



Headteacher's Letter: 25 September 2026

Upcoming Events

Mon 28 Sept

Thur 1 Oct
Mon 5 Oct

Tues 6 Oct

Wed 7 Oct

Thur 8 Oct

Fri 9 Oct

Mon 12 Oct

Tues 13 Oct

Thur 15 Oct

Fri 16 Oct

Whole School Cross Country: student info [here](#)

Year 12-13 Drama Trip to the Story

MFL Bake Off

GCSE Dance Set Phrase Exams

Year 13 History Trip to Kew Nations Archives and Hampton Court

Year 10/11 Drama Trip to Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime

Autumn Chamber Concert

Spanish Exchange Students Arrive

Year 11 (staying safe at festivals) and 13 (next chapter) - [ithappens](#) 'Substances'

Year 7 Open Morning

Sixth Form Open Evening

Solutions not Sides Year 10, 12 and 13

KS3 Restart a Heart Training

Year 13 Washington Trip Departs

Half Term Starts at 3.30pm

Mobile Phone Rule Changes *after October Half Term*

Following surveys of staff, students, and parents at the end of last year, we will be introducing the following rules, effective from Monday 2 November, which follow the principle of "Not Seen, Not Used, Not Heard":

- **Gate to 3.30pm:** Mobile phones must not be used by students from arrival on the school site until 3.30pm.
- **Phones in School:** phones must be switched off and stored safely in bags or lockers.
- **Learning:** no student in any year group is required to have a smartphone. A suitable alternative will be provided on the occasions when staff may invite those with devices to use them.
- **Residential Visits:** no phones or internet devices for Years 7 and 8. Years 9 to 11 will give their phones (and any internet enabled device) to members of staff in the evening and overnight
- **Sports Fixtures and day trips:** no phones for Years 7 and 8.
- **Sixth Form Exceptions:** Sixth Form students may continue to use phones in designated areas including Centenary Hall and the Sixth Form study areas.
- **Connected Devices including SmartWatches:** these are subject to the same rules.

Sanctions: phones or smartwatches which are seen, heard or used outside of these times will be confiscated for 3 days for a first offence, and 5 days for a second offence. For the third offence 5 days and a parent/carer will need to collect the phone

If you are concerned about the distraction a phone might pose or how to track your child if their phone is confiscated:

- Buy them a brick phone or back-up brick phone with a pay-as-you-go SIM card
- Fit an air-tag or similar to your child's bag so you can track them
- The Slides used to brief students in assemblies are linked [here](#)





The Friends of Borlase: Upcoming Events

Fri 16 October: **The Laughing Chili Comedy Club- The Mountfield Theatre** - tickets [here](#)

Thu 26 November 2026: **Christmas Wreath Making, 6.30-9.30pm, Centenary Hall**

If you would like to join the Friends of Borlase, contact them at friendsofborlase@gmail.com.



securly

'Securly' Filtering & Monitoring Certificate

Please be reminded that, for students to access the school's WiFi network, they will need to have downloaded the Securly Certificate. In keeping with Department for Education requirements, this allows for deep packet inspection of traffic on the school's network. It does not monitor any traffic away from the school.

Information and Reminders

Whole School

- **Late Entry Testing for places at Borlase:** the window to apply for a late entry into September 2027 opens on 1 October - click [here](#) for full details. We will be testing for 12 additional spaces in Year 9 from September, 2027. Testing in Years 8 and 10 will be to join a waiting list.
- **Parent Parking:** When dropping and picking up your children, please would parents kindly not park in private areas like the car parks of Platt's Garage, the Hand and Flowers, or private driveways. We enjoy good relations with our neighbours and would like these to continue.
- **MFL Bake Off - European Day of Languages - Monday 5 October**
Please complete this [Form](#) to enter the annual MFL Bake Off, follow all the instructions.
Please bring your bakes to the Stuart Lever Room, along with the allergen form and a card with your cakes name/category and country (if applicable) from 08:10am - 08:30am **Monday 5 October**.
Judging will take place at break. *Please bring cash or card with you for the charity cake sale at lunch!*

Year 7

- **Year 7 Trip to Oliver! 13 January 2027:** [letter](#)
- **Year 7 Bushcraft Camping Trip, 14 - 16 June 2027:** [letter](#)
- **Year 7 Study visit to Windsor Castle, Friday 4 December 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Year 7 Strength and Conditioning Sessions – Autumn Term 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Year 7 Indoor Hockey - Autumn Term 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Year 7 [homework timetable](#)**
- **Whole School House Cross Country:** Monday 28 September [student info here](#) - participation is the main focus so that all new Year 7s experience a positive first inter-house competition.
- **Sports fixtures information** including team sheets can be found at www.swbgssport.com
- **PSHE topics being taught for** discussion at home: [curriculum map here](#)

Year 8

- **Year 8 Strength and Conditioning Sessions – Autumn Term 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Year 8 Indoor Hockey - Autumn Term 2026:** [letter](#)
- **PSHE topics being taught for** discussion at home: [curriculum map here](#)

Year 9

- **Year 9 Educational Visit to WW1 Sites in France and Belgium 8-10 June 2027, deadline extended to 1 October 2026:** [letter](#)
- **Bronze DofE Presentations:** [Here](#) and [Here](#)
- **Year 9 Science CGP Revision Resources:** [letter](#)
- **Year 9/10 MFL German:** [letter](#)
- **Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award:** [letter](#)
- **Year 9 Indoor Hockey - Autumn Term 2026:** [letter](#)

- PSHE - It Happens: [letter](#)
- PSHE topics being taught for discussion at home: [curriculum map here](#)

Year 10

- Year 10 Parents Information Evening [slides](#)
- Year 10 English Set Texts: [letter](#)
- Year 9/10 MFL German: [letter](#)
- Year 10 MFL Spanish: [letter](#)
- Year 10 MFL French: [letter](#)
- Year 10 Work Insight Day Update: [letter](#)
- Year 10 RS talk: Solutions Not Sides, 16 October 2026: [letter](#) **Deadline for payment 2 October**
- Duke of Edinburgh Presentations: [here](#) and [here](#)
- Year 10 Indoor Hockey - Autumn Term 2026: [letter](#)
- PSHE - It Happens: [letter](#)
- PSHE topics being taught for discussion at home: [curriculum map here](#)

Year 11

- Year 11 Parents Information Evening: [slides](#)
- Year 11 Indoor Hockey - Autumn Term 2026: [letter](#)
- PSHE - It Happens: [letter](#)
- Sixth Form Open Evening: Priority Bookings for Internal Students: [Letter](#)
- PSHE topics being taught for discussion at home: [curriculum map here](#)

Sixth Form

- Year 12/13 Indoor Hockey - Autumn Term 2026: [letter](#)
- PSHE - It Happens: [letter](#)

Year 12

- Year 12 Biology in Action, 9 November 2026: [letter](#)
- Year 12 Chemistry in Action, 9 December 2026: [letter](#)
- Year 12 French Trip to Provence, 12 - 15 March 2027: [letter](#)
- Year 12 German and History trip to Berlin, 29 January - 1 February 2027: [letter](#)
- Year 12 Spanish Trip to San Sebastián, 19 - 22 March 2027: [letter](#)
- Duke of Edinburgh Presentations: [here](#) and [here](#)

Year 13

- Year 13 *Poems of the Decade* Conference, 9 December 2026: [letter](#)
- Year 13 Parents' Information Evening: [slides](#)
- 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



Fancy a Coffee...? Us too!

For all the parents and carers who have come into school over the last three weeks for our Information Evenings, you know what this is about. Thank you to everyone who has kindly stepped up to support the school, by joining the Friends of Borlase, or by making a contribution to the **Here & Now** fund. We really mean it when we say "we can't do it without you."

For those who've meant to sign up and haven't got round to it, you can find all the information you need [here](#).

This Week at Borlase...



The sporting calendar is well under way and this week the focus is upon the rugby teams. Students across the age groups have been out on Colonel's Meadow, preparing for the season ahead. The 1st XV had been due to start their season at home but with the pitch too hard to play on, they headed into Richmond to meet Kneller Hall School which sits in the shadow of the Allianz Stadium, Twickenham. With no fear from their auspicious surroundings, Borlase ran out winners, 33-7, to progress into the National Plate.



On Tuesday, Year 7s gathered on the Astro to proudly show off their new Borlase Games shirts. The new colourway harks back to a school record from 1749 when 21 yards of blue cloth (£2 12s 6d) and 5 1/4 yards of scarlet cloth (6s 1/2d) were ordered, along with seven blue caps with tassels and string, for James Field to make uniforms for the seven new starters at Easter. The move for change was inspired by Ella's speech as a Year 7 about kit being a barrier to girls' participation in sport. While the boys' Games top is a subtle twist on the old style, the girls' Games top was designed by Colomba, now in Year 8.



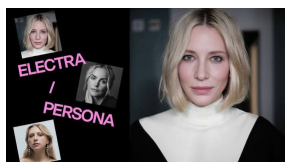
It has been another week of late nights. On Tuesday it was the Year 13 Information Evening with a great turnout as parents look ahead to the university and colleges application process and looming A Level exams as their children decide what they are going to do 'beyond Borlase'. For parents and carers at the other end of their secondary journey but facing a no-less-daunting transition, it was the Year 7 Open Evening on Wednesday evening. As ever, our students were our finest ambassadors with Year 8s and Year 12s guiding groups around the school with students from all years supporting in the different curriculum areas. Presenting with me in the Hall were our Captains, Adam and Aleeza, and also Jessie and Archie from Year 7 who prevailed from more than 60 entrants, judged by Mr Robertson. Below are a couple of the lovely comments we received from our grateful visitors:



- "Your students were all hugely welcoming and showcased the school fantastically. Our guides were lovely and engaged; their pride in the school and their education was clear."
- "So impressed. Blown away at how confident and articulate your students are."
- "The level of involvement and numbers of students keen to help and talk about the school. The facilities look great but the atmosphere and attitude of the students is what stood out, very impressive."
- "The energy and enthusiasm from staff and pupils... the year 8 pupils who guided us provided an excellent tour, really making an effort to check we had seen everything we wanted, telling us things they thought may be of interest, very pleasant, thoughtful and considerate."



With the Captains having visited our friends at the RGS High Wycombe on Monday for a Student Leadership Conference and the Sixth Form Drama students having seen Cate Blanchett in *Electra* on Thursday evening, it's been another full and fun week in school with everyone ready to rest up before Monday.



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