



Weekly Heads Up!

Friday 22nd May 2026

As we head into the holiday weekend, I am reflecting on new beginnings. Today we had our first ever BHS graduation for S4 and S5 students. Those who embark on new beginnings at the age of 16 and 17 are some of our most determined and bravest students - it is a lot easier in many ways to stay on in the safety of school until 18. We had a wonderful graduation in our library with speeches from Mr Huffman and me, music from Hattie Spence and cakes made by our wonderful cleaner Helen. It is brilliant to see the range of destinations of our leavers - although I think Borders College will have a classful of Agriculture students from Berwickshire High. As the granddaughter and great-granddaughter of Berwickshire farm workers and shepherds, this makes me very happy indeed.

This event was made possible by the organisational skills of Mrs Robertson, supported by our admin staff. Thank you to all.

This is my second last Heads Up to you as the Acting Head Teacher of Berwickshire High School. I will write more about that next week, but we will be delighted to have Mrs Dickson back from June the 1st.

Have a lovely long weekend. Stay safe on the roads!

Mrs Weston



Tapestry of Scotland 300 Words Competition

The 300 Words Competition inspired by the Tapestry of Scotland tell us they "have been truly blown away by the incredible entries submitted for the 300 Words Competition 2026, now in its third year.

The standard of writing was outstanding, full of creativity and inspiration drawn from the Tapestry. A huge thank you to all the talented pupils, supportive parents, and dedicated teachers who helped make this year's competition such a success.

We are delighted to announce that the shortlist has now been finalised by our wonderful judge, Vivian French, whose experience and passion for storytelling made her the perfect choice for this year's competition."

Our students who have been shortlisted are:

Sasha Cameron (S1)

Morgan Luke (S3)

The overall winners for each category will be announced at the Borders Book Festival. We are very proud of the enthusiasm show by many of our pupils when entering this national competition.

Congratulations Sasha and Morgan! Miss Currie

Sasha's entry:

Mary stood by the tall window of Holyrood Palace, her gaze fixed on the grey Edinburgh sky. A queen at eighteen, she carried a crown heavy with expectation—but her heart longed for something lighter.

That something came quietly, in the form of Lord Erik a young nobleman often overlooked at court. He was not the most powerful, nor the richest, but when he spoke, he did so with honesty that cut through the noise of politics and pride.

Their first real conversation happened in the palace gardens. Mary had escaped the court for a moment of peace, only to find Erik there, sketching the roses. Instead of bowing deeply and retreating, he simply smiled and asked if she preferred the red blooms or the white. It startled her—and made her laugh.

From that day, their paths crossed more often. Stolen conversations turned into shared walks, and shared walks into quiet moments where the world beyond the palace walls seemed to disappear.

Yet Mary knew her life was not her own. Alliances had to be made, marriages arranged for power, not love. One evening, as the sun dipped low, she confessed this to Erik

"I am a queen before I am a woman," she said softly.

Erik took her hand, just briefly. "And yet, for a moment, you are simply Mary."

In that moment, she felt it—a love impossible, yet real.

Though history would pull them apart, Mary would always remember the boy who saw her not as a crown, but as a girl who dared to love. Years later, she would walk those same gardens alone, remembering laughter, roses, and a love that asked for nothing. And in those quiet moments, beneath the weight of her crown, she felt free again. But as just Mary not queen Mary.

Morgan's entry:

I arrived at the ward in 1917, exhausted and in no mood to be looked after, or to be told what to do, especially by a woman. I remember when they told me that my nurse was Elsie Ingles, I turned my head to the wall and wouldn't talk to anyone. I thought to myself that no woman could deal with the wounds that I have from the front line. But strangely she didn't seem offended she just got on with her work. At first I refused her help whenever she tried to help me. I was still a soldier I couldn't get medical help from a woman, I needed a man that will get the work done fast and quick. But deep down the truth is that I didn't want any of the other soldiers seeing that I was weak, unmanly, broken. Elsie never pushed, she just spoke calmly in a soft gentle voice, it reminded me of my mum, that's what broke me the most.

I snapped at Elsie more times than I can think, but she never snapped back, when I ignored her, she just kept talking like I was listening, I had a feeling about her, a feeling I couldn't shake off.

One night the pain was unbearable, I screamed out for her name without realising it, she was there instantly, that fast that I thought she was just waiting for me to shout for her. I expected her to panic or fret, but no she was calm, worked quickly and confidently. After that night I never turned away from her again.

Once I was fit enough to leave, I had realised how horrible I treated Elsie. She didn't just care for my wounds, she had helped to be a better man than I was before.

Enhanced Provision News

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

Five students from the Enhanced Provision have been working hard towards achieving their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. Last week, they completed their biggest challenge yet – a two-day expedition involving trekking, exploration, and an overnight camp.

On Thursday, the group travelled to Holy Island, where they walked more than six miles. The adventure took an unexpected turn when the minibus broke down, but fortunately the tide was in their favour and they were able to make it safely back to school by taxi!

The five intrepid adventurers then pitched their tents and cooked their evening meal on camping stoves before settling in for a cold and windy night under canvas. The following morning, they set off once again, this time tackling a second day of trekking in Kielder Forest.

The boys showed fantastic determination, resilience, and teamwork throughout the expedition and have fully earned the Expedition Section of their Bronze Award. A celebration will be held in the department over the coming weeks to recognise their achievement.

Congratulations to Charlie, Jokubas, Ryan, Simonas and William – a brilliant accomplishment!

A huge thank you also goes to Martyn Lawrenson, Miss Watney, Mr George and Miss Addie for their time, encouragement and support in making this experience possible.

Mrs Doig



Enhanced Provision News *continued*

Willow & Chestnut Sports Day

On Monday, the Willow and Chestnut classes took part in their Sports Day, enjoying a wide range of activities including the long jump, relay races, 50m sprint, potted sports, and many more.

Both classes represented the school brilliantly, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship, enthusiasm, and determination throughout the day. It was wonderful to see everyone trying their very best and supporting one another in each event. The classes were delighted to receive lots of medals and trophies during the awards ceremony, celebrating their fantastic achievements.

A huge well done to all of the pupils who took part, and thank you to all parents, carers, and helpers for your continued support and encouragement.

We look forward to seeing everyone again next year – hopefully with some sunshine too! Miss Dunn



King's Trust- Summer Academy

Students from the King's Trust Summer Academy class recently hosted a successful Teachers' Lunch as part of their Enterprise Unit assessment. The class prepared and served a delicious menu featuring leek and potato soup or lentil soup followed by homemade truffles, for teachers who have supported them throughout Summer Academy. Guests were full of praise for both the quality of the food and the excellent customer service provided by the students. Thanks to their hard work and teamwork, the event raised over £40 profit, meaning the class successfully passed the unit. All profits raised will go towards supporting future projects for the King's Trust class. Miss Brotherston



Newcastle Building Society Visit

Recently, our S2 Business students welcomed visitors from Newcastle Building Society for an informative and engaging session on financial education. Gem Langley and Lynn Oliver from the Berwick branch delivered an engaging presentation all about managing money, budgeting, saving, and making positive financial choices for the future.

Prior to the visit, students were challenged to design a banking app and money box aimed at children aged 6-9 years old. Students worked creatively in teams to come up with fun, colourful, and practical ideas that would encourage younger children to learn about saving money and making smart financial decisions from an early age.

Gem and Lynn then judged the completed projects and were extremely impressed by the creativity, innovation, and effort shown by our S2 students. The activity gave students a fantastic opportunity to develop teamwork, problem-solving, presentation, and enterprise skills while learning more about financial wellbeing.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Gem and Lynn from Newcastle Building Society for taking the time to visit Berwickshire High School and for supporting our students with such an engaging and worthwhile experience.

Mrs Hill, Miss Brotherston & Mrs Owenson



School Show - Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

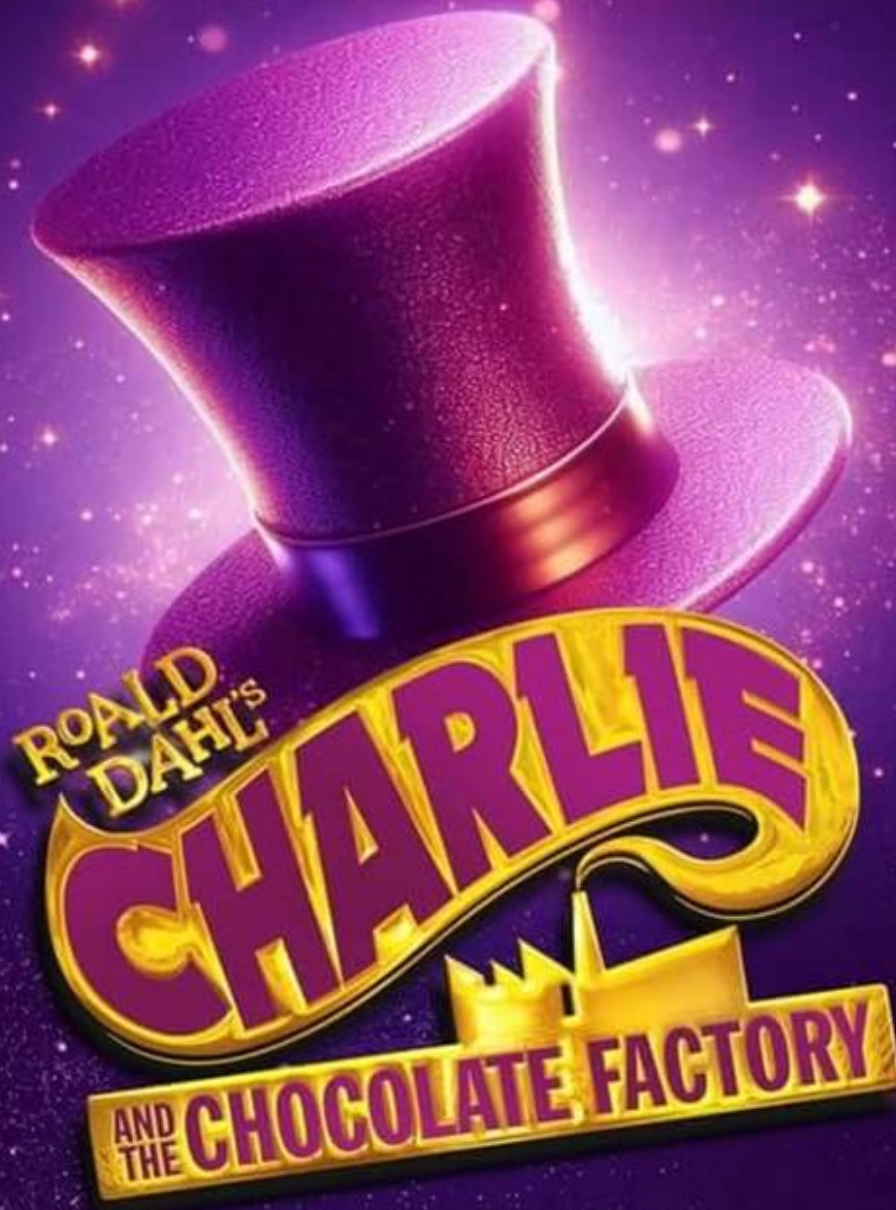
Tickets for our Summer show are on sale from today! As ever, the cast have put in a huge amount of work and are looking forward to staging a spectacular show four weeks from now. With a top-class orchestra, zany characters, an army of oompa-loompas, some very dark humour and a lot of chocolate, what's not to like?

Shows take place at 7.30pm each night from **Wednesday 17th to Saturday 20th June**, with a matinee at **2.30pm on the Saturday**. Tickets (from Nairns or the school) are £10 for adults, £7 for secondary students, and £5 for primary pupils. **ALL** tickets for the Saturday afternoon performance are £5 and we will once again offer our "Pay what you can" tickets for the Wednesday night (available **only** directly from the school).

We are also keen for local businesses to take out adverts in our show programme to help meet the costs of staging the show (each show costs around £7000 - £8000!) so if you run a local firm and would consider making a donation in return for an advert, please get in touch with Mr Mabon by email at gw09maboncameron@glow.sch.uk

Aim for Best: Learn • Achieve • Contribute

THE BERWICKSHIRE HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS...



MUSIC BY
MARC SHAIMAN

LYRICS BY
SCOTT WITTMAN
MARC SHAIMAN

BOOK BY
DAVID GREIG

SONGS FROM THE ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE BY
LESLIE BRICUSSE AND ANTHONY NEWLEY

WED 17TH TO SAT 20TH JUNE

TICKETS ON SALE SOON!

Aim for Best: Learn • Achieve • Contribute

Introducing BHS Sporting Superstars

This will allow us to celebrate sporting success of our students outwith school. We hope both students and parent/carers will take this opportunity to share any sporting achievements with team PE allowing us to celebrate with the young people in school.

Any other sporting success please let a member of PE know or email:

gw25fallengerniamh@glow.sch.uk.

We look forward to hearing more of the sporting successes our young people are achieving outside of school.

Miss Fellenger

Up first we have S3 pupil Riley Simpson with his recent football success.

Sporting Superstar
PUPIL NAME

Reason for award...

Be sure to share your successes!
Pupils or parent/carers should email gw25fallengerniamh@glow.sch.uk with any sporting successes.
Alternatively pupils can come to PE and let a member of staff know.

Committed, Respectful, Enthusiastic, Supportive & Safe

Sporting Superstar
Riley Simpson

Riley is a sporting superstar.

Riley was recently awarded Youth Football Scotland player of the week after a penalty save against Spartans. Riley went on to save another 2 penalties the following 2 weeks against North Berwick & Broxburn.

Well deserved recognition for your success, well done!

Committed, Respectful, Enthusiastic, Supportive & Safe

BERWICKSHIRE HIGH SCHOOL

P7 PE TRANSITION

P7 PE TRANSITION

BHS

Sign In
Get your name label
Find your group
Meet new friends & have fun!



"I enjoyed meeting new friends & seeing what PE is like"

"It was good to learn what we will do in PE"

"Im really looking forward to joining PE"

"It was good to learn what we will do in PE"

THANK YOU TO THE 50 P7S WHO JOINED US ON FRIDAY



Congratulations to Swinton who were our highest attending school.



A massive thank you to our BHS superstars who led our event wonderfully.

On the next page, see what else is happening regarding P7 PE Transition over the coming weeks.

Click on the link to sign up!

Aim for Best: Learn • Achieve • Contribute



DUNS ACTIVE SCHOOLS



BHS P7 TRANSITION



NETBALL TRANSITION

Thursday 4th, 11th & 18th June
3 Weeks
4pm - 5pm
Berwickshire HS Games Hall



HOCKEY TRANSITION

Friday 19th June
2pm - 3.30pm
Berwickshire HS Astro Pitch



RUGBY TRANSITION

Wednesday 3rd, 10th & 17th June
4 Weeks
4pm - 5pm
Berwickshire HS Grass Pitches

SIGN-UP HERE: <https://form.jotform.com/213112706626347>

Learning Logs - Located in OneNote - Week Commencing 18th May 2026

Subject	Course	Teacher	Learning Log Details
Computing Science	S1 - 1P3 & 1P5	Mrs Marchand	Python Programming
Computing Science	S2 - 2P4	Mrs Marchand	Databases

THE UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD 'RIGHT OF THE WEEK'



ARTICLE 19 (protection from violence, abuse and neglect)

Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

Aim for Best: Learn • Achieve • Contribute

PATHWAYS TO A BETTER FUTURE

BOOST YOUR FINANCES

📍 Duns Youth Centre
14 South Street, Duns

🕒 Wednesday 3rd June
9.30 am - 11.30 am



**DO YOU HAVE A YOUNG PERSON AGE 11 +
LIVING WITH YOU?**

**WOULD YOU LIKE MORE MONEY LEFT AT
THE END OF THE WEEK?**

BUDGETING

SAVE MONEY

UTILITY BILLS

**CALL IN TO HAVE A CHAT TO
FIND OUT MORE**

DEBTS

INCOME

FOOD SUPPORT

Scan the Qr code or email
Bev@bypconnect.com



www.connectbyp.com



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