



## July Newsletter 2019

**Dear Parents/Carers**

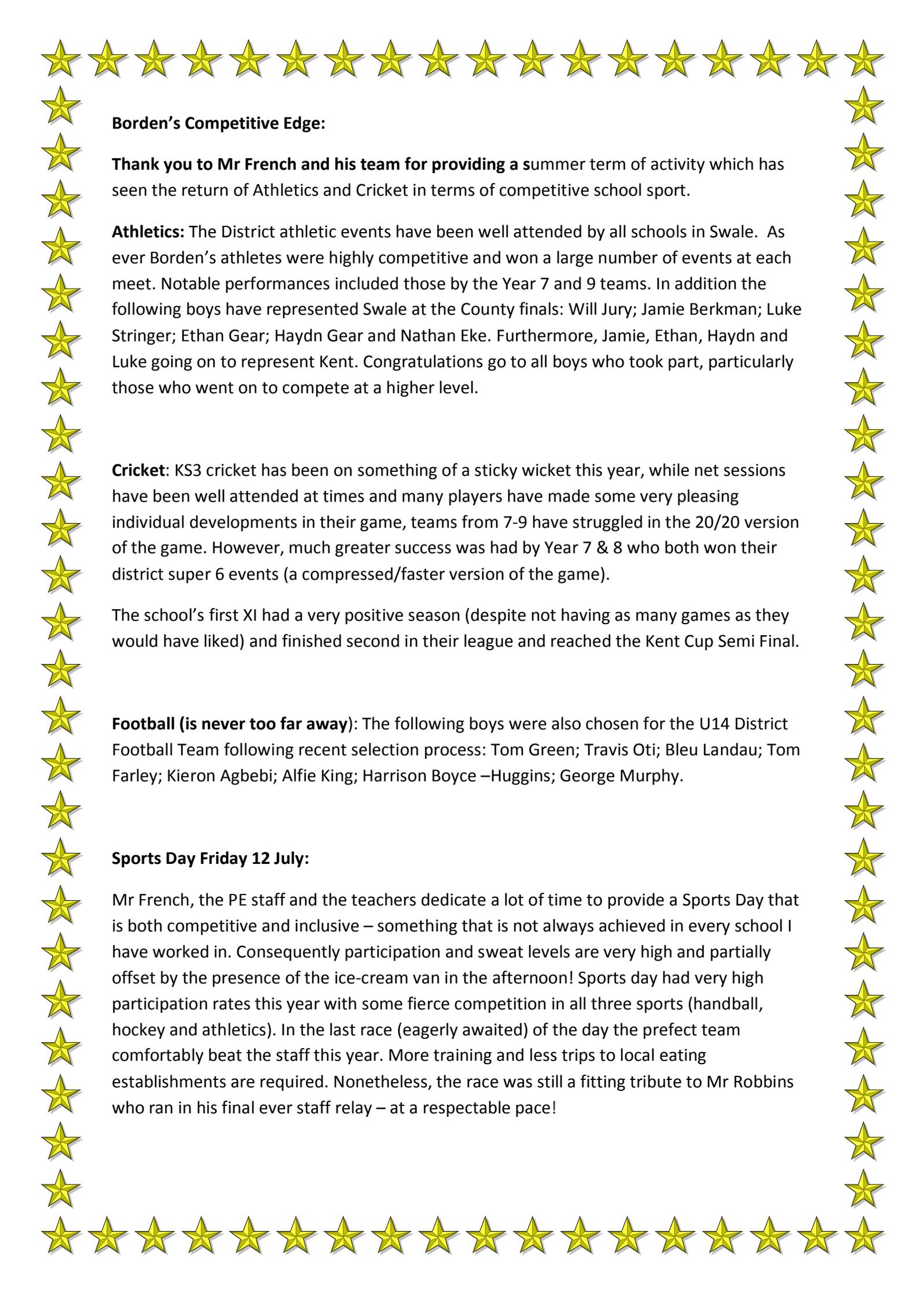
Congratulations to students and staff on making it to the end of term; everybody deserves a well-earned break to refresh and come back in September ready to embrace the next academic year. Information about the return to school in September is at the end of this newsletter. In the interim, to help with 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. Enjoy your time together as families.

**School Captain and Senior Prefect Team 2019- 20.** Following our interview process and feedback from staff and students alike I am pleased to confirm that the senior student team will be comprised of the following students:

- **School Captain:** Luke Franks
- **Vice Captains:** Lucas Fox; Harry Mendoza
- **Senior Prefects:** Leroy Boateng; Kieran Hurwood; Harvey Polhill; Joseph Vandeeper; Nathan Wrigglesworth.

**Changes to the timings of the school day.** Following our consultation earlier in the year a reminder of the new timings that the school day will have from September 2019:

Aspect of the School Day	Time
Morning Registration	8:45am
Assembly or form time	8:50am
Period 1	9:05am
Period 2	10:20am
Breaktime	11:35am
Period 3	11:55am
Lunchbreak	1:10pm
Afternoon Registration	1:55pm
Period 4	2:00pm
School finishes	3:15pm



**Borden's Competitive Edge:**

**Thank you to Mr French and his team for providing a summer term of activity which has seen the return of Athletics and Cricket in terms of competitive school sport.**

**Athletics:** The District athletic events have been well attended by all schools in Swale. As ever Borden's athletes were highly competitive and won a large number of events at each meet. Notable performances included those by the Year 7 and 9 teams. In addition the following boys have represented Swale at the County finals: Will Jury; Jamie Berkman; Luke Stringer; Ethan Gear; Haydn Gear and Nathan Eke. Furthermore, Jamie, Ethan, Haydn and Luke going on to represent Kent. Congratulations go to all boys who took part, particularly those who went on to compete at a higher level.

**Cricket:** KS3 cricket has been on something of a sticky wicket this year, while net sessions have been well attended at times and many players have made some very pleasing individual developments in their game, teams from 7-9 have struggled in the 20/20 version of the game. However, much greater success was had by Year 7 & 8 who both won their district super 6 events (a compressed/faster version of the game).

The school's first XI had a very positive season (despite not having as many games as they would have liked) and finished second in their league and reached the Kent Cup Semi Final.

**Football (is never too far away):** The following boys were also chosen for the U14 District Football Team following recent selection process: Tom Green; Travis Oti; Bleu Landau; Tom Farley; Kieron Agbebi; Alfie King; Harrison Boyce –Huggins; George Murphy.

**Sports Day Friday 12 July:**

Mr French, the PE staff and the teachers dedicate a lot of time to provide a Sports Day that is both competitive and inclusive – something that is not always achieved in every school I have worked in. Consequently participation and sweat levels are very high and partially offset by the presence of the ice-cream van in the afternoon! Sports day had very high participation rates this year with some fierce competition in all three sports (handball, hockey and athletics). In the last race (eagerly awaited) of the day the prefect team comfortably beat the staff this year. More training and less trips to local eating establishments are required. Nonetheless, the race was still a fitting tribute to Mr Robbins who ran in his final ever staff relay – at a respectable pace!

<b>Year 7:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Twick 1033	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wemb 720	3 <sup>rd</sup> Lords 601	4 <sup>th</sup> Wimb 524
<b>Year 8:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Twick 1032	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wemb 827	3 <sup>rd</sup> Lords 522	4 <sup>th</sup> Wimb 510
<b>Year 9:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Wemb 918	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lords 720	3 <sup>rd</sup> Twick 634	4 <sup>th</sup> Wimb 623
<b>Year 10:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Wemb 1020	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wimb 822	3 <sup>rd</sup> Lords 597	4 <sup>th</sup> Twick 382
<b>Overall:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Wemb: 3486	2 <sup>nd</sup> Twick: 3081	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wimb: 2478	4 <sup>th</sup> Lords: 2440

### Victor Ludorum Trophy winners for all round excellence on sports day:

- Year 7 & 8 nominations were Haydn Gear Year 8 / Ife Fadipe and Tumi Jacobs Year 7  
**Winner:** Haydn Gear.
- Year 9/ 10: Nominations were: Ethan Gear Year 10 / Femi Kuku Year 10 / Ifeanyi Okoro Year 10 / George Murphy Year 9. **Winner:** Ifeanyi Okoro Year 10

On behalf of the PE department please can I take this opportunity to remind parents to make sure that PE/Games kit is in good order for the start of next year.

### Borden's Competitive Business 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, 'Night Era', consisted of students from 9PAL: Max Eshelby, Harry Searle-Dighton, Joe Mital, Chandler Dixon, Alfie King and Kyle Harris, who developed a product in the market which deals with the problem of sleep deprivation - which effects up to 67% of the UK population. Their product was a Night Box, which consists of four sample teabags of different flavours, an eye mask, six sample incense sticks, meditation plan, and a list of food that aids sleep. The judges were particularly impressed with the idea of the huge potential of the Night Box being used in the Gift Market. Team members presented confidently without reading from scripts, and won the prize for the Best Enterprising Idea, a superb achievement!

In addition the team that finished as runners-up, also from 9PAL, in Borden's own competition "AstroGlow" went on to represent the school at the regional final at Cummins Power Generation in Ramsgate. The team was composed of Joe Potter, Will Moody, Sean Breslin, Coran Croughton and Tom Farley. They were the first team to present; and at the end of the day, they walked away with the Best Enterprising Idea Trophy! The concept of emergency lights, which can be used in indoor sports halls, town halls, other institutions, as well as, in saving lives in high tower private dwellings (such as Grenfell Tower). Coran Croughton, in



particular, was fantastic in responding to technical questions from the judges relating to the prototype.

Both our teams supported each other with a “one team approach,” and they both did exceptionally well this year. The standard of competition increases year-on-year and the boys can be justly proud of their achievements and confidence displayed in presenting their business plans so well. Congratulations to all boys and staff involved. Thank you to Luca Ascheri Y10, last year's team captain of best oral presentation trophy winner, who did a couple of sessions with the teams.

Can I particularly thank Mr Lindo and Mr Weller who were ably supported by Mr Artingstoll and Miss Andrews-Lucas in their organisation of Year 9.

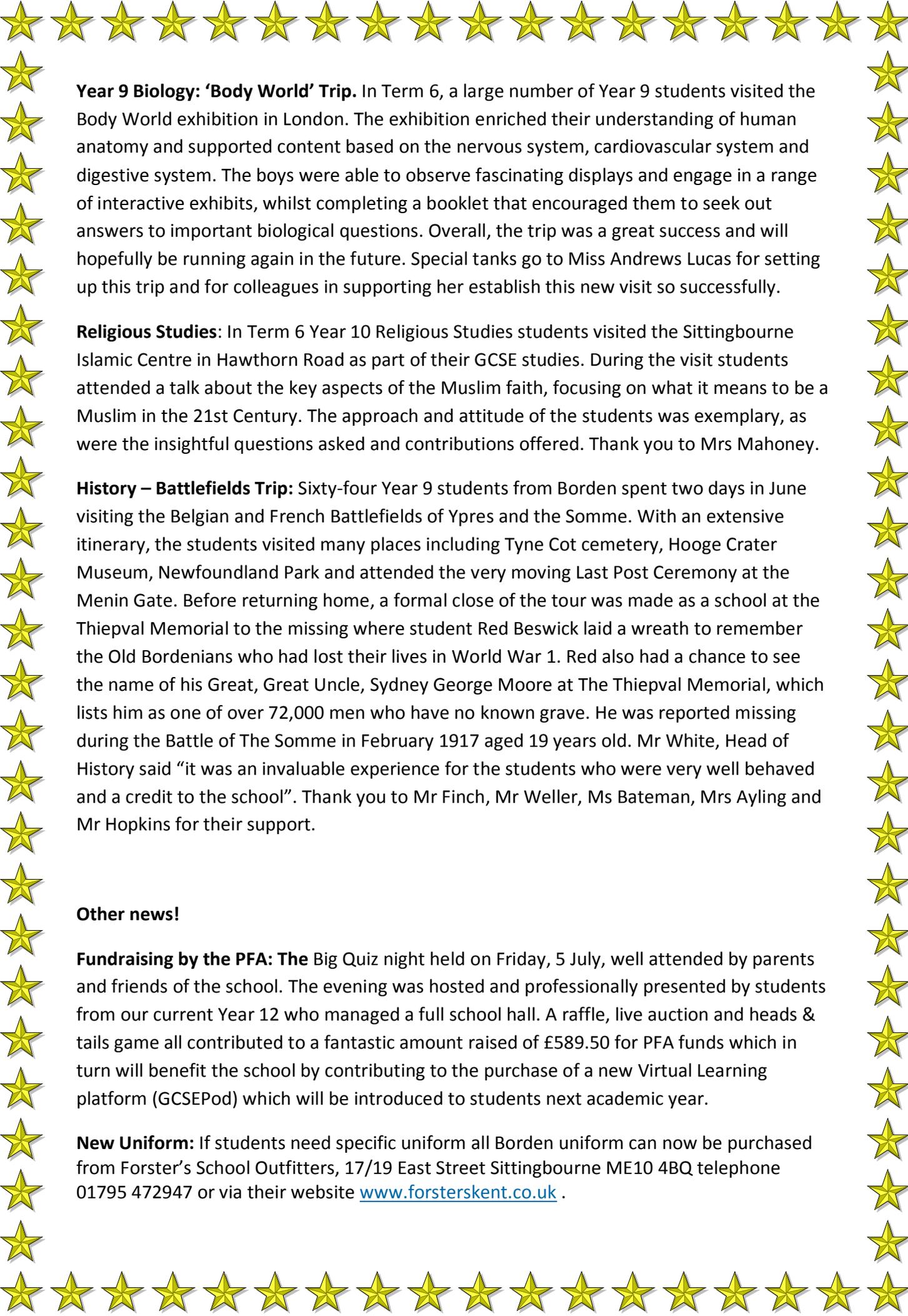
### **Learning outside of the classroom!**

In April, **Geography and Art & Photography Sixth Form students** spent four days in Italy. During their stay the students climbed Mount Vesuvius (that famously erupted in AD79, killing thousands of people). They also visited the Roman City of Pompeii, which was submerged by a thick layer of volcanic material from the eruption and is one of the most significant proofs of Roman civilization. The students took a boat to the beautiful Island of Capri to explore the caves and observe the coastline, visited several museums and ended the trip with a visit to the Catacombs of Naples. The trip allowed students to gain first-hand experience of subject material that will be beneficial to their courses and exams.

Our thanks are extended to Mr Williams for organising the trip and Miss Ormiston and Mrs Ayling for their help and support.

In July, **Year 10 Geography students** spent two days carrying out fieldwork in Canterbury and Reculver as part of their GCSE studies. The Canterbury trip, organised by Mr Whiting, saw students collecting a range of data to compare quality of life in contrasting locations in the city, as well as assessing the retail quality and success of the Whitefriars regeneration scheme. The Reculver trip, organised by Mr Williams, focused on the methods of coastal defence found in the area, assessing the success and justification for the defences. Both trips allowed students the opportunity to test theories and collect data which will be a key part of their GCSE UK paper next summer.

Again our thanks go to Mr Whiting and Mr Williams for organising the trips and also to Mrs Smith, Mrs Collinson and Mrs Gillman for their help and support.



**Year 9 Biology: 'Body World' Trip.** In Term 6, a large number of Year 9 students visited the Body World exhibition in London. The exhibition enriched their understanding of human anatomy and supported content based on the nervous system, cardiovascular system and digestive system. The boys were able to observe fascinating displays and engage in a range of interactive exhibits, whilst completing a booklet that encouraged them to seek out answers to important biological questions. Overall, the trip was a great success and will hopefully be running again in the future. Special tanks go to Miss Andrews Lucas for setting up this trip and for colleagues in supporting her establish this new visit so successfully.

**Religious Studies:** In Term 6 Year 10 Religious Studies students visited the Sittingbourne Islamic Centre in Hawthorn Road as part of their GCSE studies. During the visit students attended a talk about the key aspects of the Muslim faith, focusing on what it means to be a Muslim in the 21st Century. The approach and attitude of the students was exemplary, as were the insightful questions asked and contributions offered. Thank you to Mrs Mahoney.

**History – Battlefields Trip:** Sixty-four Year 9 students from Borden spent two days in June visiting the Belgian and French Battlefields of Ypres and the Somme. With an extensive itinerary, the students visited many places including Tyne Cot cemetery, Hooge Crater Museum, Newfoundland Park and attended the very moving Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate. Before returning home, a formal close of the tour was made as a school at the Thiepval Memorial to the missing where student Red Beswick laid a wreath to remember the Old Bordenians who had lost their lives in World War 1. Red also had a chance to see the name of his Great, Great Uncle, Sydney George Moore at The Thiepval Memorial, which lists him as one of over 72,000 men who have no known grave. He was reported missing during the Battle of The Somme in February 1917 aged 19 years old. Mr White, Head of History said “it was an invaluable experience for the students who were very well behaved and a credit to the school”. Thank you to Mr Finch, Mr Weller, Ms Bateman, Mrs Ayling and Mr Hopkins for their support.

#### **Other news!**

**Fundraising by the PFA:** The Big Quiz night held on Friday, 5 July, well attended by parents and friends of the school. The evening was hosted and professionally presented by students from our current Year 12 who managed a full school hall. A raffle, live auction and heads & tails game all contributed to a fantastic amount raised of £589.50 for PFA funds which in turn will benefit the school by contributing to the purchase of a new Virtual Learning platform (GCSEPod) which will be introduced to students next academic year.

**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) .



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

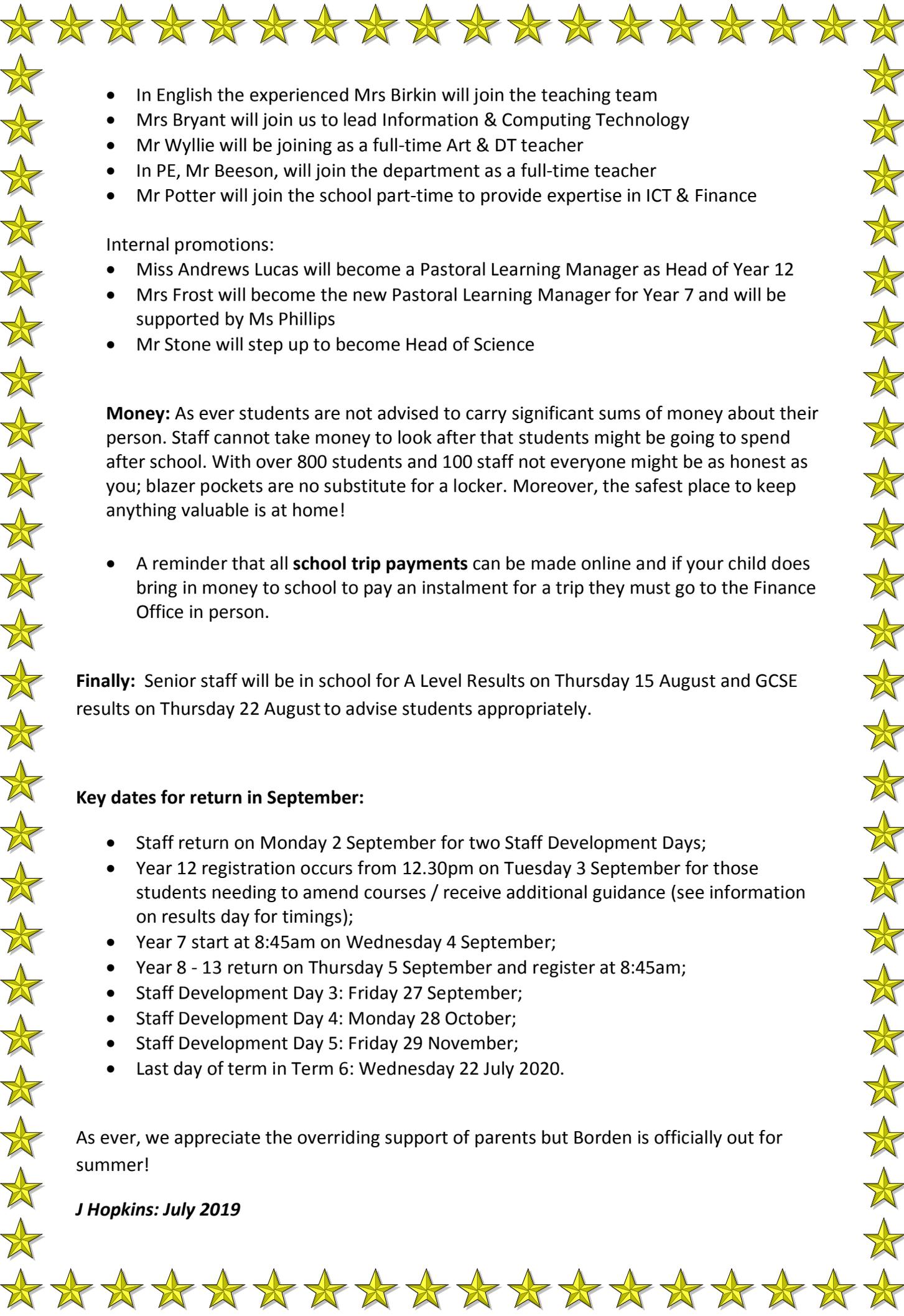
- Mr Robbins has served Borden extremely well for....38 years! He is entering the well-deserved phase of life inaccurately called 'retirement' when for Mr Robbins new adventures begin! In his time at Borden Mr Robbins has led departments and year groups and has provided invaluable support to the Leadership Group, colleagues, students and parents alike. Mr Robbins has taught Mathematics, PE, RE and Physics. Outside of the classroom he has led pantomimes, organised and supported countless trips and visits and helped to lead the Christian Union. Mr Robbins has put so much into the lives of thousands of youngsters, many of whom still ask to see him when they visit the school now on Open Evenings for their respective children.
- Dr Al-Mudaris does not like a lot of fuss and attention but has inspired countless students with his passion for teaching Chemistry over the past 18 years. In his leaving speech Dr Green referenced how 'there isn't anything about Chemistry that Dr Al-Mudaris doesn't know' - so extensive is his knowledge. The school appreciates the commitment he has shown to both staff and students alike. We wish him well.
- Mr Phillips has taught Business and ICT at Borden for 10 years. In particular he has established ICT successfully within the curriculum where it is always popular at GCSE and Advanced Level. Mr Phillips is off to pursue new adventures, probably abroad.
- Dr Green was the first member of staff that Mr Hopkins promoted six years ago and is now paying the price for his expertise and professionalism! After initially training to teach at Borden, Dr 'Prof' Green has taught Chemistry for seven years with distinction. He has been a very effective Head of Year in the Sixth Form team and is receiving a well-deserved promotion as he becomes Head of Department at a Kent grammar school close to where he lives in Thanet.
- Mrs Pennells has taught Art, DT & Photography part-time for two years and is leaving to take up a new teaching post at her old school.
- Mr Grant has taught Mathematics for two years and is leaving teaching to take up a new career with Kent police.

The school also appreciates the contribution of two long-term supply teachers Ms Nasim and Mr Coyle who have thrown themselves wholeheartedly into supporting the Science and PE departments respectively.

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 Swaffer returns and will also be Head of Year 8
- In Science, Ms Liang will bring new expertise to Chemistry and Mr R Phillips will be joining as a Physics teacher. Mrs Williamson will also join us bringing much needed experience as she works four days a week as a Science teacher.

- 
- In English the experienced Mrs Birkin will join the teaching team
  - Mrs Bryant will join us to lead Information & Computing Technology
  - Mr Wyllie will be joining as a full-time Art & DT teacher
  - In PE, Mr Beeson, will join the department as a full-time teacher
  - Mr Potter will join the school part-time to provide expertise in ICT & Finance

Internal promotions:

- Miss Andrews Lucas will become a Pastoral Learning Manager as Head of Year 12
- Mrs Frost will become the new Pastoral Learning Manager for Year 7 and will be supported by Ms Phillips
- Mr Stone will step up to become Head of Science

**Money:** As ever 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.

**Finally:** Senior staff will be in school for A Level Results on Thursday 15 August and GCSE results on Thursday 22 August to advise students appropriately.

**Key dates for return in September:**

- Staff return on Monday 2 September for two Staff Development Days;
- Year 12 registration occurs from 12.30pm on Tuesday 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 Wednesday 4 September;
- Year 8 - 13 return on Thursday 5 September and register at 8:45am;
- Staff Development Day 3: Friday 27 September;
- Staff Development Day 4: Monday 28 October;
- Staff Development Day 5: Friday 29 November;
- Last day of term in Term 6: Wednesday 22 July 2020.

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

*J Hopkins: July 2019*