

# FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #68.9



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

### Remembrance

Today we held a two minutes silence to remember all those who lost their lives in the service of their country. It was a poignant moment, beginning with the 'Last Post' played by our Head Student Anna Gambrell, in which our students had a moment to think about current as well as past conflicts. Thank you to all our students and families who will take part in Remembrance events this weekend.



### Year 11 PPEs

Speaking to Year 11 this week I know that many have been revising hard for their upcoming PPEs (mock exams). These are an important step in preparing students for the final exams next year and I wish them good luck with their examinations.

### Year 10 PPEs

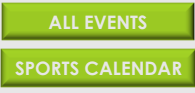
I would also like to congratulate our Year 10s after their recent English and Maths PPEs. Sitting GCSE papers in exam conditions has shown them the challenge they face in the next eighteen months, Whatever the result from the recent papers, the important aspect is that they learn from the experience ready for future exams.

### Sixth Form Open Evening

It is only a couple of weeks before our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November. This will be a great chance for Year 11 students to see what FPSS has to offer, and I look forward to seeing you there. Each year around a quarter of our Year 12 students did not study at FPSS in Year 11, so please publicise the evening to friends and family.



## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Next week (Week 2)

#### Forthcoming Events

FRI 11 NOVEMBER	Tonight! Big Quiz 11 - Fully Booked	7.30-10pm
THU 24 NOVEMBER	Sixth Form Open Evening	6pm - 9pm
FRI 25 NOVEMBER	Late start 9.15am	
MON 28 NOVEMBER	<b>INSET DAY - school closed for all year groups</b>	
TUE 29 NOVEMBER	Careers & Higher Education Fair	5pm - 7pm
THU 1 DECEMBER	Year 12 Parents' & Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm

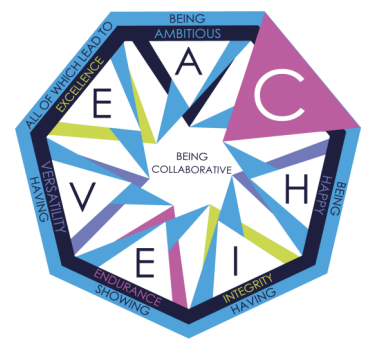
## SCHOOL TERM DATES

### Careers and Higher Education Fair

Another date for your diary is our Careers and Higher Education Fair (CHEF), 5-7pm on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November. Aimed at students in Years 9-13, this is a fantastic opportunity for students to meet employers, colleges, universities and much more. As ever, I am sure it will be highly informative and help our students find future career pathways.

Take care,

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





### EARLY BREAK 2 MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> – FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

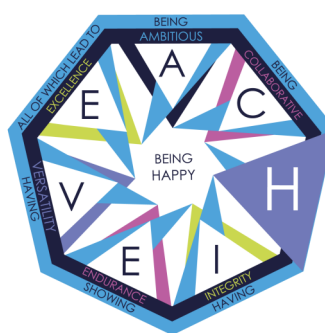
In order to accommodate the Year 11 Pre Public Exams (PPE) our Break 2 will run an hour earlier than usual for the week of the 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> November. For all students, Break 2 will therefore be from 12.45-1.15pm with P4 moving back to 1.15pm – 2.15pm. The rest of the day will run as normal.

### HOUSE CAPTAINS

We are delighted to announce our first House Captains for Eagle, Hawk, Osprey and Falcon Houses! Well done to everyone who applied.

YEAR	EAGLES	HAWKS
7	Rachel Lewis Harry Strudwicke	Princess Adebusoye Lillie-Mai Rawlings
8	Amy-Jayne Macey James Maher	Isolde Vasileiou Sakka Yvan Wilson
9	Evie Joyce Monty Lyall	Nicole Mizikova Adam Khan
10	Abigail Leech-Baldwin Ria Harding	Fred Fletcher Courtney Harris
11	Lucas Norton Amelie Todd	Tia Seamons Raahi Singh
12 & 13	Daisy Rippon Tilly Adaway Jess Fraser Melissa Hing	Madeleine Sellman Finley Cozens Harriet Evans Harriet Thomas

YEAR	OSPREYS	FALCONS
7	Algar Nikolov Erin Banks	Seb Sutehall Niamh Smith
8	Ethan Burt Talia Abou Saleh	Lucas Bryant Jaydee Mitchell
9	Lily Mae Jones Piper Webb	Jack Sessions Zachary Abraham
10	Sophie McLachlan Sam Cranch	Elena Del Campo Kai Hussain
11	Clarissa Brewer George Terry	Musa Ali Guramrit Sandhu
12 & 13	Tilly Connolly Isabelle Cowell Aleesha Agha Poppy Butler	Aela Martin Bella Powell Matthew Goodwin Laura Mekla



**SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING**  
 THURSDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER  
 6PM - 9PM  
 2022



2. Click 'create account' button.

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

SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLINICS SCHEDULE 2022

INVITATIONS TO CLUBS FOR TERM 2 (NOVEMBER TO CHRISTMAS 2022)

Parents and carers of students in all year groups should have received invitations via email on Friday 21st October to attend clubs for their son/ daughter for next 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.

New clubs recently added: Girls and Steam Club; Film Club. Please book these or any other clubs this term via the original email link sent on 21st October

Please note:

- \* all bookings for next term (November - Christmas 2022) must be made through the original email invitation; 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.

We encourage students to try as many clubs as they are interested in – with over 75 clubs and academic clinics we are sure they will find a number of activities they really enjoy!

MY EVOLVE

Parents and carers may wish to sign up to My EVOLVE for an overview of clubs, what's on etc – you can do this from the club or academic support clinic emails sent to you in two easy steps:

- 1. Click on the link in the email as usual to see clubs/ clinics

YEAR 8 SUPERSTARS



FURZE PLATT STUDENT QUALIFIES AS SCUBA DIVER

During the summer holidays, Poppy Gethin (Year 8) did her final assessments and became a qualified Open Water Scuba Diver (to 60 feet)! Poppy had been studying since January and completed many pool sessions with a PADI instructor as well as five open water dives in the sea, in Italy, with her Scuba School International instructor.

Photo attached of Poppy (far right) with her sister Lily, Mum and Grandad, at the bottom of the Mediterranean.



YEAR 8 SUPERSTARS



CHARITY HAIR DONATION BY FURZE PLATT STUDENT

Towards the end of the first lockdown, Sam Jones (Year 8) learnt that it is not just adults who can be diagnosed with cancer, but that sometimes children are also affected by this disease, with most treatments result in children losing their hair. Sam came across a charity – Little Princess Trust - that makes wigs out of real hair and in August 2020, Sam set out on a mission to grow his own hair long enough to donate to the charity.

This mission lasted two years, during which Sam had to

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pay special attention to keeping his hair in good condition. Finally in August 2022, Sam had his hair cut and now looks very different! He has also set up a Just Giving page for anyone who would like to donate to the charity – as even though the hair is important, it still costs the charity £550 to turn this into a wig. Sam is hoping he can raise enough money to allow the charity to make a wig from his hair, and is currently on 50% of his target; any donation would go towards making this a possibility.



Thank you.

**JUST GIVING PAGE**

**LITTLE PRINCESS TRUST**



**GOODGYM**

GoodGym Windsor and Maidenhead are a friendly community, who combine volunteering with getting fit and being sociable. They help other charities and community projects with practical tasks, including everything from painting school fences, to planting trees in parks, sorting donations for refugees and distributing leaflets. They also help isolated older people by doing social visits and helping

with jobs around the home like changing light bulbs or tidying gardens.

The 'getting fit' part of GoodGym is not only that tasks like digging or shifting things can provide a great workout, but also that members are encouraged to use the power of their legs to get to the task location, by walking, running or cycling.

Members also benefit mentally, not only from the sense of achievement and satisfaction associated with volunteering, but also through connecting socially with a diverse and welcoming group, and through getting to know their local area.

To join GoodGym, there is no minimum time commitment, fitness level or payment required. Everyone is welcome. GoodGym have a meet up, walk or run and task every Wednesday evening, plus other ad hoc sessions at other times during the week and at weekends. You can find out more and register by visiting [GoodGym.org](http://GoodGym.org).



## IT'S THE WEEKEND!

### QUIZ AND HOT BUFFET DINNER – TONIGHT – FULLY BOOKED!



Thank you to all who have booked; be assured you're in for a brilliant social night out!

A few reminders...

- \* Arrive for 7.30pm for a prompt 8pm start
- \* Bring your grey matter and humour
- \* Carry some cash and/or a card for the PTFA bar and raffle

## MATCHED FUNDING SCHEMES

### FREE FUNDS FROM EMPLOYERS FOR REGISTERED CHARITIES, LIKE US

Sometimes these schemes are known as Community Support, Charity Pledges, £Plus and there are many other descriptions. This is a simple way to maximise the fundraising efforts of your PTFA volunteers. It is an arrangement between a company and an employee.

Usually, a company pledges to match a sum of money relating to the amount the employee has either raised or donated to a charity. Generally speaking, banks and building societies, insurance companies, supermarkets, utilities providers, phone companies and car manufacturers are known to offer match-funding schemes.

A match funding scheme can be adopted by any company no matter how big or small. Barclays, for example, offers its employees the opportunity to match funds they raise for their chosen charity.

Please let us know the details your company require by emailing us: [ptfa@furzeplatt.net](mailto:ptfa@furzeplatt.net)

**THANK YOU!**



**Community Fund** (excerpt from the website of Hutchinson 3G UK: <https://www.three.co.uk/social-commitment/community>)

The Community Fund aims to help the organisations and groups that mean a lot to our people. That's why each month, our employees nominate up to 5 local charities to receive £500 from us. Since the Fund launched in 2012, we've donated over £250,000 to organisations nationwide.

Volunteering is a great way to support the causes we're passionate about. That's why at Three, our people can take 3 days' paid leave to volunteer, every year.

## HELP STILL NEEDED

Replacement Officers, Chair and Secretary, required from January 2023

Media Secretary to write Newsletters and post on Facebook, asap

Helpers to run the refreshments table and bar for Concerts and External Hires

Please email PTFA Chair, Lorraine, for more details: [ptfa@furzeplatt.net](mailto:ptfa@furzeplatt.net)

## ONLINE FUNDRAISERS

### Easyfundraising.org

Free cash to the PTFA - it won't cost you a penny (albeit 3 minutes on your device) - No Spam!



These donations really mount up, so please watch this video of how to sign up and click through to support Furze Platt Senior School PTFA:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/assets/bltfbe7134e97e5604a/MAR-8717-Rebrand-How-it-works-video.mp4>

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/furzeplattsenior/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=rm-en-n1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/furzeplattsenior/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rm-en-n1)

### Amazon.Smile



When first visiting [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk), customers are prompted to select a charitable organisation. Amazon will give 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT and other shipping fees) of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Furze Platt Senior School PTFA, click through here: <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/287878-0>

## Anyone need uniform or have a 200 Club query?

Email Carina on [PTFAUniform@furzeplatt.net](mailto:PTFAUniform@furzeplatt.net)

Email Gill on [PTFA200Club@furzeplatt.net](mailto:PTFA200Club@furzeplatt.net)

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

# French Language Assistant

## To start as soon as possible

Permanent. Part time, 7 hours a week as Language Assistant, 1 hour a week administration. Days of work and start and finish times vary. Term time only  
Actual salary £4,850 - £5,220 pa 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 offer a friendly and harmonious campus, and we support the physical and mental wellbeing of all our staff. Discounted membership is available for the use of a fully equipped and well-maintained gym on-site. 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 including orienteering, murder mystery quizzes, sports after school and a Furze Platt fantasy football league. 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!

We are looking for someone to work alongside our Foreign Language Teachers and provide classroom support to KS3, KS4 and KS5 students with their French language work. You would also prepare for and conduct one-to-one sessions / small group work to help students prepare for their GCSE or A-Level French oral examination / undertake general intervention work as directed by class teachers. You would also have the opportunity to support teachers with marking for literacy and moderation, including students' essays and practise exam papers. An hour a week is available for administration which includes but is not limited to planning, filing and a small amount of data input. You would be supported by the Head of Modern Foreign Languages who would meet with you every other week.

If you are a native French speaker who is interested in French foreign affairs, literature, film and other topics and if you enjoy working with children and young people on a flexible and varied timetable, we would love to hear from you. The timetable for this role is set annually in accordance with requirements.

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](http://www.furzeplatt.com). Application forms should be returned to [Kiran.smith@furzeplatt.net](mailto: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**  
**Suitable candidates will be interviewed upon receipt of application forms**

**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](http://www.furzeplatt.com) for an application form or contact Mrs Sarah Hemsley via [sarah.hemsley@furzeplatt.net](mailto: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](mailto:kiran.smith@furzeplatt.net).

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**Closing date: Ongoing**  
**Interviews will take place as suitable applicants apply**

**CURRENT VACANCIES**





## Are you struggling with the rising cost of living?

If you're struggling due to the rising cost of living and facing difficult decisions around food, rent or heating, please remember to seek support before you reach crisis point.

The Royal Borough's 'Here to Help' campaign is continuing to highlight the latest local and national support that can help residents struggling with the rising cost of living, including support from community partners.

'Here to Help' first launched in May and brings together a range of cost of living support from the council and various partners onto [one dedicated webpage](#), covering **energy and water bills, rent, council tax, food, childcare, school meals, benefits and more.**

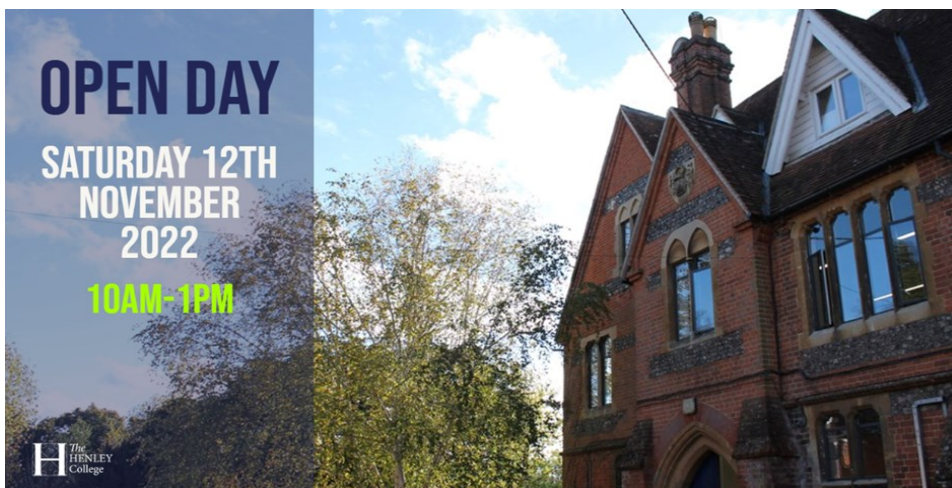
If you are struggling financially, please check out the dedicated 'Here to Help' webpage as soon as possible, contact the council, your landlord and energy supplier, to see what help might be available to you. If you don't have online access, you can also use the public-access computers at local libraries or call 01628 683800.

## Safe, warm spaces for the community

Did you know that there is an emerging network of safe, warm spaces within the borough where people in need can go this winter for advice and support? Visit <https://rbwmtogether.rbwm.gov.uk/warm-safe-spaces-map> for a map of locations and further details.

In addition, all local libraries are safe places for the community. You are welcome to visit to use library facilities, explore the 'Here to Help' website on the public-access computers and speak with a librarian for advice around cost of living support and/or getting online.

'Here to Help' is run with the support of key partners including social landlords Abri and Housing Solutions, NHS Frimley, and voluntary and community sector partners, Foodshare Maidenhead, Windsor Foodshare, Driven Forward, The Baby Bank, Age UK, The Spoope, Merry and Rixman Foundation, Re:Charge R&R, Cranstoun, Citizens Advice, All Soul's Church in South Ascot, and Wraysbury and Horton Warm Winter Initiative.



# BCF

BERKSHIRE CRICKET  
FOUNDATION



**FREE WEEKLY  
CRICKET SESSIONS  
FURZE PLATT  
LEISURE CENTRE  
TUESDAY 4:30PM-  
6PM**



**CHANCE TO SHINE  
STREET**

**SCAN HERE TO SIGN UP  
OR VISIT  
[WWW.BERKSHIRECRICKETFOU  
NDATION.ORG](http://WWW.BERKSHIRECRICKETFOUNDATION.ORG)**



**[ADAM.DAVIDSON@BERKSHIRECRICKETFOUNDATION.ORG](mailto:ADAM.DAVIDSON@BERKSHIRECRICKETFOUNDATION.ORG)**

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