



Year 13 Parents Evening
Wednesday 5th February

Half-term holiday
Monday 17 - Friday 21
February

Jazz Night
Thursday 27th February

Languages Showcase
Thursday 5th March

Friends of Borlase Hockey
Wine Taster
Saturday 14th March

KS4 Parents Social Media
Evening
Tuesday 17th March

Rowing Ceilidh Fundraiser
Friday 20th March

Spring Chamber Concert
Tuesday 24th March

Dear all

The seventy fifth anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz has reminded us all of the worst illustration of man's inhumanity to man. We are warned that it is possible for extremist, brutal ideologies to be spread and absorbed into mainstream politics so that atrocities are committed while civilised society remains oblivious. Seventy five years on, we have all been horrified to see the raucous voice and ugly face of racism, anti semitism and discrimination on the football terraces again and recognise that never has education been more important. Its only through education and learning do we have the power and confidence to ask questions, to challenge and to speak out. At school, our students have been encouraged to discuss this important anniversary through assemblies and tutor times and to reflect on the role we all play in ensuring this cannot happen again. I am sure that the powerful documentaries and media articles have opened up discussion amongst families too.

We are so lucky at Borlase to have the engagement and support of parents in their children's learning. This week, Year 11 parents' evening was very well attended and I would like to thank you for responding so positively to the advice of our teachers as they prepare the students for their examinations. It was also good to see so many of you at the revision workshop for Year 11 parents last week led by Miss Holmes; supporting children in planning and being organised as they prepare, should make what is inevitably a pressurised period less stressful for them and you.

The Bucks MIND coffee morning attended by parents last week opened up, among other topics, an important discussion about how we manage anxiety and the understandably heightened feelings we experience as we go through the challenges of life - in particular as teenagers growing up with the added pressures these years bring, not least exams. Thank you for your feedback; Mr Robertson is exploring a number of further opportunities and speakers to address areas of mental, emotional health and well-being.

I was also pleased that so many parents attended the Year 12 Futures Evening organised by Mrs Caskey our Careers lead with Mrs Bungey. I regularly remind the students that there is no typical Borlasian and that our students have achieved success in all sorts of areas. Speakers therefore included representatives from funded Apprenticeships, Birmingham and Oxford Universities and the creative arts. I hope the advice has helped the current Year 12 on their journey to considering next steps.

On Sunday at school we welcomed one of our former Borlasians, Nina Hartstone with her sound crew to use the grounds to record the sound for her latest film. Last year she won the Oscar for sound production for her work on Bohemian Rhapsody. Among the extras was another former Borlasian, her brother, a very busy and committed GP. During the week I shared with the sixth form that we have a recent Borlasian researching into the mining of asteroids and another as lead male dancer in the most recent Pet Shop Boys video! As I say, there is no typical Borlasian - they follow their passions.

On that note, I walked up to the theatre at 5.30 on Friday to find what looked like almost two hundred children from years 7-9 singing and dancing the opening of a number from the just launched junior musical - The Wind in the Willows. Does anyone have a discount code for hiring the Palladium?

Best wishes everyone,
Kay Mountfield , Headteacher

Useful Addresses

Enquiries from parents : parents@swbgs.com
Ticket Box Office : YourBoxOffice.co.uk.
Finance Payment system: www.parentpay.com
School Reception 01628-816500

Articles Please

Thank you to everyone who contributes to this newsletter. For the next issue please send all articles and notices by the end of Wednesday 12 February .



Strictly Come Dancing 2020

Once again, the highly anticipated Strictly Come Dancing at Borlase arrived last Thursday night. With the standard of this event increasing every year, it is a true credit to the dance department. The year 8's had been working extremely hard to learn the salsa, waltz and jive last half term. After the heats in classes, the finalists choreographed their own routines to the style that suited them best. It takes a lot of courage to perform (for lots of the dancers for the first time), and they all did so exceptionally.

As well as the year 8's competing in the final, we were very lucky to have our very own Imogen Baguely and Harry Fayers perform a fantastic rumba, and Tim Woodford and his partner Tallulah perform a routine to a Mamma Mia medley. It is extremely inspiring for the year 8's to see what they could do with the skills they have learnt over the past half term. The Latin and Ballroom club also performed a jive, which was very well polished and entertaining for the finalists and the audience.

As always, we had Mr Robertson and Miss Mountfield present the evening. They asked the contestants questions and encouraged them as the show progressed and challenged any harsh marking from the judges, making sure to get audience participation to the maximum! Our judges were as fabulous as always, so many thanks go to Mrs Hindley, Mr Miall, Dr Parsons and Miss Holmes. Another big thank you goes to Jenny Lewington-Chislett and the tech team for converting the theatre into a beautiful ballroom, perfectly suited for the occasion.

After a very hard decision for the judges, eventually it was Megan Fulton and Matty Gillespie who lifted the glitter ball trophy for their performance of a beautiful waltz. A very big congratulations to all the year 8's for working so hard on learning the different dance styles and to our finalists for an outstanding performance in the show.

Rosie Lewis, Year 13



Futures Evening Monday 20th January

In order to inspire and educate the Year 12 students on higher education after sixth form, Sir William Borlase's Grammar School hosted a 'Futures Evening' on the 20th January 2020. The evening consisted of four speakers presenting information and advice on UCAS and University; Apprenticeships; Applying to Oxbridge, and Performing Arts.

The presentation about UCAS was given by a member of staff from Birmingham University. Her focus began by describing the application process for UCAS; this gave the students a general idea of the contents in the electronic application and ensured they would check the entry requirements for a course before applying. She then explained what would help a typical application, which summarised to the students what admission tutors were looking for. While emphasising the importance of researching thoroughly and choosing the right subject, she interestingly also highlighted the importance of choosing the right university apart from the course aspect. She expressed how important factors such as location, accommodation and finance are. Finally, she closed with a detailed discussion of the significance of a personal statement and what to include (and avoid) which was insightful for all students to consider. Her presentation was concise but useful for all students considering applying to university after sixth form.

The apprenticeships talk was a brief overview on the different types of higher level apprenticeships and whether this path might be a preferred option for some students. The leader suggested using Morrisby, a careers website, and students were given a lengthy list of subjects offering apprenticeships. She reviewed the advantages of choosing an apprenticeship such as the absence of debt and more first-hand experience, as well as how to apply and search for the right apprenticeship personally. This talk was particularly useful as apprenticeships are becoming increasingly available and popular for students who have a determined career path, or those searching for a degree within an apprenticeship. Her talk was enlightening and inspiring, encouraging students to consider exploring this option.

Students who chose to attend the Oxbridge presentation were given a detailed description on why they should choose Oxford or Cambridge and whether they are suited to the more rigorous and intense option of studying at Oxbridge. As opposed to flaunting the reputation of Oxbridge, the admissions tutor recognised that Oxbridge may not be the ideal university for some students. Furthermore, he highlighted what the admissions tutors are looking for in a student, and the unique application process for these universities. He continued by discussing how to choose the correct college and answered some frequently asked questions. His answers explained in depth the uniqueness of the renowned Oxbridge universities, and encouraged students with high aspirations to begin preparing by extending their academic study in their chosen field as soon as possible

The performing arts presentation was also detailed and informative on applications and decisions in applying for the performing arts industry. This application process is very different from the traditional academic route, so Mr Hartley's unique addition to Futures Evening was valued by many of Borlase's more creatively orientated students.

Overall, Futures Evening was successful and instructive, especially as it broadened the perspectives of many students and encouraged all pupils to begin to research and select their future pathways.

Swathi D'Souza



Mental Health - a helping hand



Mr Craig Robertson
Mental Health Lead

Welcome to our feature on mental health at Borlase. This will be a regular feature as we continue to build our focus going forward on issues and information that we hope are relevant and helpful to students and parents.

Bucks Mind Coffee Morning – thank you

Thank you to Bucks Mind for delivering an informative session for parents on 23rd January. And thank you parents for attending in such positive numbers and engaging in the scheme and conversation.

‘Walking With You’ is a parent led support group for anyone supporting children and young people experiencing mental health difficulties. You can sit and discuss shared experiences with other parents and carers over coffee and biscuits as well as having a group Q&A with parents and mental health professionals from CAMHS. The informal sessions are open for any parents and carers with children up to 25. Come to as many sessions as you like – it’s entirely up to you.

Due to lack of facilities and support we are unable to accommodate children at the group.

2020 Meetings: January 31st, February 28th & March 27th 10-11.30 Wycombe Wanderers FC, (main club reception) Adam’s Park, Hillbottom Rd, High Wycombe, HP12 4HJ Need more information? Contact the Single Point of Access on 01865 901951 or email: oxfordhealth.bucksCAMHSSPA@nhs.net



Dick Moore (Charlie Waller Foundation) speaking at John Hampden grammar School

John Hampden is holding a mental health focus day on 3rd February 2020. From 6.30pm – 7.45pm, a talk will be given by Dick Moore from the Charlie Waller Memorial Trust. The talk is free and open to adults outside of JHGS but you will need to book your places via the John Hampden Box Office. This information evening is timed to coincide with the Place2Be Children’s Mental Health Week 2020 www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk.



Mental Health - a helping hand

Time to Change

Time to Change is a growing social movement working to change the way we all think and act about mental health problems. We've already reached millions of people and begun to improve attitudes and behaviour.

Time to Talk Day 2020 is on Thursday 6th February 2020. They, and we, are promoting the choice to talk about mental health and help change lives. www.time-to-change.org.uk/



let's end mental health discrimination

#Find Your Brave

A Children's Mental Health Week will take place 3-9 February 2020. Set up by children's mental health charity Place2Be, the week shines a spotlight on the importance of children and young people's mental health. This year's theme is Find your Brave.

We plan to focus on the Mental Health Foundation's Awareness week in May this year where the focus theme is based around sleep.



VI form Peer Mentors at SWBGS

A reminder to parents about our peer support scheme which we launched in October. We have 20 trained VI form students who are available to meet and talk with any students in need of support. We recognise that talking is one of the most powerful tools to help when students are feeling low or stressed and that creating the opportunity to do this with VI students offers an alternative to talking to a teacher or parent. Take a look at the helping hand link on the student home page or contact us directly for support or more information.



Safeguarding

What parents need to know about Social Pressures - Free Online Safety Guide:

Links between children's use of social media and their mental health and wellbeing readily receives attention in the news. There are an array of features which parents and carers should be aware of which can contribute towards children experiencing 'social pressures' online.

In mid-2019 the National Online Safety released a series of four guides that provided information on social pressures linked to certain aspects of social media and online behaviour. Such was the overwhelmingly positive response to each individual one, schools asked that they spotlight this hugely important subject area again. That's why they have now published a full 'social pressures' series as a collective.

You can read and download the free guide via Twitter/natonlinesafety or via Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety>



Rhian Williams
Assistant Head, DSL, Sendco

What parents need to know about Facebook

Facebook is one of the biggest, if not the biggest, social media platform on the planet. It's rare to find people who haven't heard of it and, even if you aren't a user, chances are your children are or they want to be. But do parents need to worry about their child's activity on Facebook? How can it impact them? And what safety measures can be put in place? National Online Safety have created a free online guide to help answer these concerns.

Created by digital app expert and former Facebook employee, Alex Wright, the guide explores the main features of Facebook that parents and carers should be aware of around the safety and wellbeing of their children. As always, the guide will also provide a number of useful tips for parents and carers to consider around providing a safer experience for their children.

The guide can be downloaded from the National Online Safety website - <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides> or via facebook/twitter.



Safer Internet Day
2020 | Tuesday
11 February
Together for a better internet.

Safer Internet Day is on the 11th February 2020 and will be celebrated globally with the theme: Together for a better internet

Sports News



Netball

A smashing performance from the U15A Netballers who beat Sir William Ramsey convincingly. Our player of the match was Tiana who was on top form with her shooting and movement.

The U14B Netball team were defeated by a strong Wycombe High A team in the District League. A big well done to the team for their perseverance and resilience.

There was some healthy competition between our U18A and U18B Netball teams in the District League. The A team were victorious in the fixture and it was great to see both teams playing vs one another.

An amazing 8-2 win from our U13B team who gave a stellar performance vs Cressex U13A team, in the District League.

The U13A Netball team gave an awesome performance to beat Wycombe High B team 15-1 in the District League, Amelia was our player of the match.

The U12A team played really well to beat Pipers Corner B 8-5 in their District League, Eloise was our player of the match.

Well done to the U12B team who secured a 1-1 draw with St Michael's A team in the District League, Mia was our player of the match. Some really encouraging results, keep up the good work!

Football

A good 3-1 win for the 1st XI Boys Football team vs Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School, in the Bucks Cup. It was a tight game that could have gone either way. Well done to the team for securing the victory. The team played their final Bucks Cup game vs John Hampden this week, the boys lost the fixture against a physical John Hampden team. They look to finish the season strongly with a couple of friendly fixtures.

Good luck to our junior boys football team who start their fixtures this week.

Ms O'Hara

We said a sad farewell to Ms O'Hara last week. A massive THANK YOU for all her hard work and dedication, supporting Sport and PE at Borlase over the last 10 years and of course not forgetting her wonderful guidance with our Year 12 Sport Leaders.



Borlase Hockey News

Week 16

The first fixtures of 2020 took place two weeks ago and the GU12s kicked us off on Monday 13th January with two competitive matches against Chesham Grammar School at Marlow Sports Club. The A team won 2-0 and the B team lost 2-0 in a good start to the year.

Storm Brendan kicked in on the Tuesday but it didn't stop the BU16 A team travelling to Merchant Taylors' to play in a triangular against Charterhouse and MTS. After drawing 0-0 in a physical game against Charterhouse, the team then lost a close game 0-1 to MTS. All in all, it was good preparation for their National Cup fixture due to take place today.

Wednesday was our busiest day of the week, as it often is, with the BU18s and BU16 B team both travelling to Merchant Taylors' to play out two competitive games, losing 3-5 and drawing 2-2 respectively. The GU13 A+B teams made the short journey to GMS to play their most competitive fixtures of the season, losing both games 2-3.



To finish the fixtures for the week, all of the U14 teams played on Thursday against local opposition. The BU14 A team beat GMS, the BU14 B team beat RGS High Wycombe and the GU14 team lost narrowly to Wycombe High School.



Borlase Hockey News

Week 17

Last week began with more U12 fixtures as the GU12 A+B teams played against Great Marlow School and the BU12 B-D teams travelling away to West London Free School.

The girls came away unbeaten with one win and a draw and the boys competed well against players one year older than them. It was a good start to the week.

The BU16 A team National Cup fixture was postponed on Tuesday due to a frozen pitch but the GU16s and BU16 B team both managed to play in competitive fixtures against Beaconsfield High and Charterhouse respectively, despite the weather!

The GU18s beat Beaconsfield High 2-0 on Wednesday and the BU18s lost narrowly to Charterhouse after a good performance that sets them up for their National Cup fixture tomorrow evening. The BU13 A team secured an emphatic win against RGS High Wycombe and the B+C teams won one and lost one of their fixtures against Shiplake A+B teams.

Thursday saw our BU14 A team play in a great fixture against Dr. Challoner's U15 A team, improving throughout and winning the penalty stroke competition at the end, after a 0-2 defeat. A GU13/GU14 indoor team then finished the week with a defeat to Holme Grange on Friday, but a lot was learnt.

Congratulations to.....

.....Old Borlasian Louis Cadinouche for his selection to the France U21 national team. Louis joined Borlase in the Sixth Form and left in 2019. We wish him all the best in the future.



.....also to the Marlow GU18 indoor team that finished in the top four in the National Indoor Finals, after losing 1-0 in the semi-final. Congratulations to all including Borlasian's Sophie Bowen Evans and Ellie Yeomans, and ex-Borlasian Hannah Bowen Evans.





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The background of the poster is a photograph of the tower of St. Luke's Church in Maidenhead. The tower is made of dark stone with a tiled roof and features three large dragon carvings on the roofline, each with its wings spread. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

Marlow Community Choir at Borlase
present

Messe Solennelle

De St Cecile

By Charles Gounod

and

Blest pair of Sirens

by Hubert Parry

Saturday 1st February 2020 at 7.30pm

St. Luke's Church, Maidenhead

Doors open at 7.00pm

**Angela Good Soprano
Richard Quine Tenor
Mark Griffiths Bass**

Conductor ~ Gillian Dibden MBE

Leader of the Orchestra ~ Marilyn Vanryne

Box Office: www.mccab.org.uk or 07865639238

Price £15 (£13 concessions = seniors & under 16s)

Tickets also available on the door.

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Leisure Centre Maidenhead**



CEILIDH



7:30pm Friday 20th March 2020

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- **OR www.ticketsource.co.uk**

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 Romans = Purple

Britons = Blue
 Normans = Green

Vikings = Orange
 Saxons = Red

Order Form

Parent and Student Name (s):

Email Address:

Towel Type	House or Colour	Quantity	Sub-Total
Grand Total			

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 return the form and cheque to Reception in an envelope FAD 'PA Towels'**