

Sixth Form Weekly News - The Headlines:

- A reminder of the procedure for if the teacher is not in your lesson: the teacher will have set work to complete and unless another arrangement has been agreed, you are to remain in that lesson.
- Uniform - It is a requirement to wear a suit for all students. If you forget a suit jacket, please go to Mrs Pasa. These should not be left in your car!
- Lanyards- these must be always worn. It is a safeguarding requirement. It is the same for staff.
- TSS – to reiterate:
 - 1) TSS is for Silent Study – this means that people in the booths also need to be quiet. If you want to chat, or work on a project together, please use the canteen or the common room.
 - 2) There is a seating plan in place for a reason. By now, you know who you sit with, so please stick to it and don't try to sit with other people. The actual location of the table may change where you sit BUT the people should remain the same.
 - 3) Sit in the seating plan immediately at the beginning of the session – treat this like any other lesson. You should not be socialising in the booths when the session has started
 - 4) Please sit in a professional manner – not with legs up on the seats or benches.
 - 5) You can't use the Booths when you have a free but you may ask to join TSS
- If you know you are going to be absent from a lesson for a test, trip or appointment, it is courteous to email the teacher and explain you will be absent. You will be expected to catch up on missed work.
- Please remember to record your absence on Class charts by 8.45am so it can be picked up by attendance
- 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. You also should go to Mrs Pasa to sign in.

Upcoming dates:

Tuesday 17th September – PSHE

Tuesday 17th September – DEADLINE FOR Y12 OPTIONS CHANGE

25th September- Drama trip after school

3rd October- Open Day. Early finish of 12.30pm for set up. All students will be required to attend in the evening.

4th October- INSET day

4th October- 11am-12pm- Early entry workshops with Joe Organ

11th October- Year 13 progress reports



The Sixth Form Team



Mr Ging –
Head of
Sixth Form



Mrs Beale
– Sixth
Form
Supervised
Study
Manager
and Coach



Mrs
Kalinowski
– Assistant
Head of
Sixth Form
(Year 13)



Mrs
Jennings –
Sixth Form
Learning
Mentor



Mr Colmer
– Assistant
Head of
Sixth Form
(Year 12)



Mrs Wilson –
Sixth Form
Administrator



Mrs Pasa –
Sixth Form
Manager



Let's Do This!



Welcome to the first Sixth Form newsletter of the year, Year 12! I hope you have had an excellent time settling in to a new rhythm and are enjoying your studies and the new independence that Sixth Form brings.

As we start the year, I want to remind you about the importance of hitting the ground running. If you were at Prepare to Succeed this week, you will have heard us talk lots about the different ways that this can be achieved.

One of the most important things that you need to become comfortable with at the beginning of your studies is speaking to your teachers and utilising them as a source of help. They will be expecting you to reach out if you are confused, or if you are struggling.

An effective way of doing this could be to have a pack of post-it notes with you as you complete your work – note questions down that you want to ask and bring these to your lesson. I can assure you that this will only be well received!

Start as you mean to go on and make sure you have that solid foundation.

Have a fantastic weekend!

Year 13



Welcome back Year 13! It is so lovely seeing back, fresh faced and ready to go. There is a real sense of knuckling down this year and getting the job done! I've had teachers tell me that students are e-mailing for 1:1s, sending extra work, meeting deadlines early, doing optional home learning tasks. It is this attitude and worth ethic that will bear the fruits of your labour come July. Well done and keep going!



My main messages for you at the start of this year are:

- 1) Get your UCAS application sorted if you are planning on applying – the year gets busy and you do not want to have this hanging over your head.
- 2) If you're not sure about what's next after school, give yourself an hour a week to research the options open to you. Use www.unifrog.com, www.pathwayctm.com and the UCAS Hub to complete careers and apprenticeships research. You need to do this work- no one can do this for you! However, if you do want support please come and speak with your tutor or any one of the Sixth form team!
- 3) Get studying! You may not have home learning set to be completed, but there is plenty to do. Use the resources shared in the extended tutor time this week and the study skills information on <https://www.furzeplatt.com/page/?title=Year+13+%2D+Success+in+the+S+ixth+Form&pid=84> to help you make the best use of your time.

Have a great weekend year 13.

Personal Statement deadline is Monday 16th.

This should be your second draft. However, I know some of you are on your first draft. Some of you are not sure what you want to do yet. Please spend this weekend making progress with your future choices and get the personal statement finished so you can get feedback on how to improve. Don't bury your head in the sand- these personal statements are not going away. If you need help, speak to us! Here is the same advice that I give to you last year:

TOP TIPS

To show interest in the course you are applying for is one of the most important things in your personal statement. You need to show how you are engaging in academic super-curricular work. This might be an interview you have watched, a theorist you have researched, an article you have read or a debate in the field. This is why we are giving you a form time a week to engage in super-curricular work. This is NOT EXTRA CURRICULAR. Super-curricular is the engagement with an academic aspect of your course which is above and beyond what you are doing in lesson.

There is a wealth of super-curricular work on FP cloud here:

Super Curriculum

There is also work on Unifrog here:



Something else you could do is look at the reading list for the courses you are applying for and read some of the work.

If you still are not sure on the course or area of apprenticeship you want to do, remember, UCAS Hub has taster sessions to try.

Places you can go for help:

- UCAS: <https://www.ucas.com/explore/search/advice?query=personal%20statement> (loads of guides and support on this page)
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- The Uni Guide: <https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/advice/personal-statements/writing-your-personal-statement>
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- Specific universities (this example is from Aston university): <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/study/advice-on-applying-to-university/examples-of-personal-statements>

Early Entry Candidate for UCAS?



HOW YOU APPLY 2025 ENTRY



<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/applying-to-oxford/admissions-timeline>

Tutor resource of the week – study purposefully.



After each lesson

- Review your lesson notes and make a note of anything that you don't understand so that you can ask about this in the next lesson/ study period.
- Locate and read the relevant material in the textbook and add anything extra to the notes you took in class that is missing or that helps you to elaborate. Your notes should contain precise examples that can be used in exam questions.

Before the next lesson

- Re-read your notes/ the relevant pages of the textbook to re-familiarise yourself with the content that you covered in the previous lesson.

Weekly

- Complete any home learning that is set.
- You should ensure that you are practicing your academic writing or testing your knowledge recall through:
 - Making and using flashcards (using the Leitner method to test your understanding of areas you find difficult).
 - Complete brain dumps/revision mindmaps/ summaries.

Fortnightly

- In your TSS sessions you will find it useful to set aside 2x periods (out of 6) for each subject to develop your understanding of what has been covered.
- Complete wider academic reading into the topics you are studying or topics you find interesting. You might find it useful to create summaries of key messages/information gained from this.
- Practice exam skills.

Termly

- Review your PLC to ensure that you know the areas of study that you need to target.
- Revise topics and issues that you studied in previous terms to strengthen your memory of these topics. You should use your PLC to direct your study here.
- Complete essay questions in timed-conditions without your notes and take this to your teacher for verbal feedback.

Other study tips:

- Speak to your teachers as soon as you can to gain clarification. Don't be shy – ask for help. Level 3 exams are hard and your teachers would rather you be honest about how you're doing!
- Utilise the study handbook available in the Sixth Form and on Furzeplatt.net (Sixth Form area)
- Plan when you are going to complete your revision/home learning – use a study timetable.
- Purchase and use revision guides available to you – your departments might have some in school.
- Watch lectures/ revision videos on:
 - Gresham College
 - Youtube
 - Yale Courses online

Opportunities to engage with



- 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/DAFgWrcGXkU/DtycRdW77kMpQi8TB9Qjrg/view#1>
- Sign up to <https://pathwayctm.com/student-register/> for free to engage with opportunities from the UK's top employers.
- Not sure what your goal or ambition is? Make use of the Unifrog subject search tool to find out more about careers linked to your current subjects

Law and Legal studies

+ In a nutshell

+ Getting in

+ Decisions

+ Statement

+ Reference

+ Geek out

+ Recommendations: Read

+ Recommendations: Watch

+ Recommendations: Listen

+ Explore

Save to Favourites? ❤️

These are great for exploring in your study periods!



Local opportunities

Local restaurant *Seasonality* on Queen Street in Maidenhead is looking for an experienced part-time Front Of House to deliver excellent customer service. Hours will mostly be at the weekends but some occasional work in the week too. Ideally, they are looking for someone who has a passion for food. One of the perks of working there will be tasting the dishes!

Interested? Email wesley@seasonality.co.uk



Super-curricular activities to boost UCAS applications

Gresham College offers free on-line lectures and pre-recorded educational videos at university level.

Live online lectures start next week and are usually at 6pm. The next few topics include:

The Big Brain: Size & Intelligence

What is Modern Paganism?

Human Rights Law: Bringing Power to the Powerless

The Ancient History Code of Computers

Laws: Ancient Greek Lawgivers in History & Legend

How To Stop Climate Change Becoming A Wedge Political Issue

Do Microbes Have Immune Systems?

Charismatic Leadership: Nature, Causes and Consequences

Register here <https://www.gresham.ac.uk/>



SINCE 1597



Learn more about apprenticeships, degrees, bursaries, and more!



Success at School are hosting a series of online webinars on the topics below for students, parents and teachers. You will need to register in advance by clicking on the links.

25th Sept 6.30-7.15pm: How social media & LinkedIn can help you secure a job <https://tinyurl.com/2unckejb>



1st October 6.30-7.15pm: Thinking of studying a STEM related degree? Find out more about bursaries with the army with potential financial support during Sixth Form and university
<https://tinyurl.com/mswt652y>



22nd October 6.30-7.15pm: Explore apprenticeships in Digital, Engineering, Business, Science and Trading & Shipping with bp
<https://tinyurl.com/4kfbux99>



26th November 6.30-7.15pm: The Future is Female: STEM apprenticeships with bp. Open to students in Year 10 to 13 who identify as female <https://tinyurl.com/mc24da2p>

12th November 6.30-7.15pm: A Day In The Life Of an IBM Apprentice <https://tinyurl.com/3axz9c3c>



Apprenticeships with AWE

24th Sept 6-7pm: free online event for Year 11 and 13 students who identify as female to find out about apprenticeships in nuclear security technology to support the defence & security of the UK.
Sign up here: <https://pathwayctm.com/event/awe-female-webinar/>





**Not sure what to do after Sixth Form? University?
Apprenticeship? Gap year? Straight into work?**

unifrog

Unifrog are hosting a series of on-line 45 minute events to help you explore your options after Sixth Form. There are three talks for students and one talk for Parents and Guardians/Caregivers.

TALKS FOR STUDENTS

Mon 23rd Sept at 4.30pm Let's Talk About University

Find out whether university could be the right option for you and about financial support

Tues 24th Sept at 4.30pm: Let's Talk About Apprenticeships

Find out about the different types of apprenticeships, duration and pay and how to choose the right one for you

Tues 24th Sep at 5.30pm: Let's Talk About Gap Years

Find about from experts such as *Plan My Gap Year*, *Tilting Futures*, and *Yipiyap* what you can do on your Gap Year and how to fund it.

TALKS FOR PARENTS:

Mon 23rd Sept at 5.50pm: Let's Talk About Post 18 Options

Find out about all the options your child can explore after Sixth Form including uni, apprenticeships and Gap Years

You can sign up to all of these events here: <https://tinyurl.com/msex6vje>

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A Day In The Life Of



Some of you may have a good idea of what you want to do in the future. Some of you may not. This is fine either way. Many of my friends in their mid-40s still aren't sure! Times have changed and you no longer necessarily have to have the same career for your whole life. These days, the best thing to do, is remain open-minded and explore and expose yourself to as many jobs as possible. A great way to do this is to find out about ***A Day In The Life Of***. This gives you an insight into someone's day to day job and gives you the option to see if this appeals to you or not.

Unifrog have a series of online live sessions on 7th, 8th and 9th October at 4.30 or 5.30pm including Construction, Law, Engineering, Finance, Sustainable/Green Careers and Healthcare. You can sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/4p5vycfm>

If you can't attend these, Unifrog also have a bank of previously recorded events which include Banking, working in TV and Media at the BBC, working for an Airline, working for the Army, and more Engineering. You can access these here: <https://tinyurl.com/musas6wj>

A Day In The Life Of...

Next week we will also continue with our *A Day In The Life Of* feature when a different professional will share an insight into their role, their qualifications, what they do, how they got into it and much more... Next week we will kick off the series with **Anna Crabtree, Principal Clinical Psychologist for the NHS**, so do tune in next week for that.

Reminder- Rules for Sixth Form Students

Driving Cars to School



The following information can be found here: Sixth Form Handbook

Driving lessons must not be arranged during school time. Students may however arrange a lesson immediately prior to a test. You should notify the Sixth Form Manager Mrs Pasa (mary.pasa@furzeplatt.net) well in advance when you have a test during school time.

The following rules must be observed at all times:-

- Sixth Form students who wish to drive to and from school should apply for permission from the Sixth Form Manager. Driving permit forms are available from Mrs Pasa at Sixth Form reception. Permission is ultimately at the school's discretion and should generally be sought only if other suitable forms of transport are unavailable. We encourage students to use public transport whenever possible and to walk to the school if they live nearby.
- Any student driving to school must possess a current full driving license. Students' parents/carers must confirm that the vehicle authorised for use, is fully taxed, fully insured against all risks, and has a current MOT certificate. The relevant documental evidence must be submitted to the Sixth Form Manager. Once this evidence is provided students will be able to have their personal ID badge upgraded to include vehicle gate access.
- Cars should be parked in the gravel car park near Humanities at all times. This is necessary to avoid congestion and parking problems and for pedestrian safety.
- Those students who are learning to drive should not drive on to the school site, even whilst under the supervision of an instructor.
- Sixth Form students are reminded of the importance of safe driving. The provisions of the highway code must be respected at all times, as must all legal and other provisions affecting drivers and passengers (including the use of mobile phones). No-one else's car is to be manhandled or interfered with in any way. It is specifically forbidden for any Sixth Form student to drive another student's vehicle.
- Year 12 students must not use their cars during the course of the school day. Cars must be used strictly as a means of transport to and from school. Year 13 students may leave site in their cars during free periods but may not leave site in their cars during break 1 or break 2 for safety reasons.
- Students may travel to an authorised activity with the permission of a member of staff and permission is subject to the provisions of rules 1 and 2 above. Before they travel to a school activity in another student's car, the passenger must give a letter giving permission to do so from their parents, to the teacher in charge of that activity.
- The registration number of any car which may be driven to school must be notified to the Sixth Form Manager on the pro forma provided. Any subsequent changes in the registration details of a student's car must be notified to the Head of Sixth Form in advance of it being driven to school.
- Eating in cars should be avoided, and car radios should never be left on at such a volume as to disturb others while cars are parked there. Any litter from parked cars should be deposited in the nearest rubbish bin.
- The speed limit on school grounds is 5 mph.

Any Sixth Form student who ignores and/or breaks the rules is liable to have permission to drive to school withdrawn.

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.

