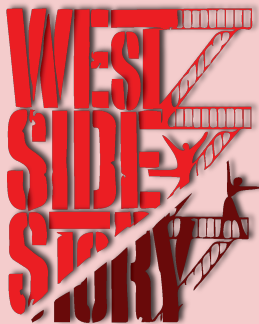




Headteacher's Letter: 23 January, 2026

Upcoming Events

Sat 24 January	Year 10 Spanish Exchange to Ávila, 24-30 January 2026
Wed 28 January	Year 12-13 theatre trip to All my Sons
Thur 29 January	Year 12 Careers in Healthcare trip KS5 Friends of the River Thames water testing House Music Finalists' Concert, 6.30pm - tickets letter Letter
Fri 30 January	Years 9 -13 Careers trip to Pinewood Futures Festival
Tue 3 February	Year 11 DT trip to the Ercol Factory
Wed 4 February	Year 12 trip to Maths Fest
Thur 5 February	Year 9 Drama trip to A Christmas Carol goes Wrong
9 to 12 February	West Side Story - Tickets and Letter
Thurs 12 February	British Junior Chess Challenge



Senior Musical Production 2026: *West Side Story*

We are excited to announce that tickets for our upcoming senior musical production, the fantastic *West Side Story*, are now on sale. Since September the cast and technical crew of over 80 students have been working hard to prepare for the performances, which will be supported by a live orchestra. The performances will be taking place on **Monday 9, Tuesday 10, Wednesday 11 and Thursday 12 February at 7pm**. Please book now to avoid disappointment as they will sell out quickly; we would particularly encourage any students in Y7-10 who are interested in Music, Dance, Drama or Technical Theatre to come along! Tickets can be purchased [here](#).

Information and Reminders

Whole School

- **House Music Finalists' Concert - Thursday 29 January, 6.30pm: tickets [here](#)**
- **Lost Property:** Lost something? Please send your child to Lost Property on **Wednesday lunchtimes**, ground floor of the Sixth Form block. We have LOTS of named coats, blazers, midlayers, sweatshirts, PE bags and water bottles. **Items from last term will be donated to charity on 6th February 2026** due to space restrictions
Second Hand Uniform: Warm-Up Wednesday!! - Wednesday 28th Jan – 2nd break (lunch)
Where: Second-hand Uniform Shop (ground floor Sixth Form block)

School jumpers £5 – Retro school fleeces £5

As the weather is becoming colder, send your child along to the second-hand uniform shop to pick up a bargain! All school jumpers £5 each. Lots of small sizes – but come early if you require 34inch & above as they're in high demand!

"Retro" school fleeces will also be available for £5.00 each. Grab a cosy fleece to wear after games or for walking to/from hockey/rowing etc.

Come and grab a bargain jumper for only £5.00. **Please bring exact money.**

Request for coat hangers, mainly ones to hang coats as opposed to skirt/trouser hangers. Please leave with reception. Many thanks

- **Year of Reading 2026** 'Go All In!' Look out this year for monthly book recommendations and holiday reading, sponsored readathons, competitions and more! More information [here](#)
- **Safeguarding:** [Parent information leaflet](#) on preventing radicalisation in young people from Buckinghamshire council. If you would like to discuss this further please email the safeguarding team safeguarding@swbgs.com
- **2026 Year 10 to 13 Senior Sports Award Dinner:** [Letter](#)

Year 7

- **Year 7 Study visit to Windsor Castle, Friday 27 March 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Year 7 Science, Maths and Engineering (STEM) Fayre: Wednesday 4 March:** [letter](#)
- **PSHE upcoming topics:** Year 7s are beginning a series of lessons on resilience - this will include practicing the skills at home - some good opportunities for points of discussion with your child. Opportunities for parent learning that compliments our schemes of work can be found here <https://bounceforward.com/building-resilience-parents/>
- **Wednesday homework club/support:** Reminder that on Weds after school from 3.30pm until 4.30pm we offer an informal space where year 7s can come and do homework - get support from year 10s and staff where needed. This can be a one off drop in or a regular visit.
- **Bushcraft parent information online session Thursday 14 May, 5pm online.** We will have a rep from Bushcraft and Mr Robertson there to help with the build up to the trip. The link to the meeting will be sent out in due course. In the meantime, [this link](#) provides a lot of useful details about the trip.

Year 8

- **PSHE upcoming topics:** Year 8s are revisiting and extending from last year on a series of lessons about resilience - this will include practicing the skills at home - some good points of discussion with your child. Opportunities for parent learning that compliments our schemes of work can be found here <https://bounceforward.com/building-resilience-parents/>

Year 9

- **Year 9 Drama trip to Blood Brothers:** [letter](#)
- **CGP Revision Resources:** [letter](#)
- **It Happens Workshop:** [letter](#)

Year 10

- **Year 10 Drama trip to Noughts & Crosses, 30 April 2026:** [letter](#)
- **It Happens Workshop:** [letter](#)
- **Academic Support Sessions:** [Letter](#)
- **2026 Year 10 to 13 Senior Sports Award Dinner:** [Letter](#)

Public Exam Statements of Entry - Important

Over the next week or so the students in years 11, 12 and 13 taking Public Exams will receive a statement of entry via their Tutor Group. We have asked students to check them and identify any errors, but please do ask to see them as unfortunately our system cannot email them to parents/carers.

Year 11

- **2026 Year 10 to 13 Senior Sports Award Dinner:** [Letter](#)
- **NEA Subject Specific Internal Dates 2026:** [here](#)
- **2026 Summer Exam Series Letter:** [here](#)
- **Year 11 Study Leave:** Year 11's last day in school will be Friday 8 May
- **2026 Year 10 to 13 Senior Sports Award Dinner:** [Letter](#)
- **It Happens Workshop:** [letter](#)
- **Academic Support Sessions:** [Letter](#)
- **Post Formal Practice Exams - Student Support:** [Letter](#)

Sixth Form

- **Summer 2026 Public Exams** [Letter](#)
- **It Happens Workshop:** [letter](#)
- **2026 Year 10 to 13 Senior Sports Award Dinner:** [Letter](#)
- **Slides from Futures Evening held on 21 January 2026:**
 - [Apprenticeships](#)
 - [UCAS](#)
 - [Applying to Oxford and Cambridge Universities](#)
 - [Careers in the Performing Arts](#)

Year 12

- **Year 12 Biology Biodiversity and Conservation Field Trip, 23 June 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Year 12 Mid-Year Assessments - 23 to 27 February 2026 :** In-class assessments will be held in the week after February Half Term.
- **UCAT training :** Students intending to apply for Medicine or Dentistry will take place on 12 March 2026.
- Letters of invitation have been sent to the parents of students who have expressed an interest in participating. Please note that the deadline for payment is Monday 9 February 2026.
- **Year 12 UCAS Discovery Day visit to ExCel Centre, London, Monday 23 March 2026 :** [Letter](#)

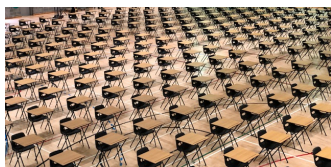
Year 13

- **Year 13 Parents' Evening** - will be held **online** on Tuesday 24 February 2026: [Letter](#)
- **UCAS :** 240 UCAS applications were sent this year. Students receiving offers should check conditions very carefully, as there are often additional requirements other than A Level grades to confirm a place, for example, uploading GCSE certificates, completing DBS checks or fulfilling fitness to practice requirements. Please also note the following UCAS related deadlines to accept firm and insurance offers:

Last decision received:	Reply date:
On or before 31 March 2026	6 May 2026
On or before 13 May 2026	3 June 2026
On or before 15 July 2026	22 July 2026

- **Important Calendar Dates**
 - **Last teaching day:** Wednesday 6 May 2026
 - **Leavers' Chapel Assembly followed by Leavers' Celebration:** Thursday 7 May 2026
 - **Year 13 Prom: Crowne Plaza, Wed 24 June 2026** - a date for your diary

This Week at Borlase...



If I could pick a theme for this week's summary of events, it would be *the future*.

First of all, congratulations need to go to the Year 13s who completed the last of their mock exams (or formal practice exams) on Monday. Thanks to the efforts of their teachers, a number have already started receiving marks back for their different papers and rueing their different levels of preparation. Year 11 had their Parents' Evening this week and the coming 6 months will be important for both year groups, not only in terms of the A Level and GCSE exams they will complete, but for the more exciting promise of how this will help them to access the next stages in their lives and education.



Year 12s haven't been idle this week and we welcomed them back into school on Wednesday for Futures Evening as they start to consider what they might do beyond Borlase. OBs Harvey (2023) and Lyla (2025) spoke to the audience of students and parents about their degree apprenticeships with Santander and the Ministry of Defence respectively. They also heard about the UCAS process and university life from Catherine Pagett from the University of Birmingham, the Oxbridge application process from Mike Nicholson from the University of Cambridge, and careers in the creative arts industries from Mark Hartley.

29 Year 12s were also involved on Monday securing the future of the planet, planting over 40 metres of hedgeline with the Chiltern Rangers. While the weather might not have been particularly clement, reports of the day were very positive.



The Boat Club were in action at the Junior Head of the North last Sunday after being hosted by The Grange School for a Saturday of time trials and pieces on a different stretch of river. *Another* wet day didn't seem to dampen spirits, and the club performed well with victories in three categories in their second time at the event.



Breaking with the theme of the week, I was able to fully embrace the past when the BBC journalist booked for the Sixth Form lecture slot had to pull out due to the inherently exciting and unpredictable nature of their job. No less exciting (in my opinion) and only marginally more predictable, I was able to step in and reprise a topic drawing on my Classics A Level and Archaeology degree to ask the time-honoured question, *What have the Romans done for us?*

Have a lovely weekend,

Ed Goodall
Headteacher

HERE & NOW
ANNUAL FUND

We are indebted to the generosity of past and present members of our community, without whose financial support we could not provide the opportunities on offer at Borlase. Please click [here](#) to find out what your support helps to provide, and how you could make a donation.