



18 November 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and students,

### Headteacher's Update

This has been another week of fantastic achievements at Borlase across the curriculum and across all the wider activities our students do inside and outside school. #Te Digna Sequere!

The House Music heats were, as ever at Borlase, approached with enthusiasm, commitment to House and a sense of fun. Having listened to soloists and duets - some extraordinarily bizarre, some brilliant, some both; Mr Miall has moved on to listening to and watching the Form Music entries. I have watched some of the videos of beatboxing, dancing and singing to Disney, to Coldplay, to Christmas songs and to so many interesting choices this year; it is clear that Borlase students are willing to throw themselves into everything and be creative!

Last night was an evening to celebrate the very best of Borlase Music. The quality of singing and instrumental playing was really quite exceptional across the ensembles; thank you to the Music Department, Technical Theatre Department and all the staff involved and for all the parent support both at home and online.

Our Sports department is exceptionally busy every single week as the table of results below will testify. This only captures results up to the start of this week; you will know that every night this week there have been fixtures including, hot off the press - our U16 girls won the County Indoor Hockey final tonight and are through to the Regionals. Congratulations to them and all our sports teams - win or lose. Do look on [www.swbgssport.com](http://www.swbgssport.com) to keep up to date with our sporting fixtures and results. There are an incredible number of students involved with Hockey, Netball, Football, Rugby and Rowing this season thanks to the commitment of our dedicated staff.

This week also saw our Year 10 Geographers, led by Mrs Blane, take part in the Wildhearts Global Youth Summit linked to the COP27 focusing on the UN sustainability goals. As a school we are keen to understand more how we can all make a meaningful contribution to understanding our role in these goals, There will be more about this in the Borlase Review.

I am linking in this letter the [Annual Parent Survey](#). Every year, in darkest November, we run a survey inviting parents to communicate their views on a range of questions so that we can compare responses over the years. This is an anonymous survey but we do ask you to indicate your child's year group as this is useful for us to see how experiences may differ across the different age groups. Some parents who are new to the school will just have this first term of experience to reference; if you have been here longer, we ask you to reflect on the year. There are quite a number of questions, so thank you in advance for your time. We do find it very helpful to have your feedback. There will be a number of more specific, shorter surveys for parents to contribute to across the year - and we have already sent out a link to the official Ofsted Parent View survey - but this collects a broad sweep of data responses for us.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Parent Workshop led by Dr Lucy Foukes on Wednesday evening. Lucy shared her very balanced view based on significant research into mental illness

which opened up reflective and thoughtful discussion in the audience. The next in our parent Workshop series takes place next **Wednesday 23 November**, specifically for parents of Year 11 students. This workshop is an opportunity to share the PSHE work that Year 11 students have done around Learning to Learn for revision for forthcoming Formal Practise Exams, and to explore key practical strategies you can use at home to help your son or daughter to plan and space their revision, recall knowledge, and practise with greater ease. There will be opportunities to ask questions and discuss strategies with each other and us. We hope you will find the evening useful and productive. Tickets are free and are still available; Year 11 parents, please go to [www.ticketsource.co.uk/borlase](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/borlase) to book your place.

Visiting lessons this week I noted that some students did not have their chromebooks/ laptops in school. So much of our work is done through Google Classrooms it's very important to have a fully-charged device with you in school. If anyone is experiencing any barriers to meeting this requirement at the moment, please send an email to our Business Manager Mr Clegg [jclegg@swbgs.com](mailto:jclegg@swbgs.com) or call our Key Stage offices.

I'd like to make just a couple of pleas for your support this week. If your child cycles to school please ensure they wear a helmet. There is considerable traffic in Marlow at the moment and the cycle helmet is essential in supporting safety. Likewise I would like to remind parents not to drop off or pick up children on West Street. There is no safe place to pull in without causing risk to pedestrian children. Please pull in at the Sainsbury's, Cote or Dean Street Car Park.

Thank you everyone for your continued support as ever,

Best wishes,

Kay Mountfield,  
Headteacher

**Celebration of events and achievements will follow in The Borlase Review December 2022**

### **Last week's Sports Fixtures**

#### **Sports Results**

- Cross country - Junior girls and Junior boys 6th in East of England. Senior Girls - qualified for national finals!
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- U18 boys hockey v KGS W 7-5
- U18 girls hockey v Uppingham L 0-4
- U16 girls hockey v Headington W 2-1
- U16B boys hockey v Vyners L 1-2
- U16 boys indoor hockey County Finals W 8-3

- U16 boys indoor hockey v Bradfield W 5-0
- U16B girls indoor hockey v MHC W 2-0
- U14A girls hockey v Bradfield L1-3
- U14A boys indoor hockey v RGS Guildford L 3-4
- U14A girls indoor hockey v MHC W 2-0
- U12A boys hockey v KGS L 1-5
- U12B boys hockey v KGS L 1-3
- U12C boys hockey v KGS D 1-1
- U12A girls hockey v BHS W 3-1
- U12B girls hockey v BHS W 2-0
- U12C girls hockey v Godolphin & Latymer W 4-1
- U12D girls hockey v Godolphin & Latymer L 2-4
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- U19 netball v WAS L 12-23
- U16 netball v WAS W 29-17
- U15A netball v WAS L 11-22
- U14A netball v Highcrest W 22-3
- U14B netball v Highcrest 'A' L 4-7
- U12A netball v WHS L 12-15
- U12A netball v WHS 'B' W 9-3
- U12B netball v GMS 'A' L 1-8
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- U13 Girls Football v CCC W 4-1