



BOROUGHMUIR HIGH SCHOOL

Parent Council - Head Teacher's Report – May 2019

Our Vision

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

Dear Parent/Carer

The end of term is looming with school closing for the summer break at 12.00 on Friday 28th June. Session 2019/20 starts on Wednesday August 14th for all our pupils. In between then and now we have our well-deserved summer break and I hope you and your family have a refreshing and relaxing summer break.

Towards the end of the summer break we will provide a number of pieces of information that we know parents find useful.

All of the information listed below will be included in our Summer mailing which will be posted on our school website (from 9th August) in the letters to parents section under the heading Summer Mailing 2019.

1. Reporting/Consultation Calendar for 2019/20
2. Holiday Dates
3. Staffing Review Session 2018/19
4. Whole School Staff list for session 2019/20
5. Dress Code/School Day
6. Pupil Achievement pro-forma

The document below will be sent home by pupil post first week back with a return date of Friday 23rd August.

7. City of Edinburgh Council Pupil Data Form

The School Calendar, which runs into many pages, is on our website in the calendars section. It is updated with new events and changes regularly.

<http://boroughmuirhighschool.org/calendar/>

Our website is regularly updated and contains much more detailed information on the life of the school. Please do access it at www.boroughmuirhighschool.org

If there are any issues that you cannot find the answers to then please contact the school office on 0131 229 9703 and we will be delighted to help.

National Qualifications Exams

The diet of NQ exams finishes on 31st May. I hope pupils in S4, 5 and 6 who were sitting exams are successful in attaining the grades they were aiming for.

The SQA will issue results to pupils this year on August 4th. This will be by post or text – whatever the pupil requested. Pupils will receive a letter from Mrs Paterson before the holidays explaining what to do in the event that they perhaps don't meet their target.

Rising School Roll

Our school roll is rising sharply over the next few years.

This year our S1 intake is approximately 260 and this will take the total school role up to approx. 1300.

Our roll will continue to rise over the next 8 years, topping out at about 1660 in 2027

This necessitates more staff in the school as well as more accommodation in the form of an extension.

We will keep you updated regularly about this issue.

Extension

Planning for the new extension was submitted w/b 13th May 2019.
Images of the extension are on our website. Click the link below.

<http://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/BHS-Extension-Newsletter-May-19.pdf>

It is envisaged that the construction phase will start in January 2020 and be completed by January 2021.

Staffing

As stated above, our staff complement is increasing year on year due to rising rolls.

We now have a teaching staff team of 89 Full Time Equivalent which in reality is 97 teachers when part time working and job share is taken into account.

As always, at this time of year, we have a number of temporary staff leaving and new staff joining.

A full updated staff list will be issued to all parents in our Summer Mailing which is now issued electronically at the start of term in August.

However here are current updates on staffing for session 19/20

New Additional Permanent Posts

- Business Teacher – appointed – Sarah Mulligan
- Computing Teacher – appointed – Emma Thomson
- Part Time Support for Learning teacher – 0.5 FTE – appointed Sarah Cockerill
- Maths Teacher – to be appointed
- CDT Teacher – to be appointed

Replacement staff to be appointed in

- PE, Biology, Chemistry, Modern Studies x2, Modern Languages, English, HE,

Additional 'Bits' of teachers required due to rising roll and part-time working

- DHT S5/6- Mr Hembury to continue covering as DHT for Ms Paterson (Fri) & developing Tracking & Monitoring Wed & Thu
- Drama

Mr Iain Barbour, teacher of English, is retiring after 27 years at Boroughmuir.

Ms Angela Callery, teacher of Modern Studies, is retiring after almost 6 years at Boroughmuir

Can I thank Iain and Angela for all they have done for the school and wish them a long and well-deserved retirement.

BLT10 – Boroughmuir Learning and Teaching

The 10th edition of our newsletter, Boroughmuir Learning and Teaching (BLT), has been placed on our website in the News and Events section.

It's a showcase of the many great teaching and learning events that happen on a daily basis.

Have a look. I'm sure you'll find it an impressive document.

<http://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/BLT-10.pdf>

Annual Awards Ceremony

Our annual Awards Ceremony takes place this year in our assembly hall in our Hall on Wednesday 5th June.

My congratulations to all our award winners.

The President of Boroughmuir Rugby Football Club and former pupil Mr Stevie Douglas, is our guest of honour.

Annual S6 Prom at the Balmoral

Our annual S6 leavers' prom takes place once again at the Balmoral Hotel, Princes Street on Thursday 6th June.

It, as always, is a fabulous evening. This year over 200 pupils and staff in formal dress will be piped into dinner by the Boroughmuir pipe band.

After a sumptuous dinner and some speeches, a ceilidh band will play through until 11pm.

S5/6 Induction

Our senior pupils return to school on Monday 3 June for a day of induction.

In addition to setting out our expectations for senior pupils at Boroughmuir, the induction programme for S6 has a focus on leadership and leadership opportunities in the senior school. S5 spend part of their day at Napier University to give them an insight into what life and education post school could look like. The other part of the day is spent undertaking practical leadership tasks; exploring SCHOLAR and other on-line learning platforms; looking at Career Management Skills and My World of Work; and Office 365.

Class teaching starts proper for all on the first day of the new timetable – Tuesday 4 June.

Cluster Transition Activities – March/April/May

We have had a busy few weeks with P7 transition activities. We have had all of our P7 visiting the Art department and creating the “Face of Boroughmuir”. Our P6s have been visiting over the last couple of weeks to enjoy some problem solving with the Maths department. Mr Else and some S1 pupils along with the School of Rugby and School of Tennis have invited our P7s for two mornings of sport. Our “May Transition Group” have been visiting too, this is a smaller group of pupils who benefit from some additional visits. This group have been supported by our S1 Nurture Group. Ms Presly, Pupil Support Team along with pupils visited all our Cluster Primaries in one day on 23rd April to meet all our P7s.

P7 3 Day Visit

A reminder that the P7, shortly to become our new S1, have their 3 day transition experience 18-20th June. On Tuesday 18th June pupils meet at Meggetland at 9am for a sports transition event.

On Wednesday 19th June and Thursday 20th June pupils report to Boroughmuir High School at 9am and 8.32am respectively. Pupils will have a chance to experience some of their new subjects during the 2 days in school as well as experiencing lunchtime clubs and activities.

I look forward to meeting all the new S1 during the 3 day visit and of course parents and carers at the Parents’ evening on Wednesday 19th June at 7pm in the assembly hall.

Activity Week

We have 4 residential trips running this year in activity week involving more than 200 pupils. There are trips to Paris, Spain, Benmore and London. We have week long specialist activities such as “Snow Rock n roll”, Film Making, Create and Craft and Bushcraft. Alongside these we offered a broad range of new weekly ‘menus’ including learning Circus Skills, trips to Botanics, Gravity, Foxlake, Blair Drummond and white-water rafting with Nae Limits and much more. We are very proud of the creativity and enthusiasm of all staff to make this annual event such a success every year.

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.

Parent Council

Can I take this opportunity to thank the members of the Parent Council and their sub-groups for the huge amount of work they do in supporting the school. The Parent Council are 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 Facebook page is a rich source of information about the work of the Parent Council.

Pupil Achievements

Can I ask that you keep a regular eye on our website and twitter account 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.

Boroughmuir Nearly New Shop:

Mrs Craig in our maths department coordinates our Nearly New shop to recycle articles of school clothing. This includes all items of our daily school dress code and also school shoes, PE kit and trainers. They must be clean and in good condition.

Please bring items to Mrs Craig in the maths department or the school office.

Recent Events

8 - 22 April	Easter Break
Tuesday 23 April	All Resume
Friday 26 April	S4/5/6 Exam Leave
Monday 6 May	May Holiday
Tuesday 7 May	Staff In-Service Day
Wednesday 8 May	Pupils Resume
Monday 20 – 28 May	Munich Exchange
Monday 20 May	May Holiday
Tuesday 21 May	All Resume

Future Events

Monday 3 June	S4/5/6 Pupils Return after Exam Leave
Wednesday 5 June	Awards Ceremony
Thursday 6 June	S6 Prom
Tuesday 11 June	ENGAGE: Female Leadership, Braid Hills Hotel 18.30-20.00
Wednesday 19 June	P7 Information Evening @ 19.00
Monday 24 June	S1-3 Activity Week
	S4-5 Work Experience Week
Fri 28 th June	End of Term 12.00
Monday 1 July - 13 August	Summer Holidays
Monday 12 & Tuesday 13 August	Staff In-Service Days
Wednesday 14 August	Pupils Resume

David C. Dempster
Head Teacher

May 2019