



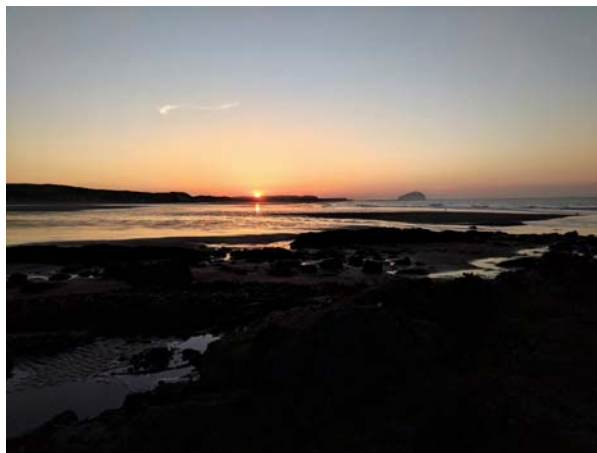
*Our Vision is to create a confident, nurturing community where all achieve their true potential and embrace life's challenges.*

## BLT 8



Activity Week 2018 was another great success and the summer heat wave made it even more fun for pupils and staff. Pictures from Benmore like never before.

Our activity week is an opportunity to build and strengthen relationships and also to have fun. Here are just a few images and some inspiration for next year! Turn over for more images of June 2018. Feedback suggests we should keep doing this...so we do. We also try to build in new opportunities to try new trips and activities. This year sees the return of a trip to Spain and some whitewater rafting. Both of these came from pupil feedback. Our teachers also reported that they enjoy the week and they feel that these opportunities resonate with our vision and school values for almost all our pupils. Activity Week choices for 2019 have already been made!



### **S6 Tie**

*You may have noticed that a lot of our S6 are wearing a new S6 tie.*

*With us moving to the new school the time seemed right to give our S6 a new S6 tie that sets them apart and distinguishes them from S5.*

*It is a combination of the existing senior tie and the stripy junior tie and will be a great keepsake for pupils as they become former pupils in life beyond Boroughmuir.*

**Mr Dempster**

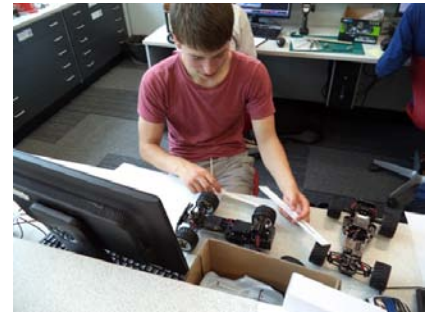
# ACTIVITY WEEK 2018 IN PICTURES AND PUPIL VOICE



*Create and craft*



*Caking & Baking*



*Engineering Challenge*



*Activities were varied and creative!  
The teachers were very polite and everyone in my group was very friendly.  
It's a really nice way to end the school year!  
Helps my socialising skills and helps me meet new people.*

*Benmore*

*Bushcraft*



## S2 STEM ROADSHOW

The focus of the road show was engineering and maths and the importance of the subjects on everyday life e.g. jumping of a swing and knowing exactly where you would land and card tricks.



They also showed us how advanced maths and engineering can be with a paramotor and MIA the talking, dancing, talking robot. The S2 pupils really enjoyed it and some were even brave enough to volunteer to help with demonstrations!



### Engineering Showcase

On Tuesday 2nd October Mr MacDonald took 33 S3 Engineering Science students to Dynamic Earth for an Engineering Showcase. They watched and took part in many activities and spoke to Engineers from many fields. They then had a presentation from the engineer who designed and built the “Marty” robot.

### FANTASTIC PLASTIC

#### S4 Chemistry go Fantastic for Plastic!

Around 100 S4 Chemists attended a talk at Napier University. The talk was given by Professor Averil Macdonald OBE from the University of Reading and a leading expert in polymers (the more accurate scientific term for plastics!). She enthusiastically encouraged the pupils to be entrepreneurial in their approach to learning about these natural and synthetic materials. She gave examples of how people have created new materials and products for the benefit of society (and made a fortune £\$£\$ in the process!). The S4s were able to think about how some of the more harmful environmental issues surrounding the use and disposal of plastics can be reduced now and in the future. Professor Macdonald is a self-confessed lover of tech and made bold-predictions of the use of polymers in the coming years including roll-up TVs and augmented reality contact lens (Teachers be aware!).



### **S1 – Race for the Line Project.**

As part of the IDL project with Design & Engineering and Science, all our S1 Computing classes learnt how to program the Micro:bits which were used to carry out the timing mechanism on the race track. Under the direction of staff from the Royal Naval Base at Rosyth the pupils raced their rocket cars in the playground with the winning teams going on to the regional and Scottish finals at Rosyth dockyard and the Barracks in Colinton.

### **S3 – BIMA Digital Day**

Twenty Five S3 Computing and Business pupils took part in the initiative where we were partnered with local company Emperor to help promote awareness of careers in the Digital Sector. Our two winning groups for the day were shortlisted for the Final – well done!

## **YOUNG ENTERPRISE**

**Meraki** is now the official name of our Young Enterprise business for 2018-19 - watch out for us around the school. The name comes from the Greek word which is used to describe doing something with soul, creativity, or love — when you put “something of yourself” into what you're doing. Our business adviser Adam George has been a big help and we look forward to the help and support he will provide. One of the best learning activities we have participated in was called Colours where we had to rate ourselves on a

scale when asked about our personal qualities and preferences. We are looking forward to our Training Day at RBS at the Gogarburn HW on Saturday, 6 October where we will meet lots of different Scottish entrepreneurs, experts from finance and marketing.



### ***Business Management Live!***

On 30th of August 40 of our Higher Business Management students attended the conference at Napier University with over 100 other business students from various Edinburgh schools. The event had a focus on marketing with interesting presentations from Cameron McLay, BasketballScotland, Chris Marsh, Carat and Colin Reid, ForthOne. Each speaker shared an insight into the importance of marketing, the role it plays and how they use market-

ing in their various careers and industries. Quote from one of the speakers on the day “marketing is not normal.....you have to be obsessed by people’s behaviour”. Feedback from



our students showed they found it interesting with regards to the career path options in Business and “how powerful some aspects of business are in our modern day”.

# MATHS WEEK SCOTLAND

## “Numeracy

During “Maths Week Scotland” in September, the Maths department was involved in a variety of activities.

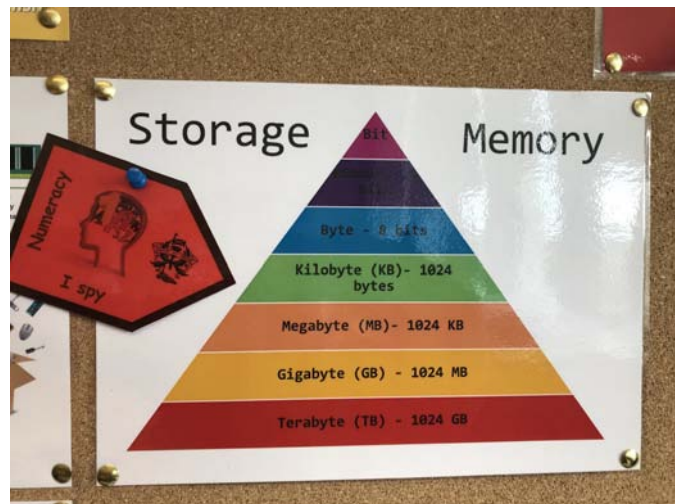
They ran a Numeracy “I Spy” competition for S1, and pupils looked for Numeracy icons around the school: in classes, corridors, notice boards and offices, demonstrating where there was evidence of Numeracy across the curriculum. They recorded this on a card and were awarded prizes: badges, chocolate or the winning prize of Cineworld vouchers.

Mrs Walker’s S1 and S2 classes participated in a competition called “Maths Wi’ Nae Borders” involving Scottish-based problem-solving in groups, and await the results of the competition.

All S2 and S3 pupils were presented for the Manga High Maths Week Scotland competition. Borougmuir High School came 12th in Scotland, with Shahed Jaroucheh winning an Amazon voucher for being placed 5th in Scotland.

Following this, more than 100 S1 parents and careers attended a Numeracy Parental Engagement

event led by Mrs Walker and Mrs Craig. The presentation involved providing advice and guidance on how to help their child with Maths and Numeracy in S1 and they all left with a pack of information and activities to assist them with this.”



## English &

### Literacy Update

200 S2 and S3 pupils were recently treated to an excellent visit from author John Young, whose award-nominated novel "The Farewell Tour of a Terminal Optimist" kept them entertained, with some insightful and thought-provoking questions from pupils at the end. Our thanks to John, publishers Floris Books, and independent bookseller Golden Hare Books for all their help.

S4 pupils from Ms Yates' and Ms Anderson's N5 classes will attend the National Theatre matinee production of *Macbeth* on 25<sup>th</sup> October, with the opportunity for a further workshop on staging the play from the fabulous Clare Prenton, Director of the Stafford Shakespeare Festival.

S2 pupils are working hard on their ideas, contacts and visits to local charities as part of the Youth and Philanthropy Initiative, the grand final of which is

ypi<sup>®</sup>

YOUTH AND  
PHILANTHROPY  
INITIATIVE  
SCOTLAND

on the evening of 20<sup>th</sup> November. More to follow!

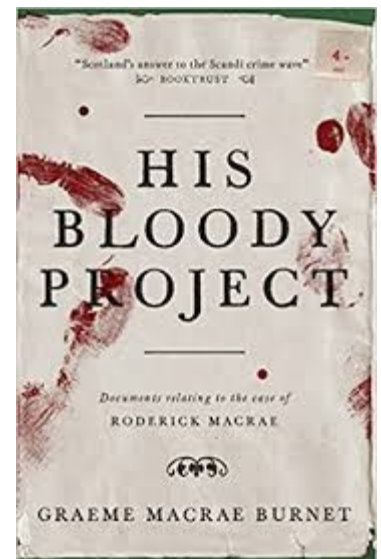
## Building a Reading Culture in Boroughmuir High School

Some upcoming exciting events to help support and build our "Reading Culture"

- Scottish Book Week -November 19th
- Re-introduction of "Word of the Week"
- Boroughmuir Comic-Con on National Book Day 7th March
- S1 & S2 Book Group

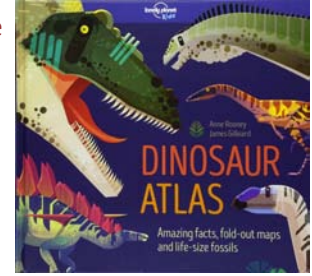


S5 pupils in Ms Stratton's and Ms Yates' class are anticipating a thoroughly interesting visit and lecture from the National Portrait Gallery on the topic of death masks and phrenology, as part of their Higher novel study on Graeme Macrae Burnet's *His Bloody Project*.



# Royal Society Young People's Book Prize 2018

Before the Summer holidays, Ms Aleksandrowicz (Library), registered the school to take part in the Royal Society Young People's Book Prize 2018. The school received a free set of the six shortlisted books – which are all based around Science - in return for pupils voting for their favourite. Working with Mrs Hearnden in Science, around 100 pupils from S1 and S2 visited the library during their Science period to judge and vote on the books. Pupils were asked to think about the following questions when reviewing:



- **How does it look?**
- **Is it well written?**
- **What makes it interesting?**
- **How much does it appeal to you?**
- **Would you recommend this book to a friend?**

In small groups each class reviewed and scored each book out of five for four different areas; Easy Layout, Layout, Interest and Appeal, giving a total score of 20. Each group had a chair person whose job it was to make sure everyone got look at the book, have their say and settle any arguments over scoring! At the end of the review process everyone was asked to pick their favourite book and say why.

After all the results were counted Boroughmuir pupils picked **'Lonely Planet Kids' Dinosaur Atlas'** which scored 18/20.



## SAMYE LING

On the 28th - 30th September, the Higher RMPS class enjoyed a fantastic trip to the Borders to see Western Europe's largest Buddhist temple complex, near Eskdalemuir. We lucked out with fine weather whilst touring the area and tucked into an excellent vegetarian curry, provided by the temple chefs. Students were able to see the main temple where they were given the opportunity to meditate. This was a great opportunity to see the daily lives of Buddhist monks/ nuns and lay people alike. Students behaved brilliantly throughout the trip and even managed a tasty meal themselves on the Saturday night back at the hostel.





Once again there was a real “buzz” in the Assembly Hall on International Day of Languages. In 30 minutes it was possible to experience more than 20 languages being spoken and taught by pupils and staff. A fantastic opportunity to embrace culture and language from around the world. Thanks to Mrs Hasting and S6 Linguists who made this such an enjoyable lunch time for our pupils and staff.



Multilingual club continues to go from strength to strength on Thursday lunchtimes. Today I popped in for 5 minutes and learned some Hungarian. Thanks to S6 pupils for continuing to support this..





## S2 Interdisciplinary Learning

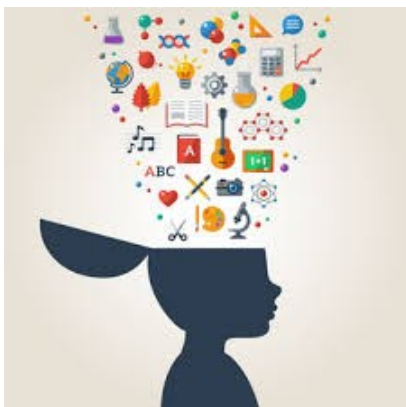
On the 26th & 27th September all of S2 ventured out to experience some Interdisciplinary learning. They were utilising skills from science, English history, geography to piece together a learner journey down the Royal Mile. This was followed by a trip to Our Dynamic Earth and some field work in Holyrood Park.

The learner journey down the Royal Mile was based around a theme chosen by S2. These themes ranged from Mythical Beasts to Tourism to Closes.

We were also joined by Kay Douglas Walker and Park Rangers to help with some geology in Holyrood Park.

*A great day out if a little breezy in the park!*

Thanks to Mr Hembury and Team for organising another successful 2 days outdoor learning.



## Too Many Leaders? A Week in the Lakes by Mr Boyd

In August, 12 members of the student leadership team in S6 embarked on a week-long trip to Outward Bound's Ullswater Centre. The objective was to develop the leadership skills of the young people on this trip by placing them in challenging, outdoor-learning based scenarios.

The group departed on the Monday morning and upon arrival at the centre were allocated their rooms for the remainder of the week. A variety of tasks ensued including a 9ft wall climb and a jog and dip into Ullswater's lake. There was a smattering of complaints about the temperature of the water but in reality it was positively refreshing!



The highlight of the week was the overnight expedition which included a summit of Helvellyn. Each group member adopted a role for the expedition including Team Leader, Head of Catering and Equipment Manager. The group was responsible for all the navigation with the instructors only offering advice when asked. The ascent was successfully completed in glorious sunshine with a 360° view of the surrounding area\*!

Accommodation for the night was the Outward Bound hut at the foot of the mountain. The comfort of the hut was gratefully received after a long day on the mountain. Those more used to the sparseness of a Scottish bothy were surprised at the luxury of this mountain dwelling; a gas stove and spacious wooden platforms greeted the group on their arrival and the catering team immediately set about feeding the hungry mountaineers.



The next morning, the group awoke to the sound of torrential rain hammering off the roof of the hut. A 6km walk to the southern edge of the lake where the students' canoes were waiting for them was completed swiftly. There was time to refuel as the canoes were tied together before the group headed north on a 7km paddle back to the centre.

There was time for cliff-jumping, gorge scrambling, raft building and even some underground cartography in the centre's tunnel system before the group finished their week with the obligatory jetty jumping.



The 12 students all had a fantastic time and were ruing their return to school on the Monday. Outward Bound delivered a "proper" Leadership course, really testing and developing the skills of the young people. Every task was challenging but the group surpassed expectations and proved they were the real deal when it came to student leadership.

\*This may be sarcasm...

## Danish Takeover! Ms Bloomer –Global Citizenship

On 19<sup>th</sup> September, every S1 English class experienced a Danish takeover! As part of our global citizenship and international learning work, we were joined by teachers Pernille and Anne and their English class; they had volunteered to teach a lesson about Hans Christian Andersen and his folk tales during their study trip to Edinburgh.

To discuss the tales (and to learn a bit more about Denmark) the students from Fredericia Gymnasium devised fun quizzes and activities.

The atmosphere in the classrooms was competitive to say the least, and we nearly lost a few display screens to some over-enthusiastic treatment with fly-swatters. We were so impressed with the students' preparation and their excellent English and hope their trip to Edinburgh was a great success.



*"I hope we get even more visits like this in the future." Finlay*

*"The Danish girls were all really nice and kind." Nathan*

*"A brilliant lesson." Lucy*

# Back to the Future?

## Bring Your Parents to School Day

### 4th October

On Thursday 4th October we welcomed two new classes and 3 new practical sets when a total of 60 S1 parents came back to school for the whole day. We were overwhelmed by the uptake this year for this event which enables parents to experience a whole day as an S1 learner. Parent Classes 1 & 2 behaved well, learned a lot and were utterly exhausted at the end of period 6! We feel this is an excellent way to support transition into S1 and to build relationships with our parent body. The idea of the day is also to enable parents to better support and understand learning. A huge thank you to teachers, parents and pupils who made the day such a success.



This is what they said to us at the end of the day:

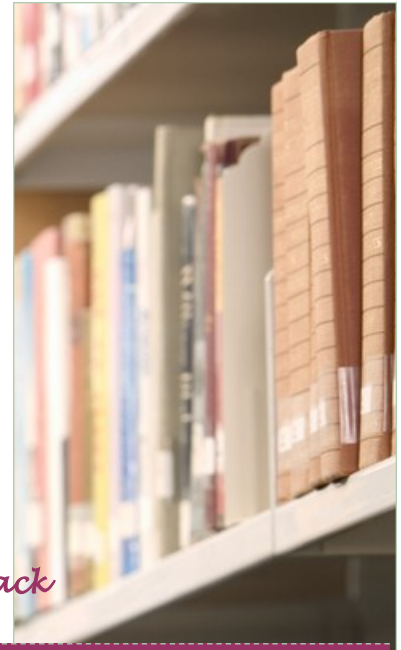
What surprised you most about the day?

- *I really enjoyed Science and PE which were not subjects I enjoyed at school!*
- *The amazing views from classrooms!*
- *It was interesting to see how enthusiastic the teachers are and how they used different methods.*
- *I loved learning again especially in a diverse curriculum every day really should be a school day!*
- *Modern Technology has transformed teaching.*
- *Seeing the school with pupils in it was so calm.*



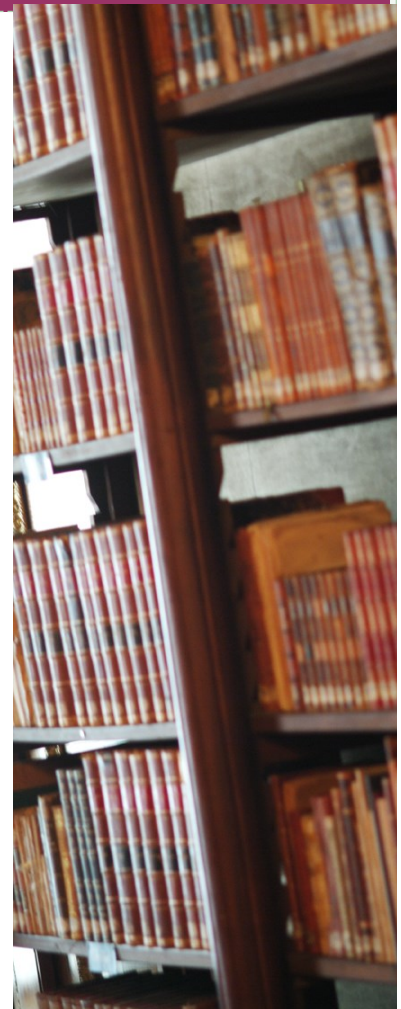
How has today helped you to support your child in their learning at home?

- *Better understanding of how exhausted they can be!*
- *I now understand what kind of questions to ask about his learning*
- *I now know about linguascope and how fun it can be.*
- *I will review more current affairs having had a modern studies class*
- *Lots of areas to start conversations—don't get much feedback*



*In one sentence what would you say to encourage other parents to come back to school for the day?*

- *A really excellent insight into high school life...hugely reassuring and helpful.*
- *I want to do it again!*
- *It's not school as you remember it!*
- *Fabulous way opportunity to see how amazing the teachers are, how the new building is used and how much interaction between teachers and pupils is encouraged. (no wonder my daughter loves it)!*
- *Do it! 21st Century teaching in an incredible learning environment You may not want to leave..*
- *It's the best way to get a real flavour of how modern lessons are delivered and get a feel for the atmosphere of the school.*



## Advanced Higher English Creative Writing Workshop at Benmore

At the beginning of September a sizeable chunk of our S6 Advanced Higher class made the long journey up to Benmore. Their quest: to find creative inspiration in the mountains, forests and lochs of the Scottish Highlands. Through investigating the history, wildlife and landscapes of their immediate surroundings our pupils were set the task of finding inspiration outwith the classroom environment. The central aim of the trip was to produce a piece of creative writing (or indeed several) that could be put towards their final folio at the end of the year.

In our quest for creativity we journeyed together through Puck's Glen in search of faeries, combed the beaches of the Holy Loch in hope of uncovering lost treasure (and lobsters!) and quietly contemplated existence in the majestic botanical gardens of Benmore House, all with the occasional red squirrel thrown in for good measure.

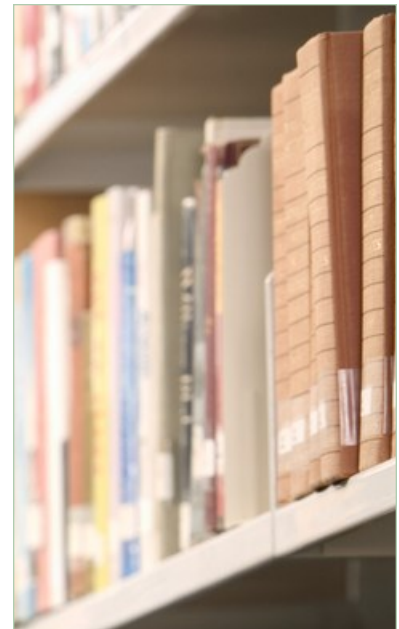
A fine time was had by all, and the pieces of work completed by our S6 pupils have been most encouraging to say the least, a true testament to the inspirational power of the natural world and in particular the Scottish landscape!

Thanks to Mr Williams for the article.



## S2 Skyscanner Trip

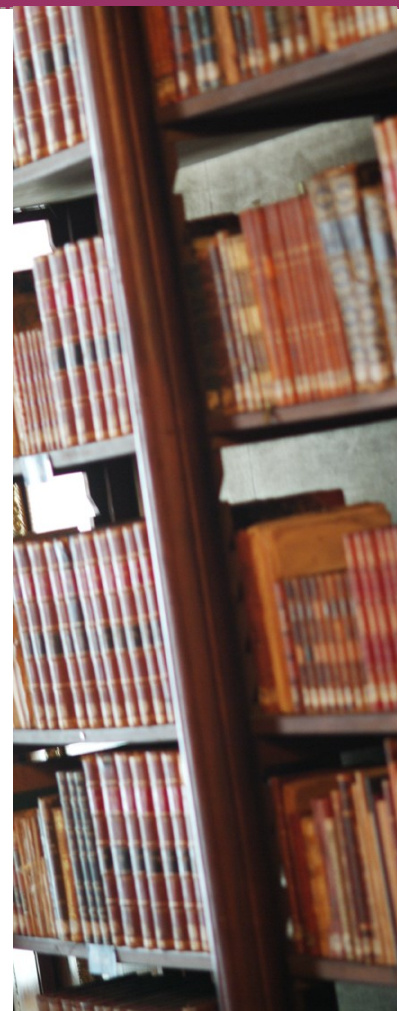
On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September, 30 S2 pupils attended the Skyscanner offices in Edinburgh to participate in a Design an App Day. Pupils were given a tour of the offices and worked in small groups to create an App to help their users become more environmentally friendly. Each group engaged well with the task and presented very well during the question and answer session with Skyscanner employees!



## IT4U 2018

On the morning of Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 2018, 28 Computing Science students walked from Boroughmuir to the Merchiston campus of Napier University to attend the IT4U event. The students participated in workshops including: Digital Data and Privacy; Programming Wheeled Robots; Programming Circuit Boards with various output devices

and 3D Games Development using Unity. The student's response at the end was a very positive one, roll on IT4U 2019.





As part of the Drama Higher and Advanced Higher courses young people are required to analyse live theatrical performances which greatly enhances their understanding of theatre and performance.

On 23rd August, along with a number of other Edinburgh schools we went along to a performance of Unicorn Theatre Companies “The End of Eddy” at the Festival Theatre.

This was an excellent production of a very interesting autobiographical play, based on the book by Edouard Louis. The following Tuesday we welcomed theatre practitioners from Unicorn Theatre along with Higher students from Gracemount HS into our school to take part in a two hour workshop which gave all students further insight into the production and its themes and issues. The schools performance and free workshop was organised by the Edinburgh International Festival Society and was incredibly well organised.

The Drama Department and S3 students will be partnering up with EIFs again soon to work on an exciting project called the Big Data Show in addition to this all S4-6 Drama students will be at-



## Digital Technology & Registration - Boyd Vs Forbes

Who knew registration could be so much fun? The competition is on between 1L2 (Miss Forbes ) and 1M2 (Mr Boyd) via face time from their classrooms during reg to find out which class can win the most morning quizzes. Currently 1-1 and pressure is on! From the squeals of delight and noise the two classes seemed to be having a lot of fun...great use of digital technology and learning.





# S1 and S6 Sponsored Walk

We finish the term with the annual Boroughmuir Sponsored Walk.

All of S1 and all of S6 will walk around Arthur's Seat on the

12th October to raise money for Alzheimer Scotland

and School funds. This charity was chosen by S6 Charities Committee.

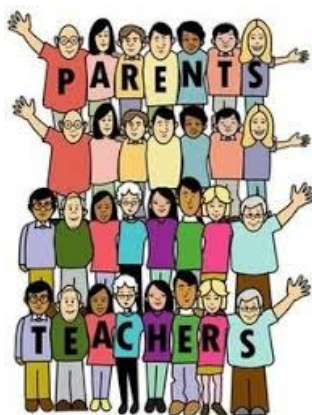
Good luck to all our S1 & S6 and enjoy the last day of this term.

See you all on 23rd October!



Dear Boroughmuir Family

The famous Boroughmuir Wine Tasting on October 26<sup>th</sup> and Family Quiz night on 8 November are coming soon – these can only happen with your help!



Tickets for the wine tasting are sold out, but if you're feeling that you missed out, we promise this is a fab event to help at.

The Parent Council also provides refreshments at Parents' Evenings and learning events. This is a highly valued way of showing you appreciate the hard work that goes into running the school.

### Sign up to support your pupils

Wine tasting <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080c4eaeae29a4fb6-wine1>

Parents' Evenings and School Events <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080c4eaeae29a4fb6-parents>

### Raffle prizes needed for Quiz and Wine Tasting

We need chocolates, wine, toiletries, non-perishable food etc. Please send everything except alcohol in with your child to be delivered to the school office. For alcohol drop offs please email [boroughmuir.sfr@gmail.com](mailto:boroughmuir.sfr@gmail.com) to arrange drop off or collection.

### Auction treasures

To reach our target of raising £3,000 we are planning an online auction, to be held in November. Please help us to find lots to auction by asking businesses you know if they would kindly contribute, and thinking what you could offer.

Meals, fun days out, spa appointments, gifts, a delicious cake baked to order, or an offer to cut a hedge would all work beautifully. Please email [boroughmuir.sfr@gmail.com](mailto:boroughmuir.sfr@gmail.com) to arrange collection or offer your services!

### Target - £3,000

Last year we raised a record £3,300 which supported sport, maths, history, physics and more. Please help to make a positive difference again this year.

We look forward to seeing you at an event!

### Social and Fundraising Group, Parent Council

(We are looking for new members –

email us or chat to us at an event if you're interested)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Boroughmuirparents/>

