

Chirnside Primary School

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

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Dear Parents and Carers,

The month of June is traditionally a quick but busy one in school. It is a time of reflection, looking back at the journey so far and the changes that have taken place in the last year, whilst looking forward to the future and making plans for the forthcoming school year ahead.

It is also an emotional one, when we say 'Farewell' to another Primary 7 class as they leave us and move on to secondary education.

The number of events packed into June (see diary dates) demonstrates how broad our curriculum is in offering all our pupils a wide variety of opportunities and learning experiences as they move ever closer to becoming more confident individuals, successful learners, effective contributors and responsible citizens.

As another school year draws to a close, I would like to thank our pupils for their enthusiasm towards their own learning and our staff for their commitment to ensure high quality learning for all our pupils again this year. Also, thank you to parents and the community for their continued support in helping us achieve this.

Kind regards,

Nick Trussler - Head Teacher

Upcoming Events

10.06.15 and 11.06.15 P7 Transition Days at BHS

10.06.15 Ante-pre Nursery session am only

10.06.15 Move-up Afternoon: Classes for 2015-16

10.06.15 Lunch invitation to new P1 pupils and parents 12.30

10.06.15 Ante-pre Pupils: Nursery session am only

11.06.15 Shorts and Shades disco 18.15—19.15 ELCC-P3 / 19.30—20.30 P4-P7 pupils

12.06.15 P2 Class Assembly 09.15

15.06.15 P6 visit The Big Dig

16.06.15 Anna Craigen (Outdoor learning) visiting P5

16.06.15 P6 Bikeability Training 13.00-15.00

17.06.15 P6 Orienteering at Paxton House

22.06.15 P5 and P6 Big Drum Performance—parents invited

22.06.15—24.06.15 P4 Parent Evenings 17.00-19.00

23.06.15 Ante-pre Nursery am only

23.06.15 Sports Day:

- 9-12.00 P4-P7

- 12.30—15.20 4 Pre-School Nursery to P3

23.06.15 P6 Bikeability Training 13.00-15.00

29.06.15 Henry Gray Mile P5-P7 11.00

01.07.15 Summer Service, Parish Church 10.30 am

Classes for 2015-16

The diagram **to the right** explains our current roll projection for next school session, 2015-16. Currently, our projected primary roll of 174 pupils provides us with a staffing allocation of 7 class teachers.

There are limits on class sizes (set nationally), and these are:

- 25 pupils in a Primary 1 class
- 30 pupils in a Primary 2 and Primary 3 class
- 33 pupils in Primary 4 – 7 class
- 25 pupils in any composite class

To meet the class size limits and organise pupils across seven classes, the following structure **(below)** is proposed and will be implemented for 'Move-Up Afternoon' on Wednesday 10th June 2015.

Class	Teacher	Number of Pupils
P1	Mrs. Gordon	22
P1/2	Mrs. Ainslie	4 / 21
P3	Mrs. Bennie	23
P4	Mrs. Milne	24
P5	Mrs. Reap	28
P6	Mrs. Easton	23
P7	Mrs. Harvey	29

Primary Stage	Pupil Nos.
P1	26
P2	21
P3	23
P4	24
P5	28
P6	23
P7	29
Total	174

Of course, as we have learned from previous sessions, these plans may need to change should we have future enrolments for 2015-16, particularly at the P1 and P2 stages.

Move-up Day

This Wednesday afternoon (10th June), pupils will be meeting and working with their class teacher for 2015-16. This provides an opportunity for pupils and teachers to meet prior to the summer break, often helping to answer any questions pupils may have and to settle any nerves about moving on.

On this day, we ask that our ELCC4 pupils attend in the afternoon so that they can meet Mrs. Gordon and Mrs. Ainslie. As a result of this, we encourage ELCC3 pupils to attend in the morning for their session. Top-up and Wrap-around Care will be available as normal.

Sports Day

Parents requested, through the Parent Council, that we have one Sports Day this year. Therefore, on Tuesday 23rd June, P4-P7 sports will be held from 9.15 to 12.00 and ELCC4-P3 sports will be held from 12.30 to 15.00.

Parents are warmly invited to attend both sessions. We have reserved Wednesday 24th June as our provisional day should it be required due to poor weather.

To provide the opportunity for our ELCC4 pupils to attend in the afternoon, we request that ELCC3 pupils attend in the morning session. Top-up and Wrap-around Care will be available as normal.

Breakfast Bar

Our 'Breakfast Bar' started on Monday 18th May and will run until the end of this school session. It is open to all pupils who have missed breakfast or need to top up before lessons begin. On offer are cereals, fruit, milk and water.

Break Bar is open 8.30-8.50am (last serving 8.45am) and is held in the canteen. Pupils can access the building by using the main door.

Why are we doing this?

Through monitoring with pupils, it has become apparent that a significant number of pupils are having no breakfast or minimal breakfast before school. If pupils are not fuelled as best as is possible, they are not going to be ready to learn as best as they can. Our Breakfast Bar is free at the moment, being funded from a small pot of money used to 'raise attainment'. This is aimed at improving the 'conditions for learning' for pupils.

Since the 18th of May, the average number of pupils using the Breakfast Bar is around 22-25 each morning. The plan is to continue to monitor demand as the term progresses in order to put a sustainable provision in place for 2015-16.

Thursday Tuck Shop

Our Thursday Tuck Shop started on Thursday 21st May and is being overseen by Mrs. Paterson and our P6 pupils to build on their learning from their Fair Trade work.

We have identified that a large number of pupils are regularly bringing high sugar and high fat snacks for their morning break. '[Better Eating Better Learning](#)'

(<http://www.gov.scot/resource/0044/00445740.pdf>)

gives clear direction on the how types of food can impact upon readiness to learn.

The kitchen are providing two healthier choices of snack at break each Thursday for P1-P7. These can be purchased for 30p per item. It is aimed to be price competitive as well as healthier.

Next steps, are that Primary 6 will build on their experience and develop this further next session in Primary 7. This will involve hands on experience of business enterprise, involving profit and loss calculations, ordering from the kitchen, customer satisfaction surveys etc.

New FaceBook Page

There is now one FaceBook page for Chirnside Primary School and Chirnside Primary School Parent Council together. All news and updates will be posted [here](#)

(<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Chirnside-Primary-School/632311346899935?ref=bookmarks>)

If you've not 'liked' our new page yet, click on the link above.

Heelies

Whilst 'Heelies' are growing in popularity amongst pupils during their leisure time, I write to request that parents ensure their child has a change of shoes to wear in the building and playground whilst at school. This request is based solely on the grounds of ensuring pupil safety during the school day.

School Improvements this month...

In May, we have continued to work on our approaches to assessment within 'Literacy and Languages,, and 'Numeracy and Mathematics' with teaching staff developing their knowledge and practice in relation to 'breadth challenge and application' of learning within these areas.



In the School

Film Club

The second Friday of every month at 12.30 (for P5-P7 pupils).

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

P6 Games Club

With Mr. Richards every Wednesday at 12.20 in the Library

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

Tina and Jackie'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.

Early Years staff have also been working on a Health and Wellbeing tool for use with younger pupils.

In June, we will continue our work around 'Significant Aspects of Learning' within Literacy and Numeracy, as well as focusing on transition of learning for all our pupils as they move up to their next primary stages.

Late Arrival of Pupils

A polite reminder to parents and pupils that the primary school day begins at 8.50am and pupils should be in the playground each morning for this time.

Regular late arrival disadvantages pupils in that they miss the start of the day routines and the beginning of lessons. Late arrivals are recorded on class registers and the SEEMIS database.

Henry Gray Mile

This year's Henry Gray Mile (for P5-P7 pupils) will be held on Monday 29th June at 11am on the school field. All parents are invited to attend.

Parking in the 'D'

A polite reminder to all parents and carers regarding car parking in the 'D' at the front of the school...

The 'D' at the front of the school is for drop off and pick up purposes only between 8.30am and 9.00am and 3.00 to 3.30 pm. Cars should not be parked and left unattended in the 'D' at any time, unless parked in a designated parking space. The 'D' needs to be kept clear for the use of parents dropping off and picking up, as well as school buses and taxis. By removing congestion caused by parked cars, we can ensure the safety of all pupils and that school transport arrives and leaves on time.

Many thanks for your continued support in this matter.

Digital Newsletters

Receive our newsletters and 'The Chirnside Chat' in glorious colour by adding your email to our distribution list. Simply send a request to nick.trussler@scotborders.gov.uk and we'll do the rest!

2015-16 Term Dates

2015 / 2016	First day of term	Last day of term
Autumn Term	Tuesday 18 August 2015	Friday 09 October 2015
Winter Term	Monday 19 October 2015	Friday 18 December 2015
Spring Term	Tuesday 05 January 2016	Friday 01 April 2016
Summer Term	Monday 18 April 2016	Wednesday 29 June 2016

