

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year!

I hope that you and your families had a wonderful Christmas break. In my assemblies at the start of the year, I have again highlighted students' fantastic work in Terms 1 and 2 that was showcased in our End of Term Assembly in December. Students' efforts led to may receiving nominations and awards including those from our Heads of House, Heads of Progress and Departments. Many others were praised for their efforts in the Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge or being our SPARX Maths and Reading Plus champions. I have challenged our students to gain even more ACHIEVE points and have their names in the hat for prizes by Easter.

**Integrity**

I have also spoken about one of our ACHIEVE values, integrity. Following some disappointing instances in the autumn term, I have shared that I expect all our students to:

- Be allies for each other, supporting all members of the FPSS community to succeed.
- Compliment others when they do something good.
- Help others less fortunate through events like our Christmas Fun-Run.
- Thank staff and students.
- Make a difference within FPSS classrooms, clubs and our community.

I look forward to rewarding students for meeting these expectations.

Welcomes

As we start a new term, we welcome several new colleagues to FPSS. I am sure that you will join me in wishing Andrew Phillips and Sophie Hay (PE), Jane Southern (Music), Irene Garcia (MFL), Mark Portch (History)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Next Week (Week 1)

ALL EVENTS

MON 13 - FRI 17
JANUARY

Pre-Public Examinations Week

Forthcoming Events

WED 22
JANUARY

Year 11 Photographs

Year 10 & 12 Performing Arts
Evening

4pm - 7pm

THU 23
JANUARY

Early finish

2.45pm

Year 9 Parents' and Students'
Consultation Evening

3.45pm -
7.45pm

SCHOOL TERM DATES

and Chris Major and Megan Josh (Behaviour Support) every success in their FPSS careers.

Good Luck Year 13

Finally, good luck to our Year 13 students who are beginning their PPEs. I hope that students get the reward for their efforts.

Take care,

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

Headteacher





SCHOOL CLUBS

Term 3: January - February

Parents and carers of students in all year groups will have received invitations at the end of last term to book clubs for their son/daughter next term.

The email was headed Furze Platt Senior School with the email address evolve.furzeplattsnrvisits@edufocus.co.uk. 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 3 must be made through the original email invitations sent out on Friday 20th December
- * 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 enrichment@furzeplatt.net and provide as much notice as possible to allow time for that place to be allocated to someone on the waiting list.

Thank you.

SCHOOL CLUBS LIST

FURZE PLATT KITCHEN MENU

Feast your eyes on our scrumptious Furze Platt kitchen menu for January 2025! Full details are on our 'Cafe and Dining Facilities' webpage, the menu is available to download below.

CAFE AND DINING FACILITIES WEBPAGE



Tue 11 Feb 2025, 7:00PM - 9:00PM
 Furze Platt Theatre
 Furze Platt Senior School

Available on Mon 20 Jan 2025 at 9:00AM

TICKETS AVAILABLE TO BUY SOON

Join us for our fantastic annual school musical in February. Based on Charles Dickens' beloved novel, our talented students will bring Lionel Bart's *Oliver!* to life in a wild adventure through the backstreets of Victorian England.

Join young, orphaned Oliver Twist as he navigates London's underworld of theft and violence, searching for a home, a family, and - most importantly - for love. When Oliver is picked up on the street by a boy named the Artful Dodger, he is welcomed into a gang of child pickpockets led by the conniving, but charismatic, Fagin. When Oliver is falsely accused of a theft he didn't commit, he is rescued by a kind and wealthy gentleman, to the dismay of Fagin's violent sidekick, Bill Sikes. With danger closing in and trust in short supply, can the kind-hearted Nancy save Oliver from the dark fate that awaits him, or will the shadows of Fagin and Bill Sikes claim him forever?

UNDERSTANDING TEENS WORKSHOP



Furze Platt is pleased to be working in collaboration with Achieving for Children to deliver an 'Understanding Teens Parenting Workshop'. This particular workshop will be to support Mothers who are from the Muslim community. We are thrilled to be working collaboratively with Arifa Naeem (Senior Family Hub worker at Achieving for Children). The course will be run in English but with translation to Urdu available.

The course will look at areas such as:

- Common worries for teenagers and parents
- Empathy
- Relationship building
- Emotional support
- Teen brains
- Anxiety
- Managing conflict
- Problem solving
- Responding to challenging/risky behaviour
- Feelings
- Anger management
- Stress management
- Internet safety

Sessions will run 9.30-11.30 on Thursdays and will be held at Furze Platt Senior School. **The course will last 6 weeks from 16th January 2025 – 20th February 2025.**

If you are interested in attending please contact Louise McSweeney Louise.McSweeney@furzeplatt.net



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The best schools - The best pupils - The best teacher training



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Maidenhead secondary schools**

**Tax free bursaries & scholarships
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Train to teach in Maidenhead secondary schools. New graduates or career changers. Tax-free government bursaries of up to £31K for your training year. Starting salaries of £33k + after qualification. For more information please visit the link below.

FIND OUT MORE

SPECIAL THANK YOU FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mr McElligott for generously donating a drum kit to our Music Department. This will greatly enhance access for students interested in or currently learning the drums - it's much appreciated!



EVENING DANCE CLASSES AT FPSS

Did you know that we let our hall to Urban Strides dance group on a Wednesday evening? Urban Strides provide a nurturing community for teenagers, helping them build confidence and self-belief. The classes are rooted in Street Dance, focusing on 5 different styles of dance taught by their inspirational instructors in a supported 'judgement-free' atmosphere. If you are keen for your teen to get more active and help them gain confidence and empowerment through music and dance, then why not give Urban Strides a go! Classes are on a Wednesday evening, with Beginner Striders at 7pm and Intermediate Striders at 8pm. To book a trial session, you can contact the group on classes@urbanstrides.com. Go to www.urbanstrides.com for more details.

Inspirational Urban Strides Street Dance classes at Furze Platt School!

Wednesday Nights:
7:00pm-8:00pm (Beginners)
8:00pm-9:00pm (Intermediates)

Contact us to book your place:
classes@urbanstrides.com
(All places must be booked before attending)

PASSION . POSITIVITY . PROGRESS!



FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

Community facilities for hire at Furze Platt Senior School

The school's facilities are available for hire to the local community in the evenings, weekends and school holidays

FACILITIES FOR HIRE




WAR HORSE SCHOOL TRIP

On the last week on term 50 Year 10s, 12 and 13 drama students went to see the impressive War Horse at the New Theatre Oxford. As part of the GCSE and A level course, students have to see live theatre, not only to develop their understand of theatre but also as they have to evaluate a piece of theatre as part of their written examination. It was a very cold winter evening but the effort was definitely worth it! Having seen the show multiple times before, it did not disappoint. Based on the Michael Morpurgo's book, the story is set in Devon from 1912 and into WW1. The story follows a boy called Albert and his horse Joey. The most impressive part of the production has to be the puppetry. The creation and manipulation of the horses is breathtaking. Developed by Handspring Puppetry Company, (who we study in term 2 Year 9 Drama lessons) the puppets manage to evoke to true sense of a horse; from their nervous disposition, to their loyalty and curiosity. The audience are taken on a heartwarming story that transcends all ages. If you have not seen it- I would highly recommend trying to watch it on this tour!

The next trip booked in is to see the Play That Goes Wrong. This will be for Year 9 and 10 so please look out for up coming communication.



THE WEEK AT FURZE PLATT

GARDENING CLUB NEWS

2025 has got off to a cracking start with our first ever Kokedama workshop! We used hessian rather than moss to create our plastic free hanging planters.

Plans for this half term include the annual RSPB big bird watch and more tree planting around site. We meet every Tuesday after school in Dr Graham 's room and volunteering with us can count towards the Duke of Edinburgh Award.



HEALTH & FITNESS IN YEAR 10

The Year 10 Health and Fitness students have been honing their squat mechanics during their practical theory lessons this week. Never skip leg day!



MORNING FITNESS CLUB NEWS

Our students participating in the Wednesday morning fitness club are successfully sticking any New Year's resolutions for fitness and health. They are kicking off 2025 with great enthusiasm!



Contact us Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

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

Dear Parents and Carers.

Happy New Year from the PTFA

This is a reminder of the AGM of the Furze Platt Senior School Parent, Teacher & Friends Association to be held on Tuesday 14th 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 2025 to August 2026.

AGM NOMINATION FORM

If you are interested in the role of Chair or Secretary, please complete the Nomination Form and return it to ptfa@furzeplatt.net ASAP. Some of the current committee will be standing down soon as their children are coming to the end of their time at Furze Platt and we would like to ensure an efficient handover of the roles.

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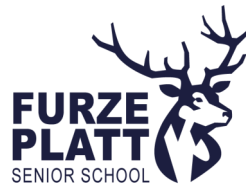
The Committee welcomes new ideas and suggestions to raise funds for our children, so please get in touch by email or through Facebook as soon as possible.

At the meeting we will also be holding the draw of the 200 Club - sign up here Furze Platt Senior School PTFA 200 Club - Monthly Donation | Furze Platt Senior School PTFA (Powered by Donorbox) for just £5 a month and the chance to win £200 while supporting your children's PTFA . Subscriptions made by Saturday evening will go into this draw!

200 CLUB - MONTHLY DONATION

We look forward to seeing you, face-to-face, on Tuesday 14th January 2025.

Many thanks



**WE ARE
HIRING**

Learning Support Assistant in Shine

EDV/2025/FPSS/19888



We are looking for an enthusiastic and reliable individual to join our Shine team, providing targeted support to our students with an autistic spectrum condition diagnosis in the ASC Resource Base.

📍 Furze Platt Road, Berkshire, SL6 7NQ

🕒 Permanent | Part-Time

£ £19,138.00 - £20,398.00 Annually (Actual)

30 hours per week. Term-time only plus two INSET days.

[Apply Now](#)

New • Apply by 09:00am, Monday 20th Jan, 2025

HLTA (Connect Lead)

EDV/2024/FPSS/53606



We are looking for an enthusiastic and reliable individual to join our team and lead the Connect curriculum. Full time - 37 hours a week, start time 8.30am, finish time 4.30pm - Monday to...

📍 Furze Platt Road, Berkshire, SL6 7NQ

🕒 Permanent | Part-Time/Full-Time

£ £28,193.00 - £31,125.00 Annually (Actual)

Part-time and/or Job Share considered

[Apply Now](#)

3 Days Remaining • Apply by 09:00am, Monday 13th Jan, 2025 • Job start: ASAP

Learning Support Assistant

EDV/2024/FPSS/15036



We are looking for enthusiastic and reliable individuals to join our core Learning Support team to provide targeted support to our students with Special Educational Needs. This role is term...

📍 Furze Platt Road, Berkshire, SL6 7NQ

🕒 Permanent | Part-Time/Full-Time

£ £19,138.00 - £20,398.00 Annually (Actual)

Part-time and/or Job Share considered. Term time only plus two INSET days. Salary based on 30 hours per week.

[Apply Now](#)

3 Days Remaining • Apply by 09:00am, Monday 13th Jan, 2025 • Job start: ASAP

Join Our Talent Pool

Let us know you are interested in working with us by joining our Talent Pool.

[FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL TALENT POOL](#)

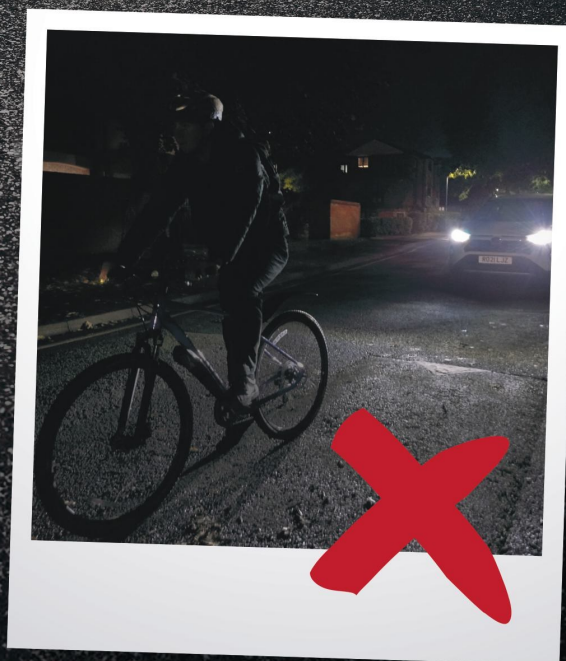


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www.rbwm.gov.uk



Don't be a disappearing act this winter



Your bike should have:

- a white light on the front, with a white reflector
- a red light on the back, with a red reflector
- amber reflectors on each pedal (spoke reflectors also helpful)

Wearing bright, high vis and reflective clothing will make you more visible on the road

More info



shg.fyi/WMUGTC

**It is a legal requirement to make sure you ride with
the correct lights when it is dark**