

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #74.8



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Term 1

Thank you to all our community for their contributions to the first term of the 2024/25 academic year. As I hope you have seen via our social media feeds, there has been some great learning with students engaging with a whole series of topics, theories and practical sessions. Beyond the classroom, students have enjoyed a range of visits, clubs and sporting fixtures, as well as supported our Open and Celebration Evenings.

It has been great to reward students this week in our Celebration Assemblies for all their hard work and commitment during the term. Many congratulations to all who received an award.

Year 11 Parents Evening

One of the additional pleasures of this term has been the number of opportunities for face-to-face meetings with parents and carers via our Prepare to Succeed, Meet the Tutor and Parents Evenings. It really is good to have these events fully reinstated.

To that end, it was lovely to see so many parents, carers and students at our Year 11 Parents Evening on Thursday. With PPEs together with examinations next summer fast approaching it was great for us to share details on how students are progressing and highlight areas that need focus. Good luck to our Year 11s as they prepare for their upcoming PPEs.

West Wittering Fieldtrip

Thank you to all our Year 9 students, parents and carers for supporting our Geography visits this week. There has been a lot of positive feedback and hopefully students learnt a lot from the trip, as well as enjoyed the experience.

Inter-House

Congratulations to all those students who represented their Houses at rugby. There was some tough but fun competition.



TERM 2 EVENTS

ALL EVENTS

FRI 25 OCTOBER	End of Term 1	3.15pm finish
MON 28 - FRI 1 OCTOBER - NOVEMBER	Half Term Holidays	
MON 4 NOVEMBER	Start of Term 2 (Week 1)	8.40am start
MON 11 - FRI 15 NOVEMBER	Year 11 Pre-Public Examinations	
THU 21 NOVEMBER	Sixth Form Open Evening	6pm - 9pm
FRI 22 NOVEMBER	Late Start	9.15am
TUE 26 NOVEMBER	Careers and Higher Education Fair (CHEF)	6pm - 8pm
THU 28 NOVEMBER	Year 12 Parents' & Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm
FRI 29 NOVEMBER	INSET Day - School closed for all year groups	All Day
MON 2 - FRI 13 DECEMBER	Inter House Sports Weeks	
TUE 3 DECEMBER	Flu Immunisations - Years 7 - 11	
WED 11 DECEMBER	Christmas Concert	7pm - 9pm
THU 12 DECEMBER	Year 13 Parents' & Students' Consultation Evening	4.15pm - 7.15pm
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

Finally, I wish all members of our community an enjoyable half term. We will see students back at FPSS on Monday 4 November.

Take care,

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

Headteacher



CAREERS & HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR

CHEF 2024

Tuesday 26 November, 6pm - 8pm
in the Main Hall & Theatre



Over 20 Universities & Colleges come to you!

So you can narrow down your favourites, ask questions about the courses that they offer and get an idea if University/College is the right path for you.



Maybe you have a new idea about what you want to do?

Ideas constantly change and evolve; the purpose of this Fair is to give you the opportunity to test out your latest thoughts by hearing from industry and university experts. If you've been before you can go again, our visiting experts are always changing.

No booking required, just turn up!



CAREERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR 2024

This year's Careers and Higher Education Fair, for students in Years 9-13 and their parents, will take place on Tuesday 26th November, 6pm – 8pm.

We aim to have about 25 universities here and around 40 stalls representing a wide range of careers and industries. We still have a few spaces available if any parents would like to take part and showcase their career or industry or could suggest someone who might be interested. We will welcome any career field but would particularly love to include any of the following

- Physiotherapy
- Psychology
- Estate agents
- Hospitality - hotels
- Motor vehicles -any aspect
- Fashion
- Retail

If you can help, please email judith.bubb@furzeplatt.net



The results are in...

YEAR 7		
House	Place	Points
Eagle	2	600
Osprey	1	1000
Falcon	4	200
Hawk	3	400

YEAR 8		
House	Place	Points
Eagle	4	200
Osprey	2	600
Falcon	1	1000
Hawk	3	400

YEAR 9		
House	Place	Points
Eagle	3	400
Osprey	4	200
Falcon	1	1000
Hawk	2	600

YEAR 10		
House	Place	Points
Eagle	1 (tied)	1000
Osprey	4	200
Falcon	1 (tied)	1000
Hawk	3	400

YEAR 11		
House	Place	Points
Eagle	1	1000
Osprey	2	600
Falcon	3	400
Hawk	4	200

SIXTH FORM		
House	Place	Points
Eagle	4	400
Osprey	2 (tied)	600
Falcon	1	1000
Hawk	2 (tied)	600

The big question is... who will win?

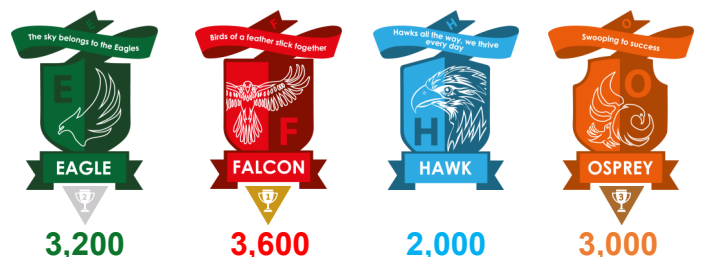
a) Eagle House

c) Hawk House

b) Falcon House

d) Osprey House

Congratulations to Falcon House for winning the House Quiz!



STUDENT AND PARENT WEBINARS

Please see the below message from GCSEPod for students in Years 10 and 11. Students in Year 10 have been shown how to log on to GCSEPod this week during tutor time.

We have two exclusive FREE webinars with Cameron Parker, the UK's #1 motivational speaker for schools. These high-energy sessions are designed to supercharge students' motivation, upgrade their mindset, and set them on the path to success this academic year.

Webinar 1: Mindset and Motivation for Teenagers
Wednesday 6th November at 6pm

Do you want to feel fired up and ready to take on challenges with a fresh, positive mindset? This dynamic session will arm students with the tools to stay focused and motivated even in difficult times. Cameron will share real-world strategies to overcome doubt, distractions, and procrastination, leaving pupils feeling confident and ready to excel. Expect plenty of energy and inspiration to help your son / daughter smash their goals!

[STUDENT SIGN UP](#)

Webinar 2: Get Exam Ready NOW!
Tuesday 26th February at 6pm

Please note:
 change of date

This webinar is packed with practical strategies to level up revision game so students learn how to ace their exams! Cameron's no-nonsense approach covers powerful revision techniques, time management, and staying focused under pressure. This isn't about cramming; it's about building a plan and the habits to walk into the exam room prepared and confident.

[STUDENT SIGN UP](#)

Parents and carers are also invited to an exclusive webinar designed to help support your child's learning journey with GCSEPod. This session will provide valuable insights into how GCSEPod can enhance study habits and improve academic performance.

Webinar details:

Thursday 7th November, 5pm- 6pm
Platform: Microsoft Teams

During the webinar, we will cover:

- A look at the teenage brain
- How to navigate and use the platform effectively
- Tips for supporting your child's learning at home
- A Q&A session to address any questions you may have

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP](#)



We are thrilled to announce the top five students from each year group for Sparx Maths this half term at Furze Platt Senior School! These students have excelled in their commitment to Maths practice, demonstrating hard work, perseverance, and a passion for learning. Sparx Maths is a great way for students to reinforce their understanding, and we are proud of these top achievers for their dedication.

Miss Rebecca Lake, Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Hayley Bull, Head of Maths

Mrs Jenny Searle, Head of Maths

YEAR 7

- Thehan Y
- Kehan Y
- Huzaifa N
- Rejna S
- Roan S

YEAR 8

- Khalid O
- Veanne W
- Tomás N
- Charlie C
- Simon W

YEAR 9

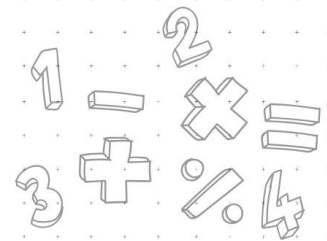
- Gretel A
- Kaylie L
- Leyton C
- Lily S
- Florence T

YEAR 10

- Janiru Y
- Lucas V
- Miley K
- Arshia R
- Patryk R

YEAR 11





- Xander K
- Rida EZ
- Mazin K
- Anisah H
- Anum M



READING PLUS

TERM 1 CHAMPIONS

We are excited to recognise the top five students on the **Reading Plus** leaderboard for Half Term 1 in Key Stage 3 at Furze Platt Senior School! These students have shown exceptional dedication to improving their reading skills and have made significant progress through their consistent engagement with the platform.

 YEAR 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Maxwell R 2 Kehan K 3 Matthew C 4 Luna BS 5 Lilly R 	 YEAR 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Veanne W 2 Simon W 3 Jas P 4 Reuben C 5 Yazan A
 YEAR 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Uswa A 2 Antoinette L 3 Zack P 4 Seb S 5 Nathan R 		

Their hard work and commitment to reading not only enhance their literacy skills but also inspire their peers to embrace the joy of reading. Congratulations to our Reading Plus stars for their fantastic achievements!

Miss Rebecca Lake, Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Vinta Byrne, English Coordinator

SCHOOL CLUBS

Term 2: November - December

Parents and carers of students in all year groups will have received e-mail invitations today (**Friday 25th October**) to book clubs for their son/daughter next term.

The email was headed Furze Platt Senior School with the email address evolve.furzeplattsnrvisits@edufocus.co.uk. If you have not yet received an email please check your junk / spam folders.

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 2 must be made through the original email invitations sent out on Friday 25th October
- * once in the list of clubs or academic support clinics, click on the name of the activity or session you wish to book and press confirm
- * please do not duplicate club bookings per session
- * 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
- * if your son or daughter wishes to be removed from a club completely, please email enrichment@furzeplatt.net and provide as much notice as possible to allow time for that place to be allocated to someone on the waiting list.

Thank you.

[SCHOOL CLUBS WEBPAGE](#)



FURZE PLATT
SENIOR SCHOOL

2024
SIXTH FORM
OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 21ST NOVEMBER
6PM - 9PM



No booking required, all welcome.

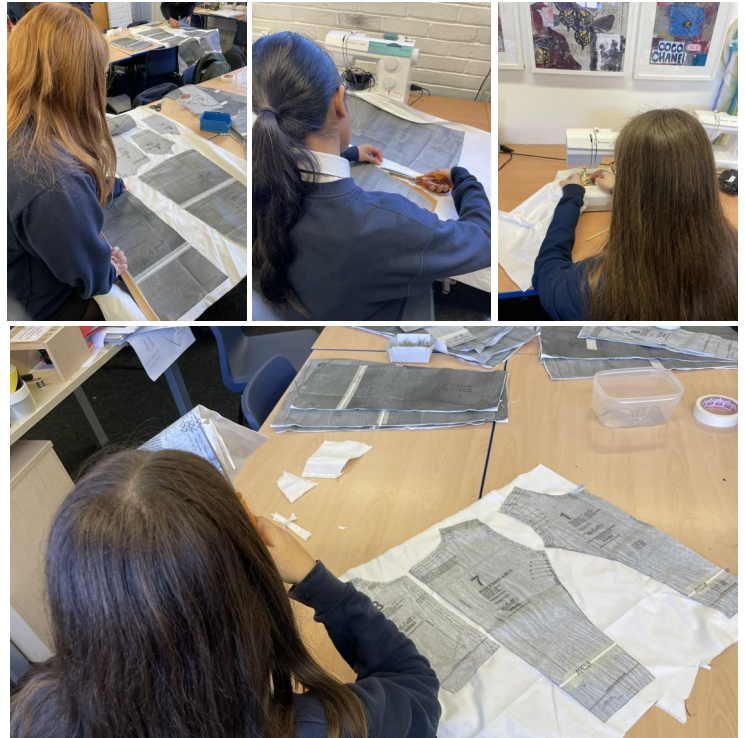
THE WEEK AT FURZE PLATT

This week gardening club organised the judging and carving of the winning designs in the school house pumpkin competition. Well done to all the participants and the winners!

In term 2 tree planting season will begin, so sign up if your child wants to join the club. And of course we will try to incorporate a Christmas craft of some description next term too.



Great to see our Year 11 students putting their creativity and skills to work in Textiles! They've been hard at work practicing dressmaking techniques, and we are looking forward to seeing the results soon.



Our Year 8 students are showing fantastic teamwork as they work together on their dough ball recipe in Food Tech! It's great to see them collaborating and learning new skills in the kitchen.



Shoutout to our amazing Year 11 Construction group for showcasing their plumbing skills this morning! They've been working hard, applying their learning to real-world projects, and we couldn't be more proud of their dedication and teamwork.



Cont. on page 6

Meet Sunny, our new leopard gecko, chosen by Science Club students after weeks of research and presentations. Sunny was voted the top choice!



This week, our Year 9 students enjoyed an educational trip to West Wittering beach to explore coastal processes, landforms, and coastal management. The day was filled with hands-on learning as students examined the natural features of the coastline, such as sand dunes, beaches, and groynes. They observed the effects of erosion, longshore drift, and deposition, gaining insight into how these processes shape the coast.



The group also learned about various coastal management techniques in place to protect the shoreline from erosion and flooding. The trip provided an excellent opportunity for students to see classroom concepts come to life.

Mr Wellard and the Geography Department





At Furze Platt Senior School, we value the dedication and hard work of our staff immensely. As part of our ongoing efforts to show appreciation, we kindly request your feedback. Your insights will contribute to recognising and celebrating the exceptional efforts of our staff.

Please take a moment to share your thoughts on how our staff have positively impacted your child's educational journey in term one.

Your feedback means the world to us!

SEND US YOUR FEEDBACK



friends of
**FURZE
PLATT
THEATRE**

MAIDENHEAD DANCE FESTIVAL

Next week during half term, FPSS is proud to welcome the Dance section of the Maidenhead Festival of Music and Dance again for its annual competition. The festival attracts young dancers from across Maidenhead and the surrounding regions and always promises a riot of talent. Competitors display their skills in all areas of dance from Tap and Ballet to Greek Dance, Cabaret and Musical Theatre. Good luck to all performers!



LOGICAL REASONING - PROBLEM SOLVING - EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION - CREATIVE THINKING

INSPIRE CRITICAL THINKING 2024/25
This Year's theme...

'Why is language so powerful?'

WHAT IS INSPIRE CRITICAL THINKING?

- Free online programme, between January - April 2025
- For Year 9 -12 (non-selective schools in the UK)
- Complete challenges, win prizes

DEBATES INCLUDE...

- How has language affected court cases?
- Why bother learning dead languages?
- How does language affect the brain?
- Why is Maths a universal language?

OXFORD SPOTLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Oxford's influence on Philip Pullman and J R R Tolkien
- The Ashmolean Museum - 'Money Talks' exhibition
- Student journalism at Oxford University

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
until 7th Nov 2024

SCAN HERE!

Further details scan or visit www.sjcinspire.com

St John's inspire programme

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER \(CLOSES 7TH NOVEMBER\)](#)

Our Performing Arts Department presents our next School Musical:

Oliver! JR.

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

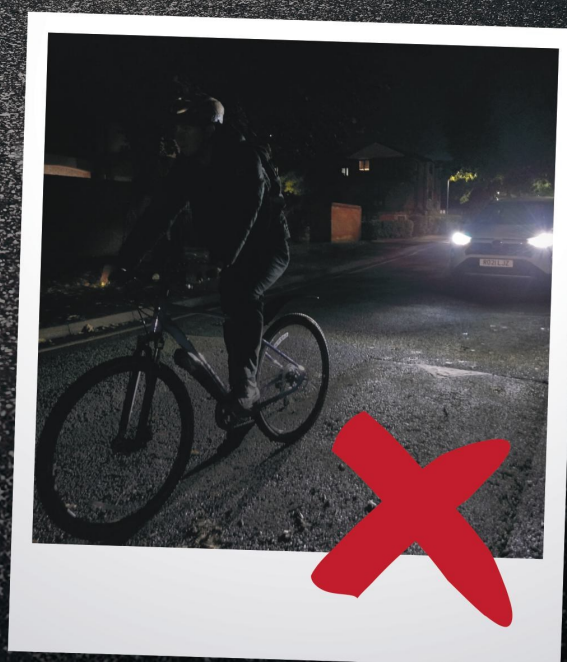
FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

NOW YOU SEE ME, NOW YOU DON'T

www.rbwm.gov.uk



Don't be a disappearing act this winter



Your bike should have:

- a white light on the front, with a white reflector
- a red light on the back, with a red reflector
- amber reflectors on each pedal (spoke reflectors also helpful)

Wearing bright, high vis and reflective clothing will make you more visible on the road

More info



shg.fyi/WMUGTC

**It is a legal requirement to make sure you ride with
the correct lights when it is dark**



**Special Educational
Needs & Disability (SEND)**

Information, Advice
and Support Service
for children, young people and parents

Emotionally Related School Avoidance

**Join IAS advisers, the Educational
Psychology service and Educational
Welfare Officers** - with the opportunity
for Q&A in this informal session regarding
Emotionally Related School Avoidance
(ERSA)



Email to register your interest ias@rbwm.gov.uk

**Wednesday 23rd October 9.30 for a 10am start
Ends by 11.30am**

@ Friends House, 14 West Street Maidenhead SL6 1 RL

1st Cookham Scouts

FIREWORKS AND BONFIRE

Saturday 2nd November 2024

Gates Open 5.30pm

Fire Lighting 6.30pm

Grove Island (end of Odney Lane)

Admission £10 in advance, £15 on the night

Children aged 5 and under free

Parking available

Scan here for tickets or
call 0333 666 3366



www.ticketsource.co.uk/1st-cookham-scout-group



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 Get (And Keep!) Your Child Motivated

17th September 6:00pm

How You Can Help Your Child Manage Their Time

1st October 6:00pm

How You Can Help Your Child Set Up for Success in Exams

15th October 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>