

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Languages Week

We have an amazing range of languages spoken within FPSS. They represent the diversity amongst our student, parent, carer and staff community. Next week we will celebrate this cultural variety through Languages Week. Whether in conversation in classrooms, baking cakes from around the world or through one of the many other activities, we will look to learn from one another and pool our skills and knowledge.

Not all of us are natural linguists (I still get nervous at memories of my GCSE German Speaking exam) but the aim of the week is to recognise the value of learning about other cultures and languages, ensuring our students are young people of the world, not just the locality. In preparation for the week, please do share your language skills and cultural experiences with your children to enhance the rich conversations that will occur in school.

Year 7 Longridge Visits

Next week will be an exciting one for Year 7 with their team building visits to Longridge. Different groups are going on Monday, Tuesday and Friday. I hope that students enjoy the various activities and build relationships with staff and students.

Year 11 PPEs

In preparation for their upcoming GCSEs, our Year 11 sit a series of 'mock' exams (PPEs) to get them ready to be successful in their examinations. Next week sees English Literature and Maths PPEs. Good luck to students as they prepare and sit these examinations.

Take care,

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

**UPCOMING EVENTS****ALL EVENTS****Next week (Week 2)**

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 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 |

Forthcoming Events

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------|
| MON 2 OCTOBER | Sixth Form Creative Apprenticeship Fair | |
| TUE 3 OCTOBER | Senior Maths Challenge for Years 12 & 13 | 8.40am - 3.15pm |
| WED 4 OCTOBER | Sixth Form Greece Trip - Student Training | 2.15pm - 4pm |
| | Thailand Expedition 2025 - Information Evening | 6pm - 7pm |
| THU 5 OCTOBER | Whole School Open Evening (Early finish to school day 12.30pm) | 6pm - 9pm |
| FRI 6 OCTOBER | INSET DAY - School closed for all year groups | All day |

SCHOOL TERM DATES**DUKE OF EDINBURGH
AWARD SCHEME****Bronze, Silver and Gold 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, 12 & 13 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.

Miss D Carty, Alternative Curriculum Support Worker



Open Evening
Thursday 5th October 2023
6pm - 9pm
 Headteachers Talks at 6.15pm and 7.15pm
 Last tour at 8pm
 All welcome, no booking required.

FURZE PLATT
 SENIOR SCHOOL

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



Who was Alan Turing?

- Alan Turing, (born June 23, 1912) was an English mathematician and logician. He studied at the University of Cambridge and at Princeton's Institute for Advanced Study.
- He believed that computers eventually would be capable of thought indistinguishable from that of a human and proposed a simple test (the Turing test) to assess this capability. His papers on the subject are widely acknowledged as the foundation of research in artificial intelligence.
- He did valuable work in cryptography during World War II, playing an important role in breaking the Enigma code used by Germany for radio communications.
- After the war he taught at the University of Manchester and began work on what is now known as artificial intelligence.
- He showed endurance in the face of lots of adversity in his life.

Mrs K McElligott, House Competition Co-ordinator

TURING CHALLENGE HOUSE COMPETITION



This half term's House competition is a Turing maths challenge, in honour of Alan Turing. Within each year group, 1 student from each House will compete against each other.

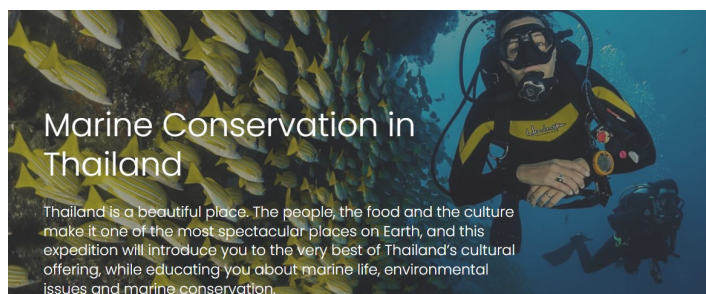
The winners will win prizes and lots of House points!

Prizes:

- The selected finalists of each year group will all get 10 points each.
- The winners of each year group final will all get 50 points each + £10 amazon voucher.
- The winning House in each year will get 1000 points, 600 points for 2nd place, 400 points for 3rd place and 200 points for 4th place



THAILAND MARINE CONSERVATION EXPEDITION 2025



I am very excited to announce that in the Summer of 2025 Furze Platt Senior School will be running a marine conservation expedition to Thailand.

The trip will be open to all current year 11 and 12 students.

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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.

We will be holding a parent information evening on Wednesday 4th October 2023 6pm in the school Theatre for parents and students in years 11 and 12. At the meeting you will be able to meet representatives from Flooglebinder, who will give a detailed presentation outlining all aspects of the expedition you will also have the opportunity to ask questions – more information will follow via parent mail over the coming week.

In the meantime, use the link below to find out more about Flooglebinder and the Thailand experience.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Mr D Randall, Outdoor Education & Enrichment Leader



AUTISM IN GIRLS TALK, TUESDAY 10TH OCTOBER AT 7PM - **POSTPONED**

Unfortunately we are having to postpone the Autism in Girls talk on 10th October.

Due to unforeseen circumstances Cathy Wassell, the speaker, is currently unable to travel to our theatre.

We considered having this virtually, but on balance think it would be better in person.

We will be rearranging the evening and offering those who bought tickets either a refund or tickets to the postponed event.

Mrs M Holden, Theatre Manager



PERFORMING ARTS NEWS



YEAR 10 GCSE THEATRE TRIP



On Thursday 14th September, we took 36 year 10 Drama GCSE students to the Oxford Playhouse to watch Blood Brothers. This is our set text at GCSE and students gained such a lot from watching the play first hand. Now a classic play written by Willy Russell in 1982, the play explores themes of social class and inequality. Set in Liverpool in 1960-1980, the story follows twins, Mickey and Edward who were separated at birth. The play, which is actually a musical, has some excellent comic moments, especially through the character Mickey, but also in heart-breaking in it's narrative. Students were gripped by the story and are looking forward to exploring it practically in lessons.

SCHOOL MUSICAL- UPDATE

On Monday 18th September, **95 students** auditioned for this years school musical, Guys and Dolls. The Performing Arts Department were overwhelmed by the amount of students wanting to take part and also the level of talent here at Furze Platt. Students had to perform a scene in a group from the musical and also sing a song as a group or as a solo. The cast list will be announced in next weeks Newsletter. **Rehearsals start on Tuesday 26th September in the Theatre at 3.15-5pm.**



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DANCE CLUB

Dance club has moved to Tuesday 2nd break. Thank you to those students who took part this week. Isabelle Holmes in Year 13 in leading the club and already the students have created the start of a routine. Isabelle said that the students focus and effort in the club was excellent. She already has big ideas for dances they can do in up and coming Performing Arts events. **If you wish to join dance club, please e-mail Mrs Kalinowski as there are a few places left.**



Mondays

13.45 - 14.15

Dance Studio

Years 7-9

Mrs K Kalinowski , Head of Performing Arts

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

Mr S Forster, Head of Music



TERM 1 CLUBS (SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER HALF TERM 2023)

Parents and carers of students in all year groups should have received invitations on 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.

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

SCHOOL CLUB LIST



Tuesdays

15.20 - 16.20

S12

All Years

GARDENING CLUB THIS WEEK



This week gardening club surveyed the meadow for invertebrates using sweep nets and other equipment borrowed from Braywick Nature Reserve's 'lending library'. It is planned to survey the meadow termly to monitor biodiversity now the meadow has become established. Thanks to everyone involved!

Mrs R Cook, LSA

Dr M Graham, Science Teacher



Languages Week 2023

International Bake Off

STAR BAKER

Have you ever made churros, a tarte tatin or even a Schwarzwälder Kirschtorte?

Or are you a creative cake decorator?

The MFL Department challenges you to bake a cake from a different culture or to decorate a cake with an international theme for Languages Week!

Please remember to take a photo before enjoying your tasty treats and send it to Mrs Budgett before **Monday 2nd October** ready to present to the judging panel.

alice.budgett@furzeplatt.net

AMBITIOUS COLLABORATIVE HAPPY INTEGRITY ENDURANCE VERSATILITY EXCELLENCE

Languages Week 2023

'Speak My Language' Sessions

| ML3 | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---------|----------------------|---------|----------------|----------|--------|
| Break 2 | Cantonese & Mandarin | Turkish | Urdu & Panjabi | Polish | Arabic |

Do you speak Cantonese, Mandarin Urdu, Polish, Turkish, Panjabi or Arabic?

Do you want to learn about the above languages and their cultures?

Come and hear Furze Platt students share their language and experiences!

All sessions will take place in ML3

No need to sign up - please just come along & feel free to bring your lunch!

AMBITIOUS COLLABORATIVE HAPPY INTEGRITY ENDURANCE VERSATILITY EXCELLENCE

Teacher Competition

You will be sent the link to an online voting form to place your vote for the Teacher Competition.

Which (non-MFL) teacher will impress you the most during Languages Week with their multilingual knowledge?

Which teacher has taken the register in a different language?

Which teacher has shared with you the languages they speak or are learning?

Choose wisely – you have only one vote for the winning teacher!

AMBITIOUS COLLABORATIVE HAPPY INTEGRITY ENDURANCE VERSATILITY EXCELLENCE



INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT MORE ABOUT THE ARMED FORCES?

Army Cadets Force open evening is taking place next Tuesday 26th September. Please see the letter below for more information:

ARMY OPEN EVENING LETTER

CHALLENGE YOURSELF BECOME A CADET



» Join Marlow ACF on 26th September 2023 @ 1930-2130

Visit our OPEN EVENING 26th September, this will give you an insight into the great opportunities the Army Cadet Force has, the stories of our cadets and see the activities you could be doing to challenge yourself

The Old Armoury
Institute Road
Marlow SL7 1BL



**ARMY
CADETS** 
GOING FURTHER



Yoga for Girls Aged 11 - 15

Thursdays, Term time
New course begin 14th September
7pm-8pm
St Edmund Campion Parish Centre,
Altwood Road, Maidenhead



FREE TASTER
FOR NEWCOMERS
(booking required)

Thursdays 7pm - 8pm
NEW TERM BEGINS
Thursday 14th September

www.movehappyfitness.co.uk/kids-yoga



DETAILS AND BOOKING

<https://www.movehappyfitness.co.uk/kids-yoga>

Questions?

Contact: Nicola Porter
nicolamaryporter@gmail.com
Phone: 07709 164778
www.movehappyfitness.co.uk
@movehappyfitness

Yoga for Girls aged 11 - 16

- Supporting physical development by increasing flexibility and strength
- Helping to build emotional and mental resilience
- Breath work and other techniques to increase energy and decrease anxiety and stress
- A non competitive and fun environment
- Opportunity to get active, connect and engage with others, as well as step away from technology for a time
- A route to rediscover and reconnect with what it is to enjoy movement and activity

Carly Brown, Yoga Teacher

Carly started practicing yoga over twenty years ago as a teenager herself, and qualified to teach in 2016.

She brings a lightness, fun and creativity to all of her classes. She covers breath exercises, postures, anatomy, meditation, hand mudras, relaxation.

Her aim is always to empower those in her class, promoting a sense of calm, connection, and resilience. And also enabling them to start to build their own mini practice for life, for all the benefits it can bring.

In her spare time Carly likes to practice yoga, draw, and walk my Labrador Fred.

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)