



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thames Hospice Fundraising

Congratulations to Annie Towell (Head of Progress for Year 8) and Nic Jones (Head of Progress for Year 9) who ran the Thames Meander last weekend raising funds for Thames Hospice.



They are just two of the many members of our community raising funds to support Thames Hospice. Many thanks to all of you who have and will be donating over the next couple of weeks. We culminate with head shaving and gunging on Wednesday 20th March for our new fundraising target of £15,000 so please give what you can.



UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

NEXT WEEK - WEEK 2

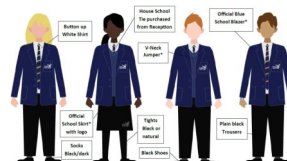
TERM 4 EVENTS

THU 21 MARCH	Year 10 Parents & Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm-7.15pm
TUE 26 MARCH	Spring Concert	7-9pm
THU 28 MARCH	END OF TERM (TERM 4)	12.30pm finish
FRI 29 - FRI 12 MARCH - APRIL	EASTER HOLIDAYS	
MON 15 APRIL	START OF TERM 5 (Week 1)	

SCHOOL TERM DATES

Uniform

In recent weeks I have noticed a minority of students making poor uniform choices. This includes an increase in hoodies, jewellery, trainers and non-school skirts. Our uniform is important in conveying our identity as a school so please could you support FPSS by ensuring your child is attending in the correct uniform which should include tie and blazer. I would like to see all our students and staff focused on learning, not basic expectations. Thank you for your support with this.



LINK TO UNIFORM RULES

Year 8 Consultation Evening

It was a pleasure to welcome Year 8 students, parents and carers to their Consultation Evening on Thursday. It was lovely to have another in-person event with the opportunity for students, families and FPSS staff to work together to praise the positives, as well as to highlight what areas students need to work upon.

Take care,

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



**OUR NEW TARGET
IS TO RAISE
£15,000
FOR**

Thames hospice

YOU CAN DONATE TO THAMES HOSPICE VIA THIS LINK



This is a very significant time for Year 11 students. As their examinations approach, the end is in sight, and students realise the importance of working hard in order to achieve the grades of which they are capable. Parents and carers are providing a great deal of support and motivation at home. Letters have been sent to parents and carers indicating what extra support and revision we are providing in school, and to explain what will be happening in the weeks running up to and during the exam phase.

Revision Packs

Revision resources for each subject are on FP-Cloud under Raising Achievement and Year 11. Within this site there are links to subject-specific revision websites, revision guides, how to revise tutorials, and past papers with their associated mark schemes, examiners' reports etc.

Easter Holidays 29.3.24 – 12.4.24

Deadline to book: Wednesday 27th March

Revision

The school will be open during the **Easter holidays** and staff will be offering a range of revision workshops. Details of these have been sent to Year 11 parents and carers this week via ParentMail and we **strongly encourage** all Year 11 students to attend. In the current financial climate we do need to ask for a flat £30 administration fee for all students who wish to attend. This is to cover organisation, staffing and resource production costs. Students who currently receive Free School Meals, or who have received them during their time at Furze Platt, are exempt from this fee.

Full details of how to pay, timetables and bookings can be found in the ParentMail letter.

Please complete the online booking form, which can be found here - <https://forms.office.com/e/H1Bunjdst4> by **Wednesday 27th March**.

Please take care to only select the revision classes that your child will definitely be attending – in order that we can prepare the correct volume of resources and ensure that we are in appropriately sized rooms. RA (Raising Achievement) revision workshops are by invitation only and students attending these sessions will be invited separately by Mrs Feather.

w/c 22.4.24: Exam Timetables

While students already have a draft exam schedule, during this week personalised exam timetables will also be given out. It is important that students check these thoroughly so they know when their exams are. Making a copy of this timetable is often a good idea. A public exams handbook for Students and Parents is available to download from the school website for guidance on all aspects of the exams season. Students will also receive the official JCQ exam regulations information with their timetables. We recommend that you discuss these with your son/daughter to ensure that they are absolutely clear about expectations of how they conduct themselves during exams.

9.5.24 – 22.5.23: Exam Phase 1

The main body of exams starts in full on Thursday 9th May. There will be a full revision / final preparation programme throughout the exam period, with subject-specific preparation sessions as short a time as possible before the exam. (This will normally be the afternoon before a morning exam or the morning before an afternoon exam – where it does not clash with another exam.) During *Exam Phase 1*, students will either be in an exam, a revision session for that exam or in their normal lessons. When in normal lessons, students will have a choice of either working with their teacher for that subject or to revise for another subject – quiet study will be expected. However, students will not be expected to attend tutor time and will thus not be required in school until 8.45am if they have a 9.00am exam or 9.10am if they are going to normal lessons or a revision session. When students have an afternoon exam they will be permitted to leave the school site as soon as the exam finishes.

23.5.24 – 19.6.24: Exam Phase 2

From Thursday 23rd May *Exam Phase 2* starts. During this phase students will attend their exams and the associated revision sessions. When they are not in an exam or a revision session they will have Home Study, where they will be expected to be working at home preparing for their next exam.

Details of the revision programme that will run during Exam Phases 1 & 2 will be published shortly after the exam boards confirm the final exam timetable.

Please take a few moments to review this information with your child, along with the Year 11 revision resources. If you have any queries, then please do not hesitate to contact me – either by phone (01628 625308) or email (james.dollery@furzeplatt.net).

Cont. on page 3

In addition, we will be running the final Elevate Education 'Finishing Line' workshop for Year 11 students next Tuesday 12th March, during their PSHE lesson period 3 (11:45-12:45).



Eight external presenters from Elevate Education will be delivering these sessions which will cover the following topics:

1. **Exam Focused Study (Removing all Blind Spots, Bulletproof Booklet, Using Examiner Reports)**
2. **Develop Deep Understanding (Exam techniques, Practice, Revision Partners – (Meet/Swap/Mark, Discuss Answers, Write Questions)**
3. **Stress & Wellbeing (Channelling Stress, Using Mindfulness [Body Scan & Meditation], Prioritising Health [exercise, Stimulants, breaks, Sleep Habits & f.lux App]**

Final stage planning and organisation (Positive routines & fresh study environments)

Elevate are also offering a Live Parent Webinar: How You Can Support Your Child During Exams on Tuesday 19th March 6-7pm.

This will cover:

- Helping your child prepare in the week before an exam
- Establishing a good routine for your child the night before
- Helping your child to optimise their exam performance

[Click here to register for free](#)

Best regards,

Mr J Dollery, Assistant Headteacher

YEAR 13 EXAMS

I would like to thank all parents and carers for your continued support of Year 13 as we move towards the exam period. So that you are aware:

We are 9 weeks away from the start of the exam period for Year 13 students (inclusive of Easter Holidays).

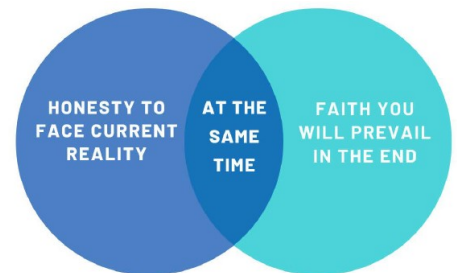
Students should be engaging with at least 9hrs per subject per fortnight (27 hours total) in 'normal' terms. This will need to ramp up as we get closer to the exams and research from Warwick University has suggested that high achieving students complete between 20 and 25 hours per week.

Students have been reminded of where they can find study skills support – these are available on the FP cloud (Year 12 TSS area) and on the Furze Platt website (the study board is particularly helpful):

SUCCESS IN THE SIXTH FORM

It is natural for students to feel high levels of stress at this time – it is hard work! We have discussed how taking responsibility for this and being proactive can assist with making this manageable. Creating a study timetable and planning for down time can be a real support mechanism.

The
Stockdale
Paradox =



If you have any further questions or concerns moving forward, then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Mr A Colmer, Head of Year 13

SECONDARY SCHOOL NATIONAL OFFER DAY

Deadline for Acceptance: Friday 15th March

Secondary school offer places were sent out recently to parents and carers. Acceptances needs to be made via RBWM by **Friday 15th March**. More details via the link below.

We look forward to meeting all our new students starting in September!

RBWM - MOVING UP TO SECONDARY SCHOOL



AROUND SCHOOL THIS WEEK

Students displaying all our
ACHIEVE values



Excellent work from our Year 10
GCSE Food Technology group working hard to
develop their fresh pasta techniques:



We had a fantastic afternoon yesterday diving into
chemistry with KS3 Science Club:



delving into Physics Revision with KS4:



and energetic vibes
at Year 7 netball
practice!

INTERMEDIATE MATHS CHALLENGE



On 31st January 2024, a number of our Year 9, 10, and
11 Maths students participated in the Intermediate Maths
Challenge.

As usual our students did very well and a good number of
our students received either a Gold, Silver, or Bronze
award.

Samuel Cranch in Year 11 did exceptionally well and
achieved the Best in School. Samuel, together with
Jacob Hopson and Benjamin Juden, qualified for the Pink
Kangaroo Maths Challenge on 21st March 2024. Aleks
Koziak in Year 9 also did excellently by qualifying for the
Grey Kangaroo Maths Challenge and achieved the
second highest in the school.

We wish all of them who qualified for the various
Kangaroo Challenges the very best in this competition.
In addition, George Norton achieved best in Year 10. We,
as a Maths department, are extremely proud to offer our
students these enrichment opportunities and are equally
proud of their excellent achievements in these
competitions.

In the pictures are some of our award winners.

Mr J Langenhoven, Teacher of Maths



WOMENS' HISTORY MONTH IN MUSIC

As part of Women's History Month, students will be exposed to a range of different female composers from different, cultures, eras and backgrounds.

This week KS3 students were introduced to Florence Price.

Florence was an Afro-American composer who had to deal with diversity in her life. She was told she could not be a composer because of her race and her gender. This did not deter Price who continued to compose until she had her 'big break' in in June 1933 where her composition was played by the world-renowned Chicago Symphony Orchestra, making her the first ever black female to have her composition played by a leading orchestra.

Florence was known for her fusion of Western Classical and West African rhythms. This week students have listened to Price's Symphony No.1 – Juba Dance. A fusion of American style, Western Classical orchestration (incorporating the Djeme drums), and West African rhythms. Have a listen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ooQ6YKbPiDQ>

As part of the month, students have been encouraged to use the QR code on our calendar of female composers to listen to something new and not they might normally listen to. Next week students will explore the music of Kate Bush as part of their listening tasks.



PROUD TO BE A
MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL
2023 - 2024

SPRING CONCERT

TUESDAY 26TH MARCH

More details coming soon!



YEAR 12 VISIT TO THE
UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

Brasenose
College
UNIVERSITY of OXFORD

Year 12 students who had expressed an interest in applying to the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge recently visited Brasenose College at the University of Oxford to hear about the application process, take part in a critical thinking workshop and meet current undergraduates.

Thank you so much to everyone who supported this trip, especially all those at Brasenose College.





County Cup

U14 Boys' Football

Our U14 football team beat a strong LVS Ascot team 1-0 this week in the County Cup.

Well done to Alfie Everson-Plant (Year 9) who scored the winner with just 10 minutes to go!



U13 Girls' Football

Our U13 Girls' team had fantastic results against Cox Green School with a 6-0 win and a 1-0 win against Newlands.

Furze Platt girls put in dominant performances in both games. Special mention to Izzy Keane (Year 8) as PoM.



U16 Boys' Basketball

Great game from our U16 Boys' Basketball team, narrowly losing to John Madejski Academy in Reading 69-53.

Great performances by both our U13B and U13G Hockey teams in the recent U13 Hockey Tournament. Both teams played very well and improved their performance after every game.

MVP for the girls goes to E Cutting (Year 7) who stepped up as goalkeeper (having never played before) and made some fantastic saves. The girls' team showed incredible endurance throughout the tournament.



The boys were very successful and made it to the plate semi-final where they narrowly lost to Eagle House School, the overall winners.

MVP voted by the players went to D Dev (Year 8) who played the majority of the tournament in goal, he made some incredible saves and was a complete natural. The boys played some fantastic hockey and showed great resilience.



Every student put in great work and was a real credit to the school - well done to all our teams on their sporting achievements.



INTERHOUSE CHALLENGE

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

Deadline: Friday 22nd March



We know that many of our students already take part in the wide variety of clubs that are run by the school and we get to celebrate these achievements passed on by your teachers.

However, there are many students that take part in extra-curricular activities/hobbies in their own free time outside of school and we don't necessarily hear about their achievements.

We want to take this opportunity to celebrate and reward students for the time and effort they put into these activities.



Since the introduction of our new ACHIEVE values we have learnt even more about the importance of taking care of our own mental health and happiness. A lot of our own happiness can be as a result of these activities and hobbies that we enjoy and spending time with the people we enjoy them with! These could range from reading, horse-riding, competing on bikes to singing, dancing, fishing, cadets.....and so the list goes on.

To take part in this Interhouse Challenge, all students have to do is submit a photo which shows them enjoying/taking part in an activity outside of school.

It could be celebrating a specific achievement, passing a particular exam or just showcasing how they fill their time effectively outside of school.



All suitable submissions will receive an R3 as recognition for a sustained achievement.

Students should submit their photographs to Miss Holmes (Art 2).

Their FULL NAME and HOUSE must be on the back of the photograph with a brief description of the activity (if not obvious), if this is celebrating a particular achievement and how long they have been taking part in this extra-curricular activity. Students must check they have permissions if any other people are pictured..

Please note: Photographs must be printed and not emailed as we do not have time to print them all off individually but students can use any of the printers in school at a break time.



So who might you want to get their head shaved?



Mr Gill



Dr Graham



Mr Harrison



Mr Wright



Mr Sheppard



**20 MARCH
2024
HEAD
SHAVING**



Many congratulations to all our winners this week!

Winners Fortnight 1

Integrity Points

Whole School (Wins a £10 Amazon voucher)

Year 7 – Harrison Fuller 7SAI

Year Groups (All win a chocolate bar)

Year 9 – Frayne Pinho 9LED

Year 8 – Seb Sutehall 8TAS

Year 10 – Andreea Tomitin 10CRR

Year 11 – Olive Bodiam 11RHT

Sixth Form – Lilly Vann 6MNW

Tutor Groups

Whole School (Biscuits and front of queue pass)

7KEB

Year Groups (All to get biscuits)

8TAS

9LED

10CRR

11LMS

6MNW



TERM 4 CLUBS 2024

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)

Thank you.

SCHOOL CLUB LIST

GARDENING CLUB NEWS

Gardening Club have been working hard improving the nature garden with more features to add interest and hopefully more biodiversity.



The Log pyramid (or stumpery) pictured provides rotting wood underground which is great for stag beetle larvae. Female stag beetles lay their eggs in the soil next to rotting wood and the larvae move in and out of them.

We have registered our log pyramid with The People's Trust for Endangered Species: <https://ptes.org/my-garden/how-to-build-a-log-pyramid-for-stag-beetles/>



**YEAR 10, TURTLE CONSERVATION,
GREECE, JULY 2025**

**PLEASE NOTE THIS IS FOR
CURRENT YEAR 9 STUDENTS**

INFORMATION EVENING

TUESDAY 19TH MARCH 2024

6PM FURZE PLATT THEATRE



Flooglebinder

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am very excited to announce that Furze Platt Senior School will be running a trip to Greece in the summer of 2025 for year 10 students (**current Year 9 students**).

We are partnering with Flooglebinder, a travel and conservation company. They are the first B-Corp certified travel company and are experts in delivering educational programmes that create change for people and the planet.

During the 10-day trip students will get hands on experience of turtle conservation, they will learn about their anatomy and the important role they play in an ecosystem. Additionally, students will learn how to protect them and the anthropogenic impacts that are affecting their distribution and behaviours.

Given the school's own sustainable trip targets, we are confident that this trip can provide the students with an unforgettable experience while ensuring minimal social and environmental impact on the ecosystem. Turtles here we come!

To find out more about the trip please click [here](#). The password is 'greece'.

The 10-day trip is currently due to run from the **9th to the 18th of July 2025**.

If you would like to find out more about this exciting opportunity, we will be running a parents' information evening with Flooglebinder on Tuesday 19th March, 6pm in the school Theatre. There will be a detailed presentation regarding the trip and the opportunity for students and parents to ask questions. We will also have details of how to book a place for your child on this trip.

We look forward to seeing you then.

Mr D Randall

Outdoor Education and Enrichment Coordinator

YEAR 10 CONSTRUCTION

Brilliant work from our Year 10 Construction class who have completed their bird table!



**YEAR 9 DUKE OF EDINBURGH
AWARDS**

Our Year 9 DofE students had a fantastic meeting with members of our Senior Leadership Team this morning. More details to follow...



200 CLUB

Winning numbers for Draw 26
on Tuesday 27th February 2024



Thank you to those who supported our latest PTFA meeting and congratulations to our three lucky winners who will all be receiving a £200 cash prize!

Our PTFA is a registered charity No 287878.

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL?

Your PTFA needs YOU!

All parents, carers and staff of Furze Platt Senior School are automatically members of the PTFA.

Please consider joining the 200 club, which is our main fundraiser. For just £5 a month you have the chance to win £200 at one of our quarterly prize draws. Please sign up here:

200 CLUB - MONTHLY DONATION



Contact us Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net
facebook.com/fpsstfta Website: [click here to access](#)

VACANCIES AT FURZE PLATT

We are looking to add to our bank of dedicated Exam Invigilators, who will be employed on a casual basis to supervise students taking both pre-public exams and actual GCSE/A Level exams, as necessary throughout the school year.

WE ARE HIRING

JOB VACANCIES
AT FURZE PLATT

+ Exam Invigilators
+ Join our bank of
dedicated Exams staff!



[CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS](#)

It was lovely to meet so many prospective teachers at the Train to Teach event held at the University of Reading!

Pictured, our Teach Maidenhead Manager Mrs Eadie at the event.

For more details about Teach Maidenhead please visit our website:

**TEACH
MAIDENHEAD**





Elevate Education's Spring Term

Parent Webinar Series

Elevate Education delivers high-impact workshops to our students that help to develop their study skills, motivation, and exam preparation. Over the next term, you're invited to join their parent webinar series, where you can help support your child at home by reinforcing the skills they're learning at school.

How to Help Your Child Improve Their Note Taking

23rd January 6:00pm

How You Can Make Technology an Ally

6th February 6:00pm

How You Can Help Your Child Prepare for Exams

5th March 6:00pm

How You Can Support Your Child During Exams

19th March 6:00pm

Register today at: <https://go.elevateeducation.com/ukschoolwebinar>

Easter

Monday 8 to Thursday 11 April

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & FOOD PROGRAMME

For children with access to free school meals

The programme is known
as **FUEL** in RBWM



**The Royal Borough of
Windsor and Maidenhead**

E: HAF@achievingforchildren.org.uk

Funded by the Department for Education



**achieving
for children**



Coffee Morning

Local Offer "New to SEND"

We recognise that navigating the world of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) can be overwhelming and confusing and more can be done to help parents and carers understand and access support for their child or young person. SEND Voices RBWM is working together with Achieving for Children (AfC) to develop a "New to SEND" section on the borough's Local Offer website. We are inviting parent carers to share your lived experiences and ideas of what should be in this section to make it easier for you to find the right support at the right time. We want parent carers to have a voice in shaping SEND services; parent carers are part of the solution.

Please join us on:

Tuesday 12th March

9.30am soft start for 10am - 11.30am

with Vicki Ciborowska

Communications & Marketing Support Officer
Achieving for Children

Woody's Cafe

Clewer Memorial Recreation Ground
(Pirate Park)
Dedworth Road
Windsor
SL4 5AY

To learn more about us, please contact info@svrbwm.org.uk

SPORTS AND ACTIVITY CAMP

For 8 to 13 Year Olds
Easter Holidays

02.04.24 - 12.04.24

08:00 - 18:00



Bouldering Room

Football

Basketball

Dodgeball

Basketball

Orienteering

Bubble Football

VR Games Room

And More!

AM/PM Only Sessions Available

BCA
Your College

**LIMITED
OFFER**



AT BCA COLLEGE, MAIDENHEAD



Empower and Elevate

@EmpowerAndElevate.Ltd

0118 227 4950

BOOK ONLINE!

WWW.EMPOWERANDELEVATELTD.CO.UK



SCAN ME

What my diagnosis means to me



Have you or your child recently been diagnosed with Autism or ADHD ?

Would you like to understand more about what this means?

We are running virtual workshops which will give participants an opportunity to share their experience and understand more about their diagnosis in a safe setting

The session will run for up to 1 hour and 30 mins and will have a maximum of 10 attendees.

The cost is £20 plus booking fee per session (This event is non refundable).

Sessions are running on the following dates:

Adults 18+ with ADHD - Monday 4th March, 7-8:30pm

Teenagers ages 13-16 with Autism - Tuesday 19th March, 4:15-5:45pm

Teenagers ages 13-16 with ADHD - Wednesday 20th March, 4:15-5:45pm

Sign Up

You can view all our events under this link -
www.ticketsource.co.uk/gems4health-autismandadhdsupport
or contact: Gems.4Health@nhs.net