



Headteacher's Letter: 11 September 2026

Upcoming Events

Sun 13 Sept	OB Day: 1pm-4pm: OBs, current students and families welcome
Mon 14 Sept	Year 13 Assessments all week
Tues 15 Sept	Duke of Edinburgh Gold and Silver - Online Information Evening
Wed 16 Sept	Year 11 Geography Field Trip to West Wittering, Group 1
	Year 7 Parents and Carers Information Evening
Thur 17 Sept	Year 10 and 11 Parents and Carers Information Evening
Fri 18 Sept	Year 7 to 11 Flu Vaccinations
Mon 21 Sept	Year 11 Geography Field Trip to West Wittering, Group 2
Wed 23 September	Year 6 Open Evening - Please note school closes at 1.40pm
Thur 24 Sept	Year 12-13 Drama Theatre Trip to Electra/Persona



The Friends of Borlase: Upcoming Events

Wed 16 September: Cheese & Wine Event for Year 7 Parents/Carers after the Information Evening
Fri 16 October: The **Laughing Chili Comedy Club** - tickets [here](#)



Sequere - The Captains' Magazine

As we start the new year, please see the first edition of this year's Captains' magazine, *Sequere*, [here](#). In it, you will find introductions to the student leadership team including some fun facts as well as their ambitions for the year ahead. Thank you to all the Year 13 Captains and Prefects, and to the editorial team of Ella, Amaranth, and Lucia!



The Medical Newsletter

Borlase has a proud history of students leaving the school and going on to study and work in fields related to medicine and medical research. Our current aspiring medics have put together a collection of student-written articles on a variety of topics including AI in medicine, the hidden impact of UV exposure, and cosmeticorexia - if you don't know what it is, read the newsletter [here!](#)



The Borlasian - Order your copy [here](#)

The 2025/2026 edition of *The Borlasian* is now in print, celebrating what was a remarkable year at Borlase with trips and visits galore, as well as write-ups of the School Musical, *West Side Story*, achievements in STEM, Humanities, the Arts and Languages, as well as comprehensive reports on sporting successes on the hockey and rugby pitches, netball courts, and on the river. *The Borlasian* has been produced every year since 1885 and featured as a key piece of evidence in Robert Thorogood's *Marlow Murders* book. With artwork by Lucie in Year 13

Information and Reminders

Health & Safety: Fire Drill and Lockdown

During Period 3 today, Friday 11 September, we successfully held a planned fire drill and lockdown drill so that all students can distinguish between the different sounds of the two alarms and respond accordingly.

Whole School

- **Parent Information Evenings:** over the coming weeks, parents and carers of students in all years are invited into school to hear important information about the 12 months ahead. Please submit any questions you may have in advance via [this form](#).
- Walking With You - Parent Led Support Group: [Here](#)
- **Year 7 to 11 will be offered free Flu Vaccinations on 18 September:** Click [Here](#) to see how to book your child on to the list
- **SWBGS Question Time:** Save the date: 10 November 2026: [details](#)
- **Open Evening:** The school will close to all students at 13:40 on Wednesday 23 September for Open Evening. All students in Y8 and Y12 are expected to support the school by acting as Tour Guides for the evening from 17:10 to 20:15. Please see the information letter and Google permission slip here: [Letter](#)
Year 13 Captains and Prefects are expected to attend for the evening and will be allocated roles from 16:30 to 20:30. Students in other year groups will be invited to attend to support in specific departments and you will receive separate letters regarding this. We thank you in advance for your support for one of the highlights of the school year.
- **Frieth Hilly 5k/10k:** On 11 October, Frieth CEC Primary School are hosting their mixed-terrain race with prizes, refreshments and a barbeque. You can find out more [here](#).
- **NYC Finance/Business Contacts?** If any parent or carer has a contact working in the financial sector in New York, we would love to be able to arrange a 1-2 hour slot on the afternoon of Thursday 22 October for our History, Politics and Economics students visiting Washington and New York this half term. If you can help, please email parents@swbgs.com for the attention of Mrs Pryor.
- **Parking:** Please would parents/carers dropping off and picking up children from school not pause on the double yellow lines, or in the entrance to the Sports Hall, or on private driveways or in private car parks such as that of the Hand & Flowers. However convenient for you, it causes disruption, creates risk to our students, and upsets our neighbours with whom we enjoy very positive relations.

Year 7

- **Year 7 Study visit to Windsor Castle, Friday 4 December 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Email** - please use parents@swbgs.com for future general enquiries for the attention of whichever member of staff you require.
- Remember that on Tuesdays (games day) and the day your child has dance on their timetable they will **come to school in their PE kit on that day**. To ensure that students look smart on their way to school, and in classroom lessons on these days, students must wear their midlayer (or sweatshirt) and tracksuit bottoms over their PE, Dance or Games uniform.
- **Year 7 Strength and Conditioning Sessions – Autumn Term 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Year 7 Indoor Hockey - Autumn Term 2026:** [letter](#)
- All **homework** will be set on google classrooms which should be usable by Friday - however students should wait until their first PSHE lesson to see how to use Google Classrooms. Staff won't be setting any significant homework for the first week to help year 7s settle in.
- **Laptops (BYOD)** should have been set up on the school system by the end of Friday 11 September.

Year 8

- **Parent Information Evening Slides:** the Slides from Thursday's Information Evening are [here](#)
- **Year 8 Strength and Conditioning Sessions – Autumn Term 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Year 8 Indoor Hockey - Autumn Term 2026:** [letter](#)

Year 9

- **Parent Information Evening Slides:** the Slides from Thursday's Information Evening are [here](#)
- **Year 9 Educational Visit to WW1 Sites in France and Belgium 8-10 June 2027:** [letter](#)
- **Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award:** [letter](#)
- **Year 9 Indoor Hockey - Autumn Term 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Year 9 Set Texts:** [letter](#)

Year 10

- **Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award:** [letter](#)
- **Year 10 Indoor Hockey - Autumn Term 2026:** [letter](#)
- **MFL Grammar, Vocabulary & Translation Workbooks & Revision Books:** [letter](#)
- **English Language Grammar and Spelling Workbooks:** [letter](#)

Year 11

- **Year 11 Theatre Trip to Macbeth, 16 March 2027:** [letter](#)
- **Year 11 Drama trip to Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time, 7 October 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Year 11 Indoor Hockey - Autumn Term 2026:** [letter](#)
- **English Language Grammar and Spelling Workbooks:** [letter](#)

Sixth Form

- **Y12-13 Drama trip to *Electra/Persona*, 24 September 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Year 12-13 Indoor Hockey - Autumn Term 2026:** [letter](#)

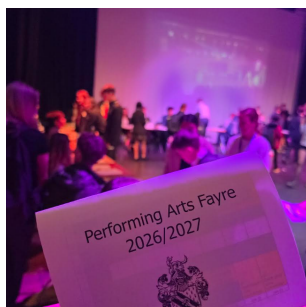
Year 12

- **Parent Information Evening Slides:** the Slides from Thursday's Information Evening [Here](#)
- **Year 12 Creative Writing, Literature & Art History in Venice 5-8 March 2027:** [letter](#)
- **Year 12 English Literature Educational Visit to Lake District: 11-13 July 2027:** [letter](#)
- **Year 12 French British Film Institute Study Day to ' *La Haine*':** [letter](#)
- **Year 12 German British Film Institute Study Day to ' *The legacy of East Germany in film*':** [letter](#)
- **Year 12 Spanish British Film Institute Study Day to ' *Almodóvar on the edge*':** [letter](#)
- **Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award:** [letter](#)

Year 13

- **Year 13 Study Visit to the National Archives and Hampton Court, 6 October 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Year 13 Assessments : 7 - 18 September 2026**
- **Year 13 Parents' Information Evening, Tuesday 22 September 2026, 6pm :** In Theatre, Parents only
- **UCAS Predicted Grades Issued :** Friday 25 September 2026
- **UCAS Early Entry (applicants to Oxford, Cambridge, Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine)**
Deadline for Pay and Send : Monday 28 September 2026
- **UCAS Early Applications Deadline :** Thursday 15 October 2026
- **UCAS Pay and Send Deadline for non-Early Entry Students :** Monday 2 November 2026

This Week at Borlase...



We may have only just completed the first full week of the new academic year but it feels like we've already gone from 0-100mph in a short period of time, and that's as true for staff and students as it is for parents and carers. In that vein, parents and carers might find [this article](#) from the BBC about mental load interesting. Even just reading the information above (but especially if your child has just started at Borlase and/or if you have attended one of the Parent Information Evenings this week - thank you to everyone who attended), you will have received a huge amount of information relating to school life in the last 10 days. Ironically, if you're reading this letter, you're likely already carrying that mental load but it might help you to reach out for support from those around you.

We talk a lot about the importance of participation at Borlase and it does feel good to be walking that talk in the first 5 days:

- Year 7s spent Monday at their Performing Arts day, performing scenes from a superhero play, learning and performing dance routines, and singing *Wonderwall* and songs from Tim Minchin's *Matilda* among others with great gusto. Miss Rayner is simultaneously excited and trepidatious about the likely size of this summer's Junior Musical
- On Monday evening, students from Years 11, 12, and 13 gathered in the Theatre for the reveal of this year's Senior Play which will be... *Richard III*! A tale of a dastardly (but misunderstood) leader, I love it!
- I hope that your children came home on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings having signed up to be part of the myriad clubs and societies at Borlase which were being advertised at the Arts, HELM (Humanities & Languages), and STEM Fayres.
- On Wednesday, while school photographs were being taken in the Sports Hall, the girls' hockey team were at St George's, Weybridge for a 6s tournament, winning one, drawing one, and losing some of their other matches in the season opener.
- On Thursday, Year 9s headed into town to see *To Kill A Mockingbird*.

Amid all of this excitement, please spare a thought for the Year 13s who have been sitting their September tests this week, a last chance to influence their UCAS predictions, and also the Year 6s who have been in on Tuesday and Thursday to sit their practice and real 11+ Secondary Transfer Tests.

If you're around in Marlow on Sunday afternoon, do please feel free to drop in at our inaugural OB (Old Borlasian) Day for former members of the school, and current students and their families. Starting at 1pm, there will be a Chapel Welcome before sporting fixtures which will (hopefully) include hockey and will definitely include netball and tennis, as well as a 100m rowing challenge in Home Square, next to the boat that was raced to Saturday at last summer's Henley Royal Regatta. The Old Borlasian Club will be running games on the school field, refreshments will be served in Centenary Hall. It should be a lovely afternoon, finishing at 4pm, and offers a chance for those who have just joined us to take grandparents and neighbours on a tour of their new school!

Have a lovely weekend, and hopefully I'll see some of you on Sunday

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 currently on offer at Borlase. Please click [here](#) to find out what your support helps to provide, and how you could make a donation.