

Chirnside Primary School,

Chirnside, Duns, Berwickshire, TD11 3XH

Web; www.chirnside.weebly.com

FaceBook: Search for [Chirnside Primary School](#)

Twitter: [@ChirnsidePS](#)

nick.trussler@scotborders.gov.uk

Telephone: 01890 818274



Dear Parents, Pupils and Staff,

Welcome back to the final term of this school year. I hope you had an enjoyable Easter break.

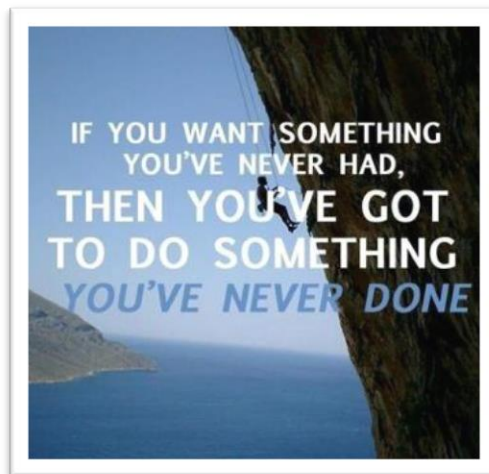
The Easter message of 'new life' and 'new beginnings' is one that is at the centre of our school values at Chirnside Primary School.

As a school, we continue to strive to offer the best educational opportunities possible to our pupils. As a school, our curriculum is continually evolving, building on past successes and learning from the mistakes we make. Part of this philosophy is building our confidence to take risks and try new approaches and opportunities on our learning journey. This will continue to motivate pupils and develop their love of learning.

We will continue to identify new learning opportunities and experiences for pupils this term, and to enable all our pupils to achieve their fullest learning potential

Kind regards,

Nick Trussler
Head Teacher



Upcoming Events

- Friday 28th April – Inservice: Pupil Holiday
- Monday 1st May – HOLIDAY: School closed
- Week of 15th May – P7 Residential to Kindrogan
- Tuesday 16th May – P5 visit to the Hirsell, Coldstream
- Tuesday 23rd May – P5 visit to Borders countryside Day, Kelso.
- Monday 29th May – HOLIDAY: Berwickshire local holiday for pupils and staff.
- Wednesday 6th June and Thursday 7th June – P7 transition days at Berwickshire High School.
- Thursday 15th June – Borders Book Festival.
- Wednesday 28th June – Final Day of Term.
 - Church service at 10:30am.
 - School closes at 3:20pm.

Further dates to be confirmed and published in due course.

Staffing

There are a number of staff changes this term, as follows:

- Janitor – Mr. Anderson will be our full-time janitor from this term until further notice.
- Primary 1 – Until further notice, Mrs. Millar will teach Primary 1 for most of the day on a Monday, allowing Mrs. Reap the opportunity to work with our Early Learning and Child Care team on a regular basis.
- Primary 2 – Ms. Johnson will teach Primary 2 until further notice. The vacancy has been advertised and will be interviewed for in due course.
- Primary 6 – As a result of Mrs. Gordon leaving at the end of last term, Ms. Harvey will teach Primary 6 for this term, and take the class in their Primary 7 year next session. Mr. Trussler will teach Primary 6 on Thursdays this session, to release Ms. Harvey for her Principal Teacher duties.
- Classroom Assistant – until further notice, Ms. Johnson's classroom assistant position will be filled by Ms. L Betts.

Pupil Learning Council Update

Pupil Learning Council for 2017 is:

- P4: Alexander and Carys
- P5: Ollie and Heather
- P6: Ethan and Max
- P7: Ben and Robyn

In March we...

- Researched charities to nominate for Charity of the Year.
- Carried out a survey with classes to elect our British Heart Foundation as our Charity of the 2017.

In April we will...

- Design an online survey for pupils to find out opinions about learning and how we can help to make learning even better in school and at home.

Pupils Enjoy Border Burns Success

On the 2nd of March 2017, Thea Maudsley, Isla Hall, India Sadler and Georgia Scott went to The Hawick Burns Club to enter the Borders Burns Poetry competition.

Thea Maudsley recited the poem 'Meg O the Mill', Isla Hall recited 'Winter a Dirge', India Sadler recited 'Scots Wa Hae' and Georgia Scott recited 'Auld Lang Syne' all by Robert Burns.

They all did very well, and the hard work payed off when Isla and India got 3rd place in the poetry competition in the whole of the Borders!

Guess who was one of the judges... it was Mrs Scott! We did not expect it to be her!

Even though we didn't get 1st place, we still enjoyed the experience and hope that Chirnside go again next year!

By Georgia, India, Isla and Thea



We're Getting Better All the Time!

the moment you're
ready to quit is
usually the moment
right before a
miracle happens.

don't give up.

In March we...

- Explored 'Thinking Routines' contained in 'Making Thinking Visible' research and theory.
- Continued to develop 'Critical Reading' approaches in all classes. We completed teacher visits to other classes with these as a focus.
- Reported to parents on pupil progress for this current session.
- Held an open evening for parents to visit classrooms with their children to share learning experiences and view pupil work examples and displays.

Scottish Ballet Auditions for Children – May 2017

Scottish Ballet is looking for Primary School children to audition for their Junior Associate Programme!

Auditions will be held in May – **closing date Monday 24 April 2017.**

Children who are **currently** in **Primary 5 or Primary 6** are invited to apply. No previous dance experience necessary. Every child who applies will be offered an audition.

Full details can be found on our website -

<http://www.scottishballet.co.uk/education/junior-associates.html>

School Orchard Grows

Last month, pupils worked with Anna Craigen to plant a mixture of fruit trees in the school grounds as part of our school orchard. The Borders Forest Trust provided us with a grant to cover the cost of the trees.

Pupils worked collaboratively in small groups to plant the trees, providing them with a sense of ownership and pride in their school grounds.

The orchard is part of our ongoing commitment to improving the potential of our grounds as a pupil learning environment and supporting wildlife and sustainability.



SCOTTISH BALLET

ASSOCIATE PROGRAMME

Love to dance? Then audition for Scottish Ballet's Associate Programme

The Associate Programme provides classically based training for boys and girls from Primary 6 to Secondary 5. Our aim is to develop confident, dedicated and motivated dancers by supplementing the training provided by private dance teachers.

Junior Associates (P6 & P7)
Application closing date: 24 April 2017

Mid Associates (S1 & S2)
Application closing date: 8 May 2017

Senior Associates (S3, S4 & S5)
Application closing date: 8 May 2017

Auditions will be held in Glasgow in May 2017

Visit scottishballet.co.uk for more information or contact Anne Stephen:
E anne.stephen@scottishballet.co.uk T 0141 331 2931

The Scottish Government
Inspiration to build
Approved in partnership with:
For more information, visit:
Photograph by Chris MacKinnon

Parent Parking Outside of School

As many of you will know, parking, drop off and pick up has long been an issue at Chirnside Primary. Anyone who has expressed concern only has the children's safety at heart. For those new to the school, and as a reminder for others, there was a School Travel Plan Evaluation meeting in 2012 where the following points were agreed as the procedure for pupil end of day dismissal:

- **Only school transport pupils will be dismissed via the front school gates**
- **All other pupils will exit the school West (Church & Crosshill)**
- **Nursery & P1 parents will use the Church car park if driving and P2-P7 parents will use Crosshill and village car park. Parents with children in both groups may choose either route.**

Concerns are again being expressed over the safety of children when being dropped off and collected by car, so we are going to have another push at keeping our children safe. The School, Health & Safety and Police agree the only way to protect the safety of all children is to allow only school transport to collect children at the front of the school at the end of the day. Also disabled badge holders are permitted to leave through the front gate. All other children are to be dismissed westwards towards Crosshill and Kirkgate.

Please help us keep all our children safe.

CHILDSMILE – WATER IN SCHOOLS

Plain Water is the safest drink for teeth, it also helps maintain hydration, helps digestion and refreshes the brain, keeping us alert. Plain water is recommended as a healthy drink choice for both dental and general health.



Juices can often be high in sugar and acidic in nature which can contribute to tooth decay, dental erosion and may increase the risk of obesity.

Sugar free juices can also be acidic, causing dental erosion and can be high in artificial sweeteners which provide no nutritional value but fill children up leaving little room for more nutrient-rich food and drinks. Juices are never recommended as drinks to have between meals. Constant sipping of juice from non-spill bottles, for example sports bottles, can expose the teeth to harmful sugars and acids and may cause

rapid progression of tooth decay or tooth erosion.

We would strongly advise that schools and classes within the school only allow children to drink plain water during class time.

If you would like any help or advice regarding any water policy within your school please contact the Childsmile team at bord-uhb.childsmile@nhs.net or speak to the Oral Health Support Worker attached to your school.

Alison Forsyth

Childsmile Coordinator, NHS Borders

aforsyth@borders.scot.nhs.uk

School term dates for 2016/17**Summer term**

- Tuesday 18 Apr 2017 - All resume
- Friday 28 Apr 2017 - Staff in service day
- Monday 01 May 2017 - May Day holiday, schools closed
- Monday 29 May 2017 – Berwickshire Local Holiday
- Wednesday 28 Jun 2017 - Last day of term for pupils and staff

School term dates for 2017/18**Autumn term**

- Monday 14 Aug 2017 - Staff resume, in service day
- Tuesday 15 Aug 2017 - Pupils resume
- Friday 06 Oct 2017 – Berwickshire Local Holiday
- Monday 16 Oct 2017 - All resume
- Thursday 09 Nov 2017 - Staff in service day
- Friday 10 Nov 2017 - Staff in service day
- Monday 27 Nov 2017 - St Andrew's Day holiday, school closed

- Thursday 21 Dec 2017 - Last day of term for pupils and staff

Winter term

- Monday 08 Jan 2018 - All resume
- Thursday 08 Feb 2018 - Last day for pupils - February holiday
- Friday 09 Feb 2018 - Staff in service day
- Wednesday 14 Feb 2018 - All resume
- Thursday 29 Mar 2018 - Last day of term for pupils and staff

Summer term

- Monday 16 Apr 2018 - All resume
- Friday 04 May 2018 - Staff in service day
- Monday 07 May 2018 - May Day holiday, school closed
- Monday 28 May 2018 – Berwickshire Local Holiday
- Wednesday 27 Jun 2018 - Last day of term for pupils and staff