

Chirnside Primary School

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

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

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



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Dear Parents and Carers,

2015 is well under way at Chirnside Primary School with new and exciting opportunities planned to enhance your child's learning this coming year. As our school continues to move forward on its learning journey, inevitably this brings change and with it new, exciting challenges and opportunities.

With this in mind, I write to inform you that as of next term, April 2015, Mrs. Scott will leave her position as Primary 4 class teacher to retire.

Mrs. Scott has had a long association with Chirnside Primary School as a class teacher, and in later years as a principal teacher. During these years, parents and colleagues have admired her commitment to the life of the school and her enthusiasm for the learning of the many, many children lucky enough to have been under her charge.

On behalf of pupils and colleagues, past and present, I wish to express our gratitude to Mrs. Scott for her many years of excellent service and hard work during her time at Chirnside Primary School. Her involvement and commitment to our school's journey has left a lasting legacy. We wish to express our best wishes for the future to Mrs Scott for when her new chapter in life starts.

Kind regards,

Nick Trussler - Head Teacher

Upcoming Events

06.02.15 P1 Class Assembly at 9.15am

03.02.15 P7 Library van

04.02.15 Primary 7 8 week swimming block begins – Eyemouth Pool

04.02.15 P1-P7 Burns judging (afternoon)

10.02.15 Burns Lunch (whole school 12.20/ P7 and guests at 13.15)

11.02.15 Generation Science Workshop for P4 – "Power from the People"

12.02.15 Valentine's Discos (Nursery to P3 / P4 to P7)

13.02.15 In-service Day: Pupil Holiday

16.02.15 and 17.02.15 Holiday

19.02.15 "Champions in Schools" visit to P6

25.02.15 Generation Science Workshop for P6 – "Fizz, Boom, Bang"

02.03.15 Generation Science Workshop for P1 – "Get Fizzy!"

05.03.15 World Book Day

15.03.15 Zumbatonic for P1-P4 begins. More details to follow.

17.03.15 Dental Inspections P1 and P7

26.03.15 Berwickshire Dance Festival, Volunteer Hall, Duns

30.03.15 / 31.03.15 / 01.04.15 Parents Evenings (17.00-19.00)

02.04.15 Final day of term: Church Service 10.30am

20.04.15 School reopens

Staffing Update

Primary 4 Vacancy

The vacancy created by Mrs. Scott's retiral has been advertised as a full time permanent position this week. Depending on applications submitted, the intention is to interview candidates at the end of February or beginning of March in order to allow sufficient time for the successful candidate to start with us on Monday 20th April. We will keep parents updated as the recruitment process develops.

Ms. Strachan

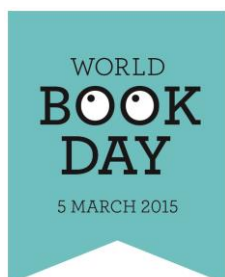
Ms. Strachan will leave us to start her maternity leave as of Friday 20th February 2015. We wish her well in the run up to the new arrival and we look forward to seeing her and her baby in the near future.

P5/P7 0.4 Teaching Post (2 days per week)

Interviews are being held on Thursday 12th February for the 0.4 FTE (2 days per week) position currently occupied by Mr Littlewood. This position will last up to the end of this school session (end of June 2015) and was allocated by Scottish Borders Council to support the school after the loss of our Depute Head Teacher position in September 2014.

Parents will be notified in due course of the appointed successful candidate.

World Book Day 2015



The BIGGEST, HAPPIEST, BOOKIEST celebration of books and reading is back, BIGGER and BETTER than ever!

Together, we can help children to develop a love of books and reading: reading for just 10 minutes a day can make a huge difference to a child's future.

Children's literature and books play a fundamental role in developing children's academic engagement, development and life chances, providing the framework and stimulus through which to deepen their understanding of themselves and the world around them, through empathising with characters and situations in high quality stories.

As a school, we will be organising various activities in classes to celebrate the joy of reading with pupils. There will also be a £1 book token for all pupils.

Further information on WBD15 for parents can be found at <http://worldbookday.com/>

Book Bug Primary 1 Parent Survey



It's that time again! Scottish Book Trust need your help in gathering feedback about this year's P1 Family Packs. These book bags were distributed to P1 pupils and parents on Monday 23rd November 2014.

The Scottish Book Trust have compiled a parent survey for parents of P1 parents to complete (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/S8Q99ZL>)

There is a prize draw for those P1 parents who take part - a bundle of books being the prize! The deadline for the survey is **Friday 27th February**.

Primary 1 and Primary 7 Dental Inspections



Parents of Primary 1 and Primary 7 will receive NHS information and consent forms for this year's dental inspections, to be held on 17th March 2015. Consent forms must be returned before children can be inspected by the dental team.

School Improvement Summary

In January we have been...

...continuing to develop our approaches to behaviour management.

In February we will be...

...developing our knowledge of SEEMIS database in order to produce pupil progress reports for the end of March

Primary 7 Swimmers

Our Parent Council have organised an 8 week block of swimming for Primary 7 pupils, starting on Wednesday 4th February.

Along with the Parent Council, local business, Ahlstrom, has contributed monies to subsidise travel costs for pupils. Primary 7 pupils will be able to take part in an 8 week block of swimming for only £1 per session. Pupils will be working to achieve their Water Safety Blue Card and Borders Sport and Leisure Passport in readiness for their sailing experiences at Whiteadder Reservoir in the summer term.

Keen Photographers Still Required!

We are in discussion with the David Hume Group, who are making plans for their celebration weekend on the 25th / 26th April, to involve P5-P7 pupils in a photography project entitled 'Alternative Views of Chirnside'. The focus for the project is to encourage pupils to look at everyday aspects of Chirnside and surrounding area in different ways.



We would like to enlist the help of any photography enthusiasts in our community to help support pupils understanding of basic photography skills and possible digital enhancement of images. If you have an interest in this area, or you know of someone who does, and would be able to visit a class to help out, please get in touch with Mr. Trussler to discuss initial ideas and for further information on 01890 818274 or email: nick.trussler@scotborders.gov.uk

Getting Off to a Flying Start

The 'Flying Start' parenting project will be run by Tina Alexander, Home School Link and Catherine Hadshar, Adult Learning Worker, and is due to start on Wednesday 4th February in Chirnside Primary School.

What is Flying Start?

The focus of the project is to work with interested parents in developing new and exciting ways of playing and interacting with your child to stimulate their interest in learning.

What will it be like?

Each session will follow this structure:

- Meet at the School Office on a Wednesday morning at 9.00am
- After the play session join us for a coffee or tea
- The session will finish in the morning at 10.15am



In the School

P4 and P5-7 Choirs

At lunchtime for P4 on Tuesdays and P5-P7 on Thursdays with Mrs. Walker in the Community Room

Scripture Union

For P5 and P6 on a Wednesday at lunchtime in the Community Room

P1-P4 Multi-sports

On a Monday 3.20pm – 4.15pm in the school hall run by Active Schools. Starts Monday 12th January to Monday 23rd February. No club on Monday 19th January. Contact Marianne O'Brien for more details (mobrien@bslt.org.uk or 07887471133).

Running Club

Every Wednesday 15.20 to 16.15. For more information, contact Leeann Ross or Chirnside Chasers Running Club.

In the Community

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

Jackie and 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.

Who can attend?

It is for interested parents of nursery children. There will be a limit of 6 places per session, but the course will be run each term to allow everyone the opportunity to attend

To sign up, please give your name to the school nursery or phone Tina on 07920577018 for more information.

Dog Poo

Unfortunately, there has been an increase in dog poo being found on the school field and in the school playground in recent weeks. Please encourage dog owners you know to refrain from using the school grounds to exercise their dogs to ensure the continued health and well being of all our pupils.

Class Photos Uniform

Tomorrow, Friday 30th January 2015, we have Zena the photographer coming to take class photographs of Primaries 1, 4 and 7. Please ensure pupils attend in school uniform for the photographs. Parents will have the opportunity to purchase a copy of the P1, P4 and P7 photos in the near future.

A Personal Challenge for Mr. Trussler Lies Ahead!

In September 2014 I had a 'mini-stroke' in my left eye, causing a temporary loss of sight. Whilst I made a full recovery, it highlighted to me the vulnerability of stroke sufferers and the impact that this change in their health can have upon their lives and that of their families.

As a keen cyclist I thought it a good idea to set myself a goal for the start of the season (April 2015). 89 miles over a hilly (6143 feet ascent) route in the Borders sounded like a lot of fun and so I signed up for the **Tour de Lauder 2015**. If I was going to enjoy the adventure, I thought it only fair that others should benefit from my physical efforts and so decided to take the Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland fundraising challenge!

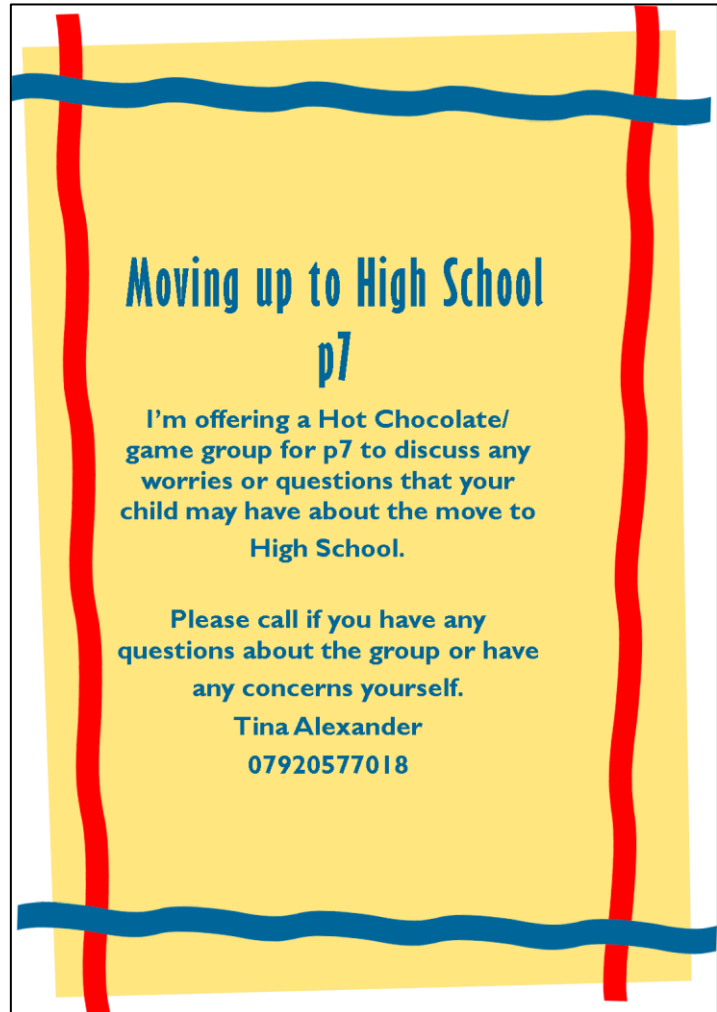
Stroke can affect anyone at any time. Please sponsor me on my cycling adventure and help the work of Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland support those in need. There are three ways

1. **My 'Just Giving' page** - <https://www.justgiving.com/NATrussler/> or
2. Text **NATL £donation** to **70070** or
3. Complete my **sponsor form at the school office** and leave your donation.

Many thanks in advance for your support!

Celebrating the Legacy of Burns

All primary pupils are currently learning about Robert Burns and the Scots language. Classes are learning poems to recite as part of the annual Scots Poetry Competition in school, with Primaries learning poems written by Burns. Classes will be selecting their finalists before the school finals on Wednesday 4th February, where they will be judged by Whiteadder Burns Club, in the shape of our friends Mr. Buick and Mr. Cockburn. Winners will perform at the Primary 7 Burns Lunch in front of invited guests Tuesday 10th February. Look out for pictures and reports in this term's Chirnside Chat!



4-7

on

To Create a Nit Free Zone – Bug Busting in February 2015

We will soon be organising a Bug Busting Blitz throughout the school for two weeks, beginning on Friday 31st 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.

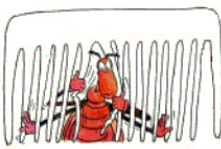
So – starting on Friday 31st January and every third night afterwards, we are asking whole families to follow the Bug Busting regime – **Wash – Rinse – Condition – Comb**. If all head lice are removed, your child will come to school without fear of spreading or catching them.

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 head lice 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



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