



Weekly Heads Up!

Friday 29th May 2026

I'm so, so happy to be back at Berwickshire High School following a lovely maternity leave at home with my new baby. Miller has been an absolute joy over the last eight months and Elsie, my eldest, has settled into life as a big sister.

But now it's back to work! I was appointed permanently before my maternity leave, so now we're full speed ahead as a solid team. I'm so grateful to Judith for all her work over the past few months in keeping the Berwickshire ship sailing and I am sure that Earlston will be delighted she has returned.

I have been in school regularly since around January to keep myself up to date and to appoint our two permanent Depute Headteachers Mr Murray and Mrs Kennedy who are doing, and have been doing, a brilliant job. On my return this week I have also been able to appoint a permanent Head of PE in Mr Andrew Chalmers who you might remember joined us on a temporary contract during 2024/25.



I was pleased to read of our recent climb in the Times League Table, to 78th place, which means we've moved a massive 110 places since 2020. This was based on last year's results. 'Aim for Best' is certainly coming to fruition as this places us just outside the top 20% of schools in the whole of Scotland.

In assemblies this week, I asked for a new-term reset and a focus on making the school feel positive with good manners and looking after others. I'm pleased to award 'Respectful' value awards to the following students for going over and above in this respect over the last few days: Miley Turner, Daniel Sharp, Katy Bramall and Erin Dolan. They can collect their certificates from the office.

Sports Day managed to dodge the rain this week and was a great event for all. I'm grateful to the PE department for their work here and to Mr Douglas who volunteers his time every year to help us out.

Next week, we welcome P7s for their induction days on Wednesday and Thursday, with a parent information evening on Wednesday. Our Sports Awards Evening is on Tuesday and we also interview for permanent Guidance staff across the week.

Mrs E Dickson
Headteacher



**Scots Writing Workshops
For S3 Students
Intro: Chris Robinson
Facilitator: Donald Smith**



*The wind blew as 'twad blawn its last;
The rattling showers rose on the blast;
The speedy gleams the darkness swallow'd;
Loud, deep, and lang, the thunder bellow'd:
That night, a child might understand,
The Deil had business on his hand.*

from Tam o' Shanter by Robert Burns

This was one of the poems recited by Donald Smith during the kick-off session of three which takes a look at how the Scots language encounters the weather.

Organised by the Library and hosted by the English Department. These sessions, which run until mid-June, hope to produce some lines of verse which show that our students still have it in them to be Scots language makars*

*a **poet** or **bard** in Scottish literature. The term has been revived to designate the **National Poet for Scotland**

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



ARTICLE 17 (access to information from the media)

Every child has the right to reliable information from a variety of sources, and governments should encourage the media to provide information that children can understand. Governments must help protect children from materials that could harm them.

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?

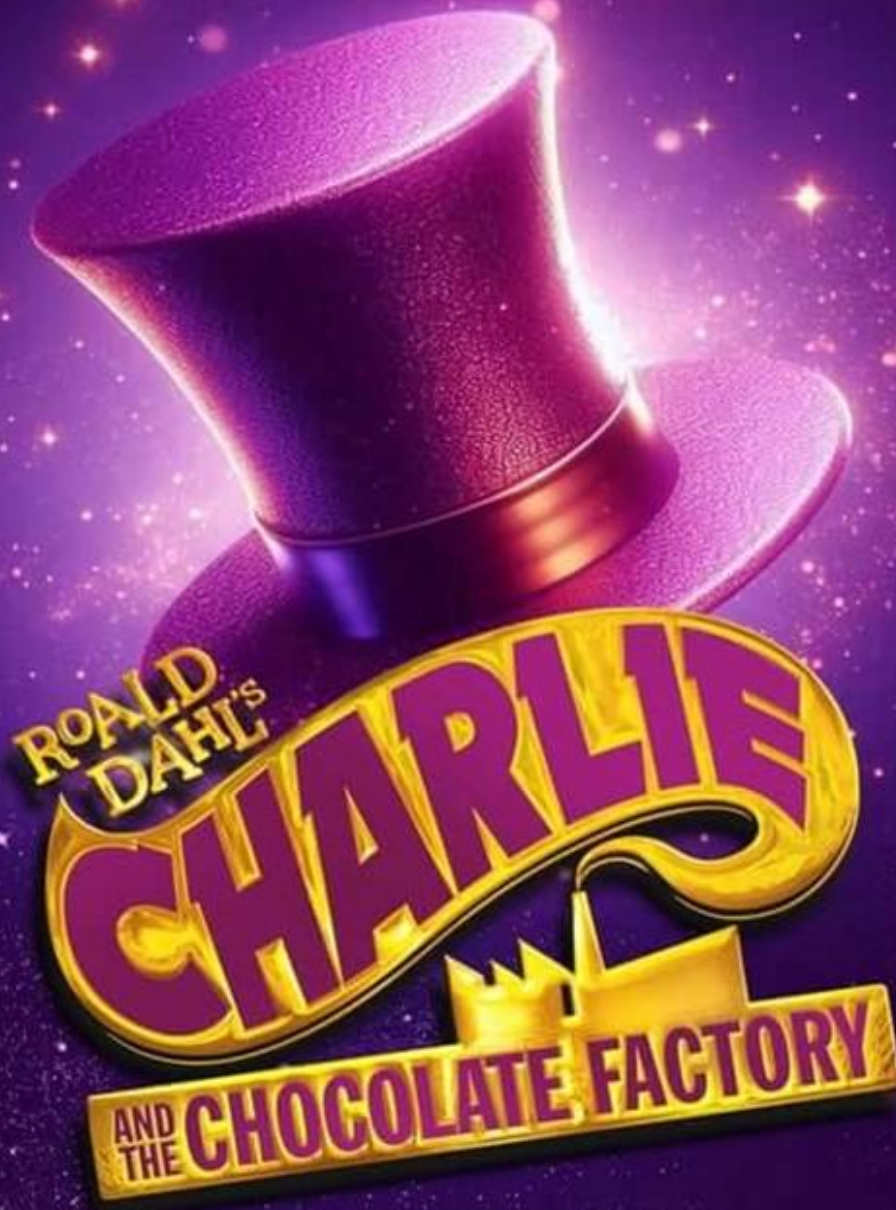
Shows take place at 7.30pm each night from **Wednesday 17th to Saturday 20th June**, with a matinee at 2.30pm on the Saturday. Tickets (from Nairns or the school) are £10 for adults, £7 for secondary students, and £5 for primary pupils. **ALL** tickets for the Saturday afternoon performance are £5 and 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



Parent Council



In line with the timetable change and the children moving year groups on Monday, the parent council representatives have also been updated. Please feel free to contact them or myself with any questions you may have using the parent council email address which is:

parentcouncilberwickshirehs@gmail.com

Our next parent council meeting is on **17th June at 6.00pm**, we would love to see you there if you are able.

Parent Representatives



Chair - Sally Kitchen



S1 - Marianne Hodge



S2 - Sandra Dewar



S3 - Kirsty Binnie



S4 - Jude Reid



S5 - Jo Mabon



S6 - Clare Stewart

School Uniform

As we approach the end of term, we know that many families will be looking to replace school uniform items in preparation for the new session. We would therefore like to remind families of our uniform expectations.

Footwear should be black shoes or fully black trainers. Trainers such as Converse with white soles or white laces do not meet our uniform requirements, although fully black versions are acceptable.



Our school uniform is as follows:

- Black trousers (not jeans or leggings)
- Black skirt or shorts (tailored, not jersey or denim, no tracksuit bottoms)
- White collared shirt
- School tie (replacement ties can be purchased from the school office)
- Black jumper or ¼ zip BHS top (zip top available from Border Embroideries)

Socks should be black unless worn underneath school trousers

We would also make a particular plea to the parents and carers of our returning senior students. We see our senior pupils as important role models within the school community and would like their uniform to set the standard that younger students can aspire to from the very first day of new timetables.

We do have a selection of uniform items available within school should support be required. We understand that school uniform can be expensive and we are happy to offer assistance to families where needed.

Mrs Kennedy, Depute Rector



**The Parent Council
Needs Your Help!**

Please Hand In Your
**USED SCHOOL
UNIFORMS**

Shirts, skirts, jumpers, ties, jackets, sports wear

We are accepting donations of gently used school uniforms. All donated items will help support other families in need.

All sizes needed!

Please drop off any unwanted uniforms at the school office. Thank you for your support!

FIT FOR GIRLS AMBASSADORS

2026/27



ROLE INCLUDES:

- Increasing girls' engagement & enjoyment in PE, sport & physical activity
- Representing the voices of girls in your school, helping ensure their views & interests are heard
- Acting as a role model & positive influence for peers in promoting participation & wellbeing

WHO IS IT FOR?

- Empowering S1-6 girls who want to take the lead in shaping inclusive, enjoyable & meaningful physical activity experiences for girls & young women in their school & communities



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YOUNG LEADER ACADEMY

2026/27



PROGRAMME INCLUDES:

- Upskilling in a number of qualifications, certificates & training courses*
- Actively assisting & delivering sport & physical activity in schools, clubs & performance sport
- Committing to 50 hours of volunteering over the school year

WHO IS IT FOR?

- Aspiring S5 pupils looking for a future career in PE teaching, coaching or Sports Development
- Those with a real passion and desire to coach a particular sport & who want to make a real difference in their school & community

* There is a small cost associated with this programme to help towards these costs



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Duns Cluster P4 – S6 Lawn Bowls



Lawn bowls taster sessions are coming to Duns Park Bowling Club for pupils in P4-S6 across the Duns cluster. A fun and friendly chance to try something new - no experience needed!



 Friday 5th - 19th June (3 weeks)

 1.30pm - 2.30pm

 Duns Park Bowling Club



<https://form.jotform.com/213112706626347>