

Boroughmuir High School Newsletter

Friday 3rd February 2023

Half Term Holiday

School closes next Friday 10th February at 12.50pm for the February half term holiday. All pupils and staff resume at 8.32 on Monday 20th February.

Upcoming S5/6 Parents Evenings – on-line

Tuesday 7 th February 2023	S5/6 (1s (+S4 Spill Over))	4.15 – 7.05pm
Wednesday 22 nd February 2023	S5/6 (2s)	4.15 – 7.05pm

S2 Course Choice Information Evening Presentation

Thank you for your attendance on Monday for the S2 Course Choice Information Evening and for your support of your S2 child during this process.

The slides used are available on the website: Pupil & Family Support > Parents Information or by clicking [here](#).

The course choice booklet is [here](#) and the link to the course choice website is [here](#). Please can all choices be entered by the end of the February Holiday, Sunday 19th February.

S4 and S5 Course Choice

Please can choices be submitted by the end of the day on Friday 24th February. Login details for this have been previously issued. The website address is [here](#). The Course Choice Booklet containing information about each subject can be found [here](#).

Award Winners- Prince's Trust Awards!

On Wednesday 6 of our S4 students who are involved in our Boroughmuir Beans Barista group travelled to Glasgow to collect the Prince's Trust Awards in 2 categories! As winners for Scotland, they now represent themselves and the school in the national final later this year. This a phenomenal achievement for our Prince's Trust pupils, whose award success will feature online later this month. Thank you to Ms Kelly for supporting this initiative.

Award Winners- City of Edinburgh Green Pencil Award

Congratulations to Lukas Bell, S1, who is the winner of the City of Edinburgh Libraries Green Pencil Award. Darcy Westwood in 2nd year was the runner up. This is a creative writing competition for young people in P4 to S3 in Edinburgh school and is run by Edinburgh City Libraries. The theme for this year was 'Year of Scotland's Stories' and was a chance for pupils to show their creative writing skills and their feelings on the landscapes, animals and birds of Scotland.

Well done both. Here is a link to the winners poem. Thank you to Ms Aleksandrowicz for supporting this.

<https://talesofonecity.wordpress.com/2023/01/25/green-pencil-award-winner-2022-is-announced/>

Award Winners- Young People in European Forests School competition

Congratulations to S5 pupils Raphael Uddin, Hari Pranavam and Izzy Pickard who have won the Young People in European Forests School competition for the Scotland category and for the United Kingdom category! The short film they produced on the importance of rewilding is incredibly informative, well-structured and heartfelt. This success will motivate them to further showcase their passion for the country's trees and woodlands. This is a great honour for the pupils and Boroughmuir High School. Thank you to Mr Das for assisting in this.

Mental Health Awareness & Dress to Express Day

Next week we are taking part in young person's mental health week looking at the theme of Let's connect. There will be a variety of activities on offer for pupils at lunchtimes and in some classes. If you want to discuss some of these themes at home with your young person there is a support sheet for parents that has been produced by the charity Place2Be as well as some activities you can try at home <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>.

On Friday February 10th, Boroughmuir High School is taking part in *Dress to Express Yourself* day as part of the Young Person's Mental Health Week. This is to raise money for Place2Be (<https://www.place2be.org.uk/>) a mental health charity that supports children, young people, teachers, and parents with mental health issues.

We would gratefully accept any small donation you felt able to give and these charity donations can be made through Parent Pay. You will see this as an option when you log into your Parent Pay account. Thank you to Ms O'Thy for supporting all of this.

Friday 27th January 2023

Parent Council Meeting – 1st February 6.30pm in School.

The next Parent Council meeting is in person on Wednesday 1st February. The meeting is at 6.30pm in room G08 in the school. Minutes of last meeting and the agenda for this meeting have been emailed to all parents

Please email any issues in advance of the meeting to secretary@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk

S2 Course Choice Evening and market Place

S2 Course Choice – **Monday 30th January** (moved from Wednesday 25th January)

Market Place 6.30 – 7.00pm

Course Choice Presentation 7.00pm – 8.00pm

S5/ 6 Prelims

Our S5/6 prelim diet ends this coming Tuesday 31st January. Well done to all our pupils who have worked so hard in preparation for them. Results will give a good indication of exactly what needs to be done before the final exams in May.

S5/6 Parents Evenings

Parent's evenings this session are all taking place on-line. This is a result of staff and parent preference when surveyed earlier this year.

We will re-survey staff and parents in March/ April after the final parents' evening.

Tuesday 7 th February 2023	S5/6 (1s (+S4 Spill Over))	4.15 – 7.05pm
Wednesday 22 nd February 2023	S5/6 (2s)	4.15 – 7.05pm

Attendance and late coming

To highlight the importance of attendance and time keeping we have created some infographics that you can find here.

[Every-Day Counts Attendance](#)

[Every-Day-Counts Timekeeping](#)

It is our intention to send out information to every parent every month regarding their child's attendance so that parents/carers are fully aware of the cumulative totals.

This will start at the end of January. If a pupil's attendance is falling towards 85% it is likely that their guidance teacher will have made contact to see if there are any additional supports we can put in place. Equally if you are concerned that your child's attendance is falling we would encourage you to make contact with your child's guidance teacher.

Where there are known circumstances for the absence, reports will not be sent, rather the guidance teachers will make contact with parents.

Year heads are also monitoring lateness to school and will be issuing detentions to pupils who are late three or more times every week to school. Detentions will take place on the lunchtime of the day pupils have assembly e.g. S1 have assembly on a Monday so their detention day is a Monday. Parents will be informed of this by letter.

City Parent and Carers Consultation

You are warmly invited to an online meeting from 6.30-7.30pm on Wednesday 1 February 2023

- share your views on 'lost pupil learning' (This is a term used to describe learning that has been disrupted or missed)
- discuss solutions and support for parents
- how these can be communicated with all parents and carers

Please contact Parental.Engagement@edinburgh.gov.uk to book a space or if you are unable to attend the meeting please send your views to Parental.Engagement@edinburgh.gov.uk marked with *for the attention of Marie Lyon*

P7 My World of Work Event

Today in our Assembly Hall there is a "My World of Work" event for all our cluster P7s.

We have P7 parents talking to the P7s in groups about their jobs. Our career advisors are also supporting the event.

It's one great example of how parents support our schools and a huge thank you to all involved.

Friday 20th January 2023

Planned Industrial Action – Wednesday 25th January.

Please see attached letter from the City, regarding planned industrial action by teachers on Wednesday 25th January. Boroughmuir is closed to all pupils on that day. Prelims scheduled for 25th January in this school are being re-scheduled to 31st January. Teaching materials will be posted by the small number of teaching staff who are not on strike. Pupils should check class Teams pages.

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/170123-Letter-to-Parents-and-Carers-1.pdf>

S2 Course Choice Evening & Market Place – rescheduled to Monday 30th January

This event is designed to give parents and carers an overview of the course choice process. It is a very similar presentation to those that pupils are receiving in assemblies. Pupils should not attend. The presentation at 7pm is preceded by a marketplace event where many subjects will provide information on what the course of study in S3 and beyond entails as well as information on pathways from studying that subject.

The presentation will be followed by a chance to speak with guidance teachers in the atrium. A very comprehensive course choice booklet will be available in advance on Teams and the website.

The event is being held in school. For those who cannot attend the presentations will be posted on our website.

S2 Course Choice – **Monday 30th January** (moved from Wednesday 25th January)

Market Place 6.30 – 7.00pm

Course Choice Presentation 7.00pm – 8.00pm

Poetry Collection written by Boroughmuir Pupils

The 'Our World' collection of poetry written by pupils from S1 - S6, and edited by our two school Makars, Oscar Cobham and Caitlin Conway, is now available in a beautiful booklet (cover designed by Ava Gilson in S3). Copies will be available to buy for £3 at the S4/5 parent course choice evening on Thursday 19th January. Alternatively, if you want to buy a copy, email admin@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk and we will get the copy to you by pupil post.

Proceeds from the sale will go to the Boroughmuir Kiva Loan group.

British Champion

Congratulations to Innes McDonald who has just won British Cyclocross championships, for his age category, which were held at Milnthorpe, Cumbria last weekend. It is a stunning achievement and one we are all very proud of.

Staff Updates

Welcome to Mr Daragh Lynch who has this week taken up the position of teacher of computing in Boroughmuir. Daragh previously worked at Musselburgh Grammar in East Lothian.

Friday 13th January 2023

S5/6 Prelims

Our senior prelim diet for S5 and S6 starts today. Here is a link to the prelim timetable.

[Boroughmuir High School- S5/6 Prelim TT](#)

Good luck to all our senior pupils.

If further industrial action takes place, the exams scheduled for 25th January will be moved to 31st January.

S4 and S5 Course Choice Evenings

These events are designed to give parents and carers an overview of the course choice process. They are very similar presentations to those that pupils are receiving in assemblies. Pupils should not attend. There will be a presentation on future options such as college, apprenticeships and further study in school from the Deputy Head, Mr Hayes and Cara Davidson our Developing the Young Workforce adviser. Also present will be a representative of Edinburgh college. This will be followed by a chance to speak with guidance teachers in the atrium. A very comprehensive course choice booklet will be available in advance on Teams and the website.

The events are being held in school. For those who cannot attend the presentations will be posted on our website.

S4 Course Choice – Thursday 19th January 6.30 – 7.15pm

S5 Course Choice – Thursday 19th January 7.30 – 8.15pm

Upcoming Parent' Evenings

Parent's evenings this session are all taking place on-line. This is a result of staff and parent preference when surveyed earlier this year.

We will re-survey staff and parents in March/ April after the final parents' evening.

The 3 remaining parent's evenings this year are:-

Tuesday 7th February 2023	S5/6 (1s (+S4 Spill Over))	4.15 – 7.05pm
Wednesday 22nd February 2023	S5/6 (2s)	4.15 – 7.05pm
Thursday 9th March 2023	S2	4.15 – 7.05pm

Industrial Action

The next planned round of Industrial action that will affect Edinburgh's secondary schools is Wednesday 25th January. We will keep you updated with any developments.

Friday 6th January 2023

Our Vision

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

Welcome to 2023!

I wish all our pupils, staff, parents and carers a very happy and successful new year.

I append a favourite quote of mine and one that I hope all in our school community can aspire to.

***“The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high, and we miss it,
but that it is too low, and we reach it” Michelangelo***

Industrial Action

This coming Wednesday 11th January, two teaching unions are taking industrial action. Boroughmuir like nearly all schools the country will have nearly all their staff on strike and therefore will be closed to all pupils. There will virtually no on-line teaching provided that day. Pupils should however check their class Teams.

I append the letter of 4th January from the City regarding this day of industrial action.

[Letter-to-Parents-and-Carers-040123-.pdf \(boroughmuirhighschool.org\)](#)

Attendance and late coming

As we start a new year, we are always looking at ways to improve attendance and timekeeping. To highlight the importance of attendance and time keeping we have created some infographics that you can find here.

[Every-Day Counts Attendance](#)

[Every-Day-Counts Timekeeping](#)

This may be helpful when speaking to young people at home about the need for good attendance and timekeeping. It is our intention to send out information to every parent every month regarding their child's attendance so that parents/carers are fully aware of the cumulative totals. This will start at the end of January. If a pupil's attendance is falling towards 85% it is likely that their guidance teacher will have made contact to see if there are any additional supports we can put in place. Equally if you are concerned that your child's attendance is falling we would encourage you to make contact with your child's guidance teacher.

Year heads are also monitoring lateness to school and will be issuing detentions to pupils who are late three or more times every week to school. Detentions will take place on the lunchtime of the day pupils have assembly e.g. S1 have assembly on a Monday so their detention day is a Monday. Parents will be informed of this by letter.

Dress Code

For safety reasons, it is essential that all pupils are instantly recognisable as Boroughmuir pupils. School is a 'place of work' for our young people and wearing school dress code creates the right climate and mindset required for learning. We also believe that wearing school uniform instils pride, a sense of belonging, a sense of purpose in class and projects a positive image to the local community and visitors to the school.

Items of school dress code are significantly cheaper than branded items of clothing and school dress code removes the stigma attached to not wearing more expensive branded items and reduces peer-pressure.

Boroughmuir is a great school. We want our pupils to be proud to be Boroughmuir and wear the school dress code with pride!

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Dress-Code-Leaflet-Aug-2023.pdf>

Staff Updates

Welcome to Ms Shona Adams who has this week taken up the position of teacher of biology in Boroughmuir. Shona previously worked at Beath High School in Fife.

Friday 16th December 2022

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

This is the last newsletter of the year. Term ends at 12.50pm on Tuesday 20th Dec and all pupils resume at 8.32 on Thursday 5th January.

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a very happy new year!

Christmas Fun!

On our last day during P1-4 we'd like to encourage a festive spirit of leadership and teamwork.

We've already had a whole series of events from the S1 Christmas disco, charity events, food bank donations, guess the sweets competition, the Christmas door competition, the S6 ceilidhs, the school show 'A Christmas Carol' and the spectacular school concert.

To round it off, on **Tuesday 20th December** we are celebrating the season together as follows:

Candy Cane Post:- Candy canes on sale at break Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Send a message anonymously via a candy cane to show someone you care this Christmas! Will be delivered during registration on the last day of term. Don't miss out!

Christmas Jumpers:- Come with a Christmas jumper on the last day. Optional donations to Save the Children via parent pay.

Period 1

- S3 Cinema experience in the assembly hall P1-2. Register in normal class, then come down. Teachers for P2 come and join then.

- S5 P1 register as normal then go with teachers to sports hall for S6-style pre-prom.

Period 3

- S1 Ceilidh in the sports hall. Register in normal class, then come down to Sports Hall at 11.30 during P3. Teachers for P4 come and join then.
- S2 Cinema experience in the assembly hall P3-4. Register in normal class, then come down. Teachers for P4 come and join then.
- S4 'Elves' register with teachers then meet in atrium to help prepare...

Period 4

- S3, 4 and 5 Christmas 'Thingumy'. All classes go to normal class, register and get ready...
- and with the wonderful S6 committees helping keep it all going

We look forward to a great end of term and a fantastic holiday when it comes.

P7 Christmas Music!

Today we welcome P7 pupils from all our feeder primaries to a Christmas concert given by our pupils in our school assembly hall. It's sure to be a festive occasion!

Boroughmuir Beans – National Awards!! – message from Mrs Kelly

Boroughmuir High School is delighted to announce that our Princes Trust Achieve S4 students are award winners! The Prince's Trust Awards celebrates the achievements of young people between the ages of 11-30. Rachel Struckmeier has won the Education Achievement award for Scotland and our student enterprise 'Boroughmuir Beans' has won the Community Impact award for Scotland. This is a phenomenal achievement and Rachel, along with 5 beans students, will collect their awards at an event in February and are now finalists for their categories for the national awards ceremony, which is a televised event, taking place in London in 2023. See more here!

<https://sway.office.com/SDEn73ziFej9vLrD?ref=Link>

Food Bank Donations

Many thanks to all families and young people who have supported the house challenge by bringing in donations for the Edinburgh Food project. We have received around 1200 items in the two weeks we have run the challenge which is fantastic. Most items have already been delivered to the Edinburgh Food Project to be distributed. Winning house will be announced on Tuesday.

Tracking and Reporting Update

This week we issued two sets of reports. We hope you are able to use these with your child to support their work in school and at home.

S2 were issued their second tracking report. A *Progress Report* with comments will follow in early March, prior to the Parent-Teacher consultation evening.

S4 were issued their *Progress Report* and we have also provided a *course update* document separately.

Staff Updates

Mrs Catriona Gibson, School Support Assistant leaves us at the end of term after 9 years at Boroughmuir. We thank Catriona for all she has done in this time and wish her well in life beyond Boroughmuir.

Friday 9th December 2022

End of Term / start of term

Term ends for all on Tuesday 20th December at 12.50pm.

Pupils return on Thursday 5th January at 8.32am.

Boroughmuir in the News!!

I am delighted to share this link that reports on the Sunday Times annual Parent Power report. The Sunday Times analysis puts Boroughmuir as the 6th highest performing state school in Scotland in terms of combined exam results in National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher.

It is the school's great ethos and quality of Teaching and learning that achieves this. A huge thank you to all our pupils, parents and staff who contribute to this schools' success.

<https://www.edinburghlive.co.uk/news/edinburgh-news/top-schools-edinburgh-named-sunday-25710585.amp>

Boroughmuir Thistle – 5th Edition

Please click the link below to read the 5th edition of our fabulous school newspaper

[The Boroughmuir Thistle \(office.com\)](#)

Boroughmuir Christmas Concert

Reminder that our Christmas Concert is taking place at Central Halls on Wednesday 14th December from 7pm – 9pm.

Tickets are priced at £5 each and are available on parent pay.

Boroughmuir Rugby

Boroughmuir rugby club U18s team are playing in the Scottish cup final this Saturday 10th December, 18:00 BT Murrayfield. Many Boroughmuir pupils are involved in this high profile game. The link to get tickets - which are free - <https://bit.ly/3B3nKMb>

Visitors from Finland

On Wednesday 7th December we were joined by some Finnish colleagues – Katja, Anna and Mervi – who are teachers from Lohja, near Helsinki. They have been visiting Edinburgh for their job shadowing project and spent time speaking with both staff and pupils about sustainability, digital learning, and staff wellbeing. This is their second visit to Boroughmuir, and we have high hopes of developing a strong partnership with them. They were also interviewed by two of our Boroughmuir Thistle reporters about the similarities and differences between Scottish and Finnish education, so you can read more about this in issue 6 of the school newspaper!

Food Bank Donations

Many thanks to all families and young people who have supported the house challenge so far by bringing in donations for the Edinburgh Food project. To date we have received just over 300 items. If you would still like to donate items we will be taking in donations during registration all next week up to Friday the 16 December. House captains will be at the front door every morning and any other donations can be left with guidance teachers in the guidance corridor.

Future Industrial Action

Future Industrial action by teacher unions that will affect secondary schools is planned for 11th and 25th January.

We will of course keep you notified of how this will affect us nearer the time.

Staff Updates

Mr. Alex Gilmore, teacher of Computing leaves us today to take up his new post as Curriculum Leader of Computing at Craigroyston High School.

Mr. Gilmore will be replaced by Mr. Daragh Lynch who is currently teacher of computing at Musselburgh Grammar. Mr. Lynch will start early in January.

Friday 2nd December 2022

Proposed Industrial Action – 8th December

As I'm sure you are aware, there is a day of Industrial action planned by the SSTA teaching union on Thursday 8th December.

The SSTA has significantly less members in most schools, including this school, than the EIS, however the disruption to the running of the school would still be significant.

All secondary schools are currently working with the Council to assess if their school could safely open in some way on that day.

A further communication on this will follow as soon as we have completed that assessment.

Boroughmuir Christmas Concert

We are delighted that our Christmas Concert is back for the first time in 2 years. Taking place at Central Halls on Wednesday 14th December from 7pm – 9pm, you will hear performances from our wonderful young musicians, and it is sure to be a brilliant event. Tickets are priced at £5 each and are available on parent pay.

A Christmas Carol

A group of S3-S6 pupils have been working together independently to produce a performance of "A Christmas Carol". They will be performing this on Tuesday 6 December in the school assembly hall from 6-7:30pm. Tickets are on parent pay will be on a first come first served basis.

Donations of up to £10 can be made on parent pay to secure your tickets. Money raised will be for school funds.

Nearly new – Christmas Jerseys – message from Mr Beard

The nearly new uniform stall is branching out into Christmas jumpers - we will gratefully receive donations starting next week (5 December) of used (grown out of?) Christmas jumpers that are still in good condition.

We will then wash, sort and return with them for sale the week of 12 - 16 December during lunchtimes in the atrium (jumpers will cost £3.00 each (cash) and all proceeds will be donated to a local charity)

Please look out and donate your pre-loved Christmas jumpers to Mr Beard in 3.02. Thank you.

S1 Christmas party

The S1 Christmas party has been moved from Thursday 8th December to next Wednesday 7th December 6:30-8pm. It will be a great night for our S1s!!

Skills Development Scotland - Parent & Carer Voice survey 2022/23

SDS would like to ask for feedback from parents and carers on the career service in schools. The survey runs until May 2023.

[Parent and carer research – Parent's Voice 2022/23 | Skills Development Scotland](#)

Flu Vaccinations - Reminder

The pupil flu vaccinations are taking place in the Assembly Hall next Wednesday 7th Dec, starting from 9am.

The vaccinations team have advised that over 1200 of our pupils have signed up to get the vaccination.

Foodbank - House Challenge – message from our House captains.

After our previous house challenge being a roaring success, we are about to start another exciting house challenge. To play into our theme of collective responsibility we decided to support a food bank for this challenge.

Our chosen charity is the Edinburgh Food Project who have 7 food banks located across Edinburgh. House captains will be collecting any donations at the front door every morning and any other donations can also be dropped off in the guidance corridor.

This challenge will run from 5-16 December. If you can donate, please do so as this is not only an initiative to collect house point but also our way of helping out and doing our bit for the wider community!

Below is a list of urgent, required and well stocked items:

Urgent

- RICE, LONG LIFE FRUIT JUICE, READY MEALS, TINNED SPAGHETTI IN SAUCE, BISCUITS / SWEETS / CHOCOLATE, JAM, HOUSEHOLD CLEANING PRODUCTS, DEODORANT, SHAMPOO

Required

- UHT MILK, SUGAR, PASTA SAUCE, TINNED VEG, TINNED TOMATOES, TINNED FRUIT, TINNED COLD MEAT (CORNED BEEF ETC.), TOILET ROLLS, PULSES, SHAVING FOAM, RAZORS

Well stocked (but still welcome)

- TINNED FISH, TINNED DESSERTS, BAKED BEANS, COFFEE, TEA BAGS, HOT MEAT (TINNED), PASTA, SOUP (TIN), TOOTHPASTE

Friday 25th November 2022

S1 parent's Night

S1 Parents Evening booking opened on Tuesday 22nd at 6pm.

We look forward to meeting S1 Parents online on Wednesday 30th November.

If parents have any issues with bookings please do contact us at admin@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk

School Makars

Our Boroughmuir School Makars are now on the Scottish Poetry Library website performing their winning poems. Well done, Caitlin and Oscar and all the runners-up who had a great day visiting the SPL. <https://www.scottishpoetrylibrary.org.uk/learning/meet-the-boroughmuir-makars/>

National Conversation on Education

The government national consultation on the future of Scottish Education closes on 5th December. Please see this link for how to make your views known: -

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/National-Discussion-on-Scottish-Education-Letter-to-Parents-and-Carers-14th-October-2022.pdf>

Qualifications Review

The Education Secretary has confirmed Exams and national qualifications are to be reformed. A reference group, led by Professor Louise Hayward, Professor of Educational Assessment and Innovation at Glasgow University, has been set up to provide advice to Ministers on the reforms. The review's Phase Two public consultation is now open on the Scottish Government's consultation hub [here](#)

You can find a dedicated survey for parents/carers [here](#). This will close on 16 December 2022.

Here is the [summary report of the Phase One survey](#).

Business Breakfast

This morning senior pupils in S5 and S6 studying Business or Economics attended our annual Business Breakfast. It was a fabulous event with our guest of honour Mr Ally Scott (Head of Strategy and Transactions and Managing Partner, EY, Scotland) giving an inspirational address.

A huge thank you to Ally, Ken Edwards (President of our FP Assoc) and the 10 other former pupil business mentors who gave so generously of their time.

Industrial action

There is further industrial action by teachers planned for 7th and 8th December. Again, we will keep parents and pupils posted with updated information as we receive it.

Friday 18th November 2022

Teacher Industrial Action

As you will be aware from the press, there is teacher industrial action planned for Thursday 24th November.

A City of Edinburgh communication has been sent to all parents indicating that all schools will be closed to all pupils on that day.

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Proposed-Education-Industrial-Action-24th-November-2022.pdf>

We will keep you updated with the most current information as we receive it.

Internet safety evening – Wednesday 23rd November 6.30 - 7.45.

With the roll out of pupil iPads, this parents' workshop will explore what some of the current risks are as well as signposting resources that parents can use to keep themselves informed about their child's virtual world. We will look at all ages from early years up to adolescents. There will be an opportunity for discussion and questions throughout the session.

The facilitator, Leeanne Turner, has over 20 years' experience as a social worker within the field of child protection. She has been a child protection trainer for 10 years. She is also a CEOP ambassador and supports professionals and parents to think about the risks online and how to work proactively with children and young people to keep them safe. Leeanne is also a mum to a 13year old social media obsessed girl and so knows well the peer pressure and worries that parents can find themselves in when it comes to their children's online world.

Microsoft Teams meeting

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 387 973 939 589

Passcode: u5SHPq

S4 Prelims

S4 prelims are almost complete with only Mandarin, Music and Art taking place next Monday and Tuesday.

Our pupils have conducted themselves brilliantly throughout this period and our invigilation team have again given great praise to how mannerly and respectful our pupils are.

Well done to all our S4 who have put in so much hard work and effort in preparing for these exams.

Important Dates to note

S5/6 Reports to parents by Friday 18th Nov.

Wed 30th Nov – S1 parents' evening (on-line – details to follow)

S4 Reports to parents by Friday 9th Dec.

Thursday 12th January – S4 parent's night.

S5/6 prelims Friday 13th January to Friday 27th January

Business Breakfast

Next Friday, 25th Nov, senior pupils in S5 and S6 studying Business or Economics are attending our annual Business Breakfast.

This is an event which is being organised jointly by the school and our Former Pupils Association. The aim of the event is to allow pupils to hear from and meet people from a range of business backgrounds.

This year our guest of honour will be Mr Ally Scott, Head of Strategy and Transactions and Managing Partner, EY, Scotland (https://www.ey.com/en_uk/people/ally-scott). Ally is also a former pupil of Boroughmuir High School. There will also be a range of other business people, many of whom are FPs, joining us for the breakfast. They will help facilitate business conversations at tables prior to our guest speaker.

It is a prestigious event with an early start. 7 am! Any senior pupils who are not studying Business or Economics but who are keen to attend should see Ms Braisby about availability of spaces by close of play on Monday.

Staff Updates

Congratulations to Alex Gilmore, teacher of Computing who has been appointed as Curriculum Leader of Computing at Craigroyston High School. Alex will leave Boroughmuir on Friday 9th December.

Friday 11th November 2022

Remembrance Service

Today is our school remembrance service.

S6 pupils represent all pupils at this poignant remembrance service in the school assembly hall along with invited FPs. The whole school will observe a 1minute silence at 11am in memory of all those who gave their lives in war.

Boroughmuir Pipe band

Boroughmuir's pipe band will be playing at the Hearts match this Saturday as part of the Hearts FC remembrance game. I am delighted that our school pipe band is able to participate on this event and I will be in attendance to further represent the school.

Parent Council Meeting – Wed 16th Nov 6.30pm.

The next parent council meeting is next Wednesday 16th November at 6.30pm on TEAMS.

<https://teams.live.com/join/9473780335841>

An agenda will be sent out prior to the meeting.

Head Teacher's Attainment Report

Each year I provide an overview of whole school attainment in the SQA exams Please click this link

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/headteachers-newsletters/hts-attainment-report-nov-2022/>

I also provide a more detailed report to the Parent Council Curriculum sub-group.

SQA Appeals

SQA is currently carrying out a large-scale evaluation of the 2022 approach to National Qualifications assessment. Part of this includes gathering views from parents and carers on the Appeals 2022 service. They have a panel of parents and carers who take part in occasional surveys for SQA. If you would like to take part, please sign up using this link www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/96570.html.

Those candidates that have been successful in an appeal for the 2022 diet will be notified by SQA during November.

Internet safety evening – Save the date -Wednesday 23rd November 6.30 - 7.45.

With the roll out of pupil Ipads, this parents' workshop will explore what some of the current risks are as well as signposting resources that parents can use to keep themselves informed about their child's virtual world. We will look at all ages from early years up to adolescents. There will be an opportunity for discussion and questions throughout the session. More info next week.

BIMA Digital Day 2022

On Wednesday 9th November all 70 S3 Computing Science pupils took part in the national BIMA Digital Day 2022. BIMA is a UK organisation which is the voice of digital and tech and is passionate about developing the next generation of digital professionals. Boroughmuir have taken part in this initiative for many years and this year we were partnered with the digital agency Yard.

Our pupils spent the whole day on Wednesday in the Assembly Hall hearing about digital career opportunities from the staff at Yard and then taking part in some digital design challenges to come up with digital solution for well-known brands. The winning teams will now be entered into the National BIMA Competition. Well done to our S3 Computing Science pupils. You did us proud representing your school!!

Friday 4th November 202

The Boroughmuir Thistle – 3rd Edition

Please click link for the bumper 3rd edition of our pupil lead school newspaper.

[The Boroughmuir Thistle 3.2 \(office.com\)](#)

S1 Remembrance Week

Next week S1 pupils will have a strong focus on Remembrance in many of their classes. On Monday morning pupils will remain in the assembly hall after assembly where they are going to be watching a play based on the book 'War Horse'. It is a multi-award-winning, world-class piece of theatre created by The National Theatre. We will observe the interval in the play and therefore pupils will have their morning break earlier than usual. The fundraising committee will be putting on a tuck shop in the lower atrium where items can be purchased during the interval.

Through the week pupils will have a focus on Remembrance or the themes and issues explored within War Horse in English, History, Geography, PSE, RMPS, Music, HFT, Art, D&E and maybe some others.

There will be a House challenge this week too and Mr Graham will give pupils the details of this during assembly on Monday.

All other year groups will also have inputs at their assemblies around remembrance.

Our S6 will attend our annual service of remembrance in the school assembly hall on Friday 11th. They will represent all current pupils along with Former Pupils.

Christmas Concert - Save the date!

The Christmas Concert is back this year on Wednesday 14th December at Central Halls from 7pm – 9pm. Tickets will be on sale via parent pay very soon. Priority will be given to pupils performing in the concert and then will be sold on a first come first served basis. We can't wait to see you there in support of our wonderful performers.

Understanding options available after school (SDS) for parents and carers secondary pupils, Thursday 10th November 6.30pm

Skills Development Scotland careers advisers are hosting a webinar for parents and carers of secondary pupils on 10 Nov at 6:30pm to discuss the options available to young people when they leave secondary school, and resources and support available from Skills Development Scotland.

Parents and carers can register for our session here:

<https://Understandingoptionsavailableafterschool.eventbrite.co.uk>

Annual Academic Service

I was delighted to once again represent the school along with our pupil Head Team (Kenny Chen, Caitlin Conway, Elisa Jourdan, Ben Whiteley) at the annual Academic Service in St Giles last Sunday. The event started in the City Chambers after which the 'Academics' processed up the Royal Mile to St Giles.

It is a celebration of the academic life of Edinburgh and is attended by Academics from the City's Universities, Colleges and Schools. The City of Edinburgh Council was represented by the Lord Provost Robert Aldridge and other office bearing Councillors, the Director of Education Amanda Hatton as well as Headteachers, teachers and pupils from the City's schools.

Staffing Update

This week we appointed 2 full time permanent teachers of Biology to replace the vacancy left by Steve Hamilton's promotion to CL and the vacancy created by the biology probationer leaving.

Congratulations to Carolyn Nisbet, who has been working in the dept on a temporary basis for the last year and also to Shona Adams who is currently a biology teacher at Beath High School in Fife.

Parking

Residents have raised concerns with local councillors with regard to parents parking around the school at start and close of play, in particular, abuse of the disabled parking bays.

Please be considerate when dropping off or picking up and do so in appropriate areas.

Friday 28th October 2022

P7 Open Afternoon - Today

This afternoon is the P7 open afternoon. Details are in this link.

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/open-afternoon/>

S4 Prelims start next week

The S4 prelim diet starts on Thursday afternoon with Spanish Listening. Mathematics is on Friday. Good luck to all in S4 doing Nat 5 prelims. Here is the full prelim timetable: -

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/S4-Prelims-Pupil-Information-and-Timetable-November-2022.pdf>

National Parent Forum Support Materials

If parents want more information on subjects and national qualifications, the National Parent Forum of Scotland's Nutshell series is an excellent source of information. Have a look here: -

<https://www.npfs.org.uk/downloads/category/in-a-nutshell-series/>

National Conversation on Education

The government have launched a national consultation on the future of Scottish Education.

Please see this link for how to make your views known: -

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/National-Discussion-on-Scottish-Education-Letter-to-Parents-and-Carers-14th-October-2022.pdf>

Firework Safety

Please see the attached letter from Police Scotland, City of Edinburgh Council & Scottish Fire & Rescue Service about bonfire and firework safety.

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Firework-Letter-Schools-2022-SE.pdf>

Empowered Learning Launch Week

We are at the stage where all pupils have received their iPad.

As explained during assemblies, the Empowered Learning launch week begins next week. (w/b 31st Oct)

This means from now pupils must ensure they bring their iPad to school each day, charged. The iPads are a tool pupils will potentially need for learning throughout the day.

Pupils should have installed the following apps from the Self-Service App:

Microsoft: OneNote, Word, PowerPoint, OneDrive, Teams, Whiteboard

Others: Kahoot, Desmos, Padlet, ClickView

Parents' Ipad info evening

There is an information evening for parents on iPad usage on TEAMS on Wednesday 2nd Nov at 6.30pm.

We will talk through some of the ways that iPads will be used in school and there will be an opportunity for Q&A.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 350 649 807 455

Passcode: pQVC2w

S3 parents' Night

The S3 Parent Consultation is on Tuesday 8th November.

Booking for this evening opens on Monday 31st at 6pm. Information is being sent to S3 parents today.

This session all parent consultation evenings are on-line.

Highest Achieving Higher Maths Candidate 2022

We are delighted to share that Jeevan Hoehnke achieved 100% in his higher maths exam and as a result is a winner of the Mary Somerville Prize awarded each year by the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries in Scotland.

This is a fabulous achievement, and we are extremely proud of Jeevan.

Creative writing anthology

Our 2021-22 collection has tales of falling and of flying; of hiding and of exploring; of silence and of expression. Thanks, as always, to the whole English department for seeking out contributions from our wonderful writers, and huge thanks to our writers for producing such wonderful content.

And thank you to you for reading!

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/furthsetter/>

Association for Media Education in Scotland (AMES) Awards – Message from Ms Dunlop.

The Ames Award for Higher Media Screen Production at the Scottish Youth Film Festival was won by **Isabella Cramer** for her short film titled 'Family'.

The Ames Award for National 5 Screen Production at the Scottish Youth Film Festival was won by **Beth Fallon** for her horror trailer titled 'The Last Night'.

This competition was open to all schools in Scotland so for Boroughmuir to win both awards is an absolute credit to our creative, hardworking pupils.

David Barras from The Scottish Youth Film Festival will be coming into Boroughmuir to present the girls with their awards in the near future.

We also had a number of runners up.

For Higher, Anna Loxley for her short film titled 'Pride' and for National 5, Lucy Irvine for her horror trailer titled 'Stalker' and Jed Calvert for his horror trailer titled 'The last place you look'.

Well done all!

Staff Updates

Congratulations to Steve Hamilton who this week has been appointed as full-time permanent Curriculum Leader for the Well Being Hub.

Congratulations to Brydon Cochrane who yesterday was appointed to the position of full-time permanent Teacher of Physics here in Boroughmuir High School.

You may remember from a previous communication that Mr Cochrane had resigned his Curriculum Leader post here in the school.

With Fraser Kastelein, one of our physics teachers, being successful at interview in being appointed to that position Mr Cochrane decided to apply for the vacant position of teacher of physics.

Both will start their new roles on Monday 21st November.

Friday 14th October 2022

Half Term Break: -

School breaks TODAY at 12.50pm for half term.

Monday 24th October is a holiday for staff and pupils.
Tuesday 25th October is an in-service day for staff.
All pupils return to school on Wednesday 26th October at 8.32am.
Have a great break!!

Ipad Roll out- Complete!

We have now issued 1495 iPads to all pupils in the school!
This was a massive job to ensure they were all asset tagged, that all appropriate paperwork was in place and that they were all logging on properly.
A huge thank you to all the staff involved in making this happen over the last week.
These will be a real asset in providing great support in the delivery of high-quality Learning and Teaching.
There will be a parents' information and support event on the evening of 2nd November on Teams.
Further info to follow.

P7 Open Afternoon on October 28th

This year the P7 open afternoon here in Boroughmuir is on Friday 28th October. Details are in this link.

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/open-afternoon/>

Bring Your Parents to School Day

Yesterday we were delighted to host 60 S1 parents who followed a full day's S1 timetable. They had a short Assembly with Ms Presly, Mr Dempster and some senior pupils. This was followed by a full day of S1 lessons, which I'm glad to say were thoroughly enjoyed!
They described feeling "excited" and "a little nervous" at the start of the day but left describing the day as:

"I just feel so excited for my kids coming to this amazing school. Loved the building, loved the facilities and the inspirational teachers are second to none."

"This was a brilliant idea and a great insight into an S1s life. Can I come back tomorrow?"

"Fantastic and great to see pupils in leadership roles."

"I have learned at least 3 new skills" and "I was dreading some subjects but the teachers were lovely"

Although thoroughly enjoyed most parents found it an exhausting day and were looking forward to getting back to work for a rest!!!

S4 Prelim Timetable

Here is a link to the S4 prelim timetable which starts fully on Friday 4th November.

S4, please remember to have a holiday!

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/S4-Prelims-Pupil-Information-and-Timetable-November-2022.pdf>

Saroj Lal Award

Congratulations to our RMPS teacher Jane O'Thy who is also our Pupil Equalities coordinator and Health and Well-being coordinator who this week was highly commended in this years Saroj Lal award for the promotion of equalities in school

Please see this link for the full article.

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/news/article/13571/students-and-teachers-receive-the-inaugural-saroj-lal-award-for-city-of-edinburgh-schools>

Parent Council Chair

I am delighted to inform you that after this week's AGM Mr Keith Robson is the new chair of our Parent Council taking over from Kate Morris. We are indebted to Kate for all she did in support of the school in her 3year tenure.

The next meeting of the parent council is 16th November (on Zoom) and any questions or issues can be posted to the chair via

chair@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk

Brufts – Save the Date – Friday 16th June 2023 – message from Ms Presly

Boroughmuir High School staff and pupils are organising the Brufts (a bit like Crufts) event which will celebrate the wellbeing benefits of being a dog owner. The aim of Brufts is to provide a positive community event to promote wellbeing and have fun. For many of our young people (and staff) animals play an important role in their lives and support their wellbeing. We felt after lockdown and lack of community events Brufts could offer a bit of fun and promote a positive relationship with the community and raise some money for charity too. The event will take place in **Harrison Park on Friday 16th June 2023 from 2-5pm** in which pupils and teachers will have the opportunity to bring their dogs to Harrison Park. We have a couple of animal charities confirmed who would like a stall at Brufts. If you feel you could offer some support or expertise or know someone who might be interested e.g charities, local businesses or family dog experts - then please do get in touch with Victoria.leask@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk



After the October break we will be launching a poster competition and will be looking for the "Face of Brufts" so you might want to get snapping with some nice photos on autumnal walks next week!

MacMillan Coffee Morning - Total

On Friday 30th September, our Princes Trust pupils hosted a hugely successful coffee morning in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support. Over 30 guests of staff, parents, businesses and MSP's enjoyed coffee, cake and sandwiches. The event has raised a phenomenal £445 for the charity so far. Donations are still welcome here. <https://thyq.uk/BUS007718007>.

Friday 7th October 2022

Half Term Break: -

School breaks for half term next Friday 14th October at 12.50pm.

Monday 24th October is now a holiday for staff and pupils.

Tuesday 25th October is an in-service day for staff

All pupils return to school on Wednesday 26th October at 8.32am.

Parent Council Meeting Dates – message from Kate Morris, Parent Council Chair

AGM - 12 October 6.30pm – ZOOM

Join the Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82886892876?pwd=NGJZbzR6VUkyWFFNempGMTN4OEsZz09>

Meeting ID: 828 8689 2876: Passcode: 452317

You are welcome to raise issues by emailing chair@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk. After the AGM the new chair will be Keith Robson.

Future meeting dates are: - 16 November, 1 Feb, 15 March, 7 June

iPad Roll Out – Next Week

As of Monday 10th October, we will be issuing iPad to all pupils as part of the City's Empowered Learning Programme. Pupils will come home with a brand new boxed iPad to support their learning.

Monday – S6 and S5

Tuesday – all S4 and some S3

Wednesday – rest of S3 and some S2

Thursday – all S1 and catch ups

School Newspaper – The Boroughmuir Thistle

The 2nd edition of our school newspaper can be viewed by clicking on this link.

Another fabulous publication!

[The Boroughmuir Thistle \(office.com\)](#)

Face Coverings

As winter approaches this is a reminder that anyone who wishes to wear face coverings in school can. That option exists at the moment but please feel free to wear a mask if you wish.

Staff Updates

Congratulations to Fraser Kastelein who was today appointed as Curriculum Leader of Physics and Biology. Fraser is currently a physics teacher in Boroughmuir.

Fraser will replace Mr Cochrane who tendered his resignation of this post earlier this session.

Start dates for Fraser and end dates for Mr Cochrane will be shared in the near future.

Friday 30th September 2022

Additional holiday – Monday 24th October

As City of Edinburgh schools were closed on Monday, 19 September during the State Funeral, an additional day's holiday is being granted to schools on Monday **24 October 2022**. The City of Edinburgh Council's schools' inset day that was due to take place on 24 October will be moved to 25 October. Pupils return to school after October break on Wednesday 26th October at 8.32.

Visit by Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

Yesterday we hosted Ms Shirley Anne Somerville, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills. She was accompanied by staff from Keep Scotland Beautiful (KSB) as well as Cllr Cammy Day, Leader of Edinburgh City Council and Cllr Scott Arthur. The members of our Climate Change Society, Eco Group and Pupil Voice were a credit to themselves and the school in presenting projects they have been doing that relate to Learning for Sustainability and Climate Change.

Sport Scotland School Sports Ambassadors

I'm pleased to say that Owen Harris and Kate MacPhail (both S4) have been appointed as the school's Sports Ambassadors. As their first event they will be attending the Sport Scotland's 'Young Ambassadors' conference at Tynecastle Park on Wednesday. Well done!

European Day of Languages

Our European Day of Languages took place on Wednesday, as a celebration of the linguistic diversity across Europe. This is an event we celebrate every year and after a couple of years absence it was great to have it back. The linguistic diversity we have in the school, amongst both staff and pupils, is enormous and this year we had 15 languages represented in our stalls.

Dutch School Visit

This week, our Advanced Higher Modern Studies class welcomed 20 students and 2 teachers from Wateringse Veld College, The Hague. In the spirit of enhancing global citizenship and enriching their visit to Edinburgh, the Scottish and Dutch pupils took part in discussion groups facilitated by our very own David Cogan, heard from special guest speaker Presiding Officer Alison Johnstone, and shadowed Higher and Advanced Higher classes. A real highlight for the teachers involved was to see the informed, interested, and passionate exchange of ideas from all of the young people involved. Hopefully this is the start of rich partnership and we will get to see our Dutch friends again - maybe in The Hague next time!

Norwegian Architects Visit

Last Monday we welcomed 51 Norwegian Architects who had asked to visit our school during their study tour visit to Scotland. As expected they were highly impressed with our building and our canal side location- something of course which is pretty common in Holland.

McMillan Coffee Morning

Today our Princes Trust S4 students are hosting a coffee morning in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support. The group used their barista training to entertain over 30 guests made up of staff, parents, local businesses, MSPs and MPs. Donations are still welcome and can be made via the QR code. We would like to thank Coffee Conscience, Cuckoos Bakery and Stewart Grace for their generosity in making this event a success.



Friday 23rd September 2022

Boroughmuir School Makar

We ran a competition to find two creative, passionate, and artistically excellent pupils (one for the senior year groups and one for the junior year groups) to act as Boroughmuir School Makars. We will ask these pupils, occasionally, to share with us their 'take' on current or school events – just like Kathleen Jamie does as the Scots Makar and Hannah Lavery does as the Edinburgh Makar.

The competition was small but the poems were absolutely wonderful. They were clever, thoughtful, fierce, heart-breaking, funny, thought provoking but above all unique. **They were all so good.** Thank you to everyone who entered. As a result of the quality of the work sent in, a selection of the best – from across the school – will be published after the October Holiday for pupils and parents to purchase.

The Art dept are currently running a competition for pupils to design the cover for that publication, so artists – if you're interested – please do get involved and ask your Art teacher for more information.

The poetry competition was judged anonymously by Ms Yates, Mr Dempster, Ms Presley and Sam Tongue from the Scottish Poetry Library.

The winners are:

S1-S3, Oscar Cobham (S1)

S4-S6, Caitlin Conway (S6)

Our winners will each receive a badge for their bags, a goody-bag from the Scottish Poetry Library, a copy of Kate Clanchy's *How to Grow Your Own Poem*, a £10 book voucher and their poems will be entered into the *Foyle's Young Poet of the Year* international competition. Their poems will also be published on the Scottish Poetry Library Website. These links will take you to their poems:-

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Makar-Oscar-Cobham-entry.pdf>

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Makar-The-Art-of-Protest-Poetry.pdf>

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Makar-Time-Heals-Grief-Villanelle.pdf>

A huge thanks to Ms Yates for organising this whole event!

School Newspaper – 1st Edition

We are delighted to share the first edition of the pupil paper with you!

<https://sway.office.com/b5ULK0lOvNqxpY?ref=Link>

These will be published fortnightly and provide a pupil perspective on life at Boroughmuir. It has been written and edited by the pupils. Well done to all involved and Ms O'Thy who is working with the Boroughmuir Thistle Editorial team.

Highest Achieving Modern Studies Candidate 2022

Sam Moore was one of 4 pupils in Scotland who achieved the highest mark for Higher Modern Studies. This is a tremendous achievement and has been recognised by the Scottish Modern Studies Association. Sam will be presented with a trophy, a certificate and a cheque for £50 by Glasgow University's Professor of Politics at the association's annual conference in Glasgow.

Sport Scotland –School Sport Silver Award

The Boroughmuir PE Department and Active Schools clubs have achieved the **Sport Scotland: School Sport Silver Award**.

The award is based on the following areas:

- School Sport
- Physical Education
- Clubs and Communities
- Competitive Opportunities
- Celebrating Sport
- Developing our Pupils
- Developing our deliverers
- Recognising of Young People

Well done to all our PE staff, Active School Coordinator, parent and pupil volunteers and all those who assist in whatever way in helping our sports clubs see so successful.

Visit by Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

Next Thursday (29th Sep) we are hosting a visit from Ms Shirley Anne Somerville, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills. She is coming to meet members of our Climate Change Society and to see sector leading projects that they have been doing that relate to Learning for Sustainability and Climate Change.

Road Safety

Reports from the public are indicating that many parents are parking irresponsibly around the school and also that pupils are crossing roads with no due regard to their own safety.

It is in everyone's interest that proper consideration of road safety is observed by everyone.

Friday 16th September 2022

Monday 19th September Holiday: - Remember, Monday is an Edinburgh School Holiday.

Former Pupils Event – Friday 23 Sep 2022

Our Former Pupils' association are organising an FP Open evening here in the new Boroughmuir High School on the evening of Friday 23rd September 2022.

If you are an FP or know any FPs please share the link below and consider signing up and coming along. Lots of memorabilia will be on display and it could be a chance to catch up with old schoolmates.

See attached link for more details.

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/FP-Open-Event-flyer-2022-jpeg.jpg>

Where to find support information for senior students

S4-6 families have all had welcome evenings in the past few weeks to give out key messages and to share our approach to supporting young people this year.

The materials from the evenings can be found on the school website here [Parents Information | Boroughmuir High School](#)

Families will be particularly interested in supporting young people with preparing for qualifications. All S4s and S5s have been asked to make a plan for organising themselves this year and teachers are in the process of sharing key dates with them. The assessment calendars and study support are shared on the bulletin here [Daily Bulletin | Boroughmuir High School](#) and also on the website here [Assessment Calendars & Study Support | Boroughmuir High School](#)

Extra-Curricular

Here is an update of all the extra-curricular programmes and sport currently being offered by the school.

BHS Sports Clubs: https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/BHS-Sports-Clubs_Sept22.pdf

BHS General Clubs: https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/BHS-General-Clubs_Sept22.pdf

S3 Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI)

Next week sees our S3 students embarking on the YPI programme. This engaging, collaborative and fun venture sees S3s championing a charity via research and communication with the charity, with the end product of an innovative, passionate presentation with which they hope to land the £3000 grant for their chosen charity.

To any parents with business links, Boroughmuir are looking for key partners to join us to fund our minority contribution (£500) of the annual £3000 YPI grant.

More information can be found at: <https://ypiscotland.org.uk/>

Message from Edinburgh Police Division

Edinburgh Police Division want to hear your views as they develop local policing priorities for 2023-2026. They will publish a forward-looking Local Police Plan in April 2023.

Please use the 'Your Police survey' (link below) to have your say and let them know your thoughts.

[Your Police 2022-2023 - Police Scotland - Citizen Space](#)

Friday 9th September 2022

HRH Queen Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

On the sad news of the passing of HRH Queen Elizabeth II we at Boroughmuir High School would like to extend our most sincere condolences to her family.

S1 Welcome Evening – message from Ms Presly.

Many thanks to all S1 Parents and Carers who battled the elements to join us on Tuesday night. A huge thanks also to our Pupil Support Team, Mrs Braisby, Mrs King and Ms Monaco, Caitlin Conway, Our Parent Council rep Keith Robson for their helpful input to making our S1 parents feel welcomed.

The Inspirational Boroughmuir Beans (and Mrs Kelly) and our Nearly New Uniform Champions also helped to create a welcoming atmosphere supported as always by our S6 Leadership Team.

Here is the link to our presentation.

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/s1-welcome-evening-3/>

Bring Your parents to School Day (BYPTSD) - S1 Parents Only

Each year we give S1 parents the chance to experience life as an S1 pupil! It's a full day in school following a typical S1 timetable.

This year our BYPTSD is on 13th October. Places are limited to 60 and are sure to be taken quickly. All S1 parents have been emailed the sign-up form already.

S6 Information Evening

It was great to have our S6 parents in for an S6 information evening on Wednesday night.

Here is the link to the presentation.

[PowerPoint Presentation \(boroughmuirhighschool.org\)](https://www.boroughmuirhighschool.org)

Norwegian Head Teachers and Directors of Education

We are delighted to be resuming hosting international delegations into our school. On Tuesday 13th September we are hosting 7 Norwegian Head Teachers and Directors of Education who are keen to hear about the Scottish Education system and see it in action at Boroughmuir.

We will of course be calling on the services of our pupils to meet with them which visitors always really enjoy.

Raising Teens with Confidence 2022 – dates for programme

Raising Teens with Confidence aims to **give you the chance to explore how you can best support your teenage children** to navigate increasing independence and develop confidence, security and resilience, as well as to promote emotional wellbeing in themselves.

We are able to run two courses this term. Each course has a maximum of twenty spaces and will run for six weeks in school. If you would like to attend please use the Eventbrite links below to sign up to either a Wednesday or Thursday evening. Please note we cannot interchange the evenings i.e. if you sign up for the Wednesday course you should attend every Wednesday not some Thursdays. We would ask that one parent per family signs up at this time. We hope to be able to offer further courses in future.

A reminder that the course topics are:

Week / date	topic	time
1. Wednesday 14 September Thursday 15 September	Introduction: Why What You Do Matters	5-7pm
2. Wednesday 21 September Thursday 22 September	The Amazing Teenage Brain: What's Going on in There?	5-7pm

3. Wednesday 28 September Thursday 29 September	Risky Business: Managing Adventure, Risk and Resilience	5-7pm
4. Wednesday 5 October Thursday 6 October	It's Good to Talk: The Importance of Staying Connected	5-7pm
5. Wednesday 12 October Thursday 13 October	The Brain Under Stress: Overcoming Setbacks and Promoting Resilience	5-7pm
October holiday – no session on 19 October		
6. Wednesday 26 October Thursday 27 October	Looking After Your Own Wellbeing: Coping With the Changes	5-7pm

To book for the **Wednesday sessions** please use this link

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/boroughmuir-high-school-raising-teens-with-confidence-wednesday-group-registration-412737959347> password Boroughmuir2022

To book for the **Thursday sessions** please use this link

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/boroughmuir-high-school-raising-teens-with-confidence-thursday-group-registration-412792973897> password Thursday

Friday 2nd September 2022

Health and Well-being at Boroughmuir -message from Ms O'Thy, HWB coordinator, Teacher of RMPS, Philosophy and HWB

A new tab will shortly be appearing on the school website that aims to support Health and Wellbeing at Boroughmuir. There will be sections for parents, students and staff. The aim is to point you in the direction of help and support.

The sway below may help parents support their child's health and well-being, and gives examples of support materials and organisations

<https://sway.office.com/67KB1ZkBy1Kq7uZT?ref=Link>

Support for Families

Below is the link to access to the Free School Meals and Clothing Grants.

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/FSM-2019.pdf>

To ensure everyone has access to the correct support we would ask you to answer the following questions to let us know which supports your child/children may already utilise and what additional financial support may be needed.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=af6sSGo3tUKfacnke7-5xFSHYPKMNOBBohSXos_mnVxUQjhZQ0NEMzdQOUVXQkFZTElaSzkzS1Q0Ty4u

Staggered Break and Lunch Breaks

As of Monday we are altering how we stagger our breaks and lunches to assist with overcrowding. All year groups will now be dismissed from class 5 mins early at break and lunch on a rota as shown below:-

Monday – S1

Tuesday – S2

Wednesday – S3, S5 and S6

Thursday - S4

Freshers' Fair

We are holding our annual Freshers' Fair next **Friday 9th September for all S1 pupils.**

This event allows S1s to visit stalls for all the clubs and activities on offer at Boroughmuir. All S1 classes are taken to the Fair by their teachers during the school day. We also collate a booklet of all clubs for pupils and parents. The event is led by Tony Segall our Active Schools Co-ordinator and our Senior Sports Leaders.

Further information will be provided to pupils and the link to the booklet will be made available to all parents/carers via our website

Epic Days – S2 Outdoor Experience

Our S2 pupils next week and the following week are taking part in an outdoor experience in the Pentlands facilitated by The City of Edinburgh's Outdoor Unit. They will also be accompanied by their guidance teacher, their House captains and one of our PE teachers. Members of the Senior management Team will also be attending.

The timetable of visits are:-

Monday 5th September - Bruntsfield

Tuesday 6th September - Hartington

Wednesday 7th September - Leamington

Thursday 8th September - Montpelier

Monday 12th September - Viewforth

Tuesday 13th September - Westhall

All S2 parents and pupils have been given full information.

Activity Week 2023

We are aware that our pupils have missed out on our Activity Week experiences over the last few years. We are keen to get back in place some sort of Activity week for our junior pupils next year.

Watch this space for more details.

S1 and S6 Evenings

Next week there are 2 events for parents.

S1 welcome evening – Tuesday 6th Sep 6.30 – 8.00pm in the school

S6 Information Evening - Wednesday 7th Sep 7.00 – 8.00pm in the school

Due to capacity, we would ask that only 1 parent per family attends.

Bus issues

Members of the public who use the rural bus service (service 101/102) are finding that often they cannot get on the bus due to school pupils who are only travelling within Edinburgh. They are not only Boroughmuir pupils but if at all possible it would be appreciated by these people if pupils could use City bus services leaving space on the rural services for those who need it.

Friday 26th August 2022

Calling all Former Pupils

Our Former Pupils' association are organising an FP Open evening here in the new Boroughmuir High School on the evening of Friday 23rd September 2022.

If you are an FP or know any FPs please share the link below and consider signing up and coming along. Lots of memorabilia will be on display and it could be a chance to catch up with old schoolmates.

See attached link for more details.

<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/FP-Open-Event-flyer-2022-jpeg.jpg>

Links to SLT Presentations

It was great to have the parents of S3,S4 &S5 in school this week for our SLT information evenings.

All the information presented and handed out is now available on the school website here

[Parents Information | Boroughmuir High School](#)

It is also on your child's Teams page.

The task for S4s this week is to put the key dates for the year into their diaries / devices or wherever they plan their work.

If you do have any further questions, please direct them through your child's guidance teacher.

S2 Update

Please see this link for a special S2 newsletter update.

S2 – click [here](#)

School Calendar /events

The next events for parents are

S1 welcome evening – Tuesday 6th Sep 6.30 – 8.00pm in the school

S6 Information Evening - Wednesday 7th Sep 7.00 – 8.00pm in the school

S1 Boys Football

We are looking for a coach (or coaches) for the new S.1 boys football team. Games are played on a Saturday morning and training will be after school on a day to be determined (although a commitment to Saturday is more important than being available during the week). If you are interested, please email admin@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk

Fencing Success

Further to our message last week about Anne Emma Hu taking part in the Commonwealth Fencing Championships, we are now delighted to announce that she has won a silver and a bronze medal. Well done Ann-Emma.

Save the date – Freshers' Fair

We are holding our annual Freshers' Fair on **Friday 9th September for all S1 pupils.**

This event allows S1s to visit stalls for all the clubs and activities on offer at Boroughmuir. All S1 classes are taken to the Fair by their teachers during the school day. We also collate a booklet of all clubs for pupils and parents. The event is led by Tony Segall our Active Schools Co-ordinator and our Senior Sports Leaders.

Further information will be provided to pupils and the link to the booklet will be made available to all parents/carers via our website

Mr D Dempster, Head Teacher.

Friday 19th August 2022

Start of new Term

I hope all our pupils and staff had a great summer holiday.

I was delighted to welcome back all our existing pupils and new our S1 pupils on Wednesday 17th August.

With our intake of 280 S1s we now have a school roll of 1495.

SQA exam results

Well done to all of our senior phase pupils who sat SQA National exams. Overall, the results for Boroughmuir are excellent and show the absolute commitment that our teachers put into their teaching and our pupils put into their learning.

For those who didn't achieve their goal, they must speak to their class teacher to see if there are grounds for an appeal. If not, we will look at ways of assisting pupils to be re-coursed if that is possible.

School Calendar / Upcoming events

The link below will take you to information that is contained within our summer mailing.

[New Letters to Parents | Boroughmuir High School](#)

Next Monday evening (22nd Aug) there is an S3 Information evening in the school for parents and carers of the new S3.

Next Tuesday evening (23rd Aug) there is an S4 information evening followed by an S5 information session.

Details have been sent to parents of pupils in S3,4,5.

Other useful links are

[Home-School-Calendar-2022-23.pdf \(boroughmuirhighschool.org\)](https://www.boroughmuirhighschool.org/Home-School-Calendar-2022-23.pdf)

[Pupil-Dress-Code-leaflet-070721.pdf \(boroughmuirhighschool.org\)](https://www.boroughmuirhighschool.org/Pupil-Dress-Code-leaflet-070721.pdf)

New Senior Leadership Team / Guidance structures

Mr Damian Hayes who was a Depute at Earlston High School in the Scottish Borders has joined our team this week

Here is a table showing our new DHT structure.

DHT	Year Group responsibilities	Other key areas of responsibility
Juliet Presly	P7 / S1	Learning, Teaching & Assessment, Pupil Equity Funding, primary school liaison
Clive Hembury	S2/ S3	Curriculum, Tracking & Monitoring, School Timetable
Damian Hayes	S4/S5	Raising Attainment & Achievement, SQA coordinator
Claire Paterson	S6 / post S6	Head of Pastoral Support Team, Equalities coordinator, post school liaison

Here is a reminder of our new Guidance team structure which was introduced at the start of June.

Pupil support Leaders are parents' first point of contact.

Pupil Support Leader	House
Fiona Grant	Hartington
Peter McIlwaine	Montpelier
Chris Brandie	Viewforth
Lucy Wallace	Westhall
Caroline Nisbet	Leamington
Kerry Scherczer	Bruntsfield

S6 Leadership week for our Head Team

This week our S6 Pupil Head Team have been on an Outward Bound Team Building and Leadership course.

The group of 24 S6 pupils are being accompanied by Mr Collard and Mr Thin from our PE dept. The pupils are all holding office in S6 and this experience provides a great focus on team building and leadership skills.

Boroughmuir FPs and pupils in Commonwealth Games

We were delighted to see 4 of our former representing Scotland in the Commonwealth Games.

Sean Flynn Cycling, Men's Road Race, 10th Place
Rachel McLachlan, Women's Rugby 7's, Quarter Finals
Jordon Edmunds, Men's Rugby 7's, Quarter Finals
Rachel Conway, Netball, 9th Place Team

Current pupil Ann-Emma is in London as part Scottish Commonwealth Fencing Team
The competition will continue to Friday 19th August.
So far Ann- Emma Hu has won a bronze medal in team event. Well done Ann-Emma!

Royal Scottish Geographical Society – Competition.

A huge congratulations to Ellie Morrison (S4) who has won the National 'Imagine a Country' competition launched by the Royal Scottish Geographical Society. She will read out her essay to an audience at the Edinburgh Book Festival on Saturday August 27th

The project stemmed from a book called *Imagine a Country*, which contained nearly 100 ideas for Scotland's future from people across the country and challenged readers to start imagining their future. The book was edited by writer Val McDermid and geographer Jo Sharp.

Ellie's essay was about how dog-walkers can use a spray that comes in a reusable and recyclable container containing microorganisms that already exist that will break down the dog waste into a fine microscopic powder that returns to the soil. A simple yet effective, sustainable solution to a common environmental nuisance! Well done Ellie for this achievement.

Young Scot Information

Please see this link for information and support from the Young Scot organisation.
<https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Young-Scot-Information.pdf>

Mr D Dempster, Head Teacher.