

CHIRNSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL



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

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

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Dear Parents, Pupils and Staff,

Welcome to our May 2016 newsletter.

We're feeling very proud and humbled by the fantastic turn out from parents, children, families and the community to help at our Big Dig event held on Saturday 7th May.

A brilliant atmosphere of team work, creativity and collaboration has led to a transformation of our outdoor space to provide some awesome play opportunities for pupils. Using up-cycled, recycled, natural materials and lots of hard work from everyone involved, the children now have straw bale-climbing structures, tyre trails, tyre tunnels and sand pits to enjoy in the great outdoors.

We've also created a planting tyre for each class to grow plants and crops of their choice, as well as started on the pond project. All this in under FOUR HOURS!!! It was great to see everyone together giving their time, skills and knowledge to make this project such a success.

Thank you to everyone who dug, raked, lifted, hammered, drilled, loaned equipment, gave materials, provided refreshments, pushed wheelbarrows, tested out our creations

(kids and adults!) and suggested ideas for Phase 2! Without you, none of this would be possible!

Not only does it encourage children to be physically active, but outdoor play provides a multitude of other learning opportunities as the image (right) summarises. Together, we have taken the first steps to create a life-long legacy of learning for our current and future pupils.

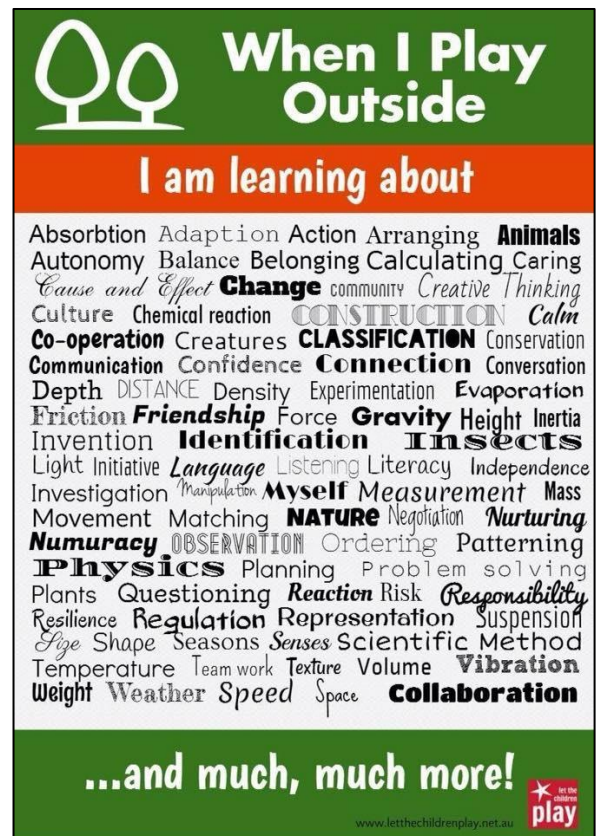
Thank you! You are our heroes!!

Sincerely,

Nicholas Trussler

Kind regards,

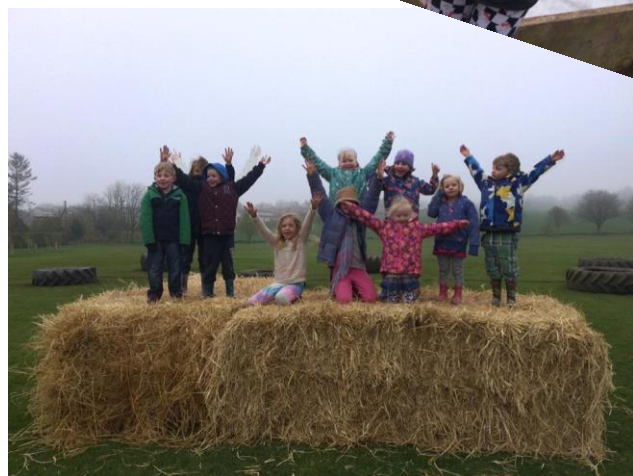
Nick Trussler - Head Teacher



Saturday 7th May: The Big Dig - Outdoor Play Developments



Saturday 7th May: The Big Dig - Outdoor Play Developments



Monday 9th May – The Big Try Out



Parking at Chirnside Primary School

The arrangements for drop off and collection of pupils at school have now been in place for a number of weeks. The impact for pupils' safety has been very positive, with most parents adhering to the request from SBC and Police Scotland to not park at the school and bring their children into the playground via the A6105.

To summarise, the following procedure has been acknowledged by many parents:

- No pupil (primary or nursery) access to the car parking areas at the front of the school at drop off or collection times. This also includes the school drive. **This is to ensure that children are kept away from the A6105.**
- All pedestrian access at drop off and collection times is via the pedestrian gate onto the school path. Parents can park vehicles at Kirkgate and use footpaths to the school.
- Parents can drop off pupils in the 'D' in the mornings, but must not leave their vehicle unattended at any time.

Thank you for your continued support in this initiative and keeping your children safe.

Next PARENT COUNCIL Meeting



Thursday 2nd June 2016

At 7.30pm

**In Chirnside Primary School
All Parents Encouraged to Attend**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Monday 16th May to Friday 20th May – Primary 7 Residential at Kindrogan
- Monday 16th May to Friday 20th May – Walk 2 School Week
- Tuesday 17th May – P5 Countryside Day, Kelso
- Friday 20th May – P6/7 Girls' Netball at Coldingham PS
- Monday 23rd May – P7 Science Day at BHS
- Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th – P7 Watersports GROUP 1
- Wednesday 26th May – P7 PE Day at BHS
- Monday 30th May – Berwickshire Local Holiday
- Tuesday 31st May P5 Ford Castle Day
- Wednesday 1st June to Thursday 2nd June – P6 Ford Castle Residential
- Thursday 2nd June – P4 Class Assembly at 9.30 am
- Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th June – P7 Induction Days at BHS
- Wednesday 8th June – P6 at Coldingham Beach
- Thursday 9th June P4 Football Festival at BHS
- Thursday 9th June 'Move up Afternoon' for ELCC4 to P6 (Classes for 2016-17)
- Tuesday 14th June – SPORTS (P4-P7 AM and ELCC4-P3 PM)
- Friday 17th June – P7 Water Aid Fundraiser
- Monday 20th June – P7 at Torness Power Station
- Tuesday 21st to Thursday 23rd June – P7 Watersports
- Monday 27th June – Henry Gray Mile at 14.30. Parents welcome to attend.
- Wednesday 29th June – End of Year Service and Prize Giving in the Parish Church from 10.30am



Walk 2 School Week

Junior Road Safety Officers presented information to pupils at assembly on Friday 13th May regarding this year's Walk 2 School Week.

Designed to promote sustainable and environmentally friendly journeys to school, pupils are encouraged to walk, scoot or cycle part or all their daily journey to school. Classes will be surveyed by the Junior Road Safety Officers, with the top P1-3 and P4-7 class with the highest percentage of sustainable journeys winning the Golden Trainer or Tartan Foot Award respectively.

Sun Protection

Recently, we have enjoyed some glorious weather, with the children enjoying increased opportunities to take their learning outdoors.

We are adopting the 5S approach this year to promote sun safety for pupils, and we very much appreciate the time and effort that parents spend at the beginning of the school day to ensure their children are sun safe for the day.

The poster to the right is a helpful reminder of the 'Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek and Slide' approach.



Student Placements

This term, we will be joined by two teaching students for short term placements starting on Monday 23rd May.

In ELCC and P1 will be joined by Ms. Elizabeth Heron, a primary teaching student from the University of Stirling.

P6 will be joined by Ms. Alice Chamberlain, a secondary teaching student from the University of Stirling until the 17th of June.

We're Getting Better...

In March and April we:

- Continued our development of our RME progression
- Used SEEMIS to produce reports for parents
- Continued our use of Practitioner Enquiry to measure the impact upon learners.
- Evaluated our experiences of using our new spelling and numeracy progressions.
- Continued to evaluate and develop our approaches to Personal Learning Planning for next session.

In May and June we will be:

- Exploring the content of the National Improvement Framework and the impact upon School Improvement Planning
- Familiarising ourselves with How Good is Our School 4, the updated self-evaluation tool
- Using HGIOS 4 to evaluate aspects of our school performance to identify next steps in school improvement
- Completing our studies through Practitioner Enquiry
- Continuing our work on our RME progression
- Completing transition discussions for class transfers
- Launching an audit questionnaire for staff, parents and pupils using Survey Monkey. The feedback from this will inform the identification of school improvement priorities for 2016-17

Teachers and Classes for 2016-17

Our current projected school roll for 2016-17 indicates that primary classes will be provisionally organised over seven stages (P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6 and P7).

Parents and pupils will be notified of teacher arrangements in the first week of June, prior to Move Up afternoon on Thursday 9th June.

ELCC parents have been notified of their child's placement details by individual letter in April.

The Big Dig – Leftover Tools

Any helpers who left behind tools on Saturday, these can be collected from the rear playground shed. Please ask at the school office for the janitor's assistance.

Breakfast Club

A reminder that Breakfast Club is open to all primary pupils from 8.30am to 8.50am (last orders 8.45am). Breakfast Club is free to all pupils who wish to attend.

On offer is cereal, fruit, milk and water.

Breakfast Club will continue until the end of this school year. Breakfast Club is funded from deprivation funding allocated to the school by Scottish Borders Council.

Primary 1-7 Roll		Number of Children
P1		20.00
P2		24.00
P3		19.00
P4		24.00
P5		26.00
P6		27.00
P7		21.00
Total		161

Class Assemblies

Remaining dates for class assemblies this school session are as follows:

- Primary 4 – Thursday 2nd June at 9.20am

Parents of pupils in these classes are invited to attend and stay for tea and coffee afterwards in the canteen.

Would you like our newsletter by email?

If you would like to receive newsletters by email, please send a request to nick.trussler@scotborders.gov.uk

Term, holiday and closure dates for the remainder of 2015-16

Summer term

Monday 30 May 2016	Casual holiday: Berwickshire
Wednesday 29 June 2016	All break, term end

School Photography Vote

At our Parent Evenings in March, parents had the opportunity to study the work of local photographers and were asked to indicate their preference for School Photographs for 2016-17. Parent Council conducted an exit survey and the results were as follows:

Photographer	Votes	Preference
YID Photography	49	1 st choice
JIS Photography	18	2 nd choice
Tempest Photography	7	3 rd choice

We shall organise a date with YID photography for next session 2016-17 and contact parents in the new school year with details.

Active Schools P7 Transition Clubs

This is a great chance for the P7 pupils to come up to the high school for a 4 week block of a club that they can join after the summer, meet some of the senior pupils involved in coaching and start to make friends with their new school friends. We have 2 clubs:

1. P7 Girls Netball

Date: Wed 25th May – 15th June **Time:** 4 – 5pm

Location: Berwickshire High School

Cost: FREE as this is being run by our senior girl netball coaches.

2. P7 Boys Basketball

Date: Tue 24th May – 14th June **Time:** 4 – 5pm

Location: Berwickshire High School

Cost: FREE as this is being run by our senior girl netball coaches.

If your child is keen to attend the after school club, could you please email, phone or txt the following details to the Active School coordinator:

- Name of child and class
- Any medical conditions
- Emergency contact details
- Let us know if they will be collected after or can walk home

Contact Details:

Marianne O'Brien - Active Schools Coordinator (Berwickshire)

Mobile: 07887471133

Email: mobrien@live borders.gov.uk

INSERVICE DATES FOR 2016-17

Please see letter below from Michelle Strong, Chief Officer for Education, regarding the proposed changes to inservice dates for 2016-17.

	Children & Young People's Services										
Parents and Carers	<table><tr><td>Please ask for:</td><td>Elaine Hunter</td></tr><tr><td>Our Ref:</td><td>MS/EH</td></tr><tr><td>Your Ref:</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>E-mail:</td><td>susan.yates@scotborders.gov.uk</td></tr><tr><td>Date:</td><td>12 May 2016</td></tr></table>	Please ask for:	Elaine Hunter	Our Ref:	MS/EH	Your Ref:		E-mail:	susan.yates@scotborders.gov.uk	Date:	12 May 2016
Please ask for:	Elaine Hunter										
Our Ref:	MS/EH										
Your Ref:											
E-mail:	susan.yates@scotborders.gov.uk										
Date:	12 May 2016										
Dear Parents and Carers											
Result of Consultation on Proposal to Revise Dates for Inset Days											
<p>The comments received during the consultation on the proposal to change the dates of Inset days planned to take place on a Friday have been considered. The majority of comments were not supportive of a move away from a Friday and as a result of the views expressed, it has been decided to remain with the dates already planned and published on Scottish Borders Council's website and there will be no changes at this time.</p> <p>A wider consultation on school holidays and term times will commence at the beginning of the new school term in August 2016 and this will allow for a fuller consideration of future Inset dates. A number of comments received indicated a preference to extend the February break and a range of options will be developed and will be included in the consultation.</p> <p>I would like to thank parents and staff for contributing to the consultation.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> <p></p> <p>MICHELLE STRONG Chief Officer – Education Service</p>											
	<table><tr><td>Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells, MELROSE, Scottish Borders, TD6 0SA</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>T: 01835 824 000</td><td>www.scotborders.gov.uk</td></tr></table>	Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells, MELROSE, Scottish Borders, TD6 0SA		T: 01835 824 000	www.scotborders.gov.uk						
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