



## BOROUGHMUIR HIGH SCHOOL

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### Parent Council - Head Teacher's Report – January 2020

#### Our Vision

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

#### HMIe Inspection

The school was inspected by a team of 8 HMIe inspectors in the period Mon 13<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January. This was a 'short model inspection' covering the 2 key quality indicators

- Learning Teaching and Assessment
- Raising Attainment and Achievement

Our Safeguarding of young people was also inspected.

Over 1000 pupils, 630 parents and 90 staff completed questionnaires in advance of the inspection.

I'm pleased to say that the feedback via these questionnaires was very supportive of the school and I'm hopeful that the report published in around 10 weeks' time will provide a similar assessment and validate our own school evaluations of these indicators.

Thank you for all your support of the school and we'll let you know as soon as the final report is published.

#### School Improvement Plan

Every year we publish a Standards and Quality Report and School Improvement Plan which reports on the quality of the work we have been doing and work that we will be doing.

This is a document that all in our school community should be aware of and one that our parent and pupil councils have an input to.

It is also a point of reference in any school evaluation – including HMIe inspections!

A link to this year's document is below.

<http://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Summary-Leaflet-Standards-Quality-Report-Improvement-Plan-19-20.pdf>

#### BLT – Boroughmuir Learning and Teaching

The 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

[www.boroughmuirhighschool.org/blt-webzine/](http://www.boroughmuirhighschool.org/blt-webzine/)

#### Christmas Concert

Our annual Christmas concert took place again this year in Central Hall, Tollcross on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> 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 20 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 10th– 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

## S4/5 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 27 February** 6.30 – 7.15 in the Assembly Hall
- S5→S6 - **Thursday 27 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 5<sup>th</sup> March** 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 has a **Facebook page** which 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 Past Events**

Tuesday 12 November	S1 Parents Consultation Meeting 16.30 – 19.00
Friday 29 October	School Pipe Band Ceilidh
Wednesday 27 November	S3 (+S1 Spillover) Parent Consultation Meeting 16.30-19.00
Thursday 5 December	S1 Christmas Party @ 18.30
Wednesday 12 December	S1 Pantomime 'Goldilocks & the 3 bears' 14.00-16.30
Monday 16 December	Christmas Concert at Central Hall @ 19.00
Monday 23 December -	Christmas Holidays

## **Future Events**

Monday 7 January -	Staff In-Service Day
Tuesday 8 January	Staff In-Service Day
Thursday 9 January	Pupils Resume
Friday 10 Jan – Friday 17 Jan	S2 Ski Trip
Friday 10 January -	S5/6 Prelims
Thursday 23 January	
Thursday 16 January	S4 Parent Consultation Meeting 16.30-19.00
Monday 21 January	S1 & S3 Photographs
Thursday 23 January	P7 HWB Transition Event 8:30am
Monday 30 January	S4-S6 Lion King Evening Performance
Wednesday 5 February	Vaccination – Teenage Booster
Thursday 6 February	S5-6 H & L (+ S4 Spillover & n'hood pupils) Parent Consultation Meeting 16.25-19.00
Friday 7 February -	February Break
Monday 17 February	All return
Wednesday 19 February	S5-6 M, V & W Parents Consultation Meeting 16.25 – 19.00
Tuesday 25 February	Engage: Alternatives 18:30
Thursday 27 February	S4 Course Choice 18:30 – 19:15
Thursday 27 February	S5 Course Choice 19:30 – 20:15
Thursday 5 March	S2 Course Choice & Futures Market Place 19:00 – 20:00
Tuesday 10 March	S2 Parent Consultation Meeting 16:25 – 19:00