

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #77.3



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome to the 2025/26 Academic Year



Open Events

This week I had the pleasure of leading the first Autumn tour of FPSS with Year 6 students and their families who are considering which secondary school to

send their children. It was fantastic to meet our guests, but what was particularly lovely was visiting classrooms and sharing the range of activities and learning occurring across just a single period at FPSS. It gave a real sense of the different opportunities our staff provide.

I know that our FPSS families are great advocates for the school, so if you have neighbours, friends and families with children soon to move to secondary school, please do encourage them to attend a tour. More details can be found on page 6 of this newsletter; tours must be booked by phoning our Reception staff on 01628 625308.

In addition to our tours, we will be holding our Open Evening on Thursday 2nd October and look forward to seeing many families there. No booking is necessary.

It's a Knockout Fundraiser

Last Friday we held our latest Thames Hospice fundraiser, and I was delighted to learn that we raised around £10,000 for this worthwhile cause. Poignantly this week I have spoken to a couple of students who have shared the work of the Hospice in supporting their grandparents. Thank you once again for supporting a cause so close to the hearts of many of our community. Photos are on page 8.

Take care.

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



ALL EVENTS

Forthcoming Events

	THU 25 SEPTEMBER	PTFA Meeting - all welcome	7.30pm
	THU 2 OCTOBER	Early School Finish	12.30pm finish
		Whole School Open Evening	6pm - 8.30pm
	FRI 3 OCTOBER	INSET DAY - school closed for all year groups	
	MON 6 OCTOBER	Year 13 Biology trip to Woolly Firs	
	WED 8 THU 9 FRI 10 OCTOBER	Year 7 Teambuilding at Longridge	
	THU 9 OCTOBER	Preparing to Succeed in Year 8	6.15-7.15pm

SCHOOL TERM DATES



Thursday 2nd October 2025

6-8.30pm

All welcome, no booking required.



PARENTMAIL - PAYING FOR SCHOOL **LUNCHES**



A gentle reminder that lunches for students in Years 7 - 11 should be paid for in advance via Parentmail. Instructions on how to do this can be found on the school's website under Parents/Parentmail:

HOW TO PAY FOR SCHOOL LUNCHES

An increasing number of students are trying to pay for food using card payments, which slows the queues down for everyone else.

From Monday 22nd September, card payments will only be allowed for Sixth Formers.

Thank you.





FREE WEBINARS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

If you would like to sign up for Elevate Education's next webinar on Time Management, you can do so here: https://go.elevateeducation.com/ ukparentwebinar

REGISTER HERE FOR TIME MANAGEMENT WEBINAR

You can also watch a recording of their recent webinar on Motivation free for the next two weeks; click the link below then scroll to the bottom of the webpage and you will be able to access the recording of the webinar.

CLICK HERE TO WATCH MOTIVATION WEBINAR

CALLING ALL BAKERS!





Next week is Languages Week when we celebrate the power of languages to connect us, inspire new ideas and broaden horizons. There will be an International Bake Off and more for ALL students to participate in! Bring along your cake creation to the MFL Department on Friday, 26th September, which is European Languages Day!



Languages Week 2025 International **Bake Off**

The MFL Department invites you to participate in...



The MFL Department challenges you to bake a cake from a different culture or to decorate a cake with an international theme for Languages



How do I take part? Bring along your homemade cake creation on the morning of Friday, 26th September from 8.30am to 8.45 am to MFL4. All cakes will be judged by our esteemed panel of judges during Break 1.

IMPORTANT - Please highlight any allergens in the ingredients used in your cake creation, e.g wheat, milk, eggs, nuts, soy.



All cakes will then be sold during Break 2 in the MFL Department, so bring along your cash! All funds raised will go to the Thames Hospice.

THIS WEEK'S STAR STUDENTS

We are delighted to celebrate this week's *Star Students*, recognised for achieving the highest points and for consistently demonstrating our ACHIEVE values – Ambition, Collaboration, Happiness, Integrity, Versatility, and Excellence.

A huge well done to all our students for their hard work and positive attitudes – we are proud of you!

















In PE, students have enjoyed fitness at Morning Fitness Club (great dedication), focusing on timing and communications in a full class netball challenge, dynamic basketball and handball practice and competitive rugby on the field.

In the classroom, our GCSE PE students explored bone classification.











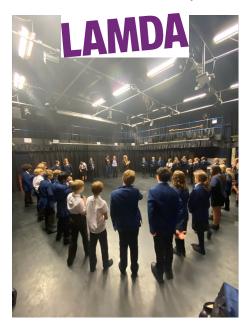


NEWS FROM PEFORMING ARTS



LAMDA EXAMINATIONS

A huge well done to our amazing LAMDA students who took their exams in June. Results are in! ALL students got the highest grade available; distinction which is amazing. Huge congratulations to their LAMDA teacher, Jane Trainer. Certificates and medals have been handed out to students in assembly.



AUDITIONS



Thank you to the 120 students who auditioned for We Will Rock You! Amazing talent on show and we really wish we could have all students perform.

However, there are other opportunities to be involved in Tech, Costume and Front of House. First rehearsal is Tuesday at 3.30-5.30 in the Theatre.

DRAMA CLUB

We also had a fantastic turnout at Year 7 and 8 Drama Club.

The club is run by Sophia Louw, Anna Cook and Raphael Kitt-Martinez in Year 12.



They have started on their Christmas project which will be performed at a local residential home





DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME

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

We will be holding a Virtual Parent/ Carer Information Session on Teams- Wednesday 24th September 2025 at 6pm:

Parents and carers of students in Years 9 and 10 have been sent full information of the mandatory dates for training and expeditions.

We are looking forward to providing more information about the award on Wednesday 24th September, and answering any questions you may have.

Miss D. Carty Mr D Randall

DofE Manager Outdoor Education

and Enrichment

Leader

(Skills, Volunteering

and Physical) (Expeditions)

'School leaders are ambitious for the school. They enjoy positive relationships with the rest of the staff and work with them to ensure the success of the school.'

Ofsted 202



At Furze Platt we have an extensive careers programme, and dedicated careers guidance during PSHE and tutor time and through careers interviews.

CLICK HERE FOR CAREERS INFORMATION

If you have any questions or feel you can support with our careers programme of the yearly careers fair, please feel free to contact me via email (Judith.bubb@furzeplatt.net)

Kind regards,

Mrs J Bubb

WINNERS FORTNIGHT 1 AMBITION POINTS



Individuals

Whole School Arib Sajid 9TEA (Queue

Pass and Chocolate)

All to get chocolate bar:

Year 7 - Lucas Silva 7PAH

Year 8 - Immy Robinson 8CD

Year 10 - Pieush Kumar 10SH

Year 11 - Sagib Hussain 11SVJ

Sixth Form - Niamh Brenna 6CLB

Tutor Groups

Whole School 9TEA – Biscuits and front of

queue pass

Year Groups - 8JJY - All to get biscuits

7SAM

10TJC

11SVJ

6GSB





OPEN EVENING: THURSDAY 2ND OCTOBER 6 - 8.30pm

Early finish for all students - 12.30pm

Our annual Open Evening is being held on Thursday 2nd October for prospective students and their parents. Students will finish at 12.30pm and helpers will be invited back before the event starts.

INSET DAY: FRIDAY 3RD OCTOBER

School will be closed for all year groups.

CAREERS FAIR

TUESDAY 25TH NOVEMBER

This event will take place from 6-8pm. Further details will be sent out in due course.

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING:

THURSDAY 27TH NOVEMBER

This event will take place from 6-9pm and will be followed by a late start the next day for all students.

LATE START: FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

Students in all year groups will have a 9.15am start and go straight to their first lesson (no form that day).

PTFA MEETING THURSDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER







SUPPORTING YOUR CHILDREN

OPEN MORNING

Please call 01628 625308 to book a tour or ask at Main Reception.



SEPTEMBER

- TUE 16 10.10am WED 17 9.10am & 10.10am TUE 23 9.10am & 10.10am
- WED 24 10.10am THU 25 9.10am
- TUE 30 9.10am* & 10.10am
- OCTOBER
- TUE 7 9.10am & 10.10am
 TUE 14 9.10am & 10.10am
- WED 15 10.10am

- THU 16 9.10am TUE 21 9.10am* & 10.10am
- WED 22 10.10am







Parents and carers of new students have been sent a parent code via email for you to access Class Charts as a parent or carer. Class Charts allows you to monitor behaviour, timetable and homework. Attached to the email was a 'Getting Started' guide for parents. Please note that we do not use the Well-being, Announcements or Attendance functions in Class Charts, and all absences are now reported via StudyBugs.

Your child has been issued with a sheet of paper with their code to access Class Charts via their phone or their laptop. Attached are instructions for you to help them to log on. If you have ordered a laptop through the school laptop scheme, these will be issued soon. In the meantime, students can set up Class Charts on their phone or home computer to check their timetable, behaviour and homework. If your child needs another copy of their access code, please ask them to request one from their Form Tutor.

Students were issued with hard copies of their timetable and a plastic wallet to keep it safe and dry.

All students were also issued with a Yondr pouch today for students who intend to bring a phone into school. For those families who choose not to send their child into school with a phone, parents or carers will need to collect an exemption form from reception. This form can also be issued to students to take home. When school photos are taken, students will then be issued with a pass to enable them to enter the school site without delay.

Mr A Wyles, Assistant Headteacher KS3





We would like to remind parents that we have now transitioned to **Studybugs**; a new app that will support our continued efforts for an efficient and secure system when reporting your child's absence or sending other messages regarding their attendance.

Studybugs is integrated with our registration system so both you, as the parent/carer, and the school will know right away if your child is unaccounted for.

With a few quick taps or clicks, you can update the school on your child's absences and appointments

Get the app or register now (https://studybugs.com/about/parents)

Top 3 reasons to use Studybugs

- 1. It's integrated with our systems so we know right away if your child is unaccounted for.
- 2. It's quick and easy to register and use and automatically reminds you to keep us posted. You will be helping the NHS and other health organisations take preventative action.

The school will use **Studybugs** to communicate all things attendance related, celebrating improvements, notifying parents if their child is late to school etc

For queries please

contact attendancesupportteam@furzeplatt.net

A huge thank you to the teachers and support staff for providing so many extra-curricular opportunities to my child. These activities have created wonderful memories that they will cherish for years to come.









































IT'S A KNOCKOUT SEPTEMBER 2025

SCHOOL CLUBS

Term 1: September to October half term

Parents and carers of students in all year groups have been sent e-mail invites last Friday to attend clubs for their son/daughter. The email is headed Furze Platt Senior School with the email address evolve.furzeplattsnrvisits@edufocus.co.uk and the links will be safe for you to click on to confirm your child's attendance. If you have not received an email please check your junk / spam folders.

MY EVOLVE

In addition, 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.

CLUB NEWS:

(please book in clubs email received last week)

- Morning Fitness Club will run on Wednesdays
- Costume Club will start on Tuesday 23rd September

CLUBS LIST FOR NEXT WEEK

WHY JOIN A CLUB?

Here's what our Heads of House say...

Dr Graham, Head of Osprey House

 "Clubs provide opportunities to learn new skills beyond the classroom, showing a drive to improve."

Ms. Carty, Head of Falcon House

 "Attending clubs demonstrates commitment to personal growth and trying new challenges."

Mr. Tipp, Head of Eagle House

 "Clubs develop talents that could lead to future success or recognition, while being fun!"

Mr. Sankey, Head of Hawk House

- "Attending clubs shows a willingness to push yourself further than the basic expectations."











HOUSE POINT WINNERS THIS WEEK

IT'S FALCON HOUSE!

Well done to all students, there have been a huge number of House points given out this term so far and here are the results:









16015

16085

15461

14909

GREEENPOWER CLUB

Greenpower Club had an amazing time at Dunsfold Park in Surrey with their laps...unfortunately they were crashed into but it was a great day nevertheless!







We are always looking for support for Greenpower and the cars. Please email office@furzeplatt.com if you can help.

Thank you.

YEAR 7 TEAM BUILDING DAYS



OCTOBER 2025

Dear Parents and carers,

We hope that your child has enjoyed their first few days at Furze Platt Senior School – we are really excited to be able to take your child on the team building day at Longridge in October. Please read the following information carefully.



Form groups will be attending Longridge on one of the following days:

Wednesday 8 th October - 7PAH, 7ISW, 7ROA

Thursday 9 th October - 7SAM, 7IMT, 7DEN

Friday 10th October - 7TEF, 7PEB, 7SQM

Location – Longridge Activity Centre, Quarry Wood Road, Marlow, SL7 1RE

Arrive – 9am - Please drop students off at the Longridge carpark where there will be Furze Platt staff to welcome your child. There is a 20-minute max. wait time in the car park at the start and the end of the day. Please do not wait in the carpark once you have dropped your child as it will be busy and there are strict fines on all vehicles not signed in with Longridge. Please lift share if possible as this will help to ease congestion in the car park.

Depart – 3.00pm – Please collect your child from the Longridge carpark.

What to bring? Packed lunch, snacks, and drinks. Clothes suitable for outdoor activity and the weather! – No Jeans, shorts must be knee length. Closed-toe shoes must be worn i.e. old trainers – No Croc style footwear or sandals, walking boots are not allowed for water activities. Bring a second pair of shoes in case first pair get wet. Small towel (optional). Waterproof/windproof top if the weather is looking inclement. Sun cream and hat if necessary Earrings and other jewellery must be removed before students can take part in activities.

The cost of the day is £40 – please make payment via ParentMail. Please make payments by Monday 29th September 2025. (It is strongly recommended that all Year 7 students attend – if there is an issue, please contact Mr Sam Bates, Head of Progress: Sam.Bates@furzeplatt.net or Mrs Harper, Pastoral

manager: Beth.Harper@furzeplatt.net). Medical Information If your child's medical information has changed since they joined the school, please make sure that it is updated by emailing our medical officer: Clara.Child@furzeplatt.net

Please note: if your child uses an inhaler or EpiPen, they must bring it with them to Longridge. Without it, they will not be able to take part in the activities.

Mr D Randall, Outdoor Education ad Enrichment Lead

FREE TASTER MUSIC LESSONS



You can apply for drum kit, brass, violin and viola lessons at Furze Platt Senior School directly through Berkshire Music Trust.



We are pleased to be able to offer instrumental tuition onsite at school, during the school day. Your teacher will get in touch with you directly to arrange the day/ time of the lesson.

PLEASE CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR FREE SESSION

Put the code 'Free Taster' into the comments box when you apply to meet your teacher and see what it's all about! Please note that by completing this form you are NOT committing to go ahead with lessons.

Paid for lessons are also available; details of this offer and lessons were sent out via Parentmail this week.







SAFEGUARDING YOUR CHILDREN ONLINE

This year Furze Platt has purchased access to an online safeguarding information platform for all parents. Our Online Safety Hub provides parents with a wealth of information including in the following areas:

How to keep your child safe online

How to ensure best safety features are implemented on social media platforms

Understanding different social media platforms and their potential risks

How to manage screen time with your child

How to safeguard your child from online predators

How to monitor your child's online activity

This platform can be found via the link below:

LINK TO ONLINE SAFETY HUB

As part of this platform parents also all have free access to parental controls on 2 devices within your home. These devices are advised to be mobile phones and/or home laptops, the company advise against placing on laptops bring brought into school as it may conflict with the filtering and monitoring systems used on the school network.

This and will enable parents to:

Filter content

Monitor your child's online activity

Set time limits for online use

LINK TO FREE QUSTODIO ACCOUNT

We hope you find these resources useful for supporting your child with their use of the internet.

Miss Lewis

Deputy Headteacher

Safeguarding and Interventions

TYING A TIE

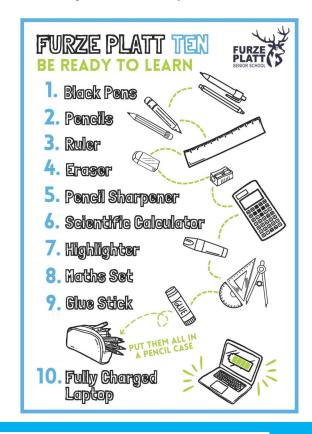
Help your child master tying their school tie with a quick step-by-step video guide (below). Making mornings smoother and smarter!



REMINDER: CHECK PENCIL CASES THIS WEEKEND

Please could we ask all parents and carers to check their child's pencil case this weekend to ensure it is fully stocked for lessons. Having the correct equipment helps students to be prepared and ready to learn.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep students organised and ready for success.







KS4 & 5 ART STUDIO

Wednesday afterschool I 15:15 - 16:00 I AR2 Art intervention for GCSE & A Level Art students



OPEN MORNING

TOURS 2025

Please call **01628 625308** to book a tour or ask at Main Reception.



SEPTEMBER

- TUE 16 10.10am
- WED 17 9.10am & 10.10am
- TUE 23 9.10am & 10.10am
- WED 24 10.10am
- **THU 25** 9.10am
- TUE 30 9.10am* & 10.10am

OCTOBER

- WED 1 10.10am
- TUE 7 9.10am & 10.10am
- TUE 14 9.10am & 10.10am
- WED 15 10.10am
- **THU 16** 9.10am
- TUE 21 9.10am* & 10.10am
- WED 22 10.10am



OPEN EVENING

2025

Thursday 2nd October 2025 6-8.30pm

All welcome, no booking required.



Furze Platt Senior School offers:

- An inclusive education which is broad, stimulating and rewarding for all.
- Superb academic, sporting and arts facilities which create an aspirational learning environment for students.
- Our Tutor Groups to give students identity and belonging and includes dedicated staff, mentors and leaders who will support and help with students' development.
- Our Houses to encourage friendly competition and a sense of community.



Elevate Education's Autumn 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 Get (And Keep!) Your Child Motivated

16th September 6:00pm (BST)

How You Can Help Your Child Manage Their Time 30th September 6:00pm (BST)

How You Can Help Your Child Set Up for Success in Exams 14th October 6:00pm (BST)

How You Can Help Improve Your Child's Memory 18th November 6:00pm (GMT)

How You Can Build Resilience in Your Child 2nd December 6:00pm (GMT)

How to Help Your Child Alleviate Stress 16th December 6:00pm (GMT)



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



SPECIAL OFFER FROM MOVE HAPPY FITNESS

Introducing Move Happy at FPSS — Empowering Women Through Fitness

Did you know that we hire space each Saturday to Move Happy Fitness?

Move Happy is a women-focused fitness organisation that supports women to build strength, confidence, and long-lasting fitness habits — in a way that feels good and fits real life.

We have a Special Offer for FPSS Female Parents, Carers & Staff - £10 off your first month's membership with the exclusive code: FPSS10 - Just visit www.movehappyfitness.co.uk to sign up and use the code at checkout.

Whether you're brand new to exercise or looking to lift heavier, Move Happy offers group training, personal training, and workshops designed to support every stage of your fitness journey.

Why Move Happy?

- Expert coaching in a supportive, inclusive environment
 - Tailored sessions for all fitness levels

A focus on empowerment, not intimidation

Follow us on Instagram: @movehappyfitness

FITNESS AND STRENGTH FOR WOMEN

AN INTRODUCTION TO STRENGTH



WEDNESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 6PM - 7.30PM

ST EDMUND CAMPION SCHOOL STUDIO, MAIDENHEAD



WWW.MOVEHAPPYFITNESS.CO.UK