

Broomlands Primary School



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December News

It was good to see so many of you at our recent Parents Night event. After so long without being able to meet face-to-face, we hope it was a helpful and positive way for you to hear more about the learning journey your children are on, and to meet the teacher in-person. We certainly valued the chance to talk with you about all the progress and next steps we see for the children. We hope the information on internet safety provided by PC Tait-Logan was helpful to you.

A big thank you to those of you who felt able to send a shoebox for the charity appeal. These have been collected and are on their way to very deserving causes. We appreciate your generosity in these challenging financial times. Thank you also to everyone who organised and supported the Christmas Fair. It was a lovely evening and we are delighted to have raised £1500 for the school.

As we move rapidly towards the festive season there is much to be excited about in school. P6 & 7 are working hard to produce a pantomime to help bring some seasonal humour and fun to us all. They're on track to deliver a great production of 'Panto Pandemonium'. Huge thanks to the staff who are supporting them to make this a production to remember.

We are planning two events that you are very welcome to join us for, on the last day of term, Thursday 22nd December. We have our church service planned for 10am at Kelso North, where P7 will help us think about the Christmas story and its real meaning. Later in the day, at 2.45pm we are delighted that, after a couple of years without being able to do this, we will finish the term with 'Carols in the Playground'. You are more than welcome to be part of this and we encourage you to come and be in fine voice! Children can be collected and taken home at the end of the Carols.

We wanted to make you aware of a great initiative in our ELC. Every week the nursery are visiting Queens House to spend time with the elderly residents. This is proving to be a rich, enjoyable experience for all involved. The residents very much enjoy the visits, appreciating the energy, fun and chat of the children. Likewise, the children learn to listen to and enjoy the company of the older folk. Inter-generational activities such as these encourage communication and social skills, develop language through shared activities and increase confidence and self-esteem. It helps develop empathy, care and kindness in our youngsters as they understand and talk so positively about their elderly friends.

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.

It just remains for me to wish everybody a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year when it comes. I hope you find time to slow down a little, and enjoy time with those who are dear to you over the festive season.

Best wishes,
Mr Lindsay

SOME IMPORTANT THINGS TO NOTE:

Christmas Cards

As we enter the festive season, we know that children may wish to share Christmas cards with others. As we did successfully last year, and bearing in mind both the environment and cost, we ask that they bring one card for the class, rather than individual cards for all the children. Thank you.

Turning Circle Congestion

Once again, we ask that if you have to drive children to school and use the turning circle, please drive as far round the turning circle as possible, to allow the vehicles behind you to also access the turning circle. This avoids congestion on the road, which at times can back up onto the main Ednam Road. It makes it easier and safer for everyone if you would do this. Thank you.

Cost of Living Crisis Advice and Support

Many families are struggling financially at this time and the cost of living the cost of living crisis is having a significant impact on many households. Scottish Borders Council have a dedicated webpage which details many supports including financial advice, help with energy costs, access to food and other resources.

[Financial support and advice | Cost of Living Crisis support | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

Disabled parking: A reminder that the car park is a staff car park. Our disabled bays are only for people displaying a disabled badge. We have a small number of people without a badge who make use of these disabled bays due to exceptional circumstances. This has been agreed with the school. Please respect this.

Road Safety: As the clocks changed recently, it is increasingly dark at the start and end of the day. Please take care when collecting or dropping off. Park considerately and safely; avoid the zigzags and stay off the double yellow lines. Wherever possible, please walk to school to reduce congestions. Again, we ask you to support us in urging 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 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 do not 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 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 \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

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 have recruited to the position teaching Primary 7 on a Tuesday and are looking forward to Mrs Nicola Obee joining us shortly. She comes with a wealth of experience and will be an asset to the team here at Broomlands.

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. The Christmas lunch is now available to order for Wednesday 21st December.

- 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.

Plans for Christmas.....

Date	Christmas parties
12 th December	am P1 Christmas party. Please come dressed in party clothes pm P5 Christmas party. Children can come in party clothes in the morning or change at lunchtime.
13 th December	am P2 Christmas party. Please come dressed in party clothes. pm P6 Christmas Party. Children can come in party clothes in the morning or change at lunchtime.
14 th December	am P3 Christmas party. Please come dressed in party clothes. pm P4 Christmas Party. Children can come in party clothes in the morning or change at lunchtime.
15 th December	pm P7 Christmas Party. Children can come in party clothes in the morning or change at lunchtime.
16 th December	am ELC Christmas Party. Please come dressed in party clothes.

To support the P1- P7 Christmas parties and to reduce waste we are asking for a small donation to help buy party food rather than asking parents to send a plate of food. You can make this optional payment at www.parentpay.com. There are different arrangements for ELC party food.

Date	Event
7 th December	P6 & P7 Present 'Panto Pandemonium' at 6pm
8 th December	Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children
8 th December	P5 French Café

13 th , 14 th , 15 th Dec	P3 & P4 Enterprise Project - letter to follow
21 st December	Christmas Lunch – order at www.parentpay.com
22 nd December	10am Christmas Service at Kelso North Church – all welcome
22 nd December	2.45pm Carols in the Playground – all welcome

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**

