

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #68.13



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Christmas Concert

Thank you to all students, parents and carers who joined us for an uplifting and joyous Christmas Concert on Wednesday evening. As I said at the end of the show, I was incredibly proud of all the fabulous performances from students across all year groups. Alongside showcasing some of our more experienced performers, the concert also introduced new talents. I particularly enjoyed seeing the camaraderie between students as they congratulated each other on their performances.



The concert marked the first show for our new Performing Arts team and promises much for future productions including Sister Act which takes to the stage in early February – look out for details in the New Year!

Christmas Jumper Day and End of Term Celebration

With the Christmas trees decorated and Christmas Concert already passed, there is a festive feel at FPSS as we approach the last week of term. Alongside Christmas dinner we have our Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday with donations to Save the Children. Finally, on Friday we celebrate students' many successes in our End of Term Assembly.

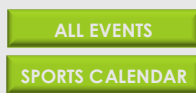
Inter-House Football

This week has seen some competitive but fun football competition as Houses in each Year Group go head-to-head. At times, the crowd has nearly been as noisy as in Qatar with good quality football and close games. Congratulations to all those who have participated.

For the last week of this term Rugby Club is changing to Football Club to get ready for the New Year fixtures (i.e.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Next week (Week 2)

TUE 13 DECEMBER	House Talent Show	5-6.30pm
THU 15 DECEMBER	Christmas Jumper Day	All Day
FRI 16 DECEMBER	End of Term 2	12.30pm finish

Forthcoming Events

MON 19 – TUE 3 DECEMBER JANUARY	Christmas Holidays and INSET Day
WED 4 JANUARY	Start of Term 3 (week 1)

SCHOOL TERM DATES

Year 7 Rugby on Monday will become Year 7 Football). All students are welcome to attend their year group's session and winter PE kits can be worn as the forecast is very cold. Next Friday we will send out our clubs lists for January which includes a range of clubs including a new PE extracurricular timetable.

House Talent Show (13 December)

Finally, I am looking forward to more inter-House competition next Tuesday as our students perform an array of acts in the House Talent Show. Good luck to all those taking part.

Take care,

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





PHYSICS GENEVA TRIP MEETING

THURSDAY 5TH JANUARY, 6.30PM

There is a meeting for Sixth Form students and their parents attending the Physics trip to Geneva in February 2023 which will be held in the Theatre on Thursday 5th January at 6.30pm. Important information will be given out regarding the trip, and there will be the opportunity to ask any questions.

Please email huw.curnow@furzeplatt.net should you have any questions regarding this event.



YEAR 7 AND 8

FOOTBALL INTERHOUSE

Congratulations to everyone who took part in our Year 7 and 8 Football InterHouse competition this week and well done to our winners, Year 7: Eagle House and Year 8: Osprey House!

YEAR 7	POSITION AND POINTS	YEAR 8
EAGLES	1st - 1000 points	OSPREYS
FALCONS	2nd - 600 points	HAWKS
HAWKS	3rd - 400 points	EAGLES
OSPREYS	4th - 200 points	FALCONS

PARENTS' EVENING FEEDBACK



If you would like to give feedback from our recent Year 12 or 13 Parents' Evenings, please click on the links below. Some parents were unable to access the previous Year 12 link, new details are in the box below. Thank you.

[YEAR 12 PARENT FEEDBACK](#)

[YEAR 13 PARENT FEEDBACK](#)

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL

This year we raised **£133.87** for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Thank you to everyone who purchased a poppy or made a donation.

YEAR 9 AND 11 REPORTS



The above reports have now been issued and are available online via Go4Schools or our website through the 'Online Reporting' link.

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager



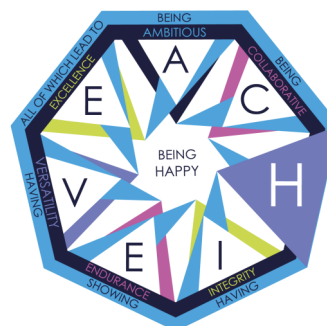
TUESDAY 13TH DECEMBER 5-6.30pm

Furze Platt is putting on a Talent Show!

Tickets are available to book online for free but donations will be collected on the door and the money will go to the winner's House Charity.

Judges:

- Dr Andrew Morrison, Headteacher
- Kate Kalinowski, Head of Performing Arts
- Wayne Dixon, CCiS Lead (Christian Connector in Schools).
- Sam Williams – **Ex-student and London-based comedy writer and stand-up**



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER

On Thursday 15th December we will be hosting Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children. Students who wish to wear a Christmas jumper on these days may do so but must still be in their smart uniform of school shirt and tie, trousers/shirt and school shoes. All Christmas jumpers need to be appropriate for school in their imagery and language.

Christmas Jumper Day is Save the Children's annual event which raises money for children in the UK and across the world. This year, the UK government's promised to give the same amount as you give. Every time you give £2 to Save the Children, they give £2.

Donations should be made straight to Save the Children if you would like to contribute, we will not be asking for cash donations on the day:

CHRISTMAS JUMPER FUNDRAISING



YEAR 11 END OF SCHOOL CELEBRATION OPPORTUNITIES

As Year 11 students reaches the end of their GCSE courses and the end of compulsory education, a number of traditions to mark this time have evolved in recent years. This is to let you know exactly what they are, and enable you to be aware of the financial implications of some of these. The Year 11 photographs, hoodies and Prom are not compulsory or obligatory, but in the case of genuine financial hardship, please contact me in confidence (laura.sharp@furzeplatt.net) so we can ensure that your child does not miss out.

Year 11 Photographs – Wednesday 25th January 2023

This will provide an opportunity for a whole year group photograph as well as opportunities for students to have friendship group photos taken on the day. Students will be required to be in full, correct uniform in order to be in the photograph.

Leavers' Hoodies

There will be an opportunity to purchase Leavers' Hoodies in January for collection in May. Further details will follow in due course.

Year 11 Graduation Ceremony – Wednesday 21st June 2023

Our Year 11 students will have a formal graduation ceremony, held at school, to mark the end of their compulsory schooling. Further details will follow in due course.

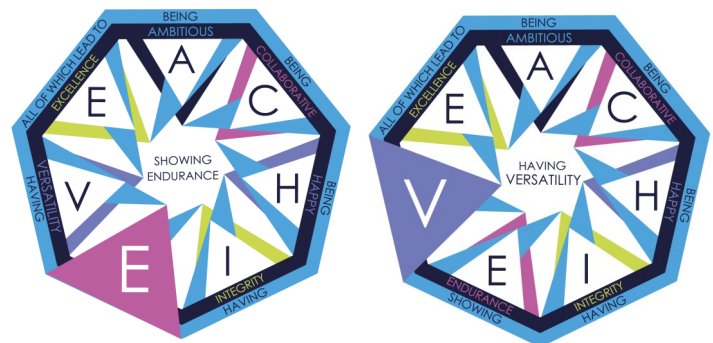
Year 11 Prom – Thursday 22nd June 2023

This will take place at the Windsor Racecourse. To attend the Prom students must have had no suspensions during Year 11. Students must also have at least 94% attendance during Year 11, we will however take into account serious medical conditions which have impacted on a child's attendance. Tickets will be on sale after the Easter holiday. Further details will follow in due course.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish your child well in the coming months and hope that the end of year celebrations will be a fitting end to a hardworking year. For students planning to return to the Sixth Form in September, taster days will take place from **Thursday 29th June** and **Friday 30th June**. Further details will follow in due course from Mr Ging, Head of Sixth Form.

If you have any general questions about these events, please do not hesitate to contact our Marketing Manager at catherine.johnstone@furzeplatt.net.

Miss L Sharp
Head of Progress - Year 11



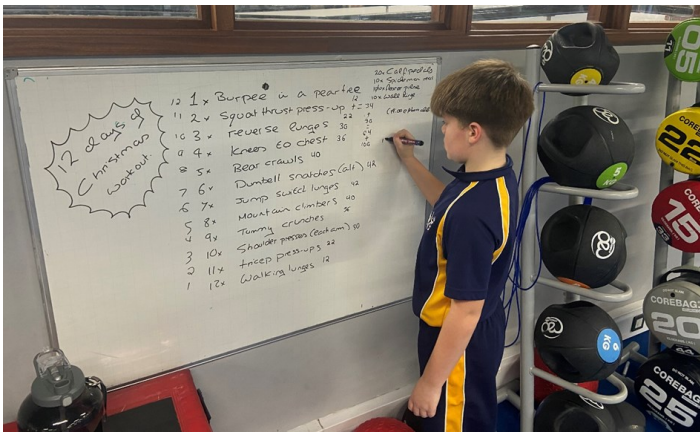
'The school is rightly proud of its extra-curricular provision.'

Ofsted 2021

FITNESS CLUB



Our Fitness Club, led by Mr Djaelani (Head of Progress for Year 9 and former World TKD Champion) had fun incorporating the spirit of Christmas into their challenging workouts!



GARDENING CLUB



This week students in our Gardening Club decorated pots and planted up some baby spider and jade (money) plants for Christmas presents!

- Fifi Loveridge
- Lily Smith
- Mert Mutlu
- Harry Holdway
- George Longville
- Fred Fletcher
- Harry Blackwell
- Olly Mallinson
- Kaylie Lau
- Henry Camano
- Frayne Pinho



INVITATIONS TO CLUBS

Next Friday, parents and carers of students in all year groups will be sent a new clubs list for their son/ daughter for next term (January to February half term). The email will be headed Furze Platt Senior School with the email address evolve.furzeplattsnvisits@edufocus.co.uk and the links are safe for you to click on to confirm your child's attendance. If you do not receive an email please check your junk/spam.

A reminder that all next week's Rugby Clubs will be Football Clubs instead.

A list of clubs is updated every Friday afternoon on our website here:

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



Last week we were fortunate to have an onsite energy audit completed across all our school buildings. The auditor used equipment such as a thermal camera, thermometer and CO2 meter to measure energy usage in all areas. A report and action plan will be drawn up to help the school manage, track and reduce electricity and gas usage thereby saving money and reducing carbon emissions.



Students from the Eco Group were able to assist with the audit, using the thermal camera and taking measurements on equipment.

Cont. on p.5

The energy audit is one of a number of measures the school is taking on our journey to net zero. Recent government funding will enable us to replace lighting with LED and we are working with MaidEnergy to install more solar panels on school roofs.

Thank you to Richard Smith from Energy Sparks (pictured with Sustainability Club students).



FURZE PLATT STUDENT'S COMPOSITION PREMIERE

Keith Cory, Year 13, will be having a composition premiered by Maidenhead Concert Band at Norden Farm, a fantastic achievement. This is what Keith had to say:

'I saw the Maidenhead Concert Band for the first time playing a charity show at school before the summer holiday, as I was working the lights in the Theatre. I liked how they sounded and decided to ask them if I could write them a song for them to play. I asked Peter Ripper, who founded the band song and he said I could. I wrote the song over the summer, printed out the parts, and brought them to a rehearsal, where they played it through a few times. I was informed later by the conductor they would be playing it at their Norden Farm show on 14/12/2022.'

MUSIC LESSONS AT FURZE PLATT



Do you want to be in the next number one pop band, a performer in the best classical orchestra in the world or you just want to be a better hairbrush singer?

The Music Department are giving you the opportunity to let your dreams come a reality!

At Furze Platt Senior School we offer a huge range of lessons through our specialist instrumental teachers. From violin and flute to electric guitar and drums we have it all available to every Furze Platt student.

To find out more about lessons please see Mr Forster or drop him an email stuart.forster@furzeplatt.net

SCARLET FEVER ADVICE FOR PARENTS

SCARLET FEVER: INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE INVOLVED!

It was great to see many of you visit our bar during Wednesday's Concert night. The performances from all students were stunning and very impressive. A massive well done and thank you to all the families, students, staff and the Performing Arts Dept for arranging the evening.

Warm Mulled Wine, Mince Pies and soft drinks went down a storm. So far, figures indicate £260 was raised to support our children's experience and learning. Thank you to volunteers: Carina, Louise, Sophie, Caroline, and Neil our PTFA Treasurer, we couldn't do this without any of you. Plus, our sincere thanks to Waitrose in Maidenhead for donating the pies.



UNIFORM – NEW service on offer...

Has anyone lost property? Then use our *Locate My Kit Service* and let us know by email. For NAMED lost property, you must include: **The lost item(s), the child's name, their year, and their tutor group** – we can't return goods to their owners without these details. {e.g. PE hoodie, Joe Bloggs, year 8, tutor 8AJE}. For UNNAMED property, let us know the details as above plus the size(s), brand(s), any features, or a style especially for lost footwear.

Are you aiming to reclothe your child/children for the New Year? Then use our *Click & Collect Service*. Email us the specific items and sizes you require. We will pack the goods and leave at Reception ready for your collection.

Have you any outgrown uniform hanging around? Use our *Drop off Service*. Please donate to us by leaving in the blue PTFA containers inside Reception.

EBI (Even better If) we could all name EVERYTHING: all clothing, spectacles & cases, water bottles, lunch boxes, Games footwear, bats/racquets, and special equipment.

Use this link and code for labels and fundraise with us:

<https://www.easy2name.com/> FR-FURZEPLATTSCHOOL-57

We can help with all these scenarios so email us: uniform@furzeplatt.net before Thursday 15th December.



DID YOU KNOW?

BY ORDERING FROM EASY2NAME USING OUR UNIQUE FUNDRAISING CODE...

FR-FURZEPLATTSCHOOL-57

- YOU WILL GET FREE DELIVERY ON YOUR ONLINE ORDER
- EASY2NAME WILL DONATE 20% OF YOUR ORDER VALUE TO THE SCHOOL
- IT'LL HELP US KEEP ON TOP OF LOST PROPERTY BY RETURNING ITEMS EASILY!

easy2name
www.easy2name.com

ONLINE 'NON-EVENT' FUNDRAISING – WE CAN ALL DO IT!



WHY NOT LET YOUR FINGERS DO THE DONATING? ANYWHERE. ANY TIME. EVERY TIME.

REGISTER WITH EASYFUNDRAISING AND SMILE.AMAZON NOW!

165 SUPPORTERS ON EASYFUNDRAISING

START SHOPPING WITH EASYFUNDRAISING

92 SUPPORTERS ON AMAZON.SMILE

START SHOPPING ON AMAZON SMILE

smile **amazon**.co.uk

Can you help us access fundraising from your employer with

MATCH FUNDING schemes?

MATCHED FUNDING/COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The Quiz, 200 Club, Uniform Sales and Christmas Concert are looking for a Match - or even a contribution. It's the smart way to save paying tax and earn FPSS PTFA funds!

Let us know the data your company needs by emailing us or messaging us through Facebook:

ptfa@furzeplatt.net

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



COPAS TURKEYS BUY ASAP TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

POTENTIAL £10 DONATION PER ORDER

Thanks again to our local independent farm, COPAS, for their generous offer. Please add our **"PTA TURKEY CASHBACK"** product to your basket when ordering: <https://www.copasturkeys.co.uk/our-shop/>



Steps to follow:

1. Add a Turkey product to your basket first
2. Scroll through the product list or search "PTA" for the "PTA Turkey Cashback" item
3. Select Furze Platt Senior School from the dropdown list & add to basket.
4. Navigate to checkout & complete your order.



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

EAGLES FALCONS HAWKS OSPREYS

THE HOUSE

Talent Show



SCAN ME

13TH DECEMBER, 5-6.30PM

Furze Platt is putting on a House Talent Show!

- Get involved and showcase your talent!
 - 3 acts needed from each House
 - Tickets for the final are free!!
- Auditions week commencing 5th December

Scan the QR code to book tickets.

BOOK TICKETS TODAY

Finance Manager To start at the earliest opportunity

Permanent 37 hours a week full-time, or part-time hours

We will consider applications from candidates looking for flexible working, a full year-round post or term-time only plus some work during the school holidays.

Actual salary depending on experience £38,342 - £42,307 FTE

We have an exciting opportunity for a Finance Manager to join our small and friendly finance team.

Ideally, you will be a qualified accountant or have a strong background in financial management. Experience of working in an educational environment would be advantageous but is not essential. The successful person will line manage two finance support staff and report to the Head of Finance and Operations.

As Finance Manager, you will be a confident communicator and enjoy working collaboratively. You will have excellent attention to detail, be proactive and proficient in IT skills, especially with Microsoft Excel.

In addition, if you have strong organisational skills and are self-motivated, can work independently to meet deadlines and key deliverables, we would love to hear from you!

The role includes:

- Responsibility for preparing budgets and financial and management reports for the school.
- Fulfilling statutory accounting functions for year-end audit.
- Dealing with the management accounts and budgets
- Co-ordinating the annual audit.
- Overseeing bank accounts, petty cash and credit cards.
- Managing a finance team of two.
- Dealing with the expenditure in relation to the school's budget and producing monthly management reports.
- Checking and reconciling the payroll reports; the payroll service is contracted-out.

Furze Platt is a highly successful mixed comprehensive school serving the children of Maidenhead. At Furze Platt, 1500 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 offer a friendly and harmonious campus, and we support the physical and mental wellbeing of all our staff. Generous leave, 28 days holiday, rising to 29 days in April (including 3 days between Christmas and the New year) plus bank holidays, for a full year-round post. Discounted membership is available for the use of a fully equipped and well-maintained gym on-site and we have free onsite parking. All staff have access to an employee advice programme which offers information, resources and a counselling service. We reward long service and encourage community spirit and staff involvement through various social events. Tea and coffee are free, and freshly brewed coffee is available in the main staff room at break times with edible treats to help you through the week!

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.

Closing date: Ongoing
Interviews will take place as and when suitable applications are received

CURRENT VACANCIES



Exam Invigilators – to start as soon as possible

Term time only, casual contract. Actual salary £11.62 per hour (inclusive of holiday pay)

Furze Platt Senior School is looking to add to their bank of dedicated Exam Invigilators, who will be employed on a casual basis to supervise students taking both pre-public exams and actual GCSE/A Level exams, as necessary throughout the school year.

We are looking for individuals who:

- Are available to work on an ad hoc basis to cover pre-public exams which take place at various times during the academic year and official exam sessions during May and June.
- Able to work individually and as part of a team
- Have good interpersonal skills
- Remain calm under pressure
- Are able to follow all instructions including those set by the Exam Board

Full training will be provided, and staff will be contacted prior to the exam period to discuss the invigilation schedule in relation to their own availability.

Please visit our website www.furzeplatt.com for an application form or contact Mrs Sarah Hemsley via sarah.hemsley@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.

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