

Broomlands Primary School



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May News

Greetings,

As if by magic, all of a sudden it's the summer term and the sun is shining. As I write this I can hear the nursery children playing outdoors, Primary 7 are about to head to the school garden, we have children taking part in outdoor PE and we have just opened up zones on the grass for the children to play in. There is a real sense of anticipation for the term ahead. In our recent staff meeting I asked the teachers the simple question "This term I feel inspired to...?" Their answers overwhelmingly focussed on supporting the children to have a successful, enjoyable and productive term ahead, in terms of their learning and their wider school experience.

We continue to follow all the necessary Covid measures. Unfortunately this still means we can't allow parents into the school building, but we wanted to let you know that we will still report to you on learning progress in the weeks to come. Rather than provide a formal written report we plan to speak directly with you, allowing you the chance to ask questions as well as hear from us about the children's learning. We have planned for individual phone calls with you in the week beginning 31st May (booking details to follow). This will allow time for us to assess progress in a range of areas, and of course deliver lots of new learning opportunities.

We recognise that the year we have been through, whilst difficult, has provided lots of opportunities for new practice, innovation and different approaches to teaching and learning. We want to harness the best of these as we work to the idea of "Building Back Better". In education, things will never be quite the same again, and at Broomlands we very much view this as a good thing. We have worked on a short, medium and long-term plan for how we continue to develop and improve. The school Standards and Quality Report is in the process of being written and will be made available to you in the coming months.

Our first assembly of the year was asking the children for 4 things that we look forward to seeing between now and the summer. These are:

- Hard work
- Good behaviour
- A Learning Attitude
- Resilience

As always, we are contactable through the Xpressions app, email, or phone call to the school office and are here to help wherever we can.

Kind regards,

Mr Lindsay

Water Bottles

Please do remember to send a water bottle already filled with water to school with the children in the morning.

Head Lice

Please remain vigilant about the possibility of head lice. If you suspect your child may have this, please follow the advice below, as it is easily dealt with. NHS advice is as below:

Head lice and nits are very common in young children and their families. They do not have anything to do with dirty hair and are picked up by head-to-head contact. Head lice are small insects, up to 3mm long. They can be difficult to spot in your hair. Head lice eggs (nits) are brown or white (empty shells) and attached to the hair

Head lice can make your head feel itchy or like something is moving in your hair. The only way to be sure someone has head lice is by finding live lice. You can do this by combing their hair with a special fine-toothed comb (detection comb). You can buy these online or at pharmacies.

You can treat head lice without seeing a GP. Treat them as soon as you spot them, check everyone in the house and start treating anyone who has head lice on the same day. There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice.

Lice and nits can be removed by wet combing. You should try this method first. You can buy a detection comb online or from pharmacies to remove head lice and nits. There may be instructions on the pack, but usually you:

- wash hair with ordinary shampoo
- apply lots of conditioner (any conditioner will do)
- comb the whole head of hair, from the roots to the ends

It usually takes about 10 minutes to comb short hair, and 20 to 30 minutes for long, frizzy or curly hair. Do wet combing on days 1, 5, 9 and 13 to catch any newly hatched head lice. Check again that everyone's hair is free of lice on day 17.

Medicated lotions and sprays

Ask a pharmacist for advice if you have tried wet combing for 17 days, but your child still has live head lice. They may recommend using medicated lotions and sprays. These kill head lice in all types of hair, and you can buy them from pharmacies, supermarkets or online. Head lice should die within a day. Some lotions and sprays come with a comb to remove dead lice and eggs. Some treatments need to be repeated after a week to kill any newly hatched lice. Check the pack to see if they're OK for you or your child and how to use them.

If lotions or sprays do not work, speak to a pharmacist about other treatments.

Whilst there's nothing you can do to prevent head lice, you can help stop them spreading by wet or dry combing regularly to catch them early. Do not use medicated lotions and sprays to prevent head lice. They can irritate the scalp. There's no need for children to stay off school or to wash laundry on a hot wash.

iPad Charging

For those with children in Primary 4-7, please do support your children to ensure they charge their iPad to at least 50% (ideally fully charged) before coming to school. It is difficult to work with children effectively when they arrive with 3% power! Thank you!

Free School Meals and Clothing

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 register for free school meals as this opens up other support that you may be entitled to.

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

Uniform

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

Please find attached School Uniform and Clothing Dress Code.

School Lunches

Please continue to 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

30th April – In-service Day - School closed except for ELC pupils on 50 week timetable

3rd May – Bank Holiday – School closed to all ELC and School pupils

23rd June – last day of term.