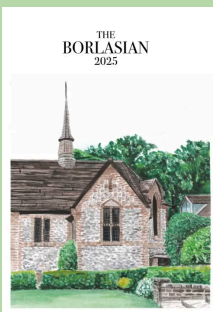




Headteacher's Letter: 12 September 2025

Upcoming Events

Mon 15 September	Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Launch Senior Musical Auditions
Tue 16 September	Silver/Gold Duke of Edinburgh Launch Year 11 Geography trip to West Wittering (group A) Year 9 Parents Information Evening (submit questions in advance here)
Wed 17 September	5pm: Please Click Here to join the Year 10 Spanish Exchange meeting
Thu 18 September	Year 10 Parents Information Evening (submit questions in advance here) Year 11 Parents Information Evening (submit questions in advance here) Year 11 Geography trip to West Wittering (group B)
Wed 24 September	Year 7 Open Evening: please note, the school will close at 1.40pm for all students to allow staff to set up for the evening which starts at 4pm.
Mon 29 September	MFL Bake Off - Details to follow



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 £6.50. 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](#).



Skirt Amnesty!

Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 have been reminded that the straight skirt is no longer permitted school uniform (straight skirts have not been sold for three years). From Monday please ensure your child is wearing the trousers or the regulation pleated skirt. If they do not have a pleated skirt, they are available from the second-hand uniform shop. The Key Stage 4 Office will have a supply on hand in exchange for the straight skirt.

Information and Reminders

Whole School

- **Borlase Hockey Review 2024/25 and Hockey Subscription for 2025/26:** [Here](#)
- **Lost Property:** there is an influx of coats, blazers, mid layers & sweatshirts which have been found over the summer holidays. Please send your child on Wednesday lunchtime as we will be disposing of these items by the end of September due to space restrictions.
- **Second Hand Uniform shop:** this is open every Wednesday lunchtime. Please send your child should you need any uniform. Cash or card payments are accepted.
- Buckinghamshire Educational Psychology Team have asked us to share details of the MIND Morning: [Here](#)
- Oxford Health runs parent run support groups for people supporting children with Mental Health difficulties. Meetings are on Teams and start on **22 September:** [Link](#)
- **Parent Fora:** If you would like to join our year group parent forums or nominate yourself to be a year representative then please complete [this short Google Form](#)

Year 7

- Year 7 Bushcraft Camping Trip to Penshurst Place, Kent, 15 June - 17 June 2026: [letter](#)
- Here is a **LINK** to the slides presented in Thursday's parent information evening
- As part of the 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 ones often cause havoc picking up on the wrong devices and more easily lost. Lots of pupils haven't had them this week for CAT testing and there are still lots of these to go. Thank you
- Next week we will be sending a form to Year 7s inviting them to audition as **speakers for the school Open Evening** (24 Sept 4pm-8pm).
- Year 7 Indoor Hockey - Autumn term: [letter](#)
- Year 7 Strength and Conditioning - Autumn term: [letter](#)

Year 8

- We need Year 8 guides to support the Open Evening on 24 September: [letter](#)
- Year 8-11 Indoor Hockey - Autumn term: [letter](#)
- Year 8 Strength and Conditioning - Autumn term: [letter](#)

A reminder that Year 8s should only come to school in kit on the days they have Dance (not Games or P.E).

Year 9

- Year 8-11 Indoor Hockey - Autumn term: [letter](#)
- Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh, Bronze Award: [letter](#)
- Year 9 Drama, Noughts & Crosses Book: [letter](#)
- Year 9 English, GCSE Set Texts: [letter](#)
- Uniform reminder: Year 9s should attend school in school uniform and changing Dance, P.E & Games
- **Skirt Amnesty!** Please see the information above

Year 10

- Year 8-11 Indoor Hockey - Autumn term: [letter](#)
- Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh, Silver Award: [letter](#)
- Year 10 MFL Workbook & Revision Guide: [letter](#)
- Year 10 English, GCSE Set Texts: [letter](#)
- **Spanish Exchange Presentation - 5pm on 17 September:** Please click [Here](#) to join the meeting
- **Skirt Amnesty!** Please see the information above

Year 11

- Year 8-11 Indoor Hockey - Autumn term: [letter](#)
- Year 11 Theatre Trip to Macbeth, 6 November 2025: [letter](#)
- Year 11 Mocks - 24 November - 8 December
- **Skirt Amnesty!** Please see the information above

Sixth Form

- Year 12-13 Drama trip to *Bacchae* at National Theatre, 9 October 2025: [letter](#)
- Year 12-13 Spanish trip to the British Film Institute: Almodóvar, 6 November 2025: [letter](#)
- Year 12-13 French trip to the British Film Institute: ' *La Haine*', 12 November 2025: [letter](#)
- Year 12-13 Psychology Review Magazine: [letter](#)
- Year 12-13 Indoor Hockey - Autumn term: [letter](#)
- 16-19 Bursary - please refer to [this link](#) to check if your son/daughter is eligible for Bursary. Please contact Mrs Laughton for further information.
- Year 13 students who received Bursary last academic year must reapply.

Year 12

- Year 12 English Literature Educational Visit to Lake District, 12-14 July 2026: [letter](#)
- Year 12 Visit to Chemistry in Action lectures, 8 December 2025: [letter](#)
- Student Support Officers (SSOs) are available to support all students in their transition into A Levels. Over the next few weeks, each student in year 12 will meet with their SSO. They are Mrs Fortnam (Britons, Danes, Normans) and Mrs Bull/Mrs Furley (Romans, Saxons, Vikings).
- Year 12 Drama, Machinal Book: [letter](#)

Year 13

- Year 13 English, Poems of the Decade Conference, 9 December 2025: [letter](#)

In-Class Assessments

- Dates: Tuesday 3 September – Friday 19 September 2025

UCAS & Post-18 Pathways

- Final UCAS Predicted Grades Issued: Friday 26 September 2025
- Students should now submit final drafts of their UCAS personal statements to their mentors for review.
- If your son/daughter is still uncertain about university options or course choices, please encourage them to speak with their mentor or a member of the Sixth Form team.

Early UCAS Applicants

This applies to students applying to:

- University of Oxford or Cambridge
- Medicine, Dentistry, or Veterinary Medicine

UCAS 'Pay and Send' Process

- 'Pay and Send' means the student has completed their UCAS application, paid the fee (£28.95), and submitted it for the school's final checks. The fee is waived for applicants that received free school meals during their secondary education.
- Applications are not sent to universities at this stage.
- Each student will subsequently have a final one-on-one meeting with a member of the Sixth Form team to review and submit their application.

'Pay and Send' Deadlines

- Early applicants: by 9:00am, Friday 26 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.

Other Post-18 Pathways including Conservatoire Applications (Music, Dance, Drama):

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

Degree Apprenticeships:

- Requirements vary. Students should research individual application processes and deadlines.

Overseas University Applications:

- The Sixth Form team can support students with students wishing to apply to Universities overseas.

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...



We're a week into the new year and starting to find our rhythm. Clearly not fully out of holiday mode, I inadvertently welcomed new cohorts of Year 11 and 13 students last week. While every year group is "new", the special welcome was intended for the 150 Year 7s and 235 Year 12s who were beginning their respective journeys at Borlase. It was lovely to welcome the parents and carers from both of these year groups into school on Wednesday and Thursday, packing out the Theatre for their respective Parent Information evenings (with Slides linked above under the corresponding year). Anyone who was there will attest to the fact that there was a lot of information shared!



On Thursday, the information evening was followed by a "Cheese & Wine" event in Centenary Hall to allow the new parents to mingle and get to know one another. This was hosted by the Friends of Borlase with new Chair, Abi Morris, and Treasurer, Alex Sayles with generous sponsorship from Waitrose to provide some of the food on offer. It was a lovely and successful event and we will be using part of our first Parent Forum meetings to establish what events would garner interest from our parent community. Hopefully we will have another sell-out crowd for the comedy night on Friday 10th October.



Advised last Thursday that these would take place and of the important reasons why, on Monday we had a near perfect Fire Drill and Lockdown practice, ensuring that all students know the important difference between the two alarms and what they need to do (and how they should do it) if either should sound again.



I celebrated the participation of Year 7s in last week's letter, having taken part in their Performing Arts Day. Our followers on Instagram will have seen how busy the school remains after the school day with rugby, netball, football, hockey and rowing all taking place, not to mention the launch of and first rehearsal for this year's Senior Musical, *West Side Story*, under the careful supervision of staff whose discretionary effort I cannot praise highly enough. This week has seen the Arts, HELM (Humanities, English, Literature & Modern Languages), and STEM Fayres taking place on Monday, Wednesday and Friday lunchtimes, giving students from all year groups the chance to sign up to be part of more than 50 student-led societies from Junior Make-up, to True Crime, and PBAG, the *beyond* Further Maths society! It was great to see so many students taking an interest, keen to expand their horizons. Some students seemed a little put out that there aren't enough days of the week for them to fit in all that they want to do! For those in the younger years, these (and others) are the societies that they will be leading when they reach the Sixth Form - service in action.



Out of school, we'd like to celebrate the achievement of Ollie and Finlay in Year 12, both of whom were retained by Northampton Saints RFC after what they described as a fierce cull of the academy squad size. We wish them a successful season with Northampton and also the Borlase 1st XV.

Finally, congratulations go to (and huge thanks for the support come from) Mrs Pryor who completed the 'Tour de 4' charity bike ride last weekend. Mrs Pryor has raised over £2,000, far surpassing her £250 target, via her GoFundMe page [here!](#)

Have a lovely weekend

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'Ed Goodall'.

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.