

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #67.1



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 5

I hope that you and your families had a good Easter break. It was apparent from the buzz of conversation around school at the start of the week, that many students and staff had the first chance in a while to get away or have some days out. It was good to hear students and colleagues share stories of their adventures and return refreshed to FPSS.



Our Ski Trip

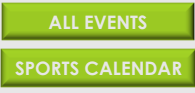
I would like to thank to the students and staff who went on our Ski Trip in the first week of the Easter Break. I hear it was a fabulous trip and many thanks go to all those who supported the visit, not least our staff who gave up some of their break to go.

My Assemblies this Week

During my assemblies I have praised many of the efforts of our students in making FPSS a better place to be. I have used many examples including our fundraising and collection for refugees, social media praising our students for their help and support in the community, and students who have actively helped around site including planting trees and wildflowers, litter-picking and intervening to support friends and peers when needed. As you may suspect, I have also highlighted some of the areas around site we can improve and challenged all students to make a difference. I look forward to praising many more students for their contributions this term.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Next week (Week 2)

MON 2 MAY	Bank Holiday - School closed	All day
THU 5 MAY	Year 7F Parents' & Students' Consultation Evening	4.30pm - 7.00pm

Forthcoming Events

WED 11 MAY	Year 6 Parents' Induction Evening	6.30pm - 9.00pm
THU 12 MAY	Year 7P Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	4.30pm - 7.00pm

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2021/22 & 2022/2023

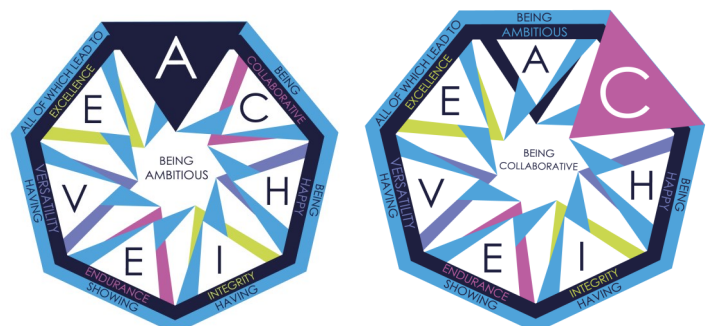
2022 Examinations

Finally, my assemblies have wished good luck to all those students taking examinations this summer. There are only a few weeks before the written examinations begin, with many students already involved in assessments including language speaking examinations and PE moderation. The vast majority of students are focused on their revision schedules and ensuring that they achieve their best this summer. We all want them to succeed and I have encouraged students to use staff, parents and carers to support their efforts.

I hope you enjoy the Bank Holiday on Monday.

Take care,

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





YEAR 7F PARENTS' EVENING

THURSDAY 5TH MAY 4.30-7PM

On Thursday 5th May there will be a consultation evening for Year 7F parents and carers which will be held virtually. We encourage students to be present for these online meetings also.

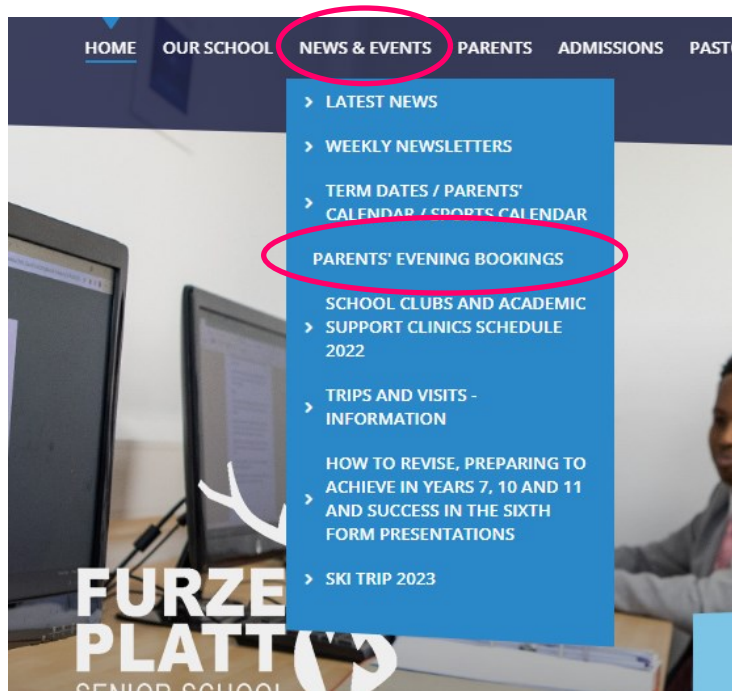
To identify if your child is in F, P or S band please look at their timetable either in their planner or on Go4Schools (eg 7F/Ma1 indicates they are in 7F).

Please note, date and time details will be sent out in due course for those in 7P and 7S bands.

Appointment slots are available to book now. We advise you to book as soon as possible as appointments are likely to book up quickly.

Appointments are booked online and are available from 4.30pm until 7.00pm. To book, either follow the link below or go to the Parents' Evening Bookings link under 'News & Events' on the school website.

PARENTS' EVENING BOOKINGS



Guidance on how to use our virtual parents evening system can be found below. Please ensure you read the below guide as this system works very differently to other platforms such as Zoom. You will need to log into the Parents' Evening booking system on the night in order to access your appointments.

We would advise using a desktop or laptop for your appointment and to use Wi-Fi rather than mobile phone data. This guidance includes information on how parents/carers can join from two different locations if required,

please note in order to do this the parent booking the appointments is the only person who has the ability to invite another parent to the appointment.

If you are unable to attend the consultation via video call, please let us know in the booking system comments section and we will arrange a time to contact you by phone about your child's progress.

We always have a member of our Senior Leadership Team available should you have any additional questions or concerns you wish to raise. In order to continue to provide you with that opportunity during virtual meetings, one of the Senior Team will be on Zoom for the duration of Parents Evening.

Should you wish to speak to them between 4.30pm and 7.00pm, please follow the link:

[JOIN ZOOM MEETING](#)

Meeting ID: 892 4822 4251

Passcode: gT8pQ5

This link is only if you wish to speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team, it will not take you to your child's teachers.

Having started Zoom, you will then go into the Waiting Room and will be admitted as soon as possible. Please note that there may be a few minutes wait while in the Waiting Room as there may already be another parent present (only one set of parents will be 'admitted' at any time).

If you have any problems, please contact the school office on 01628 625308.

Mrs Sarah Crisford

Assistant Headteacher (Student Support)

'Teachers' subject knowledge is particularly strong. Most teachers are subject specialists.'

Ofsted 2021



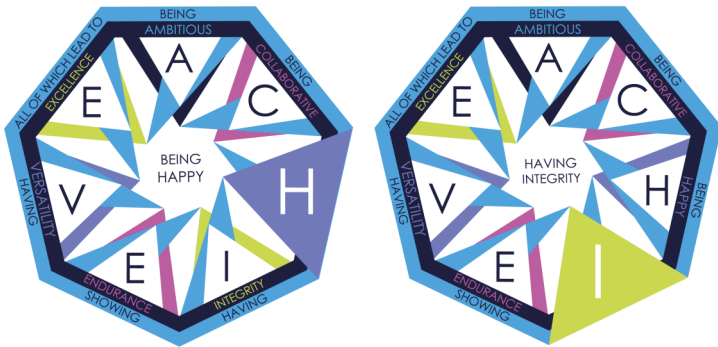
SKI TRIP 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

The 2023 ski trip to Andorra is open and spaces are filling up quickly. If you would like to secure a space for 5 days of high quality, instructor lead skiing or snowboarding, along with evenings packed full of activities, please complete the online form via Parentmail along with the deposit.

Please click on the link below for more details.

SKI TRIP LETTER



fundraising event has been amazing. The activities we ran added a significant amount to how much we raised, with almost 200 students generously donating to take part in these, and this couldn't have been done without the help of many teachers and students who volunteered to give up their spare time to help run the activities, so a massive thank you to everyone who helped!

It was a big logistical challenge to organise the event with Miss Carty in the short time frame, but we learnt so much in the process and loved working with various students and staff to help make the event a success. Doing a near whole staff briefing on a Monday morning before school started was quite daunting but the overall thing we learnt from organising this fundraiser was that if you have enough passion and motivation to achieve something, no matter how ambitious it may sound, you can achieve it.

We would say to anyone that is motivated to bring about positive change in some shape or form, that you can achieve your ambitious goals, you just have to go all in for it.'

Thank you to everyone who supported this event. Below are some photos taken on the day (which was also a Mufti Day).

DEC CHARITIES FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES



Well done to Nick Holdsworth and Anna Gambrill, Year 12, for arranging our fantastic Fundraising Charity Day last term. We are delighted to announce that we raised £2,264 from both online and cash donations – a huge thank you to everyone who donated.

Nick and Anna, supported by Miss Carty, our DofE Manager, worked tirelessly to organise this in a short space of time and managed to arrange funpacked activities for students across the school.

Below is a message from Nick and Anna:

'Firstly we'd just like to say a massive thank you to everyone that donated and took part in the activities on the last day of term 3 weeks ago. We raised a total of £2,264.10 and we can confirm 50% of this has been donated to the DEC Afghanistan appeal and 50% has been donated to the DEC Ukraine Appeal. The generosity students, parents and staff have shown through this





INVITATIONS TO CLUBS FOR TERM 5

Parents and carers of students in all year groups should have received invitations at the end of last term for their son/daughter's clubs for this term. 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.

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.

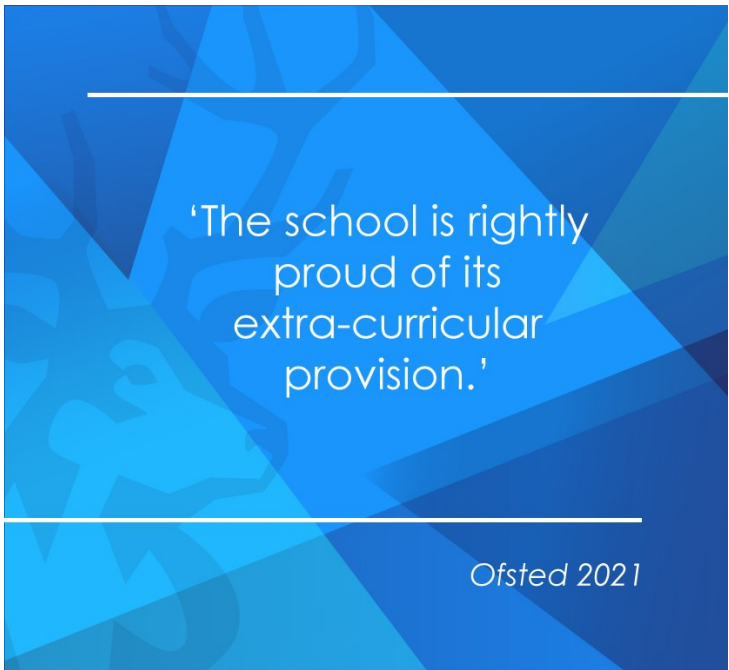


SOME OF OUR MANY TERM 5 SCHOOL CLUBS!

Please note:

- * all bookings for next term (April – May 2022) must be made through the original email invitation (sent out Friday 8th April); more clubs may be added to this invitation next term but all bookings need to be made through this email
- * once in the list of clubs, click on the name of the club you wish to book, choose the dates and press confirm
- * please do not duplicate club bookings per session
- * 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, please email catherine.johnstone@furzeplatt.net and provide as much notice as possible to allow time for that place to be allocated to someone on the waiting list; if they cannot make one week they should let the club leader know.

LINK TO NEXT WEEK'S CLUBS LIST



CAREERS TALKS - CAREERS IN NURSING



Our next careers talk will be about Careers in Nursing, by Emma Fitzpatrick-Burke of Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust, on Wednesday 5th May from 3.15pm-4pm.

Emma is passionate about nursing and has a wealth of experience. Her background is in community nursing, palliative care and acute medicine and she is currently Clinical Development and Quality lead for Reading District Nursing.

The talk is open to all students in all year groups. Please do book your son / daughter in via EVOLVE through the original booking link as soon as possible – we expect this talk to be very popular.



FRIDAY
15.15 – 16.15
AR2

YEARS 7-13



**TERM 5
SCHOOL
CLUBS**

Members of the eco-club will form the school's eco-committee, a team of students who are invested in looking after and protecting our school environment through a manner of tasks and activities around the school site.

Examples of activities could involve helping with the planting of our new wildflower garden in Spring, looking after our current school garden, making bird feeders and insect houses, litter picking around the school site, raising awareness around school of ways students can help in the battle against climate change etc. We are currently working towards our Eco-schools Award as prior to COVID we were awarded our Bronze Award so we are now all working together to achieve our Silver Award.



GARDEN COMPETITION

ECO CLUB

A big thank you and well done to the following students who submitted a design for the FPSS Garden Competition: Owen Lattimer, Amy Jayne Macey, Oliwia Drozdowska and Ellis Binnington.

We were bowled over by the amount of time and effort that had been spent on each design, so much so that it was hard to choose one winner so prizes will be distributed evenly amongst the students. Entries have been passed on to a team of experts at school who will meet with students to discuss their designs and bring them to life.

Look out for updates on the progress of the school garden in future newsletters!

Miss E Holmes, Head of Eco Club

CATERING ASSISTANTS x2 REQUIRED

IMMEDIATE START - TERM TIME ONLY



Our friendly café team are looking to hire two Catering Assistants, 8am – 3pm Monday – Friday term time only £9.50 per hour including free lunch.

For more details or to apply, please email our Café Manager Debbie Horsfall at: furzeplatt@impactfood.co.uk

ADMISSION PROCESS FOR UKRAINIAN FAMILIES

RBWM have advised all schools that applications for admission into schools are to be centralised and coordinated by them. This ensures applicants are tracked efficiently and record are kept up to date of the number of applications received. RBWM can also help families navigate the admissions process.

Please see RBWM admissions page on their website where a section will be added with an application form specifically for Ukrainian families.

If you know of anyone in this situation please do forward this information on to them. Thank you.

**200 Club draw being held tomorrow,
 SATURDAY 30TH APRIL**

DEADLINE TO JOIN: 4PM TODAY - FRIDAY 29TH APRIL

Three lucky members will win a £200 cash prize.

If you have been thinking of joining for a while, then we encourage you to sign up NOW by following the appropriate link below:

MONTHLY PAYMENT (£5 PER MONTH)

ANNUAL PAYMENT (£57 PER YEAR)

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

200 CLUB

**Winning numbers
 for our next draw**



Contact us

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

Website: [click here to access](#)

Charity Number 287878

Uniform – has your son or daughter outgrown their logo'd uniform?

Have you had a clear out over Easter?

If so, we would be very grateful for your donation in order to fulfil outstanding orders and to meet our environmental objectives:



Recycle, Reuse, Repurpose. Please drop your bag into the blue boxes in school Reception or contact us to drop off to a PTFA'ers home.

Thank you to those who have donated already.

**HAVE A HAPPY BANK
 HOLIDAY MONDAY !**



INTERNSHIPS



Are you an undergraduate who is interested in finding out how exciting it is to be a teacher of Maths, Physics or Computing?

Would you like to spend time in one of our five impressive partnership schools in Maidenhead?

Would you like the prospect of shadowing a teacher, a student and sharing your experiences with others also keen on pursuing a teaching career?

Would you like the opportunity to speak with a newly qualified teacher about their first year in school?

Then please read on

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](#)

In partnership with the
Institute of Education



Follow us on Facebook



@TeachMaidenhead

CURRENT VACANCIES

MOVE HAPPY FITNESS

At Move Happy Fitness we believe fitness and movement is a true form of self care, and we are passionate about supporting women to feel strong, empowered and ready for anything.

We offer small, supportive fitness classes and personal training in Maidenhead, as well as Yoga courses for Kids and Teenage Girls. We focus on supporting both women and children to move in tune with their body, to find what feels good, and do everything we can to keep exercise simple, happy and human.

Mondays

Band Camp, 9.30am

Oaken Grove

Fridays

Kettlebells Basics, 9.20am

Oaken Grove

Saturdays

HIIT 8.30am

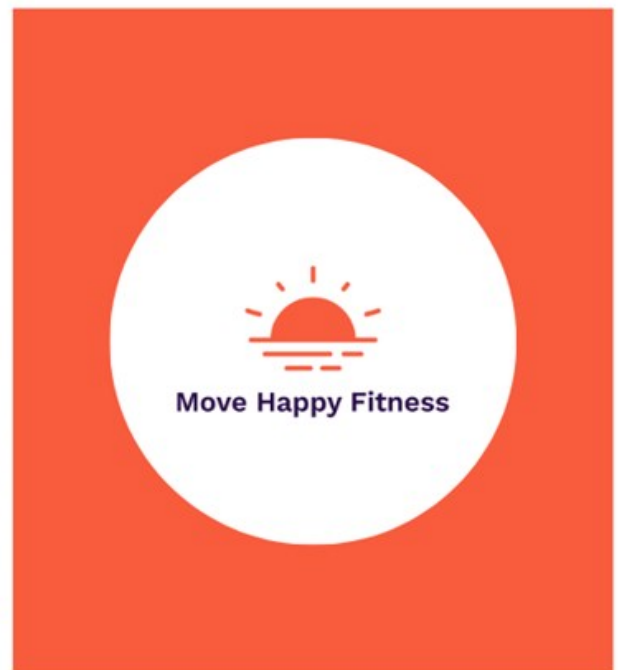
Cardio Kettlebells 9am

Furze Platt Senior School

*Drop in from £8
Online Booking required*



OUTDOOR CLASSES



Yoga for girls aged 11 - 16

We have a couple of spots still open on our yoga course for teenage girls.

This class feels important to us as we know there is a lot of change going on for girls at this time, and perhaps they don't enjoy the same activities they used to. Also it is an opportunity to move and be active in a non competitive environment.

As well as the physical benefits there are also the mental and emotional benefits, all of which might really help especially with exams etc coming up.

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

Classes are running term time on Wednesdays 7.30pm - 8.30pm, Parish Centre St Edmund Campion, Altwood Road, Maidenhead

For more information see <https://www.movehappyfitness.co.uk/kids-yoga>

Email Nicola Porter on nicolamaryporter@gmail.com to book a FREE TASTER

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

Wednesdays, Term time
7.30pm - 8.30pm
St Edmund Campion Parish
Centre, Altwood Road,
Maidenhead

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](https://www.instagram.com/movehappyfitness)



familyfriends
in Windsor and Maidenhead

**Supporting
Local Families**

**Next Volunteer
Induction:
Thursdays 5th
and 12th May
2022- 9.30am-
1.00pm**

**We're looking for
volunteers...can you help us?**

Would you like to join our diverse team of volunteers to provide caring, non-judgmental, practical and emotional short-term weekly support to local families facing challenges?

By volunteering you can:

- Give something back to your community
- Meet new people
- Gain new skills and experience;
- Make a difference to children and families
- Feel valued and part of a team.

We provide our volunteers with a detailed induction, plus ongoing support and training. If you have 2-3 hours to give each week (ideally daytime hours Mon-Fri) and are interested in joining our team, please get in touch!

Please note: You are required to complete an application form before attending an induction day.

We also need help with fundraising and awareness events so if you would like to get involved with raising much needed funds for our charity please contact us!

If you would like to know more please visit our website: www.family-friends.org.uk

Or call and speak to us on 0300 800 1005

or

Email: info@family-friends.org.uk



Essay Competition – COP26 and the future..

(Open to students in Years 9,10 & 11)

Win
Up to
£75



**TOGETHER
FOR OUR
PLANET**

Conference of the Parties more commonly known as “COP” is an annual global climate summit organised by the United Nations (UN) where world leaders from almost every country come together to discuss and tackle climate issues on a global scale to protect our planet and its people. The most recent summit, **COP 26**, was held in Glasgow in 2021.

To create a greener and more resilient future for all, COP continues to work closely with businesses, civil society groups, schools and changemakers across the globe.

As a young changemaker, we would like you to help contribute to this change. Choose a climate issue you would like to tackle in your country (new or existing issues), set a reduction target, a completion timeframe and in your own words, tell us how you would go about tackling this issue in your country.

Original ideas are encouraged!

Essays should be a maximum of 500 words (use of pictures is encouraged).

A £75 Amazon voucher will be awarded to 1st place, £25 for 2nd.

Closing date for entries is 27th May 2022. Include your name and the name of your school.

Please e-mail entries to: tvmgessaycompetition@outlook.com

IChemE

Thames Valley Members Group

