

Weekly Update: Monday 16th January - Friday 20th January 2017

SCHOOL WEBSITE	CALENDAR & SPORTS FIXTURES	AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS	ONLINE PAYMENTS	APPLY FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS	TWITTER	PTFA FACEBOOK PAGE
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NEXT WEEK (Week 2)

Thurs 26 th January	Year 8 Band 'P' Parents' and Students Consultation Evening (4.15pm - 7.15pm)
Fri 27 th January	Late start: school starts at 9.10am
Sun 29 th January	PTFA Table Top Sale - gates open at 7am for sellers (7am - 10.30am)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Mon 30 th January	Year 10 Child Development Trip to Mothercare (11.45am - 1.45pm)
Tues 31 st January	Year 11 Child Development Trip to Town (2.15pm - 3.15pm)
Wed 1 st February	Sixth Form Trip to Culham Centre (10.45am - 3.30pm)
Thurs 2 nd February	Intermediate Maths Challenge Year 8 Options Evening (6pm - 8.30pm)



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



LATE STARTS TO THE SCHOOL DAY



On the following days **school will start for students at 9.10**. They will miss registration and assembly and go straight to Lesson 2.

Friday 27th January
Friday 17th March
Friday 24th March

This adjustment is in recognition of the fact that we have doubled the number of parents' evenings that teachers need to attend for students in Year 7 and 8. Parents' Evenings are so well attended that parents told us they were struggling to make appointments with all the teachers they wished to see. We hope this arrangement will allow every parent to meet all their child's teachers.

Ms T White (Headteacher)



UCAS UPDATE



Ninety-six of our Year 13 students (86% of the year group) have now sent off their UCAS applications to universities, and are eagerly awaiting responses. Nearly 50% of these applications have included at least one Russell Group University. Many of our students have already received achievable conditional offers from top universities, both in the UK and abroad. They should be extremely proud of their achievement thus far.

Mr J Dollery (Head of Sixth Form)

FURZE PLATT SIXTH FORM APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN



Unable to attend the Sixth Form Open Evening?

Tours need to be booked through our Main Reception on 01628 625308. All tours are scheduled for the following dates:

Tuesday 24th January 2017
Wednesday 1st February 2017
Tuesday 7th February 2017

Sixth Form Prospectus & Course Guide 2017



Bisham, Bray, Cookham and Dorney Houses - 6pm

Eton, Henley, Marlow and Windsor Houses - 7pm

As you may be aware, your son/daughter has started to consider what options to choose for Year 9. He/she has discussed this in PSHE, has benefited from taster sessions in option subjects, and in some cases has been mentored by older students. I would now like to invite you, along with your son/daughter, to the school's Options Evening on Thursday 2nd February 2017.

The evening will be split into two parts:

a) Presentation by Mr E Towill (Deputy Headteacher) and Mr A Molin (Head of House responsible for KS3-4 transition), focusing on how the new GCSEs are organised and graded, and the options open to this year's Year 8 students.

b) Opportunity for all students and their parents/carers to find out more about different subjects by speaking directly to GCSE teachers and current GCSE students at our Options Fair.

In addition, you will be given a copy of our Options Booklet, which gives details of all the courses available next year.

This is an important and popular event, and in order to ensure that you and your son/daughter have plenty of time to find out about different options, there will be a staggered start to the evening. Please arrive at the time below, according to which house your son/daughter is in. The event will last approximately 2 hours.

Bisham, Bray, Cookham and Dorney Houses will begin at 6pm

Eton, Henley, Marlow and Windsor will begin at 7pm

If you are unable to attend the appropriate time slot, please contact Mrs G Dandridge.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday 2nd February 2017.

Mr E Towill (Deputy Headteacher)



JANUARY PROGRESS REPORTS AVAILABLE



Home > Parents > Reports

Year 8 reports have been issued this week and are available online as usual via Go 4 Schools.

The new 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. Please click [here](#) for instructions to log on. Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at reports@furzeplatt.net.

Mrs S Watford (M.I.S. Manager)



SCHOOL NEWS



HARRISON THORNE



Congratulations to Harrison Thorne, Year 10, on winning the Berkshire individual title for the Sportshall athletics event at Eton. Harrison is now hoping to represent Berkshire at the South East regional round at Burgess Hill in March.



CHILD DEVELOPMENT SPEAKER



Year 9 Child Development recently had a chance to speak to a midwife about her experience of working with pregnant women. This enabled them to have a better insight into midwifery as a possible future career but also gave them a deeper understanding of the practical aspects of the Child Development course.

Special thanks to Mrs Joanne Williams for giving her time and coming to meet with our students.

**RESULTS FROM THIS WEEK**

- Year 7 Boys' Football beat Holyport College 8 - 1
- Year 8 Boys' Football beat Edgbarrow School 4 - 2
- Year 9 Boys' Football beat Edgbarrow School 4 - 2
- Year 10 Girls' Hockey beat The Marist School 1 - 0

NEXT WEEK**Monday**

Year 8 Boys' Football at home to Charters

Tuesday

Year 7 Boys' Football away to Trinity School
(students need to be ready to leave school at 2:15)

U14 hockey at Braywick

Boys' Football Year 8 B V Year 9 B at home

No Year 7 training due to matches

Wednesday

Year 8 Netball at Furze Platt

Thursday

Boys football Year 7 B&C vs Holyport at FPSS

No Year 7 training due to matches/parents evening

Year 10 Boys' Football away at Charters School

Years 7/8 Boys' Rowing @ Windsor Girls

**APPRENTICESHIPS: AN ALTERNATIVE PATHWAY TO A CAREER IN SCIENCE**

On Tuesday 17th January, the science department was visited by Oliver Sayers, an apprentice at GlaxoSmithKline in Maidenhead. Oliver's presentation delved into GSK and provided the cohort of upper school students and sixth-formers with information regarding GSK apprenticeships as an alternative pathway into scientific careers.

The prelude of the talk was an insight into the scale of GSK, as the world's 6th largest pharma corporation. GSK purveys 4 billion packs of medicine, 800 million vaccines and 18 billion other healthcare products on an annual basis. Glaxo's Maidenhead site is a corporate landmark, supplying Europe's demand for big brand oral healthcare products such as Sensodyne and Aquafresh. The Maidenhead site produces 400 million tubes of toothpaste a year, a startling 9 Olympic swimming pools worth of the product.

Oliver, went on to discuss the apprenticeship opportunities offered by Glaxo. Across a broad spectrum of subjects, not limited to supply and demand, microbiology and chemistry, the apprenticeship programs yields nationally recognised qualifications and guaranteed employment with the corporation. Ranging from 2-4 years in length, candidates fortify team-working and communication skills and are offered a competitive salary as a part of the 'earn whilst you learn' paradigm. He gave us an insight into his own career path, having decided that an apprenticeship was a better option for him post-18 than university was.

The 45-minute seminar was an insight into apprenticeships as a viable alternative to tertiary level education and their emergence as a means of procuring employment in the economically important science sector. We urge you to find out more by visiting gsk.com/apprenticeships and hope to see you at future science department seminars!

Evan Charles (Year 12)

SCHOOL CLUBS SCHEDULE - SPRING TERM 2017

[Home](#) > [Parents](#) > [Useful Information](#) > [School Clubs - Spring Term 2017](#)

We are proud to be able to offer a huge variety of activities. Please encourage your son/daughter to attend any which may be of interest to them. A full list of our current school clubs is available from the link below.

[School Clubs Schedule - Spring Term 2017](#)



Hi, I'm Daniel Harley and I am one of the students participating in the Indonesia expedition in 2018. I am currently in Year 12 studying Biology, Psychology and Business at A-level here at the school. When I first discovered about the expedition to Indonesia, I couldn't resist the chance to take part and expand my knowledge.

I was intrigued to take part simply because I have never taken part in anything like this within the UK, where I am familiar with the surroundings, let alone on the other side of the world. Therefore, I knew this was a great opportunity to learn more and explore different cultures, and for someone who gets bored of the same routine day to day, I would love to try something new. With Indonesia holding more than 700 languages within its borders, this shows the immense diversity it holds.

On the expedition, we will take part in a spectrum of activities. These include species conservation and analysis in the jungle and marine habitats. As Indonesia is currently the 3rd largest emitter of greenhouse gases in the world, it feels relevant to attempt to protect these species in the best way we can. Another activity we will carry out is scuba diving in the second week of the expedition; something I have always wanted to give a go from a young age. Indonesia would be the perfect place to do so, especially as scientists have previously measured a total of 1,233 marine species inhabiting the tropical waters of Indonesia. Therefore, it would be a rare experience to witness just a few of these.

I have always been someone who aspires to follow some form of career related to Biology, therefore I believe this expedition will be a fantastic insight into the future, as well as giving me some skills that could give me the boost I need.

In terms of fundraising, we are aiming to participate in activities in and out of the school term. This may include raffle sales; with permission from the school to sell tickets, generously provided by Operation Wallacea. These are planned to take place during parents and information evenings throughout the year. In addition to this, the team are also considering car washes and sponsored walk as a possible aid to help raise the funds we need.

Finally, we would love to hear from anyone with any possible ideas about how the team could continue to raise funds for the expedition. If so, please contact either

Mr A Molin andrew.molin@furzeplatt.net

Dr M Scott michele.scott@furzeplatt.net

If you would like to make a donation you can either do so online into account sort code 309536, account 59194168 or by writing a cheque to Furze Platt Senior School and delivering it to School Reception. In both cases please ensure that you give the reference IND18.

Thank you.



PTFA TABLE TOP SALE NEXT SUNDAY:

SUNDAY 29TH JANUARY 2017



2017 PTFA MEETING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Tues 7th March (AGM)

Tues 13th June

Each starts 7.30pm in the library, all welcome.



CURRENT VACANCIES

Headteacher's PA

Cover Supervisor

Can you help?

- Treasurer required (approx. one hour per week)
- Administrator needed for 200 Club (approx. one hour per month plus promotional work)
- Two more volunteers required for our Indoor Car Boot Sale. (Any parent who has a stall at the event and is willing to assist in the set up and set down will receive 50% off their stall fee)
- Two more volunteers needed for our school production 6th-9th February 2017 to serve refreshments in the evenings

Upcoming events:

- Indoor Table Top Sale, Sunday 29th January. Buyers and sellers welcome.
- AGM meeting, Tuesday 7th March, 7.30pm. All welcome.
- Big Quiz (No.4) on Friday 21st April (food, bar and raffle available). Tickets £15 a head.
- 200 Club – only £5 per month, cash prizes available.

For further details on any of the above please email: jeff@iifa.co.uk

BIKEABILITY AT FURZE PLATT

Cycle Experience will be running holiday courses this Easter at the Furze Platt Leisure Centre. These Bikeability level 2 courses for children aged 10+ will be running on the 3rd - 4th April and 10th - 11th April. Each course runs for either two mornings or afternoons. There is a £5 admin charge for the course and children must attend both days of their chosen course.

Please visit the [Cycle Experience website](http://www.cycleexperience.com) to book. If the course is showing as fully booked, please email kelly@cycleexperience.com to be placed on a waiting list.

Participants must have their own bicycle and helmet to take part. Please download a copy of [our bike check document](#) and check your child's bike to make sure it is roadworthy before the course begins. You must live, work or study in the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead to be eligible for these holiday courses, and your child should only be signed up to one course.

At least 24 hours' notice is needed to cancel or change a booking. Please call 0330 024 1783 to do so.



REPORTS

[Home](#) > [Parents](#) > [Reports](#)

Year 7 Geography reports for Cookham, Henley and Marlow Houses have been issued to students last week to bring home. This information was previously unavailable for the reports issued at the end of last term.

We still hope to make the Year 7 reports available online via Go 4 Schools later in the year.

Mrs S Watford (M.I.S. Manager)



END OF SCHOOL CELEBRATION OPPORTUNITIES



As your son/daughter reaches the end of their GCSE courses and the end of compulsory education, a number of traditions to mark this time have evolved in recent years. This is to let you know exactly what they are, and enable you to be aware of the financial implications of some of these.

Please see the letter below with full details.

Miss L Lewis (Key Stage 4-5 Transition Coordinator)

[END OF SCHOOL CELEBRATION OPPORTUNITIES LETTER](#)

**EVENT
HAPPENING
NEXT
SUNDAY**



INDOOR TABLE TOP SALE



Furze Platt Senior School Main Hall

**Sunday 29th
January 2017**

**Time: 9am-12pm
(sellers from 7.30pm, buyers from 9am)**

**Entry: Adults (over 16) 50p per person
Children go free**

**Table spaces can be booked for £10 per table by
contacting jeff@iifa.co.uk**

- Bring, buy and sell your unwanted gifts, clothes, toys, books, DVDs and general jumble.
- It's like a car boot sale, but indoors without the bad weather!
- All entry and table hire money goes to the Furze Platt PTFA.