

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

A Reward Assemblies

This week it has been a delight to attend some of the Year Group assemblies celebrating achievements in Term 1. I have enjoyed seeing the smiles on students' faces as they are recognised for their efforts and have received medals, certificates and, on occasion, chocolate. More details of our 'Stars of the Term' are on page 6 of this newsletter.



Many congratulations to all students who have achieved awards and good luck to others who will be aiming to do likewise next term.

Year 11

On Thursday we held our first in-person whole year group Parents Evening since Covid. It was a pleasure to welcome Year 11 students, parents and carers as we reviewed progress, celebrated successes and set targets for the next few months as we lead up to examinations next summer.

One of the first of these targets is the Year 11 PPEs commencing with Art and Photography on Thursday 9th November, followed by the written papers on Monday 13th November. This is an important opportunity for students to identify which knowledge and skills are secure and which need more work before next May. Good luck to Year 11 with their revision.

West Wittering Geography Trips

This week our Year 9 students all explored West Wittering beach as part of their Geography course. It was lovely to see students translating their theoretical skills into a real world environment and I would like to thank all students and staff for their engagement with this visit.

Inter-House Rugby

This week has also seen more competitive action in the form of the Inter House Tag Rugby tournaments. It has been great to see the skills on show with some superb

**UPCOMING EVENTS****ALL EVENTS****Term 2 Events**

MON 23 - FRI 27 OCTOBER	Half Term Holidays	
MON 30 OCTOBER	Start of Term 2 (Week 2)	8.40am start
FRI 10 NOVEMBER	PTFA Big Quiz (see page 10 for details and booking link)	7.30-10pm
MON 20 NOVEMBER	Careers Fortnight	
THU 23 NOVEMBER	Sixth Form Open Evening	6pm - 9pm
FRI 24 NOVEMBER	Late Start	9.15am
TUE 28 NOVEMBER	Careers and Higher Education Fair (CHEF)	6pm - 8pm
THU 30 NOVEMBER	Year 12 Parents' & Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm
WED 6 DECEMBER	Year 9 & 10 Performing Arts Theatre Trip	4.30pm - 10pm
WED 7 DECEMBER	Year 7 Parents' & Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm
WED 13 DECEMBER	Christmas Concert	7.30pm - 9pm
FRI 15 DECEMBER	End of Term 2 - Early finish	12.30pm finish
MON 17 - TUE 2 DECEMBER - JANUARY	Christmas Holidays	
WED 3 JANUARY	INSET Day - School closed for all year groups	
THU 4 JANUARY	Start of Term 3	8.40am start

SCHOOL TERM DATES

team displays.

Half Term

Finally, I wish all the FPSS community a fantastic Half Term next week. I hope that you are all able to do something memorable and enjoy time with friends and family.

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

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 23RD NOVEMBER
6PM - 9PM

Careers & Higher Education Fair

CHEF 2023

Tuesday 28th November, 6pm - 8pm

YEAR 11 AND 12 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.

VIEW REPORT & GUIDANCE TO GRADING



SENIOR MATHS CHALLENGE

On Tuesday 3rd October our Year 12 and Year 13 Maths students participated in the National Senior Maths Challenge. Our students embraced the challenge and displayed great ambition, endurance and excellence in participating in the competition. They really lived up to the ACHIEVE values of the school through their participation in this national competition. As usual, our students did very well and 33 received either a Gold, Silver or Bronze award. Jamie Motion in Year 13 performed extremely well and as a result qualified for the Andrew Jobbings Senior Kangaroo competition to be held on 15th November 2023. We wish him the very best in the competition. Isambard Medhurst achieved the best in Year 12. We, as a Maths department, are so proud to offer our Sixth Form Maths students this enrichment opportunity and are equally proud of their excellent achievements in these competitions.

In the picture are some of our award winners.



Mr JH Langenhoven (Maths Enrichment Coordinator)

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS

Bronze Award – Year 9

Silver Award – Year 10

Gold Award – Year 12

We are delighted to let you know that we are offering the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE) to students in Year 9 this year, the Silver Award to our Year 10 students and the Gold Award to students currently in Year 12.

The DofE is a great chance for your child to broaden their horizons, discover new interests and talents, have fun with friends, develop essential skills for their future and achieve an internationally renowned Award.

Every young person's DofE programme is personal to them – they can choose what they'd like to do for their Skills, Volunteering and Physical sections, and most activities can count. Completion of these sections will primarily be the responsibility of the students taking part and students can either choose to continue an activity they already do or discover something completely new. Activities should be selected as soon as possible. The activities pack or the DofE page on our website can provide suggestions for the sections.

For more information please click below.

BRONZE DOFE

SILVER DOFE

GOLD DOFE

HOW TO FIND AND PAY FOR TRIPS AND OTHER ITEMS IN PARENTMAIL

SEE MORE ABOUT DOFE

Miss D Carty, DofE Manager



'The safety, welfare and well-being of the whole school community form a priority for leaders at the school.'

Ofsted 2021



TERM 2 CLUBS 2023-24



Clubs for next term were sent out today, Friday 20th October. Please do not delete these emails as new clubs may be added throughout the term and you will need to book via the original link.

Parents and carers may wish to sign up to My EVOLVE for an overview of clubs, what's on etc – you can do this from the club or academic support clinic emails sent to you in two easy steps:

1. Click on the link in the email as usual to see clubs/clinics
2. Click 'create account' button.

Please note:

* once in the list of clubs or academic support clinics, click on the name of the activity or session you wish to book and press confirm

* please do not duplicate club bookings per session

* students in upper years may see invitations to academic clubs that are not part of their specific academic programme; emails are sent to year groups so please only choose sessions that are relevant to your son/daughter

Thank you.

SCHOOL CLUB LIST



Tuesdays

15.20 - 16.20

\$12

All Years

GARDENING CLUB

This week Gardening Club removed the cut grass (hay) from the school meadow. This will encourage the wild flowers to grow especially yellow rattle and poppies. It also

Cont. on page 4

reduces the fertility of the land and thereby discourages vigorous grasses.



Wednesdays

7.40 - 8.30

Fitness Suite

Years 7-11

MORNING FITNESS

Another great workout before the school day with our Morning Fitness Club!



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

Ofsted 2021

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS



TERM 1 IN THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

During the first term the Music department has seen some fantastic music making.

All our music clubs are in full flow with our ensembles preparing for the up-and-coming Christmas Concert on Wednesday 13th December. Our clubs will be performing a huge range of music from a Queen tribute all the way through to J.S. Bach. This gives our student the opportunity to perform in many different styles and take part in a public performance.

We have seen many students take advantage of our top-class visiting music teachers with over 80 students enrolled in lessons with Mrs Armstrong, Berkshire Music Trust, and RAD Music. This has seen an increase in students making music in the many practise rooms during their free time at break, before and after school.

We are excited by the commitment shown by the current cast of Guys and Dolls who have been working tirelessly during breaks to ensure the show is fantastic with many famous showstoppers such as 'Luck Be a Lady' and 'Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat' filling the Theatre and Performing Arts Departments for their performances in February. It is one not to be missed!

Because of the dedication of our students, we are proud to have been invited to be a Music Mark School. Invites are given to schools from the local music hub who have shown commitment to providing high-quality music education to all children and young people, something we are very proud to have been recognised for.

Open Evening saw many visitors pausing to listen to our Year 12 Sixth Form Music Students perform as part of their performance assessment with a number of people commenting on the high-quality music they were hearing. It was great to see our Year 10 GCSE music students and



PROUD TO BE A
MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL

2023 - 2024

Cont. on page 5

Year 9 students teaching prospective students how to play the ukulele, keyboard and even demonstrating how the music software works.

We are really looking forward to seeing and hearing how all our student develop in their musical journey and cannot wait for Term 2.

Mr S Forster, Head of Music



Picture above: Some Year 7 members of Junior Rockstars being taught how to perform the guitars by our Sixth Form Music Leader Callum.



Picture above: The Sixth Form performing in the studio at the Whole School Open Evening



GUYS AND DOLLS

Rehearsals for the School Musical 'Guys and Dolls', are well underway. 70 students are in the show and 15 students supporting in Tech Club. This week we performed what we have so far to Tech Club so they can see our 'vision' and start to design the costume, lighting and set. Students have been rehearsing every Tuesday after school and most second breaks and Wednesdays after school. We have an excellent show in the making and looking forward to showing you all in February!



DRAMA A LEVEL PERFORMANCES

Over the last week Drama students in both Year 12 and 13 have performed as part of their A level. Year 12 performed their first of three extracts across the course including Antigone, Macbeth, Othello and Medea. The students captivated their audience and should feel very proud of their first performances as Sixth Form students. Year 13 performed their devised pieces which counts towards 30% of their A Level. One group explored the Manhattan project and the creation of the atomic bomb, the other performed the historical event of the prisoner revolt at Auschwitz-Birkenau. Both groups used a physical theatre practitioner to perform their work. Students should be very proud of their hard work and dedication to their performances; it was a challenging and chilling evening for the audience with powerful pieces exploring strong messages. Well done to all Sixth Form Drama students.



STARS OF TERM 1

Well done to all our students who have made an exceptionally positive start!



YEAR 7

7AJK	James C
7BG	Mustafa AJ
7EED	Aleksandra G
7DAB	Raf C
7GCD	Abigaill A
7JHL	Hayden A
7KEB	Thea WD
7NAA	Alice Y
7SAI	Charlie C
Pastoral	Kaitlyn U

YEAR 8

8TAS	Seb S
8KAH	Rupert H
8KER	Hannah L
8CHP	Alexander B
8MEE	Charley S
8OSB	Erin B
8RJW	Maja C
8SH	Lily C
8TJC	Harry S
Pastoral	Jakub T
Pastoral	Josh LN

YEAR 9

9AND	Emily B
9CED	Jack B
9CHG	Tim B
9DNB	Jack S
9LDC	Aleks K
9LED	Abigail D
9MIG	Daisy H
9SVJ	Lucas B
9SVR	Hudson G
Pastoral	Emily B

YEAR 10

10CRR	Joshua T
10DAT	Noah T
10ELH	Dilraj R
10JAS	George N
10NOY	Noah M
10PEB	Piper W
10ROA	Nicole M
10SLH	Abraham D
10GM	Oscar M
Pastoral	Zuzanna P
Pastoral	Harley B
Pastoral	Anjeli R

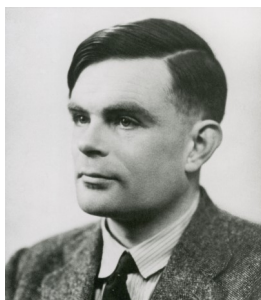
YEAR 11

11ALS	Juan MR
11AMH	Lily S
11AMN	Charlotte S
11ARL	Lizzie J
11JOH	Pacey T
11MAM	Rosita P
11NIC	Archie A
11RHT	Kai H
Pastoral	Salman B
Pastoral	Mununga M



TURING CHALLENGE RESULTS

Well done to students in Year 7, 8 and 9 for their Turing Challenge results:



YEAR 7

Year 7 winner:

Arush Seth from Osprey.

Place	House
1st	Osprey
2nd	Falcon
3rd	Eagle
4th	Hawk

YEAR 8

Year 8 winner:

Fraser Roberts from Osprey.

Place	House
1st	Osprey
2nd	Falcon
3rd	Eagle
4th	Hawk

YEAR 9

Year 9 winner:

Abigail Downes from Falcon.

Place	House
1st	Falcon
2nd	Osprey
3rd	Eagle
4th	Hawk

YEAR 11

Year 11 winner:

Edward Foxton from Falcon.

Place	House
1st	Falcon
2nd	Osprey

SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form winner:

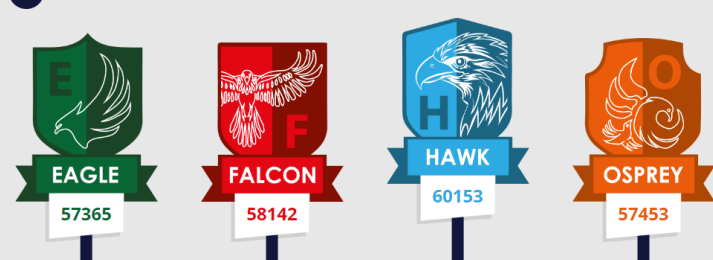
Finlay Palmer from Falcon.

Place	House
1st	Falcon
2nd	Hawk
3rd	Eagle
4th	Osprey

All of the students represented their Houses brilliantly.

HOUSE RESULTS SO FAR...

HOUSE POINTS



AUTISTIC GIRLS NETWORK

Tuesday 21st November, 7pm, School Theatre

We are joined by Cathy Wassell, who runs the charity, Autism in Girls Network, to talk about how girls are often diagnosed much later than boys due to misconceptions about how autism presents itself.

Cathy is the mother of a child with autism, who was only diagnosed aged 13 after a mental health crisis.

She can talk both personally and professionally and personally about the challenges of getting a diagnosis and gives practical tips and techniques for those who care for children and teenagers.

Ticket prices are £5 (to cover the cost of hosting Cathy at our theatre) and can be purchased via the [link https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/furzeplatttheatre](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/furzeplatttheatre) or QR code below.



BOOK TICKETS

For any other enquiries contact theatre@furzeplatt.net

Mrs M Holden

Theatre Manager

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

Ofsted 2021

FREE BREAKFAST FOR ALL STUDENTS AT FPSS

As part of our school provision, the FPSS Pastoral Team and the Innovate Canteen Service believe it is vital to ensure that all students are given a healthy and sustaining breakfast to set them up for success over the school day. **Therefore, all students at FPSS are entitled to a free breakfast of porridge oats at school.** There will be a small surcharge for porridge toppings, and this will be covered for students in receipt of free school meals. This is a slight adjustment to the previous provision that was in place. The new breakfast provision will ensure that all students can access the support we are putting in place. Where families and students would prefer a different option for breakfast, the canteen will continue to provide alternatives including breakfast baps, rolls, pastries etc., and these will be charged to lunch money accounts as normal. Please note, for students in receipt of FSM, parents will need to add money onto their children's school lunch accounts (via ParentMail) to purchase these alternative breakfast items, as they cannot be bought using FSM lunch balances.

HOW TO TOP UP LUNCH MONEY IN PARENTMAIL

Best wishes for the school holiday,

Mr J Wellard-Jeffs Head of Geography and Pupil Premium Champion



BLACK HISTORY MONTH - OCTOBER 2023

Black History Month, which is in October each year, celebrates the contributions of Black people both here in the UK and across the world.

MARGARET BUSBY

Margaret Busby became Britain's first Black female book publisher (as well as the youngest) when she co-founded a publishing company in 1967.



To find out more about this literary pioneer, please visit:
<https://www.blackheroesfoundation.org/people/margaret-busby/>



URGENT REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEER DRIVERS MAIDENHEAD

I hope this message finds you well. I represent Reengage, a charity organisation dedicated to brightening the lives of our older lonely and isolated community through delightful and free tea parties. These gatherings are more than just events; they're a lifeline, offering a remedy to the loneliness and isolation many older individuals face in Maidenhead.

Currently, we're met with a pressing challenge: a shortage of volunteer drivers. This shortage means our precious older guests are at risk of missing their monthly dose of joy and connection. And this is where we hope your wonderful community can step in.

The commitment is minimal, but the impact is huge: just a few hours once a month can change the life of an older person.

If driving isn't quite your calling, we have numerous other volunteering roles that can truly make a difference.

PLEASE FIND MORE DETAILS AND THE SIGN-UP HERE

FOOD TECH DEPARTMENT REQUEST:

CAN YOU HELP?

Do you have any heroes/ quality street etc.. containers you could donate? Maybe after Halloween?!

Please leave them at our Main Reception after half term, thank you.



SIXTH FORM REQUEST



4 FPSS Sixth Formers are joining 70 Berkshire Scouts in Malawi next summer for 3 weeks helping to support the local communities by building schools and shelters, fixing and making waterholes and various community projects with [Joshua](#), a British charity.

2 of our Year 12s are arranging a Bags2School collection at the end of half-term and would appreciate any unwanted clothes, shoes and other items as below on Monday 30th and Tuesday 31st October.

Our Needs:

- Adult/Children Clothes
- Shoes
- Handbags/ Bags
- Curtains
- Hats/Belts
- Jewellery
- Soft Toys
- Towels
- Bedding
- Scarf/Ties
- Socks

There's a full list here including exclusions: <https://bag2school.com/what-we-collect>

Please bring to Sixth Form before registration after half-term on Monday or Tuesday.

HALLOWEEN 2023

A Police message for parents from Safeguarding Schools Officer

Halloween will soon be upon us again on 31st October, which this year falls on Tuesday after half term break. In previous years, we have had problems in the local area with anti-social behaviour caused by a small number of teenagers who think this period is an excuse to behave in a disorderly way. Examples include vandalism, graffiti, egg, flour, fruit and vegetable throwing, underage drinking and illegal use of fireworks.

Please speak with your children if they are planning to go out over the Halloween period to ensure you know where they will be going, who they will be with and what they plan to do.

In the lead up to this period there has again been a combined effort between a number of local agencies including Police and Local Authority to try to reduce any such problems. There will also be increased Police and Community Warden patrols during this period to reassure residents and deter any antisocial behaviour. If you see officers and wardens out and about please chat to them and

make them aware of any concerns. Those that do decide to behave in this way will be dealt with firmly.

Please also consider the safety of your children. Trick or Treat is really an activity for younger children who should always be escorted by a responsible adult. Ideally, arrangements should be made in advance with householders that are happy to receive them. In previous years a lit pumpkin outside the house has been used as an indication of this.

Teenagers should be aware that going around in large groups can be intimidating to many residents, road users and pedestrians. Elderly, vulnerable, very young and other members of the community can find Halloween a particularly worrying time as they receive repeated calls at their door. Many residents do not want to receive Trick or Treaters at this time and their privacy and peace should be respected and not result in them becoming targets for abuse and vandalism.

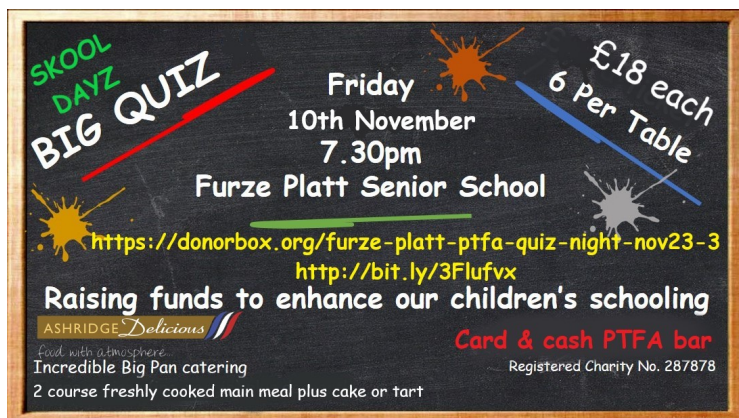
To report a crime in an emergency please dial 999, in all other cases please dial 101 or complete a report online at www.thamesvalley.police.uk





Contact us

Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fpsptfa>



QUIZ AND HOT BUFFET DINNER

Friday 10th November
7.30pm – 10pm

Main School Hall.

Deadline to book: Thursday 2nd November

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW: <https://donorbox.org/furze-platt-ptfa-quiz-night-nov23-3>

The PTFA warmly invite you to an informal, social, fun event to enjoy a Quiz and freshly cooked hot meal.

Tables of up to 6 people pit their wits against each other to win a team prize. You can make a team of your own or come along and join another group.

We'll run a **RAFFLE** on the night too, so bring some cash to win prizes!

HELP REQUIRED FOR THE QUIZ & DINNER – please email us asap: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

THANK YOU TO ALL MEMBERS IN THE 200 CLUB AND SIGNED UP TO EASYFUNDRAISING – YOU MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE.

THERE'S SPACE FOR MORE MEMBERS SO CLICK THROUGH NOW -

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/furzeplattsenior>

JOIN THE 200 CLUB - £5 PER MONTH

Uniform Co-ordinator is Carina Charles (Year 8 parent). Please email your requests to: PTFAUniform@furzeplatt.net and Carina will get back to you. Please add this email address to your 'safe senders list'.

Secretary and 200 Club Administrator is Gill Healey (Year 10 parent). Notifications will be emailed from: PTFA200Club@furzeplatt.net Please add this email address to your 'safe senders list'.

TEAM
TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE

Learn to play an

**FREE
TASTER
SESSION**

Endangered Instrument

**LIMITED
OFFER**

Did you know some
instruments are in danger of extinction?

Groups and orchestras need more of them
but there are currently not enough players of these
rare breeds!

We are offering a very special discount to anyone who wants
to commit to saving our endangered species.
Spaces are limited so early registration is strongly advised!

New learners can benefit from:

HALF PRICE group lessons for a term
(£45 off individual lessons)

FREE instrument hire for two terms
50% OFF first term of a Let's Play Ensemble
to be used when they are ready to join!

Endangered Instruments

French Horn Tuba Trumpet Euphonium
Trombone Cornet Tenor Horn Baritone

Choose 'school' or 'music centre'
when registering and add use the code:
ENDANGERED
in the comments box

www.berksmusictrust.org.uk

SEND parent and carer engagement workshop

**Tuesday
14 November 2023**

12pm to 1.30pm

**Windsor Youth and Community Centre,
65 Alma Road, Windsor SL4 3HD**



SEND Voices RBWM and Achieving for Children Education Team invite you to their next termly engagement workshop.

This is for parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). A chance for us all to meet and discuss education services and support for our children in RBWM.

Register for the workshop on [Eventbrite](#).



MOVING THROUGH PERIMENOPAUSE

A WORKSHOP

Book NOW

Sunday 5th November

2.30pm - 5.30pm

Maidenhead

Investment £49

- *Dr Katie Irvine GP*
- *Jenny McGuckian, Nutritional Therapist*
- *Kathryn Fish, Personal Trainer*



A workshop to inform, empower and connect

For women who are only just starting to think about menopause, as well as those who are really feeling tired, hormonal and irritable, and just don't know where to turn next.

Understanding our bodies is the best way to feel empowered and take control of our health and energy. Join us for a relaxed afternoon of discussion and your questions answered.

movehappyfitness.co.uk

[@movehappyfitness](https://www.instagram.com/movehappyfitness)

To book 'Moving through the Menopause' please click the link [here](#)



Kingfisher Table Tennis Academy

FREE Open Day

**Come & Join
the fun on:**

Sat 04 Nov 2023

Sun 05 Nov 2023

9:00am – 3:30pm

**Reading School | Erleigh Road
Reading | RG1 5LW**



All children ages 11-18 welcome



Book your slot now
by scanning the
QR code or visit our
website.

Discover the thrill of table tennis! Perfect for ages 11-18, this fast-paced sport offers an exciting blend of agility and strategy. Improve your hand-eye coordination, reflexes, and fitness while having a blast. Table tennis is an excellent choice for PE, GCSE, and A-level students to enhance physical and mental skills and make new friends.

We are offering a **FREE** table tennis bat worth £30 if you sign up to our programme at the open day.

Can't make it, you can join one of our taster sessions.



Contact **Raj Patel** on Tel: **07879 150 339** or
Email: **coaching@kingfishertabletennisacademy.com**
Web: **www.kingfishertabletennisacademy.com**



Registered with
FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR

Reg. Charity 118947

Alexander Devine's **SANTA DASH!**



Berkshire's best Santa Dash is back in Windsor!

Sunday 26th November



**Alexander
Devine**
Children's Hospice
Service



5km your way!

Run it, walk it, jog it, dance it!
Your dash.. your way!



www.alexanderdevine.org/santadash



HORLER

PROMO **TRADE** CO.

