



Headteacher's Letter: Friday 08 May, 2026

Upcoming Events

Fri 8 May

Sat 9 May

W/c 11 May

Thur 14 May

W/c 18 May

Wed 20 May

Thur 21 May

Fri 22 May

Tue 26 May

Sat 30 May

Wed 3 June

Mon 8 June

Tue 9 June

Comedy Night: Sold Out

Year 10 German Exchange Trip to Saarburg, 9-15 May

Year 7, 8 Assessments

Year 12 Drama Trip Dangerous Liaisons

Year 7 Parent on line session for the Bushcraft Trip

Year 9 Assessments

Year 10 Drama Exams

Year 12 Masterclass

Year 8 Trip to a Mosque and a Gurdwara

Year 8 HPV Vaccinations: [letter and consent](#)

Half Term ends at 3.30pm

Year 10 History Trip to Berlin, 26-29 May

Year 10 French Exchange, 30 May - 5 June (French students in UK)

Year 10 French Exchange, Joint Trip to London (SWBGS and French students)

Year 9 Battlefields Trip, 8-10 June

Year 7 and 8 Trip to 'Oxford Instruments - Women in STEM'



The Friends of Borlase

Upcoming Events: Save the Date!

Fri 8 May - Comedy Night: Sold Out

Thu 25 June - Summer Concert

Thu 9 July - 'Borlase Summer Unplugged' Festival



Fundraising Volunteers Invited...

You will be able to read about the success of our rowers in **This Week at Borlase...** below. There are ambitious plans to build a boathouse to shelter both the rowers and the boats on the site shared with GMS and RGS. Headed up by Jim Biggs, a former Borlase parent, is seeking to form a fundraising committee from contacts across all the schools. Please read [this document](#) for more information and contact Jim Biggs at jamesbiggs99@hotmail.com

Information and Reminders

Whole School

- **Calling all parents/carers with a child who has an Asthma Inhaler:** We are aware that the use of of the Blue Inhalers is changing so please update us if your child has recently changed their blue inhaler to a different type of inhaler. Please also advise us of your last Asthma Review and send us your latest treatment plan to healthcare@swbgs.com so that we can properly support your child
- **School Trips Overnight Rooming Process:** [Please Read](#)

- **National Year of Reading Recommendations for May:**

- [Students](#)
- [Adults](#)

Year 7

- **Year 7, 8 and 9 Warhammer World Trip:** Monday 18 May Online Meeting 5pm: Meeting Link: [here](#)
- **Year 7 Founder's Day Walk, 29 June:** [letter](#)
- **Year 7 Bushcraft 15-17 June Itinerary:** [letter](#)
- **Year 7 Bushcraft Online parent info session: 5:00pm on Thursday 14 May 2026** [link](#) which will be hosted by Patrik from Bushcraft and Mr Robertson - it will be about 30 minutes with time for questions at the end. It will be recorded and sent out for those unable to attend. A final itinerary letter will be sent out after half term.
- Year 7 End of year Assessments **week beginning 11 May 2026 For 2 weeks** - [Information here](#)

Year 8

- **HPV Vaccinations 22 May for Year 8:** [letter and consent](#) **Please complete**
- **Year 7, 8 and 9 Warhammer World Trip:** Monday 18 May Online Meeting 5pm: Meeting Link: [here](#)
- **GCSE [Option Evening Slides](#)**
- **Year 8 Religious Studies Faiths trip, 21 May 2026:** [letter](#) **Please make payments for this trip**
- **UKSA** - Thank you to those parents who attended the UKSA information evening last night. For those of you who were unable to attend, the slides are [here](#). Please find attached a [parent information pack from UKSA](#) in preparation for the upcoming Year 8 UKSA trip from Tuesday 30 June to Friday 3 July.
- **UKSA rooming.** Your child has been emailed a google form to complete for their rooming at UKSA. Please help your child to decide their choices.
- **11 - 20 May Assessments:** [timetable](#)

Year 9

- **Year 7, 8 and 9 Warhammer World Trip:** Monday 18 May Online Meeting 5pm: Meeting Link: [here](#)
- **Year 9(10) French Exchange 2026/27 to Marly-le-Roi:** [letter](#)
- **Year 9 Geography Field Trip to Lulworth Cove, 3 June 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Proposal for the Year 9 Ski Trip 2027:** [letter](#)

Year 10

- **Year 10 (Going into Year 11) Science** - Separate Sciences and Combined Science: [letter](#)
- **Year 10 Work Insight Day 26 June 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Academic Support Sessions:** [letter](#)
- **Year 10 Revision Checklist:** [link](#)

Year 11

- **GCSE Study Leave Revision Sessions :** [letter](#)
- **NEA Subject Specific Internal Dates 2026:** [here](#)
- **2026 Summer Exam Series Letter:** [here](#)
- **Post Formal Practice Exams - Student Support:** [letter](#)
- **Prom** - Thank you for all those that have confirmed places, some students have been sent a reminder. Please contact Mr Holloran, if you cannot access it on ParentPay.

GCSE & A Level Exams Information Handbooks

All students taking a public exam this year have been sent an information handbook following the exam information assemblies. They should read it carefully and refer to it during the exam season as there is lots of "what if" information in it if something happens during the season. We would recommend parents & carers reading these as well, so they are linked below.

For year 12, this is separate to the handbook that governs their mock exams that are currently

taking place. The one below only applies to those taking a public exam.

[Year 13](#)

[Year 12](#)

[GCSE Handbook](#)

Sixth Form

- **Summer 2026 Public Exams** [letter](#)

Year 12

- **Cambridge University Open Day Trip 10 July 2026:** [letter](#) we have a few spaces on the Cambridge University Open Day Trip. If you would like to book the offer closes on Monday 5 May at 9am
- **Oxford University Open day Trip 2 July 2026:** [letter](#) we have a few spaces on the Oxford University Open Day Trip. If you would like to book the offer closes on Monday 5 May at 9am

Year 13

- **A Level Study Leave Revision Sessions:** [letter](#)
- **UCAS :** Students should keep an eye on emails for correspondence from universities about offers and any further action they require. Deadlines for replying to your UCAS offers:

Last decision received:

Reply date:

On or before 13 May 2026

3 June 2026

On or before 15 July 2026

22 July 2026

Here is [UCAS guidance](#) on making the right decision, and [further information](#) about making the right decisions for confirming firm and insurance choices.

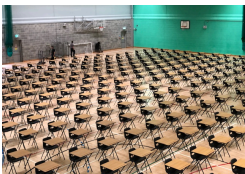
- **Invitation to parents & students to attend pre-prom celebrations on 24 June, and request for parent chaperones at the prom :** [letter](#)

This Week at Borlase...



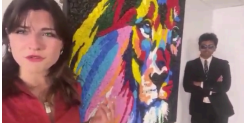
Before hitting our straps with Year 11 and 13 who enjoyed their last days in school this week, there are three achievements to be celebrated:

1. Congratulations go to Raffy in Year 11 who was awarded a prestigious Arkwright Scholarship. The programme identifies and nurtures high-potential 16–18 year old students aiming for careers in engineering, computing, or technical design. It provides a two-year scholarship, including mentoring, £250-£400 annual funding, and industry experiences to support A Level studies.
2. Secondly, having trailed the rowers' competitions last weekend, there were very strong performances at Marlow Spring Regatta where Borlase picked up wins in 6 events, and at Wallingford Regatta. The standout performance of the Bank Holiday was on Monday when the Senior Boys' quad won their event. In a photo finish, they pipped The Windsor Boys' School by 0.01 of a second, the first time Windsor Boys' have been beaten at any race in two and a half years.
3. Well done to all the students involved in the friendly chess match at Great Marlow School on Thursday. Coming out 24-8 winners, as Mr Campbell said, "the main thing was that they enjoyed it!" Hear, hear!



Taking nothing from Art, Dance, Drama or Modern Languages in which students have already completed their practical and oral components, this week saw the start of the "real" exam season - the ones where students sit in rows in halls and an invigilator will call, "Pens down, stop writing now," the ones that will evoke all sorts of memories for older readers who have left those exams far behind them. Year 11s sat German paper on Thursday and will have sat Drama this afternoon. Next week, everyone is in action! This meant that this week we have said farewell, for now, to these wonderful groups.

Year 11 celebrated their Leavers' Day on Wednesday. At break and lunch, lovingly created shirts were signed and scrawled over, ice cream was consumed, and a 40-a-side football match was played out resulting, almost inevitably, in a penalty shoot-out. In the assembly in the morning, students watched a video created by Miss Kendall featuring various images from their various trips and events, even going back to their transition camp during the summer before they joined.



On Wednesday, the sun was out for Year 13 to complement the dazzling array of Hawaiian shirts on their last day of teaching, events were more formal but with no less emotion. Their morning assembly featured singing, quizzes, skits taking off Mr Hussain, Mrs Pryor and Mr Campbell, and a fantastic ‘Year 13 Signing Off’ video. Thursday celebrations were more formal with the Leavers’ Chapel Service taking place on Chapel Lawn. After taking a moment for solemn remembrance, the school song, *te digna sequere*, and *Jerusalem* were sung with great gusto while themes of open-mindedness, adventure, opportunity, determination and perseverance, and critically of optimism and the importance of kindness, were reflected on in hymns, readings and the address. We were then joined by parents for a tea party in Cloisters when the school captains shared their memories and reflections with the assembled students and parents who had joined us. Thanks were given to the Student Support Officers, Sixth Form administrative staff, Mr Hussain and Mrs Walder for their support and guidance over the last two years. With no shortage of emotion or appreciation of their time at Borlase, the speeches concluded with a soulful performance by Gospel Choir. We wish the Class of 2026 every success and happiness in the coming weeks and for the bright futures ahead of them.

Two moments happened after the vast majority had taken their leave of the school which, for me, capture so much of what being a student at this school is about. First of all, a group of Year 13 boys asked to be let out of Reception. *Why are you leaving so late?* They had gone to the field for a last game of “one bounce” together, the football game that must cumulatively consume weeks of our students’ time. Later on, out of uniform but back in school, Eloise was heading up the lavender path in Cloisters. *How come you’re back already?* She was doing a last session of academic mentoring with one of the Year 10 students who had been helping to serve refreshments at the Leavers’ Tea Party. Ours is a school which is built on positive relationships, friendships, and support for others. We’re proud of you all!

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.