

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Longridge Visits

I had a fabulous few days at the start of the week visiting Longridge and seeing all of our Year 7 have a lovely time climbing, dragon boating, team building and laser tagging.

It was great to see students bonding beyond the classroom and really pushing the limits of their experience and comfort zones. Following induction in the summer and first four weeks at FPSS it very much felt that students had found friendship and camaraderie in their new secondary setting.

Thank you to all staff, parents and carers who supported the visit. In addition to the photos on our social media, more pictures can be found on pages 11 and 12 of this newsletter.



Form Tutor/Parents Consultation Evening

Whether online or in person we look forward to catching up with parents and carers next Thursday. The evening marks a chance to 'check in' at the start of term identifying initial successes as well as helping overcome any current challenges. Please do make an appointment if you are yet to do so.

Have a lovely weekend.

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Week (Week A)

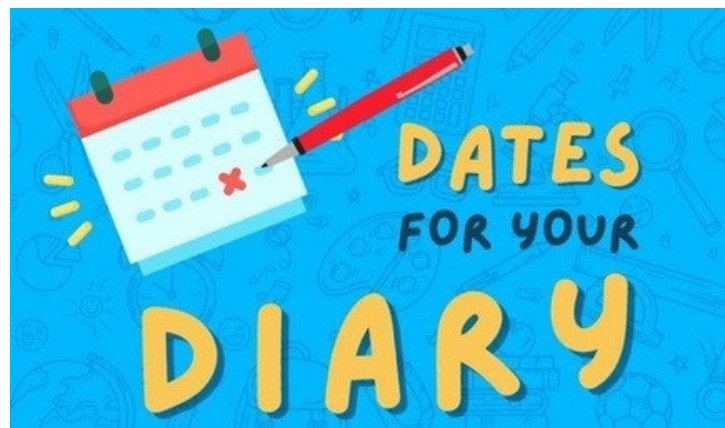
ALL EVENTS

MON 12 WED 14 FRI 16 OCTOBER	Year 9 Trip to West Wittering	
TUE 13 OCTOBER	Sixth Form Trip to Excel Centre, London	
THU 15 OCTOBER	Form Tutor/Parents' Consultation Evening - Years 7, 12 & 13 will be held in school - Years 8-11 will be online	4-7pm
THU 22 OCTOBER	Year 11 Parents and Students Consultation Evening	4.15-7.15pm
FRI 23 OCTOBER	End of Term 1	
MON 2 NOVEMBER	Start of Term 2	8.40am-3.15pm
THU 19 NOVEMBER	Year 12 Parents and Students Consultation Evening	4.15-7.15pm
FRI 20 NOVEMBER	INSET DAY - school will be closed for all year groups	
MON 23 NOVEMBER	INSET DAY - school will be closed for all year groups	

SCHOOL TERM DATES



CLICK HERE TO SEE OUR NEW PROSPECTUS



INSET DAYS

FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER & MONDAY 23RD NOVEMBER

These two days are both INSET Days and school will be closed for all year groups.

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 26TH NOVEMBER

This event will take place from 6-9pm and will be followed by a 9.15am start the next day for all students.

LATE START: FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER

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

CAREERS & HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR

WEDNESDAY 2ND DECEMBER

Further details of this event for attendees will be sent out in due course.



YEAR 12 REPORTS

YEAR
12

The above 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 and clicking on the quick link 'Online Reporting', or by going directly to Go 4 Schools www.go4schools.com and selecting Parents.

Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at reports@furzeplatt.net.

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager

VIEW REPORTS

GUIDANCE ON GRADING



Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) update: We know many of you are eager to sign up for our Duke of Edinburgh Awards programme, however this year, registration is opening slightly later than usual.

More details and official signup information will be shared very soon.



PARENTS' EVENING DATES 2026–2027 SAVE THE DATE

A reminder of our Parents' Evening schedule for the 2026–2027 academic year. These evenings provide an important opportunity for parents and carers to meet with subject teachers, discuss their child's progress, celebrate successes, and identify areas for further development.

Please make a note of the following dates:

- Year 11: Thursday 22nd October 2026
- Year 12: Thursday 19th November 2026
- Year 13: Thursday 10th December 2026
- Year 9: Thursday 21st January 2027
- Year 8: Thursday 11th March 2027
- Year 10: Wednesday 24th March 2027
- Year 7: Thursday 22nd April 2027

Information regarding appointment booking and timings will be shared with parents and carers nearer to each event.

Best wishes,

Miss R Lake (NPQH)
Deputy Headteacher



YEAR 13 TRIP TO WOOLLEY FIRS

Our Year 13 Biology students enjoyed a valuable day of ecological fieldwork at Woolley Firs on Monday, putting their classroom learning into practice in a real-world setting.

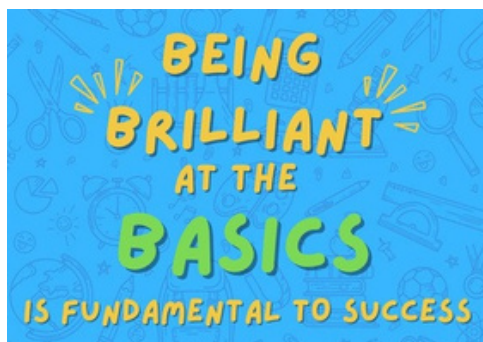


Throughout the day, students developed their practical investigation skills by carrying out a range of ecological sampling techniques in woodland and pond habitats. They collected data, explored biodiversity, and gained first-hand experience of the methods used by professional scientists in the field.



Students will use the data gathered during the trip to carry out statistical analysis, helping to deepen their understanding of ecological research and preparing them for their AQA Biology studies.

It was fantastic to see students engaging with outdoor learning, alongside developing their confidence, teamwork and scientific skills in such a beautiful natural environment. Well done to everyone involved and thank you to Dr Graham and Mr Barrett for organising this trip.



BRILLIANT AT THE BASICS - EQUIPMENT

Students should arrive each day with a fully charged school laptop and a well-stocked pencil case containing pens, pencils, a ruler, an eraser, a pencil sharpener and a scientific calculator. A scientific calculator is particularly important for mathematics and science and will support students in lessons, assessments and examinations.

For Key Stage 4 students, we recommend a clear pencil case containing all essential equipment, including highlighters, in preparation for examinations. Please remember that iPads and other tablet devices are not permitted as a substitute for a school laptop. Please check your child's equipment and replace any missing or worn items. Being prepared helps students feel confident, organised and ready to learn.



SPARX SCIENCE CHAMPIONS OF THE WEEK

Great work from our top ten scientists this week!



1. EVAN SUTCLIFFE
2. MEYORA DE SOUSA
3. ALICE GREENLAND
4. HIRUN FERNANDO
5. KWAN YEUK LEUNG
6. RAMSEY TOUNANI
7. JIMMY HURREY
8. OMAYMA SAYAGH
9. CATHERINE CARLAW
10. MAGNUS WARREN

LEGALLY BLONDE - WEEK 3 REHEARSALS

Please find below the rehearsal schedule for Week 3 of our Legally Blonde Jr. preparations:

Students listed for each rehearsal are expected to attend all sessions relevant to them.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE					
Date	Time	Room	Scene	Students Required	Focus
Tuesday 13 October	Break 2	MU1	Scene 2 (Serious)	Warner, Elle, Waiters	Singing
Tuesday 13 October	After School (until 5.00pm)	Dance Studio	Scene 2 (Serious)	Warner, Elle, Waiters	Choreography
Wednesday 14 October	Break 2	DS1	Scene 2 (Serious)	Warner, Elle, Waiters	Choreography
Wednesday 14 October	After School (until 5.00pm)	Theatre	Scene 2 (Serious)	Warner, Elle, Waiters	Full Scene Rehearsal

SCHOOL CLUBS

Term 1: September to October half term

Parents and carers of students in all year groups have been sent e-mail invites for this term's clubs. 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 LIST FOR NEXT WEEK

Gardening Club News!

Our Gardening Club has made a fantastic start to the new season, getting stuck into some important meadow maintenance and conservation work.

Students have been raking cut material from the orchard and wildflower meadow. Removing this material helps to reduce soil fertility, allowing wildflowers to thrive rather than being crowded out by grass.

The club has also created a habitat stack to provide a safe place for invertebrates to overwinter, and has been sowing additional wildflowers to help boost biodiversity.

Students have also been sowing yellow rattle, a hemiparasitic plant known as the 'meadow maker'. It feeds on grass, helping to create more space for other wildflower species to grow.

Fancy getting involved? We would love to see more students who are interested in nature, gardening and conservation joining the club. Gardening Club can also support students completing the Duke of Edinburgh Award, including both volunteering and skills sections.



SUPPORTING THAMES HOSPICE

Our Senior Students were proud ambassadors for Furze Platt Senior School this week when they visited Thames Hospice to present a cheque for £2,000, raised through a fundraising concert organised by the Harmony Belles choir.



The event, which was hosted in our School Theatre in support of one of the school's chosen charities, showcased the talents of Harmony Belles and featured popular songs including It's Raining Men, Somewhere Only We Know, Dolly Parton's Change It, and Stand By Me. The concert was well supported and raised valuable funds to help Thames Hospice continue providing care and support to local patients and their families.

The students were delighted to accompany Vanessa, Shona and Katie from Harmony Belles, who spearheaded the fundraising event, as they presented the donation to the hospice team. Also attending the presentation were Mr Peter Ging, Head of Sixth Form, and Mrs Jennifer Bartram, Theatre Manager.

We are extremely grateful to Harmony Belles for their hard work in organising such a successful event, and to everyone who attended and contributed. Furze Platt School is proud to support the work of Thames Hospice, and the £2,000 raised is a wonderful example of what can be achieved when we come together for a worthy cause.

The visit also provided a valuable opportunity for our students to see first-hand the impact that community fundraising can have on local charitable organisations and the difference it makes to those they support.

Thames-hospice

YEAR 7 CASTLE BUILDING COMPETITION

At the end of the last academic year, our Year 7 History students put their creativity and historical knowledge to the test in our Castle Building Competition.

With 70+ castles entered – potentially a record number for FPSS! – students and staff were invited to view the impressive creations and vote for their top three castles.

Now in Year 8, we're delighted to announce our winners:

- 1st Place: Hirun F
- 2nd Place: Ellen K, Jessica R & Sophie D
- 3rd Place: Charlie W & Freddie C



A huge well done to all our students who took part. With so many fantastic castles to choose from, our judges certainly had a difficult decision!

Our winners will each receive a certificate, medal and medieval-themed prize.

Congratulations to all our budding castle builders!



SIXTH FORM RAISE AND GIVE SOCIETY

Halloween Cake & Sweets Sale
Break 1, Thursday 15th October



Get ready for some spooky seasonal treats! On Thursday 15th October during Break 1, students are invited to visit the courtyard outside the Theatre for our Halloween Cake & Sweets Sale. Cash and card payments welcome.

There will be a fantastic selection of homemade cakes, bakes and sweet treats available to purchase, with all proceeds going to the World Care Foundation, supporting vulnerable children and young people around the world through its Orphanage Project.

Students can also take part in our Halloween Baking Competition for the chance to earn valuable House Points. We encourage budding bakers to get creative and showcase their most impressive Halloween-themed creations!

Come along, enjoy some delicious treats, support a worthwhile cause and help make a difference this Halloween!

Ad designed by Rocco Piazza

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

HALLOWEEN CAKE AND SWEETS SALE

Date: Thursday 15th October – break 1

Place: The Theatre – entry from the courtyard

Details: Cakes and sweets for sale

Competition: Baking cake competition to earn house points

Cash & card accepted

Raising funds on behalf of:

World Care Foundation

Supporting vulnerable children and young people around the world, including through their Orphanage Project, which provides safe housing, care, education and a brighter future for children in need.

<https://www.worldcarefoundation.org/appeal/orphanageproject/>

SPORTING SUCCESSES IN SEPTEMBER

September has been a fantastic month for FPSS sport, with our students enjoying success across netball and rugby competitions.

Our Year 11 netball team made an excellent start to their RBWM League campaign, winning both of their opening matches against Charters and Cox Green to sit proudly at the top of the table.



There was also national success for our U15 Mixed Touch Rugby team, who secured an impressive 5th place finish at the Try Sports England National Touch Rugby Finals after their competition was postponed from June due to the heatwave.



In netball, our Year 10 teams have started strongly, with the A team currently placed 3rd and the B team 4th in a competitive nine-team league.



The Year 8 netball teams also enjoyed a successful setting tournament, with the Pink team qualifying for the A League in 2nd place and the Red team finishing top of the B League.



Rugby has got off to a flying start too. Our Year 7 boys celebrated a 40-30 victory over Parkhouse School in their first fixture of the season...



... while the Year 8 boys delivered a dominant performance, defeating Parkhouse School 70-0.



Rounding off the month, our Year 9 netball team began their RBWM League season in excellent form and currently sit 3rd out of 10 teams after the opening round of fixtures.



Congratulations to all our students for their commitment, teamwork and determination. We look forward to following their progress throughout the season.

Mrs D Boseley, Head of PE





WEEKLY HOUSE POINTS



7536



7305



9287



6940



This week's runaway winners are the Hawks!

A brilliant week for all our Hawks - well done to you all.

A REMINDER OF OUR HOUSE PUMPKIN CHALLENGE!

Students are invited to take part in the House Pumpkin Challenge by carving or decorating a pumpkin at home with their families.

Simply email a photo of your finished creation to hoh@furzeplatt.net by Friday 23rd October to be awarded bonus House Points.

We're looking forward to seeing this year's fantastic designs. Here are some of the brilliant entries from previous years to inspire you!

Will your pumpkin be the one that stands out this year...?



ELEVATE EDUCATION

LIVE PARENT WEBINAR:

HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD

IMPROVE THEIR NOTE TAKING

Tuesday 13th October 6-7pm



Register here for this free webinar:

<https://go.elevateeducation.com/ukschoolwebinar>

GCSEPOD

WEBINARS AVAILABLE



Students and parents can now catch up on the first GCSEPod webinars of the academic year, with recordings available to watch online. The sessions include guidance for teachers on making the most of GCSEPod in the new academic year, as well as a dedicated webinar for students and parents showcasing the new GCSEPod app and how it can support effective revision and help improve outcomes. [Parent and student webinar recording - available now to support effective revision and independent study. tures and ways to maximise student success.

<https://www.theaccessgroup.com/en-gb/education/resources/gcsepod-teacher-parent-and-student-webinars/>





YEAR
7





KS4-5 ART CLUB

EXPLORE / CREATE / DEVELOP

A relaxed and inspiring space to build your skills, try new ideas and work on your own projects.

WHEN
Thursdays (Break 1)
11:15 – 11:45

WHERE
AR1

YEARS
10, 11, 12 & 13

DATES (Term 1)
Thu 10 Sep 2026
Thu 17 Sep 2026
Thu 24 Sep 2026
Thu 01 Oct 2026
Thu 08 Oct 2026
Thu 15 Oct 2026
Thu 22 Oct 2026

All abilities welcome!



RBWM Inclusion Ambassadors



Your voice
Your ideas

Your chance to make a difference

What will I actually do?

- Share your views
- Share your ideas
- Make sure people listen
- Work with other young people
- Make a difference

What happens at our sessions?

- Have your voice heard
- Talk about things that matter to you
- Take part in fun activities
- Share your ideas and experiences
- Work on projects and campaigns
- Help adults make better decisions

Could you be an Inclusion Ambassador?

You don't need to be an expert; you just have to have an opinion and want to make a difference
If you're aged between 11 and 19, come along and find out

Our meetings for 2026/27 are from 5.30pm to 7.30pm:

Monday 28 September	Monday 21 December
Monday 26 October	Monday 25 January
Monday 23 November	Monday 22 February

Windsor Family Hub SL4 3HD

Find out more by:

- registering your interest using [our form](#)
- visiting the [Local Offer](#)
- emailing: myvoice@achievingforchildren.org.uk

achieving for children

WHY IS LANGUAGE SO POWERFUL?

WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

IS SPORT EVER FAIR?

DOES CRIME ALWAYS DESERVE PUNISHMENT?

YEAR 9

YEAR 10

YEAR 11

YEAR 12

What's included ?

- FREE online programme between January – April 2027
- Years 9 –12 (non-selective schools in the UK)
- Develop your critical thinking skills through a range of subject perspectives
- 4 interactive ebooklets
- Vote in polls and share your views in discussion forums
- Competitions with prizes

To register scan the QR code



Registration closes 16th November

CRITICAL THINKING SERIES



FREE membership for ages 16 - 25 years

Benefits Include:

- Discounted £5 cinema tickets (excludes event cinema screenings)
- Bring a friend (aged 16 - 25 years) along for the same price
- Special offers and discounts on other select events
- Email updates so you don't miss out!

Sign up online through the QR code or at nordenfarm.org/membership

Norden Farm

NEON MEMBERSHIP



Christmas PTA Fundraiser!

Order an award winning turkey from Copas and raise funds for Furze Platt Senior School

Simply enter the code **FPS26** at checkout and Copas | Turkeys will donate 5% of your order value to the school PTA.

WWW.COPASFARMSHOP.CO.UK

CALL: 01628 499 980

Raise funds and enjoy an award winning turkey!

BEN & JACK STUDIO

Paint It Neon

Face2Face Maidenhead

Fancy trying something a little different?

Paint It Neon is teaming up with Face2Face Maidenhead and Ben & Jack Studio to bring you our first

Paint Splatter Evening

Friday 16th October, 2026, 8pm

Ben & Jack Studio, Unit B Reform Rd, Maidenhead SL6 8BT, UK

£28pp - includes drink on arrival, splatter painting, live DJ, licenced bar, take-home artwork and a night of neon!

Scan for tickets

Paint Create Relax Belong

LEMON TREE
Pottery Painting Café • Bourne End

AFTER SCHOOL DEAL

4PM

MONDAY-FRIDAY TERM TIME ONLY

Switch off. Paint something brilliant.

50% OFF STUDIO FEE
£5 → £2.50

PLUS 50% OFF A SOFT DRINK

Booking online? Pay the £5 studio fee as usual. We'll take £2.50 off your final bill on the day. After painting, quote "after school deal" at the till to claim both offers.

Monday-Friday 4pm sessions • TERM TIME ONLY
Pottery charged separately.
Soft-drink offer applies at the end of your session.

BOOK YOUR 4PM SESSION

Walk-ins welcome, subject to space
lemontreepotterycafe.co.uk
27 The Parade, Bourne End SL8 5SB
Open 7 days a week • Weekends welcome at usual prices

Good Ideas Live Here

Mugs Happier Days

Small Moments Big Creativity

Creative People Brighter Communities

More Colour Happier Days

ETON EXCELSIOR ROWING CLUB
Est 1886

The rowing club for Windsor Girls' School and girls & boys in Windsor, Ascot, Maidenhead, Slough and surrounding area

OCTOBER LEARN TO ROW

26-29 October
10:00 - 12:00

Water safety tests
(Capsize drill, 50m swim test)
On-water rowing sessions

Book Here

<https://tinyurl.com/Oct26LTR>

John Collins
EERC Head Junior Coach & Double GB Olympian

26-28 October 3 days	£95	26-29 October 4 days	£125
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Girls & Boys
Years 9-13 (ages 13-18)
Confident swimmers only

EERC Clubhouse
14 Maidenhead Road
Windsor SL4 5TY

TEAM WORK DISCIPLINE FOCUS STRENGTH & FITNESS FUN!

boats@etonexcelsiorrowingclub.org
www.etonexcelsiorrowingclub.org/juniors