

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #70.9







MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Year 11 Graduation

On Wednesday we were able to say goodbye to our Year 11 at their Graduation. It seems only a few years ago that I was welcoming students, parents and carers to FPSS. Now, the students are much bigger having grown emotionally and academically, as well as physically.



Along the way there has been laughter and joy, as well as upset and sadly tragedy. We remembered Max and Ollie who started with us in Year 7 and are sadly no longer with us.

With Covid and much more, there have been moments when things were tough, but students persevered showing considerable resilience and focus, particularly on the approach to their exams this summer.

However, school is about far more than results. In a school with 1700 staff and students, FPSS is about human connections and experiences and I hope that our Year 11 have fond memories of friendships and staff from trips, visits, performances, sports and much, much more.

I would like to thank the Worshipful, the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Councillor Neil Knowles, for being guest of honour. Also, our Chair of Governors, Hugh Steed, who negotiated being a parent as well as governor by handing over to Frank Abagnale Jnr for his message to students. Frank is a renowned fraud prevention expert, best selling author, FBI consultant and subject of Spielberg's 'Catch Me If You Can' movie. This video can be found by clicking the link under the calendar on this newsletter or on our school website.

Finally, thank you to all the parents and carers who passed on fabulous messages of appreciation for our staff who have supported their children over the last 5 years.



Forthcoming Events

TERM 6 EVENTS

NEXT WEEK: WEEK 2

MON 26 JUNE	Year 5 Open Morning	8.40am- 12.30pm
TUE 27 JUNE	Year 7 Enrichment Afternoon	1.45pm - 3.15pm
WED 28 JUNE	Enhanced Transition Day	8.40am - 3.15pm
THU 29 - FRI 30 JUNE	Year 12 Taster Days	
SAT 1 JULY	Grand Uniform Sale - PTFA	11am - 2pm
TUE 4 - WED 5	Year 6 Taster Days	
TUE 4 JULY	Year 6 Parents' Q&A / Drop In Evening	6.30pm - 8pm
SUN 9 - WED 12 JULY	Year 12 Geography Fieldtrip - Nettlecombe	
MON 10 - FRI 14 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	
	Art Show	
MON 17 JULY	Sports Award Evening	6.30pm - 7.30pm
TUE 18 - THU 20 JULY	Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Assessment	
WED 19 - THU 20 JULY	Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Assessment	
FRI 21 JULY	END OF TERM (TERM 6)	12.30pm finish

SCHOOL TERM DATES





Year 11 Prom

On Thursday we saw some amazing dresses and suits (as well as spray tans, make-up and hairstyles) at our Year 11 Prom at Windsor Racecourse. Students arrived in all manner of carriages with parents and carers proudly taking many photographs. Thank you to the team here at FPSS for organising such a fabulous event.

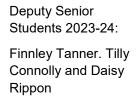
Student Leaders

Last week, I had the privilege of interviewing our Year 12 for our Student Leader positions in September. To be the lead students in a Sixth Form as large as FPSS is quite a honour and candidates had to go through a tough selection process speaking in front of staff and their peers, writing letters and being interviewed by the Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form. It was an incredibly difficult decision. I would like to congratulate all those who were successful, but also all those students who had the courage to step forward and want to lead.





Senior Students 2023-24: Pippa Largey and Kieran King









Thank you to this year's Senior Students Patrick Kelly and Anna Gambrill and Deputy Senor Students Martha Garner and Edwin Isted for their leadership throughout 2022-23.

Duke of Edinburgh

Finally, I am sure there are some tired bodies this weekend as students return from Silver and Bronze DoE expeditions.

I hope they all had a great adventure and many thanks to colleagues for making these expeditions happen.





Take care,

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





YEAR 12 CHEMISTRY

ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY COMPETITION

Our Year 12 Chemistry students recently took part in the Royal Society of Chemistry's 'Schools' Analyst Competition'. The competition not only raises the awareness of Chemistry but gives students an opportunity to develop and showcase skills they would need to progress to university and beyond.



The three rounds involved various analytical challenges and the questions really tested each student's chemical knowledge and their ability to apply what they know about the subject to real-world chemistry problems.





Head of Chemistry, Mr Frankis, said: "The Analyst Competition is a great way to get students used to different ways of problem solving and evaluating evidence. It also gives them an insight into the far reaching applications of chemistry and provides valuable preparation for how an understanding of experimental chemistry is assessed within an A-Level exam."

Sabrina Lee, A-Level Chemistry student added: "I'm really pleased I gave it a go! I found it interesting and insightful. It will definitely help me in the future."

The winning team from each school or college will receive a certificate to acknowledge their achievement and will receive a prize.

RSC SCHOOLS' ANALYST COMPETITION

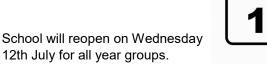
INSET DAY - TUESDAY 11TH JULY



Please be reminded that Tuesday 11th July is an INSET day and school will be closed to students.



12th July for all year groups.





YEAR 12 TASTER DAYS

THURSDAY 29TH AND FRIDAY 20TH JUNE

Students should meet at 8.30am in the Main Hall to receive timetables and information.

SHARE OFFER CLOSING SOON **DEADLINE MONDAY 3RD JULY**



MaidEnergy's community energy project to install 600 solar panels on the rooftop of Furze Platt Senior School has received a surge of support. A total sum of £177,000 has been secured from individuals and organisations in its share offer. MaidEnergy have now extended their share offering by an extra two weeks to raise the balance of the funds needed for this key project.

Co-Chair of MaidEnergy Richard Taylor said, "We want to see more local residents taking a stake in this fantastic project bringing cheaper energy to Furze Platt Senior School in our eighth successful energy project. An up to 5% interest is a great incentive to invest too!"

The project will provide locally owned renewable energy to serve the community; benefit the environment by lowering CO2 emissions; offer lower energy bills for Furze Platt Senior School; and provide a return for shareholders. Income will be earned from electricity generated by the solar panels and MaidEnergy expect 70% to be sold to the school with the rest exported to the grid. The school will pay a fixed price linked to inflation, while the export price will vary according to market conditions.

Shares can be purchased from £100. Closing date for purchasing shares is Monday 3 July 2023.https://www.maidenergy.coop/ shareoffer2023

GRAND UNIFORM SALE 11AM-2PM

SATURDAY 1ST JULY IN MU2



Donations of logo'd kit can be dropped into reception, to the PTFA blue containers.





We need your help to run this successful annual event please:

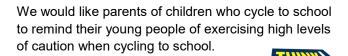
- 10 people for setup Friday 5.30-7.30pm
- 10 for the sale Saturday 11am-2pm

Plus, more help will be needed in advance to quality check and launder.

Please see our PTFA article on page 5 for further details.



CYCLING TO SCHOOL



They should be courteous of other road users, be aware of safe cycling practice and wear cycling helmets.

The link below provides some useful guidance for safe cycling.

CYCLE SAFETY TIPS AND ADVICE

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you think your child may be entitled to Free School Meals (which comes with additional financial benefits) please fill in the application form:

FREE SCHOOL MEALS APPLICATION

All applications are treated in the strictest confidence. Your eligibility status will appear on screen within minutes, but can take up to 48 hours to validate, and the school is also notified of the outcome. There is no need to bring any documentation into school. The current daily allowance for free school meals is £2.50.

If you do not have access to the internet or would like help with the form please contact us at fsm@furzeplatt.net.

Please note: The school also receives additional funding if your child is eligible for Free School Meals, so we strongly encourage you to take up this entitlement.









233474

237424

241902

251433

HOUSE WINNERS - VERSATILITY

Well done to the following Houses, students and forms who have been particularly versatile in finding solutions using adaptivity, creativity and resourcefulness:

Houses:

Hawk House: 3248 Week

Falcon House: 3166 Osprey House: 3023

Eagle House: 3008

Students:

Winner - Whole School: Year 8 Frayne Pinho 8LED Osprey (wins a £10 voucher and a chocolate bar)

Year Group Winners who all receive a chocolate bar:

Year 7 – Eleanor Smith 7TJC (Eagle)

Year 9 – Trey Hamilton 9CRR (Falcon)

Year 10 – Finlay McLaughlin 10JOH (Eagle)

Sixth Form - Rafael Orford 6CT (Hawk)

Tutor Groups:

Winner - Whole School:

8SEM (win biscuits and a front of lunch queue pass)

Year Group Winners:

7HNB * 9DAT * 10JOH * 6DJ















TERM 6 CLUBS AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLINICS:

Parents and carers of students in all year groups will have received invitations for their son / daughter 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.

SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLINICS SCHEDULE 2023

GARDENING CLUB

Gardening club have been out and about this week to a local allotment.

Mrs E Brugge kindly demonstrated bee keeping which was fascinating for students and staff alike.







Thank you to everyone involved, we had a very interesting time seeing what is produced locally.

'The school is rightly
proud of its
extra-curricular
provision.'

IT'S BEEN ANOTHER SIZZLING WEEK IN THE SUN LET'S MAKE THE NEXT FEW WEEKS STZZLE WITH YOUR HELP...EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS!





Charity Number 287878

SATURDAY Ist JULY 2023 I IAM-2PM

NEARLY NEW UNIFORM SALE



Logo'd uniform in clean and saleable condition required via school reception.

Year II families - please drop in uniform after the exams!

Helpers required Friday and Saturday - ten per day. Sixth Formers and DofE students also welcome.

Friday: 5.30pm - 7.30pm Saturday: I I am - 2pm

Have fun and help our school raise funds!

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



https://www.facebook.com/fpssptfa









Science Technician Level One To start 1st September 2023

Permanent, Part time, 30 hours a week, start time 8:30am, finish time 3pm. (negotiable/includes a half hour unpaid break). Monday to Friday, term time only plus two INSET days.

Actual salary £15,565 - £15,845pa (pay award pending) 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 offer a friendly and harmonious campus, and we support the physical and mental wellbeing of all our staff. Discounted membership is available for the use of a fully equipped and well-maintained gym on-site. All staff have access to an employee advice programme which offers information, resources and a counselling service. We reward long service and encourage community spirit and staff involvement through various social events including orienteering, murder mystery quizzes, sports after school and a Furze Platt fantasy football league. Tea and coffee are free, and freshly brewed coffee is available in the main staff room at break times with edible treats to help you through the week!

We would like to find someone to work with our science technician team who prepare and maintain all science teaching areas and equipment for teachers and their students. With guidance and considerable training, you will support with the preparation of materials, equipment, and other resources for practical lessons and possibly after school activities. You will also help with the clearing away after lessons and the replenishment of stock. Other responsibilities include washing glassware, ensuring the science prep room is clean and tidy and assisting with compiling of inventories and equipment.

We are looking for a team player who would like to work within a science technician team and if the opportunity arises would be keen to progress within the department, possibly specialising in the preparation of lessons for a specific science subject. If you can prioritise, work under pressure and would enjoy the chance to work in a school environment where no two days are the same, 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.

Closing date: 9am Monday 26th June 2023 Interviews will take place: as soon as is practicable

AMBITIOUS $^{f V}$ COLLABORATIVE $^{f V}$ $^{f H}$ APPY $^{f V}$ $^{f I}$ $^{f N}$ $^{f E}$ $^{f N}$ $^{f U}$ $^{f E}$ $^{f V}$ $^{f E}$ $^{f X}$ $^{f C}$ $^{f E}$ $^{f X}$ $^{f C}$ $^{f E}$ $^{f X}$



Learning Support Assistants To start as soon as possible

between 3.15/3.45pm (includes a half hour unpaid break). Monday to Friday, term time only plus two INSET days (flexibility with hours is negotiable) Actual Starting Salary £16,730

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 offer a friendly and harmonious campus, and we support the physical and mental wellbeing of all our staff. Discounted membership is available for the use of a fully equipped and well-maintained gym on-site. All staff have access to an employee advice programme which offers information, resources and a counselling service. We reward long service and encourage community spirit and staff involvement through various social events including orienteering, murder mystery quizzes, sports after school and a Furze Platt fantasy football league. coffee are free, and freshly brewed coffee is available in the main staff room at break times with edible treats to help you through the week!

We are looking for enthusiastic and reliable individuals to join our Core Learning Support team who provide targeted support to our students with Special Educational Needs within the mainstream school, or our Shine team, providing targeted support to our students with an autistic spectrum condition diagnosis in the ASC Resource Base.

You would be working under the direction of the SENCO or Shine teachers, and classroom teachers to provide support for individual students across key stages 3 to 5, in line with any agreed SEND or other specialist plans. Supporting small groups of students for interventions and mentoring nominated students is also a part of this role. You will help students develop their organisational, social and communication skills and help them gain access to the curriculum by ensuring effective use of differentiated instructions and tasks.

We are looking for team players, who can communicate sensitively and confidently with staff, students and parents/carers. This role would suit someone who is able to use their own initiative and who has strong organisational and time management skills. We would love to receive applications from anyone who is working with or has worked with students in a school setting and gained experience or knowledge of SEN (Special Educational Needs) or ASC (Autistic Spectrum Condition).

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.

Closing Date: ongoing

Suitable applicants will be interviewed as soon as possible

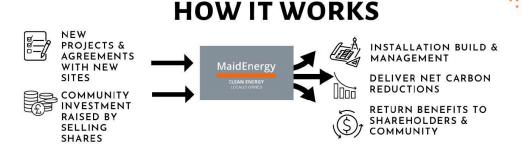


Invest in the Future with MaidEnergy's Latest Low Carbon Share Offer!

MaidEnergy is excited to announce the launch of their latest community share offer for a pioneering solar project at Furze Platt Senior School. As a not-for-profit organisation committed to introducing renewable energy to some of the borough's most-used buildings, MaidEnergy's new share offer will fund the installation of 240kW of solar PV on the roof of the school. This represents MaidEnergy's biggest installation to date and will provide long-term, secure renewable energy supply to Furze Platt Senior School at a fixed low cost.

So why should you invest in this project?

The world needs more green energy to replace fossil fuels as an energy source. As a local investor, you have the opportunity to make a tangible impact on your community by supporting locally owned renewable energy that will benefit both the environment and the local economy. Investing in MaidEnergy's community share schemes will provide returns to shareholders, with surplus funds put towards future projects.



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

COMMUNITY ENERGY BENEFITS SO FAR



RAISED FROM 220 INVESTORS SINCE 2015



OF SOLAR/GROUNDSOURCE ENERGY INSTALLED FROM SEVEN COMMUNITY BUILDINGS



SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS TO DATE: 7 SOLAR PV INSTALLS AND 1 GROUND SOURCE HEAT PUMP

In summary

- ✓It's an ethical investment in a green project with clear benefits to the community in energy saving
- ✓ History of successful projects in the borough bringing 444kw of solar and groundsource energy with £691k invested since 2015
- ✓ Share scheme regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)
- ✓ Backed by Climate Partnership CIC with a commitment to invest £40k
- ✓ Endorsed by the Education Funding Agency clear link between your money and the benefit it provides
- ✓ Awarded Community Shares Standard Mark from the Community Shares Unit for share offers that meet national standards of good practice.

Take part in our community share offer

In their eighth project since 2015, MaidEnergy will again open the share offer to local investors for a six-week period from 10 May 2023 to fund the project. The share offer allows investors to purchase shares for £1 each, there are 280,000 shares available to raise the expected funding to deliver the project. The projected annual return on shares is 5% over 15 years.



MaidEnergy MaidEnergy is a Community Benefit Society, Reg 30926R. Prince Albert House, 20 King Street, Maidenhead SL6 1DT

www.maidenergy.coop

COME AND JOIN US!





Job fair featuring the Council, AfC and Optalis
Maidenhead Library
St Ives Road, Maidenhead SL6 1QU
Tuesday 27 June 2023, 10am – 2pm

Come and find out about the vacancies in our wide range of service areas and see what the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead can offer you. There will be roles working for the council and for our partners Optalis (Adult's services) and Achieving for Children (Children's services). We look forward to seeing you there.







Follow us on Facebook RBWM

Follow us on Twitter @RBWM



LEISURE FOCUS



CONTACT US
www.leisurefocus.org.uk
furzeplatt@leisurefocus.org.uk
101 Furze Platt Rd,
Maidenhead SL6 7NQ
01628 965754

GYM ACCESS FOR £9.99 A MONTH

Our brand new fixed membership will grant students between the ages of 13 to 16 access to our gym between 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm.

*Please note this membership will only be available during term time and on weekdays only.