

# FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #60.7



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

### Welcome Back

I hope that you and your families had a great half term. We return to a key term, particularly for our older students:

Our Years 11 and 13 have eight school weeks plus Easter until their examinations begin. I know the majority of our students are in the midst of their revision and there is a tangible focus around school as students prepare.

Thank you for all the help you are offering during this period. Our Year 11 Prepare to Succeed Evening next Thursday is aimed at supporting parents, carers and students during the run up to the examinations.

Our Year 10 have their PPEs starting next week. I wish them every success.

Years 9 and 10 have parental consultation evenings this term in order that parents and carers can check on progress.

### Warnings and Advice this Week

This week has also been marked by various warnings about coronavirus and snow. Thankfully, the latter did not materialise in any major way. Parents and carers will have had a link to the government's coronavirus advice distributed to schools sent to you on Wednesday. We will send out further updates should we receive them.

### Bletchley Park

While this term we are focused on examination preparation, there are still many enrichment opportunities to look forward to. Indeed, the term started with one on Monday when our Computing students explored the codebreaking work of World War Two codebreakers at Bletchley Park. Thank you to all parents, carers and students who continue



## UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL EVENTS  
SPORTS CALENDAR

### Next Week and Forthcoming Events

MON 2 MARCH	Year 11 History - Jack the Ripper tour, Whitechapel	4.45pm - 10.30pm
MON 2 - FRI 6 MARCH	Year 10 Pre-Public Examinations	
THU 5 MARCH	Preparing to Succeed in Year 11 Evening	6.30pm - 7.30pm
FRI 6 MARCH	Year 9 Progress Reports Published	
TUE 10 MARCH	A Level Politics - Congress to Campus, University of Oxford	8.45am - 3.30pm
WED 11 MARCH	Year 12 Physics - Diamond Light visit	11.45am - 4pm
WED 11 MARCH	Washington DC Information Evening (Library)	6pm - 7pm
THU 12 MARCH	Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Training (Curricular)	9am - 12am
	Year 9 Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm
FRI 13 MARCH	Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Training (Curricular)	
THU 19 MARCH	Duke of Edinburgh Awards Training	9am - 3pm
FRI 20 MARCH	Years 11, 12 & 13 Progress Reports	
	PTFA Quiz Night & Dinner	7pm - 10.30pm
TUE 24 MARCH	Year 10 Progress Reports	
THU 26 MARCH	Year 10 Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	
FRI 27 MARCH	Muffi Day in aid of New Hall/Theatre	
MON 30 MARCH	Year 13 Business and Economics - White City, London	8.30am - 4.30pm
TUE 31 MARCH	Year 7 PGL Information Evening (Main Hall)	6pm - 7pm
THU 2 APRIL	Years 7 & 8 Progress Reports	
FRI 3 APRIL	End of Term	
SAT 4 - SUN 12 APRIL	Ski trip 2020	
MON 6 - FRI 10 APRIL	Politics trip to Washington DC	

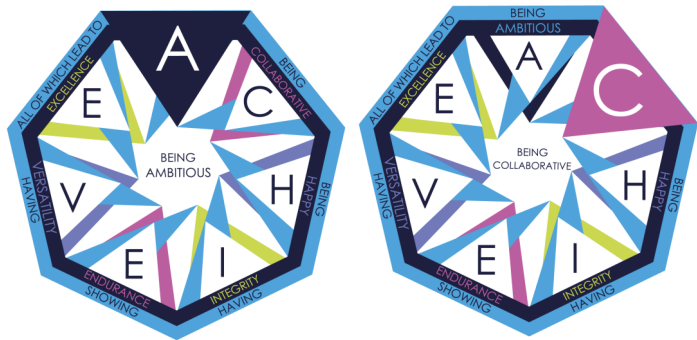
SCHOOL TERM DATES

SCHOOL CLUBS LIST

to support the opportunities our staff provide.

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

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## EARLY BREAK 2

MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> - FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

In order to accommodate the Year 10 Pre Public Exams (PPE) our Break 2 will run an hour earlier than usual for the week 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> March. For all students, Break 2 will therefore be from 12.45 - 1.15pm with P5 moving back to 1.15pm – 2.15pm. The rest of the day will run as normal.

## NEW MAIN HALL / THEATRE UPDATE WE'RE OVER HALFWAY!

Wow! In just a few months we have smashed through the halfway mark and, thanks to your help, we've raised almost £20,000 towards fitting-out our new theatre. We're so thrilled by all your support and the generosity of the local community. Every donation goes towards making our vision for this exciting state-of-the-art theatre become a reality. It's not only an amazing asset for the school but will make us a leading venue for the community to hire. But we still NEED YOU FOR THIS FINAL PUSH.

How can you help? Just a £10 donation per child would see us past the post. Yes – just a £10 contribution will make a HUGE difference. It's less than a round of drinks and so much more of an investment! Plus, if you Gift Aid it, that's an extra 25% for FREE!

Please follow us on Facebook (Furze Platt and Furze Platt PTFA) or the Furze Platt official Twitter account to keep up to date with all our activities. Scroll further down this newsletter to discover the many ways you can involve yourself by checking out our PTFA section of this newsletter.

Our next Mufti day on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March will be to raise funds for this project. Your support is greatly appreciated. More details to follow.

Thank you.

### Furze Platt Senior School are in the limelight!

Together with The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, the school governors have been working on a plan to transform and improve the facilities at Furze Platt School for students and the local community. Our New Hall Theatre will be transformed into a multi-use space which can be converted from its daily use for assemblies etc., to a state-of-the-art theatre facility.

#WATCHTHISPACE

#JOINOURCROWD



DONATE

## GCSE VISIT TO WHITECHAPEL

MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH

Dear Parent/Carer

A reminder that the Jack the Ripper Tour will be taking place on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Students are expected to meet outside Main Reception at

4.45pm ready to depart at 5pm. Unfortunately, there will not be an opportunity to eat when we arrive in Whitechapel so students must eat prior to the coach journey. The coach company have made it clear that students must not eat or drink on the coach (water is acceptable) and that the use of speakers or playing music without headphones is also not permitted.

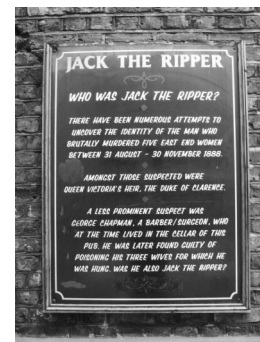
Students can wear their own clothes but as the whole tour is outside students must wear sensible footwear and wear a coat. There is a high chance it will rain.

The tour will last approximately 1 hour 45 minutes. Students will be in split into 2 groups for the duration of the tour. There will not be an opportunity to go to the toilet before or during the tour. There are few public toilets available, so please bear that in mind with consuming liquids.

We aim to be back at school for 10.30pm.

Yours faithfully,

Ms K Inwood, History Teacher



## WASHINGTON DC INFORMATION EVENING

WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 6PM, LIBRARY

In preparation for the upcoming Washington DC trip, I am pleased to invite you to our parent and student information evening on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March in the school library at 6pm. This will be an opportunity to share a more detailed itinerary with you, discuss any medical needs and answer any questions that you or your son/daughter may have about the trip. It is important that both yourself and your son/daughter attends if at all possible.

Mr A Colmer, Head of History and Politics

Cont. on page 3

## YEAR 10 PRE PUBLIC EXAMS (PPE)

YEAR  
10

Please see the attached link for full details of our Year 10 PPE programme.

### YEAR 10 PPE PROGRAMME

## PREPARING TO SUCCEED IN YEAR 11

YEAR  
11

### THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 6.30-7.30PM (REPEAT EVENT)

Dear Parent/Carer

To assist parents in maintaining a supportive learning environment at home we are running a 'Supporting Learning in Year 11' session in the Main Hall on Thursday 5th March. The session will run between 6.30-7.30pm. We will give you a reminder of the GCSE course structure, how GCSEs are assessed using numerical grades 1-9, information on internal assessments and examinations, and plenty of advice on how to support your son/daughter 'including revision tips, extra resources and a chance to network with other parents.

**THIS IS A REPEAT** of the evening we ran in September. All are welcome to attend, whether you came in September and would like to hear the information again, or did not attend and would like to come for the first time, I hope that you will be able to join us on Thursday 5th March.

Mr J Sheppard, Deputy Headteacher

## YEAR 13 BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS BOOSTER GRADES WORKSHOP

YEAR  
13

Please see the attached letter from Miss Naylor about a workshop in London that Year 13 Business and Economics students are encouraged to attend. Please make payment and give consent via Wisepay.

Thank you.

### YEAR 13 BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS WORKSHOP

## YEAR 9 IMMUNISATION FORMS

### DUE BACK MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH

Immunisation forms are due back in school on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. If you have any queries please contact our Medical Officer Mrs Bowen on 01628 625308 ext 165.

## PERIOD PRODUCT SCHEME

+

This year the Government has introduced a scheme to fund sanitary products to all UK schools. This scheme reflects the government's pledge that no-one should be held back from accessing education due to their period. We have introduced this period product scheme to provide free period products for all learners who need them.

Girls, non-binary and transgender learners who have periods will be able to access period products in school if they need them. This may include, for example, where learners:

- have forgotten their products
- cannot afford products
- have come on their period unexpectedly

Products will be available from the Student Support Office, Medical Officer and Sixth Form Reception area.

## POSITIVE PARENTING WORKSHOP

YEAR  
7

YEAR  
8

### TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 6.15 - 7.45PM

#### MAIN HALL

#### Who is the workshop for?

This workshop is for all Year 7 and Year 8 parents. At secondary school children gain more independence but for parents this can bring its own challenges. Most of the time, parenting is great fun but there are times when it is difficult and some extra strategies can make a big difference.

This is the aim of the Triple P Workshop, giving some positive strategies to make small changes but could make a big difference to your family.

#### What is Triple P?

Triple P ('Positive Parenting Program') is a parenting programme that suggests small changes that can make a big difference to your family.

Triple P gives parents the skills to raise confident, healthy children, and to build stronger family relationships. It helps parents manage behavior, prevent problems occurring in the first place and consider what lies ahead as children become older.

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It doesn't tell you how to parent, as this is different for everybody but gives simple and practical strategies that can be adapted to suit your own values, beliefs and needs.

### What happens at a Workshop?

It's an informal presentation, a bit like a forum. It lasts for about two hours. There is lots of time for questions, but you won't have to speak up if you don't want to! It's your choice. There's no homework and no follow up. The Workshop introduces a range of positive parenting strategies and tips for parents of pre-teens and teenagers.

The Workshop will be run by Louise McSweeney, Parent Support Advisor, and Sarah Crisford, Transition Leader.

### BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL.

There is no charge for this workshop, but if you would like to attend you must book your places(s) on Wisepay

For more information about positive parenting courses, please contact Mrs McSweeney on 07833 256691.

## SLEEP TIPS WORKSHOP FOR YEAR 7

TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 6.30 - 7.30PM

A couple of facts about sleep and teenagers:

- Sleep is vital to a teenager's well-being, it is as important as the air they breathe, the water they drink and the food they eat.
- Teens need about eight to ten hours of sleep each night to function best. Most teens do not get enough sleep.

This one hour workshop with Mrs Louise McSweeney, Parent Support Advisor, will provide information and advice on how to make sure your teen is getting enough sleep to stay healthy and help them focus and concentrate to do well at school.

The workshop provides an opportunity to discuss ideas about sleep tips for pre-teens and teens within a supportive environment. It may give adults ideas about how they could improve their sleep routines.

There is no charge for this course, but please book your place(s) on WisePay if you are interested in attending.

### HOUSE CHALLENGE - FOODSHARE



Thank you to everyone who generously donated to our Foodshare challenge last term.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Eton
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Windsor
- 5<sup>th</sup> Bisham
- 7<sup>th</sup> Marlow



- 2<sup>nd</sup> Cookham
- 4<sup>th</sup> Bray
- 6<sup>th</sup> Henley
- 8<sup>th</sup> Dorney

This term's challenge is a Murder Mystery Challenge and our eagle eyed students have been looking for clues across the school! More details to follow.



**FRENCH**

Emily Willcocks (Year 11)  
 Youcef Ait-Kaci (Year 9)



**GERMAN**

Sara Rendon, Daiki Mercante (Year 7)  
 Camelia Ionel, Tori Appleton and Leonard Cory (Year 8)  
 Balraj Kaur (Year 9)  
 Mia Wilcocks and Katie Pettigrew (Year 10)  
 Harry Robinson, Chloe Pounce, Tilly Pink-Costello and Tom Lonsdale (Year 11)



**SPANISH**

Joanna Clarke (Year 10)  
 Jacob Hopson (Year 7)  
 Sumayah Siddiqi and Amy Matthews (Year 9)  
 Eugenia Sanchez (Year 8)

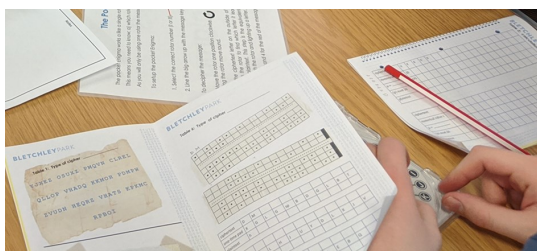


**YEAR 12 MATHS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE TRIP TO BLETCHLEY PARK**



Our students had a fascinating day at Bletchley Park this week, once the top secret home of WW2 Codebreakers, learning to break codes ourselves and much more!

Many thanks to everyone involved and to Mr Earle for arranging the visit.



**'BREAKING THE CHAIN'**



Year 9 students will be watching a performance called 'Breaking the Chain'.

Parents / carers will be sent full details next week.

**SPORTS NEWS**

**Year 10 Netball**

On Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February our Year 10 Netball team battled it out in the bitterly cold weather, against neighbouring schools. The girls played excellently together, especially considering there was a slight change of team at the last minute. The team consisted of: Martha Garner, Hannah Thomas, Brogan McCafferty, Maya Ciesielska, Kourtney Lennon, Mariana Gouveia, Milly Dunn, Hannah Britton and Daisy Hellings. Player of the match went to Daisy Hellings (seated) for incredible shooting talent.



**Year 10 Football**

On Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb, our Year 10 boys played a league match against Brakenhale. The team consisted of: Edwin Isted, Alfie Bristow, Charlie Myall, Samee Khan, Nick Holdworth, Joe Ripley, Josh Dilley, Henry Best, Tom Davies, Chiba Ezukanma, Patrick Kelly, Oli James and Ellis Ovens. Man of the match went to Joe Ripley for being such an influential player throughout the match.

They had a fantastic game where motivation and determination within the team was kept to a high level. The final score was 2-1 to Furze Platt. It was truly the best that the Year 10 students have played so far. They should be very proud of their performance.







**YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE**

**6-10TH JULY**

Our Year 12 students will be on Work Experience w/c 6th July. We encourage them to start thinking of what they would like to do during that time, more information to follow.

Please see below for a range of companies offering work experience. Full details and how to apply are on each company's website.

**YEAR 11 CONSTRUCTION**



Our Year 11 Construction group were lucky enough to visit the site of our New Hall / Theatre and discuss plans and current work with the site manager.

We are looking forward to the finished product!

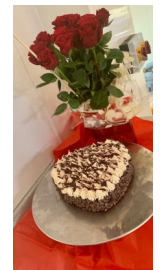


**CAFÉ NEWS**

Yet more choice from our cafe! Morning Fruit Bar now available, please do encourage your son/ daughter to try these delicious options.



Before the February holidays there was a mouthwatering display of goodies in our Café for Valentine's Day.



**PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF INFECTION**

<p><b>If you need to cough or sneeze</b></p> <p>Catch it with a tissue</p> <p>Bin it</p> <p>Kill it by washing your hands with soap &amp; water or hand sanitiser</p>			<p><b>You should wash hands with soap &amp; water or hand sanitiser</b></p> <p>After breaks &amp; sport activities</p> <p>Before cooking &amp; eating</p> <p>SCHOOL ETC.</p> <p>On arrival at any childcare or educational setting</p> <p>After using the toilet</p> <p>Before leaving home</p>					
<p>Try not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands</p>	<p>Do not share items that come into contact with your mouth such as cups &amp; bottles</p>	<p>If unwell do not share items such as bedding, dishes, pencils &amp; towels</p>						

# PTFA

## Parents, Teachers & Friends Association

It's getting closer to completion and our new theatre is going to need kitting out with the all that a great entertainment venue needs. So we're all about action on fundraising. We're over halfway to what we need and we've had more great news this week! Read on to find out more and ways that you can help.

## Match Funding



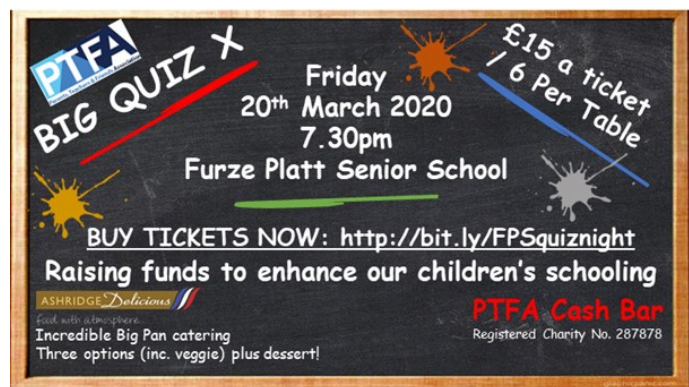
An amazing example of match funding has come in from Duncan Sturdy, who, after raising £5,000 for our school asked if his employer, Hutchinson 3G Ltd, would match fund it. And they said, YES! Meaning that we now have a further £5,000 towards kitting out our new theatre. An enormous thank you to both Duncan and Hutchinson 3G Ltd - superb teamwork!

Match funding is a great way to maximise any fund raising you do. Not all employers offer it but here are a few major companies that will let you submit an application. So, if you're thinking of fundraising for our school then why not let your employer know? Look what you can achieve!

If you're employed by any of the following and want more information then get in touch at [ptfa@furzeplatt.net](mailto:ptfa@furzeplatt.net)

Aviva	Experian	Royal Dutch Shell
Bank of America	HSBC	N Power
Benfield Group	Ipsos Mori	Schroders
BP	JP Morgan Chase	Sky
BT	Kingfisher PLC	Tarmac
British Gas	Legal & General	Tesco
Camelot	TSB/HBOS	UBS
Costcutter	Microsoft	Unilever
Co-op	O2	Yorkshire Bank
Daryl Industries	3M	
Deloitte	PWC	
Diago	RBS	
Ernst & Young		

## QUIZ AND DINNER



Putting the FUN into fundraising! The Big Quiz is one of the social highlights of the school calendar. There's prizes for the winning table and the glory of knowing you're the brightest of the bunch! Plus it comes with a fabulous dinner – all for £15 a ticket! No worries if you're a vegan – we've got you covered. Check out our menu.

- Poulet l'Estragon - Chicken in a creamy tarragon sauce served with rice - a French classic!
- Rustic Beef Meat Balls served with baby potatoes
- Mediterranean Vegetable Risotto - vegan and vegetarian

Click to book tickets and avoid disappointment.

[BOOK TICKETS](#)

## 200 Club and a HUGE Thank you!

What are you giving up for Lent? Maybe that coffee? Perhaps a bottle of wine? Why not put that money towards charity? Then it's not so much giving up – as giving to a good cause! The 200 Club offers you the chance to be in with winning £200 in our quarterly draw. For just £5 per month – or £57 per year, you'll be giving to the school AND be in with a chance to win. Better odds than the lottery! There's no spam emails, no contract and you're in control of the direct debit. It's a win, win situation!

We've been running the 200 Club since 2017 and it was set up by Rhian and Duncan Sturdy who have now stepped down from running it for us. They've handed it over to Geraldine Ebenezer, who will continue their marvellous work. We'd like to thank Rhian and Duncan on behalf of the PTFA and the wider school community for all their hard work and for transforming our fundraising efforts.

[MONTHLY PAYMENT \(£5 PER MONTH\)](#)

[ANNUAL PAYMENT \(£57 PER YEAR\)](#)



## Shop and Donate

Would you like to help us raise money but haven't got the time or the money? Do you like to shop online?

Fancy helping us without having to do anything costly or strenuous - with no strings attached? If you've answered 'yes' then please read on!

With Easyfundraising, over 4,000 like M&S, Argos, eBay, Clarkes and Next will donate a percentage of your shop – to us! Yes, it's as easy as that. So far we've raised over £4,000 and you can be part of it! Click here to find out more.

**EASY FUNDRAISING**

The PTFA door is always open. If you fancy getting involved with fundraising, helping out or sharing any skills you have with us then just get in touch. Feel free to wander along to one of our meetings – there's always a brew on and biscuits! Watch this space for the date of the next meeting.

Current positions are:

Chair: Lorraine Hughes

Treasurer: Caroline Golding

Secretary: Jean Sutherland

200 Club: Geraldine Ebenezer



### *Learning Together*

Furze Platt Road, Maidenhead,  
Berkshire SL6 7NQ

Tel: 01628 625308 | Fax: 01628 782257

Email: [office@furzeplatt.com](mailto:office@furzeplatt.com)

Website: [www.furzeplatt.com](http://www.furzeplatt.com)

**Special Educational Needs Administrator  
Required asap – 37 hours a week – Term Time Only  
8.30 to 4.30 Monday to Friday – Actual Salary - Scale 4 - £17,700-  
£19,200pa**

We have an exciting opportunity for an experienced Administrator to support our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) and Learning Support Department during term time. You will support the SENCo with a range of administrative tasks including responding to emails and telephone queries, maintaining SEN records and preparing reports for students' annual reviews. You will also help set up a transition day for primary year 6 students with additional needs which requires liaising with feeder primary schools to make appropriate arrangements. You would also support the department with managing exam access arrangements for students who are eligible by liaising with parents, school staff and other stakeholders. Attendance at review meetings and taking minutes is sometimes required.

Strong organisational and time management skills with an ability to meet deadlines are key features of this role. If you have excellent administrative skills, enjoy using your initiative as well as working with a part of a team and are happy working in an environment with young people where no two days are ever the same then we would be interested in hearing from you.

For further information about this role and in order to complete an application form please refer to 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.

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: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 9.00am  
Interviews will take place: w/c 9<sup>th</sup> March**