

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #67.5









MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Remembering Jordan

This afternoon we held a one minute silence to remember

Jordan Veira, our student who sadly died in the River Thames during the summer half term last year. Our thoughts were very much with his friends and family.

Following the silence, teachers reminded students about the water safety messages that had been shared with them by Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service.



The key message was to enjoy half term but stay safe.



Cont. on page 2



Next week

FRI 27 MAY	END OF TERM (TERM 5)	3.15pm finish
MON 30 - FRI 3 MAY JUNE	MAY HOLIDAY	
MON 6 JUNE	START OF TERM 6 (Week 2)	

Forthcoming Events (Term 6)

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THU 23	INSET DAY - School closed	
JUNE	PiXL Build Up Celebration Evening	6.00pm
MON 27 JUNE	Year 5 Open Morning	
MON 28 JUNE	Year 7 Enrichment Afternoon P4-5 (early break 2: 12.45-1.15)	
	PTFA Meeting/AGM (Library)	7.30pm - 9.00pm
WED 29 JUNE	Year 11 Graduation	4.00pm - 6pm
THU 30 JUNE	Year 11 Prom	7.00pm - 10.30pm
FRI 1 JULY	INSET DAY - School closed	
SAT 2 JULY	PTFA Nearly New Sale	11.00am - 2.00pm
TUE 5 JULY	Year 6 Taster Day 1	
	Year 6 Parents Q&A/Drop-In Evening	6.30pm - 8.00pm
WED 6 JULY	Year 6 Taster Day 2	
THU 7 - FRI 8 JULY	Year 12 Taster Days	
SUN 10 - WED 13 JULY	Year 12 Geography Fieldtrip - Nettlecombe	
MON 11 JULY	Year 12 Careers Day	
TUE 12 - FRI 15 JULY	Year 12 Work Experience Week	
THU 14 JULY	Art Show	4.30pm - 7.00pm
3011	Furze Platt Concert and Fundraiser	7.30pm
MON 18 JULY	Sports Awards Evening	
WED 20 JULY	Last Day of Term 6	12.30pm finish

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2021/22 & 2022/2023

Have a Happy Half Term

Thank you for all your support this Half Term. Term 5 is always dominated by examination preparation and the start of the external exams. I would like to express my thanks for the efforts students and staff have made to ensure they are successful. I also appreciate the support of our families in keeping students going. While Half Term offers the chance for a different routine and some mini breaks, we are not yet halfway through. Revision programmes need to be maintained so that students earn that extra long summer break.

Although examinations have dominated this term, there has also been the chance for other activities. As I detailed last week, we have launched Laptops for Learning for those students who will be in Year 7 and 10 this September. If you have yet to sign up or send us an email, please could you do so.

We have also had the chance to have some fun. Our Murder Mystery has proved as popular as ever and this week we have seen some friendly but fierce competition in the Inter-House netball.

We have much more planned for Term 6 but in the meantime, I wish you an excellent Half Term.

Goodbye

Sadly, this week we say goodbye to Renata Paradowska, our Head of Psychology, Criminology and Childcare. After several years and having made a significant contribution to FPSS, Renata is off to join the International Baccalaureate examination board in Cardiff. We say farewell also to Ariane Wilkinson, our French Language Assistant, who has also helped many students through their language exams over the past two years; and after half term, Lesley Rich, who has been with us for 19 years as one of our valued Science Laboratory Technicians has decided to spend more time with her family. We wish them all well.

Behaviour

This week our Deputy Headteacher Mr Sheppard has delivered assemblies on the new behavioural systems that will be starting in Term 6. I know that parents have received a letter detailing these changes. Please do have read and talk to your children about these changes. Please help your child have a good start to term by ensuring the basics of uniform, jewellery and equipment are correct for the new term. We are keen to avoid unnecessary negativity so we can focus on praising the vast majority who get things right most of the time.

Take care,

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

HOUSE CHALLENGES

MURDER MYSTERY

Well done to everyone who participated in Mr Djaelani's Murder Mystery House Challenge. Results below,



Cookham House were the winners!				
MARKER	Place	House	Points	
MUSTERY MYSTERY AT FURTE PLAIT SENIOR SCHOOL	1	Cookham	1218	
	2	Windsor	1192	
	3	Eton	1081	
	4	Dorney	1044	
	5	Bray	968	
	6	Bisham	915	
	7	Marlow	900	
3-5	8	Henley	827	

INTERHOUSE

Cookham House were also the winners of our Inter-House competitions which have been running all week. Great results and a huge thank you to all staff and students who organised, cheered on and (or) participated in the events.

FINAL OVERALL PLACINGS

Bisham	4000	7th
Bray	5000	5th
Cookham	7200	1st
Dorney	5600	4th
Eton	4400	6th
Eton Henley	4400 3600	6th 8th
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GCSE POD

Students are encouraged to use the attached booklet detailing revision activities to introduce different methods of revision. These are very useful activities to help break up the usual revision methods.

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GCSEPods are especially beneficial in the lead up to and during the imminent GCSE exams. Featuring short videos and lots of 'Check and Challenges', students can quiz themselves on their learning to see how effective their revision/learning is and help them drill more into the topics they know well or need to work more on.

If parents, carers or students would like more information or assistance, please email debbie.feather@furzeplatt.net

Mrs D Feather, Raising Achievement Manager

LINK TO GCSE POD ACTIVITIES

YEAR 10 TRAVEL AND TOURISM TRIP TO THORPE PARK



By Iris Lakovic, Year 10

On Wednesday a group of Year 10 students who are taking Travel and Tourism GCSE went to Thorpe Park and we learnt about the business behind Thorpe Park and how it has evolved and become successful over the years.

We did get to go on fun rides and I am personally a massive fan of Thorpe Park so going on the rides was the best feeling ever. The first ride I went on was Swarm and this ride was a nice warm-up and a great way to start off. Afterwards, Mr Green and Mr Ging and Year 10 students went on Stealth which is the fastest rollercoaster in the UK going at speeds of 0-80mph in 1.8 seconds. Most of us loved the rollercoaster, I did because I am a thrill seeker and I was on the ride with my arms up in the air. Lots of the Year 10s hadn't been on Stealth so they found the ride eventful since it was the fastest rollercoaster they had been on.

After Stealth we went around the park and everyone was desperate to go on Nemesis because it seemed fun. You also had a nice view on Nemesis. Overall, I think Nemesis was fun because of the views but although it personally was not my favourite overall everyone enjoyed it. Afterwards we went on Samurai, which lots of people found scary because it spins around and you have to hold on tight and people were screaming incredibly loudly. The final ride we went on was Saw and some people were shocked by it because there are scares at the beginning, which is quite frightening the first time you go on the ride.

While we were at Thorpe Park we also had an opportunity

to look at the business side of Thorpe Park as we took part in a workshop. We learnt about who their target market is and who their main competitors are. We also found out all the different methods they use for promoting the resort and then we worked in groups to design a new 'special event'. While we walked around the park we also took notice of the ways they can make more money from visitors because when you're at the park food prices are put up because you don't have anywhere else to eat.

Overall Thorpe Park was a great day out and it was educational and we all found out about how Thorpe Park became a great business.

'The curriculum is broad and personalised. It is designed well to meet the needs of all pupils.'







SCHOOL FUNDRAISING EVENT THURSDAY 14TH JULY

Maidenhead Concert Band (our local community band) will be performing together with our own students and staff for a fun toe-tapping evening with a great variety of live music. This is a real community event and it would be fantastic to make this a sell-out. (More details are on the next page.)

Tickets can be purchased here:

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED HERE

Cont. on page 4

Or via the QR code here:





If you can help with Silent Auction or Raffle prizes please bring any donations into Main Reception or contact Catherine Johnstone: catherine.johnstone@furzeplatt.net.

Our wonderful PTFA will also be running a bar that evening and would also appreciate any help that can be offered, they can be contacted at: ptfa@furzeplatt.net







EARLY BREAK TIMES FOR ALL STUDENTS



Due to exams, second break times will be moved to 12.45am – 1.15pm up to Thursday 23rd June. Please note 23rd June is an INSET day but school will be open for Exam students that day.

YEAR 11 EVENTS



Prom: Thursday 30th June 2022, 7.00pm - 10.30pm

Tickets are available to purchase

Our Year 11 Prom will be at the Riverside Marquee, Bray SL6 2ED on Thursday 30th June between 7pm and 10.30pm. The event is formal attire. Tickets cost £35 and this includes a buffet, DJ, photographer and a photobooth, kindly sponsored by the PTFA. Students should wear formal attire and bring cash to purchase soft drinks on the evening. If your son/daughter has any food allergies we need to be aware of, please note them on the form here:

YEAR 11 PROM - ALLERGIES

Tickets are available via your ParentMail account, please book as soon as possible to secure your son/daughter's place.

We are delighted to invite all our Year 11 students - some of whom have had three challenging GCSE years - but would like to remind you that the invite is based on ongoing positive behaviour and attendance in school.

If you are concerned about the cost of the ticket and facing financial difficulties, please contact Mrs Crisford to discuss at sarah.crisford@furzeplatt.net.

Graduation: Wednesday 29th June 2022 between 4.00 – 6.00 pm

Our formal Graduation Ceremony will take place on Wednesday 29th June at 4.00pm, to which you are warmly invited. Please indicate if you can attend the event and the number of seats required via your ParentMail account by Friday 27th May. There is no charge for this event.

On the day of the Graduation event students should come to school between 3.15pm and 3.30pm in full smart uniform. Students are expected to return any outstanding textbooks or revision resources that they have borrowed or wish to donate to the school. Students will meet their Head

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of House and change into their graduation gown.

Please note, parents should arrive from 3.45pm (not earlier) for the Graduation Ceremony.

There will be an opportunity after the event to take photographs with students in their formal graduation gowns.

We also welcome donations of good quality school uniform, PE kit or ties which should be placed in the PTFA boxes in our Main Reception area.

In the meantime, I would like to wish your child all the very best in their upcoming examinations.

Mrs Sarah Crisford

Assistant Headteacher (Student Support)





INVITATIONS TO CLUBS FOR TERM 6

Parents and carers of students in all year groups should have received invitations today to attend clubs for their son/daughter for next term.

The email was headed Furze Platt Senior School with the email

address <u>evolve.furzeplattsnrvisits@edufocus.co.uk</u> 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:

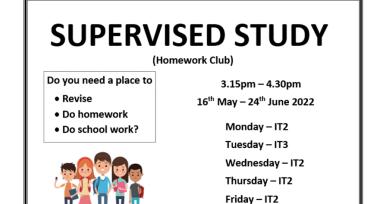
- 1. Click on the link in the email as usual to see clubs
- Click 'create account' button at the top of your screen.

Please note:

- * all bookings for this term (June/July 2022) must be made through the original email invitation (sent out Friday 27th May); 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.

Changes this term:

- Psychology GSCE has been changed to Monday 3.30-4.30pm
- Supervised Study will be in IT2 and IT3 during the GCSE exam period.



Every Friday afternoon the list of clubs for the following week is updated on our website here:

Sign up on EvolveClubs or talk to Miss Gorton in RA

SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLINICS
SCHEDULE 2022



ECO AND SUSTAINABILITY

What have we done so far at Furze Platt Senior School?



We have been awarded the Eco Schools Bronze Award









'The school is rightly proud of its extra-curricular provision.'

THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022



Thank you to our Café Manager Debbie, and all colleagues who work in the Furze Platt café for this wonderful display to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee next weekend.











Contact us

Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net | Facebook: facebook.com/fpssptfa

Website: click here to access

Charity Number 287878

HALF TERM, TWO BANK HOLIDAYS, PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS AND SUNSHINE FORECAST. **HELLO JUNE!**



Update for this month

We're pleased to see uniform trickling in - if you're clearing out wardrobes next week, please consider donating to us to fulfil backorders. The 200 Club has 1 new member, Amazon. Smile has 2 new supporters and Easyfundraising has **no** new supporters, so the targets have **almost** been achieved. Can we keep the momentum going? We can't fundraise without you!



TUESDAY 28™ JUNE 2022 – 7 FOR 7.30PM PTFA AGM AND GENERAL MEETING SCHOOL LIBRARY **EVERYONE WELCOME!**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - WE CAN'T RUNTHESE EVENTS WITHOUT YOU!

SATURDAY 2ND JULY 2022 - I I AM-2PM

NEARLY NEW UNIFORM SALE

We are still accepting logo'd uniform via school reception

THURSDAY 14TH JULY 2022 - 7PM BAR FOR MAIDENHEAD CONCERT BAND

FRIDAY 15TH JULY 2022 - 200 CLUB DRAW Final draw of the academic year



QUIZ & BUFFET DINNER – AUTUMN 2022 – Date and ticket info to follow

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



ptfa@furzeplatt.net



https://www.facebook.com/fpssptfa







Full time, 37 hours a week – 8.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Thursday and 8.30am to 4pm on a Friday (including half hour unpaid break)

Monday to Friday, Term Time Only

Actual salary range £18,580-£19,720pa depending on experience

Are you a keen sports player with experience of coaching young people? We are looking for a dynamic individual to join our thriving PE department and immerse themselves in all aspects of sporting life in school. You would be responsible for supporting vulnerable students and students with additional needs within PE lessons as well as planning for and coaching at extra-curricular sports clubs for all students. Organising home and away sports fixtures, using social media to communicate sporting success and getting involved in day-to-day departmental activities are important parts of this role. Taking ownership for researching and securing funding to finance extra-curricular activities as well as developing and sourcing new links with schools and local sports clubs are also key.

We are looking for a team player who enjoys working with minimum supervision, using their initiative and who might be interested in joining our teacher training programme in the future. For further information and an application form please refer to the vacancies section of our school website www.furzeplatt.com.

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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 Joanne.latham-brash@furzeplatt.net. Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered. For further information about teacher training and Teach Maidenhead please refer to www.teachmaidenhead.co.uk

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: Monday 6th June at 9.00am Interviews will take place as soon as possible after the closing date







Permanent, Part time, 32.5 hours a week, start time 8.30am, finish time 3.30pm (includes a half hour unpaid break). Monday to Friday, term time only Actual salary £18,000 - £19,500pa depending on experience

Furze Platt is a highly successful mixed comprehensive school serving the children of Maidenhead. At Furze Platt, 1400 students 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 an enthusiastic and reliable individual to join our Raising Achievement team and support the progress and development of our students through high quality academic mentoring. This will involve the provision of personalised support either one-to-one or in small groups for students at Key Stage 3 and GCSE.

You will:

- Work with the Raising Achievement Manager and subject teachers to devise and deliver appropriate support packages for students to help them with revision or subject specific catch-up work
- Provide students with strategies to help them with confidence building and improvement of organisational and time management skills.
- Be a listening ear for individual students and help them resolve any issues that are creating barriers to learning.

We are looking for a team player, with a willingness to acquire an understanding of the educational objectives and ethos of the school. You should be able to build positive and supportive relationships with students and have the confidence to communicate with staff, students and parents/carers. If you enjoy working in an environment where no two days are the same, then we would love to hear 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 Joanne.Latham-Brash@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: Monday 13th June 2022 at 9.00am Interviews will take place: as soon as possible after the closing date



Science Technician Level Three - Chemistry To start 1st September 2022

Permanent, Part time, 35 hours a week, start time 8.30am, finish time 4pm (includes a half hour unpaid break). Monday to Friday, term time only Actual salary £17,575 - £19,025pa depending on experience

Furze Platt is a highly successful mixed comprehensive school serving the children of Maidenhead. At Furze Platt, 1400 students 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.

The science technician team at Furze Platt currently consists of six staff members who work across two science prep rooms. We are looking for someone to join the team and contribute to the provision of technical support to members of the science teaching team to enable them to achieve the targets set out in the Science Department Plan.

You will be involved in a whole range of tasks primarily with a focus on the chemistry side of science including preparing Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 5 practical lessons and taking a lead in ensuring the prep rooms are kept in a tidy condition and that all preparations for practical lessons meet safety requirements. You will prepare paper resources for Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 start of topic criteria resources, and end of topic tests, oversee safety checks, and keep up to date records as well as prepare and co-ordinate cover work for Cover Supervisors in the absence of teachers. You will take responsibility for the management of the prep rooms, including safety elements on the rare occasions that the Lead/Assistant Lead Technicians are absent. Training will be provided where there are gaps, and you will be surrounded by a supportive team.

If you have a GCSE or equivalent in chemistry, have acquired knowledge and an understanding of chemistry through working in an educational environment and would enjoy working in a school where every day brings new challenges, and provides an opportunity to grow your already established skill set then we would love to hear from you. You need to have good communication skills and be able to work effectively as part of a team. An ability to prioritise and work under pressure to meet tight deadlines is paramount as well as a sense of humour and team spirit.

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 joanne.latham-brash@furzeplatt.net Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered.

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Closing date: Monday 20th June Interviews will take place: as soon as possible after the closing date



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





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.

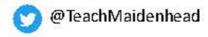
Information on the courses available can be found at: www.teachmaldenhead.co.uk

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
University of Reading







STARTRACK CAMP!

May half term & Summer holidays

Startrack Camp is all athletics based activities, for ages 5-13!

Get booking for May half term and Summer holidays so your kids can have some fun!

May 2022:

30th May-1st June

09:00-15:00

£75 week £30 per day per child

Summer 2022

25th-29th July / 1st-5th August 8th-12th August / 15th-19th August

09:00-15:00

£125 week £30 per day per child

Sibling discount Summer only £10 for extended hours *8:30am - 5pm*







Thames Valley Athletics Centre Managed by Datchet & Eton Leisure

For more information or to book head to our website: www.deleisure.com



kidsactivities@deleisure.com

Thames Valley Athletics Centre
Pococks Lane, Eton,
Windsor, SL4 6HN
01753 770037





A M B I T I O U S C O L L A B O R A T I V E