



BOROUGHMUIR HIGH SCHOOL

Parent Council - Head Teacher's Report – January 2019

Our Vision

To ensure a confident, nurturing & inclusive learning community where ALL achieve their true potential & embrace life's challenges.

A Happy New Year to all our pupils, parents and staff!

Staffing

Mr Shane O'Hagan from Leith Academy took up the post of teacher of Drama on 8th January
Ms Laurie Adair took up the post of teacher of Support for Learning on 14th January.
Megan Burris - new Pupil Support Asst started on 8th January
Alli Madison – temporary clerical assistant started on 8th January
Lucas Fois- temporary librarian starts on 14th Jan to cover for Ms Aleksandrowicz during her secondment

Boroughmuir High School - Sunday Times Scottish State Secondary School of the Year 2018

We are delighted that Boroughmuir has been named as the Sunday Times Scottish State Secondary School of the Year 2018.

There are 360 state secondary schools in Scotland. To be named as Scottish State Secondary School of the Year for the 2nd time in 6 years is a wonderful accolade for the school and reflects on the incredible hard work and commitment that all our staff, pupils, parents, former pupils and partners put into making our school the great school that it is.

We should all be very proud indeed. Thank you all.

On the 18th December we received a letter from the Lord Provost of Edinburgh on behalf of the citizens of Edinburgh congratulating all in our school community on this incredible accolade.

A copy of this letter is on the front page of our web site.

<http://boroughmuirhighschool.org/>

BLT – Boroughmuir Learning and Teaching

The 9th edition of our newsletter, Boroughmuir Learning and Teaching (BLT), has been placed on our website in the News and Events section.

It is a showcase of the many great teaching and learning strategies and events that go on day in day out in the school.

Have a look via the link below.

<http://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/BLT-9-Website.pdf>

Christmas Concert

Our annual Christmas concert took place again this year in Central Hall, Tollcross on Monday 17th December. It was as always a spectacular event with over 350 performers from Boroughmuir and for the second time primary pupils from our 3 feeder primaries. The audience topped 700!

The level of musical talent was incredible and all those who were there loved every minute.

Well done to all involved – especially Mrs Clegg, our Head of Music, who coordinated and directed the whole event.

S4 Prefects

Every year during S5/6 exam leave we invite S4 pupils to take over prefect duties during the S5/6 prelim exam diet. This involves S4 pupils helping with corridor and atrium supervision as well as representing the school at evening events. This year we are pleased to repeat this highly successful and popular opportunity again and I am delighted that over 40 of our S4 have volunteered to take on these duties.

S5/6 Prelims

Can I wish all our S5/6 pupils who are sitting Higher and Advanced Higher prelims in the period 11th– 25th January all the very best of luck.

Prelims are an essential part of the preparation for the final exams and all pupils need to use this experience to identify their strengths and weaknesses in subject areas and to take appropriate action.

S4 Parents Evening

Wednesday 16th January in the school atrium floor 4.30 – 7.00pm.

S4/5 Course Choice

Pupils in S4 and S5 will soon be making choices for their future study. Two information sessions are organised to inform parents of the process involved. They are:

- | | | |
|-------|---|-------------------------------------------------------|
| S4→S5 | - | Thursday 21 February 6.30 – 7.15 in the Assembly Hall |
| S5→S6 | - | Thursday 21 February 7.30 – 8.15 in the Assembly Hall |

Mr Cifelli (DHT S3/4) and Mrs Paterson (DHT S5/6) will facilitate these sessions. I will also be present at both sessions. I hope parents of pupils in these year groups will manage along to what is always a very informative evening.

S2 Personalisation and Choice

Our S2 pupils will soon be embarking upon the process of choosing their S3 curriculum.

This is part of their personalisation and choice and will reduce the number of subjects they study from 14 in a week to a maximum of 8. Pupils will at some point in S3, and by the start of S4 at the very latest, embark upon their study of National Qualification (NQ) at levels appropriate to their ability.

NQs are completed by the end of S4.

Parents of pupils in S2 are invited to attend an information evening on the S2 course choice process on Thursday 28th February and will receive extensive information on the process to go along with information contained in the S2 pupil progress reports.

Dress Code and Timekeeping

I appreciate your support in ensuring your children adhere to our dress code policy and ensuring your children get to school on time for an 8.32 start.

- *Formal black skirt/trousers*
- *Formal white shirt*
- *Black V neck jumper*
- *S1-4 Boroughmuir striped tie*
- *S5/ 6 Boroughmuir crested tie*
- *Formal black shoes*
- *Black Blazer*

Can I remind you that our supplier of embroidered blazers are Aitken & Niven, 6 Falcon Road West EH10 4AQ.

We also carry a stock of sew on blazer badges in the Finance Office (£3.00) if you wish to buy a plain black blazer from another outlet. Blazers are integral for all year groups.

PE kit: We are requesting that PE kit be a 'Boroughmuir Green' crested t-shirt and Navy tracksuit bottoms/ shirt/skirt.

FP Association (BPFA)

Joining the Boroughmuir Former Pupils Association is easy!

For more information and instructions on how to join go to their website at

<http://www.boroughmuirhighschoolfpa.co.uk/>

They are great supporters of the school and are always looking for new members.

The FP association are having their annual Burn's supper in the school this year. It's sure to be a great occasion. Check out their website for ticket information.

Parent Council

Can I take this opportunity to thank the members of the Parent Council for the huge amount of work they do in supporting the school. This organisation is extremely active in the life of the school and are always keen to hear from new parent helpers.

The school calendar gives dates of Parent Council meetings.

The Parent Council website (www.Boroughmuir.org) is a rich source of information about the work of the Parent Council.

Pupil Achievements

As always, can I ask that you keep a regular eye on our website and Twitter feed which is where we display the huge range of pupil achievements that we are made aware of. Our pupils achieve great things in representing the school and in many cases their region and their country.

Recent Events

Friday 23 November	School Pipe Band Ceilidh @ 18.30
Thursday 29 November	S3 (+S1 Spillover) Parent Consultation Meeting 16.30-19.00
Thursday 6 December	S1 Christmas Party @ 18.30
Wednesday 12 December	S1 Pantomime 'Beauty and the Beast' 13.15-16.15
Monday 17 December	Christmas Concert at Central Hall @ 19.00
Monday 24 December –	Christmas Holidays
Monday 7 January	
Tuesday 8 January	Staff In-Service Day
Wednesday 9 January	Pupils Resume
11 – 25 January	S5/6 Prelims
18 – 25 January	S2 Ski Trip

Future Events

Wednesday 23 January	
Wednesday 16 January	S4 Parent Consultation Meeting 16.30-19.00
Thursday 31 January	S5-6 Parent Consultation Meeting 16.30-19.00 FP's Burn's Supper in Boroughmuir HS.
Tuesday 5 February	S4/5/6 Spillover Parent Consultation Meeting 16.30-19.00
11 - 15 February	February Break
Monday 18 February	All Resume
Thursday 21 February	S4 Course Choice 18.30-19.15
Thursday 21 February	S5 Course Choice 19.30-20.15
Tuesday 26 February	ENGAGE: Alternatives, Braid Hills Hotel 18.30-20.00
Thursday 28 February	S2 Course Choice & Futures Marketplace 19.00-20.00
Monday 11 March	S2 Parent Consultation Meeting 16.30-19.00
8 - 22 April	Easter Break

David C. Dempster
Head Teacher January 2019