

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #73.1



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Term 5

I hope that you and your families had a good Easter break. It has been a pleasure to welcome students back to FPSS this week.

As I have done so, via a video and assemblies, I have shared some key messages with them:



Celebrating Success

I have highlighted and thanked students for some of the fantastic events of Terms 3 and 4, not least Guys and Dolls, the Thames Hospice fundraising and Ski Trip over Easter. However, I know there have been much more! I have encouraged students to take on new experiences and challenges this summer getting involved in clubs, activities and visits within and beyond FPSS.

In particular, I have made reference to House Points and the numerous nominations and prizes students received at the end of term. I have challenged each student to have a nomination by the end of the summer.

Learning and Examinations

A key part of Term 5 every year is the start of external Key Stage 4 and 5 examinations. For those students sitting examinations their revision should currently be at full speed and focused on practising exam techniques alongside factual recall. If students need motivating beyond the opportunities the grades will provide, please remind them that the examinations will be over in a couple of months when they have Prom, Graduation and the long summer to look forward to.

For those students not completing examination courses, the summer offers them the chance to ensure they have greater knowledge and skills this July than last September.



UPCOMING EVENTS TERM 5 EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

THU 25 APRIL	Junior Maths Challenge (Years 7 & 8)	
THU 2 MAY	Early finish - school will close at 2.45pm for all students	2.45pm finish
THU 2 MAY	Year 7 Parents' & Students' Consultation Evening	3.45pm - 7.45pm
FRI 3 MAY	Late Start	9.15am
MON 6 MAY	BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY	
WED 8 MAY	Year 6 Parents' Induction Evening	6pm - 7.30pm
FRI 24 MAY	END OF TERM (TERM 5)	3.15pm finish
MON 27 - FRI 31 MAY	MAY HOLIDAY	
MON 3 JUNE	START OF TERM 6 (Week 1)	

SCHOOL TERM DATES

Uniform

I also reminded students of our uniform rules, notably that the shirt, tie and blazer should still be worn, but their jumper is optional. As experienced parents and carers will be aware when/if the really hot weather arrives, we will make a decision whether blazers are no longer required.

Mobile Phones and Headphones

As has been previously shared with parents and carers, I have also explained the government guidance on mobile phone use in schools. In assemblies I have shown students Sky News coverage of this announcement:

SKY NEWS COVERAGE VIDEO

At FPSS we recognise the issues the government are highlighting, as I am sure will many members of our

community. Responding to the announcement we are reiterating our rules to students and ensuring that they are understood and enforced. As a reminder: mobile phones and headphones are silent and out of site from when students come onto site until after their last lesson at 3.15pm. If they are seen both items will be confiscated.

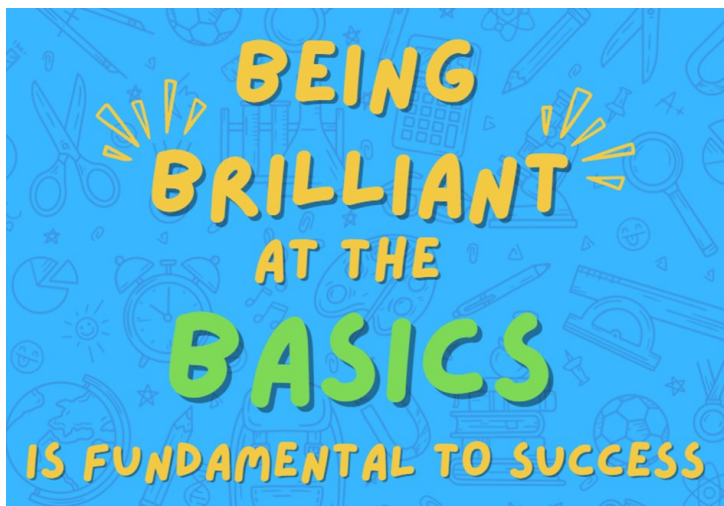
Road and Water Safety

Finally, members of our community will be aware that tragically we have lost two students in my time as Headteacher through road and water incidents. Indeed, road and drowning incidents are two of the top three reasons why teenagers die. With lighter evenings and hotter temperatures I have reminded all our students to stay safe.

If you are a parent/carer please do talk to your children about some of these key messages and ensure they do stay healthy and well this summer, but also challenge themselves to try something new, excel in their learning and really use the wonderful opportunities available at FPSS to shine.

Take care,

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



BRILLIANT AT THE BASICS

At Furze Platt Senior School, we believe that being 'brilliant at the basics' is fundamental to success in all areas of life.

To support your child in achieving brilliance, we kindly request your assistance in ensuring they adhere to our school's guidelines. Firstly, punctuality is key. Arriving on school site by 8.40am at the latest sets the tone for a productive day of learning. Additionally, wearing the full school uniform, including the blazer, fosters a sense of belonging and pride in our school community at Furze Platt.

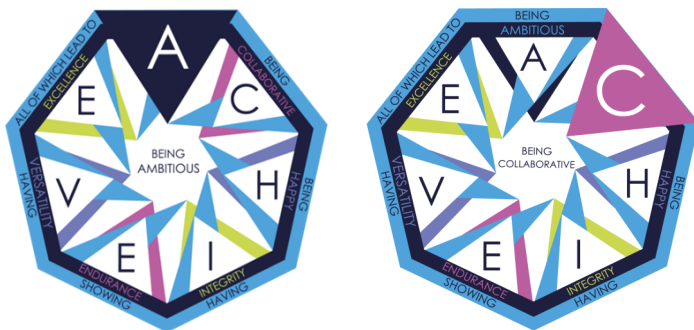
Equally vital is being prepared for learning. A fully charged laptop and a well-stocked pencil case are indispensable

tools. Unfortunately, we have observed that some students have been lacking in essential equipment this week, which can hinder their learning progress. Therefore, we kindly ask you to take a moment to ensure your child's pencil case contains pens, pencils, a ruler, eraser, pencil sharpener, and a scientific calculator and encourage them to re-stock it if necessary ready for next week.

Your ongoing support in reinforcing these basics is invaluable.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Miss Rebecca Lake, Deputy Headteacher



LOCKDOWN / SHELTER PROCEDURES

This morning (Friday) the school has had a lockdown drill. The drill was to practice our procedures in the unlikely eventuality of an intruder on site, a nearby chemical leak or a police incident near to the school.

The purpose is to ensure students, staff and visitors are safe while the incident is dealt with. Our aim is not to alarm you or your children but to ensure that we are all safe and know how to react in case of such unlikely eventualities.

WE ARE HIRING

JOB VACANCIES AT FURZE PLATT

- + Receptionist
- + Assistant Exams Officer
- + see page 10 for details



Revision Packs

Revision resources for each subject are on FP-Cloud under Raising Achievement and Year 11. Within this site there are links to subject-specific revision websites, revision guides, how to revise tutorials, and past papers with their associated mark schemes, examiners' reports etc.

w/c 22.4.24: Exam Timetables

Personalised exam timetables have been given out. It is important that students check these thoroughly so they know when their exams are. Making a copy of this timetable is often a good idea. Students will also receive the official JCQ exam regulations information with their timetables. We recommend that you discuss these with your son/daughter to ensure that they are absolutely clear about expectations of how they conduct themselves during exams.

9.5.24 – 22.5.23: Exam Phase 1

The main body of exams starts in full on Thursday 9th May. During Exam Phase 1, students will either be in an exam, a revision session for that exam or in their normal lessons. However, students will not be expected to attend tutor time and will thus not be required in school until 8.45am if they have a 9.00am exam or 9.10am if they are going to normal lessons or a revision session. When students have an afternoon exam they will be permitted to leave the school site as soon as the exam finishes.

23.5.24 – 19.6.24: Exam Phase 2

From Thursday 23rd May Exam Phase 2 starts. During this phase students will attend their exams and the associated revision sessions. When they are not in an exam or a revision session they will have Home Study, where they will be expected to be working at home preparing for their next exam.

Mr J Dollery, Assistant Headteacher



Students have access to their upcoming exam timetables through an online portal, which has been successfully used for their PPEs during the school year.

In case any student has misplaced this information, full details of how this can be accessed has been sent out to parents via Parentmail and a reminder of the login details directly to students via email this week.

If you have any queries or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. We greatly appreciate your support as we navigate through this busy exam period.

Mrs S Hemsley, Student Services and Exams Manager

YEAR 11 LEAVERS' HOODIES

ORDER DEADLINE MONDAY 22ND APRIL

This year parents and carers can order Year 11 leavers' hoodies direct from Hawkinsport. Please note, the deadline to order is Monday 22nd April.

Colours: Navy, Burgundy, Black, Red and Steel Grey.

Price: £27.00 each including VAT, decoration and an optional name/nickname on the back.

First names of those ordering hoodies can be shown in the numbers on the back. A surname initial may be added.

Sizes: small (36"), medium (40"), large (44"), XL (48"), 2XL (52")



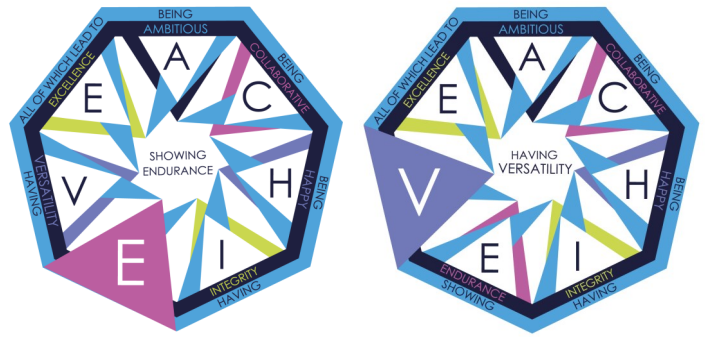
[CLICK HERE TO ORDER YOUR HOODIE](#)

YEAR 11 AND 13 PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs: We are pleased to let you know the year group photos for Year 11 and Year 13 students have been released for parents and carers to view and order.

Access codes were sent out via Parentmail this week; please note the deadline for free postage is Monday 29th April.

Cont. on page 4



CHANGES TO SCHOOL DAY TIMINGS IN MAY

Thursday 2nd May - School will finish at 2.45pm for all students*

Thursday 2nd May Year 7 Parents Evening 3.45-7.45PM

Friday 3rd May - 9.15am start time for all students. (Students should arrive on school site by 9.10am at the latest)

*We would like to inform you that on Thursday, 2nd May, students will be attending Period 1 at 8:45 am instead of their usual form time. All students should be on school site by 8.40am. The schedule for the day will proceed with the five regular lessons, concluding at 2:45 pm. This alteration is to facilitate preparations for the upcoming Year 7 Parents' Evening. Details on how to book will be sent out to Year 7 parents and carers in due course.

- Period 1 8.45-9.45am
- Period 2 9.45-10.45am
- Break 1 10.45-11.15am
- Period 3 11.15-12.15pm
- Period 4 12.15-13.15pm
- Break 2 13.15-13.45pm
- Period 5 13.45-14.45pm

STARS OF THE WEEK

We're thrilled to shine a spotlight on our exceptional students in this week's edition of our newsletter. Introducing our Stars of the Week, who not only stand out as the highest point scorers from each year group but also embody the spirit of 'Zero Heroes'. These outstanding individuals have not only demonstrated remarkable progress in their learning journey but have also made positive contributions to life here at Furze Platt.

Throughout the week, these students have been identified as leaders in their academic endeavours and as role models for their peers. What sets them apart even further is their commendable track record of receiving no negative points this week, earning them the title of 'Zero Heroes'.

Let's celebrate and congratulate these remarkable individuals for their dedication, positivity, and exemplary behaviour. They truly embody the values of our school community at Furze Platt Senior School.

Best wishes,

Miss Rebecca Lake, Deputy Headteacher



Cont. on page 5

YEAR 8

Stars of the Week

Finlay P 8JAH	Sophia M 8KAH	Sumayyah A 8MEE	Antoinette L 8OSB
Jess C 8RJW	Lola G 8SH	Oliver L 8TAS	
Harry D 8TJC	Jay W 9LED		

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL
Miss Towell
Head of Progress

YEAR 10

Stars of the Week

Zach E 10DAT	Parv S 10DEN	Mitchell H 10ELH	Adriano C 10GM
Andrew L 10JAS	Shreetama S 10NOY	James K 10PEP	
Alvin W 10ROA	James W 11AMH		

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL
Mr Djaetani
Head of Progress

YEAR 9

Stars of the Week

Mathew C 9CED	Samuel P 9MIG	Sparsh B 9DNB	Arshia C 9SVJ
Owen L 9CHG	Renita N 9SVR	Nela S 9AND	
Ethan H 9DNB	Miguel H 10CRR		

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL
Mr Jones
Head of Progress

YEAR 11

Stars of the Week

Hasan A 11BLC	Daniel G 11LMS	Arnavi S 11MAM
Alexander M-T 11NIC	Deniz A 11RHT	Connor F 11SAM
Danielle B 11VOJ		

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL
Mrs Ridley
Head of Progress

'Teachers' subject knowledge is particularly strong.'

Ofsted 2021

STAFF APPRECIATION MESSAGE

At Furze Platt Senior School, we deeply appreciate the dedication and hard work exhibited by our staff. To further express our gratitude, we cordially invite you to share your feedback. Your valuable insights will play a significant role in acknowledging and celebrating the exceptional efforts of our staff members.

SEND A MESSAGE



SKI TRIP 2024

Staff and students had a wonderful time in Andorra for this year's ski trip. We were fortunate enough to get the best few days of snow and this made the trip even more enjoyable. Everyone had great fun both on and off the snow, with some wonderful evening activities and exploring (and snow fights!).

Below you can see a selection of the photos from the trip which have been created for a banner and will be on display in school.

We are already looking forward to Ski Trip 2025!

SKI TRIP
2024
30 MARCH - 6 APRIL
ANDORRA

FURZE PLATT
SENIOR SCHOOL

THANK YOU TO THE STAFF SKI TEAM: MR WYLES, MRS STIMSON, MISS TOWELL, MISS DOWELL, MR GILL, MR CONSTABLE, MR WELLARD-JEFFS & MR JONES



FURZE PLATT ARE U14 GIRLS' HANDBALL CHAMPIONS!

We are delighted to report that Furze Platt are the winners of the U14 Girls' Berkshire Handball Championships! Brilliant collaborative play from the team ensured our Year 8 and Year 9 girls were the overall Championship winners, held at Bohunt School, Wokingham. Well done to all the players!



The team:

Elisa Breen	Jaydee Mitchell
Aamani Chopra	Lois Sellman
Isabella Keane	Niamh Smith
Tillie Logie	Florence Sutton
Ellie McCaffery	Simran Vagher



YEAR 10 BOYS' FOOTBALL

... and in more sporting news, a strong result for our Year 10 Boys' Football team, drawing 2-2 this week against Waingels College, Woodley.

The boys showed endurance and skill at this away game for a great final result.



The team:

Bilal Aziz	Monty Harta
Jaden Brown	Ethan Heywood
Murphy Camp-Overy	Miguel Hope
Adriano Cilia	Ned Ogden
Charlie Eaton	Joseph Parrott
Alfie Everson-Plant	Noah Thomas
	Tommy Tucker



MUSIC AT FURZE PLATT

Last term we held our Spring Concert and were delighted by our students' performances, whether as soloists, groups, musicians or in choirs. If you were unable to attend, you can see a video here:



[SNIPPET CHAMBER CHOIR VIDEO](#)

Here at Furze Platt Senior School, we are lucky enough to have a number of music providers for our students to learn singing, instrument and playing either solo or as part of a group.

Please visit use the link below to sign up.

[INSTRUMENTAL TUITION REQUEST FORM](#)



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

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR PERFORMING ARTS SUMMER SHOWCASE!



THE ENDURANCE GAMES

This term's House competition is The Endurance Games. Students will compete against members of their tutor group in 5 rounds of games. They will then select a finalist to put forward to compete against the rest of the school in week 6 of this term.

...Who will be our champions?

Prizes:

- 10 points for the winner of each round in each form group
- 25 points for each student in the final
- 60 points to the final winner + £10 Amazon voucher + queue pass
- 1000 points to the House of the winner, 600 points for 2nd place, 400 points for 3rd place, 200 points for 4th place
- Chocolate for the tutor group of the winner for selecting a champion.





TERM 5 CLUBS 2024

Parents and carers have been sent the clubs and academic support clinics for next term (April to May).

Please note:

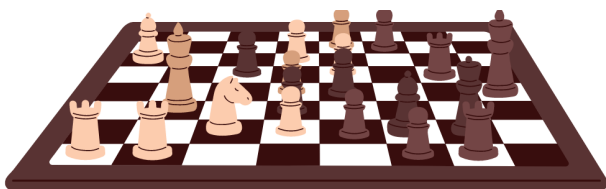
* once in the list of clubs or academic support clinics, click on the name of the activity or session you wish to book and press confirm

* 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

We are excited to announce our plans to initiate a chess club at Furze Platt, and we are reaching out to our wonderful community for support. If you have any unused or unwanted chess boards gathering dust at home, we would be immensely grateful if you could consider donating them to our cause. Please kindly pass them on to Mr Newman, our dedicated Inclusion Manager. Your generosity will help foster a love for the game and promote critical thinking skills among our students. Thank you for your support in advance.



ONLINE SAFETY TIPS- X (FORMERLY TWITTER)

Please see the link below for useful tips on how to get the best from X (formerly Twitter). These resources are appropriate to be shared with students and we would encourage them to take a look.

X (TWITTER)



Contact us Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

facebook.com/fpsstfta Website: [click here to access](#)

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL?

**PTFA MEETING: THURSDAY
25TH APRIL, 8PM**

Our next PTFA meeting will be held on Thursday 25th April at 8pm in the school Library (Learning Resource Centre).

All welcome.

HOW YOU CAN HELP?

Help run the 200 Club - one of our main fundraisers and really important to keep the funds flowing but does not take very much time at all

Become a Uniform Coordinator and help manage our supplies of donated second hand uniform - makes us a lot of money but also provides a vital service to the school and parents

Join the 200 Club to donate £5 a month (literally less than the cost of a hot chocolate!) and be in with the chance of winning £200 at the next draw - sign up here [Furze Platt Senior School PTFA 200 Club - Monthly Donation](#) | [Furze Platt Senior School PTFA](#) (Powered by Donorbox)

200 CLUB - MONTHLY DONATION

Please drop us a line under the Facebook video, or email ptfasecretary@furzeplatt.net if you would like to find out more.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Assistant Exams Officer

EDV/2024/FPSS/66499

We have an exciting opportunity for someone to work within the student services team supporting our Exams and Student Services Manager with the efficient and effective running of all internal and...

- 📍 Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 7NQ
 - 🕒 Permanent | Part-Time
 - 💷 £18,436.00 - £19,715.00 Annually (Actual)
- Based on 30 hours per week, Term-time only plus 7 days



Apply Now

Receptionist

EDV/2024/FPSS/52579

We are looking for a calm, professional individual to become the welcoming face of our school. If you love working with people and thrive in a dynamic environment where no two days are the same, we...

- 📍 Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 7NQ
 - 🕒 Permanent | Part-Time
 - 💷 £13,623.00 - £13,851.00 Annually (Actual)
- Monday to Wednesday 8am to 4pm, Term-time only plus 2 INSET days



Apply Now

Want to Get Active & Have Fun?



Come and Enjoy



Girls Cricket at

Boyne Hill CC

"ALL ABILITIES WELCOME"

No kit or equipment required.



**BAR & BBQ
FRIDAY NIGHTS**



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



**Girls Training
Fridays**

U7-U9 6.15pm-7.30pm (Softball)

U10-U13 6.00pm-7.30pm (Softball & Hardball)

Saturdays

U5-U6 All Stars 10.30am-11.30am (Softball)

Contact

Jack Spencer Jones

jackspencerjones@yahoo.co.uk 07595463584



@BoyneHill CC



Boyne Hill CC



boynehillcc1890

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

A Parent's Guide to Cyberbullying



Many young people who are victims of cyberbullying suffer in silence.

They feel they can't turn to parents or a trusted adult for support as they fear they may get in trouble or have their devices taken away from them. It can carry on all day, all evening and all weekend for the world to see, causing a lot of emotional stress to the victim and their family.



scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online



It can very quickly lead to the victim feeling trapped, scared and vulnerable to grooming and blackmail.



Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with

