

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Term Two

Welcome to Term 2 of the 2025/26 academic year. I hope that you and your families had a fabulous half term. I was delighted to welcome students and colleagues back to FPSS on Monday to begin a term full of studies but also containing many exciting events, plus our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 27th November.



Heathrow Experience

One of those events happened on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. We welcomed staff from Heathrow giving students the chance for some 'real world learning'. Students learnt how the airport functions and types of jobs involved. This was followed by the chance for students to show their engineering, team and presentation skills. Many thanks to all our guests for making the event so memorable, as well as our staff for organising.

Norden Farm Art Exhibition

Many pieces by our students can currently be seen at Norden Farm in their Schools Exhibition. Congratulations to all our extremely talented pupils who managed to scoop four of the six awards, which were presented by Joshua Reynolds MP.

Pre Public Examinations (PPEs)

Well done to our Year 10 students who sat Maths and English PPEs this week. I hope that you gained from the experience in readiness for your exams in 18 months' time.

Good luck to all our Year 13 students who sit their PPEs next week.

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

Term 2 (Week B)

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



**SIXTH FORM
OPEN EVENING**
 Thursday 27th November 2025
 6-9pm
 No booking required.





Introducing our newly refurbished Sixth Form Centre.

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 be sent out next week.



CAREERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR



TUESDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 6-8PM

Our Careers and Higher Education Fair is open to all students in Years 9-13 and their parents and carers.

This is always a fantastic opportunity for our students to meet people from the world of work, as well as hearing what life is like for those in further education..



Over 20 Universities & Colleges come to you!

So you can narrow down your favourites, ask questions about the courses that they offer and get an idea if University/College is the right path for you.

Maybe you have a new idea about what you want to do?

Ideas constantly change and evolve; the purpose of this Fair is to give you the opportunity to test out your latest thoughts by hearing from industry and university experts. If you've been before you can go again, our visiting experts are always changing.

No booking required, just turn up!

CLICK HERE TO HELP WITH CAREERS FAIR

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 6-9PM

This event will take place from 6-9pm and will be followed by a late start on Friday 28th November for all students.



NON-UNIFORM (MUFTI) DAY

FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

We will be holding a non-uniform (mufti) day on Friday 14th November in aid of the Red Cross Hurricane Melissa Emergency Relief Fund.



All donations to the work of the Red Cross are greatly appreciated and we would ask for participating students to make a £2 donation wherever possible. We continue to use ParentMail for donations to the campaign, or students can give their donations to their tutor in Form on the day.

We recognise that some families may not be in the financial position to make such a donation at this time and students will of course not be prevented from participating in the non-uniform day if there are genuine financial challenges.

While students will be wearing their own clothes, please be aware that we do expect them to dress appropriately. There should be no offensive slogans, crop tops, onesies, costumes, backless/halter-neck tops or camisole style tops. Skirts/shorts should be of a suitable length to the knee and shoes or trainers (not flip-flops, crocs or open back sandals) should be suitable for a day at school. We request no fashion, or cultural headwear should be worn, only religious head coverings as per usual uniform policy.

[CLICK HERE FOR PARENTMAIL PAYMENTS GUIDE](#)



SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT CLINICS

Term 2: up to the Christmas holidays

Parents and carers of students in all year groups were sent e-mail invites at the end of last term to book on to clubs.

New clubs have been added for next week; please do take a look and add your child on to any they may be interested in.

CLUBS LIST



The email is headed Furze Platt Senior School and is from evolve.furzeplattsnrvisits@edufocus.co.uk

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.



Well done to our Sparx Maths champions from! Your dedication and hard work help you ACHIEVE amazing results – keep it up.

SPARX MATHS TERM 1 CHAMPIONS

1 RISITH K	1 ANNA B
2 HIRUN F	2 RUBY P-M
3 HARRY T	3 KEHAN K
4 ZAYN H	4 THEHAN K
5 YAHYA H	5 STEPHAINE H

1 VEANNA W	1 SEB S
2 MEYORA DE S	2 GRETLE A
3 MYA B	3 NATHAN T
4 TOM O'S	4 EZRA T
5 KHALID EL-H	5 FLORENCE T

1 ALI EL G
2 MILEY K
3 MUSTAFA A
4 AHMET K
5 OWAIS Z



SPARX MATHS WEEKLY CHAMPIONS

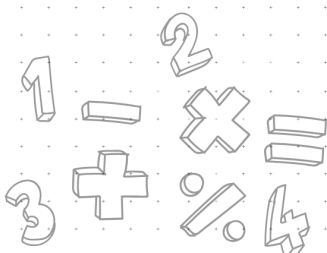
1 RISITH K
2 HIRUN F
3 LIAM Z
4 STANLEY B
5 SEB P

1 JACK S
2 CHARLIE D
3 ALIX H
4 TAWANA N
5 MADELEINE B

1 VEANNE W
2 KHADIJA E H
3 LUKE D
4 THEA W-D
5 STEPHANIE E

1 FLORENCE T
2 OSCAR E
3 FIFI W
4 YUI P L
5 JESS C

1 AHMET K
2 NELA S
3 AYAAT L
4 EISA A
5 JAIME S



This week we are delighted to introduce Angie Faires, Parent Governor.

Angie Faires - Parent Governor



"As a parent of a student at the school, I've been consistently impressed with the quality of his learning experience and the dedication of the staff.

With over 25 years of experience as a marketing and communications specialist, I've worked across not-for-profit sectors including heritage, tourism, and leisure. My expertise lies in developing strategies that engage diverse audiences and deliver measurable impact.

In my current role as Head of Marketing, I am supporting a sector-leading schools' strategy for the UK that aims to inspire a love for history among teachers and students, enriching young people's lives by building cultural capital and fostering lifelong enthusiasm for heritage. I'm committed to using my professional skills to enhance the school's reputation, strengthen community engagement, and support effective communication with parents, staff, and students.



As a governor, I am dedicated to helping the school create the best possible opportunities for all students to thrive."

CLICK HERE TO SEE MORE ABOUT
OUR GOVERNING BODY



To the PTFA

"Thank you so much for the lovely books you've let us have, we really appreciate everything you do for us to make things like this happen. I really can't thank you enough for everything you've given us."

Aryan, Year 7 student



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AROUND OUR SCHOOL THIS WEEK?

This week in Personal Development sessions, students welcomed visitors from Heathrow and have been working collaboratively to create a robot car design, code the robot to move to various checkpoints on a Heathrow map and design a PowerPoint presentation that reflects on what went well and how they could have improved their designs to maximise resources.



Over in Food and Nutrition, an all round fabulous effort by our Year 10 students, designing their own seasonal dish for a restaurant. The results were so creative, versatile and varied - brilliant work by them all!



On Tuesday, Gardening Club students really got stuck in and accomplished a lot of planting in the new learning support garden.

Particularly impressive were the Year 7s who were very collaborative in planting black bamboo (safely contained as it can be a 'runner'), whilst our Year 9 and 10 students made a great job with pulpinaria and lamb's ear.

Thanks once again to the PTFA for our new wheelbarrow and gloves and thank you to Josh for assembling it!



Next week we are walking to Nature's Haven (community garden) for a special treat!



Staying outside but over on the rugby fields in Aylesbury, we watched a very brave performance by our Year 9 Rugby team, the scoreline of 41-33 hardly reflecting the tremendous fightback in the second half against Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School.

Great collaborative work and positivity throughout - well done team!





PE this week, excelling in both studies and activities...



...to competitive volleyball sessions...



...and collaboration outside!



NETBALL SHOOTOUT



Break time got a lot more exciting with the Netball Shootout, a fast-paced challenge where students had just 30 seconds to score as many baskets as possible.

Organised by our Student Council, this was the first in a series of fun, competitive activities designed to bring students together and encourage friendly rivalry. The energy was electric — with cheers erupting for every successful shot and a good-natured “awww!” whenever the ball missed the mark.

The top three scorers from each Year Group walked away with delicious chocolate prizes. Congratulations to all who took part, and a big thank you to the Student Council for kicking off this exciting new initiative!



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2025: POWER FOR GOOD



At Furze Platt Senior School, we are committed to supporting every student's personal development, helping them grow into confident, kind and responsible young people. A key part of this is ensuring that all students feel safe, respected and supported in our school community.

Next week, from Monday 10th to Friday 14th November, Furze Platt Senior School is proud to take part in Anti-Bullying Week 2025, celebrating the theme 'Power for Good'.

At FPSS, we believe that every member of our school community has the power to make a positive difference.

Anti-Bullying Week is an important opportunity to remind students that kindness, respect and integrity are at the heart of everything we do, and that together we can continue to build a safe, supportive environment where everyone feels valued.

As part of our ongoing commitment to wellbeing and inclusion, we encourage all students to live by our key message: “See it, Stop it, Say it.” Whether it's standing up for someone, reporting unkind behaviour or showing empathy, small actions can have a powerful impact. Throughout the week, students will take part in assemblies, discussions and activities designed to strengthen our shared values and ensure that Furze Platt remains a place where ambition, collaboration, happiness, integrity, versatility and excellence – our ACHIEVE values – guide how we treat one another every day.

For more information and useful resources, please click the link below.

[CLICK HERE FOR PARENT AND CARER PACK](#)

We want every child at Furze Platt to feel safe, supported and happy at school. If you have any concerns, please do contact us so we can respond quickly and effectively. Working together, we can continue to make Furze Platt Senior School a place where everyone feels valued and respected.

SEE IT SAY IT STOP IT

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

Bullying is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at Furze Platt Senior School.

STOP BULLYING

MAKE A NOISE ABOUT BULLYING

WHAT IS BULLYING?

Bullying is behaviour by an individual or a group that is seen by you as an attempt to hurt, frighten, humiliate or threaten you or someone else, particularly if the behaviour is repeated or persistent.

We are a **TELLING** school, this means if any learner is bullied they should be able to tell a member of staff. It also means that **ANYONE** who knows bullying is happening is expected to tell staff. To report bullying, speak to a member of staff or e-mail:

SAFEGUARDING@FURZEPLATT.NET



Well done to our top ten Sparx Science students this week!

SPARX SCIENCE CHAMPIONS

1. OLIVER FENNELL
2. LOUIS PALMER
3. SANAA NASEER
4. LILLY GIBBINS
5. LOIS SELLMAN
6. AMAAN BASHIR
7. GIDEON AU
8. LILY SMITH
9. OLLY MAKIN
10. TYLER LOVETT

Need inspiration for your Science Fair project? Take a look at some of last year's amazing entries!

Now it's your turn to experiment & amaze - email your idea to katie.mcelligott@furzeplatt.net before Christmas half term.

GET INSPIRED BY LAST YEAR'S SCIENCE PROJECTS:

AR Sandbox Adventure

Hypothesis: Probably can't—but let's build one and find out!

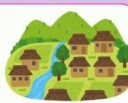
Extra: Needs a dim space, power socket, laptop table, and over an hour for set-up.



Water Analysis: Windsor & Maidenhead

Hypothesis: Rural waters are cleaner than urban streams.

Extra: Tests ecosystem health and safety for recreation.



Solar System Around Maidenhead

Hypothesis: If the Sun's a tennis ball, planets map across town!

Extra: Scale model of planetary distances on local streets.



Voice & Hearing Experiment

Hypothesis: Not hearing yourself changes pitch and volume.

Extra: Speech-to-text comparison analysis.



Germ-Fighting Dog Saliva?

Hypothesis: Dog saliva kills mouth germs.

Extra: Agar petri tests with and without saliva.



Wing Shape Flight Test

Hypothesis: Wing shape influences flight distance.

Extra: Launch identical-weight planes from the same catapult.



Electromagnet Engineering

Hypothesis: More coils and higher voltage increase lifting capacity.

Extra: Count staples lifted by each electromagnet setup.



Cookie Chemistry

Hypothesis: Changing one ingredient alters cookie texture, spread, and taste.

Extra: Bake batches with a single ingredient varied each time.



Plant Growth & Colour Light

Hypothesis: Blue light promotes the best growth due to photosynthesis.

Extra: Grow plants under coloured filters; measure height over time.



Coin Cleaning Challenge

Hypothesis: Vinegar, milk, or washing-up liquid will clean coins most effectively.

Extra: Test household substances and compare shine and cleaning time.



**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.

HOW DOES FPSS SUPPORT STUDENTS WITH SEND?

As part of our commitment to ensuring that every child receives the support they need to succeed, we continue to focus on the principle: "My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed."

To strengthen our communication and partnership with parents and carers, we will be offering online appointments for parents of SEN K students who may have particular questions or points they would like to raise with our SENCo. These sessions will provide an opportunity to discuss support and any individual needs.

Year 8 SEN K Students

Wednesday 12th November, 2.15 – 3.15pm

Year 9 SEN K Students

Wednesday 19th November, 2.15 – 3.15pm

These appointments will take place online via SchoolCloud. If you would like to book a slot, please complete the [Microsoft Form](#).

To ensure we can offer tailored and meaningful support, we kindly ask that you share any information or specific areas of special educational need you would like to explore in advance. We look forward to working closely with parents and carers to ensure every student at Furze Platt Senior School is supported to thrive.



15257



15566



15257



15039



HOUSE POINT WINNERS FOR THE FIRST WEEK BACK...

IT'S FALCON HOUSE!

Great work Falcons!



HOUSE ACTIVITIES



PLEASE SEE A SUMMARY OF TERM 2 EVENTS BELOW:

- Day of the Dead celebration
- Food donations for Food Share
- Turing challenge
- Decorate House Christmas trees
- Snowball Battle
- Winter wonderland afternoon
- Mini challenges:
 - Year 7 - board games
 - Year 8 - penalty shoot out
 - Year 9 - creative writing
 - Year 10 - bottle flip
 - Year 11 - debate off
 - Sixth Form - Pencil pot basketball

Students were deeply engaged in their Day of the Dead Achieve themed House activity this week.

The winning entry will receive their own sugar skull mould and recipe to make a real sugar skull!

Thank you to our PTFA!

"To the people who have bought these books such as Blue Lock I thank you for the wonderful time reading the books."

Ethan, Year 7 student





As part of our ongoing safeguarding and Personal Development offer, 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

[CLICK HERE FOR THE 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.

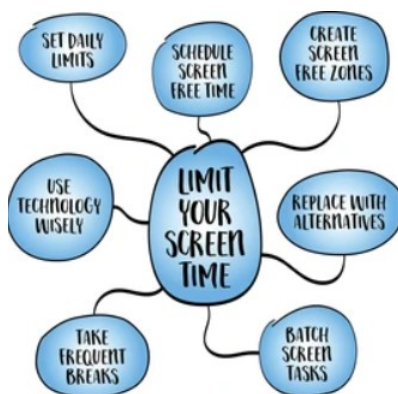
This can be accessed via the link below and will enable parents to:

- Filter content
- Monitor your child's online activity
- Set time limits for online use

[CLICK HERE FOR FREE PARENTAL CONTROLS](#)

We hope you find these resources useful for supporting your child with their use of the internet. You can also read an article on 'How Screen Times Impacts Sleep' via the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO READ
'HOW SCREEN TIMES
IMPACTS SLEEP'](#)



JOIN THE PTFA 200 CLUB

Organised by
FPSS PTFA

★ Numbers are drawn 4 times per year (once per quarter) ★

★ Three lucky winners of £200 each per draw ★

★ Help the PTFA fund great projects ★

Please click the link below to purchase your numbers:
Monthly payment (£5 per month):

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO ENTER THE 200 CLUB](#)

URBAN STRIDES - EVENING STREET DANCE CLASSES * Spaces available *

FPSS Main Hall every Wednesday evening!

Urban Strides offers more than just dance. They create a supportive, judgement-free space where teens can build confidence, self-belief, and have fun through movement and music. With a focus on five dynamic Street Dance styles, their inspirational instructors help young people get active, express themselves, and feel empowered.

Class Times:

- Beginner Striders – 7:00 PM
- Intermediate Striders – 8:00 PM

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK A TRIAL SESSION](#)

[OR CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

Inspirational Urban Strides Street Dance classes at Furze Platt School!

Wednesday Nights:
7:00pm-8:00pm (Beginners)
8:00pm-9:00pm (Intermediates)

Contact us to book your place:
classes@urbanstrides.com
[All places must be booked before attending]

PASSION . POSITIVITY . PROGRESS!

HOW DOES FPSS SUPPORT MY CHILD'S WIDER PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT?



This term in Personal Development (PSHE) at Furze Platt our students have been exploring key topics that support their wellbeing, character, and life skills:

Year 7: British Values – understanding democracy, liberty & respect.

Year 8: Ethical Consumerism – how our choices impact people & the planet.

Year 9: Drug Education – staying safe & making informed decisions.

Year 10: Social Media – influence, image & online wellbeing.

Year 11: Mental Wellbeing – managing stress & building resilience.



Conversation starters with your child:

- Year 7: Which British Value means the most to you?
- Year 8: How can shopping habits help the planet?
- Year 9: What's the best way to support a friend?
- Year 10: How does social media affect how you feel?
- Year 11: What helps you manage stress?

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/>

Maidenhead Lions
Saturday 8th November

Christmas Gift Market

No entry fee
donation only
Parking available

Christmas Gifts, Craft Stalls,
Tombola, Mystery Gift Bags,
Tasty refreshments



St. Joseph's Parish Hall
Cookham Road, SL6 7EG
11.00 - 3.30pm

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!

Travel with us!

We are your personal, professional travel agent service, creating **bespoke, luxury journeys** all over the world!

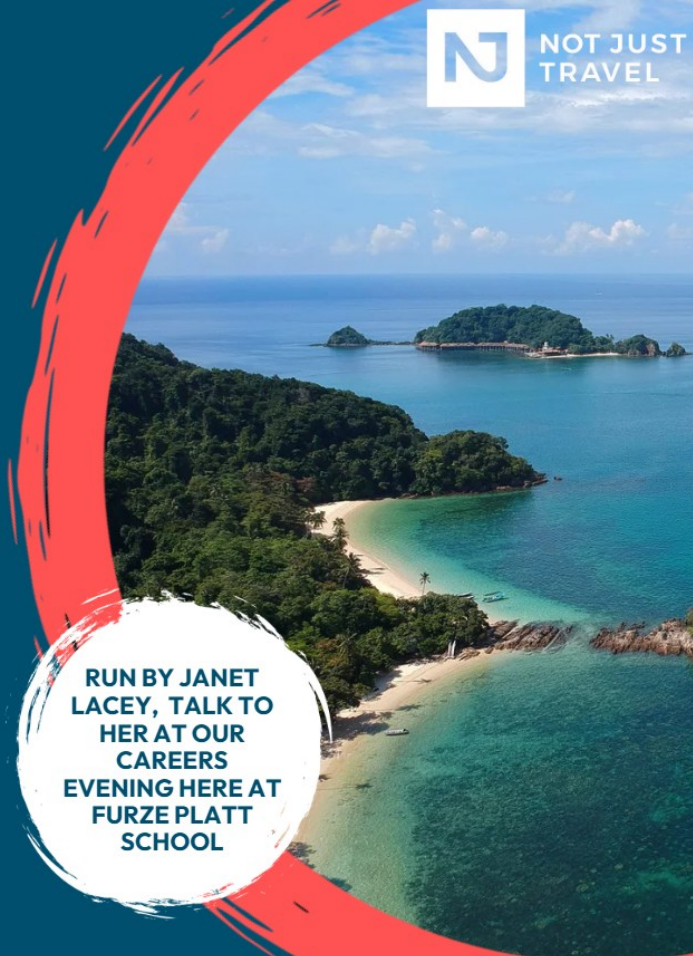
If you are looking for...

- A stress free holiday
- Travel, accommodation, and activities tailored to your needs
- Unique adventures
- Insider knowledge on the best destinations
- 24/7 support
- Free services

...Contact us!

075627748867
THELACEYS@NOTJUSTTRAVEL.COM

NOT JUST TRAVEL



RUN BY JANET LACEY, TALK TO HER AT OUR CAREERS EVENING HERE AT FURZE PLATT SCHOOL

 **SHANLY FOUNDATION**

MAIDENHEAD LIONS
PRESENT



MAIDENHEAD SCHOOL TALENT SHOW 2025

Saturday the 22nd of November, 1 pm
Furze Platt Theatre, Furze Platt Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7NQ

Buy Your Tickets Here:
www.maidenheadlions.org.uk/event-details/lions-schools-talent-show-2025

All funds raised will go towards helping those in the local community, including Maidenhead Lions youth projects.

With thanks to our generous sponsor, The Shanly Foundation.

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



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**

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

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



