

Head Teacher Weekly Update – 6/12/24

Dear Parents and Carers –

The run up to the Christmas holidays is well underway and I am enjoying discovering all of Boroughmuir's festive traditions. It was our S1 Christmas Disco last night and Carols on the Canal tonight. I am so looking forward to the Christmas concert next Wednesday, followed quickly by our Christmas show during the final week. The Christmas doors competition is becoming very competitive around the school and I think I am looking forward to the S1 Karaoke! Just a reminder, on the last day of term pupils are allowed to wear a Christmas jumper to school, should they wish. If any family would like help getting hold of a Christmas jumper, please let us know.

The final Movember pictures are attached. Movember is a charity that provides financial aid to groups that support men dealing with mental health struggles, prostate cancer, and testicular cancer. Many thanks for the donations that have come in from parents and carers - it really is appreciated. The final figure raised was £1333.

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.

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>

Mission Christmas Update

Thank you to everyone who has been dropping off gifts for Mission Christmas we have already had around 100 donations. There is still time to donate – boxes will be at reception until Friday 13 December.

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 6th 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 an acting full time Support for Learning Teacher and two PSA positions, who will be working as part of our Enhanced Support Provision.

Parent Council Corner

Future meetings

Tuesday 21st January - online

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

Many thanks.

Have a lovely weekend,

Kate Fraser

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