

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #75.2



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 9 Options

The next few weeks are important for our Year 9 students as they select the courses they wish to study at Key Stage 4. While subjects like English, Maths and Science are compulsory, students will have a choice over many others. Next week Year 9 will have their Options Assembly in school explaining the process. This will be followed by Parents Evening and Options Evening on the next few Thursdays.



Alongside information about what they can choose and how, students will receive much support in school and I am sure at home. For example, they have already had taster lessons in subjects over the last two weeks. It is important that parents, carers, students and staff work together through this process, and we look forward to welcoming parents and carers to school so we can discuss your child's options.

Science Fair

I am also excited to see the launch of our Science Fair. This offers students in any year the opportunity to develop and share a scientific project. There are many examples of teenagers who have helped develop scientific understanding and I look forward to seeing FPSS students do similarly. Further details are on page 3 in this newsletter and good luck with the projects!

Year 13 PPEs

Many congratulations to all our Year 13 students who conducted themselves so well during their PPEs this week. I hope that the revision worked and best wishes for the results.



UPCOMING EVENTS Next Week (Week 2)

ALL EVENTS

WED 22 JANUARY	Year 11 Photographs	
	Year 10 & 12 Performing Arts Evening	4pm - 7pm
THU 23 JANUARY	Early finish	2.45pm
	Year 9 Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	3.45pm - 7.45pm
FRI 24 JANUARY	Late Start	9.15am

Forthcoming Events

MON 27 - FRI 7	Inter-House Sports Week 3	
THU 30 JANUARY	Year 9 Options Evening	6pm - 8pm
FRI 31 JANUARY	Late Start	9.15am

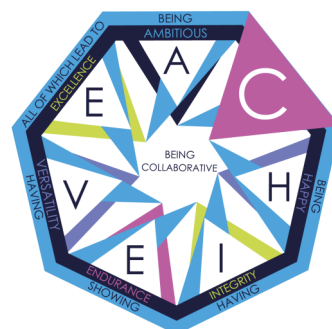
SCHOOL TERM DATES

Good Luck Year 10!

Finally, good luck to our Year 10 students who are performing Blood Brothers in the Drama Studio next Wednesday.

Take care,

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



EARLY FINISH & LATE START



EARLY FINISHES AND LATE STARTS IN JANUARY

Schedule Changes: Thursday, 23rd January, Friday, 24th January and Friday 31st January

We would like to inform parents and guardians of the following important schedule changes:

Thursday, 23rd January

Students will begin their day with **Period 1 at 8:45 am** instead of their usual form time. To ensure a prompt start, all students should arrive on the school site by **8:40 am**.

The day will follow the regular five-lesson schedule, concluding at **2:45 pm**. This adjustment has been made to support preparations for the upcoming **Year 9 Parents' Evening**.

Thursday Schedule:

Period 1: 8:45–9:45 am

Period 2: 9:45–10:45 am

Break 1: 10:45–11:15 am

Period 3: 11:15 am–12:15 pm

Period 4: 12:15–1:15 pm

Break 2: 1:15–1:45 pm

Period 5: 1:45–2:45 pm

We kindly ask that you make arrangements for any end-of-day collection for your child to ensure a smooth dismissal at 2:45 pm.

Friday, 24th January and Friday, 31st January

There will be a late start on both Friday 24th January and Friday 31st January. Students should arrive on the school site by 9:10 am and go straight to their first lesson.

YEAR 9 OPTIONS EVENING



THURSDAY 30th JANUARY

On Thursday 30th January, we will be holding our 2025 Year 9 Options Information Evening. This important evening is for students and parents to find out about the options process and to talk to different subject teachers about the wide range of courses that we offer at Furze Platt. There will be two talks explaining the options process, one at 6.00pm and the other at 6:45pm, with 2 Houses attending each talk (details of House timings below). After the talks have finished, which should last for approximately 30 minutes, you will then be able to visit each subject stall in the English block where you can ask any questions you may have and find out more about how different subjects are taught and assessed.

The timings for the talks are as follows:

6.00pm: **Eagle** and **Falcon** Houses

6:45pm: **Hawk** and **Osprey** Houses

I look forward to welcoming you on Thursday 30th January, in the Theatre. The evening is due to end at 8:00pm.

Miss L Stirling

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

LIONEL BART'S

Oliver! Jr.

TUES 11 - THURS 13

FEBRUARY 2025

IN THE THEATRE

DOORS OPEN AT 6.30PM & PERFORMANCE AT 7PM

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BUY TICKETS!

Tickets will be available to purchase online from Mon 20 Jan 2025 at 9AM.

[TICKET WEBSITE](#)

FREE PARENT WEBINAR: HOW TO KNOW IF YOUR CHILD IS STUDYING EFFECTIVELY?

Note taking is a crucial part of studying.

If done correctly, the process will help your child retain what they learn throughout the year and act as an invaluable revision resource when exam season comes around.

But, if done incorrectly, your child could waste hours of time writing notes that will have little to no impact on their exam performance.

To help you ensure that your child is making the most of their study-time, we're running a live parent webinar to show you how you can help your child improve their note taking.

How to Help Your Child Improve Their Note Taking

Tuesday 21st January

6:00pm-7:00pm (GMT)

[RESERVE YOUR PLACE NOW](#)

On the night we'll cover how to:

- Help your child to structure their notes effectively
- Help your child remember what they learn
- Use deliberate practice with your child to improve their grades quickly

TEACH MAIDENHEAD
The best schools - The best pupils - The best teacher training



Min requirement is 2.2 honours degree in relevant subject & GCSE English and Maths & a passion for working with young people.

WWW.TEACHMAIDENHEAD.CO.UK

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



SAVE THE DATE!

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

SCIENCE FAIR

MONDAY 7TH JULY 2025

Let's celebrate Science!

We want you to come up with your own project! Then email Dr WYATT with your proposed idea by the **14th of February**.

marina.wyatt@furzeplatt.net

- You can work in groups of 2 BUT no more.
- The presentation will take place on the 7th of July! More details to come via parentmail.
- Open to Years 7, 8 & 9. You can pop in to the Science Club for help!

YEAR 7 YEAR 8 YEAR 9

SCIENCE CLUB TUES 15:20-16:20 ST0

FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL SCIENCE FAIR: IGNITING CURIOSITY AND COMPETITION!

Get ready for an explosive display of creativity and innovation at this year's FP Science Fair, scheduled to dazzle us this July! Our young scientists in Years 7, 8 & 9 are gearing up to showcase projects that not only stretch their imagination but also sharpen essential academic and life skills.

Why a Science Fair?

Participating in the science fair allows students to engage deeply with scientific inquiry and engineering design processes. It nurtures curiosity, encourages methodical research, and fosters an understanding of scientific principles. Beyond the science, students develop invaluable skills such as problem-solving, critical thinking, and public speaking, as they prepare to present their projects to an audience of peers, parents, and teachers.

Exciting Prizes Await!

This year, we are thrilled to announce three spectacular award opportunities:

1.National Aspirations: Winners will not only receive recognition but also enter the prestigious National Science and Engineering Competition, where they will compete for a grand prize of £50,000. This is a chance to shine on a

Cont. on page 4

national stage and potentially transform their young careers.

2. Year Group Champions: A winner from each year group will have the unique opportunity to enter their project at the Bigger Bang Fair, further showcasing their talents and innovative thinking.

3. Classroom Heroes: Each class winner will be rewarded with a small prize and an exclusive invitation to attend the Bigger Bang Show 2026, promising them a glimpse into the future of science and technology.

Mark Your Calendars!

This July, join us in celebrating the hard work and success of our students. The Science Fair isn't just a day for competition; it's a festive gathering of minds eager to learn and grow. Let's cheer for our young scientists as they make their mark, one discovery at a time!

Prepare to be amazed by the wonders of science and the brilliance of our students. We can't wait to see you there!

Kind regards

Dr Wyatt



SCHOOL CLUBS

Term 3: January - February

Parents and carers of students in all year groups will have received invitations at the end of last term 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 3 must be made through the original email invitations sent out on Friday 20th December
- * 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 KITCHEN MENU

Feast your eyes on our scrumptious Furze Platt kitchen menu for January 2025! Full details are on our 'Cafe and Dining Facilities' webpage, the menu is available to download below.

CAFE AND DINING FACILITIES WEBPAGE

THE WEEK AT FURZE PLATT

GARDENING CLUB NEWS

The Gardening club were delighted to be invited to release the two hedgehogs who were rescued last term and were sent for treatment at Hannah's hedgehog rehabilitation based in Farnborough.



The hedgehogs, a male and female, have been tagged so if we see them again we can recognise them. It was observed the female was much braver. She unrolled and had a good look round even when being handled. Many thanks to Mr Moir and Hannah's hedgehog rehabilitation. Thanks also to Mr Barrett's gloves!



PSHE LESSONS THIS WEEK

On Wednesday during PSHE, Elevate presenters came in to all PSHE lessons to deliver the last session – "The Finishing Line". They covered:

- Exam Focussed Study
- Removing all the blind spots where students look at previous exams/PPEs and pick out and pinpoint where they lost marks
- Developing Deep Understanding
- Stress and Wellbeing

WWW.ELEVATEEDUCATION.COM

Students are able to log onto the Elevate website for free using the link above and access:-

- STUDY TIPS
- EXAM QUESTIONS
- BOOKS AND PLANNERS

We will be following up with all that they have learnt during tutor sessions between now and the start of exams.

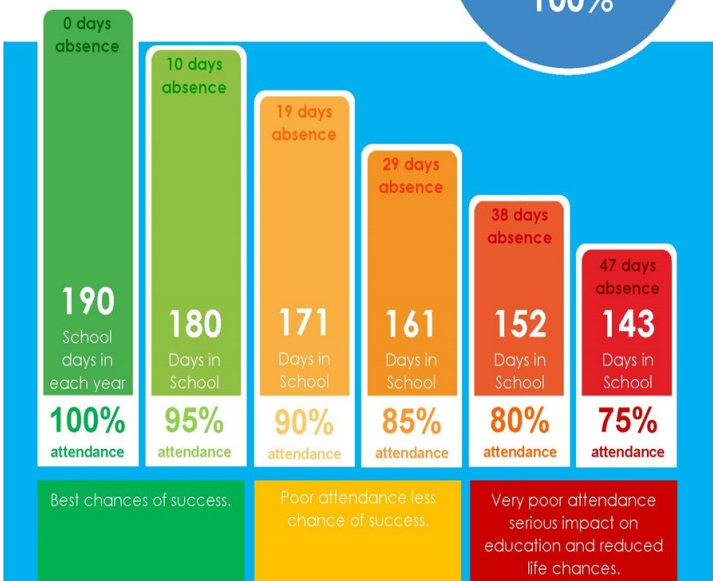


EVERY DAY
COUNTS

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%



Contact us Email: ptfa@furzeplatt.net

facebook.com/fpssptfa Website: [click here to access](#)

Dear Parents and Carers.

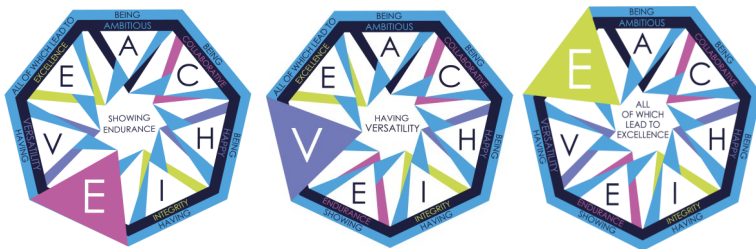
We're really sorry we had to postpone the AGM on Tuesday. This will now take place on Tuesday 4th February, 7pm for 7.30pm start, in School.



PTFA AGM new date:
Tuesday 4th February 2025 at 7pm

If you are interested in the role of Chair or Secretary, please complete the Nomination Form and return it to ptfa@furzeplatt.net ASAP. Or email us if you would like to learn more about what is involved!

AGM NOMINATION FORM



We always welcome 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 will also be making the 200 Club draw at the meeting - the good news is that now you still have time to sign up here [Furze Platt Senior School PTFA 200 Club - Monthly Donation | Furze Platt Senior School PTFA \(Powered by Donorbox\)](#) for just £5 a month and the chance to win £200 while supporting your children's PTFA .

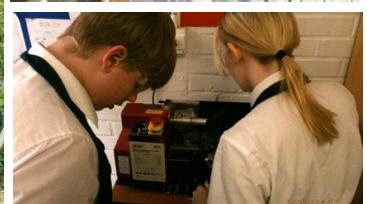
200 CLUB - MONTHLY DONATION

Please also don't forget easy fundraising when you shop on line and access the websites via the easy fundraising portal - literally free money for us at no cost to you - here www.easyfundraising.org.uk.

WWW.EASYFUNDRAISING.ORG.UK

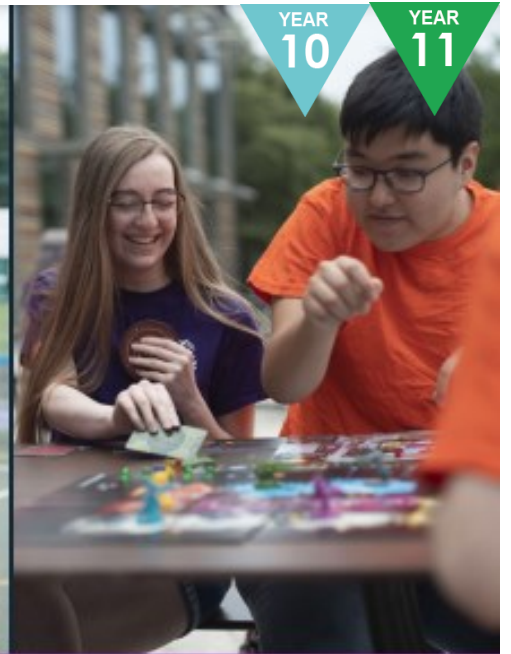
Here are just some of the things the PTFA have funded over the past year

- Lathes for the Engineering Dept
- Lab coats and calculators for Science
- PE Awards
- Prizes for the Celebration Evening
- Equipment for DofE expeditions
- Alternative curriculum activities
- Equipment for Gardening Club



A huge number of children are getting benefit from the funds we raise but we can't do it without you so please help us raise even more!

Have a good weekend



YEAR
10

YEAR
11

Join us for Spring University at Royal Holloway



Experience what university life is like

Wednesday 9 April – Friday 11 April 2025
for Years 10 and 11

- Enjoy subject taster sessions and social activities
- Meet current Royal Holloway students and new friends from other schools
- Explore our campus, just a 40-minute train ride from London
- Stay in student accommodation



This opportunity is free
to eligible students.
Scan the QR code to
find out more.

Apply by 31 January 2025

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SWIM LESSONS



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JOIN NOW

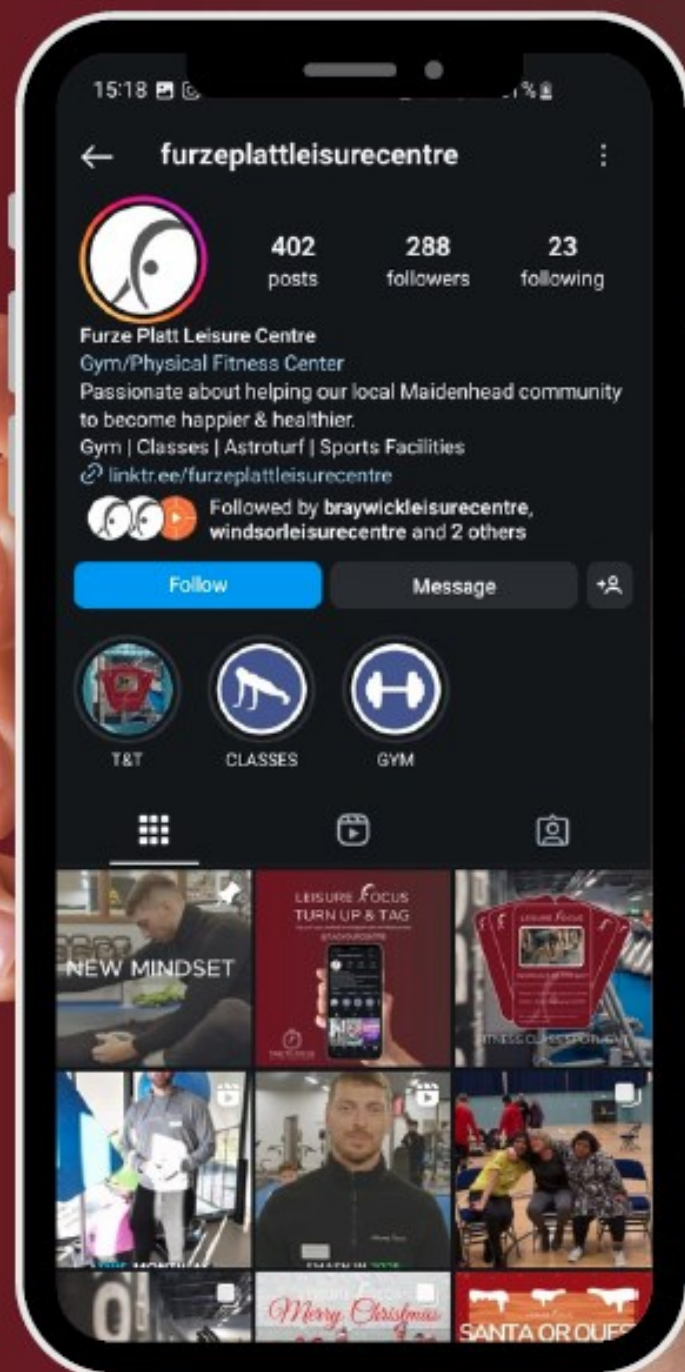
**NEW
VENUE**



LEISURE FOCUS TURN UP & TAG

Tag us in your workout on Instagram and win fitness prizes.

@FURZEPLATTLAISURECENTRE



TIME TO FOCUS
GYM - CLASSES - SWIMMING - HEALTH SPA