



FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Newsletter - Issue #79.6



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Welcome to Term 6

I hope that you and your families had a fantastic half term break enjoying the hot weather whether at home or further afield. It has certainly been a different climate this week with us having to close the field on occasion due to the amount of rain.



As we return, there is lots to look forward to in Term 6 including Graduation, Year 11 and 13 Proms, along with various enrichment activities like Duke of Edinburgh Award Expeditions or the Year 8 visit to Wales next week.

I hope that our students have a fabulous time.

Enrichment also did not stop over half term and many congratulations to our Greenpower Racing Team who put in their best performances at Castle Coombe and Goodwood race circuits since 2017. A great effort all round!

You can read more about the team's experiences and see photos on pages 6 and 7 of this newsletter.

Examinations

It must have been hot over the break for students studying for their examinations. However, they have returned focused and ready to go.

Thanks for all the ongoing support you are providing.

Water Safety

Finally, one of the shocking impacts of the good weather was the number of young people losing their lives in rivers, lakes and the sea.

Cont on page 2



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ALL EVENTS
- SPORTS CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS - WEEK B

SUN 7 - WED 10 JUNE	Year 8 Wales Conservation trip
TUE 16 JUNE	Year 5 Open Morning (1)
WED 17 JUNE	Year 11 Graduation
WED 17 - FRI 19 JUNE	Silver DofE Qualifying Expedition
THU 18 JUNE	Year 11 Prom
THU 18 - FRI 19 JUNE	Bronze DofE Qualifying Expedition
FRI 19 JUNE	INSET Day
MON 22 - FRI 26 JUNE	Year 10 Work Experience Week
THU 25 JUNE	Year 12 Taster Day (1)
FRI 26 JUNE	Year 12 Taster Day (2)
MON 29 - FRI 3 JUNE JULY	Year 12 Work Experience Week
TUE 30 JUNE	Year 12 Careers Day
TUE 30 JUNE	Year 6 Taster Day (1)
WED 1 JULY	Year 6 Taster Day (2)
WED 1 - FRI 10 JULY	Year 10 Turtle Conservation Project, Greece
THU 2 JULY	Performing Arts Summer Showcase
THU 2 JULY	Year 5 Open Morning (2)
FRI 3 JULY	INSET Day
SAT 4 JULY	PTFA Second Hand Uniform Sale 11am-1pm
SUN 5 - WED 8 JULY	Year 12 Geography to Nettlecombe

SCHOOL TERM DATES

Parents and carers will know that we had our own tragedy when one of our students, Jordan, lost his life in similar circumstances a few years ago.

We make it a mission to ensure all our students receive a talk from the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service, with our Year 7s receiving this in the Spring. You can find a letter from the service on pages 16 and 17 of this newsletter reminding all of us of the dangers.

Our Tutors have been reminding students of Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue's advice this week and I would encourage you to speak to your children about the risks.

Have a lovely weekend.

Take care,

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



CHANGE TO COMMUNICATIONS

To help us enhance our communication with parents, going forward we are moving from ParentMail to a new system called Arbor.



Arbor allows us to simplify communication between school and home and ensure everything is easily accessible in one place.

Please can you check your spam/junk folders and add Arbor communications to your accepted emails.

Thank you.

SUMMER UNIFORM



Dear Parents and Carers,

Blazers will not be compulsory this term.

However, importantly please note:

- All other aspects of uniform remain unchanged (e.g. shirts tucked in, skirt lengths, jewellery etc.). If students require an extra layer, then the blazer must be that first layer (before school jumpers or coats – hoodies remain banned).

We would be grateful if you reinforce these expectations with your children. C1s will continue to be issued for uniform infringements.

Please do encourage children to bring water bottles and keep cool as temperatures rise.

We will return to compulsory blazers and regular school uniform in September.

REMINDER: LAPTOP-ONLY DEVICES FOR LEARNING



As a reminder, our school is a *laptop school* for learning. iPads and tablet devices are **not permitted** for use in lessons.

Please ensure your child leaves their iPad or tablet at home and attends school each day with their **laptop and charger**, fully prepared for learning.

Thank you for your continued support.

RBWM TRAVEL SURVEY



Dear Parent/Carer

Please see the below letter from RBWM with information about a borough wide travel survey. The information will help inform future initiatives aimed at improving safety, accessibility and travel experiences around all schools in the borough.

You can access the survey via this link:

[RBWM School Travel Survey - Middle and Secondary Schools – Fill in form](#)

We appreciate your time and support.

[CLICK HERE FOR TRAVEL SURVEY LETTER](#)

YEAR 13 YEAR GROUP PHOTOS

These are now ready for collection from Main Reception.



YEAR 11 LEAVERS' HOODIES

If your son or daughter did not collect theirs at the shirt signing event, leavers' hoodies can also now be collected from Main Reception.

More details and photos of the shirt signing can be found on page 7.



YEAR 5 OPEN MORNING SCHOOL TOURS

We are delighted to invite prospective students and families to our Year 5 Open Morning Tours!

- **Tuesday 16th June | 9:05–10:10am**
- **Thursday 2nd July | 9:05–10:10am**

Please call 01628 625308 (during term time) to book a tour. Tours must be booked in advance.

A small number of SEND tours will also be available on these dates - please specify your preference when booking.



MAIN SCHOOL OPEN EVENING 2026

Thursday 1st October

6:00–8:00pm

Furze Platt Senior School

Come and explore our school, meet staff and students, discover our curriculum and experience life at FPSS.

All welcome, no booking required.

Please share with anyone you think may be interested, thank you.

PTFA PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SALE

SATURDAY 4TH JULY 11AM –1PM

Our PTFA invite you to this year's Pre-Loved Uniform Sale, to be held in our Music Department.

If you have any donations of clean, branded schoolwear, please can you bring them in to Reception. Thank you.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR

PTFA
Parents, Teachers & Friends Association
Registered Charity No. 287878

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SALE

SATURDAY 4TH JULY 11AM - 1PM
IN THE MUSIC BLOCK

PLEASE BRING ANY DONATIONS OF CLEAN BRANDED SCHOOL UNIFORM (INCLUDING TIES) AND FPSS PE KIT TO RECEPTION DURING TERM TIME. THANK YOU.

Come along, bring your bags and grab a bargain!

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

Open Evening 2026
Thursday 1st October, 6-8pm

All welcome, no booking required.

Open Morning School Tours

Please call **01628 625308** to book a tour.

- ▶ Tuesday 16th June, 9.05-10.10 am
- ▶ Thursday 2nd July, 9.05-10.10 am

There will be a small number of SEND tours running on these dates also. Please specify preference upon booking.

“ This is a welcoming and highly inclusive school. ”

Office@furzeplatt.com | www.furzeplatt.com

Ofsted, March 2024



YEAR 10 TURTLE CONSERVATION, GREECE, JULY 2027

Information evening

Wednesday 24th June 7pm Furze Platt Theatre

We are very excited to announce that Furze Platt Senior School will be running a trip to Kefalonia, Greece next summer for next year's Year 10 students (those currently in Year 9).

We have been partnering with Flooglebinder, a travel and conservation company, for the last three years. They are the first B-Corp certified travel company and are experts in delivering educational programmes that create change for people and the planet.

During the 9-day trip students will get hands on experience of turtle conservation, they will learn about their anatomy and the important role they play in an ecosystem. As well as how to protect them and the anthropogenic impacts that are affecting their distribution and behaviours.

Given the school's own sustainable trip targets, we are confident that this trip can provide the students with an unforgettable experience while ensuring minimal social and environmental impact on the ecosystem. Turtles here we come!

To find out more about the trip we are inviting parents and students to an information evening on **Wednesday 24th June at 7pm** in the school theatre, with our partners Flooglebinder where you can learn more about the adventure and ask questions.

More information can also be found here

URL: <https://flooglebinder.co.uk/destinations/greece-furze-platt-school-27/>

Password: Greece

We look forward to seeing you on the 24th June.

Mr D Randall, Outdoor Education and Enrichment Coordinator

YEAR 8 WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY TRIP - WALES 2027

Information evening invite

Wednesday 24th June 2026 – 6pm School Theatre

We are equally pleased to announce that Furze Platt Senior School will be running a trip to Pembrokeshire, Wales again in the Summer of 2027 for next year's Year 8 students (those currently in Year 7).

We have been partnering with Flooglebinder a travel and conservation company for the last three years. They are the first B-Corp certified travel company and are experts in delivering educational programmes that create change for people and the planet.

On this 4-day adventure in South 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 – Learn about sustainable protein sources, get up close and personal with the bugs and if you fancy it try some delicious food in the restaurant made from insect protein!

Day 2 – Coastering – navigate the sea cliffs of Pembrokeshire with a qualified instructor, climbing the rocks and jumping into the sea.

Day 3 – Boat tour and Explore St David's – Take a trip around Ramsey Island by boat to see the seals and bird life, if you're lucky you might get a glimpse of the dolphins!

Day 4 – sustainability presentations and workshops on the beach – explore the rock pools on the beach and learn about the uses of seaweed and the effect micro plastics are having on our marine life.

To find out more about the trip we are inviting parents and students to an information evening on **Wednesday 24th June at 6pm** in the school theatre, with our partners Flooglebinder where you can learn more about the adventure and ask questions.

More information can also be found here:

URL: <https://flooglebinder.co.uk/destinations/wales-furze-platt-school-27/>

Password = wales

We look forward to seeing you on the 24th of June.

Mr D Randall, Outdoor Education and Enrichment Coordinator



DUKE OF EDINBURGH PRACTICE EXPEDITIONS

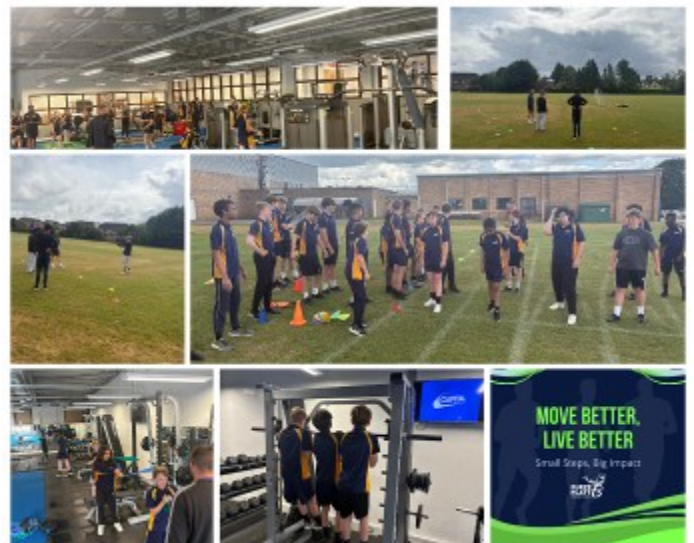
Well done to our Year 9 Bronze and Year 10 Silver Duke of Edinburgh participants, who recently completed their Practice Training Expeditions in preparation for their qualifying expeditions in June.



PE LESSONS AND FITNESS CLUB AT FURZE PLATT

PE students have been making the most of our facilities with some strong sessions both in and outdoors this week.

Great collaboration and teamwork in all sessions!



Over the course of their expeditions, students developed a wide range of valuable life skills, including navigation, teamwork, campcraft, route planning, problem-solving and resilience. They learned how to work together, support one another through challenges and adapt to changing conditions while travelling through the countryside.

These experiences are a key part of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, helping young people build confidence, independence and perseverance beyond the classroom.

We are incredibly proud of the determination, positive attitude and teamwork shown by all students throughout the expeditions. A huge thank you to the staff who supported the trips and helped make them such a success.

Good luck to everyone as they prepare for their qualifying expeditions next month!



JUNIOR MATHS CHALLENGE REPORT



On 29th April, a significant number of our Year 7 and Year 8 students participated in the Junior Maths Challenge (JMC). As always, our students performed exceptionally well. Of those entered, 73 students received awards, including 5 Gold Awards, 29 Silver Awards, and 39 Bronze Awards.

A special congratulations goes to Jamie Callaby (Year 8), who achieved Best in School. Myron Chernikov and Aaryan Gupta were awarded Joint Best in Year 7.

Jamie Callaby, Lucian-Gabriel Marcu, and Ben Lawton also qualified for the Junior Kangaroo Challenge, which takes place on 9th June, following their outstanding performances in the JMC.

All participants demonstrated the FPSS ACHIEVE values throughout their preparation for, and participation in, the competition. The Mathematics Department is extremely proud to provide these enrichment opportunities for our students and equally proud of their excellent achievements.

The photographs show some of our Year 7 (first picture) and Year 8 award winners.

Mr J Langenhoven (Maths Enrichment Coordinator)



GREENPOWER CLUB

Over half term, our Greenpower team competed in two races. On Sunday 24th May, the team took McQueen to Goodwood Motor Circuit. In previous years, this track has been our 'kryptonite', and we have never successfully finished a race there. However, in blazing sun and 38°C track temperatures, the team rallied together and managed an outstanding 15th place finish out of 56 teams in the first race of the day. This is our best result in any race since the club started back in 2018. The second race of the day saw us finish a respectable 24th.



The second event of the season saw the team take to Castle Combe Circuit on Sunday 31st May. This was a brand new track for the team, so we didn't really know what to expect. However, everyone was still riding high from the previous week's success, and the team was confident heading into Race 1. The first race of the day saw another smooth run, with the team finishing in 19th place- another brilliant result at a challenging track.



Cont on page 7

Race 2 saw several racing incidents on the circuit, making an already competitive race even more challenging. Despite a slightly less clean race, the team still achieved a very respectable 26th place finish.



The team should be extremely proud of their hard work and excellent teamwork over these race days and all the sessions leading up to this season. We look forward to seeing what the students can achieve at our next race at Dunsfold Circuit (the Top Gear Test Track).

We would also like to give special thanks to our partners and sponsors, M.T. Perry Engineering Ltd. - PS Renewables - and our PTFA, without them none of this would be possible.

Further thanks go to Dilraj Rooprai in Year 12 (Team Director), Mr Wright, Mr Barrett, Mr Gale & Mr Hand.



YEAR 11 SHIRT SIGNING EVENT



Our Year 11 students came together for a much-loved end-of-school tradition – the annual shirt signing! With pens at the ready, students filled their shirts with messages, memories and well wishes from friends, classmates and teachers creating a lasting memento of their time at Furze Platt.



It was wonderful to see students reflecting on the friendships they have built, the experiences they have shared together over the years.

As they prepare for their next steps, we wish all of our Year 11 students the very best for the future and every success in their upcoming exams.



NATIONAL THANK A TEACHER DAY

WEDNESDAY 17TH JUNE 2026



The UK-wide celebration of all teaching and support staff is back. National Thank a Teacher Day will be celebrated on **Wednesday 17th June 2026**.

As always, we will be celebrating every single person who makes school life special, from classroom assistants and librarians to dinner helpers and everyone who keeps things running. They all deserve that special thank you.

Send a Free Limited Edition Card

Want to make someone's day? Send a **free limited edition e-card** to a special teacher, support staff member or even a whole school team before National Thank a Teacher Day.

CLICK HERE TO THANK A TEACHER OR MEMBER OF OUR SUPPORT STAFF

It is free, only takes a moment and can mean so much. Thank you for your support.



SPARX SCIENCE – WINNERS!

Well done to all our weekly winners for their ongoing dedication to learning...keep it up!

SPARX SCIENCE CHAMPIONS

1. OSCAR CARTY
2. MEYORA DE SOUSA
3. JOE MOSS
4. AYAAN TARIQ
5. THEO HUBBARD
6. RUBY TAPPING
7. ZACHARIAH ZAMAN
8. TOM O'SHEA
9. SUBHAN WARAICH
10. GIDEON AU

OF THE WEEK

SCIENCE ALUMNI TALK

Join us for a special session with **Zoe Hopson**, a former FPSS student who's returning to share insights into her university biochemistry project and current employment as a laboratory technician.

DATE: MON 8 JUNE 2026
TIME: 3:30 – 4:30PM
LOCATION: S5

Key talking points:

- Hear from a microbiology laboratory technician about testing pharmaceutical drug samples for contamination.
- Hear about studying biochemistry and science at university, including lectures, workshops, and time in laboratories.
- Hear about how to complete an undergraduate research project.
- Zoe's project was about finding out whether certain proteins in developing frog embryos attach to a special shape of DNA called an "i-motif."

Open to all students in Years 10-13.

YEAR 10 STUDENTS WILL NEED A GUARDIAN TO SIGN UP IN ADVANCE ON EVOLVE (UNDER TERM 6 CLUBS – VIEW DROP IN CLUBS). NO SIGN UP REQUIRED FOR YEAR 12 STUDENTS.

WHAT DID OFSTED SAY ABOUT US?

Pupils are able to participate in a range of clubs and activities before, during and after school so that all pupils have access to enrichment opportunities regardless of their individual circumstances.

Ofsted, March 2026



SCHOOL CLUBS - TERM 6

The emails to book clubs for next term have been sent out today (Friday 22nd May). Please do not delete these emails as more clubs may be added. Please check junk/spam folders if the email from edufocus (evolve.furzeplattsnrvisits@edufocus.co.uk) is not found. To sign up for My EVOLVE for club overviews, follow these steps:

1. Click the link in the email.
2. Press the 'create account' button.

CLUBS LIST FOR NEXT WEEK

How can...
...my child take part in clubs and activities at FPSS?



KS3 Free Writing Club

Crafting the Writers of Tomorrow

Aims & Benefits of short story writing:

- To create stories or writing for readers that entertain
- To impact lives
- To influence readers' creative imagination and explore thoughts inside your head
- Fosters Teamwork and Collaboration
- Enhances Creativity through Brainstorming
- Provides Accountability and Structure
- Skills Development and Peer Learning plus Emotional Support and Community.
- Builds Confidence and Reducing Pressure
- Models Writing Processes

Hosted by

Ms J Stevens

Room E5

Tuesdays

3:20-3:55 pm

THANK YOU FRED !

Fred Fletcher, Year 13, has been a mainstay of Gardening Club for many years, helping both staff and students. Gardening Club are delighted to present Fred with a token of appreciation for his hard work helping at gardening club and his longstanding commitment. We wish him all the best at University and in the future.



NEWS FROM GARDENING CLUB

Summer term got off to a good start with a harvest of strawberries and raspberries. We also planted sweet peas.



We welcome all year groups and can assess the skills or volunteering part of the Duke of Edinburgh award.



**WEEKLY
HOUSE
POINTS**



9158



8503



8794



8809



**HOUSE WINNERS
THIS WEEK**

Well done to all our Eagles who are this week's House winners!



Great work Eagles.

TERM 5 FOOTBALL KIT DESIGN WINNERS



1st: Mya Birk



2nd: Ruby Parkman-Mills



3rd: Michael Stevens



4th: Grace Copping



5th: Bernardo Pedrosa



6th: Magnus Warren



7th: Libby Wetherall



8th: Denelda Pinto

CATERING ASSISTANT REQUIRED



Looking for a role that fits around school hours and offers a fantastic work-life balance? Join the Accent Catering team at the Furze Platt Senior School Cafe!

10am–3pm, Monday–Friday (25 hours p/w), term-time only

Why join the team?

School-friendly working hours * Free meals on duty

Team events, awards and competitions throughout the year * Career development opportunities * A fun and supportive workplace - no two days are the same!

CLICK HERE TO APPLY!

Thank you to everyone who took part, and to Mr Borthwick for judging the competition!

See page 11 for our next House competition!

HOUSE COMPETITION:

FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 STICKER COLLECTION



The House with the most complete book wins!

Look for your HoH during break times

Stickers can be purchased from:

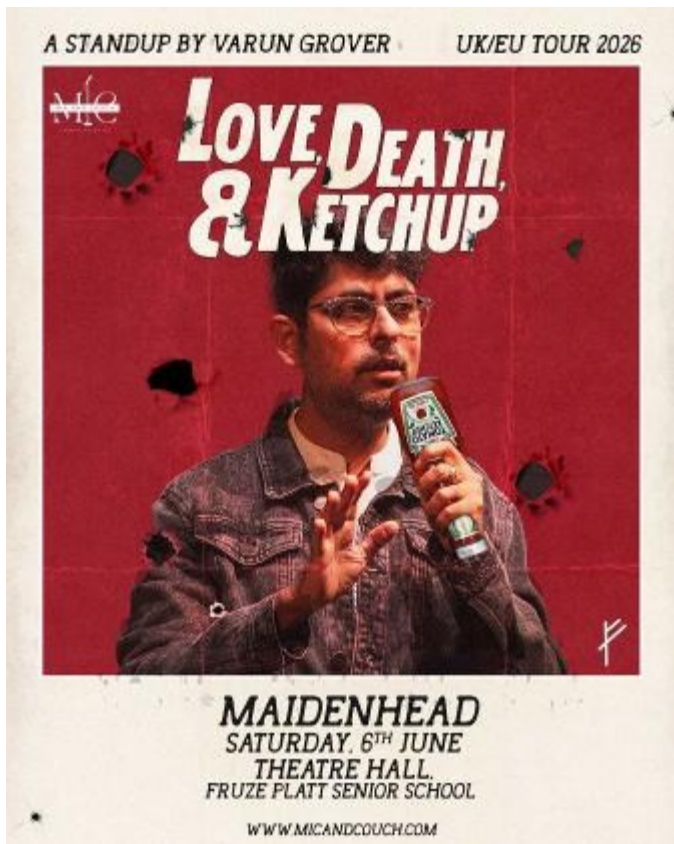
Asda * Tesco * Waitrose * Smyths Toys * The Entertain-er

Argos * Amazon

Reward points awarded to all those who take part!



VARUN GROVER LIVE
STAND-UP COMEDY
AT FPSS THEATRE!



BOOK TICKETS FOR 'LOVE DEATH AND KETCHUP' HERE



YEAR 8 IMMUNISATIONS



The NHS Berkshire Immunisation team will be visiting Furze Platt Senior School on Thursday 18th June to administer the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine.

Please complete the consent form for your child using the links in the letter sent via Parentmail and include your school's unique code BK137740

Kind regards

School Medical Officer



MENINGITIS AWARENESS

Following the recent Meningitis B outbreak in Reading it is important that we ensure our community is safe. Berkshire NHS Trust have sent us the following information to share:

For any information about the recent meningitis cases in Reading please visit:

NHS website

[CLICK HERE FOR NHS WEBSITE](#)

or see the information available from two charities who offer free support via their websites and helplines:

The Meningitis Research Foundation

[CLICK HERE FOR MENINGITIS RESEARCH FOUNDATION](#)

Helpline UK 080 8800 3344

Meningitis Now: Helpline 0808 80 10 388

[CLICK HERE FOR MENINGITIS NOW ORG](#)

[OR CLICK HERE TO EMAIL MENINGITIS NOW ORG](#)





ASH research group states that 20% of 11–17-year-olds have tried vaping, an estimated 1.1 million. 7% of teenagers currently vape.

5 things you need to know:

The law

It's illegal to purchase nicotine vapes for under-18s in the UK. It is also now illegal for shops to sell single use disposable vapes. Possessing or using vapes with THC or Spice can also lead to legal trouble, including criminal charges as these are Class B drugs.

Vaping is not risk-free

While vaping is often marketed as safer than smoking, it still carries health risks - especially for young people. Vapes can contain harmful substances including nicotine, which is addictive as well as other chemicals and substance

How to help your child

Talk openly and early with your child

Start conversations about vaping early, in a calm and non-judgmental way. Ask what they know, share facts, and listen to their views. This builds trust and keeps communication open.

Be aware of the signs of vaping

Look out for signs like sweet or fruity smells, increased thirst, nosebleeds, or changes in behaviour. Vapes can be small and easy to hide, so stay observant.

[CLICK HERE FOR SCHOOL SAFEGUARDING TEAM](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR TALK TO FRANK WEBSITE](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR NHS ADDICTION SUPPORT PAGE](#)



What is Omoggle?

Omoggle is a new anonymous video chat site where users are paired with strangers and rated on their appearance by an AI algorithm. It's become a popular platform within the "mogging" trend where people are compared and ranked based on their looks - which has been growing quickly across platforms like Twitch and TikTok.

Why is it a concern?

The site's anonymous nature means young people can end up in an unmoderated space being judged on how they look, with no oversight. This kind of content is linked to body image issues, low self-esteem, and bullying, and it's particularly concerning for younger, more impressionable users.

Please be vigilant of your child's online activity and have open dialogue with them around what they are accessing.

For further advice and guidance the Furze Platt online safety hub has a wealth of information around keeping children safe online

As part of our online safety work Furze Platt purchases an online safety support platform for parents.

The Online Safety Hub is a online resource with lots of expert advice and guidance to help you manage your child's safety online as a parent.

It includes information on the latest hot topics when it comes to keeping children safe, such as how to manage your child's screen time, understanding the latest gaming platforms, what they mean for your child's safety and lots more.

Furze Platt families are offered a free Qustodio account facilitating parental controls on any 2 devices and free premium access for 30 days. This will allow you to gain more visibility on what's going on in your child's online world. You will have the ability to block dangerous content, introduce screen-free schedules, receive alerts for inappropriate content, keep tabs on their location and more.

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS FREE QUSTODIO ACCOUNT](#)

Miss L Lewis, Designated Safeguarding Lead



Open Evening 2026

Thursday 1st October, 6-8pm

All welcome, no booking required.



Open Morning School Tours

Please call **01628 625308** to book a tour.

- ▶ Tuesday 16th June, 9.05-10.10 am
- ▶ Thursday 2nd July, 9.05-10.10 am

There will be a small number of SEND tours running on these dates also. Please specify preference upon booking.



“ This is a welcoming and highly inclusive school. ”

Ofsted, March 2026

office@furzeplatt.com | www.furzeplatt.com



Pupils know that they are well cared for and that they are safe in school.

- Ofsted, March 2026



Furze Platt Senior School offers:

Teachers know their subjects well. They explain content in a clear and engaging manner.

- Ofsted, March 2026

- ▶ 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.



How to find us:

Furze Platt Senior School,
Furze Platt Road,
Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 7NQ

Newsham Court | Pincents Kiln | Colcot | Reading | Berks | RG31 7SD
Direct Line 07771608434 **Switchboard** 0118 945 2888
Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service  rbfrs.co.uk



FAO Parents / Carers

Reference Water Safety Advice
Email huttk@rbfrs.co.uk
Date 4th June 2026

We are deeply saddened by reports that 13 young people have tragically lost their lives during the recent holiday period in open water incidents across the UK. These heartbreaking events highlight just how dangerous open water environments can be, even when they may appear safe.

As the weather becomes warmer, we know that many children and young people are naturally drawn to rivers, lakes, canals and other open water areas. While these places can seem calm and inviting, they can also present serious and often hidden dangers.

Most drownings involving young people are preventable, yet 88% occur without adult supervision. The majority take place in everyday inland locations (84%), with risk peaking between May and August (71%). Most concerning, the National Child Mortality Database reports a 67% increase in drowning deaths among 13 to 17 year olds in recent years, highlighting the urgent need to equip young people with the knowledge and awareness to stay safe near water. Figures provided by the Royal Life Saving Society UK

We kindly ask for your support in speaking with your young person about the risks of swimming or playing in open water without appropriate supervision. Even strong swimmers can get into difficulty due to cold water shock, hidden currents, uneven ground and submerged hazards. It is also important to talk with your child about what to do in an emergency, including how to stay calm, float if they get into difficulty and how to call for help.

To support parents and carers, the Royal Life Saving Society UK provides a wide range of practical, easy-to-use resources designed to help families talk about water safety. These materials are age-appropriate and include guidance, videos and activities to help children and young people understand the risks of open water, build confidence and learn what to do in an emergency.



Please visit: www.rlss.org.uk > [Water Safety](#) > [Advice For You](#)

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) also offers a range of accessible resources to support families in understanding key water safety messages, including the 'Float to Live' technique and awareness of cold water shock - a major contributing factor in many drowning incidents. Their guidance helps parents and carers explain how floating on your back can control breathing and prevent panic if someone unexpectedly enters the water, while also highlighting the physical effects of cold water immersion. Through videos, campaigns and simple step-by-step advice, the RNLI empowers families to build young people's confidence and resilience around water, ensuring they know how to respond calmly and effectively in an emergency.



Please visit: www.rnli.org > [What We Do](#) > [Safety](#)

**ROYAL BERKSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**



Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service (RBFRS) also provides advice on how to react and respond in an emergency, alongside practical tips for staying safe in and around water.



Please visit: www.rbfrs.co.uk > [Your Safety](#) > [Water Safety](#)

Having these conversations at home can make a real difference in helping children and young people make safer choices and reduce the risk of accidents. Starting these conversations early can help young people build awareness and develop safer habits, giving them the confidence to make better choices as they grow older.

KEY POINTS TO REMEMBER

Open water is very different from swimming pools - it may look calm but can be dangerous	Never go into open water alone or without supervision	Choose safer places to swim, such as lifeguarded beaches, pools, or designated swimming areas	Avoid taking risks or giving in to peer pressure	Understand the dangers of cold water shock	Know what to do if you get into trouble e.g. Float to Live	Know what to do if someone else is in trouble e.g. call 999, never enter the water and throw something that floats
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Please remember that drowning is preventable. By working together to support, guide and educate our young people, we can empower them with the skills and awareness they need to make safer choices and stay safe around water.

Thank you for your continued support.

With warm regards,

Kasia J Hutt

Kasia Jaworski Hutt
Safety Education Co-ordinator and School Lead



Chief Fire Officer - Wayne Bowcock



HOLYPORT VILLAGE FAIR

SATURDAY 6th June

FUNFAIR RIDES
FOOD & DRINK

TRADITIONAL GAMES & STALLS
LIVE MUSIC

TIME: 12-8pm
WHERE: Holyport Green
Holyport, SL6 2JL
Holyport Community Trust Charity No. 1179097

SUMMERFAIR

SATURDAY 27TH JUNE • 11:30AM – 3:00PM
FURZE PLATT JUNIOR SCHOOL, OAKEN GROVE, MAIDENHEAD SL6 6HQ
JOIN US FOR SOME FANTASTIC FAMILY FUN!

LOTS OF STALLS AND ATTRACTIONS INCLUDING:

- BOUNCY CASTLE
- GIANT SLIDE
- TOMBOLAS
- BEAT THE GOALIE
- SPEED STACKING
- HOOK A WORLD CUP DUCK
- LUCKY DIP
- PLUS BBQ, CAKES, BAR AND TUCK SHOP!

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www.mbcf.camra.org.uk

THE BLEND CHOIR

Summer Concert

SATURDAY 11TH JULY
7.30PM

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Maidenhead RFC
Braywick Park
Braywick Road
Maidenhead, Berkshire
SL6 1BN

The season might be over but the practice doesn't stop



JUNIOR CRICKET AT PINKNEYS GREEN CC

Under 7s (All Stars) FRIDAY EVENING

Under 9s & Under 11s FRIDAY EVENING

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Interested? - secretary@pinkneysgreenc.com
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