

Broomlands Primary School



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October/November News

All of a sudden, we're into the autumn and the term has flown away! As the weather is very unpredictable, please make sure the children have a jacket with them every day and keep warm and dry – wherever possible we try to let them outside to play over break times. Also, as the days get shorter and the nights draw in, our JRSO's have been highlighting to children the importance of being bright and being seen on their journey to and from school. On a similar note, it will not be a surprise to anyone that parking and road safety continue to be challenging. As I write this, it is Walk to School week, and it reminds us that 'Park & Stride' is an option if you want to avoid the congestion around the school. Some folk park at the ice rink and walk round. Do consider this if you have the flexibility to do so.

Parents evenings are approaching in November, on the 19th and 21st. These will be face-to-face appointments, and we look forward to seeing you there. Details about booking will follow nearer the time.

As a school, we have invested a lot of time and energy in implementing 'Zones of Regulation' since we came back in August. We feel this is a really important step forward. 'Zones of Regulation' is a complete social-emotional learning curriculum, created to teach children self-regulation and emotional control. We teach it in Broomlands in every class, from P1 to P7, with elements introduced in the nursery as well. Parents can teach and use the zones of regulation at home too. To help you learn more about this, we will be offering a Parent Workshop later in the month. It is a single session and will last about an hour. To try to ensure we catch as many parents as possible, we offer a session at 2pm, during the school day, and repeat it the following day at 6.30. Dates are found below. Please join us if you can!

We have had a block of input from Kelso Hockey club for P7, and Kelso Rugby Club for our P5's. Both have been really positive and successful. Our thanks to all the coaches who came and gave their time to support the children with this. The Football League has started again. Broomlands have played very well. Again, thanks to parents for their support. Mrs Gibson is very encouraged by the numbers who have joined her Netball sessions, and their skill levels are improving week-on-week. We have Floorball taster sessions planned for the week after the October break, during the school day, and delivered by Craig Girvan from G10 Sports. Finally, our P7 Playground Leaders have completed their training and have delivered their first play session with our P1 children. They will now be part of a rota to work in the Infant playground delivering games and having fun with our youngest children. Well done to them!

Once more a huge thank you for the Harvest donations. These were taken to the foodbank who wrote to thank us all, noting that *"At this time, when the high cost of living is affecting people's ability to support the Food Bank, and when there are many more people being referred to the Food Bank, your donation is particularly valued"*. Thank you!

We hope the children have a great October break and will see them back the following week, raring to go!

Mr Lindsay

Staff Celebrations

We wanted to highlight the contributions of a number of our staff who have been recognised by Scottish Borders Council for their 'Long Service' in recent weeks.

Mr Dryden & Mrs Abbot – 20 Years Service.

Mrs Fortune – 25 Years Service

Mrs C Murray – 30 Years Service.

On behalf of the whole school community, we thank them for their continued hard work and celebrate these milestones with them.

- Please use the **Groupcall Xpressions App** as the main point of contact with the school office. This can be downloaded easily onto a smartphone on both Apple and Android devices.
- Neither **dogs** nor **smoking** are permitted anywhere on school grounds.
- **Peanut allergy** – it is very important that children do not bring food containing peanuts in the lunches/snacks. We have children in school with severe allergies and must ensure their safety.
- **Spare clothes** – We ask that P1-3 children could have spare clothes in their school bag (pants, socks joggers, etc.)
- **Label Clothes** – please ensure all clothes, water bottles and lunch boxes are clearly labelled.
- Please be aware that staff can only administer **medication** prescribed by a medical professional. A form is required which you can fill out from the school office.
- **Recycling** – Please donate to the ragbag bin, with items bagged prior to being deposited. We are paid by each kilogram received; money which we use to improve resources for the children.
- **Parent Council** – Our recent AGM was very positive, and we remind you that 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.

Attendance

This year we are again mindful of attendance and have been delighted by the positive start to the year. Thank you. If your child is absent for any reason please contact the school office to make them aware. 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 and Clothing Grant

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 DO SO TO REGISTER FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS AS THIS OPENS UP OTHER SUPPORTS THAT YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO AND BRINGS ADDITIONAL FUNDING INTO THE SCHOOL.

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.

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.

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 2024-25 | Term, holiday and closure dates | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

Dates for the Diary

- School Photographer- Thursday 10th October – Individuals & Families
- October Break – Monday 14th – Friday 18th October
- In-Service Day (Closed to pupils) – Monday 21st October
- Zones of Regulation Parent Workshop 1 – Wednesday 23rd October, 2pm in school Dining room
- Zones of Regulation Parent Workshop 2 - Thursday 24th October, 6.30pm in school Dining Room
- Parents evenings - Tuesday 19th November & Thursday 21st November
- St Andrews Day Holiday – Monday 2nd December