

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #75.10



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Parents and Carers,

Water Safety

On Thursday I had the pleasure of introducing the water safety talk by the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service for our Year 8 students. They will be back to talk to our Year 7



students next week. These talks share important messages about water safety and the dangers of swimming in rivers and open water, including ways to keep safe.



These talks are important for all children, but particularly pertinent here at FPSS. As many of you will be aware we tragically lost one of our FPSS students, Jordan Veira, when he drowned in the River Thames in May 2021.

Please do talk to students about this important topic and keep them reminded of how to have fun but stay safe around open water. Thank you.

Year 10 Parent and Student Consultation Evening: Thursday 27th March

This week I have seen several groups of Year 10 students receiving their PPE results and feedback. Conversations have focused upon the grade, amount of revision students completed and what they need to do to be better in the future. Next Thursday we have the chance to bring parents and carers into these conversations and we look forward to welcoming you then.

Upcoming Exams and PPEs

Congratulations to our Dramatists on their examination performances this week and good luck to students in

	UPCOMING EVENTS
	NEXT WEEK (Week 2)

THUR 27 MARCH	Year 10 Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	3.45pm - 7.45pm
WED 2 APRIL	Spring Concert	7-9pm
FRI 4 APRIL	End of Term 4	12.30pm finish
SAT 5 - SAT 12 APRIL	Ski Trip to La Thuile, Italy	
TUE 22 APRIL	Start of Term 5	

SCHOOL TERM DATES

various Drama, Music, Chemistry and Physics exams and PPEs next week.

Take care,

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

YEAR 9 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 to our website www.furzeplatt.com and clicking on the quick link 'Online Reporting', or by going directly to Go 4 Schools www.go4schools.com and selecting Parents.

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

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager

VIEW REPORTS





YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

Monday 23rd June - Wednesday 25th June 2025

Parents and carers of students in Year 10 were emailed this week as a reminder of the upcoming deadline for applications for work experience, which will run for three days, from Monday 23rd June - Wednesday 25th June 2025.

During this period all Year 10 students will be off site attending the workplace of their host employer. Students who do not secure an appropriate work experience placement will be expected in school on these dates for a bespoke programme. A reminder is below of how to apply. Please ensure your child has applied by the deadline of Friday 4th April 2025, after this point we cannot guarantee your child's placement will be approved in time for work experience week.

Students (and their families) should source their own work experience placements. We are using Unifrog (www.unifrog.org) to manage the administration of the work experience programme - for example collecting information from the employer about their Risk Assessment and Health & Safety policy, as well as getting agreement from yourselves for the placement to go ahead.

Some important logistics:

- Students need to agree the placement with the employer first, and then students will get the ball rolling by adding the placement to their Unifrog account (they will find the Placements tool on their Unifrog homepage).
- The Unifrog system will then email the employer, the parent / guardian, and the school, to collect the necessary information and permissions. For the process to work, it is essential that students add the initial information about the placement accurately.
- Safeguarding our pupils is of the utmost importance. For this reason, work experience will not be approved in placements where there is only one employee. Students should be in a placement where there are multiple adults present at all times. The school holds the final right to approve or decline a work experience placement and may do so if a placement is felt to not meet the safeguarding, health and safety, liability insurance or educational needs of a young person. The school will inform parents/carers if they feel it is necessary to share any Special Educational Needs or Safeguarding information with an employer, in order to ensure a child's needs can be met.

Pupils will receive training on safeguarding themselves whilst in placement, along with how to get the most out of their work experience, expectations etc.

Unifrog have created a set of guides about placements which you can find here.

Within this set of guides, this is the best one to start with (it includes a short animation of how the whole process Next we recommend looking at this one, because it includes advice on how to find a placement. We will deliver training to students on using Unifrog. Students may wish to wait until this training has happened, before submitting their application.

Please read the placement guides on Unifrog, and then start contacting possible hosts for the placement. If you please any questions contact workexperience@furzeplatt.net

Miss L Stirling (Careers Link) and Miss L Lewis (Deputy Headteacher)

YEAR 7 CAREERS TALKS



Over the past two weeks Year 7 students have had the opportunity to have careers talks from some of our including brilliant support staff, IT, HR, Headteacher's PA, and many more.

Year 7 asked ambitious questions to our visitors and have shown integrity in how they've listened intently. Great work, Year 7. And thank you to our fabulous support staff!







YEAR 10 PARENTS & STUDENTS' **CONSULTATION EVENING**



On Thursday 27th March there will be an opportunity for the parents/carers of Year 10 students to meet their child's subject teachers at Furze Platt Senior School. Face to face appointments will be available between 4.15-7.15pm in the Theatre and Main Hall.

Parents' Evenings are very important events that allow you to gain helpful insights into your child's progress, discuss upcoming assessments and find out how families can support students with revision, therefore we would request you attend the appointments with your child.

School Cloud is a platform whereby you will have an opportunity to book your appointments with your child's subject teachers in advance. The appointments will be available to book on School Cloud from 7pm on Tuesday 18th March and will close on Thursday 27th March at 2pm. Further details will be sent out via ParentMail. We look forward to seeing you on Thursday 27th March.

Best wishes,

Miss R Lake (NPQH)

Deputy Headteacher



'How You Can Support Your Child During Exams' Tuesday 25th March 6-7pm

Elevate Education will be hosting their next parent webinar on supporting your child during exams on Tuesday 25th March.

Parents and carers can sign up for the session below to learn how you can improve your child's exam performance by helping them to establish a good routine in the run-up to an assessment.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR FREE

Here's what Elevate will be covering on the night:

- * 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

Parents and carers can also access a range of resources via the link including an Exam Planner, Webinar recordings and 1:1 coaching programmes designed to improve confidence and study skills.



'WE'VE GOT IT COVERED' LIVE CHARITY GIG IN AID OF THAMES HOSPICE - FRIDAY 2ND MAY, FPSS THEATRE 7PM - 11PM

Put on your dancing shoes and come and enjoy a fantastic evening of music from across the decades with Panic Lounge and Crazy Donkey. And it's all for charity! Every penny from every ticket AND all bar profits will go directly to Thames Hospice.

Venue capacity is limited, so get your tickets early to avoid disappointment. Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.

We will have a street food van and an alcohol licence. Tokens for these can also be purchased via the link below.

CLICK HERE TO BOOK TICKETS







SCHOOL CLUBS - TERM 4

A list of clubs is updated each week on our website. Clubs for next term (Term 5) will be sent out to parents, carers and students on Friday 4th April.

CLICK HERE FOR LINK TO OUR WEEKLY CLUBS LIST



Year 8: Philosophy with Lego

Year 8 students had great fun exploring the philosophical debate of 'The Design Argument' using Lego! This hands-on approach will help them apply their learning to William Paley's famous argument. Brilliant creativity, versatility, and collaboration from Year 8!







Year 10: Engineering

It was fantastic to see Mrs Barnes' Year 10 engineering group hard at work on their copper lamps - some great craftsmanship on display.



Gardening Club

Outside the classroom, Gardening Club were harvesting their first crop of the year - Jerusalem artichokes., followed by planting out the broad beans sown before half term.







All year groups welcome, every Tuesday after school, meet in S12. Duke of Edinburgh volunteers encouraged! Next week the club will be sowing more seeds.



PE this week

Back in lessons, Year 8 showed growth in their physical literacy; they can create progressively longer and more challenging flow routines to music and tempo...



...Mr Gill's class were focused on the fast break, looking to capitalise on the chaos created when you catch your opponents on the back foot...

...and it was young Welsh supporter leuan Cox's turn to wear the England shirt this week after his challenge with Mr Djaelani. Ieuan is one of Furze Platt's starting 15 often playing at inside or outside centre.







TRIP TO COSTA RICA FOR **CURRENT YEAR 10 AND 11 STUDENTS**



Expression of interest deadline: Wednesday 26th March

If you would like to enrol your son/daughter onto our Summer 2026 trip to Costa Rica please complete the Flooglebinder Youli form below. The deadline for your expression of interest is Wednesday 26th March.

PLEASE CLICK HERE FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

Depending on the number of students interested we will then be in contact with both students and parents regarding the next stage of the application process and payment of the deposit.

Furze Platt Senior School will be running this trip to Costa Rica for **current** Year 10 and 11 students. We are again 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 your 14-day immersive jungle experience, looking at conservation, sustainability and biodiversity, you'll have the chance to venture where rainforest meets the sea and discover all things tropical. Plus, you'll further your knowledge of the Sustainable Development Goals that align with this project, as well as gain a deeper understanding of your own social and environmental impact.

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

To find out more about the trip and the itinerary follow the link: https://flooglebinder.co.uk/costa-rica-furze-platt-26

Password: costarica

The 14-day trip will depart in July 2026 (dates to be confirmed). The total cost of the project is approx. £3850. (Flights and airport transfers will be booked 11 months prior to departure, this will be after the August Year 11 Results Day.)

Mr J Wellard-Jeffs and Mr D Randall

Outdoor Education and Enrichment Co-ordinators

CERN PHYSICS TRIP



Lena Holmes, Year 12

From the 28th of February to 2nd of March, I was one of the lucky students apart of the Geneva trip for Physics. My favourite part of the trip was the CERN science exhibits, with many interactive projects not just focused on particle physics, but also space and engineering behind mechanisms. However, the trip wasn't limited to science, there was plenty of time to explore the beautiful city of Geneva, such as the stunning lake and regal architecture. The science museum overlooking the mountains and lake had a variety of intriquing exhibits, such as bird skeletons and telescopes too! The trip was a great opportunity for both Year 12 and 13 to make new friends and branch out their science knowledge.

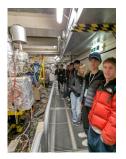




Kai Hussain, Year 12

Spending the weekend in Geneva was an exciting adventure! On our first day, we visited the Musée d'histoire des sciences, exploring the foundations of modern science, from ancient philosophy to early microscopes. Later, we admired the stunning Cathédrale Saint-Pierre. The highlight was visiting CERN, where we explored museum rooms, including my favourite- the space room, before seeing the antimatter factory and data rooms. In the evening, we played bowling and arcade games. On our final day, we visited the Red Cross Museum, a humbling experience. Overall, the trip was thrilling, and I highly recommend it to anyone who gets the chance!









Tuesday 1st & Wednesday **2nd April 2025**

Break 1 & 2 in GEN3, H1 Lots of Cakes £1.50 Per Cake Cash & Card Accepted!













Braywick Nurseries: Saturday 29th March Making a Mother's Day Planter

Family workshop for all ages Come and make a special planted gift to take home with you, which you can personalise too! Please bring gardening gloves and wear casual clothing.

This workshop will last up to 1 hour, and adults are requested to stay to supervise children. £12 per person – limited spaces available. **Bookings via Eventbrite:** https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/braywick-plantnurseries-98842359911

More workshops will be taking place this year at Braywick Plant Nurseries, with all workshops, shop offers and community work shared on our Facebook, Instagram and website.

A volunteer-led community helping to address the

ECO Action

for WindSor and Maidenhead

We help and inspire people, youth groups & businesses in Windsor & Maidenhead to make changes to reduce carbon, restore nature, boost wellbeing & save money!

climate and biodiversity crisis at a local level.

Come in and see us for:

- Help, Support and Advice
- Events and Talks
- Repair Cafe & Library of Things
- Filling Good zero-waste shop
- Eco Cafe ... with choice of beans!
- Community Space & more ...
- ecoactionhub.co.uk
- (f) ecoactionhub
- ecoactionrbwm@gmail.com



ECO Action Hub The Main Atrium Nicholson's Centre Maidenhead SL6 1LB Our opening times (with Filling Good)

Tues - Sat: 10am - 5pm Sun: 11:30am - 3:30pm



By the community, for the community Registered Charity Number 1210873

A M B I T I O U S C O L L A B O R A T I V E

HAPPY

INTEGRITY **E**NDURANCE

V ERSATILITY

EXCELLENCE