

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #74.1



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the New Academic Year!

It has been a pleasure to welcome staff and students back to FPSS this week following the summer break. A particular welcome to all our new students and their families, notably in Years 7 and 12. There have clearly been many adventures this summer and I hope that you and your loved ones had the chance for some relaxation.



As we start 2024/25, FPSS has much to celebrate. Our Key Stage 4 results were some of our best ever, with numerous records broken. Many congratulations to all our students who worked so hard for these results. It has been great to see so many return and begin life in our Sixth Form this week.

Results are the passport to the next stage of life and at Key Stage it has been a joy to see so many of our young people gain places on their chosen apprenticeships and university courses. I am sure I speak for all of us, when I wish our now ex-students every success with their new ventures.

Celebration Evening

On Thursday evening we celebrated both sets of results, alongside achievements of students from across all year groups.

We were delighted to be joined by Joshua Reynolds our new Member of Parliament for Maidenhead, as our guest of honour. As many of you are aware Josh attended FPSS as a student and he shared some of his experiences with students, insights into his new role at Westminster and illustrate what a FPSS student can ACHIEVE.

Start of Term Messages

Alongside welcoming students back to FPSS, celebrating examination success and reminding them of our expectations (notably with regard to work habits, mobile phones and uniform), I have been keen to encourage

Cont. on page 2



UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Week (Week 2)

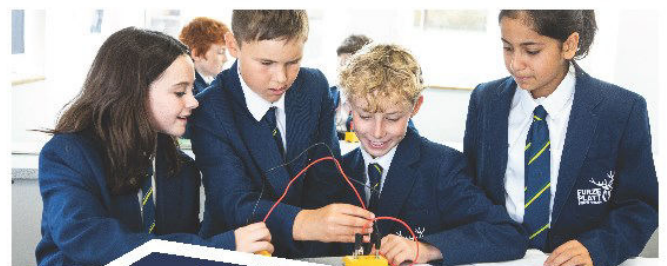
ALL EVENTS

TUE 10 SEPTEMBER	Preparing to Succeed in Year 10 Evening	6.15pm - 7.15pm
	Preparing to Succeed in Year 11 Evening	7.30pm - 8.30pm
WED 11 SEPTEMBER	Preparing to Succeed in Year 12 Evening	6.15pm - 7.15pm
	Preparing to Succeed in Year 13 Evening	7.30pm - 8.30pm
THU 12 SEPTEMBER	Preparing to Succeed in Year 7 Evening	6.15pm - 7.15pm

Forthcoming Events

THU 3 SEPTEMBER	Early School Finish	12.30pm finish
	Whole School Open Evening	6pm - 8.30pm

SCHOOL TERM DATES



Open Evening
Thursday 3rd October 2024
All welcome, no booking required.

Open Morning School Tours
Tours at 9.05am & 10.05am on the following dates:
Mon 16th, Wed 18th, Mon 23rd, Tues 24th Sept
Tues 1st, Wed 2nd, Mon 7th, Mon 14th, Tues 15th, Mon 21st, Tue 22nd Oct

SEN Specific Tours at 9.30am on:
Wed 18th, Thurs 26th Sept & Tues 15th, Wed 23rd Oct

Booking available via Reception from 5th Sept
Please call 01628 625308
to book a tour
office@furzeplatt.com | www.furzeplatt.com



students to get more involved in activities within and beyond FPSS this year. As well as participating in our wonderful range of trips and clubs, I have challenged students to work within the FPSS or wider Maidenhead and Cookham communities to make a difference.



In particular, I have focused on showing respect, being collaborative and kind. Through such actions, our students can create a better world, as well as inspire others to want to work with and for them.

Start of Term Messages

Alongside welcoming students back to FPSS, celebrating examination success and reminding them of our expectations (notably with regard to work habits, mobile phones and uniform), I have been keen to encourage students to get more involved in activities within and beyond FPSS this year. As well as participating in our wonderful range of trips and clubs, I have challenged students to work within the FPSS or wider Maidenhead and Cookham communities to make a difference.

In particular, I have focused on showing respect, being collaborative and kind. Through such actions, our students can create a better world, as well as inspire others to want to work with and for them.

Take care,

Dr Andrew J Morrison

Headteacher

(BA Hons, PGCE, MA, PhD)



PREPARING TO SUCCEED EVENINGS

Our Preparing to Succeed Evenings are taking place for Years 7, 10, 11, 12 and 13 next week. Each event will run for an hour and will be held in the School Theatre:

Year 10 - Tuesday 10th September at 6.15pm

Year 11 - Tuesday 10th September at 7.30pm

Year 12 – Wednesday 11th September at 6.15pm

Year 13 – Wednesday 11th September at 7.30pm

Year 7 - Thursday 12th September at 6.15pm

Please arrive a few minutes beforehand for a prompt start. Parents and students are welcome to attend but as this is an information evening for parents, Year 7 students need not attend (however, Year 10, Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 students will find it beneficial to hear the information along with their parents and carers).

Timetables, behaviour points and home learning can be accessed via the ClassCharts app; details on how to sign up have been recently sent out to Year 7 parents and carers.

We hope to see you at the upcoming Preparing to Succeed evenings.

Mrs C Ridgley (Head of Progress, Year 7)

Mr N Jones (Head of Progress, Year 10)

Mr C Djaelani (Head of Progress, Year 11)

Mr A Colmer (Head of Progress, Year 12)

Mrs K Kalinowski (Head of Progress, Year 13)

'School leaders are ambitious for the school. They enjoy positive relationships with the rest of the staff and work with them to ensure the success of the school.'

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OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 3RD OCTOBER 6 - 8.30pm

Early finish for all students – 12.30pm

Our annual Open Evening is being held on Thursday 3rd October for prospective students and their parents. All current Furze Platt students will finish at 12.30pm that day; helpers will be invited back before the event starts. More details will be sent out in due course.

INSET DAY

FRIDAY 4TH OCTOBER

School will be closed for all year groups.

Please note further INSET days for this academic year are on the following dates:

- Friday 29th November 2024
- Monday 21st July 2025
- Tuesday 22nd July 2025

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 21ST NOVEMBER

This event will take place from 6-9pm and will be followed by a 9.15am start for all students on Friday 22nd November. Further details will be sent out in due course.

CAREERS FAIR

TUESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER

This event will take place from 6-8pm. Further details will be sent out in due course.



STAY HYDRATED

We would like to kindly remind you to ensure that your child brings a refillable water bottle to school each day. Staying hydrated is important for your child's health and well-being, and having a water bottle on hand makes it easy for them to have access to water throughout the day.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us promote good hydration habits among our students.



SCHOOL LOCKERS

As usual, our Year 7 students will have priority booking for school lockers until Thursday 12th September when it will open up to the rest of the school. The £10 annual fee can be paid via Parentmail via the Payments tab.

Students will be allocated a specific locker number and area from Monday 9th September which their form tutor will give them; students with any questions should visit the student services reception in the Learning Resource Centre (Library).

Please ensure your child has a suitable padlock (6+mm shackle) and puts this on as soon as they are allocated a locker. Please note: any padlocks put on an unallocated locker will be removed. Locks and belongings must be removed at the end of the Summer Term.

Student Services Team

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



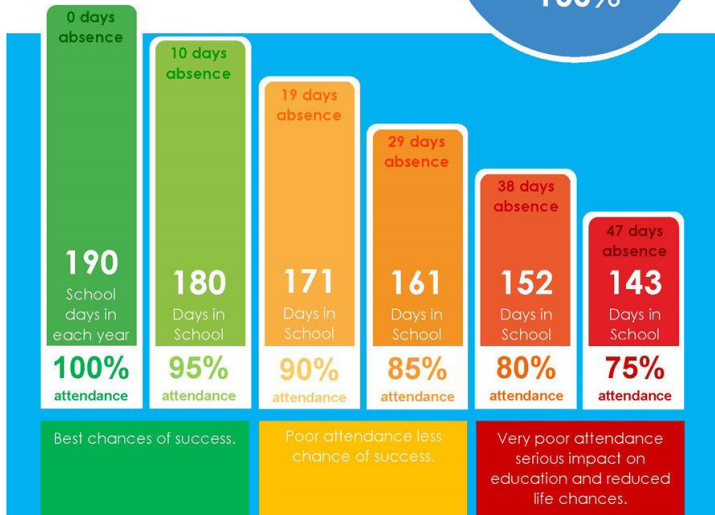
EVERY DAY COUNTS

How much learning could **YOU** be missing?

Did you know ?

Even at **90%** a student's loss of learning =
4 weeks of missed lessons in a school year
200 lost opportunities to progress

**GIVE IT
100%
TO GET
100%**



PENALTY NOTICE CHANGES – Nationwide changes set out by the Department of Education

Penalty notices will be considered in the following time frames;

- 5 consecutive days in term time
- 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period (1 session = half a school day)

You can be fined if your child has the following unauthorised absences;

- Truancy / School refusal
- Being late after the register has closed
- Term time holiday

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Parents/Carers are asked to make every effort not to arrange appointments during the school day except in emergencies.

When a student must attend a medical appointment during school time, parents/carers must notify the school in advance and provide evidence of the appointment. Please

record all medical and dental appointments under 'Report Absence' in Class Charts. For further details please see the website for Furze Platt attendance information.

REPORTING ABSENCE

Please report any Absence for your child 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'.

Year 7 parents will have recently received an email with login details.

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

FURZE PLATT KITCHEN

A warm welcome to our new Accent Catering team at Furze Platt Senior School! We're excited for all the tasty meals ahead. Please click on the link below to view the new menu options.

MAIN MENU



TERM 1 CLUBS (SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER HALF TERM 2024)



Parents and carers of students in all year groups will be sent e-mail invites to attend clubs for their son/daughter. 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. Please remember to check your junk / spam folders.

Students will be sent a copy of the clubs available but parents and carers will need to book the clubs your son or daughter would like to attend. We do encourage them to try as many as they are interested in – with over 50 clubs and academic clinics we are sure they will find a number of activities they really enjoy!

MY EVOLVE

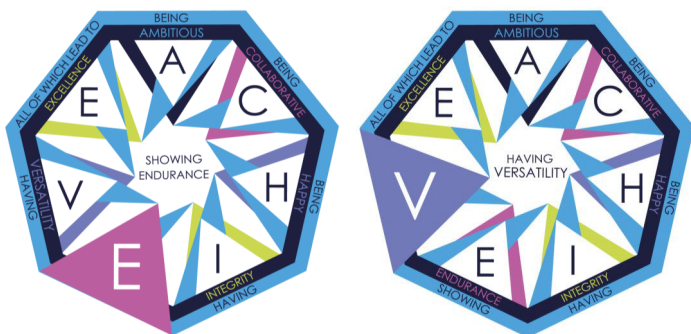
In addition, parents and carers may wish to sign up to My EVOLVE for an overview of clubs, what's on etc – you can do this from the club or academic support clinic emails sent to you in two easy steps:

1. Click on the link in the email as usual to see clubs/clinics
2. Click 'create account' button.

PLEASE NOTE:

- all bookings for Term 1 (September/October half term) must be made through the original email invitation
- once in the list of clubs or academic support clinics, click on the name of the activity or session you wish to book, choose the dates and scroll down to press confirm
- please do not duplicate club bookings per session
- bookings for Fitness Club - these have been limited for safety and will be rotated but please be aware that your son/daughter may not have a place each week. You will be notified when they are to attend.
- students in upper years may see invitations to academic clubs that are not part of their specific academic programme; emails are sent to year groups so please only choose sessions that are relevant to your son/daughter

An overview of clubs and academic support clinics is available on page 7 and 8.



MUSIC AT FURZE PLATT



Here at Furze Platt Senior School, we are lucky enough to have a number of music providers for our students to learn singing, instrument and playing either solo or as part of a group.



PROUD TO BE A
MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL
2023 - 2024

INSTRUMENTAL TUITION REQUEST FORM



Do you want to be in the next number one pop band, a performer in the best classical orchestra in the world or you just want to be a better hairbrush singer?

The Music Department are giving you the opportunity to let your dreams come a reality!

At Furze Platt Senior School we offer a huge range of lessons through our specialist instrumental teachers. From violin and flute to electric guitar and drums we have it all available to every Furze Platt student.

To find out more about lessons please see Mr Forster or drop him an email stuart.forster@furzeplatt.net

'Younger pupils welcome the support offered by Sixth Form students for their welfare and well-being.'

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ROOTS AND BRANCHES

BUILDING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Maidenhead PCN Roots and Branches proudly present a Children and Young People's Ersa Seminar.



**Thursday 10th October
from 10-12**

St Marks Hospital Maidenhead in the large conference room. (Head to the Courtyard café and a member of the team will meet you there)

Speakers include: Abigail and Zoe (AFC Ersa Core Steering Board) CYP and Families Social Prescribers

If this is of interest, please respond to this poster via email with confirmation that you would like to attend to

be-pct.socialprescribing@nhs.net

If for any reason you cannot make this seminar, please give 48 hours ' notice so we can offer your place to another parent in the community.

We look forward to seeing you there

Roots and Branches (Maidenhead PCN)



SAFE & COURTEOUS COLLECTION OF YOUR CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

Many of you will have observed how busy and congested the front of school is at the end of the school day. Whilst we fully appreciate your frustrations, this has led to some inconsiderate behaviour. It has also raised some valid complaints from the wider local community.

Ideally, we would ask that fewer of you drive your sons and daughters to school, and would encourage more to either walk, cycle, or take the train (to Cookham & Bourne End) – as the vast majority of our students live within walking/ cycling distance. We would also like to take the opportunity to remind parents that entering / exiting over our playing fields via the Furze Platt Junior School gates (onto Oaken Grove) or the Ostler Gate (to the Cranbrook estate) is a good

option for students who live in the Belmont / Pinkneys areas.

Our number one priority remains keeping your sons and daughters safe, including when they make their way into school in the mornings and home every afternoon. Please could we therefore make the following requests of all parents who drive to drop-off or collect their children (most specifically those who collect at 3:15):

- Please do not park, or even stop to let your child in or out, on any double yellow lines at any time. The double yellow lines are in areas where it is potentially dangerous to stop – most specifically in the entrance and exit. Please always pull in to one of the two lanes before stopping to let your children in or out of the car.
- If all the parking bays are full, please keep looping round. Stopping in one of the lanes (or even parking your car there and getting out) causes a complete jam, results in cars queuing out onto the road and increases the risk of an accident.
- Please, under no circumstances, park on any pavement or raised area. These are the pathways for your children to enter / exit the school site. Parking on those pavements blocks them and forces your children onto the road.
- Please note that hooting horns doesn't speed anything up.
- Whilst parked, please turn your engines off to preserve air quality.
- Please do try to stay near your car rather than congregating round the school gate. We have a lot of students leaving through the gate at 3:15 and it is important to try to keep it as clear as possible to assist with their safe travels.
- When traffic is built up at the traffic lights at the Furze Platt Road and Switchback junction, please consider turning left from the school gates and travelling via Pinkneys Road.
- Please try to avoid parking on local verges or blocking neighbouring roads (from Cranbrook Drive to Deansfield Close).
- And finally, please do be courteous to the staff who are out on duty at the front of school. We are all there to help keep your children safe.

Please do try to support the school in keeping all your sons and daughters safe by adhering to the above guidelines.

Thank you very much in advance for your help.

Mr J Sheppard
Deputy Headteacher

SCHOOL CLUBS LIST

MONDAY

Club	Time	Location	Year Group/s
Junior Rockstars Term 1	08:45 - 09:15	MU1	8
GCSE Product Design (JUST 11D AND 11A)	15:15 - 16:15	TE1	11
Infinity Club (Years 7&8)	15:15 - 16:15	M4	7 & 8
Year 8 Rugby	15:15 - 16:15	Field	8
Girls Rugby U14	15:15 - 16:15	Field	7, 8 & 9
Netball Club Years (8,9,10,11)	15:15 - 16:15	Courts	8, 9, 10 & 11
Fitness Club Year (9,6th)	15:15 - 16:15	Fitness Suite	9, 12 & 13
Badminton years (7,8,9,10,11)	15:15 - 16:15	Sports hall	7, 8, 9, 10 & 11
Geography - GCSE Revision Clinic	15:15 - 16:30	H4	10 & 11
Academic Club/ Support Clinic	Time	Location	Year Group/s
KS5 Biology Clinic	15:15 - 16:15	S9	12 & 13
Y11 GCSE Music Clinic Term 1	15:15 - 16:15	MU2	11
Supervised Study (Monday) T1	15:15 - 16:30	E6 (English Computer Room)	8, 9, 10 & 11
Chemistry KS4 revision Hub	15:20 - 16:20	S4	11
Drama Intervention	15:20 - 16:20	DS2	10, 11, 12 & 13

TUESDAY

Club	Time	Location	Year Group/s
Music Rehearsal for Musical Show Term 1	13:45 - 14:15	MU1	8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13
School Production rehearsals	15:15 - 16:15	DS1	8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13
Netball	15:15 - 16:15	Courts	7
Hockey Club Year (7,8,9,10,11)	15:15 - 16:15	Astro	7, 8, 9, 10 & 11
Rugby Club Year 9	15:15 - 16:15	Field	9
U14 basketball Club	15:15 - 16:15	Sports hall	8 & 9
U16 Basketball	15:15 - 16:15	Sports hall	10 & 11
Workshop Club	15:15 - 16:15	Tech 4	7
Fitness Year (8,6th)	15:15 - 16:15	Fitness Suite	8, 12 & 13
Science Club 24-25	15:20 - 16:20	S10	8 & 9
Academic Club/ Support Clinic	Time	Location	Year Group/s
Y10 GCSE Music Clinic Term 1	08:45 - 09:15	MU1 and MU2	10
A-Level Maths Workshop	15:15 - 16:15	M7 and M8	12 & 13
KS4 Textiles Club - for those students taking GCSE	15:15 - 16:15	Art3	10, 11, 12 & 13
Supervised Study (Tuesday) T1	15:15 - 16:30	E6 (English Computer Room)	8, 9, 10 & 11
Physics revision 24-25	15:20 - 16:20	S11	11

WEDNESDAY

Club	Time	Location	Year Group/s
Whole School Choir Term 1	08:45 - 09:15	MU1	8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13
Debate Club	15:15 - 15:45	P1	7, 8, 9, 10
Year 7 Boys Rugby	15:15 - 16:15	Field	7
Year 7 Fitness	15:15 - 16:15	Fitness Suite	7, 12 & 13
KS3 Textiles Club	15:15 - 16:15	Art3	8 & 9
Yr.11 Engineering Club	15:15 - 16:15	Tech 4	11
Morning Fitness Year (7,8,9,10,11,6th)	15:15 - 16:15	Fitness Suite	All Years
Fitness Club Year (7,6th)	15:15 - 16:15	Fitness Suite	12 & 13
Boys Rugby	15:15 - 16:15	Field	10 & 11
Geography - A Level Revision Clinic	15:15 - 16:30	H4	12 & 13
Board Game Club	15:20 - 16:20	M7	8, 9 & 10
Arts Award Bronze & Silver	15:20 - 16:20	DS1	8, 9 & 10
Academic Club/ Support Clinic	Time	Location	Year Group/s
Art Studio	15:15 - 16:15	Art Department	10, 11, 12 & 13
Y11 GCSE Maths Workshop	15:15 - 16:15	M1 and M2	11
KS5 Chemistry Academic Clinic	15:15 - 16:15	S5	12 & 13
Supervised Study (Wednesday) T1	15:15 - 16:30	E6 (English Computer Room)	8, 9, 10 & 11

THURSDAY

Club	Time	Location	Year Group/s
Ukulele Club Term 1	08:45 - 09:15	MU2	8 & 9
Senior Rockstars Term 1	08:45 - 09:15	MU1	9, 10, 11, 12 & 13
Running Club Years (7,8,9,10,11)	15:30 - 16:15	Field	7, 8, 9, 10 & 11
Academic Club/ Support Clinic	Time	Location	Year Group/s
Supervised Study (Thursday) T1	15:15 - 16:30	E6 (English Computer Room)	8, 9, 10 & 11

FRIDAY

Club	Time	Location	Year Group/s
Chamber Choir Term 1	08:45 - 09:15	MU1	10, 11, 12 & 13
Academic Club/ Support Clinic	Time	Location	Year Group/s
Y13 A-Level Music Clinic Term 1	15:15 - 16:15	MU1	13
Supervised Study (Friday) T1	15:15 - 16:30	E6 (English Computer Room)	8, 9, 10 & 11



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Booking available via Reception from 5th Sept

Please call **01628 625308**

to book a tour

office@furzeplatt.com | www.furzeplatt.com



'Pupils are friendly, courteous and polite. They say that they are happy and that they feel safe.'

- Ofsted 2021

Furze Platt Senior School offers:

- ▶ An inclusive education which is broad, stimulating and rewarding for all.
- ▶ Superb academic, sporting and arts facilities which create an aspirational learning environment for students.
- ▶ Our Tutor Groups to give students identity and belonging and includes dedicated staff, mentors and leaders who will support and help with students' development.
- ▶ Our Houses to encourage friendly competition and a sense of community.



Students are able to **ACHIEVE** excellence and successfully progress to the next stage of their lives as well-educated young adults we are proud to know.



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

- Ofsted 2021

How to find us:

Furze Platt Senior School,
Furze Platt Road,
Maidenhead,
Berkshire SL6 7NQ