

# NOVEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

## Chirnside Primary School,

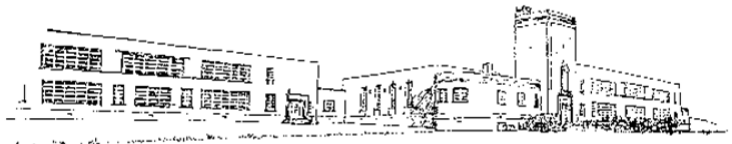
Chirnside, Duns, Berwickshire, TD11 3XH

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### CHRISTMAS 2016

We have a busy few weeks ahead of us in the run up to the Christmas holidays...

#### Chirnside Xmas Factor

This year, P1-7 classes will be putting together their creative ideas and performance skills in our whole-school production 'Chirnside Xmas Factor'.

Each class will have an opportunity to impress the judges with their Xmas Factor performance and attempt to win votes from the audience. There will be two performances on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December – one at 1.30pm and one at 6.00pm

#### Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch for pupils and staff will be held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Menus on Parent Pay will be adjusted to reflect this.

#### Christmas Parties

Class Christmas parties will be held on the following dates (all afternoons):

- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December – P1-P3 Christmas Party PM
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – P4-5 Christmas Party PM
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December – P6-7 Christmas Party PM

#### Christmas Service

Our Christmas Service will be held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 10.30am, in the Parish

### Upcoming Events

- Week beginning Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November – Early Learning and Child Care enrolment 2017-18; Scottish Book Week; Road Safety Week
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November – Hibernian FC Perseverance Scottish Cup visit.
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November – Christmas Fayre starting at 6pm
- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November – St Andrew's Day holiday – **SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November – Cheeky Monkey returns to Wrap Around for ELCC children.
- Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Champions in Schools visit P6.
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Choir performing at WRI
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Chirnside Xmas Factor – afternoon from 13.30 and evening from 18.00.
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December – School Christmas Lunch
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December – P1-P3 Christmas Party PM
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December – P4-5 Christmas Party PM
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December – P6-7 Christmas Party PM
- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – Christmas Service in the Parish Church starting at 10.30am
- Christmas Holiday Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December until Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2017. School reopens on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

Church. All parents and families are invited to attend.

### Replacement Windows

During the October holiday, windows were replaced to the north elevation of the building in ELCC, Primary 6 and Primary 7 classrooms. The double glazed units will help to insure better insulation during the winter months. A number of 'finishing off' tasks are still required to be completed, with contractors visiting the school on the in-service days to complete the tasks. There are currently no proposals for further window replacement in the future.

### Infectious Illnesses

Please can parents continue to notify the school if they are aware of the presence of infectious illnesses such as chickenpox, mumps, measles etc. This will allow us to inform the parents of a pupil who currently has a suppressed immune system. Your assistance in this matter is appreciated.

### ELCC Enrolment

Enrolment for nursery places for 2017-18 will be held Monday 21st to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November. Start dates for 3 and 4 year olds are outlined below:

| Stage                 | Date of Birth     | Start Date   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| ELC4 (N5) – 4 Yr Olds | 1/3/13 – 28/2/14  | August 2017  |
| ELC3 (N4) – 3 Yr Olds | 1/3/14 – 31/8/14  | August 2017  |
| ELC3 (N4) – 3 Yr Olds | 1/9/14 – 31/12/14 | January 2018 |
| ELC3 (N4) – 3 Yr Olds | 1/1/15 – 28/2/15  | April 2018   |

### We're Getting Better All the Time!

In October we...

- Continued to explore the key concepts behind 'Making Thinking Visible' research and theory.
- Implemented 'Critical Reading' approaches in all classes. We used these approaches as a focus for teachers to visit each other's classrooms to evaluate the impact of Critical Reading approaches upon pupil learning.

2016/17

## Early Learning and Childcare 3 + 4 year olds

Your child is eligible to start early learning and childcare (nursery) the term after their 3rd birthday (August; January; April)

### ENROLMENT WEEK 21 to 25 NOVEMBER 2016

Parents with children born between **1 March 2013** and **28 February 2015** should visit the early learning and childcare setting of their choice during enrolment week and enrol for both three and four year old early learning and childcare.

#### APPLICATION PACKS

Application packs will be available from this date from the participating schools and partner providers or by visiting our website  
[www.scotborders.gov.uk/elc](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/elc)





In November we will...

- Explore 'Thinking Routines' contained in the 'Making Thinking Visible' research and theory.
- Continue to develop 'Critical Reading' approaches in all classes. We will complete teacher visits to classes with these as a focus.
- Develop further our approaches to pupil assessment through evaluating national benchmarks in Literacy and Numeracy.

### McMillan Fundraising

Thank you to pupils and staff who supported our McMillan fundraising day by wearing something green. **We raised the magnificent total of £289.17** for a very worthwhile cause.

### Polite Request by the Local Community

When dropping children off/picking up on Kirkgate, can parents please refrain from parking upon the grass verge surrounding the small car park on Kirkgate, adjacent to the Church. Over previous years, during winter, this area turns into a mud bath which is then transferred onto the road making it not only dangerous but causes lasting damage to the verge. Thank you.



### Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

Thank you to those families who have sent in their Christmas shoe boxes for 'Operation Christmas Child'. Shoe boxes will be collected this week (week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> November). Please bring shoe boxes into school by Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> at the latest.

### ***Dress Down Day – Friday 18 November 2016***

The Parent Council are hosting a **DRESS DOWN DAY** to collect donations for the Christmas Fayre (Friday 25 November) Please could children please bring the following:

- Nursery - Tins/jars
- P1 - Toiletries
- P2/P3 - Sweets/chocolates
- p4/p5 - Savoury items
- p7/p6 - Cakes and biscuits (please no home baking as it won't last!!)



Items will be used in hampers, the raffle or the tombola, so best before dates on food should not be before January 2017. Thanks for your co-operation!

## Hibernian FC Scottish Cup Perseverance Tour



On Monday 21st November, we are having a visit from Hibernian FC and the Scottish Cup.

There will be an interactive chat at an assembly with the children about the history of the Scottish Cup, Hibernian Football Club and then a short 2 minute presentation of their Cup success – relaying the “Persevere” message.

Classes will have the opportunity to have their photograph taken with the Scottish Cup. Chirnside Primary is one of only a few Borders schools to have the visit. We were kindly nominated by Mr. Kinsella, P7 parent.

## School Photographs

Please ensure school photograph orders are returned to the school office by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November.

Kind regards,

Nick Trussler – Head Teacher

## Parent Council News

### Business Meeting

The next Parent Council Business meeting is on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm in the school.

Proposed agenda items include:

- Upcoming School Events
- Operation Christmas Child
- Future of Parent Evenings
- Future Changes in Scottish Education

If you have an item for discussion, please email your request to the Parent Council email address (below) to be added to the agenda ([chirnsidepc@aol.co.uk](mailto:chirnsidepc@aol.co.uk)) . All parents are encouraged to attend.

### Christmas Fayre

This year's Christmas Fayre is being held on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November from 6.00pm in the school. The fayre is organised by parents to help raise funds to support the work of the school and subsidise educational experiences for all children.

If you are able to help set up attractions on the afternoon of the 25<sup>th</sup>, or lend a hand for a short while on one of the table top attractions please contact the Parent Council at [chirnsidepc@aol.co.uk](mailto:chirnsidepc@aol.co.uk)

**Many thanks for any help and assistance you are able to offer.**