



23 September, 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Headteacher's Update

This week was a shorter week for everyone following the extra day's holiday but we have still managed to pack a great deal in. Talking to our new Year 7 students they are particularly enjoying having been introduced to Bunsen Burners in Science and the opportunities to create projects in Design Technology. Lunch time clubs for everyone are in full flow; there is real buzz around the theatre and dance studios where music, drama, dance and tech clubs have started and we have already played our first sports fixtures. Mrs Hartley, Director of Sport and PE has provided this update and you can see that there have already been some challenging competitions even as teams are forming in the first weeks of term - Well done to everyone!

Sports Results

- U16 Girls Hockey v Bradfield draw 2-2
- U13 Rugby v GMS lost 5-10
- U18 boys football v Royal Latin lost 0-1
- U18 boys hockey v Whitgift won 2-0
- U18 girls hockey v St Edward's won 3-1
- U13A girls hockey v Lord Wandsworth won 6-0
- U13B girls hockey v Lord Wandsworth won 7-1
- U13C girls hockey v Lord Wandsworth won 4-1
- U15 rugby v The Oratory lost 8-35
- U16 girls football won 2-0

This week Year 11 Geographers were working on the coast at West Wittering and Year 9 students had a lovely experience in visiting the Globe to see Shakespeare's The Tempest. Thank you to the staff for making these trips possible.

Coming up this week we have

Year 9 and 10 Parent Information Evenings on Tuesday

The Friends of Borlase Meeting at 7.00 on Wednesday Evening

Our Student - led Charity Fashion Show (Recycled clothes) Thursday evening in the Theatre

Year 11 Trip to An Inspector Calls Thursday

A visit from our MP Joy Morrissey to A Level Politics students, Thursday

And on Friday - the whole school Cross Country! If you are in Higginson's Park in Marlow it can be quite an impressive spectacle.

Thank you to all the students who helped on Open Evening on Wednesday evening. This is always a lovely (if exhausting!) opportunity for them and us to show off their school and we were all incredibly impressed by the confidence and courtesy of our guides and the enthusiasm in presenting their subjects shown by everyone involved. Staff and students worked until 8.30 p.m.

after a day at school. Our School Captains Ann and Joel along with new year 7s Cordelia and Leo spoke to three audiences and were excellent ambassadors for the school right to the end.

I received many lovely emails from parents who visited on Wednesday - I will share part of one and this is typical of so many I received.

“The staff in each department were both welcoming and engaging with the interactive displays being educational and inspiring. My children both enjoy primary school science but seeing the different elements offered by a secondary school has ignited something really special and they haven't stopped talking about it! The idea of coding and making robots was a new and exciting concept to them both. The students who were demonstrating were keen to pass on what they knew and were patient and nurturing to the visiting children.

It goes without saying that the building and facilities are exceptional but the thing that impressed me the most were the young people themselves. I'm a secondary school careers advisor and work across a number of schools and it's rare to find students with such a genuine passion for their own learning and school. “

Our group was led by Daisy and Lawrence, they shared stories of their time at Borlase and were knowledgeable about the subjects, answering all the parents' questions with ease. George proudly showed us the sporting facilities and upon arrival the young people in the sports hall engaged both my children in activities they'd never done before, encouraging them to score points!

However, the 2 young ladies in Year 8 (Bella & Daisy) were the people who made me email the school. We had to leave before the end of our tour and they volunteered to show us out. They spoke to my daughter with such enthusiasm about their experiences that any anxieties or worries she had, vanished! They reassured her about making friends, getting lost, the range of subjects that they loved and their inspirational teachers! Daisy offered 'fun facts' about the school too which made us laugh! It was an absolute delight to talk with them and they are a credit to the learning environment that has been created. Please pass on our thanks to all involved. It was a wonderful evening!”

Thank you to everyone, staff and students for all their hard work and enthusiasm.

Thank you too, to parents and students for supporting us in improving the smartness of uniforms. Students who choose the skirt option are now very clear on what is regulation length and of the option to wear trousers as an alternative.

And thank you to parents who completed the survey Mr Simpson sent out earlier in the week. I have a link here to [his letter](#). As it says in his letter, do come to us if you have any particular concerns or questions via parents@ or telephone the school.

Thank you as ever for your support,

Very best wishes to everyone - have a lovely weekend,

Kay Mountfield
Headteacher