

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Meet the Tutor Evenings

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended our two evenings this week. Whether online or in person, it was a pleasure to meet you and discuss your child's progress at the start of the 2025/26 academic year. I trust these meetings helped answer questions, identify strengths and also focus on areas for improvement.



West Wittering Year 9 Visits

Following visits to Longridge for all of Year 7 last week, this week saw Year 9 students going to West Wittering to complete Geography fieldwork. This was a great chance for students to see Geography in action and I hope they enjoyed the experience. It is also a good taster in readiness for students choosing their GCSE options in the new term. Thank you to staff and families for supporting these trips.

Year 11 Progress Reports and Parents Evening

Next week sees the release of the first Year 11 Progress Reports of the year followed on Thursday by Parents Evening. This is an important moment for staff, students, parents and carers to reflect at the start of the year, celebrate successes and then plan the path to ensure examination success next summer. I look forward to seeing you there.

Year 13 Drama Assessment

For some students, components counting for their final grades are already happening and I wish our Year 13 Drama students every success in their assessment next week.

House of Commons statement

Finally, we were mentioned in the House of Commons this



UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

Next Week (Week B)

THU 23 OCTOBER	Year 11 Parents and Students' Consultation Evening	4.15-7.15pm
FRI 24 OCTOBER	End of Term 1	3.15pm finish
MON 27 - FRI 31 OCTOBER	Half Term	
MON 3 NOVEMBER	Start of Term 2	8.40am-3.15pm
THU 20 NOVEMBER	Year 12 Parents & Students' Consultation Evening	4.15-7.15pm
TUE 25 NOVEMBER	Careers Fair	6-8pm
THU 27 NOVEMBER	Sixth Form Open Evening	6-9pm
FRI 28 NOVEMBER	Late Start for all year groups (straight to first lesson, no form)	9.15am
WED 10 DECEMBER	Christmas Concert	7-9pm
THU 11 DECEMBER	Year 13 Parents & Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm-7.15pm
FRI 19 DECEMBER	End of Term 2	12.30pm finish

SCHOOL TERM DATES

week by Josh Reynolds MP - current school governor and former pupil - on the benefits of school partnerships. You can see the brief video here:

HOUSE OF COMMONS VIDEO

Take care,

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

KEEPING YOU INFORMED ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S PROGRESS



- HOW IS MY CHILD DOING?

We know how important it is for parents and carers to stay up to date with their child's learning and progress. Reports for Years 8–10, 12, and 13 are now available on Go 4 Schools.

Simply log in to view your child's latest progress, attendance, and achievements. Staying informed is a great way to support your child throughout the year!

[VIEW REPORTS](#)[GUIDANCE TO GRADING](#)[HOW TO ACCESS GO4SCHOOLS](#)

Our parents and carers have told us they value feeling informed about what their children are learning. We are pleased to share our curriculum plans for the 2025–2026 academic year.

Please find links to our curriculum overviews, which outline what students will be studying across every subject throughout the year.

[YEAR 7 CURRICULUM](#)[YEAR 8 CURRICULUM](#)[YEAR 9 CURRICULUM](#)[YEAR 10 CURRICULUM](#)[YEAR 11 CURRICULUM](#)[YEAR 12 CURRICULUM](#)[YEAR 13 CURRICULUM](#)

ART EXHIBITION

22ND OCTOBER TO 8TH NOVEMBER

We are delighted to announce that our Art students' work from the year 2024-2025 has been selected for entry into the upcoming Maidenhead Schools: Art, Design & Photography Exhibition at Norden Farm.



The exhibition will run from 22nd October to 8th November 2025, with judging scheduled for Friday, 24th October at 4:30pm. We warmly encourage you to attend and celebrate this special occasion.

We are extremely proud of the exceptional standard of creativity and talent demonstrated across our school. This exhibition provides a wonderful opportunity to showcase the skill, imagination and dedication of our students, and we look forward to sharing their achievements with the wider community.

We hope to see you there in support of our young artists. For more details please see page 12.

Mr G Bahra, Head of Art and Design



'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



YEAR 12 PARENTS' EVENING

THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER, 4.15-7.15PM - SAVE THE DATE!

We are looking forward to welcoming parents and carers to our upcoming Year 12 Parents' Evening to discuss your child's progress and achievements.

Full details will follow in due course.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH BRONZE AND SILVER AWARDS

DEADLINE EXTENDED

We are delighted to announce that we have been able to extend the deadline for participation in the Bronze and Silver DofE Awards to Monday, 20th October at midnight as long as the form (link below) is completed and the first instalment of payment has been made by that time.

Bronze Award (Year 9) first instalment - £67.50

Silver Award (Year 10): first instalment - £105



[CLICK HERE TO APPLY FOR DOFE AWARDS](#)

Please note: the enrolment form must be submitted and the first instalment must be paid by this time as we will be unable to extend the deadline further. Any submissions or payments received after the deadline will mean your child will not be able to access the DofE programme this year.

YEAR 11 PARENTS' EVENING

THURSDAY 23RD OCTOBER, 4.15-7.15PM

We are looking forward to welcoming parents and carers to the Year 11 Parents' Evening on Thursday 23rd October, between 4:15pm and 7:15pm. This is a valuable opportunity to receive feedback from staff on your child's progress.

Please log on to School Cloud to book your appointments now.



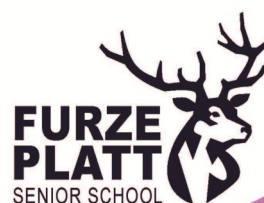
SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING:

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).



**SIXTH FORM
OPEN EVENING**

THURSDAY 27TH NOVEMBER

STAFF APPRECIATION

At Furze Platt Senior School, we value the dedication and hard work of our staff immensely. As part of our ongoing efforts to show appreciation, we kindly request your feedback. Your insights will contribute to recognising and celebrating the exceptional efforts of our staff.

Please take a moment to share your thoughts on how our staff have positively impacted your child's educational journey in term one. Your feedback means the world to us!

[CLICK HERE FOR STAFF FEEDBACK](#)

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Personal Development is about how well schools help students to develop their character, resilience, and understanding of the wider world. It includes all the ways children learn to become successful, well-rounded individuals – not just through lessons, but through experiences, opportunities, and relationships.

Personal Development covers areas such as:

Character and values – building confidence, integrity, and respect for others.

Relationships and wellbeing – learning how to form positive friendships, manage emotions, and stay healthy.

Understanding the wider world – developing cultural awareness, respect for diversity, and a sense of social responsibility.

Preparation for the future – encouraging independence, ambition, and readiness for life beyond school, including careers education.

In short, Personal Development is about educating the whole child – helping every student to grow not only academically, but personally and socially too.

At Furze Platt, we believe that Personal Development is part of everything we do. It's woven throughout our whole curriculum, helping students to grow both academically and personally.

This is also supported through:

- **PSHE lessons**, taught by tutors, which focus on wellbeing, relationships, and life skills.

A dedicated weekly Personal Development tutor activity, giving students time to reflect, discuss, and develop important skills beyond the classroom. Each department designs its own Personal Development tutor activities to provide a well-rounded view of future opportunities, encourage students to explore themes beyond the curriculum, and help them engage with cultural awareness and the wider world.



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](#)



INSTRUMENTAL AND SINGING LESSONS

You can apply for a range of music lessons in the following:

- * Guitar * Singing * Piano
- * Brass (trumpet, tuba, trombone, French Horn)
- * Strings (violin, viola, cell, double bass) * Drums

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



Well done to our top ten students this week!

**SPARX
SCIENCE
CHAMPIONS**

1. DENZEL NKRUMAH
2. OMayMA SAYAGH
3. TALIA ABOU SALEH
4. ZOE DAVIES
5. SIMON WORLEY
6. ARSHIA CHOUDHURY
7. HAYDEN APPLEYARD
8. JESS COULING
9. MYA BIRK
10. MATHEW CHEW

Furze Platt 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 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.

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!

**FURZE PLATT
SENIOR SCHOOL**

**SECONDARY
SCIENCE
FAIR**

**Monday 16th 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 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.

PE HOUSE CAPTAINCY

Well done to Finley Manders (Year 8), pictured receiving his House Captaincy badge from Head of Eagle House Mr Tipp.





Outside on the rugby pitch...



...where application of warm up, tackle, drills = successful game...



...to Ghosts and Ghostbusters and a great netball practice!



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.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.

Clubs for next term will be sent out on Friday 24th October. A number of our clubs are extremely popular so we advise early sign up.

CLUBS LIST FOR NEXT WEEK

GARDENING CLUB

Gardening Club were out and about in the nature garden splitting and replanting the pulminaria. These will become new clumps of plants ready for our hairy footed flower bees in the spring.

Next week is the big one - pumpkins! We are also planning a trip in November so make sure to sign up. All years welcome especially Duke of Edinburgh volunteers.



All year groups welcome
ESPECIALLY DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD VOLUNTEERS



HOUSE POINT WINNERS THIS WEEK...

IT'S FALCON HOUSE!

Great work Falcons!

Only 17 points separated the winners from second place - every point counts...



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12583



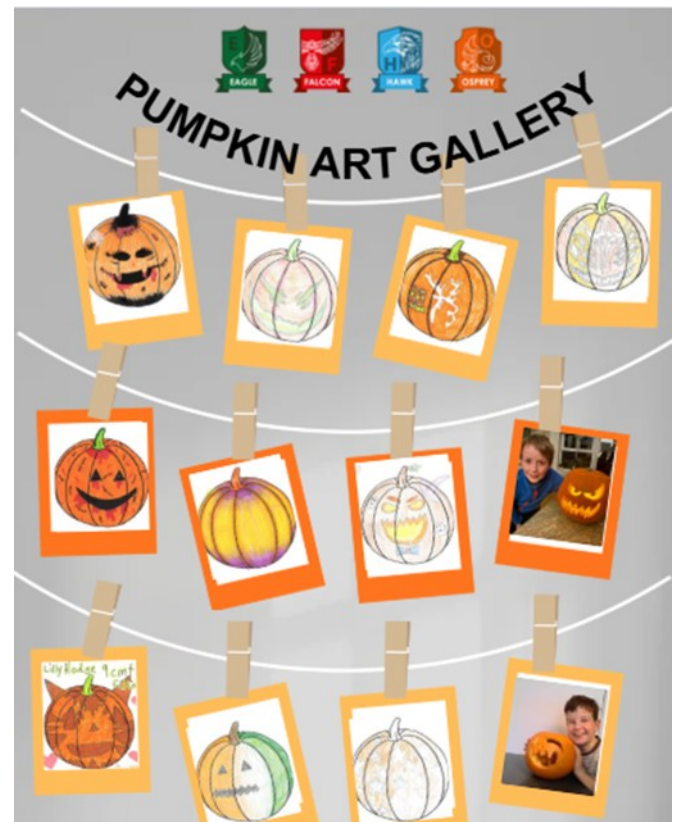
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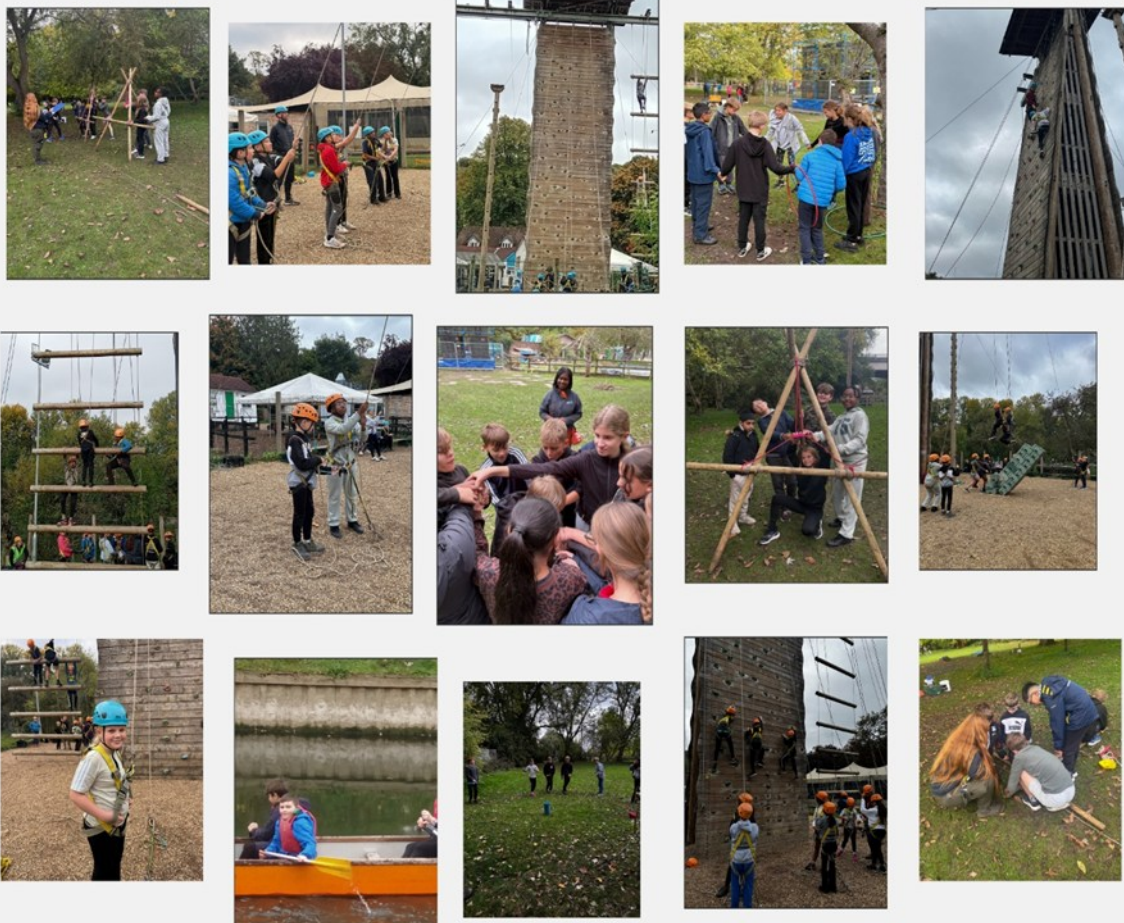


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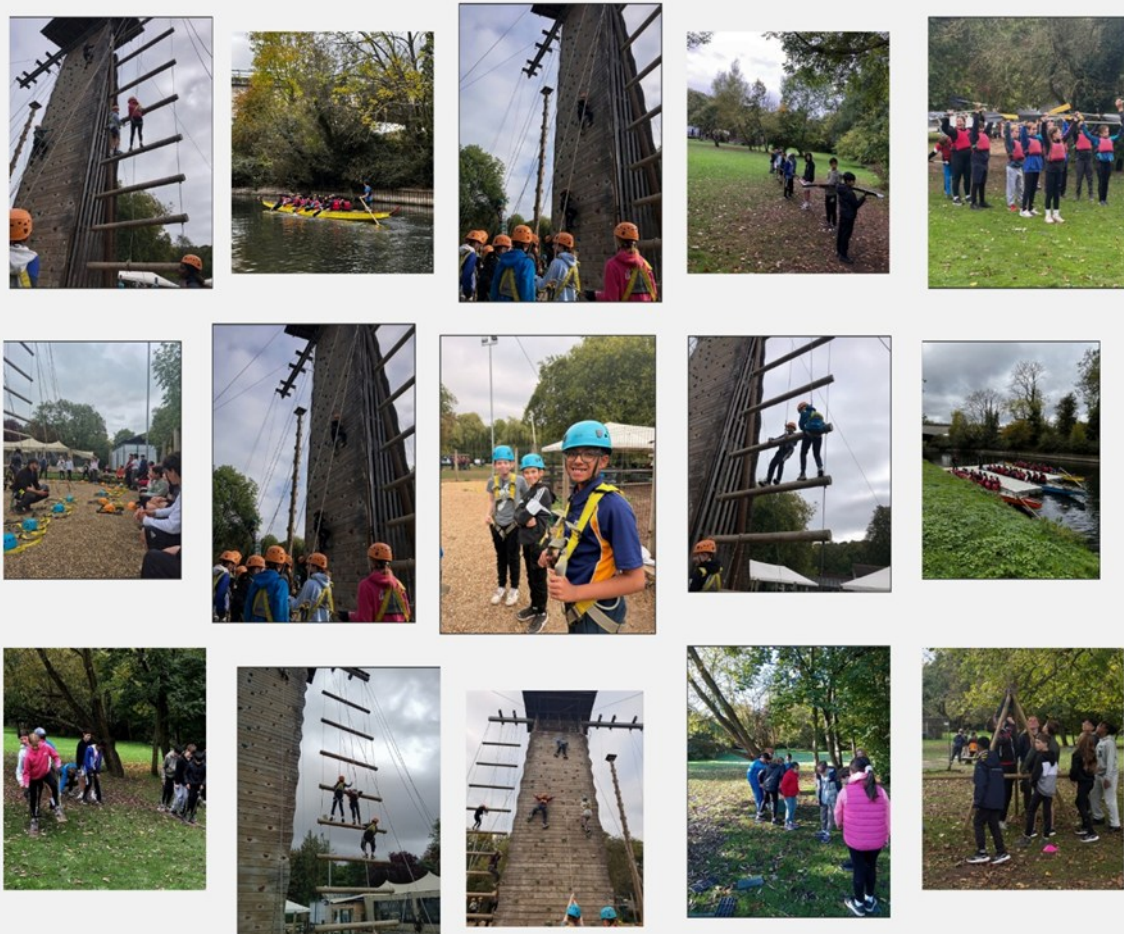
PUMPKIN ART GALLERY

Well done to all our artists!





YEAR 7 LONGRIDGE 2025



AUTUMN TERM HEALTH GUIDANCE

As we move into the autumn months, we wanted to share with you some general NHS guidance for managing common health concerns whilst in school.

Covid-19: There is no longer a need to isolate for Covid-19. Please treat as you would with a common cold, medication can be administered during the day, to relieve symptoms, however, please stay home if your child has a fever of (38+) until the fever clears.

Coughs and Common Colds: It is fine to send your child to school with a minor cough and common cold. We can keep medication in school to administer during the day, however, if they have a fever (38+) please keep them off school until the fever goes. We would like to remind students about the importance of hand washing and covering your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing to reduce the spread of germs.

Please complete the consent form sent via Parentmail for your child to receive the upcoming flu vaccination.

Headaches: We would be grateful to remind all students to remember to bring their own water bottles into school as staying hydrated is important to prevent illnesses such as headaches.

Diarrhoea and/or Vomiting: Children with diarrhoea and/or vomiting can return to school 48 hours after their last episode.

Chicken Pox/Shingles: Please alert the school as soon as possible if your child contracts shingles, measles or chickenpox as we have multiple immunocompromised students who are at increased risk.

Children with chickenpox should stay home until all the blisters/spots have crusted over.

Children with shingles should stay home until the rash stops weeping.

Should you require your child/children to keep medication in school, Medical Consent forms can be requested by emailing the School Medical Officer
clara.child@furzeplatt.net

Please fill in the form and return along with the required medication.

Please note: School does not have spare medication such as paracetamol. A form is required for any medication brought into school, including, Paracetamol and Ibuprofen.



GEMS WORKSHOP

Barriers to School, Can't go, not won't go



Hosted by the Autism Group:

To understand what EBSA/ERSA is. Recognising potential early signs in our children. Exploring strategies to support our children. Encouraging questions and sharing experiences.

Places are very limited and we can only allow parents and carers to attend whose child is experiencing school avoidance.

Autism or Dual Support

For parents & carers of primary & secondary school aged children.

Online: Thursday 4th December 2025 7:30 - 9:30pm

BOOK HERE

Please take a look at the GEMS website for a full list of available support:

PLEASE CLICK HERE FOR GEMS WEBSITE

BRITISH VALUES

As part of our commitment to students' Personal Development, we actively promote British Values. These are the shared principles that help everyone live and work together respectfully in modern Britain.

The aim is to help young people understand how society works and to encourage them to become responsible, caring, and active citizens.

The five Fundamental British Values are:

1. **Democracy** – understanding that everyone has a voice and a say in decisions, whether that's through school councils, voting, or class discussions.
2. **The Rule of Law** – learning why rules and laws are important, how they protect us, and how they help communities stay safe and fair.
3. **Individual Liberty** – knowing that we all have rights and freedoms and learning to make safe and responsible choices for ourselves.
4. **Mutual Respect** – showing respect for ourselves and others, even when we have different opinions or backgrounds.

Tolerance of Different Faiths and Beliefs – understanding and celebrating diversity and appreciating that others may have beliefs or lifestyles different from our own.

Through lessons, assemblies, and everyday school life, we help our students see these values in action – preparing them to contribute positively to their communities and to society as a whole.



FAMILY LIVES SUPPORT



If you need to talk, we're here to listen

Families are facing many struggles and it may feel like it is coming in at every angle. Trying to manage this and parenting children can be really difficult. Our trained family support workers can give you the space to talk, helping you to explore your situation and identify the way forward.

Call us on 0808 800 2222, message us via WhatsApp on 07441 444125, email us at askus@familylives.org.uk or visit our website to use our live chat service <https://www.familylives.org.uk/>

OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS

Maidenhead Mencap, a local charity providing support and leisure activities for people with learning disabilities in the area run three evening clubs for our members enjoying activities such as Switch games, pool, table football, bingo, karaoke, puzzles, art etc.



We have adult clubs on Mondays and Wednesdays, and a youth club for young people from 14 to 24 on Thursday evenings.

In the past, young people have volunteered as part of their D of E awards. They have found helping at our clubs to be rewarding, confidence building and fun. The jobs they have done include playing Uno with a group, table tennis or darts with an individual, chatting to members, and supporting people to join in with other activities as well as preparing for the groups and tidying up at the end of the session.

All our regular volunteers have enhanced DBS checks. We meet at Highview, 6 North Road, Maidenhead SL6 1PL.

If you are interested, please see Miss Carty in AR3.

WE ARE hiring!

HLTA IN SHINE REQUIRED TO START ASAP

📍 Location	Furze Platt Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 7NQ
📅 Contract Type	Permanent
🕒 Contract Term	Part-Time
£ Salary	£17,103.00 - £18,275.00 Annually (Actual) 21.75 hours per week (3 days, must include Fridays). Term-time only plus two INSET days.
📅 Closing Date	9:00am, 3rd Nov 2025
📅 Start Date	ASAP

[CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#)

Join
our team!



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

**CODE:
FPSPTA24**

COPASFARMSHOP.CO.UK

T: 01628 499 980

Maidenhead Secondary Schools Exhibition

Wed 22 Oct - Sat 8 Nov

Norden Farm are pleased
to invite you to our judging
evening for students, staff and
parents from BCA, Furze Platt
Senior School, Holyport College
and Newlands Girls'
School.

Friday 24 November 4.30pm



Zuzanna | Furze Platt Senior School

Norden Farm are delighted to present the return of our
schools exhibition created by local students.

Gallery Opening Hours

Tuesday - Saturday
5pm - 10pm



01628 788997 / nordenfarm.org
Altwood Road, Maidenhead SL6 4PF

Prizes kindly
donated by:

DALER 
ROWNEY

double trouble
enterprises

 *Feathers and Fur
Falconry Centre*



St John's
inspire
programme

CRITICAL THINKING SERIES



YEAR 9

**WHY IS LANGUAGE
SO POWERFUL ?**

YEAR 10

**DOES CRIME
ALWAYS
DESERVE
PUNISHMENT ?**

YEAR 11 & 12

**WHAT DOES
THE FUTURE
HOLD ?**

**REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN**

until 7th Dec 2025

What Is Inspire Critical Thinking?

- **FREE** online programme run between **January - April 2026**
- For **Years 9 -12** (non-selective schools in the UK)
- Develop your **critical thinking** skills through a range of **subject perspectives**
- Made up of **4 workshops** linked to a central question for different year groups
- Complete **super challenges**, vote on polls, **win prizes!**
- Access to a virtual summer school

How do I sign up?

Scan the QR code to register,
or visit www.sjcinspire.com for
more information.



SCAN HERE!

Budgeting & Money Management Course for Parents

Do you want to ...

Take control of your family's finances?
Hear from experts at Citizens Advice about your consumer rights.

Learn how to spot loan sharks, or pick up tips for cooking on a budget?

Join our workshop designed to help you build smart budgeting habits, reduce financial stress, and set a strong financial future for your family.



What You'll Learn:

- Determine sources of income and outgoings.
- Consider ways to reduce expenditure.
- Plan personal budgets.
- Recognise products provided by financial institutions.
- State some of the advantages and disadvantages of borrowing money.
- Know where to obtain help with managing own money.
- Teaching your children good money habits.

Who Can Attend?

All parents or guardians are welcome. No prior financial knowledge needed.

- **Course duration:** 5 weeks
- **Start date:** Friday 17th October – 21st November 2025
- **Start time:** 10:00 – 12:00
- **Location:** Furze Platt Senior School

Don't delay, register now! Places are limited!

If you're interested in joining the course, please contact Lifelong Learning:



Call: 01753 476611

Email: lifelonglearning@slough.gov.uk

Website: www.webenrol.com/ebclass

Visit: Maidenhead Library, St Ives Road, Maidenhead SL6 1QU
Tuesdays 10:00 - 14:00

The Curve (Ground floor), Wellington Street, Slough, SL1 1XY



FIRST AID COURSES

At Braywick Leisure Centre

3 DAY FIRST AID COURSE

Cost **ONLY £199 per person** (Normally £320)
Quote SCHOOL3

- 13th – 15th October 2025
- 10th – 12th November 2025
- 24th – 26th November 2025
- 01st – 03rd December 2025

1 DAY FIRST AID COURSE

Cost **ONLY £99 per person** (Normally £150)
Quote SCHOOL1

- 21st October 2025
- 18th November 2025

Be prepared. Be confident. Be First Aid qualified

Scan here to sign up
Or
Email us down below



academy@leisurefocus.org.uk

LEISURE FOCUS
OPERATING AGENT FOR



CHOIRS OPEN DAY

**We're opening the doors to
our music centre choirs on
Saturday 18 October!**

Come and join the fun and discover the joy
of singing with others.



WINDSOR MUSIC CENTRE

Dedworth School, Smiths Lane, Windsor, SL4 5PE

Reception - Year 13

Windsor Young Singers & Children's Choir

9.30-10.10am

Year 6 - Year 13

Windsor Contemporary Voices

10.50-11.35am



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

T: 07881 529176



 **achieving
for children**



FREE LUNCH

Children will be provided lunch after parents attend a brief session aimed at shaping better local services.

Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) Family Fun Day!

**Saturday
15 November 2025
10.30am-2.30pm**

**Salt Hill Activity Centre
Bath Road, Slough, SL1 3SS**

**For more information:
Event contact: Kulvinder Dhillon
Contact number: 07395 258266**



Scan to sign up by 6 November, you must sign up to attend.
www.eventbrite.com/e/family-fun-day-tickets-1784168208139

You can choose 3 of the activities below:

- **Soft play**
For children aged 0-12
- **Bowling**
- **Trampolining**
For children aged 5+ unless taking part in the toddler session
- **Virtual Reality**
All users must be aged 8 and over.



Children must be accompanied by a parent/carer

www.slough.gov.uk
Slough
Borough Council