



# July Newsletter 2018



Dear Parents/Carers

Congratulations to students and staff on making it to the end of term; everybody deserves a well-earned break to refresh and come back in September ready to embrace the next academic year. Enjoy your time together as families. Information about the return to school in September is at the end of this newsletter. In the interim to help with your holiday reading I have collated a flavour of what has been happening at Borden since the Easter term that will be of interest to parents and students alike.

## School Captain and Senior Prefect Team: 2018-19

Following a rigorous process that incorporates nominations by staff and students combined with a formal interview we are pleased to announce that the senior prefect team for 2018/19 are:

- **School Captain** – Jordan Lindo
- **Vice Captains** – Harrison Popple & Richard Mills;
- **Senior Prefects** – Cat Macauley, Finley Smith, Marcus Louch, Jacob Diddams, Hattie Irving, Alister Tottle

## Borden Abroad!

**The Year 7 day trip to France:** In July 116 students went to France and experienced real French being used in action. Our Year 7 students went to Boulogne-Sur-Mer where they absolutely enjoyed a visit to the Sealife Centre, Nausicaa. Also they were detectives looking for clues in the town trail in the centre of Boulogne, where they were able to speak in French to the locals and they were also in contact with real French food in La Cité Europe. The highlight of the trip was the enjoyment and high spirits of the students who felt part of another culture for a day. As one of the students said on the day "France is so nice, I am glad I came on this trip". I would like to thank all of the staff who accompanied Miss Ortega on the trip – which would not have been possible without them: Mrs Frost, Mrs Edwards, Mrs Westby, Miss Bailliez, Mr Robbins, Mrs Gillman, Mrs Zarzycki, Mr Lindo and Mr Finch.



**The History Department:** On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June, seventy Year 9 students embarked on a two day tour of the World War 1 battlefields of Ypres and the Somme. Having been studying the topic earlier in the academic year it was an excellent opportunity for to experience and reflect upon the consequences of war. Having started the first day of the tour at the Hooze Crater Museum in Flanders Fields, they made a series of pilgrimages to the cemeteries of three of our students' relatives. As the tour continued of the Ypres area the Langemark cemetery was visited, one of only four First World War German cemeteries in the Flanders Region before visiting the famous Tyne Cot Cemetery in Ypres, with approximately 34,000 names of British and New Zealand soldiers.



The graveyard of Tyne Cot provided all with a powerful sense of the immense loss of life in the war, and with a careful study of the individual gravestones the students were given clear insight of the experiences of individuals and families. The day ended by going to the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres, a very moving tribute to the courage and self-sacrifice of soldiers who died in defence of their town, and became an excellent opportunity for students to reflect upon what they had seen and experienced during the course of the day.

On the second day of the tour, students travelled to the Somme, the location of one of the bloodiest battles of the war, via a memorial to the Christmas Day truce of 1914. Here the story of Sunken Lane on the first day of the Battle of the Somme, 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916, was told and the events of that day were easy to visualise. The boys were literally able to walk in the footsteps of the British soldiers before them which made it even more shocking to consider the extraordinary suffering that occurred there almost a hundred years ago. The tour concluded with a visit to the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme, a memorial to 72,246 missing British and Commonwealth servicemen who died during the Battle. Thank you to Mr White for leading the trip and the support provided by Mrs Collins, Miss Bateman, Miss Voutsinou, Mr Finch and Mr Hopkins.



### **Year 10 Spanish Trip:**

The Year 10 Barcelona trip saw a whopping 59 students soak up the language, culture and sunshine of the region in March this year, giving the boys an opportunity to use their classroom language skills in real life situations. Visits included the Nou Camp football stadium, the Formula 1 circuit and the ever-popular Port Aventura theme park. Trip leader Mrs Frost would like to thank Mr Artingstoll, Miss Ortega, Mr Reynolds, Mrs Edwards and Mr Dale for helping to ensure the success of this visit.

### **Borden at Home!**

**Personal Development:** Many year groups have been fortunate to have external visitors come in and speak in their lessons this year speaking on issues including the Teenage Cancer Trust, The University of Kent and The Kenward Trust. This continued through the summer term with visits from local magistrates who spoke not only about their roles, but also gave students an insight into a real-life cyber-bullying case and the

consequences of actions. Kent Fire and Rescue Service are also part of our programme of visitors. Thank you to Mrs Mahoney for her role in enabling such events to occur.

**Geography Trip to Cornwall:** This year's GCSE Geography field-trip once again returned to Cornwall, focusing on the coastal landscapes of the Godrevy coast and the £85 million regeneration of Falmouth. Monday was spent in Falmouth, undertaking a range of urban fieldwork to assess the impact of the recent harbour regeneration. In contrast to last year's torrential rain, the beautiful weather also allowed a comprehensive survey into the range of Cornish ice cream available! Tuesday morning was spent at Godrevy beach, completing beach profiles and sediment samples, before a sunny afternoon walk along part of the South West coastal path, observing the contrasting coastal landscapes and features. The walk finished at Hell's Mouth Café for some much needed refreshment (more ice cream!) before returning to Truro School in time to see who England would be playing in the World Cup final (Oh well!). Thanks to the support of Mr French, Mr Finch and Mr Phillips, as well as Mrs Wormald (Head of Geography at The Truro School) for ensuring some excellent quality fieldwork was completed.

**BBC Radio 2 500 Words:** The English Department were delighted (and very jealous!) to learn that one of their Year 8 students, Red Beswick, had been allocated tickets to attend the final of the BBC competition, held at Hampton Court Palace. It proved to be an extremely exciting day out and Red got to see David Walliams read aloud one of the final winning stories, along with Charlie Higson and Malorie Blackman - both authors that Red admires. John Newman provided live entertainment and Chris Evans hosted with his usual enthusiasm. Red said of the day, "I was really excited to learn I'd got tickets and despite a very early start to the day (we had to be at Hampton Court Palace at 5:30 am!) the atmosphere was incredible and quite funny with all the jokes being told by Chris Evans. I would highly recommend the day to anyone - if you get the chance!"

**Sixth Form: Thinking about the future.** It has been a busy time for our Year 12 students. Having recently finished internal mock examinations, they have turned their attention to their lives and careers beyond Borden. Having attended a **Higher Education Conference** at the Kent Event Centre in April, students spent a day at school focussed on the UCAS application process and developing their own application statements. This coincided with many of our 6<sup>th</sup> form students attending open days at universities around the country as they begin to plan their futures in detail. We also took a group of students to an **Apprenticeship Fair**, again at the Kent Event Centre, where students were able to visit employers in groups and talk about pathways in to a wide range of careers. Most of the year group found excellent work shadowing placements in organisations as far afield as Dubai, the City of London, as well as many local businesses and schools. Feedback from a number of these organisations suggests that our students represented themselves and the school extremely well and learnt a great deal about the skills required in the workplace.

**Students studying GCSE Religious Studies** visited Sittingbourne's Islamic Centre. It was an invaluable insight into the beliefs and practices of Islam in preparation for their exams in 2019! 'Students were a credit to themselves and have laid the foundations for future trips' according to Mr Sherwood-Farnfield. The centre even provided Halal snacks and literature as gifts.

### **Borden's Competitive Edge!**

**Year 9 Business of Enterprise:** This term all of Year 9 have been involved in the annual Business of Enterprise project, forming small companies, developing a product or service and presenting their ideas in school to local business leaders. From over 200 companies across Kent, one of our groups from Borden made the Grand Final at the Royal Bank of Scotland in Bishopsgate. The company, 'Mod-Uka', consisted of students from 9AP: Luca Ascheri, Justin Stephenson, Zak Robinson, Ifeoluwa Odesola, Logan Dootson, and William Bassant who developed a modular phone case. Their product was a "smart" case in which you can connect modules in order to enhance your mobile phone usage in terms of storage, battery light and sound, their work included two very impressive working models. The team presented last and literally had

the judges at the edge of their seats. At the end of the presentation, they received the loudest applause from the judges. The Chairman – Luca Ascheri in particular was tremendous in his delivery. The team won the prize for the Best Oral Presentation, a superb achievement.

In addition the team that finished as runners-up in Borden's own in-school competition – 'Ani Inc' - went on to represent the school at the regional final at Cummins Power Generation in Ramsgate. Although they didn't win any of the three prizes, the judges were impressed with their presentation and overall business concept. The team came from 9CH and was composed of Jack Procter, Ethan Rotter, Jadem Durmaz, Cameron Bruce, Joshua Lawry, and Harry Ansley. The standard of competition increases year-on-year and the boys can be proud of their achievements and confidence displayed in presenting their business plans so well. Congratulations to all boys and staff involved, particularly Mr Artingstoll, Mrs Gillman & Mr Lindo!

**Sports Day 2018 Review:** Last week was the time for all students to represent their houses in Borden's annual Sports Day. This year's competition was a close run affair with overall winners Wembley House who pick up the trophy for the first time in seven years.

The day featured a number of Track and Field events featuring three students from each house within each event and was a hotly contested competition. Students competed admirably in the events throughout the day impressing with their efforts and performances were a credit to their houses. When students were not competing they supported each other well. Increased parental support was also welcome. The Victor Ludorum Trophies, that are awarded to the 'stand out' performer from KS3 and KS4, were awarded to George Murphy in the Junior section and Ethan Gear for the Seniors, both of whom competed in three events with outstanding results. The Handball and Hockey competitions were also fiercely competitive with a large number of students representing their houses. The standard of the Handball was particularly high this year and was testament to the hard work of staff and students in lessons this year.

#### Sports Day Final Standings

<i>Overall Standings</i>		
House	Points	Position
<b>Wembley</b>	<b>3227</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Wimbledon</b>	<b>2908</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Twickenham</b>	<b>2692</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Lords</b>	<b>2640</b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Year 7 Standings</i>	
House	Position
<b>Wembley</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Twickenham</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Wimbledon</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Lords</b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Year 8 Standings</i>	
House	Position
<b>Wembley</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Lords</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Wimbledon</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Twickenham</b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Year 9 Standings</i>	
House	Position
<b>Wimbledon</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Wembley</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Twickenham</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Lords</b>	<b>4</b>

<i>Year 10 Standings</i>	
House	Position
<b>Lords</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Twickenham</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Wimbledon</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Wembley</b>	<b>4</b>

**Cricket:** As with last year, cup performances were a little disappointing this year only Year 7 reached the second round of the Kent cup beating Harvey Grammar on the way, with a number of promising performances in some friendly fixtures as well. An honourable mention for Jude McBeath, Alex Knight and Reece Porter who all contributed with strong performances. All other year groups performed well in friendly fixtures as well as in the new District 'Big Bash' that was organised and hosted by Borden.

**Athletics:** Athletes from Years 7-11 competed very well over a number of district competitions this year. All teams from the school finished top in their competitions throughout the season and a number of students gained district nominations to compete in the Kent Schools Championship. A number of boys gained district recognition including Hayden Gear Year 7, Ethan Gear in Year 9 and Luke Stringer in Year 10. Ben Smith from Year 11 also made the district standard in Javelin.

**Football:** Congratulations to Alex Green who has been selected to represent Kent U16 next season.

**Farewell to Borden!** It is always sad to say farewell to staff and the following teachers and support staff are leaving this summer. They are summarised in an order that reflects the years of service given to the school:

- Miss Ortega has worked at Borden for ten years. In that time she has taught within the MFL Department and helped to make Spanish a thriving subject. As a school we have appreciated all of the trips that she has led and her work as a Pastoral Learning Manager. We congratulate Miss Ortega on securing a promotion to become Head of MFL at another grammar school, it is much deserved and she leaves with our warmest wishes.
- Miss Jones has worked at Borden for just under two years as a Science teacher.
- Mr Lillywhite, the Biology Technician, has also been at Borden for two years and is returning to university to pursue his post-graduate qualification.

Thank you to all of our colleagues for their contribution to Borden, we wish you well.

**Arriving at Borden!** In September we will welcome the following teaching staff:

- In Mathematics, Mr Masindo
- In Science, Mr Darby-Clarke
- In MFL: Miss Lopez-Bonilla
- As a Science Technician: Mrs Collins
- In addition Mrs Edwards will become a Pastoral Learning Manager in KS4 (Head of Year 10)
  
- **Money:** Students are not advised to carry significant sums of money about their person. Staff cannot take money to look after that students might be going to spend after school. With over 800 students and 100 staff not everyone might be as honest as you; blazer pockets are no substitute for a locker. Moreover the safest place to keep anything valuable is at home!
  
- A reminder that all **school trip payments** can be made online and if your child does bring in money to school to pay an instalment for a trip they must go to the Finance Office in person.
  
- **New Uniform:** If students need specific uniform all Borden uniform can now be purchased from Forster's School Outfitters, 17/19 East Street Sittingbourne ME10 4BQ telephone 01795 472947 or via their website [www.forsterskent.co.uk](http://www.forsterskent.co.uk) .

**Finally:** Senior staff will be in school for A Level Results on Thursday 16 August and GCSE results on Thursday 23 August 2018 to advise students appropriately.

**Key dates for return in September:**

- Staff return on Monday 3 September for a Staff Development Day (SDD1);
- Year 12 registration occurs from 12.30pm on Monday 3 September for those students needing to amend courses / receive additional guidance (see information on results day for timings);
- Year 7 start at 8:45am on Tuesday 4 September;
- Year 8 - 13 return on Wednesday 5 September and register at 8:45am;
- Staff Development Day 2: Friday 28 September;
- Last day of term in Term 6: Friday 19 July 2019.

As ever, we appreciate the overriding support of parents but Borden is officially out for summer!

***J Hopkins: July 2018***