

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

### Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions

Every year, large numbers of FPSS students (normally 150-200) complete their Bronze, Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Through learning new skills, volunteering and expeditions, we know the DoE programme helps give students experiences that support their personal development, as well as awards valued by employers. This week has seen many Year 9 and 10 students successfully complete their practice expeditions for Bronze and Silver Awards (Gold Awards are scheduled for next year). I understand there were a few aching muscles and even more blisters but a huge sense of achievement! Congratulations to all those students involved and many thanks to the staff, parents and carers who supported the expeditions.



### Super 75 Reward Cinema Experience

At FPSS we know that a huge majority of students have an excellent attitude to learning and are ready to study every



## 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)

WED 20 OCTOBER	PTFA Meeting (Library) - All welcome	7pm - 8pm
THU 21 OCTOBER	Year 11 - Virtual Parents' & Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm
FRI 22 OCTOBER	End of Term 1	3.15pm finish
MON 25 - FRI 29 OCTOBER	Half Term Holidays	
MON 1 NOVEMBER	Start of Term 2 (Week 1)	

### SCHOOL TERM DATES 2021/22

lesson of the day. We reward this with our ACHIEVE points with many students receiving additional points for displaying our school ACHIEVE values. At the end of each term, we like to reward students for their efforts. Congratulations to each of the 75 top ACHIEVE point winners in our eight Houses who will next week have a cinema experience.

### Year 7 Meet the Head of House Evening

Thanks to all of our new Year 7 parents and carers who attended the Head of House evening on Thursday. It was lovely to meet you again and share news on how your children have started at FPSS.

### Year 11 Virtual Parent Consultation Evening

Following the recent PPEs, next Thursday gives teachers, parents and carers the chance to talk about Year 11 progress as they head towards their examinations next summer. If you are a Year 11 parent or carer and have not already done so, please book appointments via the link below. We encourage students to be present for this online meeting so that they can hear how parents/carers and staff are working together to support them.

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## COVID-19

Following a peak in cases in late September, our numbers have now stabilised. However, parents and carers are still informing us of positive cases in our community. Please stay vigilant, keep your child at home should they show symptoms and have them tested. Thank you.

Take care,

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

## YEARS 7, 10 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](http://www.furzeplatt.com) and clicking on the quick link 'Online Reporting', or by going directly to Go 4 Schools [www.go4schools.com](http://www.go4schools.com) and selecting Parents.

Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at [reports@furzeplatt.net](mailto:reports@furzeplatt.net).

Please see here for our Guidance to Grading document:

### GUIDANCE TO GRADING

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager

## YEAR 7 INVITATION FOR COVID-19 VACCINATION

Is your son / daughter aged 12 before or on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021?

Please see the attached information from the School-aged Immunisation Team regarding the clinics being held for students that have turned or will turn 12 before or on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021.

### NHS INVITATION FOR COVID-19 VACCINATION LETTER



## YEAR 10 PREPARE TO ACHIEVE PRESENTATION

Please find attached our recent Year 10 Prepare to ACHIEVE presentation delivered by Mr J Dollery, Assistant Headteacher, and Mrs Feather, Raising Achievement Manager.

### YEAR 10 PREPARE TO ACHIEVE PRESENTATION

## YEAR 7 AND YEAR 8 - TOP READERS OF THE WEEK

This week we introduce a new challenge for students in Years 7 and 8 – can you make it into our Top Readers of the Week leaderboard?

Well done to our first Top Readers:

### Year 7

Sophie Lloyd  
Ashley Johnson  
Aleks Koziak  
Elodie Noel

### Year 8

James Kwiatkowski  
Tyler Suddaby  
Megan Denbury

## ENRICHMENT - CAKE CLUB

A group of Year 7 students have been regularly attending Cake Club over in the English Department. Each week they get to try the delights of a range of cakes before writing a review. The students have found the club a great way to make new friends, unwind after a busy day at school and, most of all, to enjoy eating delicious cake!



Pictured: Jack Buy, Oliver Fennell, Ali El Guoshi

Cont. on page 3



## INVITATIONS TO CLUBS



Parents and carers of students in all year groups will have received invitations at the start of this term for their son or daughter to attend clubs.

Clubs for Term 2 (November to December) will be sent out next week.

If you have not received an email and have checked your junk mail without success, or you would like to cancel a club for your son / daughter, please email [catherine.johnstone@furzeplatt.net](mailto:catherine.johnstone@furzeplatt.net) for assistance.

Thank you.

### LINK TO CLUBS LIST



### OVER 50 SCHOOL CLUBS TO CHOOSE FROM

Parents and carers of students in all year groups will have received an invitation to attend clubs for their son/daughter.

All bookings for this term, September to October half term, must be made through the original email invitation (sent out on **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September**)

## Innovate IFG

'Dear Parents & Carers,

As you will probably have seen in the media, and on supermarket shelves, we're all experiencing disruption to the products available to us. We've seen headlines about Nando's chicken and McDonald's milkshakes amongst others. You've probably had your own frustrations with the lack of products out there or even getting some fuel when you need it. Well, we are too, but we are in a different position to high street restaurants as we have far more flexibility in our supply chain.

We use a wide range of local and regional suppliers, so we have more options available to us. Of course, we may have to move slightly off plan and change some products during this challenging time, but we'll always be doing our very best to make sure there's a freshly made meal available every day.

You will also have seen the reports of staff shortages in hospitality. This is a challenge for us all in the sector and we are, of course, working hard to maintain our service levels. Again, under these circumstances we may need to change some of our services where necessary while we fill our vacancies. We will of course be doing everything to minimize any disruption and look after our students in the usual way.

So, in summary, there are issues out there with both the supply chain and the hiring of great people, but we are on it, and we'll do everything we can to ensure your child is not impacted. But if you do notice any changes, you'll know why. Please bear with us and we'll get through the issues we're all having together.'

For more details please click here:

### CAFE AND DINING FACILITIES







## BRITISH BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### HORRIBLE HISTORIES QUIZ FROM THE BBC

See how much British Black History you know – answers on page 5.



Question 1: In 1948 the British government invited hundreds of black men and women from the Caribbean to come and work in the UK, but what was the name of the ship that they travelled on?

Question 2: What happened when the passengers on the Empire Windrush discovered a stowaway on board the ship?

Question 3: Some black Tudors had great jobs, like expert diver Jacques Francis, who was so highly skilled that he was employed to help King Henry VIII – but why?

Question 4: Queen Elizabeth I was one of the investors in a venture set out by sea captain John Hawkins. It was one of England's first steps into the slave trade, a shameful period in British history, but what was the shape of the journey in Hawkins' plan?

Question 5: The horrific slave trade unfortunately continued for hundreds of years, with millions of people being taken from their homes in Africa. By the late 18th Century there was a growing campaign against slavery, including a group of brilliant, black political writers, but what were they known as?

Question 6: After decades of campaigning, in 1796 a vote was finally held in parliament on ending the slave trade, but why were some MPs unable to vote?

Question 7: Though trading of slaves was ended in 1806, slaves themselves weren't officially freed until over 26 years later! But what happened to the slave owners when the slaves were freed?

Question 8: Despite being born on a slave ship in 1729, Ignatius Sancho was the first black Briton to do what?

Question 9: One of the first black women to join the British armed forces was a lady called Lilian Bader, serving alongside many other black men and women in World War 2. But what extraordinary thing happened on her wedding day?



## MESSAGE FROM THAMES VALLEY POLICE

Thames Valley Police is raising awareness of exploitation and county lines.

County Lines is a term used to describe organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs into one or more areas within the UK, using dedicated mobile phone 'lines'. A process of grooming is used to entice a child into acts of criminality. This may include promises of something the child needs or wants, such as money, expensive clothes and shoes, power and status or a sense of belonging.

Exploited young people do not always look or act vulnerable and we are asking that everyone looks closer for signs, some of which could be the following:

- Truancy
- Anxious, frightened, angry or displaying other behaviours that are out of character
- In possession of more than one phone

Cont. on page 5

- Having unexplained money or belongings, or buying new things
- Taking drugs or abusing alcohol
- Unexplained injuries and refusing to talk about it
- Hanging around with older people
- Going missing from home, staying out late or travelling for unexplained reasons
- Spending more time on phone and being secretive about who they are calling or texting

If you spot any of these signs, speak to your child and let them know that help is available.

If you are concerned about a child and think it's an emergency please dial 999, otherwise please dial 101. If you would rather remain anonymous, you can contact the independent charity crimestoppers online or call 0800 555 111.

More information can be found at [childrenssociety.org.uk/lookcloser](http://childrenssociety.org.uk/lookcloser)

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS

Congratulations to the 150 students who completed their practice DofE Expeditions this week.



It was lovely to see your happy faces and hear about the positive experience you had.

Please can you support your child to upload their chosen activities for the skills, volunteering and physical section on EDofE by Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. If they need support with this, I am available every break time in the Portacabin. All students must start their activities before Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October with a view to completing the three month sections before February half term.

Miss D Carty, DofE Manager

## QUIZ ANSWERS



1. The Empire Windrush set sail across the Atlantic in 1948 carrying many people who had seen adverts asking for workers to move to Britain. It was the first of many similar journeys and helped produce what people call 'The Windrush Generation'.
2. They held a concert on board and the money raised paid for her ticket so that she could join them in their new home in Britain. Caribbean music and culture is still celebrated in Britain to this day with the famous Notting Hill Carnival every summer.
3. Jacques was one of the top West African divers and, after the sinking of Henry's flagship the Mary Rose, he was enlisted to help recover the 76 canons and expensive treasure on board the wreck.
4. The merchant ships travelled between Europe, Africa and the Americas in a triangle formation, making a profit at each stop. Moving goods such as pearls, ginger and sugar from the New World (the Americas) to Europe, items like metal, gunpowder and guns to Africa and then finally transporting African people to the New World to be sold as slaves – a terrible flow of goods and people that proved to be very profitable for those in power.
5. The Sons of Africa were vocal campaigners in the fight to abolish slavery. The group's members included formerly enslaved men like Ottobah Cugoana, Olaudah Equiano and other leading members of London's black community.
6. The result was close, with the anti-slavery bill losing by only four votes. Unfortunately many members of parliament in favour of the abolition of slavery weren't present to vote as they were attending a new opera! The abolition of slavery in the British Empire didn't pass parliament until 11 years later.
7. In total, the slave owners were given £20 million (around £17 BILLION in today's money) because the enslaved people had been considered as the owner's property! In comparison, the newly freed, 800,000 slaves received... nothing!
8. Ignatius Sancho was a very successful writer, becoming the first black male writer to have his work published in England and as a land owner, he was the first black Britain to be able to vote in a British election.
9. On the day of her marriage to Ramsay Bader, there was an air raid.





**Parents, Teachers  
& Friends  
Association**



TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE

Contact us

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

Website: [click here to access](#)

**JUST A WEEK TO HALF TERM**

**– HOW TIME FLIES!**

**HELP US TO HELP OUR CHILDREN, PLEASE!**

Our fundraising activities are predominantly online rather than physical events. Our main scheme is the **200 Club**. Here's the 'low down' on what you need to know:

## 200 CLUB

Could you use £200 cash next week? To be in with a chance of winning on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October** please see the links below and enter before **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October**. If all our parents/carers joined paying just £5 per month (£1 per week) then our School could earn £6000+ per year. Currently there are 1400+ students on roll, approx. 600 parents/carers on record and 100 members in the 200 Club.

Please share this fundraiser and scheme with your friends and family and help us achieve a **target of 3 new members for next Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**.

**200 CLUB**

**Winning numbers  
for our next draw**

How it works: 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. 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 for everyone, please click here now:



**PAY ANNUALLY (£57 PER YEAR)**

**PAY MONTHLY (£5 PER MONTH)**

**PTFA Meeting and 200 Club Draw** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021

7pm – 8pm – join us from 6.30pm in the School Library

Please pop along and see who we are (we won't bite!) and we won't force you to commit to a job, promise!

We'll discuss fundraising ideas, funding requests, plans ahead and how to achieve them. Plus we'll draw 3 winning numbers 'from the hat' for those members in the 200 Club.

*Don't forget to join the 200 Club by the 17<sup>th</sup> October – you've got to be in it to win it!*





## Many hands make light work...

The PTFA Committee is made up of just four parents – Lorraine, Jean, Caroline and Geraldine – with children in year groups 8-11. We have daytime jobs like most of you and arrange activities in our spare time which is very limited nowadays. We now need help with running the PTFA behind the scenes plus we'd like to extend our talents, abilities and be more efficient, so can you assist with below?

A Nearly New Uniform co-ordinator to accept donations and collate orders  
A Newsletter & social media 'master' to write and promote us  
An Amazon and Easyfundraising 'guru' to publicise and collate metrics  
A Secretary (from January 2022) to arrange meeting dates and take Minutes  
A 200 Club Manager (from January 2022) to maintain data files and promote

What's the deal? Well, by doing or helping with a job, without any demanding specific hours, here are a few reasons to come on board:

IT IS making fundraising an insightful venture, an official process to agree the expenditure of monies raised, a sociable activity, a great way to make new friends, a superb method to make a difference to our children's school experiences, a bridge between home and school life, attending meetings 4 times a year, plus you'll be appreciated by staff and families alike.

IT IS NOT stuffing envelopes, organising fairs or boot sales, not hunting for free prizes for large scale Raffles, not sweeping the hall or cleaning the kitchen after an activity and not attending lots of planning meetings.

Please come along next Wednesday and/or get in touch via Email: [ptfa@furzeplatt.net](mailto:ptfa@furzeplatt.net) Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fpsptfa>

## Big Quiz, Hot Buffet Dinner & Bar

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021  
7.30pm for 8pm start

Buy tickets now: <https://bit.ly/3BEKekBm>  
(<https://donorbox.org/furze-platt-ptfa-quiz-night>)



## Volunteers required to setup, clear up, run the bar and raffle

Continuing our Skool Daze theme you can look forward to testing your music, trivia, picture and general knowledge.

You'll also enjoy a sensational hot meal from Giant Pan Caterers who are experts in Continental cuisine and pride themselves on serving exquisite food using the finest ingredients, cooked by premium Chefs.

£16 per ticket, 6 per table. If you've not got a full team, just come along and join another group.

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

## Office & Nursery Assistant

£10.54 per hour • 17 hours per week • Term time only  
Tuesday 08:30am – 3:45pm (Office & Nursery)  
Thursday 11:30am – 12:30pm (Lunch Club)  
and 12:30pm – 3:00pm (Office)  
Friday from 08:30am – 3:45pm (Office & Nursery)  
Fixed term contract: immediate start to July 2022

We are seeking to appoint a friendly, professional, dedicated and flexible person to join our motivated and happy school team covering both the school office and assisting in the Nursery as required.

Our ideal candidate will have:

- Excellent organisation, communication and IT skills.
- The ability to work by oneself and use initiative.
- The skills to multi task, be flexible and enjoy an environment with young children.

For application packs please email the school on

**CookhamNursery@eyfed.org.uk**

We welcome visits to the setting; these can be arranged by contacting the school office.

**Closing date for applications: Friday 22 October 2021**

**Applications will be considered as received and interviews will be arranged accordingly.**

*Cookham Nursery School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our children. All appointments will be subject to a full DBS check and satisfactory references.*

### **Cookham Nursery School**

Station Hill, Cookham, Berks SL6 9BT

Tel: 01628 520002

Email: [CookhamNursery@eyfed.org.uk](mailto:CookhamNursery@eyfed.org.uk)

Website: [www.nurseryfederation.co.uk](http://www.nurseryfederation.co.uk)



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD



## Facilities Manager – start date December 2021/January 2022.

Permanent/Full time, 37 Hours a week, start and finish times flexible and to include a half hour unpaid break. Monday to Friday (with occasional ad-hoc work at weekends), all year round Actual salary £35,791 - £39,687pa (pending pay award) depending on experience. Accommodation is available on the school site (2/3 bedroom bungalow) at a considerably discounted monthly rental

Furze Platt Senior School is proud of its spacious school estate which includes a state of the art teaching block, a recently constructed theatre seating 400 people, a gym, dance studio and astro-turf as well as classrooms with up-to-date IT equipment and newly refurbished café facilities. We are looking for someone with experience in site management and maintenance to assume the role of Facilities Manager, managing a strong site and cleaning team and continuing the enhancement of the learning environment for our students and staff. This will include planning and management of all aspects of the school estate such as capital projects, repairs and maintenance, grounds maintenance and health and safety, in line with statutory and regulatory requirements.

Security is of utmost importance, and you would be responsible for keeping the site safe and secure. The role involves management of the site and cleaning team (approximately 10 staff members) ensuring they are aware of priorities and work as a team to support the school in the achievement of its objectives. Making staff aware of health and safety is important as is ensuring that the school is both safe and welcoming for students, staff, parents/carers and visitors. Reporting to the Head of Operations, the successful applicant must be able to put together site maintenance and development plans, identifying and costing out short, medium and longer term priorities. In addition, you will carry out risk assessments relating to the school premises and ensure that control measures are implemented. As a school we are keen to support a community effort towards sustainability and this role plays a key part by contributing to waste reduction and taking the lead in energy efficiency initiatives.

If you have experience in managing people and projects, are a team player and relish the opportunity to work in a busy environment where no two days are the same this would be an exciting opportunity for you. You would be joining a strong and enthusiastic Senior Business Team which works alongside a dedicated Senior Leadership Team in a school which strives daily to achieve excellence. Living on site in the school bungalow is preferred, however all applicants with the right experience and skills will be considered.

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: 9am 22nd October 2021**  
**Interviews will take place: Wednesday 3rd November 2021**

**CURRENT VACANCIES**

## Learning Support Assistant – to start as soon as possible

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.

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**Closing date: Monday 18th October 2021**

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

CURRENT VACANCIES