Bella Nucci-Hartley
Danielle Beckley
Summer Holmden
Bella Powell
Emily Bray
Lara Holuss
Ciara Rainey

Holly Cannon
Ava Hone-Smith
Jess Rooney
Barbara Carmona Esquivel
Jacob Hopson
Josh Rowe
Sophia Carter
Riyan Hoque
Evie Rowe
Charlie Chadwick
Evie Joyce
Alex Silk
Jade Chong
Ruby Kielty
Aston Smith
Anyia Choudri
Jacob Lampton
Eliza Stevenson
Anna Cook
Kate Lee
Freya Stevenson
Keith Cory
Sabrina Lee

George Stratford
Amelie Cooper
Michael Lee-Thorp
Elza Suiters
Quenisha De Abreu
Sophie Lloyd
Jacob Sykes
Grace Dixon
Amy-Jayne Macey
Darcy Williams
Abigail Downes
Milly Magreehan
Sean Wilson
Oliwia Drozdowska
James Maher
Gordon Yiu
Kya Duncan
Lucy McCarthy
Ho Man Yiu
Ruby Fox
Daisy Mizelli
Zainab Yusuf



Pictured: our Lower School Choir; and Mr Harris, Teacher of Maths and Drummer extraordinaire

MORE FURZE PLATT STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES

It was delightful to hear of even more of our students who have achieved fantastic success:

Abbie Harley Waters (Year 10)

Ballroom Dancing Multi Medallist



Congratulations to Abbie and her partner in dance who placed in four finals at the recent NATD competition. Abbie achieved medals in the solo foxtrot, solo samba, couples paso and couples Viennese waltz and also qualified for Blackpool!

Well done Abbie and we look forward to hearing about your future successes.

Aaron Doherty (Year 12)

Boxing Excellence – 80kg Winner, Global MTK Lonsdale Cup in Carlisle

Aaron competed in three knockout rounds of matches, each comprised of three rounds of three minutes, to win the 80kg title by a unanimous decision in the final. In winning this title, Aaron has now qualified to compete for further competitions and will be competing again this weekend. The competition was highly competitive and Aaron's win helps to strengthen his growing reputation.



His Form Tutor, Mr Frankis, added, "Aaron works tirelessly hard both in and out of school, and his success in the ring is compounded by his determination to succeed in his academic subjects too. We will watch his undoubted future success in both very closely."

Well done Aaron, and good luck in your next competition!

Sam Jones (Year 7)

TV, Film and Theatre Star



Over the Christmas period, Sam is performing in Jack & the Beanstalk at the Novello Theatre in Sunninghill, Ascot alongside a company of professional adult actors. This is part of Sam's training with the Elite musical theatre team at Redroofs School of the Performing Arts.

Sam started acting when he was five years old, and has been in a range of TV, commercial,

theatre and film productions - most recently in the BBC lockdown drama Together, with James McAvoy and Sharon Horgan. He will be on screen again soon in a Sky film premiering on 18th December, Last Train to Christmas, where he had the amazing experience of acting with Michael Sheen as father and son.

Sam doesn't perform under his own name because when you join the actors union Equity you aren't allowed the same name as any other actor. So on screen he is billed as 'Samuel Logan', which he chose because of his love of the X-men comics.

When Sam leaves school he wants to continue acting, but is also interested in training to be a lawyer - he thinks he would enjoy performing in a courtroom too!

Christos Papachrysou (Year 8)



Excellence in Tech

Well done to Christos who has created a wonderful Insect House in his Tech lessons, providing a safe hideaway for wildlife.

RUGBY FIRST XV

Our Sixth Form 1st XV played a great match against a very well drilled and organised Claire's Court School

last night. They went down 7 tries to 1 but fought hard throughout and forced their opponents to produce some impressive rugby.



Photographed above:

Tom Davies	Harvey Bates	Alfie Pendlebury
Marcus Brienza	Jonty Bryant ©	Charlie Ferriman (& younger brother)
Alfie Graham	Hugh Rickard	Oscar Parr
Alfie Bristow	Connor Charles	Freddie Smith
Fin Crawford	Oli Pearce	
Hugo Hoeffner	James Badhams	
Matt Dille	Will Morrison	



FURZE PLATT SIXTH FORM VOLUNTEERS AT ELIZABETH HOUSE, COOKHAM

Each year (during normal circumstances) a team of Sixth Formers visit Elizabeth House in Cookham to help put up Christmas decorations. It was lovely to be able to return this year and although students did not mingle with residents (to ensure everyone was kept safe), they still managed to complete a number of fantastic festive displays for them to enjoy.



Thank you to the Sixth Form team (pictured l-r): Stuart Johnstone (Head Boy), Jack Badger Sakal, Amy Spinks, Tilly Pink Costello, Isabella Considine (Deputy Head Girl),

Flynn Sturdy, Ella Bampton and Ainara Sanchez.

Thank you also to Miriam Blazey, Day Centre Manager at Elizabeth House for making the students feel so welcome. We look forward to returning next year!



1) FEEDBACK FOR CAREERS & HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR (CHEF)

We were delighted to see so many students and parents at our recent Careers and Higher Education Fair. To help make it even better in the future we would value your feedback via a very short survey:

CHEF 2021: LET US KNOW HOW WE DID

2) CARD & BOARD GAMES FOR SIXTH FORM

Our Sixth Form are looking for board games that they can play in Rec time (ideally games that can be played in under an hour):

Strategy – Battleships, Monopoly – junior or adult, Catan

Card games – Cards, Uno – any version of travel game which goes from board to card like Monopoly deal

Classics – Chess, Draughts, Boggle

Quiz games like Trivial pursuit, Who wants to be a Millionaire, Flags of the world

Geography games like Who knows where, Where in the world and Where is Moldova

Please bring to Main Reception for the attention of Mrs Wilson, Sixth Form Administrator or ask students to take to Sixth Form Reception.



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3) ZIP UP JIGSAW STORAGE BAG FOR SHINE

Our Autism unit are looking for a zip up jigsaw board that can store puzzles – if you have one spare please can you bring to Main Reception for the attention of Mrs Balfe.



4) FOOD FOR THE HOMELESS

FoodShare are collecting food for the homeless; students should take any contributions to their Form Tutor (ideally tinned / packet food).



5) DONATED ITEMS FOR THE HOMELESS

Our 9p DofE class are working with Aik Saath and Slough Outreach to organise a collection for homeless people in our community for the volunteering section of their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Awards. Items include toiletries, warm clothes etc. If you can spare anything, please ask your son or daughter to bring them to the Portacabin by Wednesday.



HELP THE HOMELESS

Take action and be a part of the solution by donating at least one item from the following list...



Thermal socks
Gloves
Hat or ski hat
Thermal neck warmer
Jumper & joggers / Top & Long Johns set
Raincoat

Sleeping bag
Blanket
Insulated foam mat
Camping tent
Umbrella
Torch

Hand wipes & Baby wipes
PPE (disposable masks & gloves)
Hand cream
Shampoo & conditioner
Shower gel, soap
Toothbrush & toothpaste
Tissue packets
Chapstick

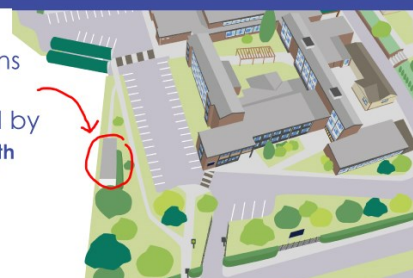
Crisps
Energy bars
Soup sachets
Soft drinks

HELP THE HOMELESS

RUCKSACK APPEAL



Please drop donations to the Portacabin, next to the bike shed by **Wednesday 15th December**



Thank you for any help you can provide with any of our requests, we appreciate your generosity.



HOUSE CHALLENGE

Science and Nature - Trivial Pursuit



Tutor Group Results

Tutor Group	Bisham	Bray	Cookham	Dorney	Eton	Henley	Marlow	Windsor
1	235	360	470	285		540	300	410
2	280	220	260		200	100	345	375
3	200	290	210	235	270	210		160
4	200	260	370	360			225	310
5	190	285	190	420	270	240	235	215
6	235	285	380				270	360
7	260	320	235	310	260	320	235	310
TOTAL	1600	2020	2115	1610	1000	1410	1610	2140

Congratulations to Windsor House who take 1st place, closely followed by Cookham in 2nd and Bray in 3rd. One more House Challenge to go this term - will this change the House scores for our End of Term assembly...?



COVID TESTS

If your child needs a test kit they can be collected from school.

Please ensure they have enough to test regularly over the holiday period and again before returning to school on Tuesday 4th January.

GCSE AND GCE CERTIFICATES 2021

Exam certificates for Summer 2021 are now available to collect from school.

Certificates must be collected and signed for by the candidate and where this is not possible please complete the Certificate Collection form on our Exam Forms page here on the link below to authorise third party collection.

EXAM FORMS



INVITATIONS TO CLUBS

Parents and carers may wish to sign up to My EVOLVE for an overview of clubs, what's on etc – you can do this from any of the club emails sent to you in two easy steps: 1. Click on the link in the email as usual to see clubs 2. Click 'create account' button.

LINK TO NEXT WEEK'S CLUBS LIST



Another delicious festive feast from Furze Platt's Innovate team, served this week to students and staff.



Here are Debbie (Café Manager, pictured in the middle) and some of her team at our Careers and Higher Education Fair with the spread they put on for all our stall holders.



BCA INSIGHT DAYS



BCA (Berkshire College of Agriculture) is holding Insight Sessions, on either 7th March and 29th April, to give Year 11 students who are thinking of going there next year the opportunity to find out more about the college and the course they are planning to take. These sessions need to be booked by parents on Events - BCA BCA will then contact the school to ask permission for the student to be absent from school for the session. On the online application form, please give your child's Head of House as the school contact. For further details, see below.

BCA - COLLEGE INSIGHT SESSIONS





COME AND WORK WITH US - CHECK OUT OUR CURRENT VACANCIES TODAY!

Lunchtime Controller to start as soon as possible

Vacancy for Lunchtime Controller to start as soon as possible

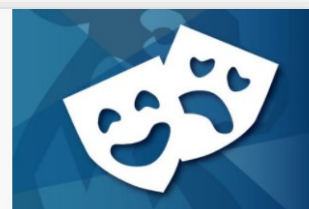
[Read Full Story](#)



Theatre Manager

Vacancy for Theatre Manager - 15 hours per week on a flexible basis

[Read Full Story](#)



Exam Invigilators

Vacancies for Exams Invigilators

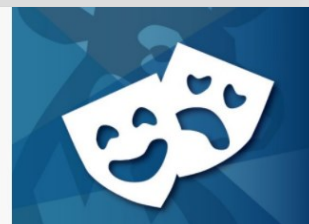
[Read Full Story](#)



Casual Theatre Technicians

Theatre technicians needed, to be employed on a casual basis

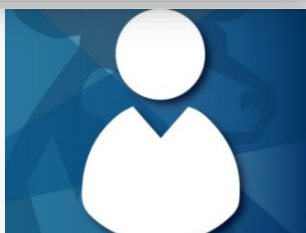
[Read Full Story](#)



Cleaners to start January 2022

Vacancies for Cleaners to start January 2022

[Read Full Story](#)



SEE PAGE 8: FOR JUST A FEW REASONS WHY FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL MIGHT BE THE PLACE FOR YOUR NEW CAREER ...

WHY WE ROCK!



DISCOUNTED GYM MEMBERSHIP ON SCHOOL PREMISES

3-day free trial.

Monthly £26 compared with the full price of £30.

Other Borough wide discounts are available.

FREE use before 8am and from 3.30 to 4.30pm.

SCHOOL TRIP TRAVEL & EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES

Our school has a very exciting and varied school trips program. Providing plenty of opportunity to volunteer on school trips – yearly ski trip, previous Sixth Form expeditions to Indonesia and Mexico, Geography trip to Iceland, Physics trip to CERN and many more!



STAFF CHRISTMAS PARTY AT FABULOUS OFFSITE VENUE

JOIN OUR
COMPETITIVE AND
FUN FURZE PLATT
FANTASY FOOTBALL
LEAGUE



5-A-SIDE STAFF FOOTBALL ON OUR ASTROTURF ON FRIDAYS

3.30PM-4.30PM

Casual, friendly staff football for all staff of all abilities.



INNOVATE CAFÉ

Serving healthy tasty food.
Easy to use Cashless System.
Free lunch on first INSET day, Xmas lunch, and afternoon tea in the summer term.

FRESHLY
BREWED
COFFEE AT
BREAK
TIMES



BEAUTIFULLY FURNISHED AND EQUIPPED STAFFROOMS





**Parents, Teachers
& Friends
Association**



TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE

[Contact us](#)

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

Website: [click here to access](#)



**OUR PTFA RAISED A FANTASTIC £140 FROM
WEDNESDAY'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT. THANK YOU
TO ALL PARENTS & CARERS WHO SUPPORTED THIS
EVENT.**

**A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR PTFA FROM US
ALL AT FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL FOR THEIR
HARD WORK RAISING FUNDS FOR OUR SCHOOL
THIS TERM.**

*Thank
You!*

JUST ONE WEEK TO GO...

What a brilliant night we had on Wednesday! Superb performances from all students. A massive well done and thank you to all the families, students, staff and the Performing Arts Dept for arranging the evening.

Mulled Wine, Mince Pies and soft drinks went down a storm! Thanks to volunteers: Katrina, Mary, Debbie, Diana and Jo – we couldn't do this without you. Plus, our sincere thanks to CountryStore, Cookham, and Waitrose, Maidenhead, for donating pies.

Can you help us access fundraising from
your employer with

MATCH FUNDING schemes?



MATCHED FUNDING/COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The Quiz, Tuck Shop and Christmas Concert are looking for a Match – or even a contribution. It's the smart way to save paying tax and earn FPSS PTFA funds! Follow this link and read up: <https://www.gov.uk/payroll-giving>

Let us know what documents and data your company needs, by email or through Facebook:

ptfa@furzeplatt.net

<https://www.facebook.com/fpssptfa>

Cont. on page 11

COPAS TURKEYS BUY ASAP TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

POTENTIAL £10 DONATION PER ORDER

Thanks again to our local independent farm, COPAS, for their generous offer. Please add our **"PTA TURKEY CASHBACK"** product to your basket when ordering: <https://www.copasturkeys.co.uk/our-shop/>

Steps to follow:

- 1) Add a Turkey product to your basket first
- 2) Scroll through the product list or search "PTA" for the "PTA Turkey Cashback" item
- 3) Select Furze Platt Senior School from the dropdown list & add to basket.
- 4) Navigate to checkout & complete your order.



COPAS
ESTD 1957
VERY VERY SPECIAL TURKEYS

Up to £10 donated to the PTA for every turkey ordered.

If your school is registered for our Turkey Cashback scheme, simply select it from the list & add to your basket.

There is NO CHARGE to you and Copas Traditional Turkeys will donate up to £10 for every order.

ONLINE 'NON-EVENT' FUNDRAISING – WE CAN ALL DO IT!

WHY NOT LET YOUR FINGERS DO THE DONATING? ANYWHERE. ANY TIME. EVERY TIME.

REGISTER WITH EASYFUNDRAISING AND SMILE.AMAZON NOW!

157 SUPPORTERS ON EASYFUNDRAISING

EASYFUNDRAISING



66 SUPPORTERS ON AMAZON.SMILE

SMILE AMAZON



YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND US! SEND US YOUR WWW, EBI, NS:



ptfa@furzeplatt.net



<https://www.facebook.com/fpssptfa>

