Head Teacher Weekly Update 16.01.26

Good Afternoon,

Thank you to all our S4 parents and carers who were able to attend this week's consultation evening. It was wonderful to see so many of you, and we greatly appreciated the positive comments you shared as you left. I was also delighted to hear the pupil helpers at the door being celebrated, and I will pass on your kind words to them.

What's happening this week:

- Senior prelims are ongoing.
- A group of our musicians and pipers are rehearsing to perform at an event celebrating 40 years of the Eric Liddell Community next Tuesday evening. They will be performing for an evening of celebrated guests and supporters of the charity, including HRH Princess Anne.
- Parent Council meets next Wednesday. Please see Karen's regular weekly update below.
- S4 Course Choice Evening: next Thursday, 23rd January, 6:30–7:15 pm. Repeated information below.
- S5 Course Course Choice Evening: next Thursday, 23rd January, 7:30–8:15 pm. Repeated information below

School X (former Twitter account)

Although this account has been underused, we have now formally closed it. Pupil success will continue to be shared via my weekly bulletins, the school website, and increasingly through the school app.

Parent App – Search for '*School App for Parents'* in the Google Play or Apple App store. Download and open the app, search for 'Boroughmuir High School'. Enter the following login details username = Boroughmuir; PIN = 0826.

Course Choices for 2026-27 - repeated from last week.

Over the next few weeks we will be discussing course choice options for pupils moving from **S2 to S3, S4 to S5** and **S5 to S6.** Course information will be found on the school website **Curriculum Pathways – Boroughmuir High School.** This is a new part to the website and will

be updated periodically. All course choices are required in 6 weeks, by the end of the February Holidays.

S4 to S5 and **S5 to S6 Course Choices**

Further information can be found here. This information will also be shared via school assemblies, pupils' Year Group Teams page and through discussions with their subject teachers and Guidance teachers. There is an in-school Parent's Information Evening this Thursday, 23rd January. S4 to S5 pupils – starting at 6.30pm and S5 to S6 pupils – starting at 7.30pm. Your child will be provided with login details to enter course choices via a website https://www.studentoptions.co/Senior-BOR/. Subjects should be selected in preference order and also two reserve subjects are required.

Further information about applications for Edinburgh College part-time courses (SCP) can be found here. All course choices are required in 6 weeks, by the end of the February Holidays.

S2 to S3 Course Choices

Further information can be found in the S2 to S3 Information sheet found here

The S2 Course Choice Information Evening will be on Wednesday 29th January**.** This is split into 2 parts:

- Part 1 *Subject Marketplace* (Atrium) from 6.30-7.30pm;
- Part 2 *Parent and Carer Presentation* (Assembly Hall) 7.30-8pm

We request that pupils do not attend the *Parent and Carer Presentation* due capacity limits within the Assembly Hall. They are welcome to wait in the Atrium.

Course information will be shared via Assemblies, in discussions with PSE/Guidance teachers and class teachers. Information will also be added to their S2 Year Group Teams page. Choices are entered using the website https://www.studentoptions.co/S2-BOR/. Individual login details will be provided for this. All course choices are required in 6 weeks, by the end of the February Holidays.

Message about college applications - repeated from last week

For any young person about to go into S5 or S6 who would like to study at Edinburgh college as part of their school week in S5/6 or for anyone intending to leave school and apply for college, applications for course open on Tuesday 13th January. Open days for Edinburgh college are being held week beginning 2 February, further information can be found here

Community Iftar and Equalities Work

Mrs Cowan has been working with pupils to organise our first ever Community Iftar, taking place on Wednesday, 25th February. As sunset varies at this time of year, we welcome you to

arrive from 5:30 pm, with the meal beginning once it is time to break the fast. You will find more details of this event in the attached letter.

Mrs Cowan, our staff lead for all our equalities work, has been updating our website to align our values with the UNCRC rights. Please see the updates on the website below.

https://boroughmuirhighschool.org/our-rights-values/

Staffing News

- Welcome back to Aileen Robb from maternity leave.
- We are saying farewell to one of our PSAs, Caitlin Crawford, this week, who is taking take up a CDT teaching position at Harmeny School in Balerno.

Pupil Success

The following S1 girls:

- Clara Stewart
- Freya Gilliland
- Freya Norman
- Aoife Carr

were members of the P7 SMPS Girls Team who won the "Summer Cup", a football tournament across all schools in Edinburgh. When the trophy was won, the girls were disappointed that their trophy was much smaller than the boys' trophy. They wrote to the awarding committee, and a new trophy was commissioned. They attended South Morningside this week to be awarded the larger trophy.

Angel Fary (S2) won a gold medal in badminton in the Scottish Schools Intermediate (Under-15) Inter-Area Team Event yesterday, representing Lothian.

Message from Edinburgh Food Project

I just wanted to send you a quick thank you to you and everyone at Boroughmuir High on behalf of everyone at Edinburgh Food Project for your kind donation of food before Christmas. Your gift weighed in at 254kg which is about the same weight as a grey seal! This takes your total donations up to a whopping 2 tonnes, that's the same as a white rhino!

Your generosity will make a huge difference. In December, we distributed over 1,400 parcels to people struggling to afford food and are preparing for a busy January too. You are all ensuring that people facing crisis have a warm meal and the essentials in their cupboard this winter. Thank you for supporting those in your community this festive season and showing such kindness 💚

Parent and Carer Information

What is Teen Triple P?

Teen Triple P is an 8 week evidence-based programme for parents and carers of pre-teen/teenagers aged 11-16 years. The course helps parent and carers build stronger, more positive relationships and develop effective strategies for managing common teenage behaviour challenges - emotional behaviour, conflict in the home, and keeping their teen safe. It provides practical tools, support and confidence to navigate the teenage years with calm, consistency and connection.

How can I get involved?

We welcome applications directly from parents and carers or someone can apply on your behalf. Applications can be made by completing our online application form found here https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/teentriplepform

Where and When

Leith Academy, 20 Academy Park, Edinburgh EH6 8JQ

Day: Tuesdays

Dates: 3/02 - 31/03, 8 sessions. There will be no session during the February break.

Time: 6.00-8.00pm

Goodtrees Neighbourhood Centre, 5 Moredunvale Pl, Edinburgh EH17 7LB

Day: Wednesdays

Dates: 4/02 – 1/04. There will be no session during the February break.

Time: 10.30-12.30

If you require more information or you wish to discuss particular support needs please contact jill.coleman@edinburgh.gov.uk

Parent Council Update

The next meeting of the Parent Council will take place in the school on Wednesday 21st January at 18.30.

We will be joined by Councillors Ross, Munro, McKay and Cowdy to discuss the rising school roll and implications for social space in the school and the impending consultation on mobile phones in secondary schools.

We are still not in receipt of any further information on the consultation on mobile phones but this issue is being tabled at the Education Committee which takes place on Tuesday 20th. (Please note this is a public meeting which will be webcast via the Council website).

In order to facilitate an orderly meeting, we would like to take questions in advance. You can submit your question here.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting next week.

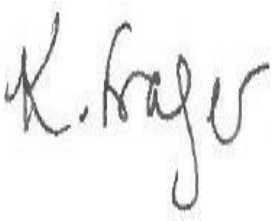
Best wishes

Karen Galloway

Interim Chair, Boroughmuir Parent Council

Parent Council Meetings	
Wednesday 21st January 2026	In person
Thursday 26th March 2026	Teams
Wednesday 6th May 2026	In Person in school and Online

Many thanks,



Kate Fraser

Headteacher

Boroughmuir High School