

# Chirnside Primary School

Chirnside, Duns, Berwickshire, Scottish Borders, TD11 3XH

<http://www.chirnside.scotborders.sch.uk>

<https://www.facebook.com/ChirnsidePrimarySchool>



Email: [nick.trussler@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:nick.trussler@scotborders.gov.uk)

T: 01890 818274

Dear Parents and Carers,

Although this is one of the busiest times of the school year, it provides our pupils with rich learning opportunities in a variety of contexts. Our classes have been collaborating in art and design to produce colourful seasonal window decorations for the front of the building. Primary 1-3 pupils have been developing their drama and music experiences through their work on 'The Grumpy Sheep' nativity, with P4-P7 pupils busy rehearsing their Christmas carols and festive songs.

At this time of year of wish lists and shopping, it was thought provoking and humbling to receive 41 shoe boxes for the Operation Christmas Child project. I had the opportunity to discuss the project with many of the pupils who had helped to put a shoebox together. I was impressed with how they spoke about those children facing daily life challenges as a result of war, famine or political unrest and how they hoped their shoebox would bring these children a little joy and happiness.

We look forward to seeing you at a number of festive events planned over the next few weeks in school (see diary dates on the right) and in our community (see announcements on page 3).

Wishing you all a peaceful and joyful Christmas and New Year.

Kind regards,

Nick Trussler

Head Teacher

## Upcoming Events

December 9<sup>th</sup> – Primary Schools Cross Country Championships at Berwickshire High School

December 11<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Lunch

December 15<sup>th</sup> P1-3 Nativity and P4-7 Carols - Start at 1.15pm in the school hall

Christmas Parties:

16<sup>th</sup> December pm – P1-3

17<sup>th</sup> December am – Nursery (all children)

17<sup>th</sup> December pm – P4-5

18<sup>th</sup> December pm – P6-7

December 16<sup>th</sup> – P6 to Kirkcare for Christmas entertainment

December 18<sup>th</sup> Christmas Service in Parish Church at 10.30am

December 19<sup>th</sup> – School closes at 12.20pm

January 6<sup>th</sup> – School reopens

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT SUMMARY

### In November we have been...

...improving our knowledge of Child Protection procedures and protocol.

...developing our knowledge and awareness of Scottish Borders Council's Dyslexia Policy to inform our practice.

...implementing Personal Learning Planning for all pupils.

...holding our first 'Focus Learning Week'.

### In December we will be...

...developing our approaches to helping pupils record their wider achievements using their 'Learning Logs'.

...auditing the frequency and amount of homework set across primary classes



## **CHIRNSIDE COMMON GOOD ASSOCIATION**

### **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON BY CHIRNSIDE GALA QUEEN**

**SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
AT 6.00PM AT CROSSHILL**

**ENJOY SOUP- CAROL SINGING  
VISIT FROM SANTA**

**Organised by Duns Rotary Club  
AT 6.30PM**

## **Nursery and P1 Enrolment for 2015-16**

Enrolment week for Primary 1 (2015-16) was week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> November 2014. However, it is not too late if you have missed enrolment week.

Your child is eligible for nursery if born 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2013. Your child is eligible for P1 if born 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011. Please collect an enrolment form from the school office. Completed enrolment forms should be returned to the school office as soon as possible.

## **Modern Languages**

The Scottish Government's report "Language Learning in Scotland: A 1+2 Approach" was published in 2012. Local authorities and schools are now working towards implementation of the report. The aim is to enable children and young people to study two languages in addition to their mother tongue in all Scottish primary and secondary schools.

Mrs. Ainslie is leading this development at Chirnside Primary School, and we will begin to implement our strategy next school session 2015-16. I have attached a leaflet regarding the 1+2 approach to modern languages in primary schools for your information.

## **'Bikeability' Trainers Needed!**



We are looking for interested parents and family members who are interested in becoming Bikeability trainers to deliver cycle safety training to pupils. We have delivered this programme for the last four years, with most of our P6 and P7 pupils achieving Bikeability 2 awards in their final primary years. In the last year we have delivered Bikeability 1 training to P5 pupils, in preparation for Bikeability 2.

This programme is worthwhile in terms of teaching pupils how to cycle safely and develop the bike handling skills required to do so. More information can be found at:

<https://bikeability.dft.gov.uk/>

If you are interested in becoming involved in this project, please contact Mr. Trussler for more details.

## **Nativity and Carols**



Primary 1-3 will be performing 'The Grumpy Sheep' on the afternoon of Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December, starting at 13.15 in the school hall. Primary 4-7 will be performing Christmas carols and festive songs. There will be an opportunity for parents to take photographs of their children in their nativity costume at the end of the nativity performance.

All parents and families are warmly invited to attend. There will be a silver collection at the door for charity.



## **In the Community**

### ***Christmas Light Switch On***

*At the Crosshill on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm*

### ***Borders Cross Country Event visits Chirnside***

*Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December at Comrades Park, Chirnside - Chirnside Chasers host a round of the Borders Cross Country Championship*

### ***Rainbows and Brownies***

Meet in the school on Mondays from 5.45pm

### ***Cubs***

Meet in the school on Wednesdays from 5.45pm

### ***Ladies Netball***

Meet in the school on a Thursday from 7.30pm

### ***Tina's Drop In***

For parents and young ones. Meet from 9.00am every Monday in the Community Room.

### ***Toddlers***

For parents and young ones. Meet from 9.00am every Wednesday in the Community Room.

## Christmas Parties

Christmas parties are on the following dates:



- 16th December pm – P1-3
- 17th December am – Nursery (all children)
- 17th December pm – P4-5
- 18th December pm – P6-7

Primary children can bring their party clothes to school in a bag, and will be given time to change before their party.

Party food will be prepared by our school kitchen staff, and is being kindly funded by the Parent Council.

There will be a small £1 charge for P1-P3 to cover the cost of a Christmas surprise. Details to follow next week.

## FAMILY LEARNING FESTIVAL

Scottish Borders Council are planning to host a Family learning Fun Festival in Galashiels in March. This event aims to showcase all the great work being done across the Scottish Borders to encourage parents to get involved in their children's learning. We plan to offer lots of fun learning activities for families, for all age ranges, as well as a bouncy castle, face painting, refreshments, games and teenage activities. We are looking for people willing to help plan and organise the activities, as well as people who have fun learning activities they would like to share on the day – all activities will be considered (sport, dance, arts & crafts, games, quizzes, music.....any activity where the whole family can join in, and learn together). If you are interested please contact Lisa Anderson on 01835 824 000 ext 8855, e-mail [lisa.anderson@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.anderson@scotborders.gov.uk)

## Illness in the Family – Please let us know!

In order to support pupils and staff who are vulnerable to infections because of personal health circumstances, we encourage all parents to notify us if they are aware of the following illnesses in their family – chickenpox, measles, mumps etc. We will then let staff and parents of pupils affected know that the infection is present in the school population. Many thanks for your co-operation in this matter.

## To Create a Nit Free Zone – Bug Busting in January 2015

We will soon be organising a Bug Busting Blitz throughout the school for two weeks, beginning on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January. This is in response to the many incidences of Head Lice we have to deal with in school and at home.

### Hitting the Problem on the Head!

Bug busting is a method of cleaning head lice from wet hair with a bug-busting comb. It is easiest to detect them with the Bug Busting comb straight after ordinary hair washing. Children can fill in a chart at home with the family.


So – starting on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January and every third night afterwards, we are asking whole families to follow the Bug Busting regime – **Wash – Rinse – Condition – Comb**. If all headlice are removed, your child will come to school without fear of spreading or catching them.

Cases of head lice have been reduced by 90% where Bug Busting has been tested. By holding this awareness campaign, we hope to reduce the head lice problem in school. You can easily buy headlice combs at local pharmacies and they only cost a few pence or you can apply to get the Nitty Gritty comb on the minor ailments scheme run by pharmacies. Conditioner does not need to be an expensive brand either.

If you wish any further advice about Bug Busting please contact Katrina Fairbairn – School Nurse for your child's primary school on 018907 50363.

Yours sincerely

Katrina Fairbairn - School Nurse





## Head Lice

**Wet combing ('Bug Busting') technique**

A good way to detect head lice & get rid of the lice if done regularly

- Wash the hair and then dry until damp with a towel
- Make sure there is good light. Daylight is best
- Untangle with a normal comb and then wet with conditioner
- Examine for nits and lice with a special head lice comb
- Begin at the root of the hair to the edge of the hair
- Work round in sections. This may take 15 minutes or longer to do properly
- After each stroke, look closely at the teeth of the comb for lice. If necessary use a tissue to wipe the conditioner off the comb and look for lice in it. Head lice are small insects, often not much bigger than a pin head, but can be the size of a sesame seed
- Stick a moving living louse to a piece of paper and cover with clear adhesive tape. Show this to the nurse, pharmacist or GP for confirmation and advice if you wish to use a chemical method to kill them
- Clean the comb under the tap. A nailbrush may help
- Do this every 3 days for two weeks if a louse is found

- Continue if live lice are still found after two weeks. Seek advice from local pharmacist, school/practice nurse, community nurse, health visitor or GP
- Report any infection to a school or playgroup
- It is not necessary to wash sheets or pillow cases



**NHS**  
Borders

Scottish  
Borders  
COUNCIL

Graphics used by kind permission – SSL International plc