

Head Teacher Weekly Update 14.03.25

Dear all,

We had our final parent/carer consultation evening last night, which seems to have come around so quickly. It was lovely to welcome so many families of our young people in S3.

S4, S5, S6 Students: Important Information About Exams in 2025

Below is a message from Mr Hayes, shared this week with learners. A leaflet from SQA is attached.

- Exams start on Friday 25 April and end on Monday 2 June.
- Your school provides an estimated grade for each course before the exams start. This is not just an estimate but a record of your performance so far, backed by school evidence. This is mainly used for SQA administration and is only considered for awarding grades in exceptional circumstances or marking errors.
 - An [Examination Exceptional Circumstances Consideration Service](#) is available if you cannot attend your exam, or your performance in the exam is disrupted.
 - Results day is Tuesday 5 August.
 - There is an [appeals service](#) that you can access directly or through your school (at Boroughmuir you will access directly through the SQA website). This is used for students who think their exam papers may have been marked incorrectly. It is a check of marking, not a re-mark and as a result very few students use this or get a change to their marks. Marks can go up as well as down.
 - This information is also available on each year group Teams page.

Study Leave Dates

Following advice from CEC, official study leave starts for all pupils in Edinburgh on Thursday 24 April. This means students are expected to attend school on Tuesday 22 and Wednesday 23 April for a final check-in with subject specialists before study leave begins.

As Computing exams take place on Friday 24 April, we are considering immersion days for these students on 22 and 23 April.

Study Leave Entitlement:

- S4 students sitting 4 or more National Qualification exams are entitled to full study leave.
- S4 students sitting 3 or fewer exams will get three days of study leave before each exam.
- Mr. Hayes and staff are planning a Meaningful May for these students, including work experience. Families have already been contacted to begin planning for this.

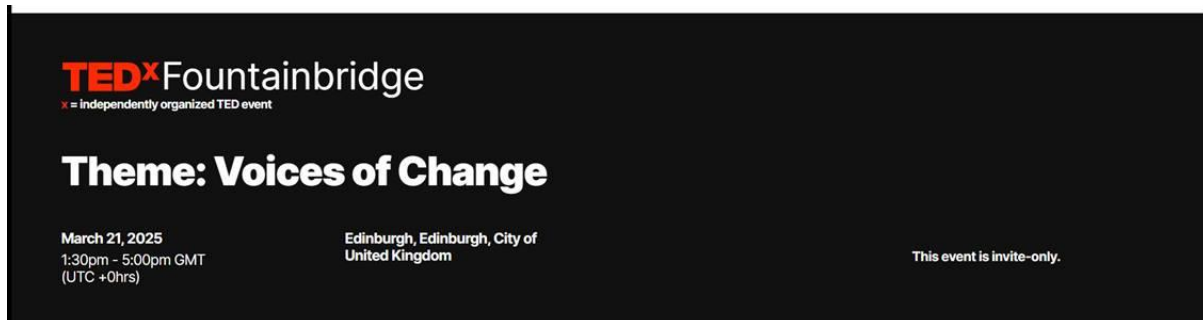
School Leavers' Celebrations

We will hold our school leavers' celebration before the Easter holidays, ahead of the exam season:

- S4 and S5 Leavers: Thursday 3 April

- S6 Leavers: Friday 4 April

TEDx talk Friday 21st March <https://www.ted.com/tedx/events/61764>



Boroughmuir High School, in collaboration with St George's, are holding our first TEDx event on Friday 21 March 2025. The event will take place at Boroughmuir High School between 13.30 and 17.00 with a refreshment and networking break part-way through.

A TEDx event is a local gathering where live TED-style talks and performances are shared with the community. The content and design of each TEDx event is unique and developed independently. Our TEDx event offers us an opportunity to create a gathering in our community to explore Voices of Change.

TED is a prestigious and internationally regarded organisation and we are delighted to have been chosen as the host venue for this.

Any students who would like to come should see Ms Garland in room 1.07

Neurodiversity Week – Next Week

Next week, the school will be marking Neurodiversity Week. Our NEST (Neurodiversity Peer Support Group) will lead awareness-raising assemblies daily and will host an open session on Tuesday lunchtime for students to ask questions about neurodiversity.

Ms. Aleksandrowicz, our school librarian, has collaborated with colleagues to create a reading list featuring neurodiversity-related books available in our library, with an opportunity to sign up for Edinburgh Libraries. This is attached.

Careers ENGAGE Event

Our next Careers ENGAGE event is taking place on the **25th March, 2025 between 18:30 and 20:00** and we have a fantastic set of speakers to educate pupils about their jobs, industries and their journey. We are keen to have as many pupils attend this event as possible so they learn what sort of options await them when they leave school. The event is once again hosted at **Myreside Pavillion, 79 Myreside Rd, Edinburgh EH10 5DB.**

Our Speakers:-

- Keara Murphy- Global Mental Health & Wellbeing Leader/HR Leader, Amazon
- Jeremy Balfour- Member of Scottish Parliament (MSP)
- Debbie Byers- Director of a Public Relations company, Beeline PR
- Richard Fraser- Director of a Stonemasonry & Plastering company, Limerich
- Daniel O'Hara- Award Winning Film & Television Director, Writer & Producer

Each speaker will chat to the room for around 8 minutes each and then host a table to answer more specific questions from pupils. Parents/carers are always welcome to accompany pupils.

Please use the below link or the QR code on the poster to sign up for the event so we can gauge numbers of who will be attending. No ticket is required for entry on the day though.

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/engage/engage-careers-event/2025-03-25/18:30/t-norpyed>

Kind regards,

Ross Young

School Coordinator

Developing the Young Workforce (DYW)

Positive Parenting Programme

Please see the information below with regards courses being run by the council.

Teen Triple P is a positive parenting programme suitable for parents, carers and grandparents of pre-teen and teenage children. Teen Triple P can help parents and carers to:

- cope positively with some of the common issues associated with raising a teenager
- build stronger relationship with their teenager
- resolve conflict in the family
- manage problem behaviour
- help keep their teen stay safe

We welcome applications directly from parents and carers or someone can apply on their behalf. Applications can be made by completing our online application form found here

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/teentriplepform>

Day Face to Face

Venue: Pentland Community Centre 21 Oxgangs Brae, Edinburgh EH13 9LS

Day and Dates: Wednesdays 30/04, 7/05, 14/05, 21/05, 28/05, 4/06 (telephone contact no group), 11/06 (telephone contact no group) and 18/06. 8 weeks.

Timings: 12.30-2.30pm.

Day Face to Face

Venue: North West Edinburgh to be confirmed.

Day and Dates: Thursdays 1/05, 8/05, 15/05, 22/05, 29/05, 5/06 (telephone contact no group), 12/06 (telephone contact no group), 19/06. 8 weeks.

Timings: 10.00am -12.00 midday.

Evening Face to Face

Venue: St Augustines High School, 208 Broomhouse Rd, Edinburgh EH12 9AD

Day and Dates: Thursdays 1/05, 8/05, 15/05, 22/05, 29/05, 5/06 (telephone contact no group), 12/06 (telephone contact no group), 19/06. 8 weeks.

Timings 6.00-8.00pm.

Virtual Group

This group will be delivered on Microsoft TEAMS. Attendees will require access to a laptop or tablet to undertake the course.

Day and Dates: Wednesdays 30/04, 7/05, 14/05, 21/05, 28/05, 4/06 (telephone contact no group), 11/06 (telephone contact no group)18/06. 8 weeks.

Timings: 6.00-8.00pm.

Study Support – Repeated from last week

All S4, S5 and S6 pupils are now working hard to get ready for their qualifications this summer. Everyone had 'how to study' training in their S4 Health and Wellbeing lessons.

- Many have assignments and coursework due in the next few weeks.
- They should also be completing a revision plan for the 9 weeks from now until their exams.
- Many departments volunteer their time for support. Students are strongly recommended to take up these offers.
- There are a wide range of online supports. One of the best is the online free tutoring offered by e-Sgoil, particularly over the Easter holidays. Students are strongly recommended to sign up for these or the other online resources. All students have been sent their passwords again.

All these materials are available on the school website and on Teams.

Parent Council Corner

Please find attached the minutes from the last Parent Council Meeting.

Fundraising

The Fundraising Team is using a number of different methods to raise 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

JustGiving 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.

We thank the small contingent of parents who have continued to use Easyfundraising for boosting our funds and 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.

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

Parent Council Corner

The Parent Council Digital Support Subgroup is working together with the families and the school to ensure that all children can confidently enjoy the opportunities offered by digital learning whilst staying safe online. We are now consulting about the use of the iPads and supporting the school with building a healthy digital learning environment.

We invite all parents and carers to join the group and share their views or concerns. If you would like to continue the conversation, please, keep in touch with the Digital Support Subgroup at digital@boroughmuir-pc.co.uk

The subgroup will be holding monthly meetings on the first Thursday of the month, and everyone is welcome to join.

Fundraising

The Fundraising Team have five ways you can help support the school:

- 1. Would you have some spare wood?** The Woodwork Club at school are looking for some clean, dry wooden blanks so they can manufacture high-quality products such as bowls, spurtles and chopping boards! This helps to develop the pupils' practical skills and encourages creativity and problem-solving! If you can help, **please email Jonny.Ross@boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk**
- 2. Sign up to easy fundraising-** turn your daily shopping into funds for the school! Shop from the easyfundraising website or app and part of what you spend is donated to Boroughmuir High School. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by over 8,000 participating brands. **We have raised £132.65 in the last 3 months** – that enables the Parent Council to say yes to more funding requests to benefit the school community. Thank you shoppers, **sign up here:** <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/boroughmuir-pc/payments/9f5880/>
- 3. Donate via our Just Giving account-** which will be used to support our school in many different ways **-we have raised £500 this year.** Come along to one of our Parent Council meetings to hear the details of funding requests and find out what funding is approved by vote. **Donate at any time:** https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/bhs-fundraising?utm_term=32ERnm3jx
- 4. Fundraising event date for your diary-** Plans are in progress for a fundraising event on Saturday 24 May 2025. We will be looking for parent and carer volunteers on the day and in preparation. Keep an eye on the Parent Council Corner for more details to come over the next couple of months. If you are available to help, please email: pcfundraisingboroughmuirhighsc@gmail.com

5. Art and Photography Showcase Exhibition Thursday 3 April 2025 - The PC Fundraising Team will again be supporting this showcase event of the Senior Pupil's exam portfolio work from S4-6. It's a wonderful opportunity for parents, carers and friends to see all the student's hard work and creativity in one place! This gives you an example of another way the PC Fundraising Team support the school, by providing and serving soft drinks and nibbles on the night. No helpers needed for this one- we've got it covered, just come along and enjoy!

Future Parent Council meetings

Wednesday, 7th May - hybrid - in person and online.

Many thanks,

Kate Fraser

Headteacher

Boroughmuir High School

Email/website

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www.boroughmuir.edin.sch.uk