



Letter from the Headteacher: Friday 3 May, 2024

Upcoming Events

Mon 6 May	Bank Holiday
Tue 7 May	Last day of taught lessons for year 11 Year 12 Assessments continue until Thursday 9 May
Wed 8 May	Last day of taught lessons for Year 13 Year 9 and 10 Drama - Theatre Study Trip
Thur 9 May	Year 8 Girls into Computing Trip Year 13 Leavers Chapel and Tea Party
Fri 10 May	Year 12 Resume Normal Lessons Year 12 French Trip to Montpellier Public Exam Season Starts
Fri 24 May	Last day of the half term



Celebrating 400 years of Borlase, did you know...?



The first Ofsted inspection of Borlase was when the Languages block had just been built, just before Dr Holding joined the school in 1997. Further inspections followed in 2003 and 2007 with curriculum and interim visits taking place in 2009 and 2010. The last full inspection at which the school was graded Outstanding was in 2012 and they hadn't visited again until this week...

You can purchase the *Borlase 400* book in the Marlow Book Shop or order a copy to collect from school by clicking [here](#).

Information and Reminders

Whole School

- Next week is Timetable **Week B**
- **Medical Appointments:** a request to all parents and carers to make medical appointments out of school hours whenever possible. We recognised that this can be difficult
- The School Lego Society would welcome donations of unwanted lego to allow them to open up their club to younger students. Please email cwoodgate@swbgs.com if you have anything you would like to donate.
- **SEND:** Please find linked [here](#) the webpage for the Buckinghamshire County Council's Local Offer page. The local offer is a resource for children and young people with special education needs and disability (SEND) aged 0-25 years. The local offer provides details of opportunities and services provided by Buckinghamshire county council for children with SEND.
- Buckinghamshire Mind Free Webinars: [Here](#)

- Summer Safeguarding Newsletter: [Here](#)

Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8)

- **New Group Reading and Spelling Test Year 7:** [Letter](#)
- **Year 8 GCSE Options form** - Already shared. Please note the submission deadline: Friday 10 May
- **KS3 Supporting Aspiration and Progress (SAPs)** - **KS3 students wishing to attend SAPs should go on Wednesdays.** It is based in Mr Lofthouse's room (M11U) 3.30pm-4.30pm. Sessions continue every week in the summer term.
- **Year 7 and 8 Assessments w/c Monday 20 May:** Information and Revision Guide [here](#)
- **Maths Revision Checklist** (end of year assessments): [Year 7](#), [Year 8](#)

Key Stage 4 (Years 9 to 11)

- **Year 10 Drama Students- Devised Piece:** [Letter](#)
- **Theatre Trip to An Inspector Calls - Aylesbury Waterside, 27 November 2024:** [Letter](#)
- Information about Study Leave Revision Sessions for year 11 2024: [Letter](#)
- Letter for Year 10 work insight day: [Letter](#)
- A reminder that Year 11's last day is Tuesday 7th May. Some schools do not grant study leave even through the exams. We believe in valuing students' independence and responsibility but expect all students in school up until this point, following the direction of their teachers, revisiting and discussing content from the GCSE course as part of structured preparation for their exams.
- [The Year 11 Exam Handbook](#) is now available on the web site. Parents and students can access examination information by visiting the website on swbgs.com/parents and carers/exams
- **Subject Specific Guidance for Year 11 on preparation for the External Exams** - Heads of Department have given guidance to help you guide your children on *what* to study and *how* - [letter](#)

Key Stage 5 (Years 12 and 13)

Year 12

- **Year 12 End of Year exams :** 29 April - 9 May. *Students are on study leave*, although the Sixth Form centre is open if they wish to revise at school. [The Year 12 Exam Handbook](#) provides key information about the exams, and a timetable. *Year 12 students back in school on Friday 10 May.*
- **The Law National Aptitude Test (LNAT) - Course** - 9 July 2024 [Letter](#)
- **Revision Mastery parent workshop: follow up resources are available from [this link](#).** Many thanks for the input and questions from those who attended.

Year 13

- [Year 13 Exam Handbook](#) : key information about upcoming A Level Examinations.
- Information about Study Leave Revision Sessions for year 13 : [Letter](#)
- A reminder that Year 13's last day is Wednesday 8th May (with Leavers' Chapel on the 9th). Some schools do not grant study leave even through the exams. We believe in valuing students' independence and responsibility but expect all students in school up until this point, following the direction of their teachers, revisiting and discussing content from the A Level course as part of structured preparation for their exams.
- **Last day for Year 13 : Thursday 9 May** - Parents are invited to attend celebration, 10.15 to 11.15am. Please read [Invitation for Parents](#)
- **Year 13 Leavers' Hoodies:** [Letter](#)
- **Year 13 Pre-Prom drinks at Borlase: 26 June, 5.30 - 6.30pm, in the Cloisters.** Parents invited to attend.

The Week at Borlase



I hope you will forgive a relatively short email this week. It's not that we haven't been busy in school - quite the opposite - but there has been little time for taking photos and there is little energy left for writing letters.

You will know that the school was visited by Ofsted on Wednesday and Thursday this week. We received notification before break time on Tuesday and Mrs Walder and Mrs Woodgate asked me to step out from my Year 7 History class to say that somebody from Ofsted had called, wouldn't leave a message, but would call back in 15 minutes' time. This triggered a series of notifications to staff, students and you, the parents and carers with various briefings taking place around a 90 minute conversation with the Lead Inspector and the Senior Leadership Team. I am pleased to say that the inspection went well and the team got a good flavour of what Borlase is like (which is hard to do in only two days), visiting lessons and different activities, meeting with staff, students and governors, walking around at break and lunch, and examining policies and other documents. They were very complimentary about the students, their attitude to learning and said "[they] show exceptional character all of the time. They will be well-rounded and able to cope with all that life throws at them." The final grading will not be confirmed until the report is written, reviewed and published in 30 days' time. My thanks go to all the students, staff and to you for your support over the week.

Friday gave a bit of a chance to breathe. Rahil and Connor ensured normal service was resumed bringing a car onto site to garner students' opinions. This time it wasn't a sports car but a Citroen Ami, an electric car limited to 28mph which fits a little better with our sustainability goals. A walkabout during Period 5 found Year 8s finishing their week in the Dance Studio, working hard on armography after getting their HPV vaccinations earlier in the day while tonight is the eagerly anticipated Arts Dinner.

Wishing you all a restful (and hopefully dry) Bank Holiday weekend,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ed Goodall'.

Ed Goodall
Headteacher