

Chirnside Primary School

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

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our November newsletter, marking the beginning of a new term at Chirnside Primary School.

For the next two weeks, I will be absent from school as I recover from an operation, scheduled for tomorrow. From Friday 24th October to Monday 10th November, Ms. Harvey, Principal Teacher, will lead the school in my absence.

During this period, teaching arrangements for P7 will be Ms. Harvey on a Monday, Mr. Wood on a Tuesday and Mr. Littlewood teaching from Wednesday to Friday.

These arrangements allow Ms. Harvey the appropriate management time to support pupils, parents and staff during this two week period.

Kind regards,

Nick Trussler

Head Teacher

PE days

PE days remain the same as last term apart from Primary 7. Primary 7 PE days are Tuesday and Wednesday. We appreciate parents' continued support in ensuring pupils have their PE kit on the appropriate days.



Upcoming Events

October 23

Parent Council AGM at 7.30pm in the school

October 24

School photographs – individuals and family groups (Chirnside pupils only)

October 30

Parent Council organised Halloween Disco PS to P7

November 7

Dress Down Day – more information to follow!

Important Announcement

[To replace a photo with your own, just right-click it and then choose Change Picture.]

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT SUMMARY

In October we have been...

...developing our approaches to Personal Learning Planning (PLPs) and our plans for this term's 'Focus Learning Week' prior to Parent Evenings at the end of November.

...reviewing our Behaviour Management Policy and approaches to supporting pupils.

...developing our approaches to assessment of pupil progress within Curriculum for Excellence.

In November we will be...

...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'.

Free School Meals P1-3 Taster Days

As from January 2015, all Primary 1-3 pupils across Scotland will be entitled to free school meals. This is a Scottish Government initiative being supported by Scottish Borders Council.

Prior to these arrangements starting, our kitchen staff are offering our Primary 1-3 pupils two free school meal 'taster' sessions on Thursday 30th October (Halloween Buffet) and Friday 31st October (Brunch). Lunch envelopes will reflect this offer, and if you do not wish your P1-3 child to receive their two free school meals, please inform the school office by Wednesday 29th October.

Chirnside Whizzkidz

As you may be aware Chirnside Whizzkidz has experienced some difficulties of late, with the threat of closure a very real possibility.

We are glad to say that Chirnside Whizzkidz will remain open for the time being. However we have had to revise our opening hours, now closing at 3.00pm on Friday afternoons.

New Opening Times

Breakfast Club: 7.45am - 8.50am

Afterschool Club: 3.20pm - 6.00pm
(Monday - Thursday)

Afterschool Club: 12.20pm -
3.00pm (Fridays)

We would like to this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.

For any queries or for further information contact us on
07950216858.

Nursery P1 Enrolment for 2015-16

Enrolment week for Primary 1 (2015-16) will be week beginning 17th November 2014. Your child is eligible if born 1st March 2010 to 28th February 2011. Please collect an enrolment form and school handbook from the school office from 17th November. Completed enrolment forms should be returned to the school office by Friday 21st November.

Parent Evening Appointments

Return forms asking parents to indicate a preference for their Parent Teacher appointment time will be sent home at the end of October. Parent evenings will be held on Monday 24th November, Tuesday 25th November and Wednesday 26th November between 5pm and 7pm.

Operation Christmas Child

Leaflets explaining this year's shoebox appeal in partnership with Samaritan's Purse were sent home a few weeks ago. Operation Christmas Child has delivered 113 million gift-filled shoeboxes to needy children in the last 23 years.

How to put your shoe box together...



1. **SHOEBOX** Find an empty medium sized shoebox and wrap box and lid separately.
2. **BOY OR GIRL?** Decide if your gift is for a Boy or a Girl and the age category: 2-4, 5-9 or 10-14. Download and print the appropriate boy/girl label. Mark the correct age category and stick the label to the top of your shoebox.
3. **FILL WITH GIFTS** - Fill your shoebox with a variety of new gifts that will bring delight to a child. See gift suggestions below or have a go at making your own.
4. **GIFT SUGGESTIONS** Please fill your box with a selection of new gifts from the following list, or similar items:
 - **TOYS:** Include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls or stuffed toys (with CE label), toy trucks, harmonica, yo-yo, skipping rope, ball, small puzzles etc.
 - **SCHOOL SUPPLIES:** Pens, pencils & sharpeners, crayons or felt pens, stamps & ink pad sets, writing pads or notebooks & paper, solar calculators, colouring & picture books etc.
 - **HYGIENE ITEMS:** Toothbrush and toothpaste, bars of wrapped soap, comb or hairbrush, flannel. **OTHER ITEMS:** Hat, cap, gloves or scarf, sunglasses, hair

accessories, jewellery set, wind up torch, wrapped sweets (sell by date must be at least March of the following year).

- **DO NOT INCLUDE**: used or damaged items, war related items such as toy guns, play soldiers or knives; chocolate or other food items; liquids or lotions of any type including bubbles; medicines; hand-made or knitted stuffed toys; anything of a political, racial or religious nature; marbles or sharp objects; glass containers, mirrors or fragile items; clothing other than as listed above.
- **INCLUDE £3 DONATION PER BOX**: We ask for a minimum £3 shipping donation to cover UK transportation, overseas shipping and promotion for each box you prepare. You can give online to discover the destination of your shoebox. You can also write a cheque to Samaritan's Purse, place it in an envelope and put it inside your shoebox, then secure the box with an elastic band. If you do more than one box, just make out one cheque to cover all your shoebox donations, put it in an envelope and place it inside one of your shoeboxes.

5. **DROP OFF YOUR SHOEBOX** Please drop your shoebox off in school by Friday 31st October. All shoeboxes will be collected from school the following week.

Parent Handbook Review Groups

I am looking for a small group of nursery parents to volunteer to meet to help review the content of the current nursery handbook in preparation for 2015-16 enrolment in November. Copies of each handbook (for this current session) can be requested from the school office or downloaded from the school website - <http://chimside.weebly.com/school-documents.html>

I am also looking for a small group of primary parents, especially parents of current P1 or parents of pupils new to the school last session or this current session, to review the content of the Primary handbook for parents, prior to P1 enrolment in November.

As for the nursery handbook above, please get in touch with me with suggestions and ideas for improvement.

If you have suggestions on how the handbook can be improved in terms of information, content, layout etc. please share your thoughts with me by emailing me at nick.trussler@scotborders.gov.uk or by telephone or by appointment.

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this review.

Primary 1 'Book Bug' Packs

Primary 1 Book Bug Packs should be delivered to school over the next couple of weeks. These packs will be given out to P1 pupils on Monday 24th November which is the start of Scottish Book Week. More details regarding our celebrations for Scottish Book Week to follow in the November newsletter.

Halloween Disco

Parent Council are organising a Halloween Disco for pupils on Thursday 30th October in the evening. A flier with details will be sent home with pupils next week. Please see the Parent Council Facebook page for more details <https://www.facebook.com/chirnsidePS>

Dates for this term



PRIMARY 7 DISCO

THURSDAY 30th OCTOBER
6pm - 8pm

The Berwickshire High School

Tickets £3
available from your Primary School.

Fancy Dress Optional



In the Community

Borders Cross Country Event visits Chirnside

Sunday 14th 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.