

## **Head Teacher Weekly Update 22/11/24**

Dear Parents and Carers –

It is a busy update this week, capturing the lively nature of the school at the moment. We have enjoyed welcoming all the P7s into the school over the past two weeks, as part of our ongoing transition work. Our Sports Leaders did a brilliant programme for them and displayed their impressive leadership skills. There have been house assemblies this week. It would be lovely to get a few more parents and carers to come along to our 120<sup>th</sup> dinner. All are very welcome - you do not have to have attended the school as a pupil.

The school was busy on Wednesday evening, as we welcomed half of our parents and carers for our S5 and S6 pupils. We look forward to welcoming the other half next week! Flu vaccinations are also happening next week.

It has been a cold crisp week as we have seen our first blast of Winter weather. We do not want any of young people to be cold, and we have been handing out new school hoodies to those who have made the decision not to come in school uniform, which is a small minority. Thank you for your on-going support with this, and we are always on hand to help.

I have also received a couple of emails this week regarding really disappointing behaviour from some of our pupils on Lothian Buses, after school. This is relating to those pupils getting the bus from Bruntsfield, heading through Morningside and to Buckstone. The accounts described pupils pushing past elderly people with mobility issues, parents with young children, as well as everyone else who had been waiting patiently, using abusive language. We will be addressing through PSE and assemblies, and work with our school link police officer. We are aware that this is only a small minority, but they are tarnishing the image of the school. I would really appreciate conversations at home around this. We are working hard to try and identify the pupils involved, so we can support their education around their current behaviour and decisions.

### **Edinburgh Future Libraries Project - consultation with young people**

We are encouraging all our young people to complete this consultation. Further information is attached.

<https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/cf/611f6f4e>

### **Creative Industries pathways event - Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November**

Capital Theatres, who run the King's and Festival Theatres in Edinburgh, are bringing a number of professionals who work in theatre, including an Actor, Director, Stage Manager, Set/Props Designer, Lighting Designer & Production Manager and a Playwright & Producer into the school to meet with our S2 cohort. They will speak to them about the jobs they do and the different pathways into a career in the creative industries. There will be a presentation from each and then pupils will have the opportunity to ask questions directly at a 'networking' style event. We are very grateful to Capital Theatres for offering us this opportunity.

### **Children in Need**

Thank you to all in our school community who kindly donated to the Children In Need appeal. We raised a grand total of £1440.21 for Children In Need.

### **Mission Christmas (Cash for Kids)**

Our S6 charities committee attended house assemblies this week to ask for donations to Mission Christmas to ensure all young people have a gift to open this Christmas. Between Monday 25 November and 13 December there will be a box where pupils can donate gifts. They accept gifts for young people aged 0-17 but are especially in need of gifts for teens and babies. Gifts should not be wrapped and must be new. For more information you can visit <https://cashforkids.org.uk/mission>

Some gift ideas:

- Sensory gifts – musical and light up toys
- Lego
- Pyjamas
- Warm clothes
- Board games
- Stationery
- Football/basketball
- Colouring books
- Puzzles
- Books
- Sketch pad and pencils
- Dolls
- Vouchers – clothes shops, Costa, bookshop, Amazon

### **'Carols on the Canal' - Friday 6th December 4.30pm, supported by our Parent Fund Raising Group**

At the start of this festive period and for a second year we are pleased that on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 4.30pm we will be hosting the University of Edinburgh Singers and Brass Band, along with some support from the Boroughmuir High School Choir, for the 'Carols in the Canal' concert.

This is a free outdoor performance for the whole community, It is held outside the school's main entrance. We plan to have a drinks stall including hot chocolate.

Please join us and bring along children, family, friends and neighbours.

We will be fundraising again this year with buckets and QR code for any card donations. Any funds raised will be used for a new Pupil Support room at Boroughmuir HS and also the Edinburgh University student led mental health charity 'Conscious'.

### **Communication policy**

Please find attached an overview of our communication policy. Our website is currently being redesigned. I am hopefully this will be ready to launch before Christmas.

### **Staffing news**

We currently have a vacancy for a full time Support for Learning Teacher and two PSA positions, who will be working as part of our Enhanced Support Provision.

### **Celebration Dinner - 120 years of Boroughmuir**

Hopefully, you are aware that the school is celebrating 120 years of educating young people on the south side of Edinburgh.

We are holding a celebratory dinner to mark this significant date in the school's history, which we would love parents and carers to come along. The information is below -

**Date Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November**

**Time - 6.45pm**

**Venue - Canalside, Meggetland, part of Boroughmuir Community Sports Club.**

**Menu - attached**

**Price - £35**

We really want the evening to be a celebration of the community of Boroughmuir High School, and would love to get a couple of tables of parents and carers, representing the current generation of Boroughmuir families. All parents and carers are very welcome. You are all part of the Boroughmuir community, and do not have to have attended the school to attend.

We would love to see if we gather two, or even three, generations of former Boroughmuir students! Are there any grandparents, parents and children out there, who all attended Boroughmuir?

Numbers are limited, so please do complete the form below if you are interested. If you would like to gather a group of friends to sit on a table together, please state on the Form, and we will arrange that. I will request payment details separately.

[Form](#)

We really do not want finance to be a barrier, and I am aware that Christmas is fast approaching. If you would like to attend, but the cost is a barrier, please do get in touch, and we will see what we can do.

**Movember - a message from Mr Beattie - Week 3 update attached!**

'Staff at Boroughmuir are participating in the Movember challenge for the month of November. Movember is a charity that provides financial aid to groups that support men dealing with mental health struggles, prostate cancer, and testicular cancer.

For Movember, staff are growing a moustache and/or moving 60km to highlight the global number of male lives lost to suicide, hourly.

If you wish to donate or follow our progress, please visit the link:

<https://movember.com/t/boroughmuir-high-school-staff?mc=1>

Thanks,

Mr Beattie & the Movember team.'

In addition, I have attached our progress pic to this email.

**Parant Council Corner**

Future meetings

Tuesday 21st January - online

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May - hybrid - in person and on-line

Many thanks,

Have a lovely weekend,

Kate Fraser

Headteacher

Boroughmuir High School

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