

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #72.1



There is a new Parentmail payments section added to the newsletter to assist with any payment queries.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year!

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2024. I hope that you and your families have had an amazing break and feel re-energised as we begin Term 3.



As we start a new term, as usual I have been leading the assemblies. This has focused upon the lightning strike and subsequent house fire I had at home last summer. The assemblies share some important fire messages, including ringing 999 and discussing fire detectors, blankets and extinguishers. In addition, we talk about knowing electric and gas switch off points, as well as shutting doors to contain fire (if safe to do so).

Beyond fire safety, we also reflect upon what is important, material possessions or our families, our relationships and the skills, experiences and values that carry us through life. As we start this new year, I have challenged our students to consider what they value and how they can further develop themselves, whether it be through opportunities within or beyond FPSS.

Sixth Form Applications

Deadline 9am Monday 8th January

Families of students in Year 11 who are looking to apply to our Sixth Form are reminded that applications must be in by 9am on Monday. Good luck to everyone who applies and we look forward to seeing your submissions.

For more information or advice on writing statements please visit:

[MORE INFORMATION ON OUR SIXTH FORM](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

[ALL EVENTS](#)

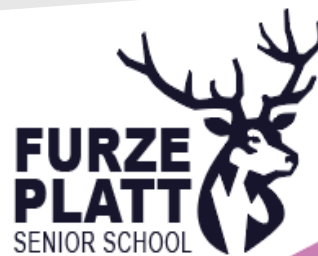
Next Week

MON 8 JANUARY	Sixth Form Applications Deadline	9am
THU 11 JANUARY	Year 9 Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	3.45pm - 7.45pm

Forthcoming Events

WED 24 JANUARY	Year 11 & 13 Photographs	
THU 25 JANUARY	Year 10 & 12 Performing Arts Evening	4pm - 7pm
FRI 26 JANUARY	Year 9 Options Evening	6pm - 8.30pm
	Late Start	9.15am

SCHOOL TERM DATES



SIXTH FORM



A FOUNDATION FOR EXCELLENCE

[SIXTH FORM PROSPECTUS 2024](#)

Welcomes

At the start of the new term, we welcome several new colleagues including Mrs Jayne Wright (Head of Psychology and Criminology), Ms Vivette James (Computing) Miss Suresha Moodley (English), Mr Oliver Jackson (PE assistant), Josh Newman (Inclusion Manager) and Mrs Lucy Budge (Exams Access Arrangements). In addition, Joe Harrison has replaced Laura Sharp as Head of Progress for Year 7.

I am sure that you will join with me in wishing them every success at FPSS.

Take care,

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

appointments, leaving many without the opportunity for valuable feedback. By implementing a limit, we aim to distribute these opportunities more evenly among parents.

To maintain the efficiency and punctuality of the event, we have also enforced a five-minute travel time between appointments. This buffer helps ensure that each meeting runs smoothly and stays within the allotted time frame.

The Science team have allocated a member of staff to each class, allowing them to feedback on each of the science disciplines. This is to ensure that as many parents as possible have the opportunity to discuss their child's progress in science.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday 11th January.

Best wishes,

Miss R Lake, Deputy Headteacher



PARENTS' EVENING BOOKINGS



YEAR 9 OPTIONS EVENING

THURSDAY 25th JANUARY

Further details of this event will be sent out in due course. This will be followed by a 9.15am start for all students on Friday 26th January.

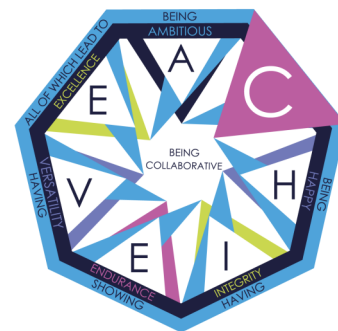
YEAR 9 PARENTS' EVENING

On Thursday 11th January 2024 there will be an opportunity for the parents/carers of Year 9 to meet their child's subject teachers at Furze Platt Senior School. Face to face appointments will be available between **3.45-7.45pm** in the Theatre and Main Hall.

Parents' Evenings are very important events that allow you to gain helpful insights into your child's progress, discuss upcoming assessments and find out how families can support students with revision, therefore we would encourage that you attend the appointments with your son or daughter. Appointments close on Thursday 11th January.

School Cloud is a platform whereby you will have an opportunity to book your appointments with their subject teachers in advance. In order 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 front page of the school website. A short guide on how to add an appointment is also included in this letter.

Appointments have been capped at seven appointments initially; this is to allow every parent access to speak to subject staff. Our primary goal is to ensure that every parent has fair and equal access to feedback from their child's subjects. With children studying more than 10 subjects, a completely unrestricted booking system could lead to a scenario where only a small percentage of parents secure



YEAR 8 CONSERVATION TRIP TO WALES, 2024

A reminder that the final instalment of £190 will be due by Friday 9th February 2024.

In addition, the link below will take you to our micro site which contains all the relevant information for our visit. It will be updated with more information as we get closer to the trip. At the bottom of the microsite, you will find a link to a kit list - which you may want to look at sooner rather than later!

Microsite: <https://flooglebinder.co.uk/wales-furze-platt-24>
Password: wales

If you have any questions regarding the trip, please do not hesitate to contact me: david.randall@furzeplatt.net.

Mr D Randall, Outdoor Education and Enrichment Leader

YEAR 11 REVISION TIMETABLES AND HOW TO REVISE SESSIONS

The Raising Achievement Department has been into every tutor and PSHE lesson over the past few weeks to deliver sessions on 'Setting up a Revision Timetable' and another on 'How to Revise'. This has given every Year 11 student the opportunity to set themselves up with a an adaptable plan on when revision sessions will take place as well as walk and talk them 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 presentations used are below.

CREATING REVISION TIMETABLES

HOW TO REVISE

In addition, the links below show videos which can be used for students who may have missed the session or for any parent/carer who wants to know more.

FIND OUT MORE

FIND OUT MORE

A local parent has opened an obstacle/ninja training centre in Cookham, which doubles as a strength and conditioning gym.



Please click the link below for the FIT IQ newsletter which includes session timings and future events.

FIT IQ NEWSLETTER



Maidenhead Warriors Football Club are looking for additional players to join our U11 and U13 teams.

This is an exciting opportunity for boys/girls to train on Friday evening and play matches on a Sunday morning, to play as part of a team and meet new people.

All of our coaches hold FA Level 1 coaching qualifications. If you are interested, bring some friends and join us for a training session.

For more information, contact Kam on 07900 847730



TERM 3 CLUBS 2024

Clubs for next term were sent out on the last day of term, Friday 15th December. There were two emails, one for clubs and one for Academic Support Clinics. Please do encourage your son or daughter to attend those of interest. Students in exam years are especially invited to attend any academic clinics in their chosen subjects.

Please do not delete emails as new clubs may be added throughout the term and you will need to book via the original link.

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:

* 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

SCHOOL CLUB LIST



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) TUESDAY 9TH JANUARY 7PM (FOR 7.30PM START)

INVITATION TO PTFA AGM

AGM NOMINATION FORM

We would like to give notice of the AGM of the Furze Platt Senior School Parent, Teacher & Friends Association to be held on Tuesday 9th January, 7pm for 7.30pm start, in School.

We will appreciate your attendance very much because to meet the Quorum and for votes to be carried, we require a minimum of 6 non-committee individuals to attend.

The PTFA plays an important role in the school community and all parents/carers, friends, and staff, as members of the PTFA, are invited to support the AGM. This is your chance to see and hear how the funds you have helped raise have been spent for the benefit of your children at school.

The AGM is also an opportunity for you to elect the PTFA Committee, who will represent the Association throughout the forthcoming year, September 2024 to August 2025.

If you are interested in the role of Chair, Secretary or 200 Club Admin, please contact ptfa@furzeplatt.net or ptfasecretary@furzeplatt.net ASAP.

Your current Committee Officers are as follows:

Interim Chairperson	Sasha Lakovic
Treasurer	Neil Wilson
Secretary	Gillian Healey
200 Club Admin	Gillian Healey
Uniform Co-ordinator	Carina Charles

Happy New Year from the PTFA! Will you be a winner in 2024?

As well as our AGM, we will also be making the draw for our 200 Club which is one of our biggest fundraisers to support your children's school and provide those extras. For a little as £5 a month (less than 2 Costa coffees a month!) you could win £200 four times a year. 4 draws are held per academic year. 3 winners are drawn every time – could it be you? You have to be in it to win it!

Sign up via the link below by 5pm on Sunday 7th January to be in Tuesday's draw.

200 CLUB - MONTHLY DONATION

Cover Supervisor- To start as soon as possible

Usually, 32.5 hours a week, start time 8.30am, finish time 3.30pm (includes a half hour unpaid break). Monday to Friday, term time only plus two INSET days
Part time/Job Share/Flexible Working considered for the right candidates,
Permanent or fixed term contract
Actual salary (32.5 hours) £19,600 - £21,000 pa depending on experience, pro rata would apply for any hours that differ from the above

Furze Platt is a highly successful mixed comprehensive school serving the children of Maidenhead. At Furze Platt, 1400 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. Discounted membership is available for the use of a fully equipped and well-maintained gym on-site. 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 through various social events including a Christmas party, sports after school and various House competitions. Parking is free, as are tea, coffee, and edible treats to help you through the week! Our Senior Leadership team recognises the value of our support staff attending whole school training, job specific training and opportunities to learn about students they may be supporting, hence our commitment to their attendance on our September INSET day and one other INSET day during the academic year. A free lunch is also provided giving staff the chance to welcome new members of staff and share news and ideas.

We are looking for Cover Supervisors to join our support staff team. You would be supervising classes during the short-term absence of the assigned teacher working in a classroom environment alongside students at Key Stage 3 and 4. Your main responsibility would be to instruct students about the work set by the teacher and assisting them to stay on task and complete the work set to the best of their ability. The provision of cover will be varied: you might introduce the work by talking through a Power Point, showing video clips, or reading through texts with students. You may be asked to lead a class discussion, organise group work or supervise PE and Drama activities. You would also learn about school policies and how they are implemented including the school's Behaviour for Learning Policy.

Previous experience of working with or interacting with children or young people is required for this role as well as good communication skills, an ability to work with minimum of supervision and to manage students in a classroom setting. Confidence using a laptop as well as good organisational skills are important for this role.

In addition, if you are a graduate with an interest in a career working with young people in education and you would like this opportunity to gain some experience working in a classroom environment before considering teacher training, we would be delighted to receive your application. For further information about teacher training please refer to www.teachmaidenhead.co.uk

For further information about this role and to complete a **Support Staff Application Form** please refer to our school website www.furzeplatt.com. Application forms should be returned to hr@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: 12th January 2023

Interviews will take place: as soon as is practicable



CURRENT VACANCIES