

# FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #70.11



#### MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

### **Sports Day**

On Thursday we had our Sports Day with lots of hard-fought competition for medals and House points. Congratulations to all our students who performed so well and to their peers for offering such support. It was great to see so many smiles during the events and medal ceremony.







There was also some humour as well with staff competitions and the unveiling of our House Mascots. Many thanks to Lynn Hawkins, Head of Art and Technology, whose expertise has turned our students' drawings into three dimensional costumes.

### **Year 12 Mock Interviews**

I would like to thank the many members of our community who supported our mock interviews this week, giving up time to help Year 12 prepare for future employment. I know that there were a few nerves, but I understand that our students made a good impression, as well as being given several pointers as to how they could improve their interview techniques moving forward.

Continuing the employment theme, I hope Year 12 enjoy their work experience next week.

### **Transition Days**

On Tuesday and Wednesday we had the pleasure of welcoming our new Year 7 students to FPSS for their Transition Days. They made a very positive first impression and I hope they came home with many tales of their new



### Next week (Week 2)

Year 12 Geography Fieldtrip -SUN 9 - WED 12 Nettlecombe

### Forthcoming Events

<b>MON 10 - FRI 14</b> JULY	Year 12 Work Experience Week	
TUE 11 JULY	INSET Day - School closed for all year groups	
WED 12 JULY	Year 9 Enrichment Afternoon	
THU 13 JULY	Year 10 Enrichment Afternoon	
TUE 18 - THU 20	Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition	
WED 19 - THU 20 JULY	Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition	
FRI 21 JULY	End of term	8.40am - 12.30pm

### **SCHOOL TERM DATES**

school, teachers and new classmates. They were all asked to make their parents and carers a cup of tea and share stories. I hope most completed this first piece of homework/ home learning (more details and pictures on page 3).

### Art, Photography and Technology Exhibition

Alongside many members of our community, on Thursday evening I had the delight of marvelling at the skill and creativity of our students. It was fantastic to see all the work on show. Many congratulations to the students and staff whose combined efforts have realised such a display. The finalists of our January Art and Photography House competition were also on show, the theme was Happiness.



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### **Greenpower Racing**

Congratulations to all our students who raced last weekend in the Greenpower car or were part of the pit crew at Ford Dunton Technical Centre in Essex, a new circuit for the team. For some of our Year 11's this was the last opportunity to race, but nevertheless everyone was in high spirits. I hear it was a tricky circuit with a few sharp turns.





I am pleased to report that the team finished impressively in both their races.

#### Year 10

During the strike days this week, there was a particular focus on Year 10. They have 50 weeks until their Prom, Graduation and their examinations are over. On Wednesday we showed them what next year would involve, explained how their focus needs to shift and shared some of the support on offer to them. Most importantly, we reiterated that parents and carers, along with FPSS staff, want to work with them to ACHIEVE excellent results. More details will be sent out to Year 10 parents and carers in due course.

### **INSET Day, Tuesday 11th July**

Finally, a reminder that we have an INSET day on Tuesday and school will be closed for all year groups; however our Year 12 Work Experience and Year 12 Geography trip to Nettlecombe will take place as planned.

Take care.

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

### YEAR 8, 9 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 directly to Go 4 Schools www.go4schools.com and selecting Parents or by clicking the link below which takes you to our website and includes our latest Guidance to Grading document.

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

**REPORTS & GUIDANCE FOR GRADING** 

### **REWARD TRIPS**

During the academic year students are encouraged to earn points through their behaviour, class and homework ethic, effort, presentation and much more all embodying our ACHIEVE values. There are many rewards put in place through the academic year for those who have tried hard in these areas.

Well done to those students who collected the most points in each year group and who were treated to a day out at Thorpe Park.











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### Winners Fortnight 2 - VERSATILITY **Points**

Individuals: Whole School winner

(£10 voucher and chocolate bar)

Year 7 Akeeb Hussain 7RJW

Year Groups (All to get chocolate bar)

Year 8 - Aleks Koziak 8SEM

Year 9 - Miguel Hope 9CRR

Year 10 - Jon Sanchez Ansuategui 10JOH

Sixth Form - Maddie Sellman 6FGN

### **Tutor Groups**

Whole School (Biscuits and front of queue pass)

7RJW: Mr Wright's form

Year Groups (All to get biscuits)

8SEM \* 9GM \* 10NIC \* 6FGN



#### YEAR 6 TRANSITION

This week we welcomed 260 Year 6 students who will be joining the Furze Platt Senior School community in September as our new Year 7's.

On day 1 students were given the opportunity to take part in a range of different lesson from Maths, Science and English all the way through to Music, Languages, Drama and Tech. The students really enjoyed their lessons and started to form some great friendships within their Houses.





Day 2 saw students taking part in a range of different team building activities in the first FPSS Transition Escape Room. Students completed a number of tasks based onour ACHIEVE values and won awards for their new Houses. Activities included: being ambitious by building a free standing 30cm tower out of spaghetti and marshmallows, showing their collaboration skills by finding 10 words on a tricky Geography wordsearch and showing endurance by completing 30 press ups.

Students had tours around the school site to find out where they will find all their lessons next year. In the final assembly all the points from the two days were added up, and the winning House was

Falcon House.



We had two fantastic days, and we look forward to welcoming the new Year 7s in September.

### STUDENT SPORTING SUCCESS



### **ENGLISH SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS**



Well done to Furze Platt students Demari Gumbs Year 12 (Bronze, 400m Hurdles, pictured), Frank McGrath Year 13 (5th, 3000m) and Brogan McCafferty Year 13 (5th, 100m) who all competed in the recent English Schools Championships.



## WINNER OF U15's SOUTHERN REGIONAL FINAL MCC FOUNDATION

MCC's Foundation National Hub Programme provides coaching and match play for talented cricketers age 11-16.



Last weekend Jake Wilson (Year 10) scored an impressive 51 not out for Reading U'15s against Norwich, to win the Southern Regional final.

The final of the National Hub Competition takes place at Lords cricket ground on 29th July. Good luck Jake!







Clubs for next week can be found on the link below. Please note there will be no clubs on Tuesday as it is an Inset Day.

### SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLINICS **SCHEDULE 2023**



**NEWS FROM ECO CLUB** AND **GARDENING** CLUB



This term Eco Club and Gardening Club have been collaborating on adding a wetland habitat to the nature garden. A significant amount of soil has been dug out and the hole lined with a donated pond liner.



The above photo shows students in Eco Club piercing the liner for drainage and then adding grit so the holes stay open to allow water to escape slowly. The next stage is to fill it back up with soil and plant it up with wetland species of plants.





Charity Number 287878



**FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO EVERYONE WHO** DONATED OR PURCHASED UNIFORM AND KIT, AND / OR HELPED TO SET **UP. SERVE OR CLEAR DOWN FOR** THIS FUNDRAISING EVENT, WHICH WAS ORGANISED BY OUR PTFA.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO LORRAINE AND ALL THE PTFA TEAM FOR ALL THEIR HARD WORK THROUGHOUT,

> FOR RAISING IN EXCESS OF A **FANTASTIC**

> > £4,300

### FEEDBACK AND IDEAS WELCOME - YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND US!

https://www.facebook.com/fpssptfa















'Pupils' relationships are shaped by the ACHIEVE values of the school, which stands for 'Ambitious, Collaborative, Happy, Integrity, Endurance, Versatility, Excellence'.'

Ofsted 2021

