

# FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #67.9



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

### Year 11 Graduation and Prom

This week saw two of our major annual events. Watched by friends, family and our staff, on Wednesday Year 11 students attended their Graduation ceremony. For many parents and carers seeing students reach the end of Year 11 is one of those key moment as their child grows up and it was great for staff, students, parents and carers to remember key moments of the last few years. I would like to thank The Worshipful the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Councillor Mrs Christine Bateson for being our guest of honour.



On Thursday, Year 11 had their Prom. There were some amazing outfits with Year 11 looking very much the young adults we have seen grown and mature. I hope they enjoyed the evening and are looking forward to a great summer.

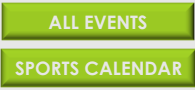
While the majority of Year 11 will return to our Sixth Form, for other students these events marked the end of their time at FPSS. We wish them well with their future adventures.



Photo courtesy of L Conibear



## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Next week (Week 2)

|                       |                                    |                     |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| SAT 2<br>JULY         | PTFA Nearly New Sale               | 11.00am -<br>2.00pm |
| TUE 5<br>JULY         | Year 6 Taster Day 1                |                     |
|                       | Year 6 Parents Q&A/Drop-In Evening | 6.30pm -<br>8.00pm  |
| WED 6<br>JULY         | Year 6 Taster Day 2                |                     |
| THU 7 - FRI 8<br>JULY | Year 12 Taster Days                |                     |

### Forthcoming Events (Term 6)

|                         |  |                    |
|-------------------------|--|--------------------|
| SUN 10 - WED 13<br>JULY | Year 12 Geography Fieldtrip -<br>Nettlecombe |                    |
| MON 11<br>JULY          | Year 12 Careers Day                          |                    |
| TUE 12 - FRI 15<br>JULY | Year 12 Work Experience Week                 |                    |
| THU 14<br>JULY          | Art Show                                     | 4.30pm -<br>7.00pm |
|                         | Furze Platt Concert and Fundraiser           | 7.30pm             |

## SCHOOL TERM DATES

### Enrichment Afternoons

I have loved hearing about all the activities occurring during our Enrichment Afternoons. These aim to give all students a chance to experience a range of activities that might light a passion or interest that leads them to pursue clubs or activities inside or outside school. I hope your children found these enjoyable.

### INSET Days

The last two weeks have seen our last two INSET days of 2021/22. For FPSS staff these have involved looking forward to plans for next year including foci on Laptops for Learning, Reading and Literacy. I hope that these days have

Cont. on page 2

not been too inconvenient and led to some different adventures for you as families.

### COVID-19

As the press have reported in the last week, Covid cases are on the rise. This is once again evident at FPSS with more cases amongst staff and students. Please do keep vigilant for symptoms in order to protect the health of our community.

### Welcoming our new Year 7 and Year 12 students

Next week we look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 and 12 students to FPSS for their induction days. We have a range of activities planned to help us all get to know each other!

### Duke of Edinburgh Scheme

Good luck to all our students embarking on their DoE expeditions in the next few weeks.

### Water Safety

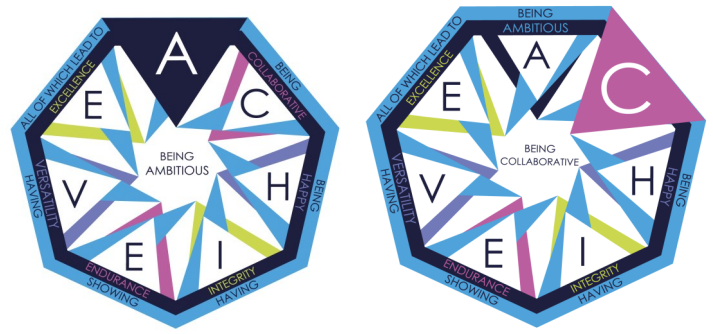
It was heartbreaking to hear of the tragic death of Ruben Iwe in the Jubilee River last weekend. Our thoughts are very much with his friends and family. Following on from our loss of Jordan Veira in the River Thames just over a year ago we are reminded of the important water safety messages Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service shared with us. I encourage you to talk to your children about water safety.

Take care,

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

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

*Ofsted 2021*



### ECO-SCHOOLS GREEN FLAG AWARD

Many congratulations to our team of students and staff who achieved the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award this week with distinction! The feedback from Eco-Schools praised the work of our Eco group and the way they have shown initiative and worked together to make changes at FPSS.



Any students wishing to be added to the team should see Miss Holmes.

### YEAR 7 & 8 ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES



Students in Years 7 and 8 enjoyed a variety of enrichment activities this week both on and off site. Teachers laid on range of crafts, skills, trips and much more for students to participate in or visit.

Students could choose from many activities - pictured are just a few of the day's choices; clay design, t-shirt printing and design, our

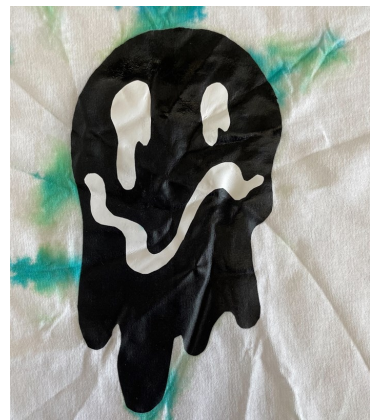
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'cupcake bake-off' and visits to Maidenhead Heritage Centre.

### YEAR 7 AND 8 ENRICHMENT CUPCAKE BAKE-OFF

Over in our Food and Nutrition department, students and staff enjoyed a feast of delicious cakes in a cupcake bake-off organised by Mrs Hirst and Mrs Robbins and judged by our Pastoral Managers Mrs Barney and Mrs Carpenter, along with our Deputy Headteacher Mr Sheppard.

The judges remarked on how difficult it was to choose as the standard was so high, but extra consideration was given to those with the most elements 'handmade' in school, original and creative design and of course the perfect bake!



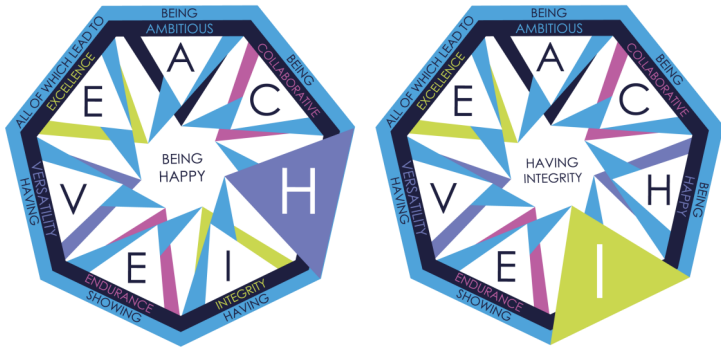
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Year 7 winners: Callie Williams and Willow Stone

Year 8 winners: Elena Balfe and Ella Siddons

Well done to them all.





**YEAR 10 UNIVERSITY TRIPS**



Year 10 students were given the opportunity to visit a university recently organised by our Careers Leader Mrs Bubb; thank you to all at Royal Holloway (University of London), University of Reading and University of Sussex for making us feel so welcome. Pictured: Royal Holloway.



**VISIT FROM ST LUKES PRIMARY SCHOOL**

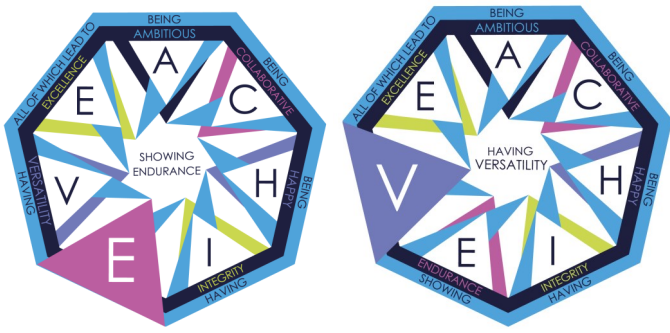


In addition to our trips out, we have had the pleasure of hosting Year 6 students from St Lukes School who came to visit one of our Science lessons. Pictured are some of their students with Mr Frankis, Teacher of Science.



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

*Ofsted 2021*



## Moving from Year 10 into Year 11

August 8th @5pm

Students can 'lift-off' into Year 11 with tips on prioritizing their wellbeing and enhancing the space around them.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THIS WEBINAR](#)

### Parent Webinars

Parents are invited to attend two exclusive webinars this summer, hosted by Future Toolbox's Mark & Jules.

### How to Create a Growth Mindset When Studying

The multi-award-winning Future Toolbox are joining GCSEPod in a two-part webinar and will be sharing some simple tools and tips to help to encourage students to enjoy their learning journey.

By creating a growth mindset around study and understanding that learning is about the journey and not the final exam, this will help students to find purpose at school or college. Positive study habits lead to positive habits in the future and a more rounded individual.

Parent webinars will run on 3rd August @ 5pm and 10th August @ 5pm.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER \(3RD AUG\) WEBINAR](#)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER \(10TH AUG\) WEBINAR](#)

## SUMMERPOD



After last year's success, we are back with a bigger and better SummerPod!

This is a fun programme to help students prepare and get ahead next academic year.



### Student Webinars

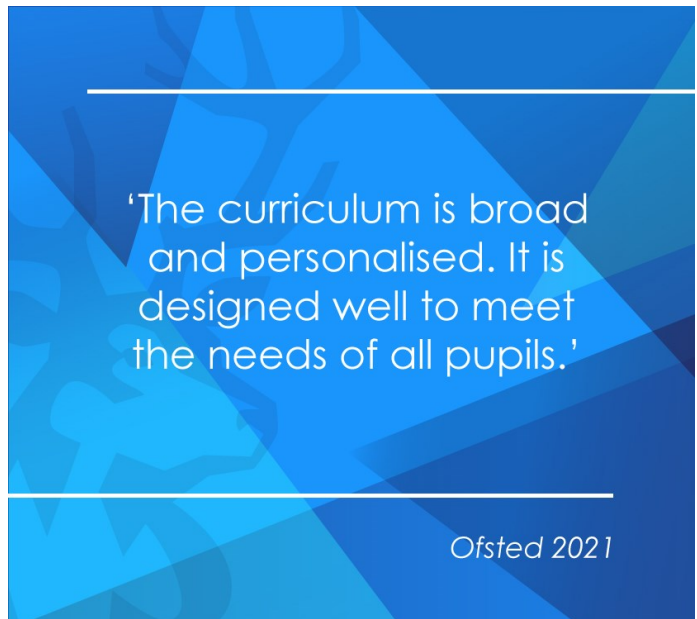
Current Year 9 and 10's are invited to join our exclusive student webinars, hosted by our very own Merlin Mee. Merlin, Learning Content Creator at GCSEPod, is our student webinar guru.

### Moving from Year 9 into Year 10

August 1st @5pm

Students are encouraged to rocket their way into Year 10 by exploring personal goals and cultivating healthy habits that will benefit them on their journey throughout Key Stage 4.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THIS WEBINAR](#)





Well done to our winners this week – Mrs Boseley and Bray House!

|                     | Bisham     | Bray        | Cookham     | Dorney      |
|---------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| TG 1                | 200        | 150         | 180         | 200         |
| TG 2                | 180        | 130         | 160         | 60          |
| TG 3                | 190        | 180         | 180         | 160         |
| TG 4                | 210        | 170         | 190         | 210         |
| TG 5                | 180        | 200         | 0           | 190         |
| TG 6                | 0          | 200         | 200         | 150         |
| TG 7                | 0          | 180         | 120         | 180         |
| <b>Total week 1</b> | <b>960</b> | <b>1210</b> | <b>1030</b> | <b>1150</b> |

|                     | Eton       | Henley      | Marlow      | Windsor     |
|---------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| TG 1                | 0          | 160         | 150         | 180         |
| TG 2                | 150        | 170         | 160         | 160         |
| TG 3                | 0          | 150         | 200         | 160         |
| TG 4                | 160        | 130         | 160         | 200         |
| TG 5                | 190        | 170         | 190         | 150         |
| TG 6                | 150        | 210         | 120         | 100         |
| TG 7                | 0          | 180         | 120         | 180         |
| <b>Total week 1</b> | <b>650</b> | <b>1170</b> | <b>1100</b> | <b>1130</b> |

**OVERALL PLACINGS**

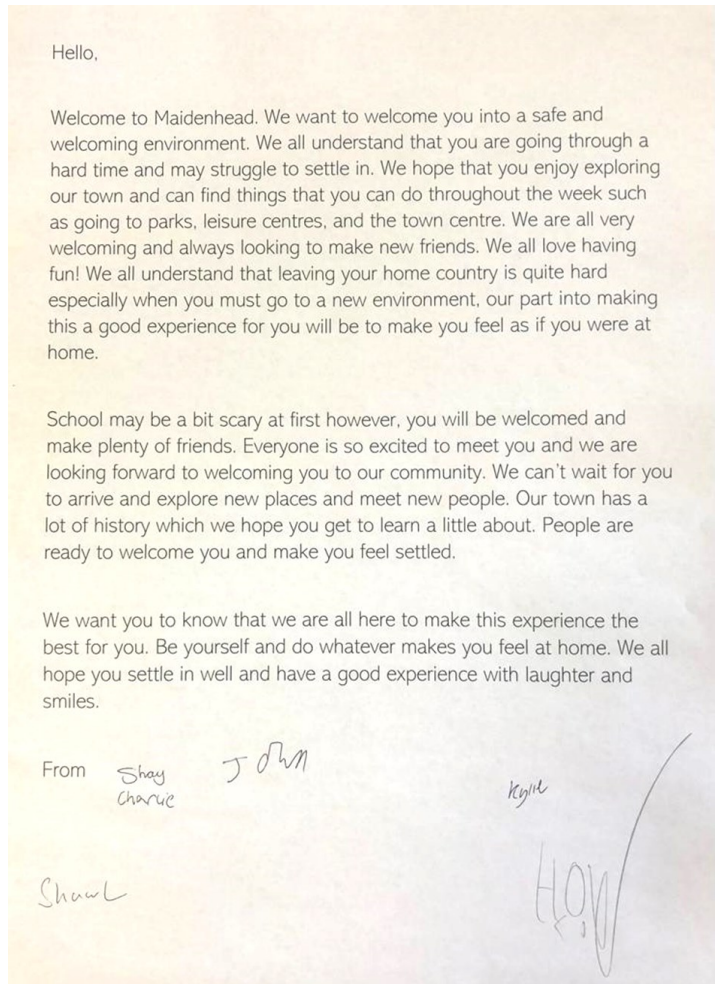
|                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| <b>Bisham</b>  | <b>7th Place</b> |
| <b>Bray</b>    | <b>1st Place</b> |
| <b>Cookham</b> | <b>6th Place</b> |
| <b>Dorney</b>  | <b>3rd Place</b> |
| <b>Eton</b>    | <b>8th Place</b> |
| <b>Henley</b>  | <b>2nd Place</b> |
| <b>Marlow</b>  | <b>5th Place</b> |
| <b>Windsor</b> | <b>4th Place</b> |



# Refugee Week

Year 9 students from the 9F Duke of Edinburgh group have been learning about refugeehood. The group has learned what defines a refugee, asylum seeker, and economic migrants. The group discovered that often refugees flee to the nearest safe country and therefore the UK hosts a small minority of the world's refugee population.

The group decided to write letters to welcome refugees to the local area and school community. You can see a copy of the group's letter below.



Young people in the group participated in activities to better understand the difficulties refugees face and extremely difficult journeys many refugees have to make.

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The Year 9 group took part in a quiz to learn more about famous refugees and tried food from different parts of the world. The group wrote some facts about what they learned about famous refugees.

Did you know Mo Farah was born Mogadishu in Somalia? He fled the conflict there and lived in Djibouti, before coming to the UK when he was 8.

Did you know Bob Marley fled Jamaica due to his life feeling threatened? He came to the UK as a refugee.

Did you know Dua Lipa and Rita Ora are both refugees from Kosovo?

Did you know that Freddie Mercury fled Tanzania? He's just one example of a refugee who went on to achieve amazing things.

Did you know Einstein was a refugee? The rise of the Nazis and anti-semitism meant he feared for his life and in 1933 he moved to America.



## BACK TO SCHOOL WITH FUNKIN' SOULED OUT

Celebrate/ commiserate about the kids going back to school after the long summer break on Friday September 16<sup>th</sup> at a gig at Furze Platt Theatre.

Local band Funkin' Souled Out will be performing everything from James Brown to Donna Summer, Rose Royce to Diana Ross, the Jacksons to Jamiroquai, and lots more in between. This promises to be a fun filled chance to boogie, have a drink and enjoy this eight piece band playing a range of funk and disco hits. The band will be supported by another local group, Watershed, and tickets are just £12.50 each, so book your tickets here:

We're hoping to hold more gigs at the theatre this autumn, so watch this space.

**TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED HERE**

Mrs M Holden, Theatre Manager

## 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.

**TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED HERE**

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](mailto:catherine.johnstone@furzeplatt.net).



## INVITATIONS TO CLUBS FOR TERM 6

Parents and carers of students in all year groups should have received invitations on the last day of Term 5 to attend clubs for their son/daughter for this term. The email was headed Furze Platt Senior School with the email address [evolve.furzeplattsnrvisits@edufocus.co.uk](mailto: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.

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

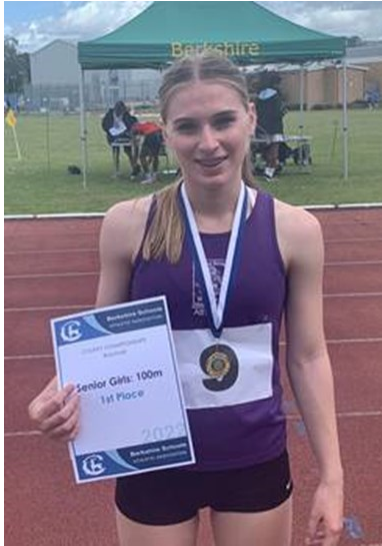
**SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLINICS SCHEDULE 2022**





## FURZE PLATT STUDENT IS TRIPLE COUNTY CHAMPION

Sixth Former Brogan McCafferty had a great start to the athletic season resulting in some amazing achievements and becoming a Triple County Champion.



On 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> May Brogan competed at the County Club Athletics Championships representing her running club Windsor Slough Eton & Hounslow, she had two amazing races and fought off tough competition to become the Double County Club Champion in the 100m & 200m.

On 11<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Brogan represented Furze Platt in the Berkshire School County Athletic Championships in the Senior Girls 100m. This race was a straight final and resulted in her winning, qualifying and being selected to represent Berkshire at the England Schools' Athletics Association on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> July in Manchester.

Good luck Brogan!

## MARY POPPINS



There was a truly 'Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious' dance performance of Mary Poppins in our Theatre at the weekend featuring a number of very talented students (plus an extremely famous American actor in the audience...)! Thank you to everyone at Muse Dance for a super evening of entertainment and especially well done to the following Furze Platt students who took part:

- Year 13 – Amelia Ballard and Ella Bampton
- Year 12 – Harriet Evans
- Year 10 – Caitlin Bennett
- Year 9 – Holly Bennett

# ★ MISSING ★

## LIBRARY BOOKS & TEXT BOOKS!



### HAVE YOU SEEN ANY FPSS BOOKS LYING AROUND THE HOUSE?

PARENT SEARCHER REQUIRED TO SEARCH BOOK SHELVES, UNDER BEDS AND BEDROOM FLOORS FOR LOST SCHOOL TEXT BOOKS AND LIBRARY BOOKS.

### AMNESTY FOR ALL THOSE RETURNED!



## FPSS CURRENT VACANCIES

We have some exciting job opportunities to start in September. Please click here for more details.

**CURRENT VACANCIES**



**Parents, Teachers  
& Friends  
Association**



TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE

**Contact us**

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

**Website:** [click here to access](#)

Charity Number 287878

**THE LAST FEW WEEKS OF TERM AND  
A FINAL PUSH TO RAISE FUNDS FOR  
THIS ACADEMIC YEAR**

**HELPERS REQUIRED  
FOR NEARLY NEW SALE AND BAR**



**NEARLY NEW UNIFORM SALE – SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> JULY - 11AM - 2PM**

**HELP THIS FRIDAY 5 - 7PM AND SATURDAY 10.30AM - 3PM.**

Location: Music Department

Payment accepted by card, bank transfer and/or cash, on the day.

*Logo'd uniform very welcome via school reception until Thursday or bring on Friday 1<sup>st</sup>, between 5pm & 7pm.*

**BAR FOR MAIDENHEAD CONCERT BAND**

**THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2022 – 7PM**

**6 HELPERS FROM 6PM TO 9PM**

**Location: School Hall and Theatre**

Pre-orders for drinks will be accepted on the night

Payment accepted by card and/or cash, on the night

*It'll be great fun on the bar – come and join us!!*



We appreciate your feedback and welcome comments and ideas by phone call **01628 625308**, by email [ptfa@furzeplatt.net](mailto:ptfa@furzeplatt.net) and through our Facebook Page [facebook.com/fpsstpta](https://facebook.com/fpsstpta)

**AGM – held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June, in school.**

We had a great 'face-to-face' meeting with 5 parents, 1 member of staff and 4 PTFA'ers who heard the 'in's and out's' of the year 2020- 2021. Thank you to those for participating. In short, last year that ended August 2021 we raised an impressive **£20,990** – even though some Covid restrictions were still in place!

A massive thank you to everyone for your continued support and to the PTFA Committee for their sustained efforts and commitment.

Elections were also held to appoint the Committee Officers from September 2022 to August 2023

- Chair: Lorraine Hughes
- Treasurer: Neil Wilson
- Secretary: Katrina Sell
- 200 Club Admin: vacant

# 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](http://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

# Struggling with the cost of living?

www.rbwm.gov.uk



If you are struggling financially and having to make difficult decisions – help is available.

Please visit [www.rbwm.gov.uk/here-to-help](http://www.rbwm.gov.uk/here-to-help) to see what support might be available to you. If you aren't online, call 01628 683800 or visit your library



## Players needed for local football team

FC Holyport Hurricanes U13's are looking for new players who are currently in year 7.

We will be moving to 11-a side next season, with games on Saturdays in the East Berks league and training locally on a Thursday evening.

Training will be held throughout the summer so plenty of opportunity to join us for a trial session!

We are a very friendly group and focussed on making sure the players have fun but also develop their football skills.

For further details please contact David Richardson on: 07523 904680



# Magpies in the Community Apprenticeship

Be part of a new exciting journey in your sports coaching career working with Magpies in the Community and being a Magpies Apprentices.

Learn new and valuable skills to gain experience which will support your journey through sports coaching and find your best way up the coaching ladder.

## QUALIFICATIONS

The Magpies in the Community Apprentice will gain:

- Level 4 Sports Coach Award
- Multi Skills Qualification
- Football Level 1 Qualification

Extras include; Magpies Kit, Valuable experience working in the community and school setting with our fully qualified coaches.



## WHEN WILL YOU START?

The Apprenticeship will start **July/August 2022**. This Educational programme will be starting in **September 2022**. Community placements will follow.

## WHAT YOU WILL NEED?

- Positive attitude
- Enthusiastic and goal-orientated
- Respectful and clear communicator



## HAVE YOU GOT WHAT IT TAKES?

### TO APPLY:

Please send your CV and a covering letter detailing why you would be appropriate for this role.

Applicants to send CV and Cover Letter to Mark Nisbet at [mark.nisbet@maidenheadunitedfc.org](mailto:mark.nisbet@maidenheadunitedfc.org) by **Wednesday 30th June 2022**

[WWW.MAGPIESINTHECOMMUNITY.ORG](http://WWW.MAGPIESINTHECOMMUNITY.ORG)



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