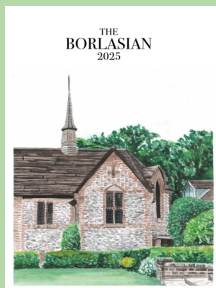




Headteacher's Letter: 26 September 2025

Upcoming Events

Mon 29 September	MFL Bake Off - details below UCAS Early Entry Deadline
Thurs 2 October	Mop Up School Photos for all Students Who Missed Round 1
Mon 6 October	Whole School Cross Country
Tue 7 October	Year 13 Parents' Information Evening: 6pm in the Theatre
Wed 8 October	Year 8 The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, Aylesbury Waterside Theatre
Thurs 9 October	Year 11-13 Drama theatre trip to Bacchae, National Theatre



The Borlasian 2025

The 2025 edition of *The Borlasian*, the school magazine which has been published every year since 1885 is available for **preorder** via ParentPay or via our Box Office [here](#) for £7 Delivery dates will be notified once ordering closes

Previous copies of *The Borlasian* are available on our digital archive [here](#). A copy featured as a key clue in the first of Robert Thorogood's *Marlow Murders* series!



Comedy Night at Borlase! Friday 10 October

The Laughing Chili Comedy Club returns to The Mountfield Theatre at Borlase, courtesy of the Friends of Borlase. Doors open at 7.30pm with drinks and snacks on sale and laughs from 8.30-11pm. Over 18s only. Tickets cost £20 and are available [here](#).



Parent Fora and Parent Reps

As mentioned in our Parent Information Evenings, if you would like to join one of our parent forums or nominate yourself to be a year representative then please complete [this short Google Form](#).



The MFL 'Bake Off' is back!

European Day of Languages Monday 29th September: Please complete this [form](#) to enter the annual MFL Bake Off (information poster [here](#)). Please bring your bakes to the Stuart Lever Room (C5) along with the allergen form from 8:15am - 08:30am Monday 29 September.

Judging will take place at break and the charity cake sale will be at lunchtime. Please bring cash (coins) with you for the bake sale! Good luck!

Information and Reminders

Whole School

- **Privacy Notice:** This notice explains what personal data we hold about you, how we collect it, how we use it and how we may share it. We are required to provide this as part of Data Protection Laws: [here](#)
- **Communications from School:** This weekly Headteacher Update is the main source of information and communication from school to parents.
To ensure you receive these emails, please add sc8254505a@schoolcomms.com to the safe sender list of your email service provider. In addition, please make sure you notify the school if you change your email address so that we can update our records. This can be done using the parents@swbgs.com email address, marked for the attention of the SIMS Administrator.
- **School Photographs:** If your child missed the photography session at the start of the term, there will be a second session on 2 October.
- **Cycle to School Event - Get ready for Winter- 18 October:** [here](#)
- **Lost Property: Last Chance 1 October!** Coats, blazers, mid layers & sweatshirts! Please send your child on Wednesday lunchtime as **we will be disposing of these items by the end of September**
- **Second Hand Uniform shop:** this is open every Wednesday lunchtime.
- **Oxford Health, Parent-Run Support Groups:** for people supporting children with Mental Health difficulties. Meetings are on Teams and start on **22 September:** [link](#)

Year 7

- **Year 7 Maths Information and Learning Objectives:** [here](#)
- **Year 7 Trip to Hercules at Theatre Royal, Drury Lane - 11 December 2025:** [letter](#)
- **Year 7 Bushcraft Camping Trip** to Penshurst Place, Kent, 15 June - 17 June 2026: [letter](#)
- As part of their equipment list, please can students have their **headphones** with them at all times, ideally a **3.5mm jack** headphone so that they fit into school computers - BlueTooth is harder to set up and more easily lost. Lots of pupils haven't had them this week for CAT testing with lots of these to go.

Year 8

- **Year 8 Maths Information and Learning Objectives:** [here](#)
- **Thank you** to the wonderful Year 8 tour guides! They did such a wonderful job of representing the school and all the things we have to offer. Well done.
- **Uniform:** Year 8s should only come to school in kit on the days they have Dance (not Games or P.E).

Year 9

- **Year 9 Maths Learning Objectives:** [here](#)
- **Bronze Duke of Edinburgh:** [presentation](#) and [letter](#)
- **Year 9 Drama, Noughts & Crosses Book:** [letter](#)
- **Year 9 D&T Revision Guide:** [letter](#)
- **Uniform reminder:** Year 9s should attend school in school uniform and changing Dance, P.E & Games

Year 10

- **Year 10 Maths Learning Objectives:** [here](#)
- **Silver Duke of Edinburgh:** [presentation](#) and [letter](#)

Year 11

- **2026 Summer Exam Series Letter:** [here](#)
- **Year 11 Theatre Trip to A Christmas Carol, 9 December 2025:** [letter](#)
- **Year 11 Mocks:** 24 November - 8 December
- **Year 11 Prom:** As discussed at the Year 11 information evening, if you or your child would like to be a part of the prom committee, please contact us via Year11enquiries@. Thank you!

Sixth Form

- **KS5 French trip to Montpellier**, 13 - 16 March 2026 - **NEW DATES:** [letter](#)
- **KS5 Spanish trip to San Sebastián**, 20 - 23 March 2026: [letter](#)
- **KS5 German trip to Munich**, 30 January 2026 - 2 February 2026: [letter](#)
- **KS5 German BFI Study Day**, 10 December 2025: [letter](#)
- **Year 12-13 Maths:** [letter](#)

Year 12

- **Year 12 Creative Writing**, Literature & Art History in Venice 6-9 March 2026: [letter](#)
- **Year 12 Biology in Action**, 14 November 2025: [letter](#)
- **Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award:** [presentation](#) and [letter](#)
- **Year 12 Chemistry in Action** lectures, 8 December 2025: [letter](#)

Year 13

UCAS & Post-18 Pathways

- UCAS predicted grades Orders were issued on 26 September 2025. Students that wish to appeal their predicted grade should contact Mr Hussain.
- Students should now submit final drafts of their UCAS personal statements to their mentors for review.

UCAS 'Pay and Send' Deadlines

- Early applicants (Oxbridge, Med, Dent. Vet) : by 9.00am on Tuesday 30 September 2025
- All other applicants: by 9:00am, Monday 3 November 2025

UCAS Final Deadlines

- Early applicants: Wednesday 15 October 2025
- Non-early applicants: Thursday 15 January 2026, however, we aim to submit all applications by Thursday 18 December 2025.

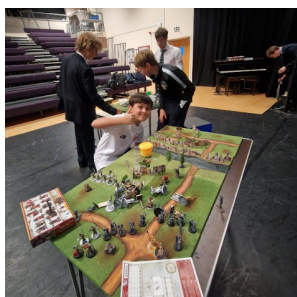
Conservatoire Applications (Music, Dance, Drama)

- Applications are made either via UCAS or directly to institutions.
- Students should check specific entry requirements carefully.

Year 13 Parents' Information Evening - Tuesday 7 October 2025 at 6:00pm (Theatre)

All parents and carers are warmly invited to attend. We will share key information, including about university applications, post-18 options, and how we will support your child in the coming months.

This Week at Borlase...



The meeting of the Local Governing Body on Monday evening, our team of fantastically dedicated volunteers from across the professional spectrum, seems a long time ago and the standout memory of the week for me (and hopefully the 250 or more students who supported the event) was Wednesday's Open Evening. It is a source of immense pride and, I hope, a sign that things are going well at the school that demand in the community led us to put on four, sell-out talks for the first time. The parents and students who visited were glowing in their praise for what they had experienced. The Canteen ran a tasting menu, evidencing the quality of food that the Year 7 students had waxed lyrical about in their talks. There were hockey, netball, rugby and rowing activities in the Sports Hall; there were Rubik's cubes in the Stuart Lever room; there were number-stacking cups in Modern Languages (I was terrible, to my great shame!); there were marshmallow people and bones and entrails in Science. Everywhere was a festival of the different opportunities at Borlase but, as every year, the stars of the show were the student helpers who had kindly given their time to act as helpers, speakers, guides, choristers and marshalls, showing off their school in its best light. Thank you everyone!

Open Evening wouldn't work if it wasn't an authentic representation of what goes on normally at Borlase, albeit in condensed format. If you wander around the site at lunchtime or after school, you get a flavour of just some of the different ways in which students find their tribe. In the Theatre block on Thursday lunchtime, the Jazz Band were busily rehearsing with Mr Davie. Meanwhile a group of students from Year 7 through to Year 13 were playing Warhammer in the Theatre. One of the Year 7s had only started playing since coming to Borlase and was delighted to share his "insane beginner's luck" which had led to a victory in his first battle.

Off-site on Wednesday, Borlase 1st XV were in action (in the new rugby jerseys) at Pangbourne College in the first round of the National Bowl. Although they went down 28-23, it was a valiant performance. With plenty of fixtures coming up over the term ahead, hopefully including a reprise of the "Under the Lights" match against Great Marlow School at Marlow Rugby Club, there are plenty of opportunities for redemption.

Friday presented a remarkable flourish with which to end the week as we were visited by Helen, the great niece of 2nd Lt. Basil Horsfall V.C. who was visiting her daughter Marina from Virginia, USA. Basil Horsfall attended Borlase between 1903 and 1905. He was a distinguished cricketer and came to Marlow having been born in Ceylon where his parents worked on a tea plantation. Basil served in the East Lancs. Regiment and was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for his "conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty." Helen and Marina saw the commemorative plaque on West Street and Basil's name on the war memorial in the Chapel where we recreated the service conducted at the Arras Memorial on the Year 9 Battlefields trip. Mr Lofthouse read the letter written by 2nd Lt. Horsfall's commanding officer and the Year 10 choir sang *Abide With Me* as they had done so beautifully at the Menin Gate in June. A very poignant ceremony to end the week.

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.