

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #65.9









MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,



Welcome Back

I hope that you and your families enjoyed a good half term break. It has been a delight to welcome students back this week and see our ACHIEVE values very much to the fore. In particular, I have had the pleasure of meeting many students who have been touring the site each morning in search of answers to our



House Challenge Flag Quiz, as well as seeing continued high numbers attending our clubs and societies.

COVID 19 Measures

I would like to thank all students, staff, parents and carers who have supported the school this week by conducting LFD tests prior to term commencing and for wearing face coverings around site. However, we are still handing out a large number of face coverings each day. To help the environment and our school budget we would be grateful if you could ensure students have washable face coverings.

Please keep testing and ensure your child stays at home should they have coronavirus symptoms.

Congratulations to Miss Desrene Carty, DofE Manager

We are very proud of the large numbers of FPSS students who undertake DofE Gold, Silver and Bronze awards. Miss Carty (pictured) has been central to our DofE team and has helped hundreds of students achieve their awards. It was therefore great to receive a letter from DofE explaining that she had been recognised for her efforts:

"Des is one of our outstanding DofE Managers and we wanted to recognise the impact she has made to the award at Furze Platt, supporting and guiding so many young

UPCOMING EVENTS

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)

Forthcoming Events

MON 22 NOVEMBER	INSET Day - school closed for all year groups	All Day
THU 25 NOVEMBER	Sixth Form Open Evening	6pm - 9pm
FRI 26 NOVEMBER	Late Start 9.15am	

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2021/22

people through their DofE journey. She goes above and beyond to support these young people and we are so thankful for her hard work."

I am sure many students, parents and carers would want to join with me in congratulating Miss Carty on her award.



Good Luck Year 11 and 13

Next week our Year 13s have their PPEs. Good luck to all students with these examinations. Good luck also to our Year 11 Spanish, French and German students who will be having their speaking examinations.

Take care.

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

INSET DAY

MONDAY 22ND NOVEMBER



Please note: school will be closed on Monday 22nd November for all year groups.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT AUDITIONS FRIDAY 12TH NOVEMBER



We will be holding auditions after school on Friday 12th November for students wanting to perform as a solo or group in the Christmas concert. The Christmas concert will take place on Wednesday 8th December. Students should come to the audition with a piece ready to perform (max. 5 minutes). There is a sign-up sheet for students on the notice board in the Music department. Please email Rhiannon.bailey@furzeplatt.net if you have any questions.



SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING THURSDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2021



I am delighted to be able to invite you to the Furze Platt Sixth Form Open Evening 2021, which will be an inperson event held here at Furze Platt on the evening of Thursday 25th November 2021.

The primary purpose of this event is to inform you of the full range of opportunities available to those wishing to take courses beyond GCSE level as well as the opportunity to explore the Sixth Form here at Furze Platt. We would be delighted to meet you and offer you the chance to talk with our Sixth Form team, teachers and some of our students to find out what it is like to study here with us.

We are very proud of our Sixth Form and its record of high achievement and very much hope that the evening will give you all the information necessary in making Furze Platt the Sixth Form of choice for your child. The evening will provide students with the guidance they need to make informed choices when selecting their courses.

Please could we ask you to arrive at 6.20pm, as the presentation in the Theatre will start promptly at 6.30pm.

The new Sixth Form prospectuses will be available on the evening for you to browse and take away, and will also be available to download from our website after the event.

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The programme for the evening is outlined below. The main presentation will be followed by the possibility of attending up to **FIVE** talks on various A-Levels and Level 3 Applied courses.

6.30pm - 6.50pm

Main Presentation in the Theatre with introductory talks from:

- Eliza Stevenson (Head Girl), Stuart Johnstone (Head Boy), Isabella Considine (Deputy Head Girl), Matt Dilley (Deputy Head Boy): our Student Senior Leadership Team - Welcome.
- Mr P Ging, Head of Sixth Form, Dr A Morrison, Headteacher – The Admissions Process; The Curriculum; Induction; Tutorial Programme; Academic Monitoring/Reporting; Preparation for Careers and Higher Education.

7.00pm - 9.00pm

All subject presentations will be available at the following times:

- 7.00pm 7.20pm
- 7.25pm 7.45pm
- 7.50pm 8.10pm
- 8.15pm 8.35pm
- 8.40pm 9.00pm

These presentations are designed to give students and parents a deeper understanding of subject content and delivery and will allow you to ask questions of subject specialists who teach courses here at Furze Platt Sixth Form. The subject presentations will be the same so you need only attend one for each subject students are interested in during the evening.

We do recommend you see five subjects, even though students will only pick three subjects as standard (some students may complete four A-Levels) as we are eager for students to be as fully prepared and enthused as possible with the options available to them in Sixth Form.

In addition to the subject presentations, the Sixth Form block will be open, with students available to offer tours of our facilities, and the Sixth Form team will be available for any queries throughout the evening. We do request that masks are worn throughout this event.

I do hope you will be able to attend this valuable event and I look forward to speaking to you further about the exciting prospect of post-16 study here at Furze Platt.

Mr P Ging, Head of Sixth Form





USEFUL INFORMATION

Student Pastoral Managers



At Furze Platt Senior School staff seek to respond to communications within two working days. Should a matter require longer to resolve we will acknowledge your email and reply in more depth thereafter. If your issue is urgent (for example affecting the health and safety of a student) please email the Student Pastoral Manager for your child's House via student_support@furzeplatt.net for a prompt response, including your child's name / form / Year group.

Mrs J Barney: Cookham & Windsor

Mrs M Carpenter: Bray & Henley
Miss S Gumbs: Bisham & Eton
Mrs B Harper: Dorney & Marlow

Staff Contact Lists

These can also be found on our website and include email addresses for Form Tutors, Heads of House, Heads of Department and our Senior Leadership Team:

STAFF CONTACT LISTS

Non-Teaching Contact Numbers

Extension numbers for our Admissions Teams (Main School and Sixth Form), Exams, Finance, Shine and Marketing / Enrichment (including clubs and school trips) can be found here:

CONTACT US (NON-TEACHING)

Emergency Procedures

It is essential for the school to have your correct address, telephone number, and any other telephone numbers where you or a relative may be quickly contacted in the event of an emergency. Please inform us of any changes in your circumstances as soon as they occur by recording any changes here:

UPDATING STUDENT DETAILS

Reporting Absence

Absences should be reported via ParentMail.



INVITATIONS TO CLUBS

Parents and carers of students in all year groups should have received invitations to attend clubs last term for their son/daughter. The email was headed Furze Platt Senior School with the email address evolve.furzeplattsnrvisits@edufocus.co.uk and the links are safe for you to click on to confirm your child's attendance. If you have not yet received an email please check your junk / spam folders.

Please note:

- * all bookings for this term must be made through the original email invitations (one for clubs and one for academic support clinics) sent on Friday 22nd October
- * once in the list of clubs or clinics, click on the name of the club you wish your child to attend and confirm the dates
- * please only book your son / daughter on for one club or clinics per session
- * we always encourage students to attend as many as they are able. In addition to the email invitation, we will be publishing a list of clubs each week via the link below
- * students in upper years may see invitations to academic clubs that are not part of their specific academic programme; emails are sent to year groups so please only choose sessions that are appropriate to your son/daughter
- * if your son or daughter wishes to be removed from a club catherine.johnstone@furzeplatt.net email provide as much notice as possible to allow time for that place to be allocated to someone on the waiting list.

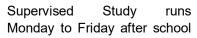
LINK TO NEXT WEEK'S CLUBS LIST

New clubs throughout the term will be added to the email so please check the link below each week to see what clubs your son/daughter may be interested in.

Thank you.

SUPERVISED STUDY CLUB

Would your child like a quiet space to work? Do they need support with their learning?



from 3.15 to 4.30pm in E6 (English Computer Room).

Parents / carers should book via the email headed Term 2 Academic Support Clinics; there is space for 20 students each afternoon.

Any questions, please contact Miss S Gorton, Learning Mentor at: sophie.gorton@furzeplatt.net

GARDENING CLUB HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN FUN

We had great fun in Gardening Club making a range of pumpkin carvings!























Film Club







HOUSE CHALLENGES - TERM ONE WINNERS



After seven weeks of Language based House Challenges in Term 1 we have our top three winning Houses...in first place, well done to everyone in Bray House! Second and third places were taken by Bisham and Dorney Houses.

Look out for this term's House Challenge!

1st

2nd

3rd









YEAR 10 AND 11 CHILD DEVELOPMENT VISIT FROM MIDWIFE

On Wednesday our Year 10 and 11 Child Development students had an amazing opportunity to spend two hours with Donna Joyce, a local midwife who has delivered over 600 babies in her career so far. Students had a chance to learn about the midwifery qualifications, pay and shift patterns. They have revised stages of labour and pain relief that can be applied, as well as the most common complications that can happen. Donna kindly brought in



some equipment that would be used in a hospital, including forceps, stitching kits, ventouse cap and heart beat monitor. She was impressed by our students, who demonstrated excellence by asking relevant questions and showing genuine interest in the workshops. Our guest has inspired many of them, and we cannot wait to see which of them decides to study midwifery in the future. Thank you to Donna for taking her time to come and see us. Visits from professionals like her is what makes education at FPSS so special for our pupils.

Miss R Paradowska

Head of Department

FURZE PLATT AWARDED SILVER GCSEPod CERTIFICATE





CATERING ASSISTANT TERM TIME ONLY



Hours: 25 hours per week (5 hours per day) based here at Furze Platt Senior School.

For more details please contact Debbie Horsfall

furzeplatt@impactfood.co.uk





HALLOWEEN SPOOKY FOOD FUN



The end of last term also brought Halloween spooky food fun to Furze Platt. Our Café Manager Debbie and her artistic team put on a fabulous display of goodies for students to enjoy!















Contact us

Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net | Facebook: facebook.com/fpssptfa Website: click here to access

NEW MONTH, NEW CHAPTER, NEW VENTURE.



VERY LAST CHANCE TO BUY TICKETS FOR NEXT FRIDAY'S QUIZ



BIG QUIZ, HOT BUFFET DINNER & BAR

Friday 12th November 7.30pm for 8pm start

8 helpers urgently required – get in touch asap by email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net or via https://www.facebook.com/fpssptfa

Buy tickets now: https://bit.ly/3BEKekB

https://donorbox.org/furze-platt-ptfa-quiz-night

The popular FPSS PTFA BIG QUIZ is back!

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

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

£16 per ticket with tables up to 6 people available. If you've not got a full team, don't worry, just come along and join a another group.

The PTFA bar will be offering Rebellion beer, wines and soft drinks, accepting cash and card payments on the night.

NEW VENTURE

LOOKING FOR AD HOC THEATRE 'TUCK SHOP' SELLERS FOR LETTINGS

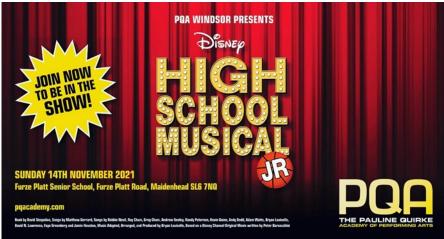
ALL PROCEEDS TO PTFA TO BENEFIT ALL FPSS STUDENTS

WHEN: SUNDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

TIME: ANY HOUR BETWEEN

10AM & 4PM





WHY: TO SUPPORT THE PERFORMERS WITH PQA WINDSOR ACADEMY, THEIR FAMILIES AND YOUR PTFA

GET IN TOUCH ASAP, PLEASE BY EMAIL: <u>PTFA@FURZEPLATT.NET</u> OR VIA OUR PAGE: FACEBOOK.COM/FPSSPTFA

We really appreciate your feedback and welcome comments and ideas by email ptfa@furzeplatt.net or through our Facebook Page facebook.com/fpssptfa





Cover and Absence Administrator To start 4th January 2022

Permanent, full time, 37 hours a week, start time 7.00am, finish time 3.00pm (includes a half hour unpaid break), Monday to Friday (finish on Friday at 2.30pm), term time only Actual salary £18,250-£19,765pa depending on experience

Would you like to join the Human Resources team at Furze Platt and take a lead with ensuring that our students are provided with high quality cover during lessons when teaching staff are on planned or sick leave?

Furze Platt is a highly successful mixed comprehensive school serving the children of Maidenhead. At Furze Platt, 1400 boys and girls of all abilities develop the skills and qualities to enable them to excel in the future. We are a highly ambitious, high-achieving and fully inclusive school in which our students are challenged and supported to achieve excellence.

We are looking for someone with strong organisational skills and able to work under pressure yet be accurate and pay attention to detail when organising cover. The main part of this role is to arrange both planned and emergency cover for all teaching staff through the allocation of our team of Cover Supervisors and liaising with teaching supply agencies to bring in additional cover for teachers should the need arise.

In addition, and with the provision of training you will record sickness absence in the school's management information systems, follow up on the collection of self-certification forms and fit to work notes and generate monthly sickness reports for the Human Resources Manager. Other duties include ad-hoc administrative tasks to support the HR team, supporting our receptionist with answering reception calls, and taking control of the general enquiry emails sent into the school to ensure that they are dealt with by the right member of staff.

If you enjoy working in an environment where no two days are the same, love being part of a team, but also working independently, have excellent IT skills and have experience in using either school based or other types of management information systems then we would love to hear from you.

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.

CURRENT VACANCIES



Special Educational Needs Administrator To start 4th January 2022

Permanent, full time, 37 hours a week, start time 8.30am, finish time 4.30pm (includes a half hour unpaid break). Monday to Friday (finish on Friday at 4pm), term time only. Actual salary Scale 4, £18,250 - £19,365 pa depending on experience

Furze Platt is a highly successful mixed comprehensive school serving the children of Maidenhead. At Furze Platt, 1400 boys and girls of all abilities develop the skills and qualities to enable them to excel in the future. We are a highly ambitious, high-achieving and fully inclusive school in which our students are challenged and supported to achieve excellence.

We have an exciting opportunity for an experienced Administrator to support our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo), Second in Charge SENCo and Learning Support Department during term time. You will carry out a range of administrative tasks including responding to emails and telephone queries. You will be responsible for maintaining the SEN register and keep staff informed of students on the register and preparing reports for students' annual reviews. You will also help set up a transition day for primary year 6 students with additional needs, which requires liaising with feeder primary schools to make appropriate arrangements. Attendance at review meetings and taking minutes is sometimes necessary. Liaising with many different parties including students, staff, parents and carers on a daily basis is an important and interesting part of this role.

Strong organisational and time management skills with an ability to juggle a busy day and meet deadlines are key requirements of this role. If you have excellent administrative skills, enjoy using your initiative as well as working with part of a team and are happy working in an environment with young people where no two days are ever the same then we would be interested in hearing from you.

For further information about this role and 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.

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Closing date: Wednesday 10th November at 9:00am Interviews will take place: week commencing 15th or 22nd November

CURRENT VACANCIES



Casual Theatre Technician

Casual contract. Actual salary £11.30 per hour

Furze Platt Senior School is privileged to have an onsite fully functional Theatre with state of the art lighting and sound. The Theatre is a venue for school productions, professional performances and for hire by local community groups.

We are looking to establish a bank of dedicated Theatre Technicians, employed on a casual basis to assist in the preparation and running of shows. You must be available to work on an ad-hoc basis and much of the work will be during evenings and weekends. We are looking to appoint multi-skilled technicians with experience in either a professional, educational or performance environment. Applicants should be calm under pressure, good problem solvers and be able to work well as part of a team. Technicians will be contacted prior to scheduled productions and performances in relation to their own availability.

Please visit our website www.furzeplatt.com for an application form or contact Theatre Assistance via lettings@furzeplatt.net for further information. Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered. All applications need to be submitted to kiran.smith@furzeplatt.net.

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 suitable applicants apply

CURRENT VACANCIES





Interested in training to teach?



is now recruiting for September 2022 in many subjects.

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

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

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

Find further advice for prospective applicants on the Get into Teaching website.

To apply for teacher training Click Here

In partnership with the Institute of Education



