

# FURZE PLATT FOCUS

End of Term Newsletter - Issue #68







# MESSAGE FROM THE **HEADTEACHER**

Dear Parents/Carers

# Water Safety - Please share with your children

Normally I start the Newsletter of the year reflecting on the past 12 months. This week, I am starting with water safety and hopefully, if nothing else, it will be this section that is shared and remembered.



Heartbreakingly, this week saw the death of another young person, Sean, who got into difficulty at Bray Lake. Following the tragic death of our FPSS student Jordan in the Thames a year ago and the recent death of Ruben in the Jubilee River, we are once again starkly reminded of the importance of water safety.

All our students have had water safety messages shared with them, more recently prior to half term and again by me in the end of year assembly. However, please can all parents and carers reiterate them to avoid any more tragic loss of life during the summer break.

The following RNLI video reminds us all of what to do should we fall in or experience cold water shock:

# FLOAT TO LIVE VIDEO

Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service offer further advice here:

## **RBFRS WATER SAFETY VIDEO**

Thank you.

#### 2021/22 Academic Year

This year has been marked with a return to a more normal FPSS following two years of Covid disruption.



# **UPCOMING EVENTS Important Dates Next Term**

(All dates and events may be subject to change)

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THU 18 AUGUST	A Level/AS Level Results Day (Theatre)	8.00am - 11am
<b>THU 25</b> AUGUST	GCSE Results Day (Theatre)	8.00am - 11am
<b>THU 1</b> SEPTEMBER	INSET Day - WEEK 1	
FRI 2	Year 7 Induction Day (for Year 7 only)	8.40am start
SEPTEMBER	Year 12 Induction Day (for Year 12 only)	8.40 am start
MON 5 SEPTEMBER	Start of Term 1 - Years 8-11 & 13 (Week 1)	8.40am - 3.15pm
<b>TUE 6</b> SEPTEMBER	Year 12 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	6.30pm - 7.30pm
	Year 13 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	7.30pm - 8.30pm
THU 8 SEPTEMBER	Years 7, 10 & 12 School Photos	
	DofE Parents Pre-Expedition Information Evening	6.30pm - 7.30pm
<b>TUE 13</b> SEPTEMBER	Year 11 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	6.30pm - 7.30pm
<b>WED 14</b> SEPTEMBER	Year 10 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	6.30pm - 7.30pm
<b>THU 15</b> SEPTEMBER	Year 7 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	6.30pm - 7.30pm
<b>TUE 20</b> SEPTEMBER	Year 8 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	6.30pm - 7.30pm
<b>WED 21</b> SEPTEMBER	Year 9 - Preparing to Succeed Evening	6.30pm - 7.30pm
<b>THU 22</b> SEPTEMBER	Celebration Evening	6pm - 9pm
THU 6 OCTOBER	Whole School Open Evening (Early finish to school day 12.30pm)	6pm - 9pm
FRI 7 OCTOBER	INSET Day	All Day

# SCHOOL TERM DATES

**SCHOOL CALENDAR** 

Returning to regular routines has been challenging for some, but I am absolutely delighted with the way most students and staff have responded. Their passion, energy and enthusiasm has been very much to the fore. At the start of the year, I encouraged all students to get involved in enrichment activities and the vast majority have involved themselves in visits, activities,

performances, clubs, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and much more. This has enabled our community to rebuild strong relationships and reminds us that school is about more than just lessons, but the range of experiences we can offer

I have also been pleased with how students have returned to learning, particularly the focus of the older year groups as they approached their examinations. I wish them all the best for their results days (Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August KS5 and Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August KS4).

As ever, what will stay longer in the memory are some of those stand out moments of the year. For me, these include seeing Matilda performed in our Theatre, students celebrating at the Year 11 and 13 Proms, the cricket games that have sprung up on our field each lunchtime, our wildflower meadow, sixth formers organising fundraisers for the school, the excitement of younger students on Sports Days and enrichment afternoons. Each of these memories remind us of what we, as a FPSS community, are all about.

# Goodbyes

As ever, the end of the academic year sadly means we need to say goodbye to some staff. Following the Covid period, there is greater movement than the last two years. I sure that all of you will join with me in saying thank you to our departing staff including Megan White (Cover Supervisor), Mary Bowen (Medical), Mo Barrett (Cleaning Supervisor), Lib Wright and Karen Martin (English), Ezzy Goddard and Jo Bennett (Science), Rhiannon Bailey (Music), Shilpa Pandey, Patrick Winterbottom and Paul Harris (Maths), Lia Weger and Chris Burrows (History), Sharan Webb (Exams), Raph Roujansky (MFL), Kat Gajewska (PSHE), Emily Satterthwaite (Drama).

After 16 years at FPSS we also thank Katie Tomlin (PE) and Andy Morbey (Assistant Headteacher), as well as Bernie Aspinall (LSA) and Bill Goswell (Art) who have served our community for 21 and 22 years respectfully. Their commitment to our community is much appreciated.

We wish all departing staff the best for their futures.

## Thank You and Have a Lovely Summer

Finally, I would like to thank all our staff and students for their efforts in 2021/22 and wish you all a fantastic summer break. You can see this term's nominations from page 9 onwards.

Stay safe but have fun!

Take care,

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





# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Firstly, a huge thank you to everyone involved in helping with the Concert last week. In particular I do need to single out Maidenhead Concert Band for giving their time so generously to help raise over £1340 for the School and for giving our students the opportunity to sit



and play music alongside them. We also need to recognise our fabulous and talented students who sat in the band and played four pieces of music and then several of them performed solos or duets later in the concert. It is not easy to join in with a 50 strong band of musicians whom you don't know and perform in front of a live Theatre audience, well done to all of you for acquitting yourselves so well and to Rhiannon Bailey for facilitating this.

Also due thanks for the part they played are; Lorraine Hughes and our PTFA, our theatre manager Marissa Holden, Lynne Moore, Peter Ging, the student raffle helpers and of course the site team.

In terms of the governance of the school I have mentioned a couple of items below and there will be more detailed information available in the 'Annual Summary to Parents' on the School website (in the next week or two).

As many of you are aware the school is introducing 'Laptops for Learning' for Years 7 and 10 in the new academic year. The take up has been excellent and governors are particularly keen to see these in action and understand how the benefits of using these devices help students; learning, engagement and attainment levels.

Student Welfare post-covid has been the focus of much attention, further investment in terms of the Pastoral support available to Students and now a restructure of the House system are designed to help and support our

students even more.

Staff Welfare should never be taken for granted and surveys have recently been undertaken to establish areas for improvement and these results will be carefully considered in the new academic year to see what help can be provided.

The School has fitted some New Solar panels which will help reduce our ongoing costs and carbon footprint, a vital cog in our environmental improvements.

Our Resources committee have been involved in approving several future planned improvements and the expenditure that goes with them to make the site even better for our students in the coming years.

At the start of the new Academic year I will be handing over the Chair of Governors role to Hugh Steed and then standing down as a governor at the end of my term of office later in September.

In the 18 years since joining the governing body in 2004 I have been privileged to work with; many governors, two heads, those in school leadership roles and many other staff. A lot has changed and been achieved in this time; the switch to Academy status, expansion of the school, new Maths and English blocks, drama and recording studios, leisure centre, astro pitches, canteen facilities and a fabulous theatre are just some of the projects that immediately spring to mind.

None of this would have happened without the teamwork and hard work and commitment of all involved and I would like to thank my fellow governors and the school senior leadership team for everything they have done and continue to do on the Schools behalf.

I know that Hugh Steed as Chair and Katie Donnison as Vice Chair will continue to drive the agenda for improvement forward and in the new academic year will be looking to further strengthen our governing body. If you would like to get involved and become a governor do get in touch with the school and see what you can do to help shape the future.

Have a great Summer and good Luck to all those in Years 11 and 13 for their Results days in August with every best wish from Governors for the future.

# Gavin Tisshaw



#### **YEAR 12 REPORTS**



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 <a href="https://www.furzeplatt.com">www.furzeplatt.com</a> and clicking on the quick link 'Online Reporting', or by going directly to Go 4 Schools <a href="https://www.go4schools.com">www.go4schools.com</a> and selecting Parents.

#### **REPORTS PAGE**

Please see here for our Guidance to Grading document

#### **GUIDANCE ON GRADING**

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager

#### REPORTING ABSENCE



From September 2022, the only way to report an Absence for your child is via ClassCharts. If accessing on a phone, please scroll along the line at the top with an orange dot at the end (marked 'behaviour', 'on report cards' and 'homework') near the top of the screen and you will see additional options further along including 'report absence'.

A letter from Mr Sheppard with information and your login details were sent via Parentmail on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

If you require your login details to be resent, please email jacky.phillips@furzeplatt.net

Thank you.

'The curriculum is broad and personalised. It is designed well to meet the needs of all pupils.'

Ofsted 2021

#### **GCSE SUMMERPOD**

After last year's success, we are back with a bigger and better SummerPod!

This is a fun programme to help students prepare and get ahead next academic year.





# **How to Create a Growth Mindset When Studying**

The multi-award-winning Future Toolbox are joining GCSEPod in a two-part webinar and will be sharing some simple tools and tips to help to encourage students to enjoy their learning journey.

By creating a growth mindset around study and understanding that learning is about the journey and not the final exam, this will help students to find purpose at school or college. Positive study habits lead to positive habits in the future and a more rounded individual.

Parent webinars will run on 3rd August @ 5pm and 10th August @ 5pm.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER (3RD AUG) WEBNIAR

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER (10TH AUG) WEBNIAR

# **Student Webinars**

Current Year 9 and 10's are invited to join our exclusive student webinars, hosted by our very own Merlin Mee. Merlin, Learning Content Creator at GCSEPod, is our student webinar guru.

# Moving from Year 9 into Year 10

August 1st @5pm

Students are encouraged to rocket their way into Year 10 by exploring personal goals and cultivating healthy habits that will benefit them on their journey throughout Key Stage 4.

#### **CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THIS WEBINAR**

## Moving from Year 10 into Year 11

August 8th @5pm

Students can 'lift-off' into Year 11 with tips on prioritizing their wellbeing and enhancing the space around them.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THIS WEBINAR

# **Parent Webinars**

Parents are invited to attend two exclusive webinars this summer, hosted by Future Toolbox's Mark & Jules.











# TERM 1 CLUBS (SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2022)

Bookings for Term 1 will be sent out on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September. Clubs will start the following week and we encourage students to attend as many as they are interested in. Bookings should be made via the EVOLVE email link as usual or by using your My EVOLVE account.



### HOUSE KEYHOLE CHALLENGE



Please find below the final placings for the through the Keyhole Challenge from Term 6. Thank you all for taking part and a special well done to Bray House!

House	<b>Total Score</b>	Position
Bray	6310	1st
Marlow	5580	2nd
Windsor	5560	3rd
Dorney	5150	4th
Cookham	5110	5th
Henley	4830	6th
Bisham	4350	7th
Eton	4190	8th

# **DRAMA YEAR 7-10 ENRICHMENT**



Students could choose from a wide range of enrichment activities to try something new over the last two weeks. Our Performing Arts department laid on sessions for students to learn to apply prosthetic makeup for the stage, including bruises, cuts and burns.







# YEAR 5 FPJS VISIT FPSS FOOD AND NUTRITION







For the first time since the pandemic, our Food and Nutrition Department were delighted to welcome ninety Year 5 students from Furze Platt Junior School for a day of bread making. A great time was had by all! Some of the comments from pupils include:

"When I tasted my bread it tasted really good and the smell was amazing."

"It was really hard not to eat them straight away."

"I made the recipe again when I got home with my mum



and really enjoyed it."

"When it came out of the oven it smelt amazing and was super soft."

"I really enjoyed picking my flavours although kneading the dough ached my arms!"



"It was a highlight of my year going up and getting to cook in a senior school kitchen!"

"We liked the kitchens and they had a lot more utilities than our school which was fun."

Special thank you to Mrs Hawkins, Mrs Hirst and Mrs Robbins for leading and organising this event.



# FURZE PLATT STUDENT IS A GARDENING ENTREPRENEUR



Well done to Finn Wright, Year 9, who has set up his own very successful garden care business. Finn has been watering people's gardens and plants over the last few months and this has become a huge success!

Since the beginning of June he has been out numerous times a day to support his neighbours

and has now branched out to feeding customers' small animals such as tortoises and rabbits, ensuring they are fed, watered and safe in the heat.

He will be making a donation to a charity of his choice with some of the money he has earnt.

'The school is rightly proud of its extra-curricular provision.'

# FURZE PLATT PE TEACHER COMPETING IN COMMONWEALTH GAMES



Best of luck to our own Miss Cochrane playing in the Commonwealth Games this summer, representing Scotland as GK hockey!



### **FUNKIN' SOULED OUT**



Back to School with Funkin' Souled Out, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September

Come and celebrate after the long summer break on Friday 16th September at a school fundraising gig at Furze Platt Theatre. Local band Funkin' Souled Out will be performing mix of funk and disco – including everything from James Brown to Donna Summer, Rose Royce to Diana Ross, The Jackson 5 to Jamiroquai, and lots more. There will be a bar onsite, so people can dance, have a drink and enjoy this eight piece band. They will be supported by another local group, Watershed, and tickets are just £12.50 each, so book your tickets here:

# **BUY TICKETS HERE**



**A** mbitious  $^{f V}$ Collaborative  $^{f V}$   $^{f H}$  appy  $^{f V}$   $^{f I}$   $^{f V}$   $^{f E}$   $^{f V}$   $^{f E}$   $^{f V}$   $^{f E}$   $^{f X}$   $^{f C}$   $^{f E}$   $^{f V}$   $^{f E}$   $^{f X}$   $^{f C}$   $^{f E}$ 



Contact us

Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

Facebook: facebook.com/fpssptfa

Website: click here to access



School's Out

# THE SUN'S OUT AND SUMMER HOLIDAYS ARE UPON US!

A full round up of our events and activities will be distributed in September. In the meantime, just a couple of things to mention...

We will still be present on Email and Facebook over the summer break, so please get in touch if you require any information: ptfa@furzeplatt.net facebook.com/fpssptfa

# **FUNDS RAISED -**

Approximately £23,000 has been raised this academic year since September 2021. Thank you for your continued support and generosity. We couldn't have done this without YOU!

COMMITTEE OFFICERS - from September 2022 to August 2023:

Chair: Lorraine Hughes Treasurer: Neil Wilson Secretary: Katrina Sell 200 Club Admin: vacant

# DON'T FORGET TO KEEP ON SMILING WITH AMAZON AND KEEP UP EASYFUNDRAISING THROUGH THESE LINKS

https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/287878-0

smile amazon.co.uk

https://bit.ly/393NF8R+



The final event of the year was a 200 Club draw at the recent School Fundraiser.

# **200 CLUB**

Winning numbers for Draw (No.20) on THURS 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY







We would like to say a huge thank you to our amazing PTFA team for all their hard work this year. They have raised thousands of pounds which has been used to enrich our students' lives here at Furze Platt. We are very grateful to them all and wish them a wonderful summer.

THANK YOU!

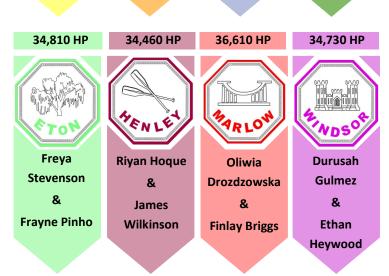
We appreciate your feedback and welcome comments and ideas by phone call 01628 625308, by email ptfaafurzeplatt.net and through our Facebook Page facebook.com/fpssptfa

# **BRAY HOUSE ARE OUR END OF TERM WINNERS**



A special mention to all of the students nominated below by their respective Heads of Houses. These students have been put forward for their positive attitudes and helpful behaviour, and contribute to a wide range of school activities.

	• • • • • •		
32,720 HP	39,840 HP	38,320 HP	37,020 HP
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Abigail	Clarissa	Lois Sellman	Sophie
Downes	Brewer	&	McLachlan
&	&	Jake Borrett	&
<b>Terry Creffield</b>	Jayden Taylor		<b>George Overall</b>



# SUBJECT NOMINATIONS

# **Art & Design Nominations**



Year 10: Anabel Zagacki & Harley Higgins

Year 12: Anna Swift

# **Photography Nomination**

Year 10: Nesly Anuat & Ben Hearsey

Year 12: Kate Lindley

# **Drama Nominations**

Year 7: Sanaa Naseer & Harry Holdway Year 8: Nicole Mizikova & Zach Evans

Year 9: Abigail Leech-Baldwin & Manuel Mizik

#### Drama Nominations cont.

Year 10: Sadie Huddleston & Nicolai Harrit

Year 12: Patrick Kelly

# **Physical Education Nominations**

Year 7: Nelly Bartkowiak & Alfie Everson-Plant Year 8: Jigeesha Mamidala & William Hancock

Year 9: Holly Cannon & Junaid Shabir Year 10: Caitlin Bennett & Isaac Cozens

Year 12: Frank McGrath

# **Sports Studies Nomination**

Year 12: Isaak Palmer

# **History Nominations**

Year 7: Nela Siedacz & Oscar Menzies Year 8: Bianca Popa & Zachary Abraham

Year 9: Henna Hussain & Alexander Moran-Thieme

Year 10: Paige Brook & Harry Fitzgerald

# **History/Government & Politics Nomination**

Year 12: Tia Groom



# **Geography Nominations**

Year 7: Elisabeth Madden & Denis Senyurek Year 8: Lexie Woodward & Andrew Lee

Year 9: Elenia Reina & Alex Callaby Year 10: Amelia Russell & Nathan Macey

Year 12: Zak Wardle

# **Music Nominations**

Year 7: Amy-Jayne Macey & Olly Makin

Year 8: Summer Matthews & Mitchell Holmes Year 9: Annabelle Stratford & Samuel Cranch

Year 10: Sophie Wong & Finley Giles

Year 12: Tom Cannon

#### **Effort in Learning Nominations**

Year 7: Barbara Carmona Esquivel & Eryk Senkowski

Year 8: Scarlett R Stevens & Harvey Malone

Year 9: Emily Treacy & Jayden Shaw-Griffiths

Year 10: Athena Silk & Austin Ka

#### **Maths Nominations**

Year 7: Abigail Downes & Sparsh Bodade

Year 8: Zainab Yusuf & Gordon Yiu

Year 9: Poppy Jones & Matej Sutton











#### **Maths Nominations Cont.**

Year 10: Beatriz Bartarin & Musa Ali

Year 12: Jacob Gould

## **Technology and Food & Nutrition Nominations**



Year 7: Lili Waterman & Juan Picado Year 8: Zoe Green & David Bechianu

Year 9: Freya Stevenson & Bastien Correia Year 10: Lucia Capper & Mason McArthur

Year 12: Lillia Bowsher

Year 10: Rosie McCarthy & Jamie Wilson

Year10: Natasha Harris

# **Product Design Nomination**





**ICT Nominations** 

Year 9: Rose Kemp & Jack Tayler

Year 10: Hazel Bidmead & Reece Ovens

Year 12: Aaden Warburton

# **Computing Nomination**

Year 7: Nina Hawkins & James Maher

Year 8: Danielle Cox & Raphael Kitt-Martinez

Year 10: Bibora Fekete & George Stiles

Year 12: Felix Earl

# **Languages Nominations**

Year 7: Eleanor Copping & Leo Russell

Year 8: Lara Holuss & Fabien Mormech

Year 9: Sara Nazir & Finn J Wright

Year 10: Clarissa Brewer & Oliver Powell

# Philosophy & Religion/Ethics Nominations



Year 8: Niamh Brennan & Fahd Rashid

Year 9: Emma Bunn & Jamie Metcalfe

Year 10: Tori Appleton & Oliver Eason

Year 12: Matilda Annereau

# **Psychology Nomination**

Year 12: Tyler Ayre

## **Criminology Nomination**

Year 12: Tilly Cochrane

#### **Business Nominations**

Year 10: Elisa Gjergo & Jack Britton

#### **Economics Nomination**

Year 12: Ben Wilson

# **PSHE Nominations**

Year 7: Oliwia Drozdzowska & Cayde De Silva

Year 8: Alive Setlhoke & James Kinrade

Year 9: Sophie Rayner & Thomas Bowater

Year 10: Connie Howe & Ethan Osbourn

## **English Nominations**

Year 7: Anya Choudri & Alexander Fennell

Year 8: Illango Fekete & Noah Nutbrown

Year 9: Phoebe Matthews & Pacey Thandi

Year 10: Bella Hunt & Nathan Hedges

Year 12: Kensa Horner

# **Media Nomination**

Year 12: Zuzanna Sroda

# **Construction Nomination**

Year 10: Jake Coomes

#### **Travel & Tourism Nomination**

Year 10: Iris Lakovic

# **Duke of Edinburgh Nominations**

Year 9: Aamina Ashraf & Connor Tayler

Year 10: Harrison Barry

# Raising Achievement: **Determination & Resilience Award Nominations**

Year 10: Kya Davis & Oliver Bond

# Science Nominations

Year 7: Jaydee Mitchell & Alfie Wetherall

Year 8: Megan Dewbury & Parv Saroha

Year 9: Sophie McLachlan & James Wilkinson

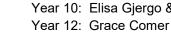
Year 10: Fatima Habbouli & George Terry

# **Biology Nomination**

Year 12: Anya Clayton























































# **Human Biology Nomination**

Year 12: Hannah Britton



**Chemistry Nomination** 

Year 12: Katie Pettigrew



**Physics Nomination** 

Year 12: Amy Winhammar



# LIBRARY BOOKS & TEXT BOOKS! A MONSTER CALLS TEXT BOOKS THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PYJAMA HAVE YOU SEEN ANY **FPSS BOOKS** LYING AROUND THE HOUSE? PARENT SEARCHER REQUIRED TO SEARCH BOOK SHELVES, UNDER BEDS AND BEDROOM FLOORS FOR LOST SCHOOL TEXT BOOKS AND LIBRARY BOOKS AMNESTY FOR ALL THOSE RETURNED! \*\*食會會★\*

# **SUPPORT JOB VACANCIES**



# COME AND WORK WITH US - CHECK OUT OUR CURRENT VACANCIES TODAY!

#### Learning Mentor - Fixed Term Contract

Vacancy for Learning Mentor - fixed term contract for one year to start September 2022

Read Full Story

#### Learning Support Assistant -Literacy Specialist (Fixed Term)

Vacancy for an LSA Literacy Specialist - Fixed Term Contract for one year to start September 2022

Read Full Story

#### Assistant Exams Officer to start 1st September 2022

Vacancy for Assistant Exams Officer to start 1st September 2022

Read Full Story

#### Pastoral Manager

Vacancy for Pastoral Manager

Read Full Story

## Cleaning Supervisor

Vacancy for a Cleaning Supervisor to start September 2022

Read Full Story

#### Cleane

Vacancy for Cleaner to start September 2022

Read Full Story

#### Graduate Cover Supervisor to start September 2022

Vacancy for Cover Supervisor to start September

Read Full Story

# Site Assistant

Vacancy for Site Assistant to start as soon as possible

Read Full Story

#### Science Technician Level 3 -Chemistry

Vacancy for Science Technician Level Three -Chemistry to start 1st September 2022.

Read Full Story

#### **Learning Support Assistant**

Vacancy for Learning Support Assistant (Core/SHINE).

Read Full Story

Ambitious Collaborative Happy Integrity Endurance Versatility Excellence

# Headquarters, Newsham Court, Pincents Kiln, Calcot, Reading, **RG317SD** Switchboard 0118 945 2888 Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service # rbfrs.co.uk

Reference Wildfire and Water Safety Advice Date 19 July 2022

Dear Parent / Guardian,

I am contacting you from Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service (RBFRS) and we have some important safety advice we would appreciate if you can pass on.

Due to the current dry, hot weather we are experiencing, the risk of fire in the area presently sits at very high and as a result, fires are quick to get out of control and spread with the arid conditions, causing risk to individuals, property and our local wildlife.

We would ask that parents / guardians remind their young people of the dangers associated with fire and the consequences of lighting fires, especially outside in the current conditions where any fire could accidently get out of hand unintentionally.

With the warm weather, getting into lakes and rivers may look inviting, however the temperature of the water can still remain cold and lead to cold water shock.

Cold water shock can have a dramatic effect on your body, such as causing you to breathe in water, make your muscles weaken, and can even cause your heart to go into abnormal rhythms, ultimately resulting in death. Watch this short video from the RNLI which explains more about cold water shock.

Additionally there are local areas where undercurrents can pull you under, even if at first sight the water looks calm. As you may be aware from the news there have sadly been tragic deaths of young people recently within Berkshire and so RBFRS is urging parents to talk with their young people about water safety, encouraging them to swim only in designated areas.

For more information on water safety, please see the RBFRS website.

# Resources Included

- **RBFRS** Wildfire Information
- Water Safety Advice (Cleveland Fire Brigade)

# **Additional Links**

- Water Safety Advice | Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK)
- Water Safety Advice And Tips Know The Risks (rnli.org)
- Water Safety | Canal & River Trust (canalrivertrust.org.uk)

We would like to thank you for your ongoing support in helping to keep Berkshire safe.

Chief Fire Officer - Wayne Bowcock



HAPPY





# WILDFIRE

To help keep you and our countryside safe, we have come up with a checklist for what to do if there is a fire.



# What to do:

- Do not try and tackle the fire yourself
- Call 999 and request the Fire Service
- Give an accurate location of the fire, for example -
  - Name of the nearest road
  - Access points
  - Visible land marks (pubs, farms, power lines, etc)
  - Locally known names
  - Map grid references (Ordinance Survey ideally or an A to Z)
- Move to a safe area and contact the local land manager if possible
- If the fire is in a remote area, please meet emergency services at the access point so that you can guide them to the location

# What not to do:

- Do not discard cigarettes
- Do not have BBQs in unauthorised areas
- Never leave a BBQ unattended
- Do not start camp fires out in the countryside
- Do not discard rubbish particularly reflective materials
- Do not burn off garden rubbish during hot periods or if you live close to woodland or heathland
- Do not have bonfires on hot days or during prolonged periods of dry weather

# Remember, prevention is key!

It has taken thousands of years to create the unique habitats that we have in the UK a wildfire could destroy these in hours. Help Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service keep you safe this summer.





rbfrs.co.uk



rovalberkshirefire



RoyalBerksFRS



@RBFRSOfficial

# **WATER SAFETY**





### **Be Water Aware**

Every year there are tragedies in open water that could have been prevented by following some basic advice. Many victims had not even intended going into the water but fall or slip near the waters edge whilst jogging, walking the dog or walking home.

When the sun comes out it is easy to be tempted into the sea, river or lake to cool down and have fun – but there are dangers we all need to heed and **Respect the Water.** This interactive leaflet is designed to point you in the right direction so you, your friends and family can enjoy the water safely.

# Fact:

In 2019 there were 214 deaths due to accidental drowning in the UK.

Around 50% drown taking part in everyday activities.

# What to do if you get into difficulty... RNLI Float to Live Campaign saves lives

Cold water can cause a shock effect on your body, causing you to panic, gasp uncontrollably, breath in water and lose control of your body. Your instinct would be to fight the cold water and swim hard but this would be a big mistake.

Float on your back, arms and legs stretched out for 60 to 90 second until you have taken control of you breathing and have a far better chance of staying alive.

Check out this advice from the RNLI it's a real life saver!



#### News Flash!

Float to Live advice saves 10 year old boy swept out to sea....



# Did you know?

35% of drowning victims had alcohol and/or drugs in their system.

50% of those who drowned didn't expect to enter the water.

AMBITIOUS COLLABORATIVE HAPPY INTEGRITY ENDURANCE VERSATILITY EXCELLENCE

# AT THE COAST

# Be aware of local conditions - look out for safety information signs

# Beach safety

Be aware there may be local conditions that could put you in harms way such as tides, strong rip currents, steeply shelving sea bed or areas that can be cut off by the incoming tide.

Stay safe – swim in supervised areas with life guards on duty and always supervise children. Look out for the Red & Yellow flags.

Remember if you get into difficulty someone else may risk their own life to save yours and sadly there are many cases when the rescuer then also becomes another victim.

## Getting swept out to sea...

Remember inflatables such as lilos and toy dinghy's can be dangerous – an offshore wind can blow a small inflatable 500 meters out to sea in just 6 minutes!



If you are going abroad on holiday don't forget to keep water aware - make sure you know what local signs and flags mean.

# New Flash!

Redcar Lifeboat rescues young man being swept out to sea in toy dingy. This man did not know what danger he was in and could have easily lost his life.



# **Inland Waterways**

Inland water like rivers, lakes and old quarries can pose some specific risks:

- Strong currents
- There can be weeds and debris in the water so watch out
- If you are going fishing alone tell someone your location
- Take care when walking or running by water, the waters edge maybe slipperv
- If you do fall in you might not be able to climb out
- And don't forget Cold Water Shock, rivers rarely get above 15 degrees

# **Don't Drink and Drown**

Alcohol can make you vulnerable and take risks - swimming and alcohol just don't mix.

You are also more vulnerable when walking near water if you have had a drink - don't leave your mate behind on a night out #BeAMate



# Tombstoning - don't risk your life

Jumping into water from a height be it a bridge, pier or cliff might give you more than an adrenalin kick - remember the danger from cold water shock, hitting the water surface or hidden objects below the surface. Your might literally be 'dying to be



# What to do in an Emergency

Think don't enter the water

at the Coast dial 999 and ask for the Get Help -Coast Guard. For inland water dial 999

and ask for the Fire Service

a branch, a pole, but stay low and don't Reach -

get pulled in

Throw life saving equipment, rope, life belt or

something that floats

Remember - when rescued keep them warm and

get medical help

It's never too late to learn to swim check out the Royal Life Saving Society website or call in at your local swimming pool https://www.rlss.org.uk/











