

# FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #58.1



## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

It has been great to welcome our students back after the Easter holidays and I hope that you all had a good break also. If you have not already booked your tickets for our Spring Concert this term I encourage you to do so, it is always a truly wonderful event. Easter was a busy period for Furze Platt Senior School students with visits to Geneva and Iceland along with our Ski Trip and Duke of Edinburgh Silver and Gold expeditions. Thank you to parents and carers for supporting these events as well as our staff who accompanied them.



Term 5 is short, with the major priority being the upcoming examinations. I would like to send all our students best wishes and I hope that revision is progressing well. The next two months will be intense but if they need a positive thought please remind students that they will have between ten and twelve weeks off once their exams are finished. It is better to be enjoying yourself knowing that you have done your best rather than worrying about the results.

As ever I have led assemblies in this first week back. Along with wishing our Year 11 and Year 13 students luck I have also pointed out to all other year groups that they have exams in one form or another this summer. They need to know their strengths and areas of weakness in order that they can practice ready for these examinations.

I have also set students a couple of challenges. Firstly, to be more punctual. Using the term 'lateness is tardiness' I have pointed out the learning time some students are wasting. Secondly, to ensure that students sort themselves out at break times so they are not asking to leave lessons for bathroom breaks and other reasons. Our staff will be particularly focused on the improvement of these areas this term.

Finally, after highlighting the leadership opportunities we have in school I have challenged students to take



### UPCOMING EVENTS

- ALL EVENTS
- SPORTS CALENDAR

#### Tonight

<b>FRI 26</b> APRIL	PTFA Big Quiz	7.30pm - 10.30pm
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#### Next Week (Week 1)

<b>WED 1</b> MAY	Spring Concert	7 pm - 9.30pm
<b>THU 2</b> MAY	Year 9 Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm
<b>THU 2 - FRI 3</b> MAY	Year 9 (Bronze) Duke of Edinburgh Assessment Expedition	
<b>FRI 3 - SUN 5</b> MAY	KS4 French Trip to Paris	

#### Forthcoming Events

<b>MON 6</b> MAY	Bank Holiday	
<b>MON 20</b> MAY	Year 8 Internal Exams (English)	
	Parents' Community Group Meeting	6pm - 7pm

**SCHOOL TERM DATES 2018/19 AND 2019/20**

ownership of their school. I have shown footage of the millions of children who have campaigned for the environment and asked our students why I have had many questions about mufti days but none about plastic in the canteen or making the school carbon neutral? I look forward to some thought provoking questions!

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

### SPRING CONCERT

**Main Hall, Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019, 7pm**

The Music Department would like to invite you to the 2019 Spring Concert. All our fantastic school ensembles will be

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involved with some of our talented students taking to the stage as soloists. Featuring an eclectic mix of both modern and classical music the night is set to be a spectacle of Furze Platt talent. The concert will be held on Wednesday 1st May in the Main Hall starting at 7pm.

You can purchase tickets through your child's Wisepay account.

Tickets are priced at £3 for students/children/OAPs and £5 for adults.

Refreshments will be available to buy during the interval of the concert.



**BUY TICKETS**

**YEAR 9 PARENTS' CONSULTATION EVENING**



Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 4.15pm - 7.15pm

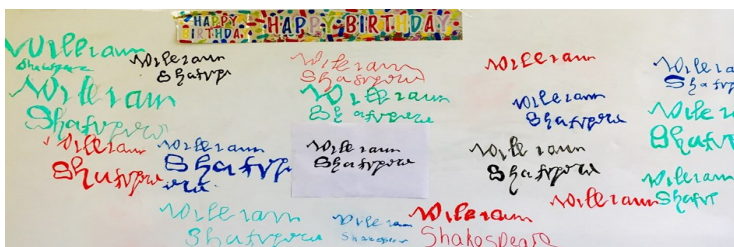
Appointments for our Year 9 Parents' Consultation Evening on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May are now available to book using the Parents evening booking link below.

**BOOK APPOINTMENTS**

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT CELEBRATE WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S BIRTHDAY**



On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, our Year 7 and Year 8 students were welcomed back to their English lessons with a birthday party: William Shakespeare's birthday party. Students celebrated Britain's most famous bard by working in teams to forge Shakespeare's signature ... they say imitation is the highest form of flattery after all. Students then worked in small groups to discuss the rich and diverse legacy of the writer; pupils looked at three famous speeches to unpick the vibrancy and timelessness of the dialogue. Then, to pay further homage to the marvellous playwright, students designed a birthday card – using Shakespearean language, of course! Tuesday was a culturally-charged and fun-filled day for students and staff alike.



**SEEN BETTER DAYS**

*As You Like It, Act 2, Scene 7*

**THE GREEN-EYED MONSTER**

*Othello, Act 3, Scene 3*

One fell swoop

*Macbeth, Act 4, Scene 3*

spotless

REPUTATION

*Richard III, Act 1, Scene 1*

The be-all and the end-all

*Macbeth, Act 1, Scene 7*

EATEN OUT OF HOUSE AND HOME

*Henry IV, Part 2, Act 2, Scene 1*

Method in the MADNESS

*Hamlet, Act 2, Scene 2*

Neither rhyme nor reason

*The Comedy of Errors. Act 2. Scene 2*

POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE

*Othello, Act 3, Scene 3*

Wild goose chase

*Romeo & Juliet, Act 2, Scene 4*

Full circle

*King Lear, Act 5, Scene 3*

Such stuff as dreams are made on

*The Tempest, Act 4, Scene 1*



[LINK TO CLUBS LIST](#)

### FURZE PLATT'S EASTER TRIPS AND VISITS



The Easter holidays saw a number of students visiting a range of destinations designed to broaden their horizons and introduce them to many cultural experiences. Our Ski group visited Italy and had a wonderful time in the snow; our Iceland team had an amazing time in a country full of diverse and rich geographical offerings, and our Sixth Formers visited Geneva to see the renowned CERN facility. Our intrepid explorers took part in Gold and Silver Duke of Edinburgh expeditions in the Peak District and Brecon Beacons and were very lucky to have decent weather throughout their respective hikes in stunning scenic locations. Good luck to all our students doing their Bronze expeditions this weekend.



### THANK YOU

We have received a lovely message from a local resident about the kindness of our students. Thank you to the students involved for being such good citizens.



"I would like to thank two extremely helpful boys, I believe are from your school.

Yesterday afternoon, I popped into the Co-op on the Switchback Rd around 4.45 ish. No sooner had I walked into the shop - I slipped on something on the floor - two boys in their school uniform immediately asked if I was alright and helped me up.

I went to St Marks as I was in so much pain and had an xray. Confirmed fracture and now lower arm in plaster. So please, if you can mention in your assembly AND thank the two boys for their politeness and help.

Thank you"

### FURZE PLATT STUDENT'S SUCCESS IN LONDON SHOW



Many congratulations to Madeleine Sellman (Year 8) who has just finished a three month run of performances at Charing Cross Theatre in the title role of Young Violet in Violet the Musical. The character had to speak and sing with an American accent and Madeleine got the part through her involvement in a theatre school in Wycombe. She has (unsurprisingly!) opted to take Drama for GCSE and outside of school she attends stage school and dance classes and is currently preparing to take her RAD Grade 5 ballet exam. We look forward to more stage appearances in the future!



## YEAR 7 GIRLS' HOCKEY TEAM

Before Easter our Year 7 Girls' Hockey team played Claires Court. Despite losing by one solitary unlucky goal, the girls played brilliantly throughout the entire match. It was a pleasure to watch them play and work so well together and their team work was outstanding. Megan Delahaye was awarded player of the match by the Claires Court girls and their teacher even commended Megan on her brilliant goal keeping ability. Well done to all the girls.

Megan Delahaye (GK)  
Saddie Huddleston  
Lena Holmes  
Charlie Arnold  
Georgia Owen  
Laura Haritt  
Emily Dutton  
Lola Edwards



If you have any questions and would like to speak to a member of the Talking Therapies team please do not hesitate to contact us via the below:

Email – [talkingtherapies@berkshire.nhs.uk](mailto:talkingtherapies@berkshire.nhs.uk)

Contact Number – 0300 365 2000

Problems such as anxiety, depression, stress and phobias are very common. Talking Therapies is a free and friendly service that helps people with these problems. We also offer support to people struggling with low mood or worry who have long-term physical health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease and respiratory problems. You can refer yourself to Talking Therapies now by calling 0300 365 2000, or ask your GP or healthcare professional to refer you.

If you require any further information on the school sessions for Year 12 students, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Mary Pasa, Sixth Form Manager, Furze Platt Senior School on 01628 625308 ext 603

**TALKING THERAPIES LEAFLET**

## 'STRESS LESS' COMING TO YOUR SCHOOL

### FREE ACROSS BERKSHIRE TO ALL

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Year 12 students - 'Stress Less'

Talking Therapies is a friendly and approachable NHS service in Berkshire supporting local communities and schools over the last ten years. I am writing to inform you that Talking Therapies will soon be attending Furze Platt Senior School's Sixth Form to offer two workshops to all Year 12 students focusing on stress management. This project was established following the recently successful four session workshop 'Stress Less' currently offered to adults across Berkshire.

All our workshops are provided by qualified therapists and presenters and last an hour. Please see below dates of upcoming sessions for our students:

Session 1 – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2.15pm – 3.15pm

Session 2 – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2.15pm – 3.15pm

As part of the course we will be asking all students to complete a well-being questionnaire which includes demographic information, contact details and questions to determine how they are currently managing their well-being. Struggling with self-harm and/or suicidal thoughts can be a common symptom when we are feeling low or stressed; if there is any indication that someone is at risk we will contact the school safeguarding lead.

## AMAZING APPRENTICESHIPS

**PARENTS' PACK - APPRENTICESHIP INFORMATION**

## EASILY FUNDRAISE FOR OUR PTFA

It's DOUBLE DONATION week! John Lewis & Partners, M&S, TUI, Carphone Warehouse, ETSY, TOPSHOP, Apple, Lakeland, Secret Escapes and many more are DOUBLING DONATIONS for Furze Platt Senior School. You can help raise TWICE as much when you go through #easyfundraising!

**EASYFUNDRAISING**

## SCHOOL UNIFORM CHANGES

Please find details of our uniform guidelines for 2019/20 on our website on the link below. We are sending these now to remind you of our uniform expectations and help you plan for September. The vast majority of our uniform remains the same as at present. However, we have made the following minor changes:

- Our uniform guidelines are no longer gender specific. This is in common with many schools who have moved to 'gender neutral' uniforms.

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- Responding to student and parental comments we have introduced school shorts for those who wish to wear them. These should be the same style as current trousers; plain black, straight leg, and smartly tailored to the knee.
- We have removed any colour requirement on coats. We would encourage you to purchase a warm, weatherproof coat that allows students to be visible on their journey to and from school.

Please contact us at school should you have any questions and thank you for your continued support in ensuring our students are appropriately attired for school.

**UNIFORM FOR YEARS 7-11**

### PGL TRIP INFORMATION

For any parents/carers that were unable to attend the PGL Parents Information Evening on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, the information booklet given to all parents is now available on the school website under 'News & Events', 'Trips and visits - information and letters'.

[Home](#) > [News & Events](#) > [Trips and visits - information and letters](#)



Here you will find information regarding kit lists, daily itineraries and departure information. The Mobile Phone and Behaviour Agreement documents are also online and must be handed to Miss Boseley before departure and the Medical Form should be completed electronically on WisePay. If you have any questions, please email me at [Danielle.Boseley@furzeplatt.net](mailto:Danielle.Boseley@furzeplatt.net).

Miss D Boseley

PGL Trip Leader

**PGL PARENTS' INFORMATION BOOKLET**

# JUNIOR BAKE OFF

...IS LOOKING FOR THE UK'S  
BEST YOUNG BAKERS  
AGED 9 - 15

[WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK](http://WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK)

APPLICATIONS CLOSE  
MONDAY 6th MAY 2019

Enquiries:  
[applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk](mailto:applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk)



**EMAIL JUNIOR BAKE OFF**



## YOUTH NETBALL LEAGUE

Starting  
9th May to 18th July  
For girls 13yrs to 17yrs old

We are starting up a Youth Netball League to encourage Girls to keep playing NETBALL, keep active and meet new friends.

**THIS WILL BE HELD AT  
FURZE PLATT LEISURE CENTRE  
ON THURSDAYS 6.30 pm to 7.30pm.**

Pay and Play £3.00 per person.

You can come as an individual, with friends or as a team.

For more details please phone, text Gina Macgregor M.B.E. on 07831 415 408 or email [georgiebusby@aol.com](mailto:georgiebusby@aol.com)



**EMAIL YOUTH NETBALL LEAGUE**

# HENLEY 2019 ARTSTRAIL

4-6 MAY • BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND

[www.henleyartstrail.com](http://www.henleyartstrail.com)

paintings  
prints  
sculpture  
ceramics  
jewellery  
textiles  
glass  
and more



**Free entry** to 33 venues in and around Henley and Twyford.  
Original work by local artists. Come and see the artists at work.\*

HENLEY ARTS TRAIL MAP 2019

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ASPIRING MOTIVATED CONFIDENT CONSIDERATE

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If you have any news items you wish to feature in our newsletter please email: [media@furzeplatt.net](mailto:media@furzeplatt.net)

Would you like to join the support staff team of an extremely popular and expanding secondary school? We have the following opportunity starting ASAP

## School Medical Officer to start ASAP

Part time, 35 Hours per week, ideally 8.30am to 4.00pm Flexible)  
Monday to Friday term time only

Salary £18,550 - £20,450 pa (actual salary) depending on experience

We are looking for an empathetic, confident person with the relevant skills to provide a comprehensive medical and welfare service to the school. In addition to the provision of first aid and other medical support to individual students you will work with colleagues on the implementation of individual health care plans for students with medical conditions, organise first aid training for staff, co-ordinate immunisation programmes, liaise with the pastoral team in relation to pastoral issues and contribute to medical and student wellbeing policy. We would also like the successful applicant to train staff members who are working with students with severe and complex medical conditions as well as support the school trip process in relation to medical requirements.

We are looking for a team player who enjoys working with minimum supervision and who might already have a medical background in some form or another. For further information and an application form please refer to the vacancies section of our school website [www.furzeplatt.com](http://www.furzeplatt.com)

Application forms should be returned to [Kiran.smith@furzeplatt.net](mailto:Kiran.smith@furzeplatt.net). Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered.

**Closing date: Tuesday 7th May 2019, 9.00am**

**Interviews: w/c Tuesday 7th May 2019**

**Closing date: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

**Interviews will take place w/c Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

**FPSS CURRENT VACANCIES**