

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #73.6



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Parents and Carers,

Water Safety

This Half Term marks the third anniversary since we tragically lost one of our Year 11 students, Jordan Veira. Jordan sadly drowned while swimming in the river.



Every year, FPSS marks Jordan's passing and reinforces messages around water safety. This week students have once again seen the resources shared by Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue. These include the dangers of jumping into rivers, hazards including weirs and locks, what to do in case of cold water shock and who to call if you see someone in trouble.

WATER SAFETY ADVICE

Sadly, every year some young people seem to lose their lives in open water. Within the last week two boys lost their lives after getting into difficulties in the River Tyne. Please do reiterate these messages with your children.

Examinations

Thank you for your continued support for our examination students. They now have a week from exams to revise and get themselves ready to go ahead in the next set after the break. We have been impressed with their focus so please do relay that message and keep encouraging them.

Goodbyes

At the end of this term we say goodbye to two colleagues. Lewis Cante has taught History with us since September and is returning to Wales. We also say goodbye to our long serving Art teacher, Emily Holmes. Alongside her teaching, Emily has been Head of House for many years supporting a large number of FPSS students and their families. I know she will be much missed.

I am sure our FPSS community will join with me in wishing Lewis and Emily all the best for the future.



UPCOMING EVENTS TERM 6 EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

MON 27 - FRI 31 MAY	MAY HOLIDAY
MON 3 JUNE	START OF TERM 6 (Week 1)
MON 10 - FRI 13 JUNE	Year 8 Residential trip to Wales
FRI 14 JUNE	INSET DAY

SCHOOL TERM DATES

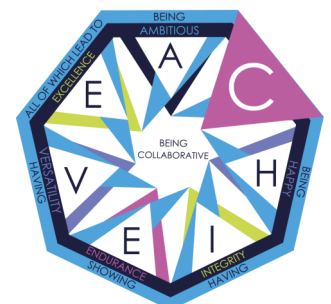
Trips and Visits

Thank you for your support with a range of visits this week including Harry Potter, Geography Fieldwork and Duke of Edinburgh practice expeditions. Students have been very excited to spend time out of school and I hope they have shared these events with you at home.

Finally, I wish you and your families a wonderful Bank Holiday weekend and Half Term.

Take care,

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



INSET DAYS AND TERM DATES



Please note there are two INSET days next term; Friday 14th June and Tuesday 9th July. School will be closed for all year groups on those dates unless students have an exam or a pre-arranged meeting for an upcoming event.

Term dates for the next academic year can be found on our website via the link below:

INSET DAYS AND TERM DATES

YEAR 11 SUMMER REVISION & EXAMS



Summer Revision Programme

Please find this year's summer GCSE summer revision programme attached for your information and reference.

I strongly recommend that your child attend all revision sessions.

Year 11 students have also been emailed this information.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with either myself, Mrs Feather, Mrs Ridgley or Miss Barney.

Mr J Dollery, Assistant Headteacher

GCSE REVISION PROGRAMME JUNE 2024

YEAR 11 EXAM INFORMATION



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.

Exam Timetables

It is important that students check their personalised exam timetables thoroughly so they know when their exams are. 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.

23.5.24 – 19.6.24: Exam Phase 2

Exam Phase 2 has now started. 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.

ELEVATE WEBINARS

Summer Term, 2024 Webinars *

elevate
education

- ✓ How to Help Your Child Alleviate Stress
June 18, 6:00-7:00pm
- ✓ How to Get (And Keep) Your Child Motivated
July 2, 6:00-7:00pm

[CLICK HERE TO CONFIRM ATTENDANCE](#)

YEAR 7 VISIT FROM ELEVATE EDUCATION



Last Friday, Year 7 tutor groups had a session with a presenter from Elevate Education to develop their ability to study and revise more effectively.



The session focused on active reading, identifying key information and note taking.

The presenters from Elevate all commented on the personality, engagement and politeness of Year 7 students. Students really enjoyed the enthusiasm of the presenters and learning a very important skill for their future success.

Further sessions on revision techniques and memory skills will follow across Key Stage 3 to ensure all students are GCSE ready.





On 25th April one hundred and twenty of our Year 7 and 8 students participated in the Junior Maths Challenge (JMC) competition. As usual our students did very well.

Half of those who were entered received awards. Eleven students received Gold, twenty-four achieved Silver and twenty-five qualified for Bronze awards.

Reuben Cranch in Year 7 achieved best in the school and Uswa Azam and Joshua Ng joint best in Year 8.

Reuben Cranch, Aarav Saroha, Uswa Azam, Joshua Ng, Kaylie Lau, and Nor-Aldeen Hejazee all qualified for the Junior Kangaroo Challenge to be held on Tuesday 11th June as they performed excellently in the JMC.

All participants embraced all the ACHIEVE values of FPSS in preparing for and doing the actual JMC. Many students attended the lunch time club where they worked on JMC past papers. This hard work resulted in an improved performance by our students in comparison to last year.

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 below are some of the Year 7 (top picture) and Year 8 award winners.

Mr J Langenhoven (Maths Enrichment Coordinator)



TERM 6 CLUBS 2024 (JUNE - JULY)

Clubs for next term have been sent out today (Friday 24th May).

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

SCHOOL CLUB LIST

KEEN ON CHESS?

Players needed for chess tournament in July.
All year groups welcome.
Please see Mr Greenhalgh in E11 for details.



or email Ethan.Greenhalgh@furzeplatt.net



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AROUND OUR SCHOOL THIS WEEK?

GARDENING CLUB

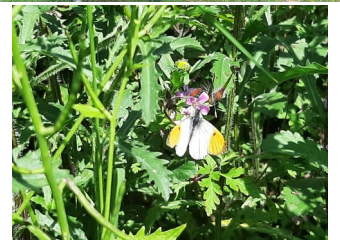


This week Gardening Club have been planting out runner beans, courgettes and creating a hanging basket. We also learnt about apical dominance and 'pinched out' cosmos.

There have been some great butterflies spotted this week such as a male orange tip and green veined white. Their caterpillar food plants are grown in the nature garden so hopefully these species will multiply!

YEAR 7 WORKSHOP CLUB

The Year 7 Workshop Club 'sweet dispensers' are coming along nicely!



HELP PLANT A COMMUNITY ORCHARD



Mrs Cook, who provides the wonderful photos from Gardening Club, is also arranging Orchard Planting at Oaken Grove. This event will take place on Saturday, 25th May from 10.30am-12.30pm.



Friends of Oaken Grove Park have been given ten apple trees from Thatchers.

We will be helping them plant them in Oaken Grove Park in the wild grass area nearest Courthouse Road entrance. Please bring gardening gloves and a spade if you have one! Wear long trousers as we will be planting in the grass. Children welcome and encouraged but anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

YEAR 9 DUKE OF EDINBURGH



Students from our 9P DofE class enjoyed testing a motor whilst volunteering at Maidenhead Repair Cafe this week.



[SIGN UP HERE](#)



**SILENT AUCTION AND
RAFFLE IN AID OF
THAMES HOSPICE**



Over the course of the last three months Furze Platt Senior School students and staff have been raising money for Thames Hospice to support the work that they do in the local community. We were delighted to see that by the end of our Thames Hospice Day event on 20th March 2024 the school had raised over £19,000. Since then, the school has continued to raise money for the Hospice through a doughnut sale and Easter Egg raffle.

Local businesses have donated a generous number of items for our final Thames Hospice initiative of the year - a Silent Auction and Raffle that will run from now until Wednesday 5th June. Details of each bid can be found in the attached booklet. All proceeds will go to Thames Hospice and the Auction and Raffle are open now. Raffle tickets can be purchased on ParentMail; Silent Auction bids need to be made through the Microsoft Form found in the next paragraph.

Silent Auction:

In order to participate in the Silent Auction, individual bids can be made through the following Microsoft Form - <https://forms.office.com/e/8z2auMSPHw>.

You can bid as many times as you like and there will be regular updates on our website of the highest amounts received.

- The Silent Auction will close at 8.45am on Wednesday 5th June 2024.
- The winners of each item will then be contacted and payment will need to be completed by 8.45am on Monday 10th June 2024. If payment is not received by Monday 10th June 2024, then the second highest bidder will be contacted.
- Items will be available for collection from Monday 10th June 2024.

Raffle:

- Raffle tickets can be purchased through ParentMail and are available for £1 per ticket, or £5 for six.
- An independent adjudicator will be selected to draw the names from the raffle and the winners of the raffle will be contacted by Friday 7th June 2024.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has donated to this cause so far, either through monetary donations or items for the raffle and auction.

A special thank you to those individuals or businesses who have donated items including:

The Old Butcher's Wine Cellar * French Brothers * The Lord Grenfell * The Marlow Club * La Indika * Hair By US * M&S * Avon * Wildwood Home * Daisy X * Berkeley Cars * The Paint Club * Coach With Mia * Tom Kerridge * Pila Yoga * Leaf and Clay Ceramics

Please do support these businesses.

I look forward to declaring the winners of the auction and raffle after the half-term - good luck everyone!

Mr A Colmer

Assistant Head of Sixth Form (Year 13), Head of History and Politics

YEAR 10 TRIP TO THE WORLD OF HARRY POTTER STUDIOS

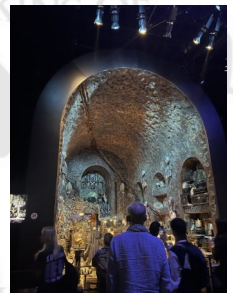
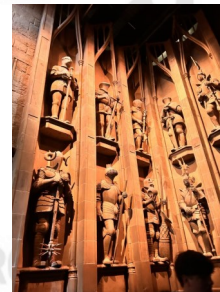
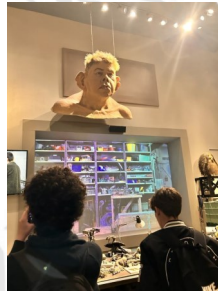
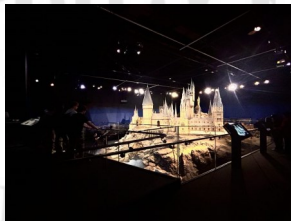
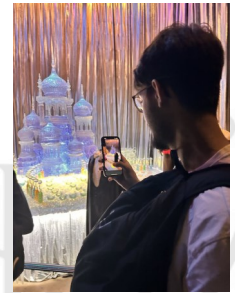
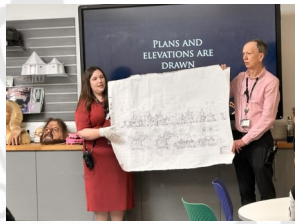
Year 10 students have been wowed this week by 'The Making of Harry Potter' Studio Tour. They had a fantastic day seeing behind the scenes, costumes, set design and much, much more.



Thank you to everyone at the tour for giving our students a truly brilliant day out.

Well done also to our Year 10 students who demonstrated all our ACHIEVE values and represented the school wonderfully.

Thank you also to Miss Carty for organising the trip and all staff who made this visit possible.



For more information on 'The Making of Harry Potter Studio Tour' please visit: <https://www.wbstudiotour.co.uk/>



INTERHOUSE - HOUSE T-SHIRTS

DEADLINE TO ORDER - WEDNESDAY 5TH JUNE

You can now purchase your child's House t-shirt for them to wear proudly on Sports Day and support their House!

To ensure they arrive in time for Sports Day in July, the purchase deadline for t-shirts is Wednesday 5th June.



Sizes range from S to XXL, are available in the four House colours and logos and cost just £10 each. If we order enough and can take advantage of bulk discount options, any profit will go towards our Thames Hospice Charity Fundraiser. House t-shirts can be purchased via Parentmail (Payments – Shop).

Contact us Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

facebook.com/fpssptfa Website: [click here to access](#)

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL?

News from your PTFA.

Did you know? We've recently donated around £4,500 to the school to spend supporting Gardening Club, Chess Club and our Duke of Edinburgh Awards team for kit; plus funding towards a sensory garden and a new initiative for Sports Award prizes. These will all greatly enhance your children's learning experience at the school, and we and the school staff are really grateful to everybody who has put in time and money to make this possible.

Now we need your help to carry on and make even more of a difference! Here's a short video that explains how you can help

HOW YOU CAN HELP?

Help run the 200 Club - one of our main fundraisers and really important to keep the funds flowing but does not take very much time at all

Become a Uniform Coordinator and help manage our supplies of donated second hand uniform - makes us a lot of money but also provides a vital service to the school and parents

Join the 200 Club to donate £5 a month (literally less than the cost of a hot chocolate!) and be in with the chance of winning £200 at the next draw - sign up here [Furze Platt Senior School PTFA 200 Club - Monthly Donation](#) | [Furze Platt Senior School PTFA \(Powered by Donorbox\)](#)

200 CLUB - MONTHLY DONATION

Please drop us a line under the Facebook video, or email ptfasecretary@furzeplatt.net if you would like to find out more.

We look forward to hearing from you!

CHECK OUT OUR CURRENT VACANCIES



**WE ARE
HIRING**

Join Our Talent Pool

Let us know you are interested in working with us by joining our Talent Pool.

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL TALENT POOL

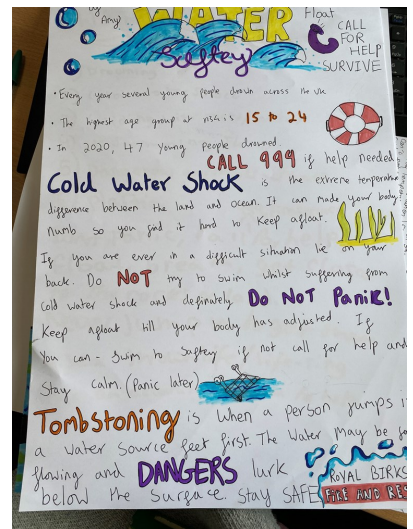


YEAR WATER SAFETY

We end this newsletter as we began; with a reminder of key water safety advice.

Year 9 have been focusing on water safety this week and have been then creating posters on how to stay safe in the water.

They have been learning about what cold water shock is, how to use float to survive, tombstoning, what dangers there are lurking beneath the water, etc.



**HAVE A GREAT
HALF TERM!**



Berkshire YFC presents:



**BERKSHIRE
COUNTRY FAYRE
SUNDAY 16TH JUNE**

9am - 5pm | Newbury Showground, RG18 9QZ

FAMILY FUN DAY!

Mick Quelch
Ferret Man

The Rockets
Motorcycle Display Team

Vox Fresh Choir

Vine & Craven
Hounds

Butler's Balloons

Vintage
Machinery

Craft & Food
Fayre

Countryside Area
with Rural Craft Demos

Petting
Farm

Dog Activities

Rookery Farms
Machinery Display

Heavy
Horses

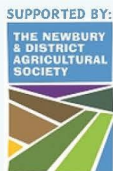
Trade
Stalls

Children's
Entertainments

Donkey Rides
Young Farmers
Show Classes

Inflatables

And much, much more...



TICKETS: www.berksyfc.org.uk

ADULTS £8.50 in advance (£10 on day)

CHILDREN/CONCESSIONS: £5 in advance
(£7.50 on day) | UNDER 5's free

**Free
Parking**

Food, hot
drinks & bar
available
all day

Woolley Firs, Maidenhead Environmental Education Centre



A journey of learning and discovery

We have an exciting programme for young people in the summer so why not come along and give it a go...



TEEN RANGERS

Are you aged between 11-17 with an interest in wildlife? Do you want to share your knowledge, learn more and hone your species ID and environmental skills using specialist kit? Book your place for the following dates:

June	Saturday 8th	1pm-3pm
July	Saturday 13th	1pm-3pm



Tickets are £7 plus booking fee. Kids only – no parents!

Visit our website to book or for more info:

bbowt.org.uk/events

01628 829574 or berkshireeducation@bbowt.org.uk

bbowt.org.uk

More nature everywhere



Marlow Rowing Club

Rowing taster sessions

Sat and Sun, 1st and 2nd June

Free of charge

No rowing experience necessary

Applicants should ideally be over 170cm (f) or 180cm (m)

For info or to apply, email ben.reed@britishrowing.org





Players wanted!



Join our Sunday Cookham Dean U15s team for the 2024/25 season. All games recorded. UEFA C Coaching.

Limited places available.

Contact: antonrussell@gmail.com