

Broomlands Primary School



Adam Lindsay
Headteacher
Ednam Road
Kelso
TD5 7SW

☎ 01573 227477 Nursery 01573 227452

✉ broomlandsp@scotborders.gov.uk

November News

As the nights are drawing in and the weather has taken a turn for the worse, we keep busy and smiling here at Broomlands. It has been a hectic couple of weeks since we came back from the October break, with lots going on in school.

Children have been learning all sorts in classes, with particular focus on building resilience, floorball skills, how the wellbeing indicators apply to them, and how to use greenscreen technology to develop brilliant Halloween animations. Primary 7's have met with their buddies once again, enjoying quality time with them. Primary 1 & 2 have continued to develop their shared area with both a farming and hairdressing focus added to the usual range of play opportunities. Our Positive Press Team have been busy, contributing to Kelso Life magazine and sharing thoughts in this newsletter. The Pupil Digital Leader Team have been sharing their learning in other classes, helping their friends learn more about a range of techniques and skills on their iPad's.

You may have noticed in the press that the school was awarded 'Apple Distinguished School' status recently. We are delighted to be welcoming the head of Apple Distinguished Schools, Bill Ziegler, to Broomlands shortly, so he can see for himself how children are learning new technology skills to enhance their learning. Bill leads the Apple Distinguished School programme worldwide and we look forward to welcoming him to Broomlands.

Our Playground Project is underway, with the order placed. I was speaking to the company last week about a start date, and am hopeful that the work will be complete by Christmas. They are waiting on delivery of the right timber and rope parts in order to begin.

One of the areas we would like to improve this year is how we recognise and support the wider achievements of our children. We recently sent out a link to a short survey which we will repeat later in the year. Many thanks for the 84 responses we have had already. Please take a minute or two to complete this before 4th November so we can start to plan how we offer extra-curricular options and build on the skills children have from the various clubs, sports and groups they might be a part of already. The links are:

P7 - <https://forms.office.com/r/U3Pt5I8gDt>

P3-6 - <https://forms.office.com/r/njUDJvFT3J>

P1-2 - <https://forms.office.com/r/AaQrA5RZVA>

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.

Best wishes,
Mr Lindsay

SOME IMPORTANT THINGS TO NOTE:

Positive Press Team

Our Positive Press Team wish to say thank you to the parent council for both the Halloween disco and Fruit tuck starting back. The disco was great and we enjoyed the food, seeing what everyone was dressed up as (even the scary ones) and it was good to be able to dance. We enjoyed the conga and the dance battle. Next year we would love more games, particularly for the children who don't like dancing so much, and for some quieter activities.

As we write, this is the first day back of the fruit tuck. Please remember your money on a Friday if you want to have some fruit tuck. It's a little snack for us before break and because it's healthy, it's good for our bodies. It's just nice to have a piece of fruit! Some of us forgot our snack today, so it was great to have it back!

Thanks, Parent Council!

Annabel, Kady & Hannah (Positive Press Team)

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: 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 zig-zags 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 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 have welcomed Mrs Louise Andrews, Miss Rachael Horsburgh and Miss Nathalie Luke to our Nursery team, but have bid Mrs Leanne Cheyne farewell as she moves on to pastures new. I want to thank Mrs Cheyne for all her dedication and hard work in her time with us, and wish her well as she moves to a school nearer to home and family. We also welcome Mrs Niki Dunn who joins the dining room team.

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.
- 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.

Parents' Evenings P1 – P7

We are delighted to advise that Parents Evenings will take place on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd November. These will be on a face to face basis, with appointments available to book shortly. PC Tait-Logan will be available during parents' evenings to share information about internet safety and the challenges of raising children in an online world.

Open Evenings ELC

These will take place on the same nights as P1-P7 parents' evenings. The nursery will be open for you to find out a little bit more about life and learning in the nursery. Please pop along to our open sessions between 4pm and 5 pm where you can engage in activities we offer to our children to progress their learning. Information will be sent home soon to allow you to book one of these sessions.

ELC & P1 Enrolment

Please read the attached poster regarding instructions for enrolling pupils into ELC and P1.

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](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/school-term-dates-for-2022-23-term-holiday-and-closure-dates) ([scotborders.gov.uk](https://www.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