

Broomlands Primary School



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August - September News

Welcome back!

As always, it has been a real pleasure welcoming the children into school, catching up with them about their summer break and seeing them happy to be back with their friends again. Our Primary 1 children have settled into school well. Inevitably there will be the odd morning where they are tired or a touch reluctant, but we're delighted with how they have found their feet so quickly and feel like part of the furniture already!

As we plan for the year ahead, there are few key areas we are focusing on, as a school. More details can be found in the report on the school website. In a nutshell, we will:

- Focus on developing our approaches to teaching and learning in writing. This will include embedding technical aspects of writing, developing a clear handwriting expectation, exploring how we use scaffolding and modelling effectively, developing writing across the curriculum, and how digital technology can supplement and support the writing process. The work of Stephen Graham will help inform this development.
- Create a platform for recording and celebrating achievement of all kinds, with a view to better signposting children and families toward opportunities, and providing these within school, as required.
- Further develop our use of Showbie, to ensure it is a more 2-way resource. We will plan another Digital Skills Events to inform and involve parents and families in this. In ELC, we will develop a key worker system to ensure up to date wellbeing and learning information is shared via Showbie, alongside traditional means of sharing this.
- Take a practitioner enquiry approach to identify and develop next steps in teaching and learning development, in collaboration with colleagues across the cluster.
- Take part in moderation activities to ensure our professional judgement of children's learning is accurate and reliable.
- Use the Glasgow Motivation and Wellbeing Profile tool to gather feedback from children about their learning and how they feel about life in school. This will allow us to respond at an individual, small group, class or whole school level, as appropriate.

As always, if there is anything we can do to help, or you have any concerns about anything related to school life, please do contact us, through the Xpressions app, by email or on the telephone. We wish everyone a positive, productive and enjoyable year ahead.

Best wishes,

Mr Lindsay

SOME IMPORTANT THINGS TO NOTE:

Disabled parking: Our disabled bays are only for people displaying a disabled badge. If no badge is displayed, you should expect to be asked to park elsewhere, keeping the disabled bays free for those who need them.

Road Safety: Please urge your children to make use of the crossing patrol and not to cross the busy main Ednam Road anywhere else.

Attendance: Please remember that, if at all possible, we are looking for full attendance. We have had a great start back to the year. Well done! We understand that children will have times where they may not be well enough to be at school – please inform as soon as possible in the morning if this is the case.

If for any reason we have not been informed of an absence a groupcall will be sent to ascertain the reason for absence. If we don't get a response to the groupcall then we will endeavour to speak to one of your chosen emergency contacts. If we are unable to make contact we will, in line with other SBC schools, need to contact partner agencies to ensure we can guarantee the safety of our youngsters.

Please do all you can to arrange medical or dental appointments out-with school time. If you are unable to do this then please let the class teacher know in advance, in writing, so we have a clear record of this. Children being collected for appointments during the school day should leave only via the main reception. Thank you for your support with this.

Free School Meals & Clothing Grant: If you are eligible for either of these, please do apply for them, even if your children automatically received free school meals. The school is able to access funds and resources to support children based on the number of these grants awarded, so it is really helpful for you to do this. The following link takes you straight to the page with further information about this. [Free school meals and help with schoolwear | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/free-school-meals-and-help-with-schoolwear)

Uniform can be ordered from www.border-embroideries.co.uk. Please ensure all uniform, water bottles etc have your child's name on them.

Staffing

We said goodbye to Miss Lyons and Miss Fraser as they completed their newly qualified teacher time at the end of last session and wish them both well as they look to move on in their respective teaching careers. Both brought energy, fun and commitment to Broomlands and will be very much missed. Thankfully Miss Lyons has been able to re-join us, working with P7 on a Tuesday. We also wish Miss Lees well as she has now completed her year with us and moves on to pastures new. We are pleased to welcome Miss Robertson to our staff this year, as she comes to teach Primary 6/7. Welcome to Jackie Davidson who has joined our catering team in the kitchen. We will miss Mrs Mutch as she retired at the end of the session. We wish her all the very best for the next big adventure in her life! We are in the process of recruiting to our nursery setting, and will have further news of this to share with you shortly.

School Improvement Plan

We are currently finalising the School Improvement plan for the year ahead. This will be shared on the school website in due course, and discussed at the Parent Council meeting.

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 by 31st August, 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.

Head Lice

Please be aware that there are some cases of head lice in school. Please be vigilant and child's hair regularly.

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.

- Peanut allergy – it is really important that children do not bring food containing peanuts (including Nutella) in their lunches/snacks. We have children in school with severe allergies and must ensure their safety.
- Spare clothes – Could P1-3 have spare clothes in their bag please (pants, socks, joggers, etc.)
- Please be aware that staff can only administer medication prescribed by a medical professional. A form is required which you can fill out in the foyer beside the school office.
- There is no smoking permitted anywhere on school grounds.
- We are grateful to dog owners for their willingness to keep dogs out of the school playground.
- 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. The annual AGM will be held on Thursday 15th September via Zoom. Information to follow.

Childcare

If your child regularly gets collected by someone other than parents/carers please complete the slip below and return it to school.

If your child goes to Castlegate Nursery after school please notify the office if there are any changes.

Holidays

A copy of school holidays for the coming year are to be found below. They are also available on the SBC website at [School term dates for 2022-23 | Term, holiday and closure dates | Scottish Borders Council](#) (scotborders.gov.uk)

School term dates for Session 2022-23

Autumn term

- Monday 15 Aug 2022 - Staff resume, In-service day
- Tuesday 16 Aug 2022 – In-service day
- Wednesday 17 Aug 2022 - Pupils resume
- Friday 7 Oct 2022 - Last day of term for pupils and staff, mid term holiday
- Monday 17 Oct 2022 - Staff resume, In-service day
- Tuesday 18 Oct 2022 - Pupils resume
- Monday 28 Nov 2022 - St Andrew's Day holiday, school closed
- **Tuesday 29 Nov 2022 – casual holiday**
- Thursday 22 Dec 2022 - Last day of term for pupils and staff

Winter term

- Monday 9 Jan 2023 - All resume
- Friday 10 Feb 2023 - Last day of term for pupils, February holiday
- **Monday 13 Feb 2023 – casual holiday**
- Monday 20 Feb 2023 - All resume
- Friday 31 Mar 2023 - Last day of term for pupils and staff

Summer term

- Monday 17 Apr 2023 - All resume
- Monday 1 May 2023 - May Day holiday, school closed
- Tuesday 2 May 2023 - Staff resume, In-service day
- Wednesday 3 May 2023 - Pupils resume
- Thursday 29 June 2023 - Last day of term for pupils and staff

Casual holidays

Each learning community allocates two casual holidays for pupils and staff which are usually aligned to their local festivals.

Cheviot

- **Tuesday 29th November 2022**
- **Monday 13th February 2023**

CHILDCARE INFORMATION

My child/children..... Class(s).....

Will be collected by.....(provider) on Monday

Will be collected by..... (provider) on Tuesday

Will be collected by..... (provider) on Wednesday

Will be collected by.....(provider) on Thursday

Will be collected by.....(provider) on Friday

Please complete and return to school if your child regularly gets collected by an adult other than parent/carer