

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards

On Wednesday, I had the pleasure of meeting five of our Year 13 students – Isaac Woda, Elliott Roels, Rose Cooper, Steven Johnstone and Paul Barnes - who recently achieved their Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards. Our governor and DofE Assessor, Sue Le Page, who was wearing her own Gold DofE brooch, presented our students with their Gold badges and commemorative mugs. This is a fantastic accomplishment and I would like to congratulate our students. Listening to their tales of volunteering, skill development and expeditions highlighted how much they had learnt and how valuable their experiences will be in their futures.

I know we have almost three times the number of students now going for their Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards and I



look forward to meeting them next year.

(pictured l-r; Liz Thornton-Harwood (DofE) with Elliott, Rose, Paul, Sue Le Page, Steven, Miss Carty (Furze Platt's DofE Manager), Isaac and Dr Morrison)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

ALL EVENTS

SPORTS CALENDAR

Next Week (Week 2)

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)	

Forthcoming Events

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

SCHOOL TERM DATES**SCHOOL CLUBS LIST****Thank you Rhonda Gorton**

This week we sadly say goodbye to one of our long serving members of staff, Rhonda Gorton. Rhonda started working with us in the last century, 1999, taking on a series of roles before becoming our SEN Administrator for the last twelve years. In this capacity, she has been incredibly hardworking and dedicated supporting a huge number of staff and many students. Rhonda has been a passionate advocate for our students and ensured that they have had the best possible support. I am sure that I speak on behalf of all the FPSS community when I thank Rhonda for all her efforts and wish her every success in the future.

Coronavirus

We continue to update our website with information sent to us from the Department of Education. As a school, we are following this guidance and, fortunately, I have not needed

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to use the helpline. Proactively, we have increased our cleaning and handwashing facilities reminding students and staff to wash their hands regularly.

Eco-Schools Bronze Award

We have also had some very good news recently from Eco-Schools, who have awarded us their Bronze Award. This is to 'recognise [our] achievement in working towards a sustainable lifestyle' and included developing an active Eco-Committee, Environmental Review and Eco Action Plans. Well done to Miss Holmes and all who contributed to the school's success in gaining this award.



Congratulations

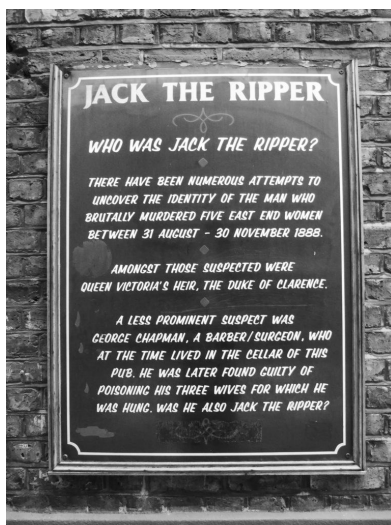
On achieving your Eco-Schools Bronze Award

Year 10 PPEs

Congratulations to our Year 10 students who have completed their PPEs this week. Good luck with your results. I wish our Year 11 students currently in the middle of their German, French and Spanish PPEs every success.

Jack the Ripper Tour

On Monday our GCSE History students had the pleasure of being led on a Jack the Ripper Ghost Tour of London by what I hear was a very eccentric but entertaining guide. Thank you to all parents who supported this event and to Miss Inwood for organising the event.



World Book Day



On Thursday our English block was alive with characters from across literature as staff dressed for the occasion in various outfits. It was lovely to see stories come alive in the persona of our staff and I thank colleagues for making the event such a memorable occasion.

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



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.

#WATCHTHISSPACE
#JOINOURCROWD



DONATE

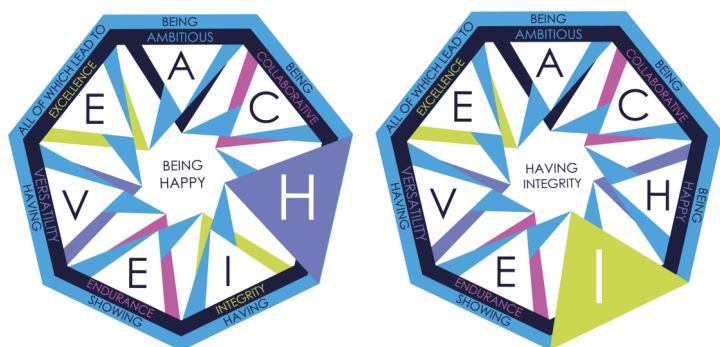
YEAR 9 REPORTS

The above reports have now been issued and are available online as usual via Go 4 Schools. The service is available either by going to our website www.furzeplatt.com and clicking on the quick link 'Online Reporting', or by going directly to Go 4 Schools www.go4schools.com and selecting Parents.

Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at reports@furzeplatt.net.

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager

VIEW REPORTS



BORNEO INFORMATION MEETING THURSDAY 2ND APRIL 6-8PM, MAIN HALL

There will be an information evening on Thursday 2nd April in the Main Hall for those going on the Sixth Form expedition to Borneo in the summer, parents and students welcome.

NEW HALL / THEATRE CAMPAIGN

Thank you so much to everyone who has contributed so far to our New Hall / Theatre fund. We've done so well to attain over 60% of the appeal target. A huge round of applause to you all.

We are now going for the standing ovation in asking you to help us reach the target by the Easter holidays. Whatever contribution you can manage is gratefully received at <https://donatemyschool.com/not-logged-donor/page/FurzePlatt>



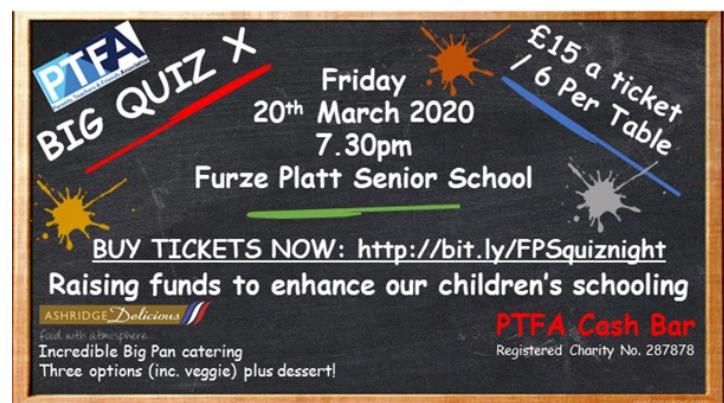
Remember, if you are a taxpayer you can add another 25% to your gift donation by ticking the Gift Aid box. Thank you so much for helping us to stand out brighter on the stage of better education.

MUFTI DAY FRIDAY 27TH MARCH

Our next Mufti Day will be to raise funds for our New Hall / Theatre campaign. Your support is greatly appreciated. More details to follow.

QUIZ

You can also help us raise funds for our New Hall / Theatre campaign by coming along to our next Quiz.



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

SUPPORTING THE MORE ABLE AND STRETCH AND CHALLENGE FOR ALL

Information about 'more able' students

This term I am evaluating Furze Platt's provision for supporting 'more able' students, to ensure that they are taught with an appropriate level of stretch and challenge and that they have access to the wider curriculum. I believe having parental input on this improvement is beneficial and so I would like to hear your views on our current provision and the opportunity to have your say on what we could do to improve in this area. You can participate in this survey by clicking on the following link: <https://forms.gle/LnTawjQ5QoyxNcEU8>. Your responses will be anonymous and will help to inform development of our programme for the 'more able'.

Information about exceptionally talented students

Furze Platt has been privileged to educate some of the most talented sportspeople and performers, regionally, nationally and even internationally. Some of our students are particularly strong in rowing, tennis, football and diving and many of whom have either pursued their talent professionally after their education or are currently developing their talents alongside their studies. We are proud to support some students who are identified as exceptionally talented based on their level of commitment in developing their talent outside of school and the level at which they are recognised within their field. I would like to know more about these commitments to ensure that students' academic achievement and well-being are not compromised.

If this description applies to your child, please complete the following form so I can see what provision is necessary and suitable. <https://forms.gle/Bq6112m1ynCtMCfE8>

Thank you for your participation.

Ms K Inwood, More Able and Talented Coordinator



PHYSICS AND MATHS INTERSHIPS



Are you interested in finding out how exciting it is to be a teacher of Maths or Physics?

Would you like to spend time in one of our five impressive partnership schools in Maidenhead?

Would you like the prospect of shadowing a teacher, a student and sharing your experiences with others also keen on pursuing a teaching career?

Would you like the opportunity to speak with a newly qualified teacher about their first year in school?

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TEACH MAIDENHEAD: PHYSICS & MATHS INTERNSHIPS

We are also looking for a SEN (Special Educational Needs) Administrator and Cleaners:

CURRENT VACANCIES

YEAR 11 FOOD AND NUTRITION



YEAR 11 - PRACTICAL FOOD EXAMS

Objective: produce three dishes, either suitable for a Valentines Meal or for healthy low cost family meals, within three hours!



YEAR 11 - PRACTICAL FOOD EXAMS



YEAR 11 - PRACTICAL FOOD EXAMS



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD – ASSESSOR'S REPORT

“Erin began the process as a very shy girl and perhaps didn’t believe in herself quite as much as she should. We have seen Erin perform as part of the large ensemble and her commitment to performing as part of that larger group to the best of her ability was always evident. This was Erin’s first role where she would have to sing a duet and act on her own with numerous lines. She was to play a cockney street urchin in Dick Whittington, part of a double act who befriend Dick Whittington and his cat. At the start of rehearsals Erin again displayed signs of lack of confidence, but as the rehearsals went on, I have to say Erin absolutely blossomed. Taking direction well and each week we could see the character developing and get bigger and bigger each week. Erin developed a great cockney accent, and even thought about how the character would walk and move creating a very dynamic persona. Then there were the songs. Singing and Dancing in a duet front and centre for two songs can be a bit daunting. One song was particularly complicated. Erin rose to the task beautifully especially as the other half of the duet was a complete extrovert but Erin was not overshadowed, she gave it everything and it was great to see her develop as the weeks went on. Come the performance, Erin displayed absolute confidence and delivered far more than I would have imagined at the start of the rehearsal period. The development over those 8-10 weeks was amazing with everyone commenting on how far she had come. Would love to see Erin take on even more challenging roles in the future and to continue to develop her confidence. She has the potential to be a great talent, just keep on believing in herself and keep challenging herself. She can absolutely do it.”

Simon Kelly, Director: Maidenhead Drama Guild Pantomime

(Pictured, Erin and Anna)



Call the Midwife!

Another lesson of 'Happiness' in Child Development. We used balloons to represent womb contractions in the second stage of labour. Students enjoyed it very much and they now have a good understanding of how the uterus works. A plea for parents: we are searching for a midwife or obstetrician who would be willing to visit us to talk to students about the realities of their job. If you could help, please contact Miss R Paradowska: renata.paradowska@furzeplatt.net. Thank you.



Pictured: Naizel De Souza



On Thursday our Year 12 Criminology students met with Mrs L Anderson, who shared with them her experience of working with drug addicts and offenders. Students learnt the inner workings from the first drug dose to an entire criminal record, and they had a chance to ask some searching questions about what it's like when someone is held in custody. One of the interesting facts was what comprises the prisoner's breakfast. They've also learnt that there are plenty of job opportunities in the penitentiary sector regardless of whether someone wants to go to university or not. A big thank you to Mrs Anderson for taking the time and trouble to see us.



YEAR 8 FOOTBALL

5-1 VICTORY AGAINST GARTH HILL

On Tuesday 3rd March our Year 8 boys had an away football match against Garth Hill. The team consisted of Freddie Astrup-Mcguinness, Rhys Ovens, Luke Maddox, Charlie Jelfs, Josh Lawrence, Louis Mormech, Jayden Taylor, Josh Parrott, Lennon Moore, Jake Coomes, Callum Brennan and Jack Britton. The team played excellently and soared to a brilliant 5-1 victory. Man of the match went to Rhys Ovens for great defensive display.



SPORTS RELIEF INTERHOUSE MILE



Next week (9th-13th March) all students will be completing the Sports Relief Interhouse Mile. Students will be coming down in year groups during tutor time to run the mile. The students are not being sponsored for this however, we do ask that students donate any loose change that have at home to the cause. If students wish to attempt the 'Creative' category, they must be bringing in any props or accessories they require for this. PE kit is not required for this event however, if students wish to attempt to complete the mile in less than 7 minutes, they may wish to wear PE kit. This is the first event our Sports Leaders have organised so we hope it will be great fun for everyone and a way for all to collaborate for a great cause! The dates are as below:

Monday - Year 9

Tuesday - Year 10/11/Sixth Form

Wednesday - Year 7

Friday - Year 8

Points awarded for the achievements:

120 points = Finishing in under 7 minutes

80 points = Creative category

60 points = Finishing between 7 - 10 minutes

40 points = Completing the mile



*Sports Relief
House
Challenge Mile*

9th - 13th MARCH



Who will win...?



FURZE PLATT STUDENT SIGNS PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL CONTRACT WITH READING FC

Many congratulations to Josh Hewitt, Year 13, who has just been signed to Reading FC on a professional footballers' contract. Josh studied at Furze Platt up until Year 9, when he was then invited to join Reading Football Team. Within their academy, they are taught academic subjects in the morning at a private school close to the ground, and spend every afternoon training at the football ground.



Once Year 11 was over, Josh was the only boy that requested to continue his education, and he and his parents were keen for Josh to come back to Furze Platt for him to study Geography and Maths A levels.

This is a superb achievement and we wish Josh all the best for his future career.

For more details please see the link below. (Picture courtesy Reading FC.)

READING FC - NEWS ARTICLE

REMINDERS

POSITIVE PARENTING WORKSHOP

TUESDAY 10TH MARCH 6.15 - 7.45PM

MAIN HALL

Who is the workshop for?

This workshop is for all Year 7 and Year 8 parents. As secondary school children gain more independence but

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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.

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.



SATURDAY 7TH MARCH

TESCO'S MAIDENHEAD

See us this Saturday morning in Tesco, Nicholson's Walk, till 12 noon.

We'd love some pennies in our bucket and to see some friendly faces!

As Tesco say,

Every little helps

We're keeping up the momentum with fundraising for the New Hall / Theatre campaign.

SLEEP TIPS WORKSHOP FOR YEAR 7 TUESDAY 17TH MARCH, 6.30 - 7.30PM

To attend please book your space via your child's WisePay account.

WASHINGTON DC INFORMATION EVENING WEDNESDAY 11TH 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 11th 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

YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE 6TH-10TH JULY

YEAR
12

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.



Norden Farm are running a Young Leadership Scheme. For more details please click the link below.

<https://norden.farm/pages/young-leadership-scheme>



Cleaners Required as soon as possible

Flexible hours – from a few hours up to a maximum of 35 hours a week
Between 7am and 8pm Monday to Thursday and 7am to 6pm on a Friday
Hourly rate (inclusive of holiday pay) £11 an hour.
Term time only although additional hours may be available during holiday time

Would you be interested in a term time only role helping to maintain a high standard of cleanliness at our expanding school?

We are looking for someone who is interested in working up to 35 hours a week (can be flexible) following a cleaning rota. You would be given sufficient training to enable you to operate domestic and industrial cleaning equipment and materials in a safe and sensible way. You would be required to clean specific areas of the school, refill and replace soap, towels and other consumables and collect and dispose of waste in and around the school site. We would also expect you to work in line with health and safety and COSHH regulations and make the Cleaning Supervisor aware of any hazards.

This role requires someone who is physically fit and able to bend and do light lifting or moving of furniture. In addition good communication, organisational and time management skills are required with the ability to work independently and as part of a team. You must be trustworthy and able to demonstrate high levels of integrity.

To discuss options and flexibility of hours please call Kevin Dandridge on 01628 625308 x137.

In order to complete an application form please refer to our school website www.furzeplatt.com. Application forms should be returned to Kiran.smith@furzeplatt.net. Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered.

Closing date: ongoing

Suitable candidates will be contacted regarding interview dates

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. Application forms should be returned to 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.

CURRENT VACANCIES

Closing date: Monday 9th March 2020 at 9.00am
Interviews will take place: w/c 9th March

JUNIOR BAKE OFF

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

WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK

APPLICATIONS CLOSE
SUNDAY 5th APRIL 2020

Enquiries:
applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk



If you need to cough or sneeze



Catch it
with a tissue



Bin it



Kill it
by washing
your hands with
soap & water or
hand sanitiser

You should wash hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser



After breaks
& sport
activities



Before
cooking
& eating



On arrival at
any childcare
or educational
setting



After using
the toilet



Before
leaving
home



Try not to touch your
eyes, nose, and mouth
with unwashed hands



Do not share items that come
into contact with your mouth
such as cups & bottles



If unwell do not share
items such as bedding,
dishes, pencils & towels