

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

Year 6 Transition Days

It was a pleasure to meet our new Year 6 students, parents and carers this week. There was considerable excitement and a few nerves (especially from parents and carers) on Tuesday for the first day with students sticking with groups from their primary school. By the end of Wednesday, it was great to see students beginning to form new connections with staff and fellow students as they begin their secondary school journey.



We look forward to welcoming these students back as our new Year 7 in September.

Sixth Form Taster Days

We also welcomed our new Sixth Formers at the end of the week. It was wonderful to see students in their business dress and looking like the young adults they are. Alongside our Year 11 students, we also had the pleasure of meeting many young people who have not studied at FPSS before.

I hope students got a great sense of what Sixth Form will be like and I wish them every success with their results this summer.

Enrichment

Every week in Term 6 seems to see more fabulous enrichment. This week our Gardening Club visited the Living Rainforest, and hundreds of our students had their Duke of Edinburgh Gold, Silver and Bronze expeditions. Next week sees our Year 9 and 10 Enrichment afternoons, Year 12 Work Experience, Year 12 Geography fieldwork in Nettlecombe and Sports Day.



UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

SPORTS CALENDAR

Next week (Week 1)

SUN 10 - WED 13 JULY	Year 12 Geography trip - Nettlecombe	
MON 11 JULY	Year 12 Careers Day	
TUE 12 - FRI 15 JULY	Year 12 Work Experience Week	
THU 14 JULY	Furze Platt Concert and Fundraiser	7.30pm
WED 20 JULY	End of Term 6	Finish at 12.30pm

Start dates for September 2022

FRI 2 SEPT	Welcome to Year 7 (8.45am) and Year 12 (9.15am)	
MON 5 SEPT	Welcome back Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13	8.40am

All year we have been encouraging students to try something new and I would like to thank our staff for laying on so many experiences.

Take care,

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

SPORTS DAY - Monday 11th July



All students (spectators and participants) can wear PE kits on Monday for our School Sports Day.

This is a whole school event with all students spectating or participating.

The weather is forecast to be hot so a reminder for students to please bring sun cream, plenty of water, a sun hat and something to sit on on the field.

Take hay fever prevention if required and a reminder to our athletes to bring inhalers if needed.

Good luck to all our competitors!

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

The last couple of weeks have seen some fantastic events held for our Students with Year 11 Graduation, Proms and Duke of Edinburgh expeditions to name but a few.

It is great to see these opportunities continuing because many of these will be remembered by our students for the rest of their lives.



I know that next week continues with Sports Day, performances in the drama studio and of course our big Fundraising Concert featuring Maidenhead Concert Band and our Students on Thursday evening. Do please come along and support this event if you can, there will be a terrific range of Music being performed by the Band from Disney Classics to Glenn Miller as well as the opportunity to hear our very own talented Student soloists in action. With over 50 Musicians taking part there will be something for everyone and all in our fabulous new theatre.

Ticket booking details are available via the link below as well as an appeal from our PTFA later on in this newsletter for some more volunteers. Let's all support and help make this a sell out event. After all it is raising some much needed funds for the benefit of all the Students in our school.

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED HERE

Gavin Tisshaw

YEAR 7 AND 10 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.

Please see here for our Guidance to Grading document: <https://www.furzeplatt.com/site/data/files/pdf/Guidance%20on%20Grading%202019-20%20003.pdf?pid=37>

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

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager

HEAD STUDENTS

This coming year our Head Boy, Head Girl and Deputy roles have been replaced by the titles of Head Students and Deputy Head Students.

Congratulations to our new Senior Student team!

These positions will be as follows for the next academic year:

Head Students: Patrick Kelly and Anna Gambrell

Deputy Head Students: Martha Garner and Edwin Isted

We would like to say a sincere thank you to this year's Senior Student team for all their hard work.

Head Boy: Stuart Johnstone

Head Girl: Eliza Stevenson

Deputy Head Boy: Matt Dilley

Deputy Head Girl: Isabella Considine

We wish them all the best



**FURZE PLATT
SENIOR SCHOOL**

A huge well done to all our Gold, Silver and Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award students this week for completing their expeditions - it has been a fantastic achievement!

Students interested in leadership positions for their DofE Awards next year can contact Norden Farm who are running a young leadership scheme: <https://norden.farm/pages/young-leadership-scheme> - please be aware places are limited.

We will be looking to hold DofE celebration assemblies next year to award students with their certificates and badges; if any sections are still outstanding please remind your child to upload these to eDofE as soon as possible.



On Friday 10th and 17th of June, musicians from La Folia came into Furze Platt to run composition and performance workshops with many of our students.

This event was in memory of Katie Johnston, ex-Head of Music at Furze Platt, and was based around creating a piece of music inspired by her AS-level composition. Students performed their composition alongside the La Folia musicians to staff and Katie's parents at the end of the workshop.

It was wonderful to see the students all working together to create such an inspiring piece of music, and to have it performed on the grand piano donated to the school by Katie herself.



REQUEST FROM A YEAR 7 STUDENT

Jay Weaver (Year 7) is helping to fundraise for his neighbour who is paralysed following a mountain bike accident. With a new baby and now unable to work, this fundraiser is for items he needs such as an adaptable wheelchair, stairlift etc.

You can read more about this on their Go Fund Me page here:

<https://gofund.me/3adf61ec>

The family would be grateful for any donations.



INVITATIONS TO CLUBS FOR TERM 6

Parents and carers of students in all year groups should have received invitations on the last day of Term 5 to attend clubs for their son/daughter for this term. The email was headed Furze Platt Senior School with the email

address evolve.furzeplattsnrvisits@edufocus.co.uk and the links are safe for you to click on to confirm your child's attendance. If you have not yet received an email please check your junk / spam folders.

You may wish to sign up to My EVOLVE for an overview of clubs, what's on etc – you can do this from any of the club emails sent to you in two easy steps: 1. Click on the link in the email as usual to see clubs 2. Click 'create account' button at the top of your screen.

Every Friday afternoon the list of clubs for the following week is updated on our website here:

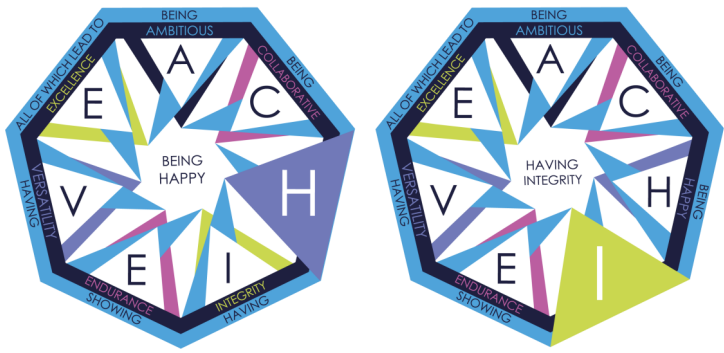
SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLINICS SCHEDULE 2022

CAN YOU HELP?

Our Art department needs old shirts (for students to wear when painting), plus large cereal boxes and Amazon envelopes (A4 and A3)

If you have any of these that you would be willing to donate please bring in to Main Reception marked for the attention of Art.

Thank you!



GCSE SUMMERPOD

After last year's success, GCSE Pod are back with a bigger, better SummerPod!

This is a fun programme to help students prepare and get ahead next academic



year.

Student Webinars

Current Year 9 and 10's are invited to join GCSE Pod exclusive student webinars, hosted by their very own Merlin Mee, Learning Content Creator at GCSEPod, is their student webinar guru.

Moving from Year 9 into Year 10

Monday 1st August @5pm

Students are encouraged to rocket their way into Year 10 by exploring personal goals and cultivating healthy habits that will benefit them on their journey throughout Key Stage 4.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THIS WEBINAR](#)

Moving from Year 10 into Year 11

Monday 8th August @5pm

Students can 'lift-off' into Year 11 with tips on prioritising

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THIS WEBINAR](#)

their wellbeing and enhancing the space around them.

Parent Webinars

Parents are invited to attend two exclusive webinars this summer, hosted by Future Toolbox's Mark & Jules.

How to Create a Growth Mindset When Studying

The multi-award-winning Future Toolbox are joining GCSEPod in a two-part webinar and will be sharing some simple tools and tips to help to encourage students to enjoy their learning journey.

By creating a growth mindset around study and understanding that learning is about the journey and not the final exam, this will help students to find purpose at school or college. Positive study habits lead to positive habits in the future and a more rounded individual.

Parent webinars will run on Wednesday 3rd August @

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER \(3RD AUG\) WEBINAR](#)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER \(10TH AUG\) WEBINAR](#)

5pm and Wednesday 10th August @ 5pm

'The curriculum is broad and personalised. It is designed well to meet the needs of all pupils.'

Ofsted 2021



MESSAGE FROM INNOVATE

Dear Parent / Guardian

As we approach the end of our summer term and another eventful year, I am sure we are all looking forward to some well-deserved family time and a break from the normal school routine.

The challenges of Covid-19, whilst by no means defeated, seem to be a diminishing memory and we have helped schools return safely to a "business as usual" service pattern and enjoyed seeing our students making use of the food provision, across all catering areas and service times. It has been heartening to see the reintroduction of breakfast clubs, first break services, full lunch offers and the much missed after school menu range.

We must, however, acknowledge the challenging times we all face economically, with inflation rising to 9% and forecasted to reach double figures very soon. We are also witnessing unprecedented hikes in the prices of individual products, like chicken, for example, with poultry increases soon to hit 10%.

At this time of the year we review our tariffs, in preparation for the new academic year in September.

It's been a particularly challenging piece of analysis this time around, given the volatility of the food market and associated factors which affect costs, such as petrol, for example.

To summarise, we have kept our proposed tariff increases across our range to just below 2.5% for the next academic year, well less than predicted rate of inflation. Any increase is not an easy decision to take, but I know many of you may have been expecting a larger rise in prices.

Innovate need to balance the difficult challenge of keeping all our staff employed and fairly paid, supplying an impressive range of menus to our students, and meeting our commitments to the school which is why we are doing our absolute best to keep increases to a minimum and are solely covering rising costs but, if inflation persists, we will consult with you should a further increase, or other measures, be required.

We have a difficult period to navigate through but, we will continue to serve food of the highest quality, at the best possible pricing and we give you our undertaking to not alter portion sizes or reduce our menu range!

[Please see our tariff on the school website here](#) and may we wish you all a lovely summer.

Cont. on page 6

★ MISSING ★

LIBRARY BOOKS & TEXT BOOKS!



**HAVE YOU SEEN ANY
FPSS BOOKS
LYING AROUND THE HOUSE?**

PARENT SEARCHER REQUIRED TO
SEARCH BOOK SHELVES, UNDER
BEDS AND BEDROOM FLOORS
FOR LOST SCHOOL TEXT BOOKS
AND LIBRARY BOOKS.

**AMNESTY FOR ALL THOSE
RETURNED!**



ALMOST THE END OF TERM!

THE NEARLY NEW SALE was held last Saturday – an actual physical event! Our three R's eco motto: Recycle-Reuse-Repurpose was very much demonstrated by the sheer number of buyers and donations of uniform we received. We sold out of most items by 1pm and raised an incredible **£2178!** All this was made possible by new and current parents/carers, so THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Logo'd uniform is still very welcome via school reception – drop into our blue containers

BAR FOR MAIDENHEAD CONCERT BAND

THURSDAY 14TH JULY 2022 - 7PM FOR 7.30PM START

Location: School Hall and Theatre

Pre-orders of drinks will be accepted on the night

Payment accepted by card and/or cash, on the night



URGENT! 6 BAR STAFF REQUIRED –

WE CAN'T RUN THIS WITHOUT YOU

WE'RE A FUN CREW SO COME JOIN US! EMAIL OR MESSAGE US ASAP

200 CLUB DRAW: THURSDAY 14TH JULY 2022

Draw being made at the performance by Maidenhead Concert Band and our talented students.

Three lucky members will win £200 each

If you have been thinking of joining for a while, then we encourage you to sign up **NOW** by following the links below:

MONTHLY PAYMENT (£5 PER MONTH)

ANNUAL PAYMENT (£57 PER YEAR)



We appreciate your feedback and welcome comments and ideas by phone call **01628 625308**, by email ptfa@furzeplatt.net and through our Facebook Page facebook.com/fpsstfa

Pastoral Manager To start 1st September 2022

Permanent, full time, 37 hours a week, start time 8.15am, finish time 4.15pm Monday to Thursday and 8.15am to 3.45pm on a Friday (start and finish times are negotiable and include a half hour unpaid break).

Monday to Friday, term time only

Actual salary £23,100 - £24,510pa depending on experience

Furze Platt is a highly successful mixed comprehensive school serving the children of Maidenhead. At Furze Platt, 1400 students of all abilities develop the skills and qualities to enable them to excel in the future. We are a highly ambitious, high-achieving and fully inclusive school in which our students are challenged and supported to achieve excellence.

We are looking for a Pastoral Manager to join our well established pastoral team to work alongside a Head of Progress who will be managing a specific year group to provide early intervention, support and guidance to improve outcomes for students. Training will be provided to enable you to fulfil the role of Deputy Safeguarding Lead so that you can report safeguarding concerns and support the Senior Leadership Team in dealing with them. Developing good working relationships with students, parents, carers and a range of external agencies such as social care, the police and agencies dealing with mental health, is also vital. You will also work with other colleagues in school, for example our Pupil Premium Champion to ensure Pupil Premium students are well supported to enable them to achieve successfully alongside their peers. Other ad hoc responsibilities include managing files for students on child protection plans, tracking student sanctions and attending meetings when appropriate.

If you have previous experience of working in a role like this or have worked with children and young people in a different capacity and would like the opportunity to build on skills you have already acquired, then this could be an exciting new opportunity for you. We are looking for someone who is keen to train and expand their knowledge of child protection and safeguarding procedures and who has excellent written and verbal communication skills. You will need to be a team player and able to prioritise and cope in a high-pressured environment where resilience and confidence are a must. This role is varied, no two days are the same with the rewards of seeing students achieve and grow year on year.

For further information about this role and to complete a **Support Staff Application Form** please refer to our school website www.furzeplatt.com. Application forms should be returned to Joanne.Latham-Brash@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: Thursday 14th July at midday
Interviews will take place: Monday 18th July

CURRENT VACANCIES

Assistant Exams Officer To start 1st September 2022

Permanent, part time, 30 hours a week, start time 9am, finish time 3.30pm (includes a half hour unpaid break)

Monday to Friday, term time only plus 5 days around exam results days in the second half of August

Actual salary £15440 - £16385pa depending on experience

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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 external examinations in our school. This will include assisting with planning, timetabling, entries and application of access arrangements. You will also work with the team of Invigilators establishing their availability and preparing schedules for exam invigilation using an online platform. Other tasks include updating information about exams on the school website, attending exams results days to distribute results to students and organising university admissions entries and tests.

We are looking for a team player with excellent administrative skills and who is a fabulous communicator with great time management and organisational skills. Attention to detail and the confidence to query issues is also important. If you are a team player and would relish the opportunity to work in an environment where no two days are the same, then we would love to hear from you.

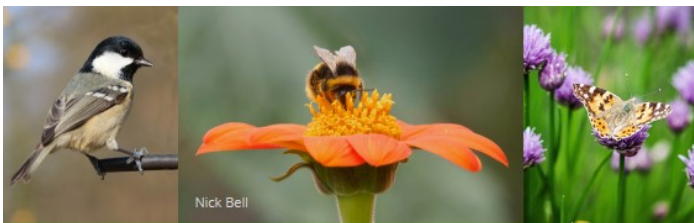
For further information about this role and in order to complete a **Support Staff Application Form** please refer to our school website www.furzeplatt.com. Application forms should be returned to Kiran.smith@furzeplatt.net. Only applications submitted on the school application form will be considered.

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.

We will be considering applications as they are submitted
Suitable applicants will be interviewed as soon as is practicable

CURRENT VACANCIES





WILD ABOUT GARDENS AWARDS 2022

This local awards scheme offers lots of ideas to support nature, whatever your outdoor space - balcony, courtyard, allotment, private garden or communal garden. Everyone who enters helps us understand where vital food, water, shelter and 'green corridors' are provided for local wildlife.

Free to enter, and easy - just tick boxes on a list of 24 wildlife-friendly gardening features
Closing date 31 July

For ideas and to enter online, visit
www.wildmaidenhead.org.uk/waga

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @WAGAMaidenhead



Scan to visit
our website



Ideas to help wildlife all year round

Providing food

Grow a variety of flowers that are rich in nectar or pollen, including some plants that flower in the cold months * Plant fruit trees or berryed shrubs * Grow vegetables or herbs * Feed the birds

Safe shelter

Have an undisturbed pile of logs or stones * Grow climbing plants such as ivy or honeysuckle * Protect mature trees * Leave some grass to grow long, or sow a wild flower patch * Install a nesting box or insect hotel



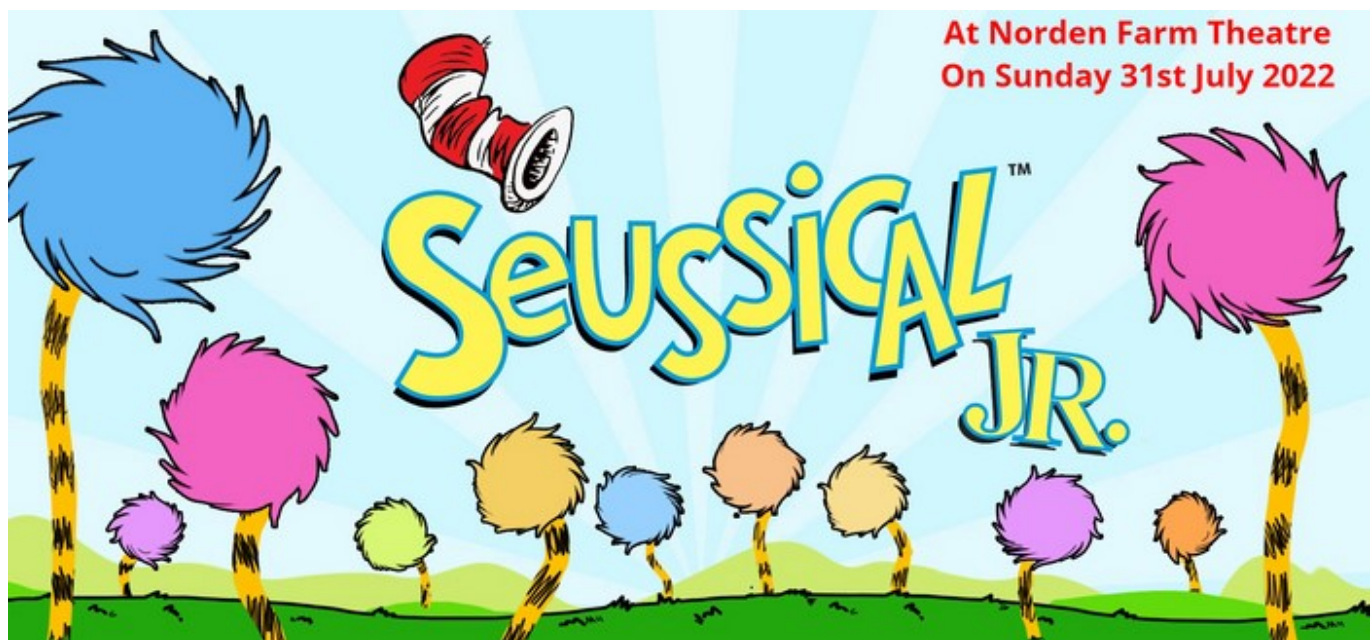
Vital water

Birds and other wildlife will flock to a bird bath topped up with fresh water * A wildlife pond of any size supports insects such as dragonflies, and may attract frogs or newts * Drought-resistant plants such as lavender and rosemary need less water while attracting wildlife

Garden management

Buy only peat-free compost or make your own * Garden naturally, without pesticides or toxic slug pellets, and avoid chemical weed-killers * Save water with a rainwater butt * Give hedgehogs access and transit through your garden boundaries

For more information, visit
www.wildmaidenhead.org.uk/waga



**At Norden Farm Theatre
On Sunday 31st July 2022**

The ticket link is below for showings at 3:30pm or 4:30pm:

<https://stagestubs.com/gb/entertainarts-ltd/seussical>

Struggling with the cost of living?

www.rbwm.gov.uk



If you are struggling financially and having to make difficult decisions – help is available.

Please visit www.rbwm.gov.uk/here-to-help to see what support might be available to you. If you aren't online, call 01628 683800 or visit your library





STARTRACK CAMP!

Startrack Camp is all athletics based activities, for ages 5-13!

Summer 2022

25th-29th July / 1st-5th August
8th-12th August / 15th-19th August

09:00-15:00
Extended hours *8:30am - 5pm*



Get booking for the Summer holidays so your kids can have some fun!



For more information email kidsactivities@deleisure.com

Future Talent Sports

ATHLETICS



NEW SKILLS



LEARN & DEVELOP



MAKE FRIENDS



HAVE FUN



GAIN CONFIDENCE



SESSIONS ARE BACK ON THIS WEEK!

Summer Activities



Date and Time	Activity	Description	Cost
Monday 25th July 9:30am-3:30pm	Samba Drums Extravaganza!	Come and join a samba band for the day! This course is ideal for anyone who enjoys music with exciting, funky beats and who loves playing and performing music in a group. You will learn how to play the different percussion instruments of the samba, work with one of our inspiring percussion teachers, and get to meet new friends. No previous percussion experience is needed. The day will finish with a short performance to parents. For 8-14 year olds, no previous drumming experience required	£50
Tuesday 26th July 9:30am-3:30pm	Soundstage Jumpstart	Calling all drummers, electric guitarists, bassists, keyboard players and singers! Jump into the exciting world of playing or singing in a rock and pop band, and learn to play some classic tracks with one of our experienced Soundstage teachers. If you love your lessons on guitar, bass, drums, keys, or voice, and want to use your skills to put on a real show then this is the perfect way to get started. Suitable for 8-14 year olds who have 1 or more year's learning experience on their instrument.	£50
Wednesday 27th July 9:30am-3:30pm	Chart Toppers	Do you love to sing? Yes? Then you'll love our choir workshop days! Bringing together fantastic chart hits on one day, and favourites from West End shows on the other, these will be two exciting, high-energy days led by two of our experienced vocal team. Participants are welcome to attend one or both of the days, and each day will finish with a short performance to parents. Suitable for all 8-14 year olds who love to sing!	£50 for one day or £75 to attend both days
Thursday 28th July 9:30am-3:30pm	A Day at the West End		
Friday 29th July 9:30am - 3:30pm	Movie Mayhem Wind Band	Movie Mayhem is a day of musical fun for younger woodwind, brass and percussion players. You will learn to play new pieces of music from the movies, play games and make new friends who enjoy playing music as much as you do! Suitable for pupils working towards grade 1 up to pupils of grade 4 standard.	£50

Scan here to book!



All courses are held at our Reading Music Centre,
Stoneham Court, 100 Cockney Hill, Reading, RG30 4EZ

You will need to bring your instrument (where applicable) and water,
lunch and snacks for the day.

For more information email courses@berkshiremaestros.org.uk