

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Happy New Term!

Welcome back to the summer term. I hope that you and your families had a good Easter break with the chance to recharge and have some adventures.

While the last few weeks have been a holiday for some, life at FPSS did not stop with work around the site, our Easter Revision Sessions and what sounds like an amazing Ski Trip. Photos are on page 4 of this newsletter.

Many thanks to all staff, students and families who supported these events.



As we begin a new term, I have congratulated students on their efforts since Christmas, in particular all those who received nominations and prizes in our Celebration Assemblies before the break. All students can be in this position come July and I have challenged all students to work hard and contribute to FPSS this summer.

### Examinations

After Easter every year there is a small window before examinations commence. With only nine school days from now to the external examinations the 2025 window is very tight. Thank you to all families who have been supporting students with revision efforts at home.

Alongside these external exams are a series of practical ones that have already started. I hope our Year 11 students sitting their Art did well this week. Next week sees Photography, Language Speaking and Textile exams for Year 11 and Art exams for Year 13, as well as Year 10 Maths PPE.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

[ALL EVENTS](#)
[SPORTS CALENDAR](#)

### TERM 5 EVENTS

w/c 28th April - Week 1

THU 1 MAY	Early finish - school will close at 2.45pm for all students	2.45pm finish
	Year 7 Parents' & Students' Consultation Evening	3.45pm - 7.45pm
FRI 2 MAY	Late Start	9.15am
MON 5 MAY	BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY	
WED 8 MAY	Year 6 Parents' Induction Evening	6.30pm - 8pm
MON 12 MAY	Year 13 Study Leave Begins	
FRI 23 MAY	END OF TERM (TERM 5)	3.15pm finish
MON 25 - FRI 30 MAY	MAY HOLIDAY	
MON 2 JUNE	START OF TERM 6 (Week 1)	

### SCHOOL TERM DATES

The finishing line is in sight so please keep enthusing, encouraging and supporting students with their endeavours. Even though they may not always show it, I know that they are grateful for the combined efforts of school and home.

### Year 7 Parent and Student Consultation Evening

Next Thursday we welcome Year 7 parents and carers to FPSS for their Consultation Evening. Given that this is your first such evening, please can I encourage you to bring your sons and daughters with you. Conversations are normally more productive when all three parts of a child's education - parents, school and student - are present to share praise and identify areas for improvement. More appointment times have now been released, please see page 3 for details.

Take care,

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



## SCHOOL DAY TIMINGS - CHANGES FOR NEXT WEEK

### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May

Students will begin their day with **Period 1 at 8:45 am** instead of their usual form time. To ensure a prompt start, all students should arrive on the school site by **8:30 am**.

The day will follow the regular five-lesson schedule, concluding at **2:45 pm**. This adjustment has been made to support preparations for the upcoming **Year 7 Parents' Evening**.

### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May Schedule:

- **Period 1:** 8:45–9:45 am
- **Period 2:** 9:45–10:45 am
- **Break 1:** 10:45–11:15 am
- **Period 3:** 11:15 am–12:15 pm
- **Period 4:** 12:15–1:15 pm
- **Break 2:** 1:15–1:45 pm

**Period 5:** 1:45–2:45 pm

We kindly ask that you make arrangements for any end-of-day collection for your child to ensure a smooth dismissal at 2:45 pm.

### Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

There will be a late start on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Students should arrive on the school site by 9:05 am and go straight to their first lesson.

We then reopen after the Bank Holiday on Tuesday 6th May.

Best wishes,

Miss Rebecca Lake (NPQH)

Deputy Headteacher

## SOCIAL MEDIA SURVEY

Please could you complete the short survey via the link below to help us find out what social media our parents and carers use - or would prefer to use - so we can ensure our communications channels remain useful and relevant.

Thank you.



## SOCIAL MEDIA SURVEY 2025

## SCHOOL CLUBS - TERM 5

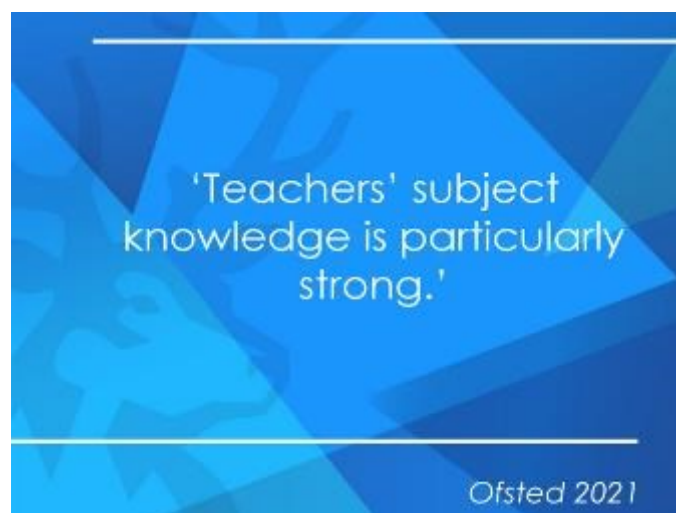
Parents and carers of students received invitations at the end of last term to book clubs for this term. You can see what clubs are running for the upcoming week via the link below.

Please note:

· Bookings must be made through the original email invitations sent on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April.

Clubs for Term 6 will be sent out on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

## CLUBS LIST



## YEAR 7 PARENTS' EVENING



As the Year 7 Parents' Evening approaches, we wanted to inform you of an important update regarding the appointment booking process.

**We are pleased to announce that we will increase the number of subject appointments available to book.** Please click on the link to book additional appointments: <https://fpss.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Parents' Evening provides an invaluable opportunity for you to discuss 's progress, receive feedback, and address any concerns you may have. Therefore, we encourage all parents to take advantage of this opportunity.

Please note that appointment slots are limited and allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. We recommend booking your appointments as soon as possible to ensure you secure your preferred time slots.

We appreciate your active participation in your child's education and thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Best wishes,

Miss Rebecca Lake (NPQH)

Deputy Headteacher



## YEAR 8 TRIP TO WALES 2025

**MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE – THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2025**



Dear Parents and Carers,

Some spaces have become available on our Year 8 trip to Wales this summer. Currently 110 students from Year 8 will be attending the trip and I am pleased to be able to open up a limited number of extra spaces.



On this 4-day adventure in West Wales, students will be immersed in all things wildlife, conservation, and sustainability. The Expedition also works on teambuilding, communication, and personal development skills.

Itinerary overview:

### Day 1 – Bug Farm

Students learn about sustainable protein, get up close to some creepy crawlies and then get to sample some delicious food in the restaurant made with insects including meal worms and crickets!



### Day 2 – Coasteering

A coastal adventure climbing, scrambling, jumping, and swimming along the beautiful Pembrokeshire coastline.



### Day 3 – Speed Boat tour and explore St David's

A wildlife boat tour around a local island to see seals, sea birds and if you are lucky porpoises!

### Day 4 – Foraging workshop and depart

Learn about gathering wild food from the seashore.

To find out more about the trip and the itinerary follow the link below using **Password = wales**

### WALES 2025 TRIP INFORMATION

The total cost of the trip is £565

If you would like to apply for a space on the trip or have any questions, please email Mr Randall direct – [david.randall@furzeplatt.net](mailto:david.randall@furzeplatt.net)

Mr D Randall, Outdoor Education and Enrichment Leader





Students enjoyed an action packed holiday to sunny La Thuile at Easter, with both skiing and snowboarding adventures. We explored the resort and spent time learning about the stunning location alongside becoming ever more proficient at winter sports! Both on and off the slopes there was so much to do and with beautiful views all around everyone thoroughly enjoyed each day's activities.

A huge thank you to all our staff who accompanied students on this holiday.

We cannot wait for next year's ski trip!







## DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Many of our DofE students have now completed the timescales for their sections and should be approaching assessors to get the reports uploaded in order to complete the sections.

Assessors can complete the reports by clicking the link below. They will need the student ID number, which can be found on the student's EDofE account. When they have submitted the relevant information, it will come directly to me to approve. Students can keep an eye on their account to keep track of this.

## ASSESSOR REPORTS

Please get the assessor reports uploaded before May half term if time scale allows it, as the majority of reports should be in BEFORE the expedition.

Please see below for an email template if this is of help.

Please can I take this opportunity to remind students that I can be found in TE2 every break 1 to support you.

I am looking forward to reading about the excellent progress you have made!

Miss D Carty, DofE Manager

## ASSESSOR TEMPLATE

Dear <Name>

I have now completed the required time for my DofE <name> section. I would appreciate it if you could write me an assessor's report as evidence of the progress I have made during this time. Please follow this link which will take you to the DofE Assessors' Reports site: <https://www.dofe.org/Assessor>

You will need my eDofE ID number which is: <Insert Number > My DofE Award level is Bronze/Silver/Gold. (delete as appropriate). The dates and my goals will appear on the report site and there is also further guidance on writing reports on this site should you need it.

Thank you very much for agreeing to be my assessor. Your report will let me progress towards completing my DofE Award.

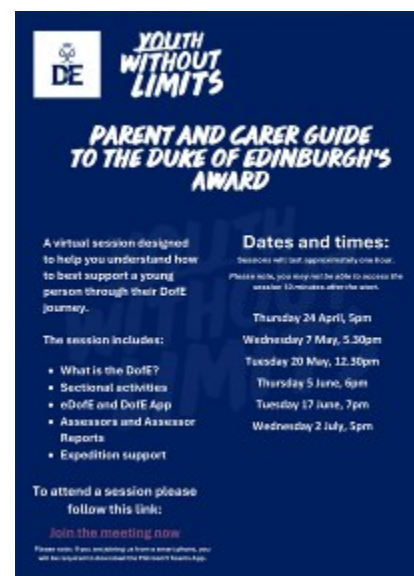
Kind regards

(Student name)

## DOFE PARENT AND CARER GUIDE

This guide is for parents who need advice on how to help their son/daughter complete their award.

Please note: these sessions are being run by the DofE and no FPSS staff will be in attendance.



# THE WEEK AT FURZE PLATT

## DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

A fantastic end to our DT Year 7 Charity Maze project which was completed last term. Pupils have developed their 2D maze designs and built their CAD skills creating blister pack models in Mrs Owen's lessons. Well done everyone!



## GARDENING CLUB

The nature garden is looking great. Here are some of gardening club by our gorgeous flowering cherry donated by our grounds maintenance contractor three years ago.



This week we planted mange tout and some phlox. Next week we hope to start harvesting some more produce and we will be continuing to plant out.

In addition, the bulbs (donated by an anonymous member of the public) which were planted by gardening club before Christmas, are looking fantastic too – thank you so much! We are amazed our fat squirrels didn't eat them.



All years welcome every Tuesday after school, meet in S12. Duke of Edinburgh volunteers very welcome.

## SPORTS AND FITNESS

Year 7 PE were outside for sprint starts practice...



...whilst indoors, it was a strong start to the term for Fitness Club.







Before Easter was a busy time for the Drama Department. We had practical GCSE examinations and A level examinations which take place in front of an examiner from the exam board- a total of 40 students with a range of practical pieces. Students worked incredibly hard with extra rehearsals and every student performed their best on the night! We were very proud of them all and hope the examiner also could see their talent and skills. Well done to all the GCSE and A level students. Good luck also to those same students with their upcoming written examination!

#### *Coming up:*

Year 12 perform extracts from 4.48 Psychosis by Sarah Kane on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April we have arranged a visit to see 'The Play That Goes Wrong'. All students on the trip have been contacted. I know there is a waiting list for a ticket so if you cannot attend please let Mrs Kalinowski know asap.

THE LONGEST RUNNING COMEDY IN THE WEST END

### THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG



On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May- there is another trip to see Dear England with The National. This trip is for Year 10 and 12- details will be released soon!



# LAMDA

LAMDA examinations - I have put in for our LAMDA examinations to take place in June. We are waiting for confirmation from LAMDA so will be in touch very soon with a confirmed date. Once we have the date, I will be contacting families of students who take part in our LAMDA lessons with a performance evening date. On the evening students will perform one of their pieces to you. Not only will this be great for you to see the progress they have made, but also it will help prepare them for their performance examination.

LAMDA places- There will soon be more spaces available for LAMDA lessons. There is a waiting list but if you know your child would be interested, please fill in the form here to place them on the waiting list: <https://forms.office.com/e/Te733tJfC9> You can find out more about LAMDA here: <https://www.lamda.ac.uk/>

#### ACADEMY 21

Academy 21 are offering live, interactive support to help students to succeed in their exams. In these 45-minute sessions subject experts will guide them through key topics, exam strategies, and tips to ensure students feel confident and ready for their GCSEs. Each session starts online at 4.15pm. Please click the link below for more information.

**CLICK HERE FOR ACADEMY 21 EXAM SUPPORT SESSIONS**





## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR THEATRE



### We've Got it Covered Charity Gig for Thames Hospice - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

Join us for a Cover Band Gig featuring Panic Lounge and Crazy Donkey. Food and bar available. Tickets must be booked in advance and are just £10 for adults and £5 for students. Every penny of the proceeds will go directly to the hospice.

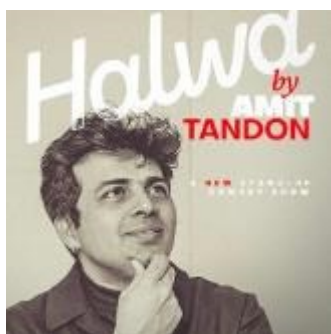
[CLICK HERE TO BOOK TICKETS FOR CHARITY GIG](#)

## Thames hospice



### Amit Tandon 2025 Halwa World Tour – Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Amit Tandon is the first stand up comic to have a Hindi Solo on Netflix, 'Family Tandoncies', which was on the top ten shows for 15 days on Netflix India. Join him for his World Stand-Up Tour at the FPSS Theatre



[CLICK HERE TO BOOK  
TICKETS FOR  
AMIT TANDON](#)

### Maidenhead at the Musicals: A 'Les Mis' Singing Experience!

Sunday 29 June 2025, 14.00 - 17.00

All voices welcome. Under 18 musical theatre lovers welcome accompanied by a guardian

[BOOK HERE FOR MAIDENHEAD AT THE MUSICALS](#)



### Looking for a Summer Holiday Camp?

We're excited to announce that **JK Musicals** have chosen **FPSS** as the venue for their **Musical Theatre Camp** this summer!

### JK Musicals

## 'Ancient Greece the Musical'

Musical in a week (ages 7-12)

Join us for a week of singing, acting and dancing



Date: 18-22nd August  
Time: 9am-4pm  
Location: Furze Platt Senior School  
Show: 22nd August 7pm

For further information please contact us on:  
admin@jkmusicals.co.uk  
Check out our website at: [www.jkmusicals.co.uk](http://www.jkmusicals.co.uk)

*Ancient Greece: The Musical* — an original production by JK Musicals — promises a fun-filled week of **singing, acting, and dancing**. It's the perfect way to keep your children entertained and inspired.

Dates: 18th–22nd August  
Time: 9am – 4pm daily

**Final Performance:** Friday at 7pm in the FPSS Theatre (for family and friends!)

Spaces are limited - don't miss out on this theatrical summer adventure!

[BOOK HERE FOR SUMMER HOLIDAY CAMP](#)



## COMMUNITY MESSAGES

### RAISING AWARENESS OF DISCOUNTED SOCIAL BROADBAND TARIFFS

Home broadband is increasingly essential for supporting learning. Households receiving benefits such as Universal Credit could be eligible for discounted social tariffs, helping them stay connected at lower costs.

For more information, please click the link below.

[FIND OUT MORE ABOUT TARIFFS HERE](#)

### KNIFE CRIME AWARENESS

Knife Crime Awareness Week is coming this 19th May – and we're calling on you to be part of something powerful.

This year, we're inviting everyone in our community - young people, families, local leaders, and changemakers - to help us choose a powerful **Anti-Knife Crime Tagline** from a shortlist of 10 impactful phrases.

[VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE TAGLINE HERE](#)

🕒 **Voting closes: 6th May**

<https://mynewterm.com/jobs/137740/EDV-2025-FPSS-73205>

This tagline will become the heartbeat of all our events throughout the week—events designed to uplift, inspire, and **shout out against knife crime** through **sport, nature, and art**.

#### 🌟 Why It Matters

In the words of an old saying: **"It takes a village to raise a child."**

Knife crime affects all of us. But together, we can shape a safer future—one where young people are empowered, seen, and supported.

#### 🏠 What's Happening?

Join us during **Knife Crime Awareness Week** for a variety of **free, family-friendly events** hosted with community partners, including:

- 🌍 **Sport event for young people**
- 🌳 **Getting in touch with nature for the whole family**
- 🎨 **An opportunity for younger children to display their artistic abilities**

Each event will shine a light on our shared message, powered by the tagline **you help choose**.

#### ☑️ Get Involved

- ✓ **Vote for the tagline by 6th May**
- ✓ **Get involved in the events which will be shared from 7th May onwards**
- ✓ **Be part of a movement that says NO to knife crime, and YES to community, connection, and change.**

**Together, we can make noise, make change, and make our streets safer.**

Thank you for standing with us

**Theresa Allen & Amanda Beldom**  
**Knife Crime Awareness Campaign Leads**

## WE ARE HIRING!

### Site Manager

EDV/2025/FPSS/73205

Experienced Site Manager Wanted! Join Furze Platt Senior School to help maintain a safe, secure, and well-presented learning environment. Use your skills in maintenance, security, and site...

- 📍 Furze Platt Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 7NQ
- 🕒 Permanent | Full-Time
- 💷 £29,789.00 - £30,771.00 Annually (Actual)



[CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#)

**New** • Apply by Midnight, Friday 9th May, 2025 • Job start: ASAP

# REFER A FRIEND AND GET ONE MONTH FREE



## CONTACT US

[www.leisurefocus.org.uk](http://www.leisurefocus.org.uk)

[furzeplatt@leisurefocus.org.uk](mailto:furzeplatt@leisurefocus.org.uk)

101 Furze Platt Rd, Maidenhead, SL6 7NQ

01628965754





*Have you thought of joining a lively choir?*

*We need new members for September*

**Making music with us is fun and rewarding**



### **Girls' Choir**

(meets alternate Saturdays in term time 2.00-4.00 pm)  
Girls Year 5 to Year 10

*Open rehearsals for visitors: 10th & 24th May, 7th June*

### **MIXED YOUTH CHOIR**

(meets alternate  
Saturdays  
in term time from 4.30-  
7.00 pm)

Girls Year 11 upwards;  
Boys with changing  
voices earlier

*Open rehearsals for  
Visitors: 26th April,  
10th & 24th May, 7th  
June*



[www.taplowchoirs.org.uk](http://www.taplowchoirs.org.uk).

Visit a rehearsal

[gillian.dibden@gmail.com](mailto:gillian.dibden@gmail.com) or telephone Gillian Dibden  
07799 413746