

Broomlands Primary School



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August News

We're back up and running! It's great to welcome our new children into school, both in P1 and elsewhere throughout the school. Now that we're a week or so into term, and it has been heartening to see the children back into routine and settling into school life. As always, it is lovely to hear about their summer experiences and to re-connect with parents and families as we welcome everyone at the gates.

Year Ahead Information:

We have planned face-to-face Parents evenings for November and May, giving a chance to talk about strengths and next steps near the start of the year, and again as we begin to think about the transition to the next class. School reports will be issued in late-March. If there are any concerns in the meantime, either from ourselves or from home, it is important we talk about them promptly. Please don't hesitate to get in touch.

As part of our school improvement plan this year, we are looking to offer a range of parental engagement sessions, including our new BOAT sessions (Bring One Adult to School). We really want you to know that school is an open and welcoming place, and to give you the chance to see your children in context. Showbie will continue to be a 'Window into the Classroom', with photographs and samples of work giving you a sense of the ongoing learning. We also hope to offer some Family Learning opportunities as the year goes by. Keep your eyes peeled for these opportunities. As part of our push to make the school more accessible and open to you, we are planning 'Meet the Teacher' sessions in September. This will give you a chance to properly meet the teacher, explore the learning environment and have the chance to ask any questions you may have. More information will follow shortly.

Other priorities for Broomlands this year include:

Implementing a social/emotional support system called 'Zones of Regulation', designed to foster self-regulation and emotional control. It will help give children the toolkit and skills to act differently when things are difficult for them, returning to the Green Zone.



We will focus some of our professional development on Maths and Numeracy, as part of the #SBCWay – a new, joined up approach to teaching and learning across all SBC schools. We will also be looking at how play can enhance learning in age and stage appropriate ways throughout the school.

All children will be involved in an assembly or similar event throughout the year, to which you will be invited nearer the time as they take the opportunity to share their learning.

As always at this time of year, we have a few reminders and pleas about school life, just to help everything run as smoothly as possible.

- **Water bottles** – please ensure these come to school filled. If you bring a packed lunch from home please have a separate drink carton/bottle in with the lunch.
- **Turning Circle** – please drive all the way to the end of the turning circle to drop-off. This allows cars behind you to pull off the road and reduces the risk to children walking to school.
- Please use the **Groupcall Xpressions App** as the main point of contact with the school office. This can be downloaded easily onto a smartphone on both Apple and Android devices.
- Neither **dogs** nor **smoking** are permitted anywhere on school grounds.
- **Peanut allergy** – it is very important that children do not bring food containing peanuts in the lunches/snacks. We have children in school with severe allergies and must ensure their safety.
- **Spare clothes** – We ask that P1-3 children could have spare clothes in their school bag (pants, socks, joggers, etc.)
- **Label Clothes** – please ensure all clothes, water bottles and lunch boxes are clearly labelled.
- Please be aware that staff can only administer **medication** prescribed by a medical professional. A form is required which you can fill out from the school office.
- **Recycling** – Please donate to the ragbag bin, with items bagged prior to being deposited. We are paid by each kilogram received; money which we use to improve resources for the children.
- **Parent Council** – this is open to all and we would all be delighted if you could come along and have a voice in how the school runs.
- **Crossing Patrol** – please remind your children of the importance of using the crossing patrol to safely make their way to school.

We look forward to a positive and productive school year, and to working in partnership with you.
Mr Lindsay

Staffing

At the end of last session, we said a fond farewell to Miss Cross, who we wish well for her future teaching career. She was an asset to Broomlands, and we will miss her. We welcome onto our staff Miss Kerr, who is teaching Primary 4. Miss Kerr knows us well having previously been a teaching student here. We are pleased to have her on board.

We have a number of new staff in the nursery and welcome Miss Campbell, Miss Wilson and Mrs Mitchell to the team.

Make Up / Aerosols / Body Spray / Jewellery

No make up should be worn in school. (The only exceptions are for school shows or specific reason discussed and agreed with school in advance.)

Aerosol deodorants and body sprays are not permitted in school. These can cause a difficulty for anyone with asthma related conditions and can affect our fire safety system. Roll on / stick deodorants may be used by older pupils appropriately eg after PE.

Jewellery should be kept to a minimum and should not be a distraction in school. We may ask children to tuck necklaces away under their top for safety. Earrings should be studs or safety earrings. We will ask children to remove jewellery items if we deem them unsafe eg PE lessons; long / hooped earrings.

Attendance

You will have received a groupcall about the importance of attendance at school. Last year our attendance was significantly lower than previous years. Whilst there are often reasons for this, we want to emphasise the negative impact on learning and the social aspects of children's school experience when they are regularly late or missing school. A copy of the new 'Guide to Attendance for Parents & Carers' is available on the school website by following the link below:

[INFORMATION \(broomlandsprimaryschool.com\)](https://www.broomlandsprimaryschool.com/information)

School Improvement Report

The School Improvement Report is complete and is available to view on the school website. A hard copy can be made available from the school office should any wish to have one.

Annual Update Form

These forms list the contact details we will hold on file for you. If you haven't done so already, please return them to school as soon as possible, even if there are no changes. If your details change throughout the year it is very important that you inform the school office as these details are vital in emergencies of any kind (eg illness, school closure, etc.) We will continue to make regular use of groupcall and would urge you to download the Xpressions app and ensure we have an up to date email address if at all possible.

Free School Meals and Clothing Grant

Please use the link below to find out more about what is available to you. Scottish Government continues to support free school meals for all P1-3 children.

WE URGE ALL FAMILIES WHO ARE ENTITLED TO DO SO TO REGISTER FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS AS THIS OPENS UP OTHER SUPPORTS THAT YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO AND BRINGS ADDITIONAL FUNDING INTO THE SCHOOL.

https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20040/clothing_meals_and_transport/480/free_school_meals_and_help_with_schoolwear

Uniform can be ordered from www.border-embroideries.co.uk.

School Lunches

Please order school lunches online via ParentPay. Meals can be ordered weekly, monthly or up to a term at a time. If you order weekly can we please ask that you do it at the weekend in order to save admin time on a Monday morning. That would be greatly appreciated.

Holidays

A copy of school holidays for the coming year are to be found below. They are also available on the SBC website at

https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20009/schools_and_learning/621/term_holiday_and_closure_dates/2

Dates for the Diary

10.10.24	Photographs
14.10.24 – 18.10.24	October Break