

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Prepare to Succeed Evenings

This week I have had the pleasure of welcoming parents and carers of Year 7, 10, 11, 12 and 13 to the 2023/24 academic year at FPSS. Our Prepare to Succeed Evenings are designed to update parents and carers on key information about the year ahead. Thank you to all of you who attended, and I trust that you found the key information useful.



Open Events - Tours for Prospective Students

This week we also started our tours for parents, carers and students thinking of joining FPSS. It has been a pleasure to meet and show guests around the school. I would like to pay credit to our Year 8 students who have been excellent tour guides sharing their insights and knowledge. Tours continue over the next few weeks with our Open Evening on Thursday 5 October.

As ever, current parents and carers are always great advocates for FPSS so please do share.

Take Every Opportunity

I am writing this newsletter to the sound of a netball tournament happening on the courts outside my office window. Earlier in the week I heard about our Greenpower Racing Team's exploits at Dunsfold Airfield (the Top Gear Test Track). In recent Tutor Periods students have been guessing which musical we will be doing this year, prior to the auditions taking place.

It is great to see and hear our young people enjoying our after-school clubs, visits and activities. Please do encourage your children to sign up for the wide range of opportunities we have on offer.

Take care,

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

Next week (Week 1)

[ALL EVENTS](#)

Forthcoming Events

MON 25 SEPTEMBER	Languages Week Year 7 Teambuilding - Day 1
TUE 26 SEPTEMBER	Year 7 Teambuilding - Day 2
FRI 29 SEPTEMBER	Year 7 Teambuilding - Day 3

SCHOOL TERM DATES



Open Evening
 Thursday 5th October 2023
 6pm - 9pm
 All welcome, no booking required.



Open Mornings
 Tours available 9.10am
 every Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
 from 11th September - 18th October 2023
 All welcome
 Please call **01628 625308**
 to book a tour




office@furzeplatt.com | www.furzeplatt.com

OSPREY HOUSE WERE OUR 2023 END OF TERM WINNERS!

Who will win next?



- What skills do they have that would make them good at this role?
- How are they a good role model of our ACHIEVE values for the House?

Deadline: 20th September



Eagle – Mr Harrison: harri001@furzeplatt.net

Falcon – Miss Dowell: dowel001@furzeplatt.net

Hawk – Mr Bahra: bahrg001@furzeplatt.net

Osprey – Miss Holmes: holme068@furzeplatt.net

STUDENT HOUSE CAPTAIN APPLICATIONS



The House system is back to a clean slate with the chance for our students to start earning as many points as possible. Each house has an equal chance of winning the house cup, last year's winners were Osprey! There are going to be lots of tutor activities and termly House competitions for students to take part in.

As we are at the beginning of a school year we are back at the beginning of our ACHIEVE values. This half term we will be focussing on AMBITION.



One way for our students to be ambitious is for them to have an active role in representing and helping their House. Each House will assign two student captains from each Year group from 7-11 and two Sixth Form captains.

Student House Captain Roles:

- Support the Head of House and all the students in the House, particularly the students from the same Year group.
- Consistently model and demonstrate the ACHIEVE values to encourage others to make choices that support these values.
- Seek feedback from students in their House and provide feedback and ideas to the Head of House on the ACHIEVE tutor programme; events; competitions; rewards; and all aspects of the House system.
- Help to organise events, competitions, as well as supporting effective communication across the House.

To Apply:

Students will need to complete an application on a word document and email it to their Head of House (see below)

The application should include:

- Why would they would like to be a House Captain?

Mrs K McElligott, House Competition Co-ordinator



Mrs K Kalinowski, Head of Performing Arts



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:



OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 5TH OCTOBER 6-9pm

Early finish for all students – 12.30pm

Our annual Open Evening is being held on Thursday 5th October for prospective students and their parents. All current Furze Platt students will finish at 12.30pm that day; helpers will be invited back before the event starts. More details will be sent out in due course.

INSET DAY

FRIDAY 6TH OCTOBER

School will be closed for all year groups.

Please note further INSET days for this academic year are on Wednesday 3rd January 2024, Friday 14th June and Tuesday 9th July.

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 23RD NOVEMBER

This event will take place from 6-9pm and will be followed by a 9.15am start for all students on Friday 24th November. Further details will be sent out in due course.

CAREERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR

TUESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

This event will take place from 6-8pm. Further details will be sent out in due course.



REPORTING ABSENCE



Please report any Absence for your child via ClassCharts.

If accessing on a phone, please scroll along the line at the top with an orange dot at the end (marked 'behaviour', 'on

report cards' and 'homework') near the top of the screen and you will see additional options further along including 'report absence'.

Year 7 parents will have recently received an email with login details.

If you require your login details to be re-sent, please email jacky.phillips@furzeplatt.net

Thank you.

INNOVATE MENUS



Please see below for the lunch options which are on a three week rotational basis.

WEEK 1	Classic Favourites	SOUTHERN STYLE	Great British Roast	CURRY	Fish & Chips
MONDAY	CHICKEN STROGANOFF Rice	BEEF LASAGNE Homemade garlic Bread	HONEY MUSTARD GLAZED GAMMON Potatoes, Gravy	CHICKEN DOPIAZA Rice	CHIP SHOP FRYDAY FISH/PIZZA/SAUSAGE OR SALMON FISHCAKES Chips
TUESDAY	MUSHROOM STROGANOFF Rice	VEGETABLE & BEAN LASAGNE Homemade Garlic Bread	MACARONI CHEESE	PANEER & CHICKPEA CURRY Rice	CHIPOTLE QUORN TORTILLA Chips
WEDNESDAY	STEAMED BROCCOLI	GARDEN SALAD	SEASONAL VEGETABLES MIXED SALAD	CORIANDER & ONION SALAD	TOMATO SALSA PEAS
THURSDAY	TOMATO & BASIL				
FRIDAY	CHEF SPECIAL				
SATURDAY	TOMATO & BASIL				
SUNDAY	CHEF SPECIAL				
JACKET POTATO	TOPPED WITH A CHOICE OF CHEESE, TUNA OR BEANS				
DESSERT	BERRY & APPLE CRUMBLE Custard	CORNFLAKE CRISPY CAKE	PEAR & COCOA SPONGE Custard	APPLE & CHOCOLATE PINWHEEL	CHEF SPECIAL
FRUIT	SELECTION OF FRUIT DAILY				
YOGHURT POTS	SELECTION OF YOGHURT POTS DAILY				

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR BUDDING LINGUISTS



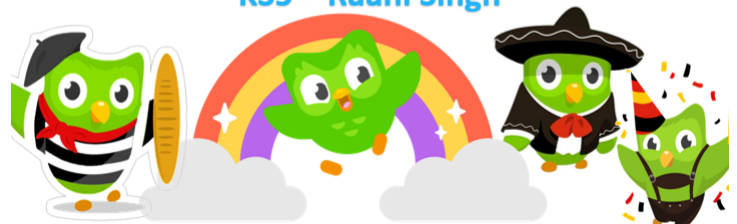
The FPSS MFL Department challenged you to bring evidence of a 35 day (or more) Duolingo streak in French, German and/or Spanish to school in September. Well done to the following winners with the longest streaks:

Year 8 – Lillie-Mai Rawlings & Harry Metcalfe

Year 9 – Annabel Sweeney & Lucas Bryant

KS4 – Daniyah Ahmed & Amber Holbrook

KS5 – Raahi Singh



Mrs A Budgett, Head of Modern Foreign Languages



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 CLUB LIST

TERM 1 CLUBS (SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER HALF TERM 2023)

Parents and carers of students in all year groups should have received invitations last week (**Friday 8th September**) to attend clubs for their son/daughter. The email was headed Furze Platt Senior School with the email address evolve.furzeplattsnrvisits@edufocus.co.uk and the links will be 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.

Students have also been sent a copy of the clubs available but parents and carers will need to book the clubs your son or daughter would like to attend. We do encourage them to try as many as they are interested in – with over 60 clubs and academic clinics we are sure they will find a number of activities they really enjoy!

MY EVOLVE

In addition, 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:

* Year 7 Academic Support Clinics are not available this term but there is a Homework Club they can attend (via Clubs)

* all bookings for Term 1 (September/October half term) must be made through the original email invitations sent out today

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

* please do not duplicate club bookings per session

* bookings for Fitness Club - these have been limited for safety and will be rotated but please be aware that your son/daughter may not have a place each week. You will be notified when they are to attend.

* students in upper years may see invitations to academic clubs that are not part of their specific academic



GREENPOWER UPDATE

The team took the car back to Dunsfold Airfield (the Top Gear Test Track). With the sun blazing during the first race 1.5 hour race, the team managed the race well. Preventing the car from overheating and battling their way through the pack, the team finished a respectable 30th out of 60 in the first race. The second race however was a complete contrast with the rain pouring and slippery track conditions. The younger and less experienced drivers during this race and showed true determination, finishing an impressive 27th.



The team continue to improve race by race, and with the development of a second car, fuelling some internal competition, the team is continuing to grow and progress.

Congratulations to the following students for all their efforts:

- Leah Banthorpe
- Cayde De Silva
- Alp Kose
- Amy-Jane Macey
- Jamie Seris
- Harry Strudwicke



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And of course the rest of the team that made this race such a success with their behind the scenes work.

Mr D Barrett, Lead Science Technician



GARDENING CLUB

Gardening club got off to a fantastic start with an influx of keen Year 7 students plus our "regulars" some of whom have been with us since we started 2 years ago!

We harvested our cherry tomatoes and runner beans plus collected seed for planting later on this term and next year.

Dr M Graham, Science Teacher

Mrs R Cook, LSA



TOTALLY RAD ARE COMING TO FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL!

RAD believe that whatever the skill level or budget, all children deserve access to exceptional music tuition.

Our highly skilled network of professional musicians provide next-level tuition for the next generation of talent, no matter the location, budget or capability.

Provided on-site, within school hours and at a highly-competitive rate; with **RAD**, students can experience expert music tuition that helps them sharpen skills, express creativity, and dream BIG, with no disruption or stress – all from the very best in the business.

For more information, and to sign-up your child to **RAD** lessons, just use the following link; we'll do the rest.



SIGN ME UP

MUSIC CLUBS

Music at FPSS (KS3)

Music Clubs	Day	Time	Location
Ukulele Club	Monday	08:40 – 09:15	MU2
Music Rehearsal for School Show (Invited Students)	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	11:15 – 11:45	MU1
Time for Practise	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	13:45 – 14:15	MUSIC
Keyboard Club	Tuesday	08:40 – 09:15	MU2
Rockstars Juniors	Tuesday	08:40 – 09:15	MU1
Whole School Choir	Wednesday	08:40 – 09:15	MU1
Year 7 Choir	Thursday	13:45 – 14:15	MU2
Chamber Choir (Yr9-13)	Friday	08:40 – 09:15	MU1

Please see Mr Forster or Miss Wong if you have any questions.

Music at FPSS (KS4 & KS5)

Music Clubs	Day	Time	Location
Composition Club (Yr10 and Yr11 GCSE Music students)	Monday	08:40 – 09:15	MU1
Ukulele Club	Monday	08:40 – 09:15	MU2
Music Rehearsal for School Show (Invited Students)	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	11:15 – 11:45	MU1
Time for Practise	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	13:45 – 14:15	MUSIC
Keyboard Club	Tuesday	08:40 – 09:15	MU2
Whole School Choir	Wednesday	08:40 – 09:15	MU1
Rockstars Senior	Thursday	08:40 – 09:15	MU1
Chamber Choir (Yr9-13)	Friday	08:40 – 09:15	MU1

Please see Mr Forster or Miss Wong if you have any questions.

Mr S Forster, Head of Music

SUCCESS IN THE SIXTH FORM POWERPOINTS

Please find the slides used during the presentation for your information on the links below.

Mr P Ging, Head of Sixth Form

[SUCCESS IN YEAR 12 PRESENTATION](#)

[SUCCESS IN YEAR 13 PRESENTATION](#)

AUTISM IN GIRLS TALK

7pm Tuesday 10th October in our Theatre

We are joined by Cathy Wassell, who runs the charity, Autism in Girls Network, to talk about how girls are often diagnosed much later than boys due to misconceptions about how it presents itself.

Cathy is the mother of a child with autism, who was only diagnosed aged 13 after a mental health crisis.

She can talk both personally and professionally and personally about the challenges of getting a diagnosis and gives practical tips and techniques for those who care for children and teenagers.

Ticket prices are £5 to cover the cost of hosting Cathy at our theatre.

[BOOK HERE](#)

Mrs M Holden, Theatre Manager

YEAR 10

YEAR 11

PREPARING TO ACHIEVE POWERPOINTS

Following on from Tuesday's Preparing to Succeed Evening, please find the slides used during the presentation for your information on the link below.

Please do not hesitate to contact your Head of Progress or me if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Mrs D Feather, Raising Achievement Manager

[REVISION & ACHIEVEMENT PRESENTATIONS](#)



YEAR 13

GOLD MEDAL WINNER

The Welsh Athletics U20 international 2023 competition was held in Cardiff on the 26th August. Congratulations to Demari Gumbs in Year 13 who has the following statement to share about his experience:

"I was honoured to compete in the U18 400m and represented England u18 team where I got a new personal best and I also won the gold medal. It was a very happy day for me and my family." I also did the first leg in the 400m relay and we won the bronze, good team effort."

Well done, what a fantastic result!

Mrs M Pasa, Sixth Form Pastoral Manager



WELCOME TO SEPTEMBER.....



Dear students, parents/carers and friends

The PTFA we would like to welcome you and your child/ren to Furze Platt Senior School, whether you are a new starter or returning to another year groups. The PTFA is a registered charity and run by a Committee of enthusiastic volunteers: Gill, Neil, Carina and Lorraine. We have been very active over the past few years raising funds through a variety of different means by running one-off activities and regular contribution schemes. For instance, we operate the 200 Club and run a Big Quiz, Concert Bars, claim Grants from Trusts and RBWM, hold Nearly New Uniform Sales, receive donations from Easyfundraising and Community and Social Responsibility/ Matched Funding schemes.

The chief similarity with a primary or junior school PTA is that our main role is, and will always be, **FUNDRAISING**. However, there is a distinct shift away from large scale events that demand manpower, like fairs and raffles, to steady online fundraisers such as the 200 Club and online commission schemes like Easyfundraising.

If you would like more information and/or how to be involved in an exciting new era for you, then please view our webpage: <https://www.furzeplatt.com/page/?title=The+PTFA&pid=41> and follow/message us: <https://www.facebook.com/fpsptfa> and get in touch, anytime, by email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PTFA MEETING & 200 CLUB DRAW - WEEK COMMENCING 9TH OCTOBER 2023
BIG QUIZ AND BUFFET DINNER - FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2023

A FEW MENTIONS.....

1. **Please name ALL your property** - clothing, ties, footwear, bags, water bottles, lunchboxes, glasses cases.
2. Thank for your donations of uniform over the summer holidays that have helped many families. We intend to build stock again, so please donate your logo'd uniform if you are clearing out wardrobes.



Please drop clean, undamaged, saleable goods into the containers in School Reception.

We are registered with [Easyfundraising.org](https://www.easyfundraising.org) to receive online donations, so please register or redirect your current cause to us, at no cost to you! Please use the QR code or link here: <https://bit.ly/393NF8R+>



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)

LITTLE GREEN CHANGE EVENT

Bulb planting at Thames Hospice

Can you donate 90 minutes of your time to help plant bulbs on the beautiful grounds at Thames Hospice in Maidenhead? Help a local charity, increase spring nectar sources for beneficial insects, and receive an electronic Little Green Change participation certificate.

**Saturday 7th October 2023.
2:00pm-3:30pm.**

Location: Thames Hospice, Windsor Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 2DN

Sign up via our Eventbrite or email your full name and school name to info@littlegreenchange.com

littlegreenchange.com



This event is open to students in Years 9-11, and to staff across all secondary-aged schools in the Thames Valley. Booking is essential. Gloves and tools will be provided.



Thames hospice