

SUMMER TERM 2025

## WELCOME

### *New Office Bearers*

A warm welcome back to the school summer term and to new and existing parents of Berwickshire High School's Parent Council newsletter "Connect". Last month we said goodbye to our Parent Council Chair, Neil Bennett and to Treasurer, Morag Lamond.

Neil and Mo joined the Parent Council when their daughter's commenced education at Berwickshire High School and have been Chair and Treasurer for the past four years. We all wish to thank them immensely for their time and effort and for spearheading important issues to support the school. We wish both, and their families, all the best with future projects. Neil said "It's been an uplifting and positive experience and a pleasure to be part of the school's transformation journey. The school is an entirely different place to where it was four years ago, and the Parent Council is a positive engagement forum which helps to take the school forward."

Ray Georgeson takes over the role as Chair [chair@bhspc.co.uk](mailto:chair@bhspc.co.uk)

Sally Kitchen: Vice-Chair [vicechair@bhspc.co.uk](mailto:vicechair@bhspc.co.uk)

Marianne Hodge: Treasurer [treasurer@bhspc.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@bhspc.co.uk)

Victoria Tait: Secretary [secretary@bhspc.co.uk](mailto:secretary@bhspc.co.uk)

**Berwickshire High School - 200 Club** Join the 200 Club, raise funds for the school, and maybe even win some cash for yourself! Our social lottery is to raise funds to meet requests from the school, providing equipment, resources and opportunities for students. Only £2 per month with a draw carried out every month, and a bonus prize in December. E-mail: [Berwickshirehs200club@gmail.com](mailto:Berwickshirehs200club@gmail.com) to join or ask at the school office



## HOT TOPICS

### *On the agenda*

#### **Mental Health provision in schools**

Through SBC schools chairs group, we hope to widen the conversation to bring parents in on what they can do re: their child's mental health, provide more training for teachers, not to burden but to add to already existing mental health toolkits available.

#### **Borders Greenway (access path)**

This is an initiative to open the old railway up as a cycle track. Scoping work is happening now. One of the conditions of SBC funding is the need to engage with schools. Colin Gracey will keep BHS abreast of developments.

#### **Dyslexia Support in Schools**

The school has submitted an action plan and is currently putting together evidence to submit to the British Dyslexia Association to become the first school in Scotland to be awarded the DBA Quality Mark.

# WHY VOLUNTEER WITH BHS PARENT COUNCIL

**Volunteering can provide you with a sense of purpose, connection and growth.**

Assess what your values are and where your interests lie. You can find opportunities within the parent council that resonate with you and your ethos - something personal, something professional, or something where you want to make a difference. Start small and don't be tempted to volunteer and say yes to everything. Meetings happen monthly with none over the summer holidays so a maximum of 10 meetings a year.

We appreciate everyone is busy with life commitments, so we aim to encourage every parent of every child at BHS to attend just one parent council meeting a year. Please join us in making this a reality.

If you are considering volunteering, we say, go for it!

Volunteering is a remarkable way to make a meaningful impact on others while enriching and giving purpose to your own life. It allows you to get to know other parents, contribute to your child educational journey, learn new skills, connect with like-minded people, and gain a profound sense of fulfilment. Whether it's helping at music and sport events, supporting a school initiative or offering your expertise in a professional capacity, the experience often gives back more than you can ever expect.



Berwickshire High School



## Berwickshire High School Parent Council

Here is an insight into how the BHS PC contribute to the school

### What We raised

200 Club  
£70 Refreshment stalls  
£120 Meeting of Minds  
£180 Xmas stalls  
£250 John Greenwell  
£370 Xmas Tombola  
£500 Tesco grant  
£500 SBC funds  
£575 Xmas raffle  
£1,000 from Blackhill Windfarm  
Community Fund towards  
literacy events  
£1,900 grant from Preston and  
Abbey Community Trust towards  
literacy events

### How it was spent

£70 LfS Banners  
£250 Spanish trip  
School and sports trips  
Voucher for Spanish Exchange  
trip pool party  
£600 BDA Quality Assurance  
mark assessment  
£220 teaching aids/software for  
Enhanced Provision  
£196 refreshments at both Music  
department senior and  
school-wide shows  
£136 Music Dept  
Engraved trophies for sports day  
End of term ice cream van  
Awards Ceremony prizes  
House prizes  
School hardship fund  
Departmental books  
£700 library books  
First aid training for teachers to  
lead Duke of Edinburgh  
expeditions

# FUNDRAISING REQUESTS

## *World Book Day and School Sports*

This last month, we contributed £200 towards the school's world book day initiatives. A fabulous day was had by all involved.

As you will have seen in a recent HeadsUp, the school library are always grateful to receive donations of books and have set up an [Amazon Wishlist](#).

**Guidelines for donating [Berwickshire High School - BHS Library Amazon Wishlist](#)**

Thank you for supporting our library and improving the choices for our students!

We also received funding requests from Schools Rugby DO and Hockey PE teacher for their 7s tournaments held Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March and Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March, respectively.

The BHSPC contributed cups, tea bags, coffee, hot chocolate, juice etc. and then also donated a float of £200 to the PE department to spend, build profit and retain for any further events. Lots of students, parents and teachers impressed us with their baking skills presenting flapjack, chocolate brownies, cinnamon buns, cookies and traybakes galore.

We are delighted to say that the Rugby made a profit of £314.71 and Hockey a profit of £129.06, which will go towards much needed equipment, bibs and first aid consumables for both their sports.



## Next meeting

**24<sup>th</sup> April 2025, 6pm** - join us online on Teams or in person, with tea, coffee and biscuits in the executive conference room  
If you have any items you wish to bring to the agenda then please email [chair@bhspc.co.uk](mailto:chair@bhspc.co.uk) by Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. We look forward to seeing existing and new parents at the meeting to help shape the future of the Parent Council. Previous minutes can be found [Berwickshire High School - Minutes](#)