

# Broomlands Primary School



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## March - April News

Greetings,

It is so good to have all the children back in the building with us. We are very grateful to be in a position where it is safe enough to have everyone together, albeit with our strict bubble system and playground zones. Most children have settled back beautifully, and seem to be grateful to be back together with their friends and teachers. For some, it has been a little trickier settling back in, but we continue to support and encourage these children as best we can. After such a strange year we know it may take time for everyone to feel as back to normal as possible. We do anticipate the measures of social distancing, mask-wearing (adults), bubbles and zones being part of our practice for many months to come.

However, we are looking to the future with renewed optimism and starting to plan for the term ahead. One priority is to ensure that our little ones make a successful transition from ELC to Primary 1. We will certainly be contacting parents in the new term to arrange to meet with you, either in person, or virtually, to share our vision for the children in P1 and to answer any questions you may have. Likewise, we will be doing all we can safely to prepare the children for this exciting next step in their learning.

At the other end of the school, we are planning a 'Staycation' for our Primary 7 children, hoping to give them a blend of challenge, risk, fun and memories in their final term with us. We are talking to Kelso High School about how we support their transition up to S1, including looking for ways for the children to connect with their peers in our other local schools so they can begin to get to know other children before they move up.

We will need to wait until a little nearer the time to see if we can safely allow events such as Sports Day, and are waiting on the next round of Scottish Government advice before we make final decisions on these things.

As we move through the new term we have worked as a staff to look at how we include some of our learning from lockdown into the good practice we have in school. This includes:

- Enhancing learning by trialling video tutorials to support groups working independently in the classroom, using them for instruction & modelling within small group work.
- Keep trialling and using technology to reduce feedback time (video, verbal, digitally annotated scripts, etc.) and improve impact on children's learning.
- Continue communicating with parents to talk about learning – we plan to report by phone call later in May.

- Improve our pastoral care with quick, responsive communication to reduce anxiety and ensure small issues don't grow into big ones.
- Continue to use iPads in the classroom for working on tasks/uploading work.
- Use technology to continue to save time in organising meetings, improving instant communication.

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 the children in the morning.

### **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!

### **Physical Education**

Please remember to send a note if your child is unable to take part in PE. It helps us ensure we include all the children who should be taking part, but don't risk adding to any injury or illness if a child genuinely shouldn't be doing PE. 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](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](http://www.border-embroideries.co.uk).

### **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](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20009/schools_and_learning/621/term_holiday_and_closure_dates/2)

## Message from Cheviot Youth

Cheviot Youth's Funstravaganza Day Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 10.00am to 4.00pm meeting at the Planet from 9.30 am onwards. A great day of crazy golf, football shoot out, giant rugby darts, beat the buzzer and much much more. To book a please for this day with a free lunch please contact Ian at [ianrendallreid@cheviotyouth.co.uk](mailto:ianrendallreid@cheviotyouth.co.uk)

Cheviot Youth's An Introduction to Mountain Biking Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April 10.00 am to 4.00pm, meeting at The Planet (next door to the Borders Ice Rink) A great day on your bike, learning all about Bike maintenance, climbing, body positioning, berms and timed laps. This is a certificated course with a Free lunch. Please arrive 30 minutes early to allow Bike Doctor to check your bike. To book this day please contact Ian at [ianrendallreid@cheviotyouth.co.uk](mailto:ianrendallreid@cheviotyouth.co.uk)