

**MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER****Open Evening**

A huge thank you to our community for your support with our Open Evening last night. As always, we had lots of families wishing to learn more about our school. Subject displays looked amazing with students demonstrating and sharing their skills and expertise.



Our students were fantastic ambassadors for FPSS with our visitors praising them for their knowledge, enthusiasm and friendliness. I would like to thank and congratulate them for their efforts.

VIEW OUR SCHOOL PROSPECTUS 2025



VISIT [WWW.FURZEPLATT.COM](http://WWW.FURZEPLATT.COM)  
OR PICK UP A COPY FROM RECEPTION

[CLICK HERE TO SEE OUR SCHOOL PROSPECTUS 2025](#)

We continue to run morning tours should you have friends, family or neighbours who would like to visit us during the school day. More details can be found on page 4.

**Languages Week**

At the start of term, I shared with students the range of languages spoken at FPSS including the range of GCSEs taken at FPSS in the last few years. Alongside those languages students would expect, English, French, German and Spanish, our students have also sat GCSEs in Arabic, Panjabi, Italian, Polish, Mandarin, Greek, Russian,

**UPCOMING EVENTS****ALL EVENTS****Next Week (Week B)**

<b>MON 6</b> OCTOBER	Year 13 Biology trip to Woolly Firs	
<b>WED 8</b> <b>THU 9</b> <b>FRI 10</b> OCTOBER	Year 7 Teambuilding at Longridge	
<b>THU 9</b> OCTOBER	Preparing to Succeed in Year 8	6.15-7.15pm
<b>WEDS 15</b> OCTOBER	KS4/5 Form Tutor/Parents' Consultation Evening	4-7pm
<b>THU 16</b> OCTOBER	KS3 Form Tutor/Parents' Consultation Evening	4-7pm
<b>THU 23</b> OCTOBER	Year 11 Parents and Students Consultation Evening	4.15 – 7.15pm
<b>FRI 24</b> OCTOBER	End of Term	3.15pm finish
<b>MON 27 -</b> <b>FRI 31</b> OCTOBER	Half Term	
<b>MON 3</b> NOVEMBER	Start of Term 2	8.40am - 3.15pm

Turkish and Portuguese. This is just one way to illustrate the many languages spoken by our community and it is great to have this celebrated during Languages Week. Thank you to all staff, students and families who got involved. If you think your child may be able to enter a GCSE in another language, please do let your child's Head of Progress know.

**Year 7 Longridge Teambuilding Visits**

Finally, I hope our Year 7 enjoy their Longridge days next week with lots of adventurous activities. I look forward to joining the group on Wednesday.

Take care,

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



## YEAR 11 PARENTS' EVENING

**THURSDAY 23RD OCTOBER, 4.15-7.15PM - SAVE THE DATE!**

We are looking forward to welcoming parents and carers to our upcoming Year 11 Parents' Evening to discuss your child's progress and achievements.

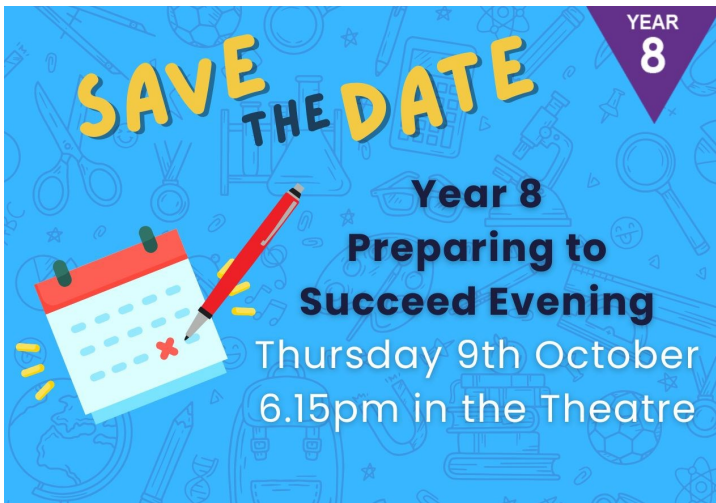
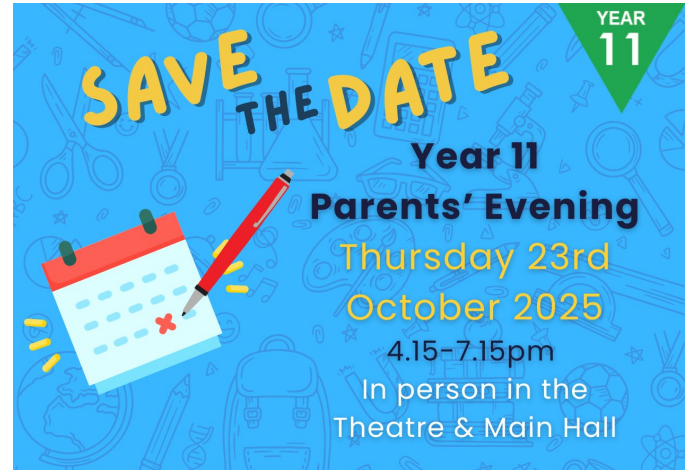
Full details will follow in due course.

## YEAR 8 PREPARING TO SUCCEED EVENING

**THURSDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 6.15PM**

Our Year 8 Preparing to Succeed information evening for parents and carers will be held on Thursday 9th October. Students are not required to attend, but we understand that there may be childcare considerations for some families. The event will take place in the theatre and start promptly at 6.15pm, finishing no later than 7pm. Please try to avoid arriving before 6pm.

Thank you.



## SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING:

**THURSDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> 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 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

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

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.

- Anonymous



## UPDATE FROM OUR GOVERNORS

We are delighted to announce that Katie Mair (formerly Donnison) has been appointed as Chair of Governors.

Katie has been our Vice-Chair of Governors for four years and has contributed much to the school's development during this time.

### Message from our Chair of Governors

"It was a real privilege to attend last night's Open Evening in my first official role as Chair of Governors. This annual event is a wonderful opportunity for prospective families to experience the very best of FPSS - and once again, our school community truly shone.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I'd like to extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make the evening such a success. The energy, enthusiasm, and teamwork between staff and students were on full display, and it's that spirit of collaboration that makes FPSS so special.

A special thank you also to our current parents and carers - your continued support means so much. And of course, your children were outstanding ambassadors, giving future families a genuine insight into life at FPSS."

Katie Mair, Chair of Governors

We would also like to say a heartfelt thank you to our outgoing Chair, Hugh Steed.

Hugh has been a valued member of the governing body who has been a strong strategic leader who also had time for all members of our community.

As both a parent and a school governor Hugh has been a stalwart of our school who brought technology expertise and a strong STEM focus to Furze Platt.



'Governors are ambitious and knowledgeable about the school.'

Ofsted 2021

### Katie Mair – Chair of Governors



"Having become a Governor in 2009 when my son was at FPSS, I am delighted to have been elected by the Governing Board to serve as your Chair of Governors.

With a professional background in stakeholder engagement, data-driven decision-making, and school improvement, I have a deep commitment to education and supporting our community to thrive.

I have worked extensively with schools and trusts over the last 20+ years to implement effective stakeholder voice feedback; staff appraisal, QA monitoring and CPD platform; and classroom resources.

I look forward to continuing to work alongside our school leaders to ensure everyone at FPSS has the opportunity to **ACHIEVE**."



### FURZE PLATT TEN BE READY TO LEARN



1. Black Pens
  2. Pencils
  3. Ruler
  4. Eraser
  5. Pencil Sharpener
  6. Scientific Calculator
  7. Highlighter
  8. Maths Set
  9. Glue Stick
  10. Fully Charged Laptop
- PUT THEM ALL IN A PENCIL CASE



## OPEN MORNING

### TOURS 2025

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

OCT

- 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

\*SEND specific tours



## YEARS 8 AND 9 REPORTS

The above 'Attitude to Learning' 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](http://www.furzeplatt.com) and clicking on the quick link 'Online Reporting', or by going directly to Go 4 Schools [www.go4schools.com](http://www.go4schools.com) and selecting Parents. Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at [reports@furzeplatt.net](mailto:reports@furzeplatt.net).

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager

VIEW REPORTS

GUIDANCE TO GRADING

HOW TO ACCESS GO4SCHOOLS



## CAREERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR

### CAN YOU HELP?

On the evening of Tuesday 25th November from 6-8pm, we will be holding our annual Furze Platt Careers & Higher Education Fair (CHEF). This is a fantastic opportunity for students and parents/guardians to meet potential colleges and universities, employers and apprenticeship providers.

We always love to welcome new people, so if you would be interested in having a stall at the event to tell others about what you do and what career prospects are like in that industry please do fill in the form below:

[CLICK HERE TO HELP WITH CAREERS FAIR](#)



## CAREERS & HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR

# CHEF 2025

Tuesday 25th November  
6pm - 8pm



Students are encouraged to arrive on site by 8.30am each morning.

- 🕒 Front Gate: Opens from 8:00 to 8:45 a.m.
- 🕒 Back Gate: Opens from 8:20 to 8:45 a.m.

Anyone arriving after 8.45am must sign in at reception and will be issued a daily C4 detention (Gen 3).

### Lost Minutes = Lost Learning

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Being late 15 minutes each day is the same as missing 2 weeks of school!



# WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

## IN MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES (MFL)

To celebrate Languages Week and European Day of Languages, students were challenged to broaden their language knowledge and awareness. With over 31 languages spoken at Furze Platt. Students were also given information on how learning languages can widen careers choices.

We held Bake Off and Duolingo competitions in our MFL Department - many congratulations to all our winners!



## SCHOOL CLUBS

## CLUBS AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLINICS

### Term 1: up 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.furzeplattsnvisits@edufocus.co.uk](mailto:evolve.furzeplattsnvisits@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.

### CLUBS LIST FOR NEXT WEEK

'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 2021*





Well done to our top ten students this week!



# SPARX SCIENCE CHAMPIONS

1. MATHEW CHEW
2. SEB SUTEHALL
3. ALEKS KOZIAK
4. MICHAEL OKPUKPO
5. LOIS SELLMAN
6. LUCAS BRYANT
7. LILY SMITH
8. RACHEL LEWIS
9. MILEY KA
10. BARNEY HARRIS

## FURZE PLATT SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR: IGNITING CURIOSITY AND COMPETITION!

Get ready for an explosive display of creativity and innovation at this year's FP Science Fair, scheduled to dazzle us this March! Our young scientists in Years 7,8&9 are gearing up to showcase projects that not only stretch their imagination but also sharpen essential academic and life skills.

### Why a Science Fair?

Participating in the science fair allows students to engage deeply with scientific inquiry and engineering design processes. It nurtures curiosity, encourages methodical research, and fosters an understanding of scientific principles. Beyond the science, students develop invaluable skills such as problem-solving, critical thinking, and public speaking, as they prepare to present their projects to an audience of peers, parents, and teachers.



**FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL**

# SECONDARY SCIENCE FAIR

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 5pm - 7pm**

**OPEN TO YEARS 7, 8 & 9**

We want you to come up with your own amazing projects! Once you have your idea please email them to [katie.mcelligott@furzeplatt.net](mailto:katie.mcelligott@furzeplatt.net) before the Christmas half term with confirmation of your attendance.

You can work in groups of no more than 3 people or if you'd rather, on your own. Should you want to discuss your idea, please either email Mrs McElligott or drop into Science Club which happens every Tuesday at 3.15 in S10 to discuss with Mr Wright & Mr Barrett.

### Exciting Prizes Await!

All participants will get the chance to go on a school trip to the Big Bang Fair in Birmingham.

Winners will be entered into the Big Bang Fair with the chance to win £500.

Winners will receive trophies and rosettes.

There will be lots of house points for all participants!

### Mark Your Calendars!

This March, join us in celebrating the hard work and success of our students. The Science Fair isn't just a day for competition; it's a festive gathering of minds eager to learn and grow. Let's cheer for our young scientists as they make their mark, one discovery at a time!

Prepare to be amazed by the wonders of science and the brilliance of our students. We can't wait to see you there – more details to in due course!

### SCIENCE REVISION GUIDES

Revision guides are now available to purchase for students in Years 10 and 11.

Please see Parentmail for more details.



## YEAR 7 TEAM BUILDING DAYS

OCTOBER 2025

Dear Parents and carers,

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.

When parents applied to the school via Admissions+ they selected a box to indicate if their child is confident in water.

We have all of this data already and do not require any parents to contact the school to state their consent.

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

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

Thursday 9th 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.

**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.

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

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](mailto: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 and 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; please see Parentmail for further details.







*Great work in Year 8 netball...*



*and in Morning Fitness Club...*



*with collaborative work in rugby, OAA and stretch and challenge!*







Well done to all students, and great consistent work from those in Eagle House! Here are the results:



## HOUSE CHALLENGE: PUMPKIN CARVING



Why not get your family involved and gain extra points for your House?



# OPEN MORNING TOURS 2025

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a tour or ask at Main Reception.

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\*SEND specific tours



*Turkey Cashback: 5% of order donated to PTA.*  
**Furze Platt Senior School**

CODE:  
FPSPTA24

COPASFARMSHOP.CO.UK

T: 01628 499 980



# CLASSES

WITH LEISURE FOCUS

## FURZE PLATT



### CLASSES AVAILABLE



**MONDAYS**  
PILATES  
INDOOR CYCLING



**THURSDAYS**  
CORE  
ZUMBA



**TUESDAYS**  
CORE STABILITY  
PILATES



**FRIDAYS**  
DANCE CLASS  
YOGA



**WEDNESDAYS**  
STRETCH  
HIIT CIRCUITS  
YOGA



**SATURDAYS**  
HIIT CIRCUITS  
ZUMBA

**MEMBERSHIPS  
AVAILABLE**

LEISURE FOCUS  
OPERATING AGENT FOR



# RBWM Achieving for Children

# TAKEOVER DAY 2025

## Tuesday 25 November

**Do you want to take over  
someone's role for a day?**

We are inviting young people aged 13 to 18 to experience a role within RBWM/AfC for Takeover Day 25 November 2025  
9am to 4.30pm starting at Maidenhead Town Hall.

**Have your voices heard by changemakers**

**Experience real jobs**

**Learn and understand more about council roles**

Scan the QR code to complete the application form



For more information, please contact **Molly Bowyer**,  
**Young Peoples Engagement Officer**

E: [molly.bowyer@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:molly.bowyer@achievingforchildren.org.uk)

T: 07881 529176



 **achieving  
for children**