Sixth Form Weekly News - The Headlines:

- Prepare to Succeed resources are on the Furze Platt website in the Sixth Form area – we hope that they are useful.

- The School's Open Evening will be happening on Thursday 5th October – all Year 12 and Year 13 students will be needed for this event. Please ensure that you have arranged work shifts accordingly.

- On the 2nd October there is a trip to the Excel Centre for the *UCAS Create Your Future.* This event is for anyone who is interested in finding our more about a career, apprenticeships or course in a creative industry. If interested, please contact Mrs Beale. Please visit https://www.ucas.com/events/create-your-future-london-2023-creative-career-showcase-434011 to find out more.

- Microsoft Form for signing in and signing out can be found here - https://forms.office.com/e/rYHXm0Z7pC. Please remember that you must be signed in with your school email address.

- A full list of when PSHE lessons will be running can be found on the next page.

- ALIS testing will continue (TBC) for those students that were unable to complete this on Wednesday. Apologies for the inconvenience.

Upcoming dates:

- Monday 2nd October- *UCAS Create Your Future Exhibition* at The ExCeL Centre in London.
- Wednesday 4th October – Parent Information Evening for Thailand Expedition 2025 (18.00pm)
- Thursday 5th October – School Open Evening (All Year 12 students required)
- Friday 6th October – INSET Day
- Tuesday 10th October – Woolly Firs Biology Trip (Year 13)
- Friday 13th October – UCAS deadline for Early Entry (Oxbridge, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Dentistry)

PSHE schedule

School week	Date	Period
1	15/9/23	P3
2	20/9/23	P2
3	27/9/23	P4
4	02/10/23	P3
5	11/10/23	P3
6	19/10/23	P2
7	31/10/23	P3
8	08/11/23	P5
9	15/11/23	P5
10	20/11/23	P4
11	30/11/23	P3
12	5/12/23	P5
13	11/12/23	P3

Year 12 News

This week we had our first Year 12 assembly which focused on the launch of Unifrog. Some students have used this application in KS4 and so will be familiar with what it offers, however, this is the application we use for UCAS application and for careers advice.

Students have been sent their log on details for Unifrog and in form time next week will be signing up. Once signed up, students have been to explore the site and begin to favourite some courses and careers

What is the purpose of Unifrog?

- Explore which subjects you would be interested in studying post-18 and how these choices can lead to different career paths and further education.
- Discover and sign up to online courses in areas that you're interested in.
- Explore how to successfully apply to an apprenticeship or university course, including universities abroad.
- Support in writing a CV and Cover letter.
- Record key activities and achievements to use in your applications.

We hope students and parent/guardians enjoy using Unifrog and find the application useful when thinking about plans for the future.

If you need me, you can:

- Contact me directly on kate.kalinowski@furzeplatt.net
- Book a clinic session with me afterschool on Wednesday between 3.30pm and 5.00pm by emailing sixthformadmin@furzeplatt.net

Year 13 News

UCAS:

This week's focus continues to be on destinations after Sixth Form. If personal statement development and/or futures research isn't high on the priority list then please make sure that you're setting aside time each week to get this done.

The internal deadline for the school is 1st November. By meeting this, we are able to almost guarantee that students will have their UCAS application off before Christmas and it will give you valuable headspace for your studies.

TSS:

TSS sessions began again this week and offer an excellent opportunity for students to be productive in a controlled environment. It is well worth coming to the session knowing what you're studying in advance – don't forget to make use of the study logs (available in Sixth Form) and weekly planners to identify what you're going to do.

Date of Study Period	Subject worked on	Plan/Outline of what I am doing	Work Completed (tick)	Any Follow up? Reflect on how your session has gone and what you still need to do based on the work completed

It is worth setting aside 2hrs of TSS time per subject, and you might find it useful to have one of these sessions focussing on Year 12 content each week. This will help you to develop the links between the different modules in the course. Alternatively, why not use these sessions for exam practice in preparation for the January PPEs?

I am currently reading *Fallen Idols – Twelve Statues That Made History* by Alex Von Tunzelmann and listening to the audible of *The Silk Roads* by Peter Frankopan.

A question of sport

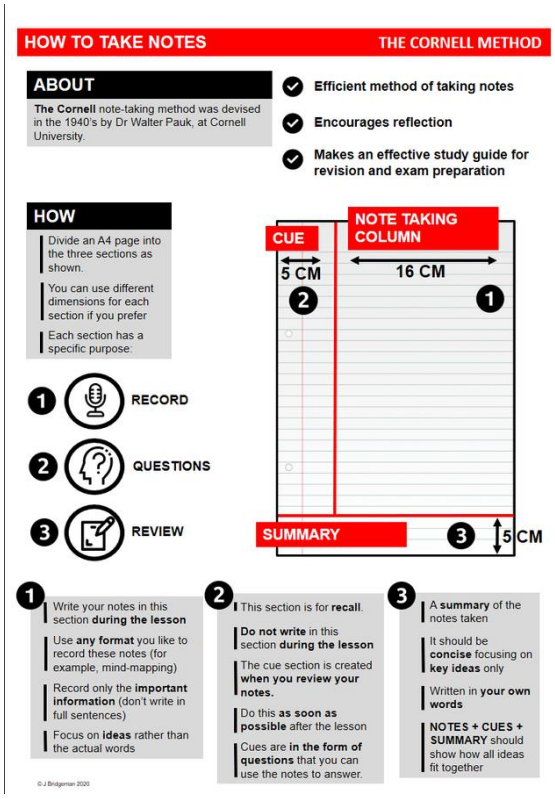
Following on from our sporting success in the Summer with the Boys' Football Team playing in the District Cup, this week marked the return of the rugby season for the Sixth Form. The school haven't had a starting XV since before the pandemic and it has been excellent to see so many students signing up to join the team.

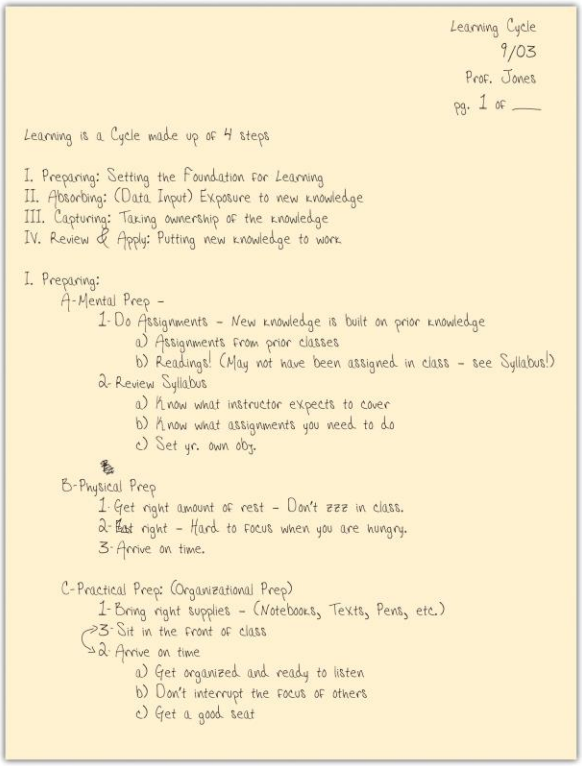
The first game of the season was against Great Marlow and whilst Furze Platt ultimately lost 24-21, the boys played an excellent game in difficult wet conditions. Shout outs to Herbie and Dylan for We are all looking forward to the first game at home where the Sixth Form can cheer the team on. Mr Gill is looking forward to thrashing some of the local competition!

The school has also begun competitive netball sessions and in the new year a starting XI will start training for the spring football season. This is a brilliant new addition to the Sixth Form and we're grateful to the PE department and the students who are making this an exciting part of the extra-curricular programme.

The Study Room

Success = Make sure your notes are in order





Learning Cycle
9/03
Prof. Jones
pg. 1 of ___

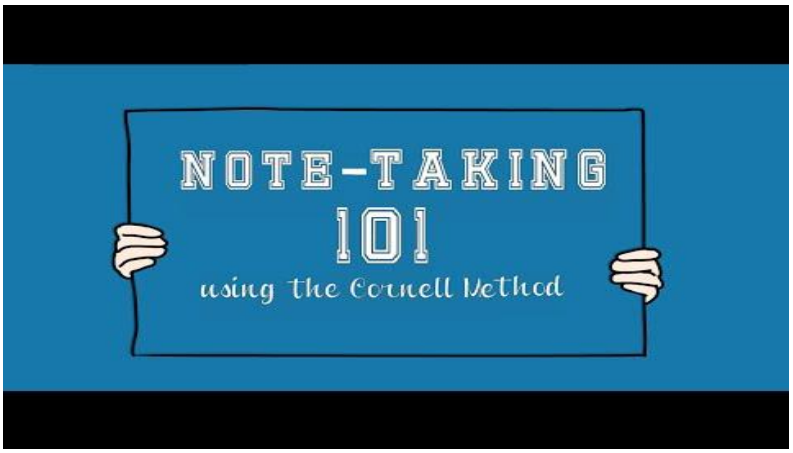
Learning is a Cycle made up of 4 steps

I. Preparing: Setting the Foundation for Learning
II. Absorbing: (Data Input) Exposure to new knowledge
III. Capturing: Taking ownership of the knowledge
IV. Review & Apply: Putting new knowledge to work

I. Preparing:
- A-Mental Prep -
  - 1-Do Assignments - New knowledge is built on prior knowledge
    - a) Assignments from prior classes
    - b) Readings! (May not have been assigned in class - see Syllabus!)
  - 2-Review Syllabus
    - a) Know what instructor expects to cover
    - b) Know what assignments you need to do
    - c) Set yr. own obj.
- B-Physical Prep
  - 1-Get right amount of rest - Don't zzz in class.
  - 2-Eat right - Hard to focus when you are hungry.
  - 3-Arrive on time.
- C-Practical Prep: (Organizational Prep)
  - 1-Bring right supplies - (Notebooks, Texts, Pens, etc.)
  - 3-Sit in the front of class
  - 2-Arrive on time
    - a) Get organized and ready to listen
    - b) Don't interrupt the focus of others
    - c) Get a good seat

5 Reasons to Get it Right

- Notes that you create in your own words will be transferred into your longer term memory.
- Organising information chronologically will help you to find information when you need it.
- Using a proven method such as Cornel helps to simplify key information.
- Good notes can help you to identify key questions and themes.
- It helps with revision of material before exams.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HJCnqj7j7rU&embeds_referring_euri=https%3A%2F%2Fhubblecontent.osi.office.net%2F&source_ve_path=Mjg2NjY&feature=emb_logo

Careers

A handy guide to university

For those wondering if university is for them and for those who have questions about UCAS and the application process, here is a very handy guide from Success At School: https://tinyurl.com/2mmr9e7e

Work experience in construction, design, tech, engineering, music and the army

Speakers For School have an exciting work experience programme running this half term – some are in person in London and some are virtual. Employers include **construction, design, tech, engineering and a musician – songwriter.** Please use this link to find out more: https://tinyurl.com/bdf6cxac

For students aged 14 to 18 and considering a career in the **army**, there is a five-day residential work experience focussing on teamwork, leadership, confidence and resilience. If interested, please contact 0345 600 8080 and ask for the Outreach team or email them on RG-OutreachAdmin@mod.gov.uk

For students thinking of a career in medicine:

Applying to study medicine is very competitive. It always helps if you have done something extra to demonstrate your interest in the subject. Royal Berkshire NHS are looking for **Youth Forum** Members. Find out more by reading the leaflet on the next page of this newsletter. If you want to apply, please email me on claire.beale@furzeplatt.net and I will email you an application form.

Free lectures & Open days

A great way to make your personal statement stand out from the rest is to attend extra lectures. Royal Holloway University is offering a Biological Sciences **IN PERSON lecture** on Monday 16th October from 6 to 7pm called "Challenges for bees in a changing world". The University also has two **Open Days** on Sat 14th October and Sat 11th November.

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/rhul-jack-pridham-lecture-featuring-professor-elli-leadbeater-tickets-705492496047?aff=oddtdtcreator

https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/student-life/visit-royal-holloway/open-days/

Considering a career with the RAF?

Then please attend the free virtual RAF world experience on **Tuesday 26th Sept from 7.30-9pm**, find out more about working for The Royal Air Force. Sign up here https://tinyurl.com/shcan927

RBH Youth Forum role

The RBH youth forum aims to get young members of our community who are aged between 16- 24 heard and involved in the decisions made by the Royal Berkshire Hospital. As a member of the youth forum, you can help to make changes and influence hospital decisions to improve services for young people and future generations.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Share your thoughts and ideas on how the hospital could be improved and participate in workshops and events where you can share your experiences or provide a fresh perspective.
- Some of the opportunities to get involved will include:
    - Attending regular Youth Forum meetings where you can present your ideas and opinions
    - Training Workshops
    - Hospital walkabouts – where you will tour as part of team and assess the wards
    - Interview panels
    - Getting involved in projects around the hospital

Skills required:

- Teamwork – being able to work well with others
- Communication – Good at talking and listening
- Reliability- being trustworthy and responsible
- Punctuality – Good at being on time
- Creativity – being able to think of new ideas and questions.

What you will gain:

- Make your CV and applications stand out to future employers and universities.
- Learn more about the hospital environment
- Learn more about healthcare careers and work closely with NHS employees.
- Get access to lots of training, including fire safety, infection control safeguarding and more!
- Get to know lots of other like-minded young people in your community.
- The Youth Forum is extremely flexible – our ultimate aim is that members will run it themselves with minimal input from Trust staff, so we are already working with existing members to find out how it works best for them.
- So far, this involves evening or weekend meetings in person, and Teams meetings when in person doesn't work. There is no minimum time commitment or attendance – if you need to take time out, then that is absolutely fine. All we ask is that you keep in touch.

Early Entry Candidate for UCAS?

HOW YOU APPLY
2024 ENTRY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

JANUARY

By **29 September** test registration

By **16 October** UCAS application

UCAS APPLICATION

- ☐ **Start working on it from June 2023**
  - choose your course
  - choose a college or decide on an open application
  - write your personal statement
  - organise your academic reference
- ☐ **Check if you need to take a test and what this involves**
- ☐ **Submit from early September**
- ☐ **Final deadline 6pm on 16 October**

ucas.com

TESTS

- ☐ **Confirm which test(s) you need to take**
- ☐ **Find out how to prepare and practise using the sample papers online**
- ☐ **Find test centre (your school or college or open centre)**
- ☐ **Register between 1 and 29 September***
- ☐ **Take test on 18 October (TSA and BMAT) or 19 or 20 October (all other tests)***

**Except Law, see www.lnat.ac.uk*

ox.ac.uk/tests

https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/apply/how/admission-tests

WRITTEN WORK

- ☐ **Check if needed for your course**
- ☐ **Submit to your college by 10 November**

ox.ac.uk/writwork

INTERVIEWS

In December, if you are shortlisted

ox.ac.uk/interviews

DECISIONS

Find out if you have an offer on 9 January 2024

THINKING OF DEFERRING ENTRY?

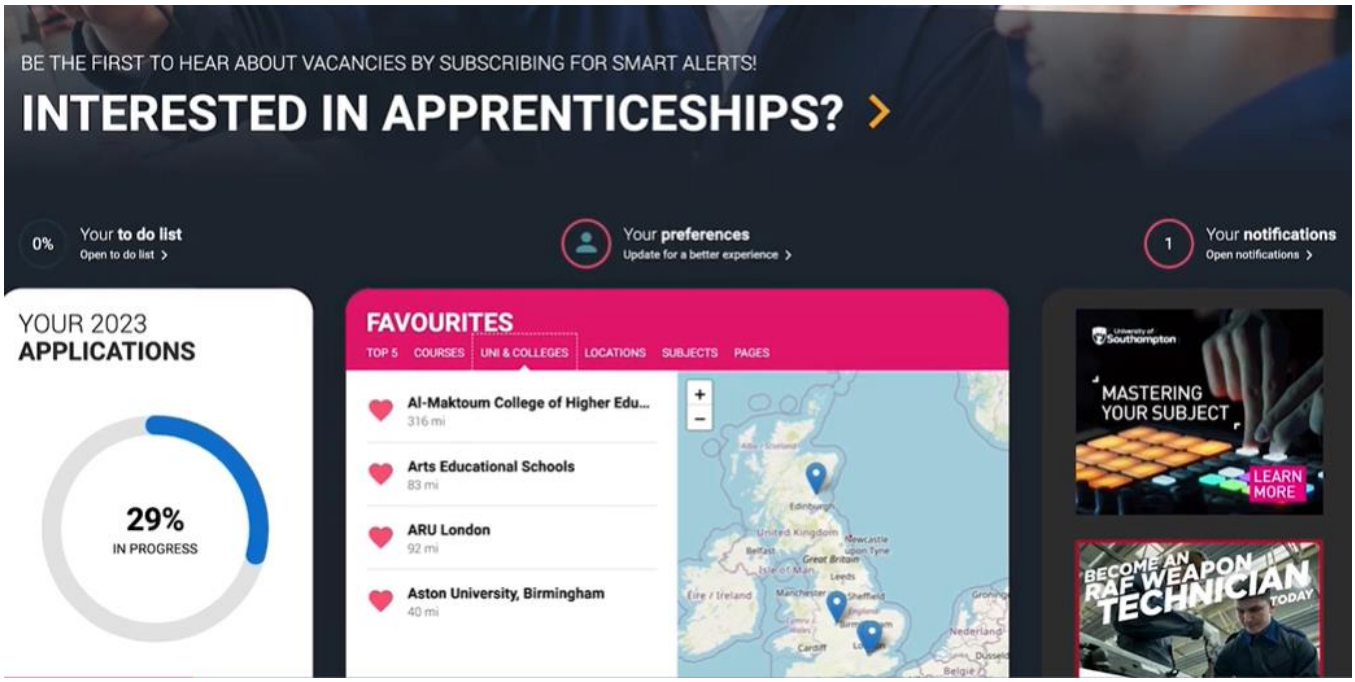
This is not always possible so we recommend you check with your course department first.

UCAS deadlines for the 2024 cycle

2024 ENTRY KEY DATES

2 May 2023	UCAS' search tool displays 2024 courses.
9 May 2023	The adviser portal opens for 2024 entry. From this date, you can set up your adviser portal ready for your students to link to your centre.
16 May 2023	Undergraduate applications open for 2024 entry. From this date, applicants can start their applications and send them to you for references and approval.
12 July 2023	Conservatoire applications open for 2024 entry. From this date, applicants can register, pay, and send their applications.
5 September 2023	Completed undergraduate applications can be submitted to UCAS.
2 October 2023 18:00 (UK time)	Application deadline for conservatoire music applications. Applications for dance, drama, and musical theatre courses may have a different deadline – check conservatoires' websites for information.
16 October 2023 18:00 (UK time)	Deadline for applications to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and for most courses in medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine / science. The reference must be completed before the application can be sent to us.
31 January 2024 18:00 (UK time)	Equal consideration date for applications for most undergraduate courses. The reference must be completed before the application can be sent to us. Deadline for most conservatoire undergraduate dance, drama or musical theatre courses. Check on the specific course to be sure.
28 February 2024	Extra opens – applicants who have used all five choices and are not holding any offers may be able to add another choice in their application.

Everything you need is on your UCAS HUB



Opportunities to engage with

- The 2023 Gresham College public speaking competition will be launched soon. Keep an eye on the following page for updates - https://www.gresham.ac.uk/schools-and-colleges/gresham-competition

- Upcoming talks from Speakers4Schools can be found here - https://www.speakersforschools.org/upcoming-broadcasts/

- Upcoming careers and employment opportunities through Speakers4Schools can be found here - https://www.canva.com/design/DAFgXaCPtDs/pnRPUb84yhbZYuq85lM4fg/view#1

- Work experience opportunities over half-term can be found here - https://www.canva.com/design/DAFt31HgCco/1d5hlm6y_XFLXmAvroSYKg/view#1

- Sign up to https://pathwayctm.com/student-register/ for free to engage with opportunities from the UK's top employers.

Our school communication systems within the Sixth Form

The following platforms and systems are used across the school. Please get in touch (sixthform.admin@furzeplatt.net) if you have any issues with these systems.

- Parentmail – this is how information about the school will be communicated home and acts as a payment platform for trips etc.
- Classcharts – this is an attendance and behaviour monitoring tool and the only way to report absences. This must be done by 8.45am daily.
- Go4Schools – this is how reports will get home about working at grades, attitude to learning and predicted grades.
- Parents' Evening booking system – this will go live nearer the time of parents' evening and we will be in contact with regards to this.