

# Chirnside Primary School

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

T: 01890 818274

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

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

Email: [nick.trussler@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:nick.trussler@scotborders.gov.uk)



## In the Community

### **Borders Cross Country Event visits Chirnside**

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> 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 6.30pm

### **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 to 11.00am every Monday in the Community Room.

### **Toddlers**

For parents and young ones. Meet from 9.15am to 11.30am every Wednesday in the Community Room.

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

**Welcome to our October newsletter.**

**We have had a busy first term, with many of our classes taking their learning out with school to enhance their curriculum. Please look out for more learning news and photos in this term's 'Chirnside Chat' (out next Thursday – 9<sup>th</sup> October).**

**As we near the end of our first term for 2014-15, there are a number of important items of information for your attention outlined below...**

**Kind regards,**

**Nick Trussler – Head Teacher**

### **Class Restructure**

As you are aware, our school roll dropped below 200 during the summer holidays, resulting in the loss of our DHT post and Mr. Brodie moving to Philiphaugh Primary School.

Our current school roll of 171 primary pupils means that I am required to organise classes across 7 teachers as of Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2014.

This means P7H and P7M will join together as one class of 31

pupils under the direction of Ms. Harvey, Principal Teacher.

The P5 teaching vacancy, created by Mr. Brodie's departure, will be filled by Ms. Milne, who will move from her current class P7M.

Parents of Primary 5 and Primary 7 pupils are invited to a Q&A open evening on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm in the school. This will be an opportunity for parents of Primary 5 and Primary 7 to discuss with me questions and concerns they may have over these changes.

A separate letter of invitation went out to P5 and P7 parents on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

### **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 24<sup>th</sup> November which is the start of Scottish Book Week. More details regarding our celebrations for Scottish Book Week to follow in the November newsletter.

### **Whizzkidz Childcare EMERGENCY Meeting**

The future of Whizzkidz Breakfast and After School Club will be discussed on TUESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER at 6pm IN THE SCHOOL.

All parents are urged to attend and show their support for Whizzkidz childcare service, which is under threat of closure.

### **Improvements this month...**

October sees us continue work on our planned improvements. Teaching staff will continue to develop our approach to 'Personal Learning Planning', as recommended by HMIE. We will be piloting a 'Focus Learning Week' in November, and your child will share their learning afterwards by means of their Learning Log. Learning Logs will be accessible to parents at November Parents' Evenings.

## **MR. TRUSSLER'S PARENT CHALLENGE**

### **No.1**

- I. Before the October break, come in and view a corridor display of your child's classwork and find out what they have learned in their studies.*
- II. Ask your child what they found most interesting about this piece of learning.*
- III. With your child, think of a question related to this piece of learning and see if your child's class teacher knows the answer!*

*Afterwards, bring your child to find Mr. Trussler and claim your Parent Challenge prize!*

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October is an additional in-service day for schools to support implementation of Curriculum for Excellence. On this day we will be continuing our work around assessing pupil progress and recording pupils' wider achievements.

### **Parking reminder**



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.

### **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. 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](mailto:nick.trussler@scotborders.gov.uk) or by telephone or appointment.

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.

### **Alexander Raises In Excess of £850**

A great big thank you to everyone who supported Alexander in his sponsored walk to raise funds for the JDRF research into finding a cure for type 1 diabetes. He has raised in excess of £850 and we are delighted.

If you haven't donated but would like to his just giving page is still open at [www.justgiving.com/alexanderbird](http://www.justgiving.com/alexanderbird)

Thank you once again for your generous support.



### **Parent Evening Appointments**

Parent evenings will be held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November, Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November and Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November between 5pm and 7pm.

Return forms asking parents to indicate a preference for their Parent Teacher appointment time will be sent home at the end of October. Appointments will be sent out to parents week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Parent Council Facebook Page**

 Keep up to date with all Parent Council developments and announcements by liking the Parent Council Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/chirinsidePS>

### **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 31<sup>st</sup> October. All shoeboxes will be collected from school the following week.

## **Nursery and Primary 1 Enrolment week**

Enrolment week for Primary 1 and nursery (2015-16) will be week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> November 2014. Your child is eligible if born 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011. Please collect an enrolment form and school handbook from the school office from 17<sup>th</sup> November.

Children, if born 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2012, are entitled to enroll for their final year in nursery. Please collect an enrolment form and nursery handbook from the school office from 17<sup>th</sup> November.

Children, if born 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2013 are entitled to enroll for their first year in nursery. Please collect an enrolment form and nursery handbook from the school office from 17<sup>th</sup> November.

Start dates for first year nursery pupils are dependent on date of birth and are as follows:

- March 2012 to end of August 2012 – Start in August 2015
- September 2012 to end of December 2012 – Start in January 2016
- January 2013 to end of February 2013 – Start in April 2016

**Completed enrolment forms should be returned to the school office by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November.**



## **Upcoming Events**

### **October 7**

P6 Archaeological Dig at Flodden

### **October 7**

P5 and P7 Parents' Q&A session with Mr. Trussler – School hall at 7.30pm

### **October 8**

Flu Vaccinations for primary pupils

### **October 10**

Berwickshire local holiday

### **October 13**

October holiday week

### **October 20**

In-service day – pupil holiday

### **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!

**The Berwickshire High School**

**PRIMARY 7 DISCO**

**THURSDAY 30th OCTOBER**  
6pm - 8pm

**The Berwickshire High School**

**Tickets £3**  
available from your Primary School.

**Fancy Dress Optional**