SIR WILLIAM BORLASE'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL
West Street, Marlow, Buckinghamshire, SL7 2BR
enquiries@swbgs.com
Telephone: 01628 816500
Headteacher: Mr E Goodall

Headteacher's Letter: 02 October 2026

Upcoming Events

Mon 5 Oct	MFL Bake Off
	GCSE Dance Set Phrase Exams
Tues 6 Oct	Year 13 History Trip to the National Archives and Hampton Court
Wed 7 Oct	Year 10/11 Drama Trip to Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime
Thur 8 Oct	Autumn Chamber Concert (tickets here)
Fri 9 Oct	Spanish Exchange Students Arrive, 9-17 October
Mon 12 Oct	Year 11 (staying safe at festivals) and 13 (next chapter) - ithappens 'Substances'
Tues 13 Oct	Year 7 Open Morning
Wed 14 Oct	Year 10 Spanish Exchange Joint Trip to London
Thur 15 Oct	Sixth Form Open Evening
Fri 16 Oct	Solutions not Sides Year 10, 12 and 13
	KS3 Restart a Heart Training
	Year 13 Washington and New York Trip, 16-24 October
	Half Term Starts at 3.30pm

The Friends of Borlase: Upcoming Events

Thu 8 October: **FoB AGM**, 7pm in "The Barn" at The Two Brewers pub, St Peter's Street
Fri 16 October: **The Laughing Chili Comedy Club at The Mountfield Theatre** - last 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

Information and Reminders

Whole School

- **Hockey Subscription 2026/27:** letter
- **Autumn Chamber Concert - Thursday 8 October, 7pm:** tickets letter here
  NB the Autumn Chamber Concert is not the same as our larger Autumn Concert, featuring our choirs and ensembles, which will take place in the Theatre in November
- **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.
- **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!*
- **Sports Fixtures and Teamsheets:** All details are here on the Borlase PE & Sport webpage
- **WhatsApp** problems - internetmatters general advice for parents. In particular issues with excessively large groups. Please see some general guidance from the school here.
- **Bucks Skills Hub:** '*Classroom to Careers*' September Newsletter for Parents and Students here
- **National Schools Equestrian Association:** Promoting Equestrian Sport across the UK. If you might be interested in the Just For Schools Competitions please read: Letter

Year 7

- **Year 7 Trip to *Oliver!* 13 January 2027:** letter
- **Tuesday 6 October we will be doing CAT testing** in the sportshall p1 to 4 with breaks as normal. No games that day so attend school in normal uniform. Students will need:
    1. Laptops (fully charged - and charger in case)
    2. Headphones that work with their laptop,
    3. A reading book (in case you finish early)

  They will attend lesson 5 as normal on their timetable so require equipment for that subject.
- **PSHE Online Risks -** We are exploring online risks in our PSHE lessons. Parents may find it useful to explore this with their child, looking at their green books and 'Online Risk Assessment' assignment
- **U12 Boys Rugby first fixture** - Tuesday 6th October. We are putting out a very large squad for our first game with the main objective being that *everyone* who has trained gets to play for the school in a contact game for the first time. This will reduce pitch time for most players. Parent support welcome!
- **Year 7 Boys' Rugby: W**e will have U12 A and B fixtures after half term. Match Info here
- **Bushcraft -** Thank you for your deposits - there is a flavour of our June trip to Penhurst Place here

Year 8

- **Year 8 Trip to *The Last Wild,* 23 February 2027:** letter

Year 9

- **Year 9/10 MFL German:** letter
- **Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award:** letter

Year 10

- **Year 9/10 MFL German:** letter
- **Year 10 MFL Spanish:** letter
- **Year 10 MFL French:** letter
- **PSHE - It Happens:** letter
- **Year 10 RS talk: Solutions Not Sides, 16 October 2026:** letter **Deadline for payment 5 October**
- **Year 10-13 Parent webinar *Revision Mastery*: supporting your child with their revision -** Wed 4 November 6-7pm (online). Led by *Exam Study Expert* founder William Wadsworth : Letter

Year 11

- **PSHE - It Happens:** letter
- **Year 10 Work Insight Day (from last year) Update:** letter
- **Prom support!** We have had a couple of Parents/Carer's register their interest in being part of the Prom committee. If you would like to be a part of the committee, please email Mr Holloran.
- **Year 10-13 Parent webinar *Revision Mastery*: supporting your child with their revision -** Wed 4 November 6-7pm (online). Led by *Exam Study Expert* founder William Wadsworth : Letter

Sixth Form

- **PSHE - It Happens:** letter
- **Sixth Form Bursary – view eligibility criteria and how to apply here**
- **Year 10-13 Parent webinar Revision Mastery:** supporting your child with their revision - Wed 4 November 6-7pm (online). Led by Exam Study Expert founder William Wadsworth : Letter

Year 12

- **Year 12 Biology in Action, 9 November 2026** *(reminder the deadline to sign up is 12 October)*: letter
- **Year 12 Chemistry in Action, 9 December 2026:** letter
- **Careers Guidance** - Your son or daughter can request a meeting with our external careers adviser by completing the request form found in the Sixth Form briefing

Year 13

- **Year 13 *Poems of the Decade* Conference, 9 December 2026:** letter
- **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...















Enjoying the glorious weather, we started this week with the extravaganza that is Whole School Cross Country. 1,250 Borlase students completed their laps of Higginson Park, choosing between the 2km and 5km course lengths to earn valuable points for their houses. While the ultimate aim is mass participation (which was achieved in spades), the course provided an opportunity for some of our talented runners to showcase their ability. Congratulations go to everyone who completed the distance, to Colin who completed the 5km course in a record 19 minutes and 11 seconds, and overall House winners, Britons!

In sport over the last 7 days, the netballers have been on court with the 1st VII winning their first Cup match against BCA last Friday to progress to the next round while the Year 7 A and B teams were in action at their seeding tournament before finding out who their competition will be, looking brilliant in their new Games tops. The field remains too hard for the football team to be out - it feels wrong to be hoping for rain - but the 1st XV made it very worthwhile travelling to Aylesbury Rugby Club to meet and defeat SIr Henry Floyd Grammar School 71-0!

Year 13 received their UCAS predictions last Friday and the Sixth Form team are now busily helping the 46 early applicants to Oxford and Cambridge universities, and 16 applicants for Dentistry, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Veterinary Science courses, and Music, Dance and Drama conservatoires. Good luck, All!

Mrs Norris delivered her first Chapel assemblies over the last fortnight reflecting on the thought “the more you know, the more interesting you are,” and whether this is actually what you read or what you experience and that actually, whether it is a sport, a subject, or a hobby project like maintaining a purple 1973 Triumph Spitfire, it is about being curious and interested that is most important.

Taking a new governor around, I was asked what I was most proud of about Borlase and my reply was the character and kindness of our students. In school, we see this daily - I was delighted to see our Year 12 Peer Mentors receive their training from Bucks Mind - and every so often we have it reported from a member of the public such as in the following email which I received earlier this week:

> *“I am a pensioner and was having difficulty getting out. I saw this very nice and well dressed pupil walking towards me and asked him if he could help me, his answer was, "Certainly, I will!" As I was driving off, I thanked him and said that he had a very smart tie. He told me he was in Year 12. I just wanted to pay a compliment about what a credit [he is] to your school.*
>
> *I am a retired PE teacher and taught for forty two years [and] feel it is very important to give credit when it is due and you can be very proud.”*

And finally, if you fancy a chance to get out and about this weekend, there is an exhibition at Higginson Park Museum by the leisure centre on “Marlow’s Mr Jazz”, Michael Eagleton. Look at the displays carefully and you’ll spot some of Michael’s memorabilia including a tie, sports cap, and photographs from his time as a student at Borlase.

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.