



## Headteacher's Letter: Friday 5 June, 2026

### Upcoming Events

Mon 8 June	Year 9 Battlefields Trip, 8-10 June
Tue 9 June	Year 7 and 8 Trip to 'Oxford Instruments - Women in STEM'
Thur 11 June	Parent Fora (Years 7-9 4.30pm and 10-13 5.30pm)
Fri 12 June	Year 12 PE Trip to Loughborough University
Sat 13 June	Year 10 French Exchange, 13-19 June (SWBGS students to Marly-le-Roi)
Mon 15 June	Year 7 Bushcraft Trip, 15-17 June
Wed 17 June	Year 10 End of Year Assessments begin
Tue 23 June	Year 12 Biology Trip to Wakehurst
Thur 25 June	Summer Concert, 6.30pm (evening) - tickets on sale after half term
	Year 12 Drama Theatre Trip to Misanthrope
Mon 29 June	Year 7 Founder's Day Walk
Tue 30 June	Year 8 UKSA Trip to the Isle of Wight, 30 June - 3 July
Wed 1 July	Year 9-10 Drama Theatre Trip to A Midsummer Night's Dream
Thur 2 July	Year 12 Trip to Oxford University Open Day
Fri 3 July	Year 10 Creative Writing Trip to Dorset, 3-5 July
Wed 8 July	Year 9 Theatre Trip to Warhorse
Thu 9 July	Advanced notice: Summer Unplugged - tickets letter below
Fri 10 July	Year 12 Trip to Cambridge University Open Day



### Borlase Summer Unplugged, Thursday 9 July - [tickets on sale NOW!](#)

Summer Unplugged will be a wonderful summer's evening event for all the family: alongside a programme of fantastic current and alumni bands including *Offbeat*, *Knight*, *Meli & The Burnt Sugar*, *The Fundamentals* and *Purple Forest* - as well as soloists and other musical ensembles - the school field will be transformed into a festival, with free activities and games for children, local business stalls, charity stalls and a BBQ and fully licensed bar provided by the Friends of Borlase. Marlow FM will also be broadcasting the event live. The gates will open at 6pm, with music starting from 6.15pm. The evening will finish at 9.00pm. Tickets are available at £10 for adults, £5 for students and FREE for under 5's. We look forward to seeing you there! [Letter](#)



### Henley Royal Regatta Finals Day Fundraiser: Sunday 5th July

We are excited to announce an amazing opportunity to raise funds to support the development of the Boat House to benefit rowing students at Borlase and GMS. Please join us for fizz, Pimm's afternoon tea in our exclusive pavilion at the Regatta and meeting OBs Jack Beaumont (Olympic Silver medalist) and Paul Hawkins, founder of Hawkeye Technologies, who completed the Transatlantic 'World's Toughest Row'. This is a charity fundraiser so dig deep and take a chance to inspire your children and future generations. We may even be cheering a Borlase crew this year. Details and tickets [here](#).



### The Friends of Borlase: Upcoming Events

Thu 25 June - Summer Concert

Thu 9 July - 'Borlase Summer Unplugged' Festival

1970-2013	Cynthia Ayles
1970-1991	Robert E. Ogden
1972-2001	David J. Wedd
1973-1996	Arlette Kendall
1974-2009	Antony E. J. Shann

It is with sadness that we note the passing of David Wedd, 84, Teacher of English at Borlase for 29 years and also the founder of the flourishing Borlase hockey programme. Between 1984 and 1989, Borlase played 110 matches and were unbeaten, drawing just ten of them. David's teams achieved success on the national and international stage and his coaching developed no fewer than 3 Borlase hockey Olympians.

## Information and Reminders

### Whole School

- **Parent Fora 11 June.** Years 7-9 4.30pm, Years 10-13 5.30pm. If you cannot make one time slot then please come along for the other! The topic this term is online behaviours and technology use including mobile phones. If you have any questions to raise before the meeting please fill out [this Google form](#). All welcome.



### @borlasevisits Instagram

Over the next weeks, we will roll out a new [@borlasevisits](#) instagram page to provide parents and carers with live updates from trips and visits. We will also use it to communicate any changes to departure and/or arrival times. This will be used for the first time next week on the Y9 Battlefields trip, followed by the Y10 French Exchange and Year 7 Bushcraft trip in June, and the Year 8 UKSA trip in July. The account will not follow any parent or student accounts and all posts will be monitored to ensure they follow school policy. Any urgent messages we need to share with individual parents during a trip, contact will be made in the usual way.

### Year 7

- **Year 7(8) Language Allocations:** [letter](#)
- **Year 7 Founder's Day Walk, 29 June:** [letter](#)
- **We Are Writers! 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Year 7 Bushcraft 15-17 June Itinerary:** [letter](#) / [parent info ink](#) / [link to video of online parent info session from last week](#)

### Year 8

- **PSHE Upcoming topics:** Belonging and community: addressing discrimination and extremism - bias and stereotypes; discrimination and protected characteristics; values and constructive disagreement.

### Year 9

- Year 9 students going on the Battlefields Visit are reminded that the meet time is 03:45 on Monday 08 June. Please check the letters for kit requirements.

### Year 10

- **Academic Support Sessions:** [letter](#)
- **Year 10 Revision Checklist:** [link](#)
- **Year 10 Assessments - Wednesday 17 June to Tuesday 30 June 2026:** the End of Year Assessments for Year 10 will take place from Wednesday 17 June 2026. Please see the [timetable](#) and [handbook](#).
- **Reminder: June 26 Work Insight Day.** Please submit all information on Unifrog

### Year 11

- **GCSE Study Leave Revision Sessions :** [letter](#)

## Sixth Form

### Year 12

- **Year 12 Attendance** - Students are now permitted to leave school at lunchtime if they have a supervised study period during Period 5. This privilege is conditional upon maintaining good attendance and punctuality and may be withdrawn if these standards are not met.
- **UCAS 2027** - The University applications process for 2027 entry has now begun. Students should complete the first 11 fields of their UCAS application by Friday 3 July, and submit their first draft of personal statements to their mentor by Monday 6 July.
- **University Entrance Testing** - A number of university courses require applicants to sit admissions tests, including the LNAT, ESAT, TMUA and TARA. At Borlase. We are keen to support students by offering dedicated preparation training days to help them perform at their best. To plan this provision, we are asking students to register their interest via a form already issued to year 12. Please encourage your child to complete the form to indicate which sessions they wish to attend. UCAT preparation for Medicine and Dentistry applicants has already taken place.
- **University Law Applicants LNAT Training, Monday 6 July** - [letter](#)

### 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. For students wishing to re-apply for 2027 entry, a meeting will be held on how this process will be conducted in September 2026.
- **Invitation to parents & students to attend pre-prom celebrations in Cloisters on 24 June:** [letter](#)

## This Week at Borlase...



Half term? What half term? It feels far longer than 5 days ago! I hope that, whatever you were up to over the break, you had an enjoyable time, found time for relaxation, and managed to stay cool in the exceptionally warm weather we experienced.



Over the break, two groups who were undeterred by the heat were the Year 10 historians who headed out to Berlin with Mr Mead, Miss Dyke, Miss O’Riordan and Mr Lofthouse. A city which has been at the epicentre of European history for the last century (and more), the team visited the Reichstag, Hitler’s bunker, the Berlin Wall, the Stasi museum and more, “enjoying” sustenance at a Cold War East German themed restaurant on one evening. I have heard great reports from some of the students fortunate to attend and seen some of the lovely messages of appreciation to the staff who took the students.



Never far from the news at the moment, the rowers were in action at the National Schools and MET Regattas over the two weekends. At Nat Schools we came away with three medals with silver for the Year 9 Girls' 2nd 8x and Year 11 Girls' 2nd 4x, and bronze for the Senior Boys' 4x. I have also been reliably informed that this was the first year that any state school has had a crew in the A Finals of both the Boys' and Girls' Championship 4xs. Exciting times and onwards to Henley Royal Regatta in under a month's time (for which there is a fundraising event planned in aid of the new Boathouse on Sunday 5th July - details and tickets available [here](#). It should be a great day out by the river!).



On Wednesday the Geographers were experiencing four seasons in one day at Lulworth Cove in Dorset. This is an absolutely stunning site and highly recommended to anyone who hasn't been. The geographical formations are incredible and also beautiful to behold. With continued inevitable erosion (and wrote possibly erosion and attrition of my own GCSE Geography continues to serve me well), it is a question of how long Durdle Door will be able to be appreciated as an arch (before it becomes a stack, then a stump - credit to Mr Paterson, Geography teacher in the mid-1990s).





On Thursday we welcomed (nearly) all of next year's Year 7 to the Year 6 House Welcome, their first transition event having received the news that they have been granted a place at Borlase next year. For all the farewell events and Year 11 and 13 Proms to come, the world continues to turn. There was huge excitement among the Year 6s and our School Captains, Integration Captains, House Captains and Year 10 helpers did a fantastic job representing the school and welcoming the students while Mr Robertson delivered his own warm welcome to the parents, reassuring them with his accrued wisdom and regaling them with stories, including the one about the silver cup in Australia... Don't know it? You'll have to ask Mr Robertson or one of next year's Year 7s.

On Thursday evening I thoroughly enjoyed attending the Friends of Borlase AGM and Bar Committee meeting. Through the time and effort of Abi as Chair, Alex as Treasurer, the incredibly active Bar Committee, Mel and Wendy in the Second Hand Uniform shop, they have raised over £30k for the school this year which is allowing us to move forward with plans for an outdoor gym area which will not only be used for PE lessons but students will have access to it at break and lunchtime. The work of the Friends has a tremendous impact on the students and parent experience at the school. Running a professional bar at music, dance and drama events really adds to the experience and we'll see that in spades at the Summer Unplugged event.

However, it relies on volunteers giving up their time for others. If you think you could help out, even just at one event, please contact Abi at [friendsofborlase@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofborlase@gmail.com).

I'm sure that I have said before that each week there is an occasion at Borlase which will really move me and this week there have been many (some already referenced above). This week's moment goes to the French Exchange students who signed off on this year's very successful visit with a Full English Breakfast with their partners in the Canteen this morning. On Monday, after returning from their day out to Oxford, they had met up with their Year 9 English hosts and 20 or so were walking in animated conversation down West Street. It wasn't the Borlase students and then the French, it was Borlase *with* the French. In groups in pairs. Talking, laughing, gesticulating, and smiling. A really precious moment.

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.