

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #69.7



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

It has been a pleasure to welcome students back this week. I hope that you and your families had an enjoyable half term.



Continued NEU Strike Action

The continued national strike action by the National Education Union looks like it will again disrupt FPSS in March. Parents, carers and students will have received a letter today detailing arrangements for Thursday 2nd March. Please do take time to read this correspondence.

Rotary Youth Speaks Competition

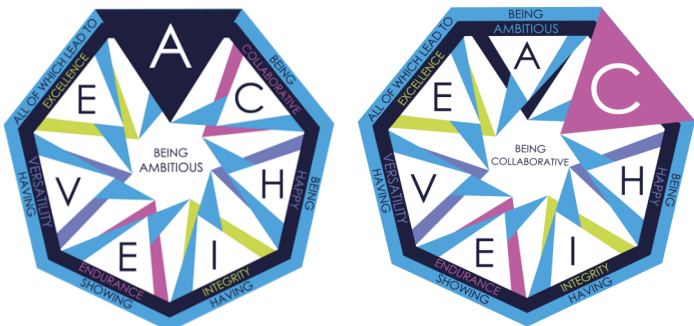
Following their success in the local competition, I wish our teams every success in the next round next Thursday.

Year 10 PPEs

Good luck to our Year 10s with their PPE examinations next week. At this stage of Year 10, PPEs are very much a chance to check revision strategies and practice examination technique. Importantly, it is what students learn from these PPEs that is important so please encourage your child to revise and prepare at home.

Thank you.

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



TERM 4 EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

NEXT WEEK (Week 2)

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| FRI 24 - SUN 26 FEBRUARY | Sixth Form Physics Trip to Geneva |
| MON 27 FEBRUARY | Year 11 Geography Fieldwork (Maidenhead) - Day 1 |
| TUE 28 FEBRUARY | Year 11 Geography Fieldwork (Maidenhead) - Day 2 |
| WED 1 MARCH | Year 11 Geography Fieldwork (Maidenhead) - Day 3 |
| THU 2 MARCH | Theatre Trip - Drive Your Plow Over The Bones Of The Dead <i>See letter from Head</i> |
| FRI 3 MARCH | Year 11 Geography Fieldwork (Maidenhead) - Day 5 |

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

| | | |
|------------------------|--|-----------------|
| THU 9 MARCH | Year 11 Geography Fieldwork (Maidenhead) - Day 4 | |
| | Year 8 Parents' & Students' Consultation Evening | 3.45pm - 7.45pm |
| FRI 10 MARCH | Late Start (9.15am) | 9.15am - 3.15pm |

SCHOOL TERM DATES

DUKE OF EDINBURGH MEETING



Monday 27th February 6-7pm

We are holding a meeting for our Bronze, Silver and Gold students and their parents / carers on Monday 27th February in the Theatre at 6pm. Come along and meet the team from BXM who will be covering essentials such as kit, food and expedition information including locations.

We look forward to seeing you there. A reminder the deadline for any outstanding payments is Tuesday 28th February.

Mr D Randall, DofE (Expeditions)

Miss D Carty, DofE Manager (Volunteering, Skills, Physical and Gold Residential sections)

YEAR 11 BUSINESS


Year 11 Business students made 3D models of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. Congratulations to Kya Davis and Lilly Gibson on winning 1st prize for their fantastic model!


YEAR 8 ENGLISH


Inspired by the poem [In Mrs Tilscher's Class by Carol Ann Duffy](#) from our Poetry Module, Year 8 students Alex Fennell and James Maher were motivated to more deeply explore ideas from that poem and decided to collaborate on the writing of an imaginative story that would include those ideas. They had one lesson on this particular creative activity but they continued working in their own spare time, going above and beyond in the process through the writing of multiple drafts which showed deep endurance and excellence as well as a very positive attitude to learning. I was impressed by their outstanding piece of writing produced and their ambitious use of vocabulary. Well done Alex and James!

Ms M Timpanaro, Teacher of English

James + Alex's Poem Story

'First day, first book, first adventure. The documentary stared me in the eye, and I stared back. It beckoned for me to join it in its world of wonder, and I didn't hesitate to dive into its pages.

'The Nile crocodile gently clambered out of the waves and started its hunt'. I admired the scaly dinosaur of an animal, gawping from its broad jaw to its majestic tail. 'The camel contentedly drinking away at what could well be its last

taste'. I jumped so high I nearly touched the clouds, as the beast pounced on its prey; its teeth glinting in the Sahara sun. 'Its teeth blood-stained; the Nile crocodile makes its way back to its home in the blue waves of the river Nile'.

Next day, next book, next adventure. The whoppingly decorative cover of Roald Dahl's masterpiece lay solemnly on the desk waiting for me, and I happily obliged.

'Charlie Bucket entered the factory, waving his ticket high, bearing a smile full of glee'. I followed, jaw dropped as I gazed at Mr Willy Wonka and his marvellous factory in all its glory. 'One by one the other contestants failed, test after test after test; from chocolate, to gum, to TV, the children lost. All but one...'. The elevator was awesome, full of gadgets and gizmos gleaming all around. The blue sky faded to black somewhere above us and the factory shrank to a dot below. 'Charlie accepted the gift and gazed down at his new factory, astonished'. I wanted to grab the keys and run, but before I knew it, I was staring at a blank page with only two words 'The End'.

Another day, another book, another adventure. Instead of a fantasy or a documentary I have the best book of all today, the bumper book of nursery rhymes; yes never too old.

'There were 5 frogs sitting on a log' I crouched there too, croaking with my pals, Croaker, Croakeralla and Croak 1, 2 and 3; I can't speak frog. 'One jumped off and now there were four frogs sitting on the log'. I watched as Croak 3 dived and plummeted towards the murky bog below and I reminded myself how I had a bath last night and I was fine on the log. 'Another jumped and now there stood three frogs on the log'. Croaker fell. Oh No! I stumbled backwards as the tidal waves of Croaker's splash soaked me from head to toe. I gagged and gagged before falling in myself. I blamed Croakeralla for pushing me, which was all fake, but made me feel somewhat better. Maybe you can be too old.

Last day, last book, last adventure. My sadness came in waves. I grew moment upon moment. Page upon page. Word upon word. This day has come quickly, but I knew it would. Time to go to the past for the rest of this future. Once again...

'Lightning flashed, fires blazed, and the city burnt down in a blur'. I was flooded with senses, overloading my brain with screams and the clang of swords. If I looked up, I could see figures, twelve to be precise, each in their own chariot, pulled by figures too distorted to see... wait is that an owl pulling one?! 'Troy crumbled to ruins as the war went on. The Gods patiently watched from above'. I stared in awe, as the massive prank of the Trojan horse towered over me; before averting my eyes to a new target. Honestly, there were too many things to focus on, the figures above, the burning city and the staggering horse. '...fire spread and burnt, and so did the horse, collapsing on buildings and shedding its foundation on running citizens below'. It was a shame to watch such a beautiful piece of architecture

Cont. on page 3

crumble to ruins, but alas nothing good ever lasts. I ventured onwards, through the maze of corpses and the ocean of blood, occasionally glancing up at the figures that were dawning on me as the twelve Olympians. 'The millions of acres of ash floated up to the Gods who concluded how it was time for them to interfere'. The last of the Trojans died and the sky split open into a thunderstorm.

If my year was to finish now, this would be the best way to go out. For as much as I live in books, the only place we can experience life is on the very Earth. I stood, gathered my belongings and strolled out; consumed in grief. However, I didn't object when Mrs Tilscher ushered us through the corridors. My brain went into overdrive, as it usually does, and the positives of what lay ahead of me drowned my mind and I ran through the gates, impatient to read, impatient to grow.'

THE END



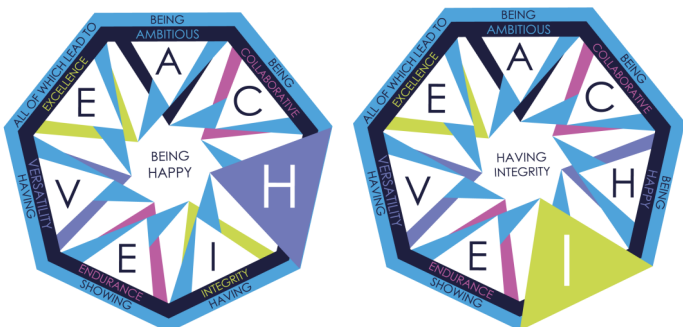
YEAR 9 STUDENT WINS QUAD RACE FOR MAIDENHEAD



Many congratulations to Anna O'Mahony. winning her first 'pot' for rowing with her quad at Burway Head race for Maidenhead last Saturday. Anna is pictured with Tom Barras - silver Olympic medal winner in the quadruple scull - and was rightly delighted that her hard work paid off.



Well done to her and best of luck for future rowing achievements!



HAPPINESS - HALF TERM HOUSE COMPETITION



Deadline: Friday 24th February

Students have been asked to produce a piece of artwork or photograph on the theme of Happiness, one of our key ACHIEVE values.

The winner will receive a £30 Amazon voucher plus their artwork will be featured at the Art Department's Summer Art and Photography Exhibition

They will also receive 1000 points for their House, 2nd place is 600 points, 3rd place 400 points, 4th place 200 points.

This task is expected to be completed throughout half term / in students' own personal time in order to ensure high quality outcomes.

Submissions for both Art and Photography must be at least A4 in size, photographs can be edited on Photoshop. Photo submissions will be printed off in School for students.

Entries to be given/e-mailed to students' Head of House and must include FULL NAME & YEAR GROUP on the reverse or in the subject line if emailed.

Good luck to students in all our Houses!

ART & PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

AIM: Produce a piece of artwork or photograph on the theme of happiness.

WHEN: This task is expected to be completed throughout this half term but in your own personal time in order to ensure high quality outcomes.

MUST BE: At least A4 in size, photographs can be edited on Photoshop. Photo submissions will be printed off in School for students.

SUBMIT: Entries to be given/e-mailed to your Head of House. Make sure your FULL NAME & YEAR GROUP is on the back of your work or in the email subject line.

DEADLINE: FRI 24TH FEB 2023

ECO CLUB UPDATE

Our 'Living Wall'

By Fred Fletcher, Year 10

'The FPSS Eco-Club is working with the Global Social Leaders, a community of schools and groups working globally with socially conscious young people, on a new project around our wildflower garden!

We are planning to develop a 'Living Wall' on one side of the Year 7 play area - full of climbers, herbs, and plants that will be great for everyone to enjoy all year round. This will be a great boost for biodiversity at our school, not to mention a great way to make the school look more colourful and green, creating a beautiful sensory environment for our students to enjoy.

Once this project is complete, we hope to be able to open this new garden as an outdoor education space, fit for teachers to be able to book and teach certain lessons.

Outdoor education is a great way to teach students; it enables them to develop an appreciation and understanding for the world around us, and to work collaboratively in a great setting alongside nature.'



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 February and March. 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.

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 4 must be made through the original email invitations (sent out on Friday 10th February)
- * 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
- * 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 relevant to your son/daughter
- * if your son or daughter wishes to be removed from a club completely, 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.

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

SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLINICS SCHEDULE 2023



YEAR 11 HOW TO REVISE SESSIONS

Every Year 11 student has had the opportunity to walk and talk through a revision session from highlighting key words to producing a mind-map or cue card through to checking their learning with questions. If you would like to find out more, the PowerPoint presentation used is attached – the link below also shows a video which can be used for students who may have missed the session or for any parent/carer who wants to know more.

Mrs D Feather, Raising Achievement Manager

[GUIDANCE TO GRADING DOCUMENT](#)

[VIEW REPORTS](#)



SUPER RECYCLING EVENT – COOKHAM LIBRARY, SATURDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 10.30AM-12.30PM

The team at [Cookhams Footprint](#) have organised a super recycling event to be held on Saturday 25th February at the Community Room in Cookham Library.

Bring along those toys, books, games and homeware items that you no longer need and scoop some freebies to replace them!

This is great for recycling things that are cluttering your home and have finished with, while giving other people an opportunity to make use of them.

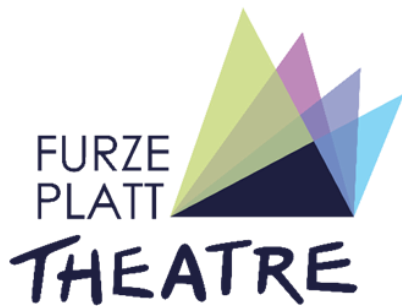
Donations of toys, games, books, dvds, crockery, homeware and textiles (not clothing) would be welcomed. There will also be a stall with advice on saving energy, insulation etc.

Drop off for donating items from 9am.

Event starts at 10.30 - 12.30

[EVENT LINK](#)

[EMAIL: COOKHAMSFootprint@gmail.com](mailto:COOKHAMSFootprint@gmail.com)



FUNDRAISING EVENTS – YOU ARE INVITED



In March, please join us for two fantastic, yet very different, events to raise money for our school. Tickets for both events will be going on sale from 12pm on 1st March via ticketsource.co.uk.

On **Wednesday 22nd March** we are delighted to be welcoming two speakers who give an inspirational talk entitled 'Building Bridges'. The evening features Dr Noemie Lopian, the daughter of two Holocaust survivors, and Derek Niemann, the grandson of an SS officer in a Nazi concentration camp. These unlikely friends share their fascinating insight into their opposing backgrounds and

how, despite it all, they have found positive lessons into what happened in the 1940s. Doors open at 6.30pm, with the talk beginning at 7pm – 9pm. Tickets are £5 to attend, and the PTFA are kindly selling soft drinks.

BUILDING BRIDGES
Two unlikely friends share their stories
Wednesday 22 March 2023
Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start

And on **Friday 24th March** we continue our Furze Platt Friday gig night with Panic Lounge – another local band who play a mix of 80s, 90s, 00s and recent cover tracks. Think Blondie, the Killers, Queen, Pink, with a bit of Abba thrown in. They are always 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.

PANIC
lounge
We've got it **covered.**

Take Me Out - Sit Down - Hard to Handle - Shut Up And Dance - I Saw Her Standing There - Marry You - Losing My Religion - The Power Of Love - Under The Bridge - Shine - Have A Nice Day - Shout - Don't Stop Me Now - Your Song - Livin' On A Prayer

FRIDAY 24 MARCH 2023
Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start



Parents, Teachers & Friends Association



TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE

Contact us

Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net | Facebook: facebook.com/fpsptfa

Website: [click here to access](#)



We are truly grateful for everyone's support by purchasing, organising, promoting and helping in any way during the School Musical week.

Your contributions resulted in a profit of just over £900!!!

The Helpers List needs a boost! Bar and refreshment cover needed at the end of March, email us: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

REMINDERS...

TRUSTEES REQUIRED: CHAIR AND SECRETARY. Due to retirement, two people are needed asap. We are a small team of friendly parents who enjoy fundraising! Please put yourself forward and email us today: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

UNIFORM – we are very grateful for all your donations and orders. Please note: we are accepting logo'd kit that MUST BE in clean and very good condition for resale. We have accumulated a few sacks for the tip!

ONLINE FUNDRAISERS – 200 Club, Easyfundraising and company support schemes. You have nothing to lose! There's space for new members now. You will have noticed Amazon Smile ended on Monday. We encourage you to follow these links and sign up today:

[Scan here to help us online from tonight.](#)

200 Club



For £5 per month (less than 2 coffees) you could be in with a chance of winning £200!

Easyfundraising



Easyfundraising.org.uk - You shop, brands donate to us, at no cost to you!

Company Support schemes

Can you help us access fundraising from your employer with **MATCH FUNDING** schemes?



Now is the perfect time to apply to your employer to match or contribute to our fundraising efforts.

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

Want to Get Active & Have Fun?



Come and Enjoy Girls Cricket at Boyne Hill CC

**No kit or
equipment required.**

**All Ages
from
Under 5 (Reception)
up to
U13 (Year 8)**



**Come and join our
growing Ladies and Girls
Cricket Section.
"All Abilities Welcome"**



Girls Training: Fridays
U5-U9 6.15pm-7.30pm (Softball)
U10-U13 6.00pm-7.30pm (Softball & Hardball)

Contact

Jack Spencer Jones

jackspencerjones@yahoo.co.uk 07595463584



@BoyneHill CC



Boyne Hill CC



boynehillcc1890

Address: BoynGrove, HighwayRoad, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 5AE

The BBC logo consists of three black squares, each containing a white letter: 'B', 'B', and 'C'.

B B C

A green speech bubble icon with three white dots inside, positioned above the main title.

**YOUNG REPORTER
COMPETITION**

Got a story to tell?

**CLOSES
FRIDAY
31ST MARCH
2023**

**Share it with the BBC and it could be
seen or heard by people all over the UK!**

If you're aged between 11-18 the BBC Young Reporter
Competition wants to hear from you.

For full T&Cs, Privacy Notice and to apply:
bbc.co.uk/youngreportercompetition



LEISURE  FOCUS
BRAYWICK LEISURE CENTRE

ROLLER DISCO

MAIDENHEAD'S BIGGEST
ROLLER DISCO EVENT

SATURDAYS

Scout and Skate : 3pm - 4pm

This is a beginner session designed to usher newbies and little ones into the world of rollerskating.

Family and Friends Roller Disco early session: 4:15pm - 5:15pm

For all roller abilities to come and enjoy a skate and disco whilst creating fantastic memories.

Family and Friends Roller Disco Late Session 5.30pm - 7:30pm

We will be holding races, and fun challenges whilst our DJ turns up the music and gets you in the mood to skate!

Book your tickets online at www.leisurefocus.org.uk

