



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

### Events at Furze Platt

**Building Bridges:** Next Wednesday (22<sup>nd</sup> March) we are honoured to be welcoming Dr Noemie Lopian, whose parents lived through the concentration camps, and Derek Niemann, whose grandfather was a Nazi officer, to our Theatre. They will be talking to Year 9 in the afternoon before a talk open to the public starting at 7pm (doors open 6.30pm). The talks promise to be fascinating and I look forward to seeing different members of our community at the event.



**Panic Lounge:** In addition, there is a fundraising event for our school featuring local band Panic Lounge, who are playing a mix of 80's, 90's, 00's and recent cover tracks, as well as music from our Head Boy Patrick Kelly, in our Theatre on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March. They promise to deliver a great night of dancing to fantastic live music and are not to be missed. There will be a bar onsite serving a range of drinks from 7pm in the Theatre.

**TICKETS FOR BOTH EVENTS CAN BE PURCHASED HERE**

**Spring Concert:** Details of our upcoming Spring Concert on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March will be sent out next week.

### Strike Days

With the last of the scheduled National Education Union strikes now complete, I would simply like to thank our parents and carers for their patience over the strike days.

I would also like to note how impressed we have been with the students in school, particularly Year 11, whose mature approach to the lessons, study sessions and activities we have been able to lay on, hopefully bodes well for their exams in a few weeks.

### FPSS at 60!

On 23<sup>rd</sup> April, Furze Platt Senior School will celebrate 60



## TERM 4 EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

### NEXT WEEK (Week 1)

<b>THUR 23</b> MARCH	Year 10 Parents' & Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm
<b>FRI 24</b> MARCH	Non uniform day in aid of Cystic Fibrosis Trust	

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

<b>WED 29</b> MARCH	Spring Concert - save the date!	7pm - 9.30pm
<b>FRI 31</b> MARCH	<b>END OF TERM 4</b>	12.30pm finish
<b>MON 3 - FRI 14</b> APRIL	SPRING HOLIDAYS	

## SCHOOL TERM DATES

years! We are looking at ways to celebrate and are asking students for ideas. Should you be an ex-student, teacher, governor or friend of the school and wish to share memories or ideas, please do so by contacting us at [alumni@furzeplatt.net](mailto:alumni@furzeplatt.net).

Take care,

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

## YEAR 9 REPORTS



The above reports have now been issued and are available online as usual via Go 4 Schools. The service is available either by going to our website [www.furzeplatt.com](http://www.furzeplatt.com) and clicking on the quick link 'Online Reporting', or by going directly to Go 4 Schools [www.go4schools.com](http://www.go4schools.com) and selecting Parents.

Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at [reports@furzeplatt.net](mailto:reports@furzeplatt.net).

**GUIDANCE TO GRADING DOCUMENT**

**VIEW REPORTS**

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager

## YEAR 10 PARENTS AND CARERS' CONSULTATION EVENING

**THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH**

On Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March there will be a consultation evening for Year 10 parents and carers which will be held virtually.

Appointments, which will be available to book from 6pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March, are booked online and are available from 4.15pm until 7:15pm. To book appointments and for full instructions, either follow the link below or go to the Parents' Evening Bookings link under 'News & Events' on the school website.

### BOOK APPOINTMENTS

Please note that one teacher will cover the three sciences (and will appear under Biology).

Guidance on how to use our virtual parents evening system can be found below. Please ensure you read the below guide as this system works very differently to other platforms such as Zoom. You will need to log into the Parents' Evening booking system on the night in order to access your appointments.

We would advise using a desktop or laptop for your appointment and to use Wi-Fi rather than mobile phone data. This guidance includes information on how parents/carers can join from two different locations if required, please note in order to do this the parent booking the appointments is the only person who has the ability to invite another parent to the appointment.

### HOW TO ATTEND APPOINTMENTS OVER VIDEO CALL

If you are unable to attend the consultation via video call, please let us know in the booking system comments section and we will arrange a time to contact you by phone about your child's progress.

We advise you to book as soon as possible as appointments are likely to book up quickly.

As you will know from parents' evenings in previous years, we always have a member of our Senior Leadership Team available should you have any additional questions or concerns you wish to raise. In order to continue to provide you with that opportunity during virtual meetings, one of the Senior Team will be on Zoom for the duration of Parents Evening.

Should you wish to speak to them between 4:15pm and 7:15pm, please follow the link:

### REQUEST TO JOIN SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

Meeting ID: 552 710 0646/ Passcode: A0NtYL

This link is only if you wish to speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team, it will not take you to your child's teachers.

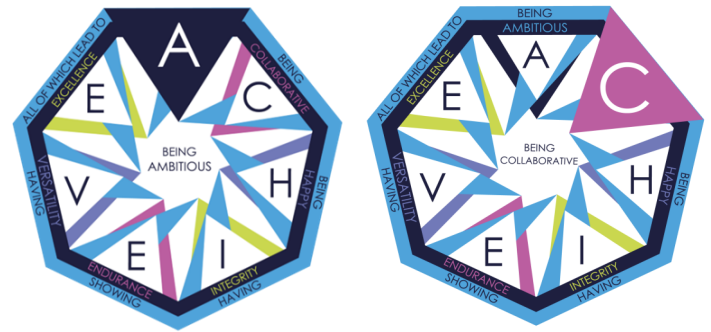
Having started Zoom, you will then go into the Waiting Room and will be admitted as soon as possible. Please note that there may be a few minutes wait while in the Waiting Room as there may already be another parent present (only one set of parents will be 'admitted' at any time).

If you have any problems, please contact the school office on 01628 625308.

Kind Regards

Miss L Stirling

Associate Assistant Headteacher



## NON-UNIFORM (MUFTI) DAY

**FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

### In Aid of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust

Following our Year 10 Parents' Consultation Evening and further to a request from one of our students, on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March we will be holding a non-uniform day in aid of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust. School will start at the usual time of 8.40am.

All donations to the Trust's work are greatly appreciated and we would ask for a £2 donation wherever possible. In addition, for this event we are trialling payments via ParentMail which can be paid now (Payments – Shop) or alternatively, cash on the day can be paid to Form Tutors on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March. Furze Platt recognises that some families may not be in the financial position to make such a donation at this time and students will of course not be prevented from participating in the non-uniform day if there are genuine financial challenges.

While students will be wearing their own clothes, please be aware that we do expect them to dress appropriately. There should be no offensive slogans, crop

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tops, onesies, costumes, backless/halter-neck tops or camisole style tops. Skirts/shorts should be of a suitable length to the knee and shoes or trainers (not flip-flops or open back sandals) should be suitable for a day at school.

Thank you.



## GREECE TURTLE CONSERVATION MEETING FOR TRIP JULY 2024

**MONDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH AT 6PM**

I am very excited to announce that Furze Platt Senior School will be running a trip to Greece next summer for Year 13 students (current Year 12).

We are partnering with Flooglebinder, a travel and conservation company. They are the first B-Corp certified travel company and are experts in delivering educational programmes that create change for people and the planet.

During the 10-day trip students will get hands on experience of turtle conservation, they will learn about their anatomy and the important role they play in an ecosystem, as well as how to protect them and the anthropogenic impacts that are affecting their distribution and behaviours.

Given the schools' own sustainable trip targets, we are confident that this trip can provide the students with an unforgettable experience while ensuring minimal social and environmental impact on the ecosystem. Turtles here we come!

To find out more about the trip and the itinerary follow the link below.

[WWW.FLOOGLEBINDER.CO.UK/GREECE-FURZE-PLATT-24](http://WWW.FLOOGLEBINDER.CO.UK/GREECE-FURZE-PLATT-24)

Password: Greece

The 10-day trip is currently due to depart on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024

The cost of the project is £1550 + flights (flights and airport transfers will be booked 11 months prior to departure and are currently estimated to be approximately £350)

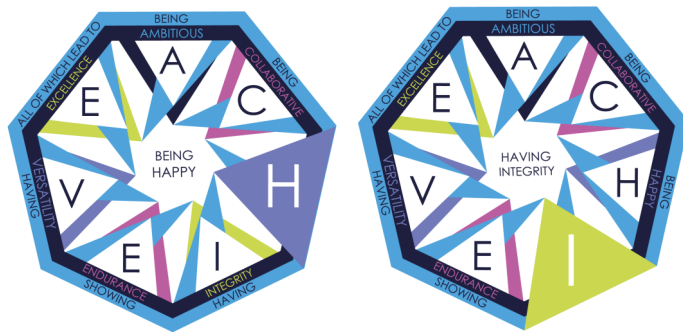
If you would like to find out more about this exciting opportunity, we will be running a parents information evening with Flooglebinder on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 6pm in the school theatre. There will be a detailed presentation regarding the trip and the opportunity for students and parents to ask questions.

We look forward to seeing you then.

Yours sincerely,

Mr D Randall

Outdoor Education and Enrichment Coordinator



## WOOLLEY FIRS

Students and staff had a fantastic couple of days at Woolley Firs this week. Many thanks to everyone at the centre for their informative talks and presentations.



## YEAR 11 REVISION SESSIONS WITH OUR SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

All Year 11 students recently attended a 2 hour revision session delivered by Furze Platt's Senior Leadership Team. During these sessions, students had the opportunity to explore how to RAG rate their subjects (Red, Amber Green) to indicate how confident they are/not in each topic. In addition, they also had the opportunity to create revision timetables/learn how to revise English Literature/understand comprehensive note taking depending on their groups.

This is part of the programme set up at Furze Platt to help Year 11 students prepare for the imminent exam season.

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If you have any questions about how to help your son/daughter with revision, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs D Feather

Raising Achievement Manager



## FREE EASTER STUDENT WEBINARS

GCSEPod are running student webinars to inspire and motivate students:

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 5pm

### EASTER REVISION EXAM READINESS

# Spelling Bee Challenge

## SPELLING BEE FINAL NEXT WEEK

- Monday - Year 7
- Tuesday – Year 8
- Wednesday – Year 9
- Thursday – Year 10
- Friday – Year 11 and 6th Form

## GOOD LUCK TO ALL THE FINALISTS!

- 10 Integrity points for each finalist.
- 25 Integrity points for winning team members.
- The winning team will win 1000 points for their House, 2<sup>nd</sup> place 600 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> place 400 points, 4<sup>th</sup> place 200 points.
- The winning team will also win some sweet treats!
- The top speller in each year will get a £10 Amazon voucher.



Parents and carers of students in all year groups will have received invitations at the end of last term for their son or daughter to attend clubs during March. A list of clubs is updated every Friday afternoon on our website here:

## SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLINICS SCHEDULE 2023

### YEAR 11 LEAVERS' HOODIES

#### ORDER AND PAY BY FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH

Our Year 11 Leavers' hoodies are now available to order for all students in Year 11. These should be ordered via the link below with payment made via your child's ParentMail account, indicating hoodie size and colour (plus nickname if required). Hoodies cost £27.00 and are available in a range of sizes and colours. Both the order form and payment must be completed before your child's hoodie will be ordered. Please note hoodies will be given out in May, exact date to follow.



Order here: <https://forms.gle/H48AZkshpaNqASYz5>

Dear Parent/Carer

Please read the attached letters from the Berkshire School-Aged Immunisation Team regarding upcoming vaccinations consents for Year 8 and Year 9 students.

### YEAR 8 HPV 1 VACCINATION INFORMATION

### YEAR 9 HPV 2 VACCINATION INFORMATION



## We can't help everyone but everyone can help someone



HELPERS REQUIRED FOR REFRESHMENTS ON WEDNESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH, FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH AND WEDNESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH - PLEASE EMAIL US ASAP WITH YOUR AVAILABILITY: [ptfa@furzeplatt.net](mailto:ptfa@furzeplatt.net)

### Why not become more involved in FPSS PTFA?

Our volunteer bank needs recharging. We are recruiting more people to do more things less often. *Please email us TODAY so we can add you to our [How I Can Help List](#).*

- ⇒ Don't be put off if you feel you can't give a lot of time – we don't ask for much! Any time you can give is very much appreciated whether serving refreshments or doing admin from home.
- ⇒ We can use any skills you have and we'd love to learn new ones from you.
- ⇒ Mums, Dads and carers bring different skills and an alternative perspective.
- ⇒ Being involved is a great way to connect with lots of different people.
- ⇒ We're a fun and sociable small team and we're keen to evolve – more the merrier!
- ⇒ Make a difference and benefit your child's/children's school experience by deciding where funds are spent. Come along to the next PTFA Committee meeting in April to hear more funding requests.

**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/fpsstfa](https://www.facebook.com/fpsstfa)**



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](mailto:stuart.forster@furzeplatt.net)



# GEMS

Autism & ADHD Support Service  
East Berkshire

01753 373 244 / 0800 999 1342

weekdays 9am to 5pm

<https://www.gems4health.com>

[gems.4health@nhs.net](mailto:gems.4health@nhs.net)

GEMS is for children, young people and adults who are diagnosed with, or who may have, autism and/or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). The service also supports parents and carers and is open to anyone living in Slough, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead or Bracknell Forest.



## WHAT DO WE PROVIDE?

Whatever stage of your autism/ADHD journey, whether likelihood, pre-assessment or post diagnosis...

GEMS offers a single point of contact where you can access information, advice and support.

- For parents and carers: Workshops, courses & animated learnings.
- For children and young people aged 5 & over: a programme of social groups
- A range of signposting to local & national services





www.littletanks.co.uk

"Working with Little Tanks has been a rewarding experience and working with Debi has been wonderful. A lovely company to work for, with plenty of support provided."

Alex - teacher since 2018



# HIRING!



**LITTLE TANKS IS IN SEARCH OF A FUN & ENERGETIC DRAMA ASSISTANT TO HELP RUN AN AFTER SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB**

## DAY, TIME & LOCATION

Monday 3.15-4.15

Furze Platt Infant School, Maidenhead

Summer Term Starts

# 17

# April

"Little tanks has helped me grow, both as a person and as a teacher. I have even managed to start some of my own ventures with the help and support Little tanks has given me. I am as happy working for the team now in 2023 as I was when I started in 2016!" Emma - teacher since 2016

Send CV to:



[debi@littletanks.co.uk](mailto:debi@littletanks.co.uk)