

Head Teacher Weekly Update- 16.05.25

Dear all –

Thank you to everyone for your patience in ensuring all learners reset their passwords following last weekend's events. The support from Mrs Braisby and her faculty, alongside Mr Simpson, is always greatly appreciated—particularly this week.

What's Happening This Week in School?

- S2 reports are now available for parents and carers to access.
- Photos are being taken for the refreshed school website.
- Staff are finalising the latest S1 reports.
- *Boroughmuir on Tour* continues—an important part of our transition programme. Staff and pupils visited Buckstone yesterday.
- Duke of Edinburgh practice excursions continue on Fridays—many thanks to all staff supporting these activities.
- The Munich trip is currently underway, led by Mr Alexander.
- The return leg of the French exchange departs next week.
- **Information for parents and carers of pupils currently in S3.** We are preparing for the start of the new timetable in June. To support this transition, from Tuesday 20th May, Mr Hayes will become the new year head for our current S3s moving into S4. Responsibility for the year group will transfer from Mr Hembury. Mr Hayes will become the DHT contact for this cohort.
- National Numeracy Day takes place next week on 21st May. Our whole-school numeracy lead, Ms Turner, will be delivering assemblies on the importance of numeracy and supporting cross-curricular initiatives.

Pupil Success

It has been a memorable week of sporting achievements! Further details can be found on our X page:

@BoroughmuirHS

- On Thursday evening, there was high drama in Wishaw as our U13 boys' football team faced Grange Academy in the semi-finals of the Scottish Schools Cup. The game ended in a thrilling 3-3 draw, with Boroughmuir clinching victory on penalties. What an achievement to reach the final two in Scotland—a huge thank you to all the coaches involved!
- Meanwhile, on the same day, Boroughmuir rugby teams showcased incredible talent, determination, and sportsmanship at the *East Emerging Schools Championship Finals Day*.
 - Our S1 team delivered a strong performance, securing 3rd place out of nine schools, demonstrating skill and teamwork throughout the competition.
 - The S2s may not have clinched a victory, but they played with enthusiasm and heart, enjoying every moment on the pitch.
 - The S3 boys dominated their category, winning the **S3 Boys Championship**—a fantastic achievement reflecting their hard work and commitment.

- Finally, our U14 girls made tremendous strides in their development, finishing 5th out of 12 schools. They narrowly missed out on the Shield final against a strong North Berwick side.

Given that many players are new to the game, their progress and performance were remarkable.

Staffing news

- New permanent teacher of physics appointed, Gregor Malcolm . He will join us in August.
- New fixed term chemistry teacher appointed. Congratulations to Cristina Jaeger-Reyes
- HFT has been readvertised.
- English, RMPS, Modern languages are all at advert. PE is moving to advert.

S3 National Standardised Assessments in May - repeat from last week

Families may be familiar with the National Standardised Assessments for Scotland that every child in Scotland does in P1, P7 and S3. These are 'checks' that give the Scottish government and your child's teachers a snapshot of where young people are Numeracy and Literacy. It is not an exam, and does not require any revision or prior preparation.

We will be doing these in English and Maths classes during May. Different teachers may do them at slightly different times. Students will log on to iPads and complete a reading, a writing and a numeracy assessment. There is no time limit, and everything is done on the iPad, though students can bring paper and pen with them if that helps them to think. Students get given multiple choice questions that are adapted to their own abilities and so will find themselves doing different assessments from each other. Most support is built into the use of the iPad. Teachers will speak to students and arrange any support needed based on their normal way of working in class.

Damian Hayes

Depute Headteacher

Further supports for parents and carers

- Support for Healthy Heads - <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/homepage/10532/wellbeing-edinburgh>. As we enter assessment session, can I highlight the section support health and well being, via this [link](#).
- Please see the attached, which may be of interest for some of our parent/carers of neurodivergent young people. There is no referral criteria, parents can turn up. The next session is 22 May and looks at digital safety. Any queries should be directed to Morag.Lang@edinburgh.gov.uk who works for the South East Locality parent and career support/family wellbeing team.

Parent Council Corner

Fundraising:

The planned cheese and wine night has unfortunately been cancelled. The logistics proved too difficult for the event to be held outside school. We do intend to have another event in the future.

The fundraising team will now focus all efforts on the summer fair on the 21st of June.

There have been some donations given to school and by Forth Canoe Club - thank you for these, they are much appreciated and we would intend to use them for a raffle at the summer fair.

The Just Giving page remains open, noting some conversations on Facebook about this - any money raised goes directly to the school. We fund Active Schools and teachers bid for money for items they need for classes and school teams. We contributed to the wellbeing hub last year too. The requirement for this money hasn't gone away and the fundraising team have supplemented events like the cheese and wine event with Just Giving.

This came about because we can't hold some events at the school anymore. Holding events that involve alcohol have to be replaced and we are trying to do that, in reality they don't raise as much money and we are going to have to rent somewhere at a cost to hold the event.

We can make sure the school has some income from Just Giving and Easy Fundraising and parents can contribute if they want to. Thank you to everyone that has contributed.

[Here are the links:](#)



[Help raise £750 to Support our parent council to provide much needed clubs, activities and resources within our whole school community. – JustGiving Crowdfunding](#)

justgiving.com

A banner for Easy Fundraising. On the left, the text "easyfundraising" is in a small font. Below it, in larger bold text, is "Shopping online? Raise free funds for us at the same time". At the bottom left is a yellow button that says "Sign up". On the right, there is a circular arrangement of logos for various online retailers: John Lewis, eBay, Etsy, HM, Debenhams, M&S, Argos, Tesco, and ASDA. Below these logos, it says "and 8,000+ online retailers...". The background is a light yellow with a large, stylized yellow 'C' shape.

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

easyfundraising.org.uk

Future Parent Council meetings

Next year's dates to be finalised.

Many thanks,

Kate Fraser

Headteacher

Boroughmuir High School

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