

Head Teacher Weekly Update – 13/12/24

Dear Parents/Carers,

I had the great joy of experiencing my first Boroughmuir Christmas Concert on Wednesday evening. What a spectacular evening, showcasing the talents of an enormous number of pupils. It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers there. A huge thank you to all the staff involved, and the young people for sharing their talents with us.

Those involved in Carols by the Canal were not put off by the weather last Friday evening, and just relocated inside the school entrance. It was a lovely festive event and we really appreciate the efforts to raise money for the school.

Ian Murray MP, visited the school this morning. He was very interested to hear about all the successes of the school, and all the current challenges we are facing.

Our S6 senior pupil team have organised a brilliant pupil conference this morning. They invited the senior pupil teams from all schools in Edinburgh to come to Boroughmuir. They have spent the morning reflecting upon all the different pupil parliament structures in place across schools in Edinburgh. They are keen to reflect upon the structures that really work, and allow all pupils to have an authentic voice in schools. Their work will be shared with secondary head teachers.

Next week we are looking forward to the drama performance of Alice in Wonderland.

The performances are taking place in the Assembly Hall in School over two nights:

Tuesday 17th December 6pm - All tickets just about gone

Wednesday 18th December 6pm - Tickets still available

The show will last approximately 1 hour and please note performances will include loud music and flashing lights.

There is no charge for tickets but we will be taking donations at the performances. We won't be handing out physical tickets, names will just be checked on the door. Please can you complete the below form to reserve your tickets:

<https://forms.office.com/e/0QRW6kTCYr>

Sporting success

There is much excitement around school as on Sunday, 15th December, the Boroughmuir RF under 16 Boys Rugby Team is playing in the National Youth Cup Final at the Hive Stadium against Currie Chieftans. The U16 team features 13 S4/S5 Boroughmuir students. Tickets are FREE and Kick Off is at 1pm. It is just a matter of showing up. Should be a great match!

There has been a lot of other sporting success this week. The school ski team did exceptionally well on Wednesday at Hillend,. The joint Boroughmuir/Balerno boys hockey team won their Scottish Hockey Plate match in a thrilling final last week. The senior girls hockey team won 4-0 against Jedburgh High School in their quarter final match. Next up is St Columba's or Kelso High. We are working hard to try and collate and share all the sporting events and success that is happening every weekend involving our students.

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Christmas Jumper Day

We are holding a Christmas Jumper day next Friday (21 December). Pupils can wear their Christmas jumpers and/or santa hats/Christmas accessories! Families who are able and would like to donate can do this on the day or via parent pay, we will collect money for Save The Children.

Mission Christmas Update

Thank you to everyone who has been dropping off gifts for Mission Christmas we have had 300 donations in total – it has been great to see so many of our school community support this initiative and give so generously.

S5/6 Prelims - information attached

The main pieces of information that you need to help you with your assessments are posted on Teams. You have done this before, so you know what to expect.

Remember:

- These are practice assessments. You want to do your best, and then find out where your mistakes were so you can do better in the summer.
- You will be a bit nervous. This is normal and everyone feels that way. Generally the best way to deal with this is to try it out, ask for help and fix things.
- There are lots of instructions below for two reasons. Firstly, to make it feel exactly like real exams so you can learn to manage them. Secondly, because there are lots of people working to help you.
- Ask if you need help: your teachers, guidance, Mr Hayes, Mr Arricibita and Ms Hall for additional arrangements, the school office, the exam invigilators, and support for learning staff are all here to make things easier for you.
- All the information you need to know about qualifications is here [Your coursework - SQA](#)

Well done for all your hard work so far!

Mr Hayes, Ms Paterson

Social times - After Christmas we will be seeking donations of card games, chess sets, and other table top games to encourage our pupils to engage and connect with each other during social times. Any donations would be much appreciated.

iPad update

There is an important update that needs to be carried out on all iPads across the school. There will be more information sent home regarding this. We will be supporting this in school, but it will be helpful if parents and carers can check and support at home.

Staffing news

We currently have a vacancy for an acting full time Support for Learning Teacher . One of our PSA positions has been filled this week.

Parent Council Corner

Fundraising

The Fundraising Team are using a number of different methods of raising money this year in part because of changes to council policy and to make it easier for parents to be involved. We will have a Just Giving account available for any donations at events or at any time:

[Help raise £500 to support our parent council to provide much needed clubs, activities and spaces within BHS.](#)

justgiving.com

We thank small contingent of parents who have continued to use Easyfundraising for boosting our funds and we would like to get more parents and friends using the method, especially coming up to Christmas. You can add an extension to your browser to remind you to donate - all instructions are on the app.

[You spend, brands donate to Boroughmuir High School Parent Council.](#)

easyfundraising.org.uk

We will be very grateful for any donations that come from events or any of these methods. The school benefits from what we collect by supporting the sports teams, science labs, spaces for young people to use and much much more.

Your help and money goes directly back to the school and directly to the young people.

Future Parent Council meetings

Tuesday 21st January - online

Wednesday 7th May - hybrid - in person and on-line

Many thanks,

Have a lovely weekend,

Kate Fraser

Headteacher

Boroughmuir High School

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