



Pre-Term Letter from the Headteacher: 01 September, 2025

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

I hope that this letter finds you well as we approach the end of the summer break. If you have been enjoying the local area or have ventured further afield, I hope that you are feeling rested, refreshed and ready for the return to school and the academic year ahead. It was only 9 months ago when we concluded our 400th anniversary celebrations at last year's carol services but the year continued with a fantastic array of performances in concerts, the unforgettable Senior Play *One Man, Two Guvnors* and the Junior Musical *The Little Mermaid* and by various teams across a huge range of sports on various pitches, courts, rivers and lakes, as well as trips and visits to various destinations across the county, country, continent and globe including the school's first visits to Iceland and Krakow (separately!).



Sequere! The Captains' Magazine

If you didn't find time to read it in the flurry of activity at the end of last term with Sports Day, Speech Day and the Borlase Walk among other extraordinary events, you can read the latest edition of the Captains' magazine, *Sequere*, in which they introduce themselves and their goals for the two terms ahead.

The July 2025 edition is [here](#).

Important Dates

Monday 1 & 2 Sept	Staff INSET (School closed to students)
Wednesday 3 Sept	Year 7 and Year 12 students return to school, registering at 08:40: no PE kit required.
Thursday 4 Sept	ALL students return to school, lessons begin Period 2
Friday 5 Sept	Year 7 Performing Arts Day - PE kit all day
Wednesday 10 Sept	18:00 Year 12 Parents Information Evening in the Theatre*
Thursday 11 Sept	18:00 Year 7 Parents Information Evening in the Theatre*
Tuesday 16 Sept	18:00 Year 8 Parents Information Evening in the Theatre* 19:00 Year 9 Parents Information Evening in the Theatre*
Thursday 18 Sept	18:00 Year 10 Parents Information Evening in the Theatre* 19:00 Year 11 Parents Information Evening in the Theatre*
Tuesday 7 Oct	18:00 Year 13 Parents Information Evening in the Theatre*
Friday 10 Oct	Save the Date! From 19:30, the Laughing Chili Comedy Club are coming to Borlase

* Items covered at these evenings will include year group specific information about the curriculum and approaches to learning, pastoral care, homework, attendance, and co-curricular activities in the year ahead.

Term Dates, 2025/26

Term	From	To
Autumn 1	4 September 2025 (3 September Years 7 and 12 Only)	17 October 2025
Half Term	20 October 2025	31 October 2025
Autumn 2	3 November 2025	17 December (Ends at 1.30pm)
Christmas Holiday	18 December 2025	5 January 2026
Spring 1	6 January 2026	13 February 2026
Half Term Holiday	16 February 2026	20 February 2026
Spring 2	23 February 2026	27 March 2026
Easter Holiday	30 March 2026	10 April 2026
Summer 1	13 April 2026 (4 May Bank Holiday)	22 May 2026
Half Term Holiday	25 May 2026	29 May 2026
Summer 2	1 June 2026 (Inset Day 26 June)	17 July (Ends 1.30pm)

Please would parents and carers take care to ensure that holidays are not booked during term time.

First Week Timings & Reminders

Monday 1st September: Staff INSET Day, no students in school

Tuesday 2nd September: Staff INSET Day, no students in school

Wednesday 3rd September: Year 7 and Year 12 in school to register at 08:40, followed by extended tutor time, assemblies, orientation and network login.

Thursday 4th September: All students in school for registration at 08:40, the school day ends at 15:30. There will be extended tutor time and assemblies for Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13.

Friday 5th September: All students in school for registration at 08:40, the school day ends at 15:30.

Uniform: there will likely have been a lot of trying on shirts, skirts, trousers, PE kit and shoes over the last days and weeks. School uniform for Years 7 to 11, and the Sixth Form, is linked [here](#). NB:

- white socks are not permitted, except when worn as PE kit,
- school shoes in Years 7 to 11 must have black leather (or leather-look) uppers and plain black soles i.e. without contrasting logos, writing or visible air bubbles,
- All students including members of the Sixth Form must wear a jacket/blazer.

Mobile Phones: Parents are reminded that there is no school requirement for any student to have a smartphone. We will continue to follow our current policy whereby any phone seen or heard from the time of students' arrival to their departure from the school site will be confiscated and a behaviour point applied.

Exam Results and Destinations

Congratulations to all of the Year 13s and 11s who received their A Level and GCSE exam results this summer. Huge thanks go to every member of staff who supported them academically, pastorally or behind the scenes by working to make the school what it is.

- At A Level, 82% of all grades were A*/B and over 90% of students gained places at their preferred destination. Some students exceeded their expectations and have deferred entry until next year. Some students are entering the world of work, others are going to universities in the UK and overseas while others are taking up degree apprenticeships including at Goldman Sachs..
- At GCSE, 65% of all grades were 9-7 with two students achieving Grade 9s in each of their 10 subjects.

While we celebrate every student's achievement, academic grades alone do not define anyONE. We wish each and every one continued success and happiness in the next stage of their lives, at Borlase or beyond.

Site Works

The summer break provides an opportunity for important works to take place in school.

History Classroom: A new classroom has been created by combining the History Office and Kiln Room with a small territorial gain from M3 to create a new classroom. The kiln is now opposite the Geography classrooms.

PE & Theatre Storage: Where the PE Shed once stood at the edge of the field, there are now three metal containers providing storage for PE and Theatre props.

Heating and A/C Project: Good progress has been made over the summer break towards completing the refurbishment of the air conditioning in the Theatre block and heating the Audrey Moore building (A Block).

Roofing Project: While we wait for final decisions from the Planning and Heritage offices, we expect that the scaffolding will be re-erected on West Street in the coming 6 months in order to complete the re-roofing of the oldest section of the school buildings, above and around the Archway on West Street.

Staffing Changes

Senior Leadership: Mr Miall has been appointed Assistant Headteacher (Co-Curriculum) alongside his role as Director of Performing Arts.

Curriculum: Mrs Topley has been appointed Head of Maths and Mrs Sanghera will be in charge of KS5 Maths. Mr Chappell has been appointed Acting Director of Sport. Miss Holmes, Mrs Privey and Mrs Oliver will be in charge of KS5, KS4 and KS3 English respectively for the duration of Ms Harris's parental leave.

We look forward to welcoming the following staff who join the school in September:

Mr Babes: Learning Mentor

Mrs Betteridge: Teacher of Maths

Sig.ra Calero-Mazuera: Spanish FLA

Mrs Devereux: Biology Technician

Miss Dyke: Teacher of History

Mr Freedman: Performing Arts Technician

Mrs Holder: Learning Support Assistant

Mr Hu: Teacher of Maths

Mr Hughes-D'Aeth: Teacher of PE

Miss Jesseman: Teacher of PE

Miss Kannor: Teacher of PE

Mrs Levitt: Cover Supervisor

Mrs Li: Physics Technician

Mrs Luteijn: Teacher of MFL

Mr de Matos Sharps: Teacher of PE

Mrs Mircovic: Teacher of English

Ms Obertelli: Teacher of English

Mrs Phillips: Performing Arts Technician

Curriculum Changes 2025/26

In Year 11, we are introducing a Supervised Study period to support the development of students' independence as they approach their GCSE exams. Further information will be given about this once term starts and at the Year 11 Parents' Information Evening.

With best wishes for the year ahead,



Ed Goodall

Headteacher