

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #69.1



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year!

I hope that you and your families had a great break and enjoyed some well-deserved relaxation.



As we start a new term, I am leading assemblies. These celebrate the wonderful work that students did last term, notably in accruing all the points for themselves and their Houses. Building upon the House competitions, I have focused on the importance of collaboration and teamwork not just in the out of lesson activities, but also as we learn. This focuses on students working together with each other, FPSS staff and their families to build academic success, particularly important in our examination year groups just five months away from their Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 external exams.

A core part of our collaboration needs to be being kind and respectful and I have highlighted where we do this well (for example, fundraising for Pakistan flood relief) along with areas we need to improve to make FPSS an even happier community.

Finally, I congratulated our students - most of whom have got nearly all green in Class Charts - and challenged all students to get even more ACHIEVE points this term. I look forward to seeing how our young people work with our community to ACHIEVE even more.

Welcomes

As we start Term 3, we welcome new colleagues to FPSS. Our new teachers are Buhle Dube and Sakya Qadeer (English), Megan Ellor (Maths), Amy Harper (Science) and Amna Nazimuddin (ICT and Computing). Joelle White also joins as our French Language Assistant.

One returning face is Bethan Stiles who joins FPSS as



TERM 3 EVENTS



NEXT WEEK (WEEK 2)

MON 9 JANUARY	Deadline for applications to Furze Platt Sixth Form	9am
THU 19 JANUARY	Year 9 Parents' and Students' Virtual Consultation Evening	3.45pm - 7.45pm
WED 25 JANUARY	Year 11 & 13 Photographs	
THU 26 JANUARY	Year 9 Options Evening	6pm - 8.30pm
FRI 27 JANUARY	Late Start	9.15am
MON 6 FEBRUARY	School Musical (matinee performance for local junior schools)	
TUE 7 - THU 9 FEBRUARY	School Musical	7pm
FRI 10 FEBRUARY	END OF TERM (TERM 3)	3.15pm finish
MON 13 - FRI 17 FEBRUARY	FEBRUARY HOLIDAYS	
MON 20 FEBRUARY	START OF TERM 4 (Week 1)	8.40am

SCHOOL TERM DATES

Assistant Headteacher Inclusion overseeing Shine and Learning Support.


We wish them every success in their FPSS careers.

Take care,

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




A
FURZE PLATT
SENIOR SCHOOL
PERFORMANCE



SISTER ACT

**TUES 7 - THURS 9
FEBRUARY 2023**
IN THE THEATRE



DOORS OPENING AT **6.30PM**
& PERFORMANCE AT **7PM**

TICKETS GO ON SALE 13/1/23 AT 12PM

WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/FURZEPLATTTHEATRE

SISTER ACT - SCHOOL MUSICAL

Students - performers and crew - have been working hard practising for our School Musical next month and we cannot wait to perform it for you! Those fortunate enough to see last year's fantastic 'Matilda' will know they are in for a real treat.

Students from a number of local primary schools have been invited to see our matinee performance on Monday 6th February.

Tickets for Tuesday 7th-Thursday 9th February will be on sale next Friday, details in next week's newsletter. We look forward to seeing you there - do not miss out!



BRONZE, SILVER AND GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS



We are delighted to let you know that we will be offering the Bronze, Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh Awards (DofE) to students in Years 9, 10 and 12 this academic year. The DofE is a great chance for your child to broaden their horizons, discover new interests and talents, have fun with friends, develop essential skills for their future and achieve an internationally renowned Award.

Your son or daughter had an assembly regarding this last term. If they are interested in participating in the award, please see next steps below:

- Read the attached 'DofE 2022- 23' letter for information about the award
- Open the attached 'DofE parent info sessions 2023' letter and choose a date to attend the virtual meeting
- Log into parent mail to pay the registration fee by **Tuesday 31st January 2023**.
- Complete the DofE application form using this link:

[DOFE APPLICATION 2023](#)

- **Please note students will only be enrolled if the application form as well as the deposit has been received**
- Help your son or daughter to select and begin suitable activities for their volunteering, physical or skills section using the attached 'Activities Pack'. Our enrichment clubs also offer a range of options to help students achieve each section. Please note that any suitable activities they are currently participating in can be backdated from 1st September 2022.

Please feel free to contact us on dofe@furzeplatt.net if you have any queries, and we very much look forward to supporting your son or daughter through their Award.

Miss D Carty, DofE Manager

[ACTIVITIES PACK](#)

[BRONZE DOFE 2022-23](#)

[SILVER DOFE 2022-23](#)

[GOLD DOFE 2022-23](#)

[PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS 2023](#)



INVITATIONS TO CLUBS FOR TERM 3

Parents and carers of students in all year groups were sent new clubs lists at the end of last term via the EVOLVE email system for their son/ daughter for Term 3 (January to February half term).

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
2. Click 'create account' button.

Please note:

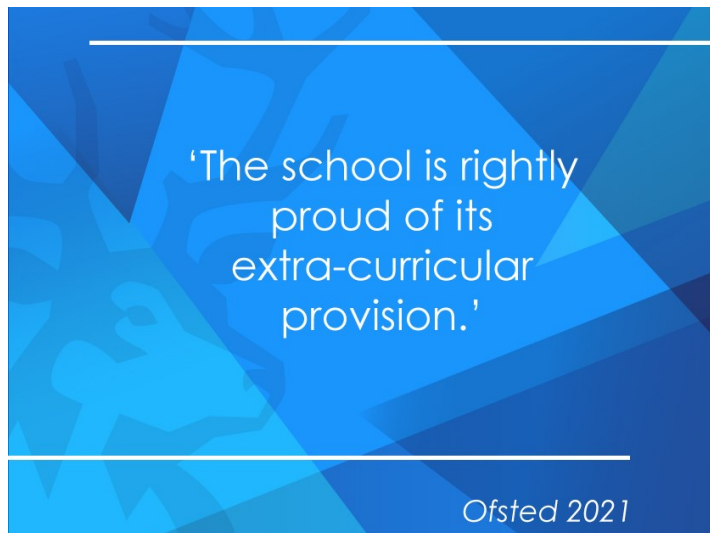
* all bookings for Term 3 must be made through the original email invitations (sent out on Friday 16th December)

* once in the list of clubs or academic support clinics, click on the name of the activity or session you wish to book and press confirm

* 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 relevant to your son/daughter

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

SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLINICS SCHEDULE 2023



FURZE PLATT THEATRE

What would you like to see at Furze Platt Theatre?

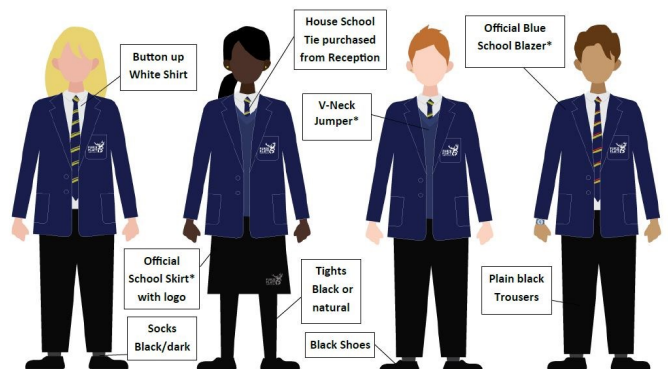
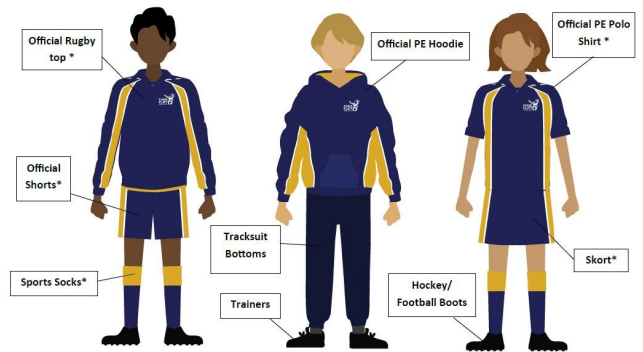
We have a state-of-the-art theatre space at our school, and we're keen to hold more events outside school for people to enjoy – while also raising more funds for the school. So, what would you like to see?

Please click on the link to give us your feedback, so that we can plan more things for our community. This survey is anonymous and we greatly appreciate your help.

FURZE PLATT THEATRE EVENTS

Thank you.

Mrs M Holden, Theatre Manager





**Parents, Teachers
& Friends
Association**



Contact us

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

Website: [click here to access](#)

Charity Number 287878

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE PTFA!

UNIFORM – NEW service on offer...

1) Has anyone lost property? Then use our [Locate My Kit Service](#) and let us know by email.

a) For NAMED lost property, you must include: The lost item(s), the child's name, their year, and their tutor group – we can't search or return goods to their owners without these details. {e.g. PE hoodie, Joe Bloggs, Year 8, tutor 8AJE}.

b) 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.

2) **Are you aiming to re-clothe your child/children for this term?** Then use our [Click & Collect Service](#). Email us the specific items and sizes you require, and we will respond accordingly. We will pack the goods and leave at Reception ready for your collection.

3) **Have you any outgrown uniform hanging around?** Then use our [Drop off Service](#). Please donate to us by leaving your bag(s) in the blue PTFA containers inside Reception. We are committed to reusing, recycling and repurposing clothing and in doing so, we will continue this ethical fundraiser for years to come.

4) **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 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)

TEACH MAIDENHEAD



Interested in training to teach?

TEACH
MAIDENHEAD

is now recruiting for September 2023 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

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.

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 suitable applicants apply

CURRENT VACANCIES

YOUTH THEATRE

Norden Farm Centre for the Arts, Maidenhead



Luminous Photography

"I can say with certainty that the thing that my child enjoys the most is that she can be herself without being judged. So it is definitely a safe space for her. I think that is very important."

Rolien - Parent

"Norden Farm is my favorite after school club, it always keeps me moving and relaxed. It is a great place to go for drama and within a short time, I have become far more confident and expressive."

Timothy - Age 7

- ✓ make new friends
- ✓ learn drama skills
- ✓ develop confidence
- ✓ perform a show

"Both our children attend Youth Theatre & since they started we have seen dramatic improvements in their ability, confidence, social awareness & expressiveness generally and specifically"

Alex - Parent

WEDNESDAYS

Junior Youth Theatre £85.00

Ages 7-11 Years - 4.55pm-5.55pm

Senior Youth Theatre £120.00

Ages 12-16 Years - 6.00pm-7.30pm

for more information visit the website & click 'Norden Farm'

Spring Term Starts

11TH

January 2023

www.littletanks.co.uk



WE'RE ON TOUR

Recruitment Roadshow 2023



Call Handlers



Ambulance
Crews



Patient
Transport

Coming to a town near you, it's the South Central Ambulance Service Recruitment Roadshow 2023. We're recruiting to a range of roles. Come and talk to us to find out more.

Visit us at the following locations:

Friday 13 January
Worthing, Sussex

Saturday 14 January
Godstone, Surrey

Saturday 21 January
Newbury

Saturday 28 January
Bicester

Milton Keynes
Otterbourne

Saturday 4 February
Whiteley, Fareham

Saturday 11 February
Oxford

Saturday 18 February
High Wycombe

Saturday 25 February
Milton Keynes



Find out more at scasjobs.co.uk





Join our Virtual Live Events

We're running a series of midweek virtual live events throughout January and February 2023

Wednesday 11 January, 6pm-7.30pm
Apprentice Emergency Care Assistant

Wednesday 25 January, 6pm-7.30pm
How to become a Paramedic

Wednesday 8 February, 6pm-7.30pm
A career in our call centres

Wednesday 22 February, 6pm-7.30pm
How to become a Paramedic



Find out more at scasjobs.co.uk



TAKEOVER DAY

Tuesday 24 January 2023

ARE YOU READY TO TAKE OVER?

RBWM and AfC need you!

If you are aged 13 to 18 and want to take part in this years Takeover Day please complete our application form by scanning the **QR code** or clicking this link [Takeover Day application form.](#)



HAVE YOUR VOICES HEARD

**A CHANCE TO WORK WITH ADULTS FOR THE DAY
EXPERIENCE THE WORLD OF WORK**

Application forms must be completed by the **12 January 2023.**

Please contact **Elaine Keating, Youth Engagement Officer**

E: elaine.keating@acheivingforchildren.org.uk

