

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Year 9 Options

Touring FPSS this week I have enjoyed seeing our Year 9 students learning about the GCSE and vocational subjects they could study in Key Stage 4. It has been great to hear students asking thoughtful questions and really trying to understand what each course involves. Talking to students they are actively engaged in the process and deciding which subjects to choose.



We look forward to welcoming parents, carers and students to our Options Evening on Thursday 3rd February.

Sixth Form Applications

Another pleasure at this time of year is interviewing students for places in our Sixth Form. We have received many applications from our current students, as well as those in other schools. I look forward to meeting many of them in the forthcoming weeks.

UCAS Applications

We are also approaching the 26th January UCAS deadline for our Sixth Form students to make university applications. We have 121 students (including 8 from our 2021 Year 13 cohort) applying this year. I would like to wish them every success with their interviews and university offers.

Year 11 PPEs (Mocks)

Congratulations to our Year 11s for their approach to PPEs this week. I hope that they get results that reflect the time spent revising and practising examination questions.

Take care,

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

[ALL EVENTS](#)
[SPORTS CALENDAR](#)

Next week (week 1)

WED 26
JANUARY

Year 11 Photos

UCAS DEADLINE DAY

Forthcoming Events

THU 3
FEBRUARY

Year 9 Options Evening

6pm - 8.30pm

FRI 4
FEBRUARY

Late Start

9.15am

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2021/22 & 2022/2023

SIXTH FORM INTERNAL INTERVIEWS

BEGINNING TUESDAY 25TH JANUARY

Internal interviews for Sixth Form start next Tuesday and will be held within the school day.

Students should check their emails for timings and locations.

We wish them all the best of luck with their applications.

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

We would like to thank all parents and carers for your ongoing support in ensuring your children are arriving in school punctually every day and making it to all of their lessons on time, helping maximise good progress across all their subjects.

Sadly, however, there have been too many students arriving late at the start of the day, as well as others who are regularly late for their lessons during the day. Please can we again remind everyone that **we require all students to be through the school gates by 8:40am** at the latest every morning, in order to be at their **Form room for 8:45am**. This expectation is not new and has been in place for many years.

We recognise that traffic is bad in

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Maidenhead most days and that trains can regularly be delayed – and request that sufficient time is allowed for those delays so that students are at school ahead of 8:40 and avoid the stresses of being late. As adults we know when we are expected to be at work, and the consequences if we are repeatedly late. It is important that students also understand the importance of punctuality.

Due to the high number of students who have been arriving late, we have this week been running late detentions. We sincerely hope that these will become redundant very soon, with the vast majority of students always getting into school, and all their lessons, on time every day.

Next week we will be continuing to closely monitor punctuality, ensuring all students not only make into school for 8:40am, but also make it to every lesson on time.

We look forward to your continued support.

Mr J Sheppard
Deputy Headteacher



YEAR 11 PHOTOS

WEDNESDAY 26TH JANUARY

Year 11 students will be invited to have their photographs taken next week as part of their Year 11 Leavers' Events (more details on additional events will be sent out soon).

A copy of the photograph of the whole of Year 11 costs approximately £23, which can be ordered online or from school after you have seen the proofs. There will also be opportunities for students to have friendship group photos taken on the day. **Students must be in full, correct uniform in order to be in the photographs.**

YEAR 9 OPTIONS EVENING

THURSDAY 3RD FEBRUARY

On Thursday 3rd February, we will be holding our 2022 Year 9 Options Information Evening. This important evening is for students and parents to find out about the

options process and to talk to different subject teachers about the wide range of courses that we offer at Furze Platt.

There will be two talks explaining the options process, one at 6.00pm and the other at 7.00pm, with 4 Houses attending each talk (details of House timings below). After the talks have finished which should last for approximately 30 minutes, you will then be able to visit each subject stall in the English block where you can ask any questions you may have and find out more about how different subjects are taught and assessed.

The timings for the talks are as follows:

6.00pm - Bisham, Bray, Cookham and Dorney House

7.00pm - Eton, Henley, Marlow and Windsor House

I look forward to welcoming you on Thursday 3rd February.

Mr A Morbey
Assistant Headteacher

9.15AM START

FRIDAY 4TH FEBRUARY

After our Year 9 Options Evening there will be a late start of 9.15am for all students on Friday 4th February. Students should go to their first lesson instead of Form Time that day.

NEW HEAD OF HOUSE – COOKHAM HOUSE



Mr Nic Jones has taken over as Head of Cookham House from Miss

Holmes. Details will be sent out to parents and carers of students in Cookham House.

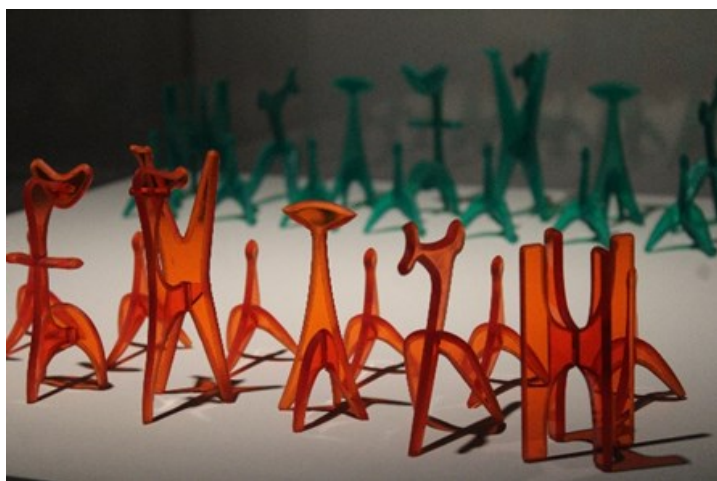
CAN YOU HELP?

Please keep your empty covid test boxes for us as we need them to make hundreds of books for our upcoming performance of Matilda Junior! Boxes can be brought into Reception. Thank you.



YEAR 12 VISIT TO NOGUCHI EXHIBITION

Our Year 12 Product Design and Fashion & Textiles students visited a fascinating exhibition at the Barbican this week. Described as 'an exhibition celebrating Japanese American sculptor Isamu Noguchi (1904-1988), one of the most experimental and pioneering artists of the 20th century' students were fortunate to see his first touring retrospective in Europe for twenty years.



MORE ABOUT ISAMU NOGUCHI

ADDITIONAL INSET DAYS

The dates for our two additional INSET days this academic year are as follows:

Thursday 23rd June 2022

Friday 1st July 2022



YEAR 11 CONSTRUCTION

Our Year 11 Construction class were visited by Dominic Gavin and Kieron Maddox from Active Security, to talk about apprenticeships with their company. Kieron, a former Furze Platt student, is currently in his second year of his apprenticeship and provided a first-hand account of what it entails. Thank you to Dominic and Kieron for sparing the time to pass on this valuable information.



MESSAGE FROM YEAR 9 DOFE STUDENTS

"We are a group of young people in Year 9, and we're doing our Duke of Edinburgh volunteering section together. Last term we were thinking about what to do to volunteer, and we chose to help homeless people because we wanted to help those in need. We helped homeless and vulnerable people get the help and resources they needed by organising a collection in

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school. We collected items, before sorting them and giving them to Slough Outreach to distribute. It felt really good to get people the resources they need. We enjoyed the process and it felt good to help people feel safe. We collected 25 toothbrushes, 100 toothpastes, assorted toiletries, 13 hats, 8 blankets, 32 soup sachets, 23 cans of food, snacks and drinks, 5 coats, 16 socks and other warm items of clothing. From these we supplied homeless people with gift bags and over 60 of these were given out on Sunday 19th December. It was great to know we made a difference and to know that homeless people could also get a better Christmas. We are very grateful to everyone who helped and made a donation for our community. Thank you to everyone who helped us to make an impact."



INVITATIONS TO CLUBS

You 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 at the top of your screen.

Please note:

* all bookings for this term must be made through the original email invitation (sent out Friday 17th

December); more clubs may be added to this invitation next term but all bookings need to be made through this email

[LINK TO NEXT WEEK'S CLUBS LIST](#)



LOCAL COLLEGES OPEN DAYS AND EVENTS

YEAR 11



Online Information Event - Tuesday 25th January, 6.00pm-6.45pm

This event has been changed from an open evening to an online event. Students and parents will be able to listen to course leaders talking about specific subject areas, including Business, Creative Media and T Levels.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Creative Taster Day - Saturday 5th February, 9.00am-1.00pm

Students who have either applied or want to apply for Dance, Theatre Studies, Photography, Media, Performing Arts, Creative Media Production, Music Production and Performance, Textiles or Graphic Animation, can come along to this creative open morning and find out more about each of these amazing subjects. Sessions will be timetabled, so interested students must register for a place here.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Open Evening - Tuesday 15th February, 6.00pm-8.30pm

The Henley College will open its doors to prospective students and their parents to look around and meet

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teachers and staff. You'll be able to visit our two campuses in-person, and see where you will be studying. This is a great opportunity to find out more about the courses you want to study and see the college facilities. Booking is essential.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Windsor College

Open Evening - Tuesday 1 February 4.30pm-7.00pm:

[CLICK HERE](#)

Langley College

Open Evening Thursday 3 February 4.30pm - 7.00pm:

[CLICK HERE](#)

Apprenticeships Explained - Monday 7 February 2022 4.30pm-5.30pm

An online event for students and parents:

[CLICK HERE](#)



Open Day - Saturday 5th March 10.00am-2.00pm. For details and to register

[CLICK HERE](#)

Open Evening - Wednesday 4th May 5.00pm-7.30pm. For details and to register

[REGISTER HERE](#)



READING COLLEGE

Open Evening - Wednesday 2nd February, 4.00pm-7.00pm. For details and to register

[REGISTER HERE](#)



PTFA NEWS THIS WEEK

PTFA MEETING AND 200 CLUB DRAW – ON ZOOM

Thursday 27TH January 2022
8pm Start

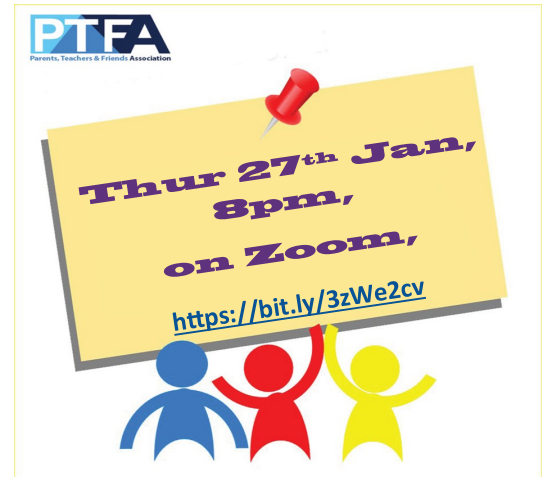
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://bit.ly/3zWe2cv>

Meeting ID: 994 0719 6613

Passcode: 81Lrtm

All parents, carers, friends and staff welcome to join us.



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.

200 CLUB

Winning numbers

for our next draw

Would anyone like a £200 Cash Prize? If so, please join our 200 Club!

To be in the Draw on Thursday 27th January, please join before the 25th

This Club is our primary fundraiser. Here's an overview:

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. The PTFA and school could earn £6000+ per year if everyone joined paying £5 per month. 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 and we hope you'll click through here to join:

ANNUAL PAYMENT (£57 PER YEAR)

MONTHLY PAYMENT (£5 PER MONTH)

You've got to be in it to win it!

FEEDBACK AND IDEAS WELCOME - YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND US!



ptfa@furzeplatt.net



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



<https://bit.ly/39u6vFv>

Gale Hubbard, Yoga Teacher

Gale is passionate about the well-being of young people. Her mission is to help them to enjoy and explore the world around them, and also have them realise their own agency and the contribution they can make.

An experienced yoga instructor and school teacher, she has spent over 10 years in education. Gale has worked with children from age 3 to 18 years both in and out of schools, in the UK, Ghana, Romania and New Zealand. She is also a certified children's mindfulness teacher.



Move Happy Fitness

FREE TASTER

Wednesday 16th February 2022

6.15pm - 7.15pm

St Edmund Campion Parish Centre, Altwood Road, Maidenhead

Full Course Details

Wednesdays

6.15pm - 7.15pm

6 week Course from 2nd March to 6th April
(Investment £60)

Yoga for Girls aged 11 - 16

- Supporting physical development by increasing flexibility and strength
- Helping to build emotional and mental resilience
- Breath work and other techniques to increase energy and decrease anxiety and stress
- A non competitive and fun environment
- Opportunity to get active, connect and engage with others, as well as step away from technology for a time
- A route to rediscover and reconnect with what it is to enjoy movement and activity

DETAILS AND BOOKING

<https://www.movehappyfitness.co.uk/kids-yoga>

Questions?

Contact: Nicola Porter
nicolamaryporter@gmail.com
Phone: 07709 164778
www.movehappyfitness.co.uk
@movehappyfitness



Move Happy Fitness is now offering Yoga classes specifically for girls aged 11 - 16.

These themed classes

- Support physical development by increasing flexibility and strength
- Help to build emotional and mental resilience
- Involve breath work and other techniques to increase energy and decrease anxiety and stress
- Offer a non competitive and fun environment
- Are an opportunity to get active, connect and engage with others, as well as step away from technology for a time
- Are a route to rediscover and reconnect with what it is to enjoy movement and activity

Book a spot at our FREE TASTER on Wednesday 16th February, Parish Centre St Edmund Campion, Altwood Road, Maidenhead

Full 6 Week Course begins Wednesday 2nd March - bookings open

MOVE HAPPY FITNESS



WE OFFER A **FREE TELEPHONE** COUNSELLING SERVICE

number22
is a registered charity
providing counselling
services in Windsor,
Maidenhead and
Slough



number22
community counselling services

- ✔ Are you aged between 11-25 years old?
- ✔ Looking for some confidential help & support?
- ✔ You can chat to one of our trained counsellors on our **FREE TELEPHONE** support line about anything that is worrying you

To book your 25 minute telephone appointment visit our website
number22.org



Youth Alpha

A chance to chat about life's big questions with fun, food and friends.

Ask anything.

Running weekly for 9 weeks, Youth Alpha is an opportunity for young people to ask questions, share ideas and explore faith in a fun and safe environment. There is no pressure and no cost, just lots of space for having fun together and sharing good conversation.

Each week we will meet to play games, eat a meal, watch a short video and chat in small groups about particular questions designed to spark interesting conversations about faith and beliefs.

Who: Anyone in Yr 8-13

Where: St Peter's Church Centre

When: Sundays 6.30-8.15pm

Starts: 30th Jan 2022



Sign up at stpetersmaidenhead.org.uk/youth

TEACH MAIDENHEAD



Interested in training to teach?

TEACH
MAIDENHEAD

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](#)

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CURRENT VACANCIES