

FURZE PLATT FOCUS

Weekly Newsletter - Issue #75.8



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Parents and Carers,



Sporting Opportunities

Inspired by the sunny weather, I have taken the opportunity to tour the many sporting activities and fixtures on offer each day after school. It has been wonderful to see FPSS students demonstrating our ACHIEVE values in various sports, as well as some competitive fixtures. Most of all it was great to see the fun and enjoyment students were having.

Please do encourage your children to get involved with the wonderful opportunities our PE Team provide or from the broad range of other activities on offer.

More details of all our clubs for next week can be found on the link below.

[SCHOOL CLUBS](#)

A Level Physics Trip

Thank you to all students, parents, carers and staff who supported this visit last week. It was a great trip in which students had the opportunity to acquire a greater understanding of particle physics and see a variety of physics and engineering careers in action. I hope it helps inspire many to pursue scientific careers in the future.

Year 10 PPEs

Thank you to the many Year 10 students who conducted themselves well in their PPEs this week. I hope that you get the results your revision deserves.

Year 8 Parent and Student Consultation Evening

We look forward to welcoming parents and carers to FPSS next Thursday to discuss the progress of our Year 8 students. See you there.



UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT WEEK (Week 2)

[ALL EVENTS](#)

SAT 8 MARCH	Silver DofE Training Day	8am - 1pm
THU 13 MARCH	Early Finish	2.45pm finish
FRI 14 MARCH	Year 8 Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	3.45pm - 7.45pm
	Late Start	9.15am start

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

THUR 27 MARCH	Year 10 Parents' and Students' Consultation Evening	3.45pm - 7.45pm
WED 2 APRIL	Spring Concert	7-9pm
FRI 4 APRIL	End of Term 4	9.15am start
SAT 5 - SAT 12 APRIL	Ski Trip to La Thuile, Italy	
TUE 22 APRIL	Start of Term 5	

[SCHOOL TERM DATES](#)

AI at Furze Platt

And finally, our Head of KS3 Science Dr Marina Wyatt has been interviewed on the use of AI at our school and is quoted in recent Guardian and Maidenhead Advertiser pieces. I thought you might like to have a read and the links are below. It is great to see colleagues' work and ideas recognised beyond FPSS and within wider education discussions.

[CLICK HERE FOR GUARDIAN ARTICLE](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR MAIDENHEAD ADVERTISER ARTICLE](#)

Take care,

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

INTERMEDIATE MATHS CHALLENGE



Just before the February half term break, a number of our Year 9, 10, and 11 Maths students participated in the Intermediate Maths Challenge.

As usual our students did very well and a good number of our students received either a Gold, Silver, or Bronze award.

Aleks Koziak in Year 10 did exceptionally well and achieved the Best in School. Aleks, together with Gordon Yiu and James Maher, qualified for the Pink Kangaroo Maths Challenge on 20th March. Josh King in Year 9 also did excellently by qualifying for the Grey Kangaroo Maths Challenge. We wish all of them who qualified for the various Kangaroo Challenges the very best in the competition. We, as a Maths department, are extremely proud to offer our students these enrichment opportunities and are equally proud of their excellent achievements in these competitions.

In the pictures are some of our award winners.



Mr J Langenhoven

Mathematics Enrichment Co-Ordinator

SCIENCE CELEBRATION



Mark your calendars for our **Science Celebration on July 7** - open to all students in Years 7, 8, and 9!



New Weekly drop-in sessions

- **Weekly Drop-In Sessions:** Starting **February 25**, Dr. Wyatt will host a lunchtime drop-in **every Tuesday in Room S4**. Come along if you need extra guidance or want to bounce ideas off classmates.

Let's come together as a science community to explore, discover, and shine!



elevate
education

**How You Can Help Your Child Prepare for Exams
Tuesday 11th March 6:00-7:00pm (GMT)**

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

- Prioritising your child's high-impact work to maximise marks
- Improving your child's time management to avoid last-minute preparation
- Helping your child study effectively using past papers

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR FREE](#)

YEAR 8 PARENTS' EVENING



Thursday 13th March

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 8 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

The Year 8 Parents Evening will commence at 3.45 pm in the Theatre and Main Hall.

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.

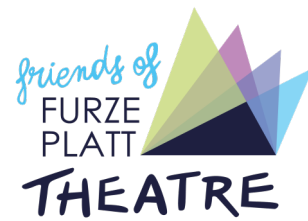
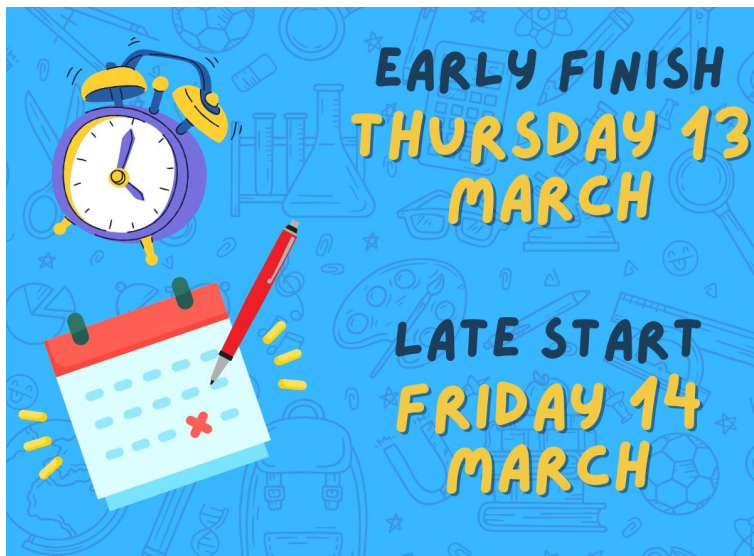
Friday 14th March

There will be a late start on Friday 14th March. Students should arrive on the school site by 9:05 am and go straight to their first lesson.

Best wishes,

Miss R Lake (NPQH)

Deputy Headteacher



'WE'VE GOT IT COVERED' LIVE CHARITY GIG IN AID OF THAMES HOSPICE - FRIDAY 2ND MAY, FPSS THEATRE 7PM - 11PM

Put on your dancing shoes and come and enjoy a fantastic evening of music from across the decades with Panic Lounge and Crazy Donkey. And it's all for charity! Every penny from every ticket AND all bar profits will go directly to Thames Hospice.

Venue capacity is limited, so get your tickets early to avoid disappointment. Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.

We will have a street food van and an alcohol licence. Tokens for these can also be purchased via the link below.

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK TICKETS](#)



TRIP TO COSTA RICA FOR
CURRENT YEAR 10 AND 11 STUDENTS



Dear Parents and Carers,

I am very excited to announce that Furze Platt Senior School will be running a trip to Costa Rica in the summer of 2026 for **current Year 10 and 11 students**, these students will then be in Year 11 and 12 when the trip departs.

We are again partnering with Flooglebinder, a travel and conservation company. They are the first B-Corp certified travel company and are experts in delivering educational programmes that create change for people and the planet.

During your 14-day immersive jungle experience, looking at conservation, sustainability and biodiversity, you'll have the chance to venture where rainforest meets the sea and discover all things tropical. Plus, you'll further your knowledge of the Sustainable Development Goals that align with this project, as well as gain a deeper understanding of your own social and environmental impact.

Given the school's own sustainable trip targets, we are confident that this trip can provide the students with an unforgettable experience while ensuring minimal social and environmental impact on the ecosystem. Costa Rica here we come!

To find out more about the trip and the itinerary follow the link below.

<https://flooglebinder.co.uk/costa-rica-furze-platt-26>

Password: costarica

The 14-day trip will depart in July 2026, dates to be confirmed. The total cost of the project is £3850.

If you would like to find out more about this exciting opportunity, we will be running a parents information evening, with Flooglebinder on **Wednesday 19th March 2025** in the school theatre. If you are going to attend the information evening, please fill in the short form here: <https://forms.office.com/e/VEsAjskquj>

There will be a detailed presentation regarding the trip and the opportunity for students and parents to ask questions. You will also be given details of how to apply for a place on this experience of a lifetime.

We look forward to seeing you then.

Your sincerely,

Mr D Randall / Mr J Wellard-Jeffs

Outdoor Education and Enrichment Coordinators





YEAR 8 FOOTBALL

Our Year 8 Football Team celebrated their County Cup victory over Parkhouse in Newbury this week; 2-2 after regulation time became 3-2 after penalties.



Henry Knowles opened the scoring after a fantastic pass from Pablo. Captain Patryk Kurenda continued the scoring in the second half from 30 yards.

After giving up a goal the boys rallied and hit the post on two occasions before Parkhouse threw everything at them and equalised in the last minute of regulation time with penalties looming.

They emerged victorious with Patryk, Henry and Jan Piankowski tucking away their penalties while a brave Lewis Garret did what he could to put off the final shooter.

Thomas Ling was today's Man of the Match.

The team:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Hayden Appleyard | Patryk Kurenda |
| Pablo Chicote Amigo | Thomas Ling |
| Henry Eckersley | Woody Mackenzie-Baker |
| Lewis Garret | Toby Mastrilli |
| Rhys Harris | Jordan Parkinson |
| Tomasz Jaronski | Jan Piankowski |
| Henry Knowles | |

YEAR 9 VOLLEYBALL

Gorgeous weather for our Year 9 students enjoying volleyball outside during Year 10 PPE week.



YEAR 7 PE



Mr Gill's Year 7 Games class were working hard during their superhero circuit training lesson...



YEAR 8 PE

...whilst our Year 8 classes with Mr Djaelani and Mr Tipp working in small groups to find their flow in their movement class...



PE MULTISKILLS

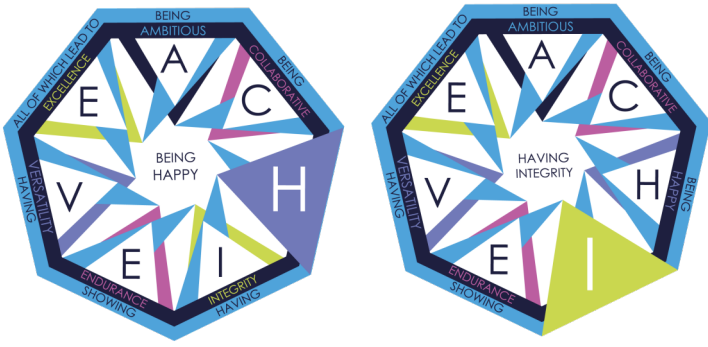
...and outside Mr Corbett held a multi skills extravaganza!



MORNING FITNESS SESSIONS

Lastly, a great effort all round from morning Fitness students.





EQUIPMENT & PUNCTUALITY

We kindly ask you to take a moment to ensure your child is well-equipped for their learning. It is crucial that your child arrives at school prepared with a complete pencil case containing pens, pencils, ruler, eraser, sharpener, and a scientific calculator. Additionally, please ensure they bring their laptop along with its charger, enabling them to fully engage in their learning activities.

Arriving on the school site no later than 8:35 am is crucial to instilling punctuality in your child's routine.

Your support in reinforcing positive routines and habits for your child's learning journey is invaluable. Together, we can ensure they have the tools they need to thrive academically and make the most of their educational experience.

Thank you once again for your continued support and cooperation.

Warm regards,

Ms R Lake, Deputy Headteacher

MORE SPORTING SUCCESS

Thank you to PB Racing Squad for highlighting more sports success:

Two current FPSS pupils also deserve a mention. Thomas Ling (Year 8) had an exceptional run to place 54th in the Under 13 boys race (out of 318 finishers) and help Windsor Slough Eton and Hounslow AC to silver medals.



Matthew Winton (Year 7) also ran well as fifth member of the team and Fabien Mormech (Year 11) ran well in the Under 17 men's race. All are members of our PB Racing Squad (pbracingsquad@gmail.com) which provides free coaching to local athletes.

Attached is a picture of Thomas Ling with his silver medal.'

CROCHET CLUB

We have been extremely lucky to get PTFA funding for crochet hooks and yarn.

Ruby Parkman-Mills Year 7 (below right) was new to crochet and has now been able to make a coaster and is working on a bee at the moment. Elle Cutting Year 8 can be seen working on an incredible jumper that is in the colours of the non-binary flag.

THANK YOU to our



FROM CROCHET CLUB



Julia Evans, Year 7 has created Penguin and Winnie the Pooh - a very talented crocheter who has helped other students with their skills.

Bella Faulkner, Year 8, and Julia Cousin, Year 11 (below): Julia was helping Bella with a tricky magic technique in crocheting.



Also pictured are our Year 7 students Rejna Suci, Yusraa Khan and Chloe Nguyen (below, left to right) crocheting their own projects.



Yusraa has made some amazing colourful scrunchies and Chloe has made a gorgeous handbag!



QUIZ NIGHT

LITTLE FISHES PRESCHOOL

LITTLE FISHES FUNDRAISING QUIZ NIGHT
Saturday 8th March 2025



Doors and bar open at 7pm
Quiz starts at 8pm

Finished by 10.30pm



With special guest
Quizmaster Mr T from
Furze Platt School
Federation

Furze Platt War
Memorial Hall

£10 per person
Includes free
drink token

Teams of
up to
6 people

Licensed bar
available all evening.
Bring your own
snacks or order a
takeout to be
delivered.

ABBA RE-BJÖRN LIVE

ULTIMATE DISCO NIGHT

FRI 21ST MARCH - 7PM-11PM

Experience the UK's ultimate ABBA tribute, ABBA Re-Björn Live, performing at the Baylis Theatre, Braywick Leisure Centre.

Get ready to dance the night away to your favourite ABBA hits and supporting disco DJs spinning decade hopping hits!

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW!

PROUDLY ASSOCIATED WITH

Braywick Leisure Centre LEISURE FOCUS

COPAS DURING HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA

EARLY BIRD TICKETS £15

U13 GIRLS WANTED

WOODLEY UNITED U13 GIRLS (CURRENT YEARS 7 & 8) ARE LOOKING FOR NEW PLAYERS FOR THIS SEASON AND NEXT

WE PLAY IN DIV 1 IN THE BERKSHIRE COUNTY GIRLS LEAGUE AND CAN OFFER UEFA 'C' LEVEL COACHING

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND A TRAINING SESSION, PLEASE CONTACT gavin.cox@bookerretail.co.uk OR 07879812957 FOR MORE INFORMATION



LEISURE FOCUS OPERATING AGENT FOR

GRAND

COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

FUN & FITNESS FOR ALL AGES

FRIDAY 4TH APRIL - SUNDAY 6TH APRIL

