

# FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #74.13



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Parents and Carers,

### Year 11 PPE Results

On Wednesday, our Year 11 students received their PPE results. There were many smiles in the Theatre as we handed out results. There was also a realisation from most students that these results are not where they want to be next summer. There is a lot of work to do, and it is important that students reflect on the exam paper feedback to focus revision and exam skills. I am sure that parents and carers will be having these conversations at home.



### End of Term Progress Reports

Alongside publishing Year 11 PPE results, the end of term sees progress reports being released for students in other Years. There is much to celebrate and I am sure that many parents/carers will be sharing praise with their children. As you would expect, students do have areas that can improve. Please do have these conversations ready for the new term.

### Year 13 Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening

We look forward to welcoming our Year 13 parents, carers and students next Thursday so we can focus upon ensuring students are ready for their PPEs in January and examinations next summer.

Take care,

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



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Week (Week 2)

ALL EVENTS

MON 9 - FRI 13 DECEMBER	Inter-house Sports Week 2	
WED 11 DECEMBER	Christmas Concert	7pm - 9pm
THU 12 DECEMBER	Year 13 Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm

## Forthcoming Events

FRI 20 DECEMBER	End of Term 2 - Early finish	12.30pm finish
MON 23 - FRI 3 DECEMBER - JANUARY	Christmas Holidays	
MON 6 JANUARY	Start of Term 3	8.40am start

## SCHOOL TERM DATES

**FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL**

# CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2024**  
**7 PM START IN THE THEATRE**

SCAN ME

**BOOK YOUR TICKETS**

**ADMISSION: £5 ADULT; £3 CHILDREN 18 & UNDER; CHILDREN UNDER 2 FREE OF CHARGE**

## YEAR 9 AND 11 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 [www.furzeplatt.com](http://www.furzeplatt.com) and clicking on the quick link 'Online Reporting', or by going directly to Go 4 Schools [www.go4schools.com](http://www.go4schools.com) and selecting Parents.

Should you have any problems accessing your child's report please contact me at [reports@furzeplatt.net](mailto:reports@furzeplatt.net).

Mrs K Avery, Data Manager

[VIEW REPORTS](#)



## YEAR 8 GEOGRAPHY AND SCIENCE MUSEUM VISIT

**Destination: London Natural History Museum**

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>, Friday 13<sup>th</sup> and Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to let you know about the Year 8 field trip to the Natural History Museum, London in mid-December 2024.

This field trip will be challenging, informative and engage students outside of their classroom environment. It will allow students to explore issues and questions in a real-world context that frequently produces uncertain or 'grey'

outcomes that encourages them to question their own findings and nurtures analytical and critical thinking as well as building resilience. It is designed to enrich key parts of our KS3 curriculum that cannot easily be covered in the classroom. Whilst students are at the museum they will participate in a 'Biodiversity in Action' Workshop lead by scientists at the museum on the classification of various species, something which students also cover in school. This will develop their real work understanding of the curriculum and role of scientists in ecology.

This year the trip will run on three separate days. Your son/daughter will need to attend only one day. Each class and student will be informed which days he or she needs to attend, below are the class codes:

- **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024:** 8f1, 8f2 & 8f3
- **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024:** 8f4, 8p1 & 8p2
- **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024:** 8p3, 8p4 & 8p5

We will be travelling to and from the location by private hire coach. The total cost of the field trip will be **£20** including travel to and from the Natural History Museum. We ask that this be paid in full by **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024**.

Payment for the trip can be made via your ParentMail account no later than **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024**.

As with any school trip, good behaviour is important to its success. Parents and students should be aware that if a student's behaviour or attendance becomes unacceptable prior to the trip, then the school reserves the right to exclude them from the trip. This could in turn jeopardise any refund of money paid to that date.

### Itinerary:

Meet by the main entrance to school at 8.45am, outside reception, in full school uniform, for a 9:00am departure. We will be taking a coach from Furze Platt directly to the Natural History Museum, London. We aim to return to school at 15.30pm.

Students will be required to wear school uniform.

Students will also need to bring a packed lunch, snacks, and a refillable water bottle to sustain them throughout the day. There will be no opportunity to get food at the Museum.

If you have questions in the meantime, please do get in touch as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Wellard-Jeffs (Head of Geography) & Dr M Wyatt (KS3 Science Coordinator)



## YEAR 13 PARENTS' & STUDENTS' CONSULTATION EVENING

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December there will be an opportunity for the parents/carers of Year 13 to meet their child's subject teachers at Furze Platt Senior School. Face to face appointments will be available between 4.15-7.15pm in the Theatre and Main Hall.

Parents' Evenings are very important events that allow you to gain helpful insights into your child's progress, discuss upcoming assessments and find out how families can support students with revision, therefore we would request you attend the appointments with your child.

School Cloud is a platform whereby you will have an opportunity to book your appointments with your child's subject teachers in advance. The appointments will be available to book on School Cloud from 7pm on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December and will close on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

Best wishes,

Miss R Lake - Deputy Headteacher

[BOOK APPOINTMENTS](#)

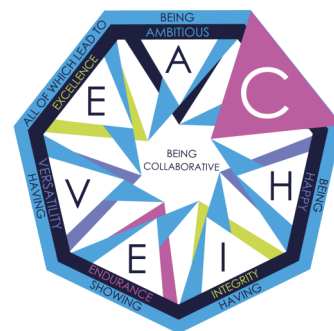
Sign up for the session below to learn some **effective stress-management techniques** you can use with your child straight away.

### How to Help Your Child Alleviate Stress Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 6:00-7:00pm (GMT)

Here's what Elevate will be covering on the night:

- How you can identify early signs of stress in your child
- Practical techniques to help your child manage their stress levels
- How you can maintain a dialogue with your child about their mental wellbeing

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR FREE](#)



# elevate

education

### FREE PARENT WEBINAR: HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD ALLEVIATE STRESS

We were delighted to see over **189 parents** from Furze Platt Senior School on our resilience webinar last Tuesday night!

Elevate Education will be hosting their next parent **stress and wellbeing** on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

Elevate works with our students, delivering high-impact workshops on study skills, motivation, wellbeing, and exam preparation. By tuning into their webinar series, you'll learn **how you can help support your child at home by reinforcing the skills they're learning at school.**

### CAREERS FAIR FEEDBACK REQUEST

If you attended our Careers and Higher Education Fair last week we would very much value your feedback. Please complete the short questionnaire via the link below. Students have been emailed for their feedback.

Thank you.

Mrs J Bubb, Careers Leader

[CLICK HERE TO GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK](#)



## LOCKDOWN AND SHELTER SCHOOL DRILL



Dear Parent/Carer

Each year we need to train students on our Lockdown and Shelter Procedures. These are procedures that schools have in case of extremely unlikely eventualities like an intruder on site, a nearby chemical leak or a police incident near to the school. The purpose is to ensure students, staff and visitors are safe while the incident is dealt with.

Before the end of term, Tutors will be reminding students on how the procedure works and then we will practice this. Our aim is not to alarm you or your children but to ensure that we are all safe and know how to react in case of such unlikely eventualities. The purpose of this message is to let you know that this will be happening so that you are not unduly concerned should your child mention the training and drill.

**FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL**

**RAISING MONEY FOR Thames hospice**

# CHRISTMAS FUN-RUN

**FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2024**  
**POSTPONED provisional date: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

**We are raising all funds via Just Giving:**  
[justgiving.com/page/fpss-thames-hospice](https://www.justgiving.com/page/fpss-thames-hospice)

**SPONSOR OUR CHRISTMAS FUN-RUN**

## FURZE PLATT KITCHEN - CHRISTMAS LUNCH



On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December our Furze Platt Kitchen will offer a fabulously festive Christmas Lunch.

Please see the school menu (right) for more details.

# CHRISTMAS LUNCH



**Join us for Christmas lunch with all the trimmings !**



Roast turkey with Seasonal Vegetables, Rosemary & Garlic, Sage & Onion Stuffing, Roast Potatoes and Roast Gravy

or

Quorn, Mushrooms & Herb Wellington Served with Seasonal Vegetables, Rosemary & Garlic Roast Potatoes and Gravy

**(G,Mk,So,E)**

### Desserts

Christmas Pudding with Orange Custard

**(Mk,G,E)**

Chocolate Bundit Cake

**(Mk,E,G)**

Christmas Spice Orange Sponge

**(G,E,Mk)**



**Ce** = Celery    **G** = Cereals    **Mo** = Molluscs    **Se** = Sesame Seeds  
**Cr** = Crustacean    containing Gluten    **Mu** = Mustard    **So** = Soya  
**E** = Eggs    **L** = Lupin    **N** = Nuts    **Su** = Sulphur Dioxide  
**F** = Fish    **Mk** = Milk    **P** = Peanuts



# THE WEEK AT FURZE PLATT

## GARDENING CLUB VISIT TO NATURE'S HAVEN

Many thanks to the lovely Aleks and Claire of Nature's Haven at 4 Marlow Road. They showed us around the community garden and treated us all to hot chocolate and marshmallows around a cosy, smokeless firepit. Definitely a big highlight of the gardening calendar this year!



## FITNESS CLUB

Fitness club testing their endurance in Wednesday morning's workout.

**3rd December**

- Bulgarian split squats
- Rower
- Crunches
- Goblet squats
- Treadmill
- Farmers walk

60s work/30s rest.  
3 full circuits. 1 round rest between round.

Banded warm up (2 rounds)

Pull aparts x 15  
Shoulder dislocates 10  
Bicep curls x 10  
Bent over row x 10  
Banded deadlifts x 10  
Crab walks x 10/10



## CRIMINOLOGY CURRICULUM ENRICHMENT TALK FROM THE CHARITY DASH

Our Sixth Form Criminology students received a lecture from the Charity DASH about the crime of domestic abuse. Ben Kelly (Year 12) has written about this experience below.

### Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December

#### Article about Criminology Talk

*On Wednesday, all Criminology students were invited to a talk given by the DASH Charity. This charity provides specialist support to adults and children experiencing mental health issues, modern slavery, immigration, trafficking, homelessness and the range of complex needs associated with 'Domestic Abuse' ensuring their voices are heard.*

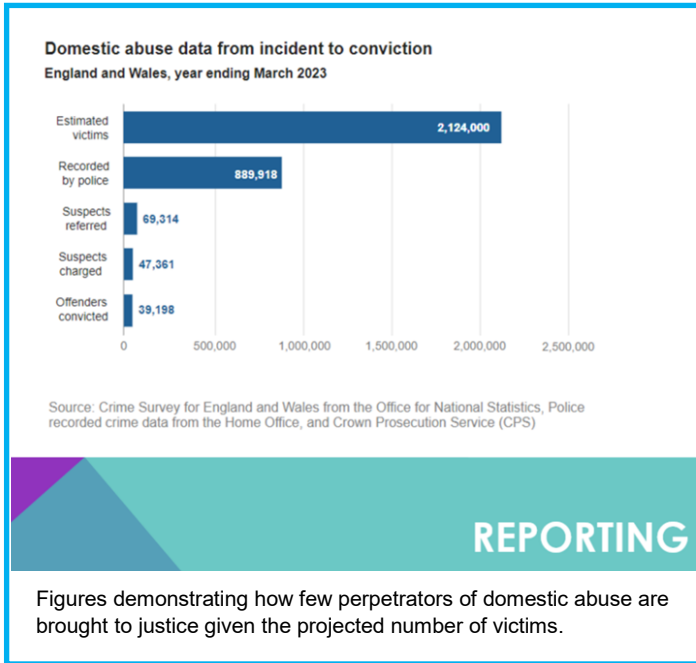
*Gabby provided an overview of what constitutes domestic abuse. She covered the statistics surrounding it, the issues involving the victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse and covered the impact of domestic abuse. She shared the DASH helplines, set up to help other people in the Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead struggling, together with other*

organisations and their helplines that are available too. They also talked about unhealthy relationships and the common abuse resulting often in emotional and physiological scars.

barriers that prevent victims from reporting this crime to the police.

This is a very sensitive topic, but we appreciated greatly the work of this charity in providing us with more awareness.

Ben Kelly (Year 12)



Figures demonstrating how few perpetrators of domestic abuse are brought to justice given the projected number of victims.

Helplines for seeking support should a friend or yourself be affected by these issues.

Gaby effectively described the dangers of domestic abuse and what it can do to someone physically and emotionally. She encouraged people to ask for support if needed, such as using helplines and talking to trusted family and friends. Mrs Wright the Head of Criminology reminded students at the end of the talk about the school's safeguarding policy and that students could speak to any of their teachers if they have worries too.

**MUSICAL THEATRE STAR**

In September Jude Sanders (Year 10) entered the Dance World Championships. His Musical Theatre solo, 'Make 'em Laugh' from the hit musical of its time, Singing in the Rain, was entered into the 14-16 category and I'm thrilled to announce he has been ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in the UK! He scored 92% for his performance and considering this routine is brand new and he's only performed it twice, this is an outstanding score. Well done, Jude!

Mrs K Kalinowski (Head of Performing Arts)

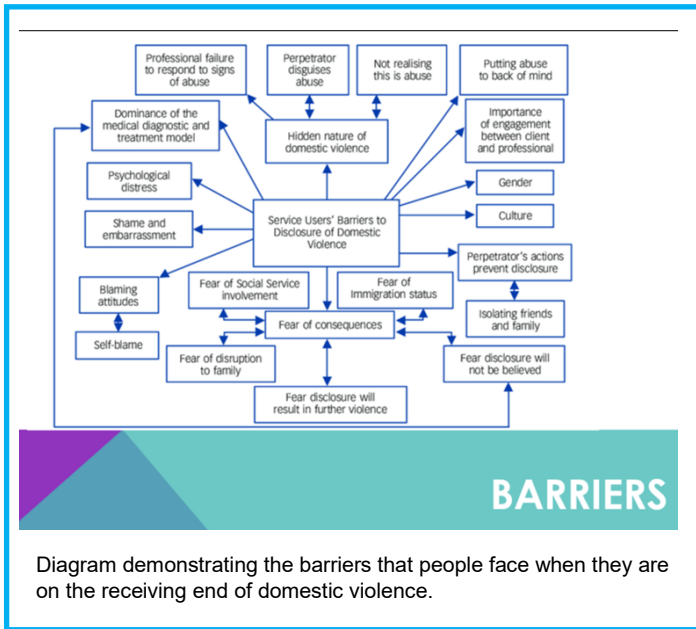


Diagram demonstrating the barriers that people face when they are on the receiving end of domestic violence.

Going through the reasons for the underreporting of this crime has helped criminology students at FPSS to understand some of the topics we have covered already and will cover in the Criminology diploma course. Gabby covered facts about domestic abuse and how to be able to identify when domestic abuse is occurring and the

Our Performing Arts Department presents our next School Musical!

# Oliver! Jr.

Tuesday 11th - Thursday 13th  
February 2025  
7pm in the Theatre

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL



Dear Parents/Carers

We would like to give notice of the AGM of the Furze Platt Senior School Parent, Teacher & Friends Association to be held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January, 7pm for 7.30pm start, in School.

We will appreciate your attendance very much because to meet the Quorum and for votes to be carried, we require a minimum of 6 non-committee individuals to attend.

The PTFA plays an important role in the school community and all parents/carers, friends, and staff, as members of the PTFA, are invited to support the AGM. This is your chance to see and hear how the funds you have helped raise have been spent for the benefit of your children at school. The AGM is also an opportunity for you to elect the PTFA Committee, who will represent the Association throughout the forthcoming year, September 2025 to August 2026. If you are interested in the role of Chair or Secretary, please complete the Nomination Form that accompanies this letter and return by email to [ptfa@furzeplatt.net](mailto:ptfa@furzeplatt.net) by Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

The Committee welcomes new ideas and suggestions to raise funds for our children, so please get in touch by email or through Facebook as soon as possible. We look forward to seeing you, face-to-face, on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Kind Regards  
 Gillian Healey  
 Secretary, Furze Platt Senior School PTFA  
 Tel: 01628 635308  
 Email: [ptfasecretary@furzeplatt.net](mailto:ptfasecretary@furzeplatt.net)  
 Social Media: <https://www.facebook.com/fpssptfa>

**AGM NOMINATION FORM**

easyfundraising

# Turn Black Friday into Give Back Friday

Raise donations for us when you shop the sales

[Moments] that **make it** count  
 RAISE A DONATION

**SUPPORT FPSS THROUGH EASYFUNDRAISING**

*Turkey Cashback: 5% of order donated to PTA.*  
**Furze Platt Senior School**



**CODE: FPSPTA24**

[COPASFARMSHOP.CO.UK](http://COPASFARMSHOP.CO.UK) T: 01628 499 980

**ORDER NOW**



# CYBER PROTECT



## The Digital Dilemma

Keeping Your  
Kids Safe Online

December 4th, 11th, 18th



**FREE WEBINAR FOR PARENTS & CARERS**

**Thames Valley Police**

Hints and tips to secure your family  
online, covering:

**Gaming**



**Social Media**



**Email**

**BOOK YOUR SPACE:**

Eventbrite: Police - South East Cyber

**DON'T LET IT BE GAME OVER**  
**LEVEL UP** YOUR ONLINE SECURITY



LEISURE FOCUS  
FURZE PLATT LEISURE CENTRE

# RECEIVE A FREE MONTH

REFER A FRIEND & BOTH GET A  
FREE MONTH OF MEMBERSHIP



## CONTACT US

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[furzeplatt@leisurefocus.org.uk](mailto:furzeplatt@leisurefocus.org.uk)

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01628965754





Elevate Education's Autumn Term

## Parent Webinar Series

Elevate Education delivers high-impact workshops to our students that help to develop their study skills, motivation, and exam preparation. Over the next term, you're invited to join their parent webinar series, where you can help support your child at home by reinforcing the skills they're learning at school.

### ***How to Help Your Child Make the Right University Decision***

12th November 6:00pm

### ***How You Can Help Improve Your Child's Memory***

19th November 6:00pm

### ***How You Can Build Resilience in Your Child***

3rd December 6:00pm

### ***How You Can Help Your Child Alleviate Stress***

17th December 6:00pm

Register today at: <https://go.elevateeducation.com/ukschoolwebinar>