

Broomlands Primary School



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June News

Greetings,

The school year is drawing to a close, not with the usual hectic calendar of activities, but in a slightly different way. We are working hard to keep the children focused on learning, though we're making the most of the full range of opportunities we have. As I write, P3/4 are in the school garden, learning about the plants that grow there, and working in teams on an orienteering-type activity. I have seen great learning from P6 out in the local woodland, den building and carrying out a wide range of forest-school type activities.

As we mentioned last month, we are looking forward to reporting progress as we speak directly with you in the coming days, allowing you the chance to ask questions as well as hear from us about the children's learning.

We have some significant changes ahead in school. I am delighted to report that we have grown to such an extent that we will be moving from 9 to 10 classes next session. This is great news all round, and we are in the process of sorting out classes, staffing and so on. As soon as we know the situation clearly, we will be in touch with you about the classes for next session. Because of this big change, there will be some changes to composite classes and the groupings of children may differ as a result. The great news is that the change means smaller class sizes across most of the school, allowing us more time to devote to each child.

Mrs Orde will be taking up a full-time role with Inspire Learning next session. I am pleased that she will continue to be based in Broomlands, allowing us to benefit from her expertise in digital technology. We will be welcoming Miss Schmidt onto our staff, working alongside Mrs Davenport in the coming year. Having worked with her previously I am sure she will be a valued member of the team here at Broomlands. We're delighted that this means Mrs Woodcock will take up a full-time class teacher position next session. We will also benefit from having two newly qualified teachers on the staff. As always, they will bring fresh ideas, new thinking and boundless energy to the school. They will be mentored by Mrs E Murray and Miss Scott. We have two remaining vacancies to which we are currently recruiting.

We held a brilliant Sports Day earlier this week – congratulations to Georgina Hancox and Martha Ashworth (girls champion and runner-up) and to Danny McMahon and Nathan Guthrie (boys champion and runner-up) on their successes. In the gruelling 'Round the Field' race congratulations to Lewis Leifer and Freddie Becattelli, Martha Ashworth and Georgina Hancox, winners and runners-up in this big race. The house this year was Broombank – very well done to them!

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.

Parking

We know that parking is a challenge in the area surrounding the school. After a recent 'near-miss' and a number of complaints, please do park courteously, carefully and avoid blocking the turning circle at the end of the day. Similarly, in the morning, please drive as far round the turning circle as you can to allow other cars in behind you and to avoid cars backing up onto the road. Our colleagues in the Police will be visiting from time to time to support us in keeping our children safe on the roads around school.

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

From August all children in Primary 1-4 (previously P1-3) will be entitled to a free school meal. By the end of next school year this will be extended to Primaries 5-7 also. SBC will be providing more details on this shortly.

In the meantime, 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 can be ordered from www.border-embroideries.co.uk. The last date for guaranteed delivery for uniform required for August start is **Sunday 25th July**.

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

The school closes on Wednesday 23rd June for Summer holidays.

School term dates for 2021-2022

Autumn term

- Monday 16 Aug 2021 - Staff resume, in service day
- Tuesday 17 Aug 2021 - In service day
- Wednesday 18 Aug 2021 - Pupils resume
- Friday 8 Oct 2021 - Last day for pupils and staff - mid term holiday (see below)
- Monday 18 Oct 2021 - Staff resume, in service day
- Tuesday 19 Oct 2021 - Pupils resume
- Monday 29 Nov 2021 - St Andrews Days - schools closed
- Tuesday 30 Nov 2021 - All resume
- Thursday 23 Dec 2021 - Last day of term for pupils and staff

Winter term

- Monday 10 Jan 2022 - All resume
- Friday 11 Feb 2022 - Last day for pupils - February holiday
- Monday 14 Feb 2022 - Staff resume, in service day
- Monday 21 Feb 2022 - All resume
- Friday 1 Apr 2022 - Last day of term for pupils and staff

Summer term

- Monday 18 Apr 2022 - All resume
- Monday 2 May 2022 - May day holiday, school closed
- Tuesday 3 May 2022 - Staff resume, in service day
- Wednesday 4 May 2022 - Pupils resume
- Thursday 30 June 2022 - 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

- Friday 8 Oct 2021
- Monday 30 May 2022