



Weekly Heads Up!

Friday 19th June 2026

The first thing I have to say is that if you haven't seen the school show, you must; it's absolutely brilliant, and very funny. It's great to see how many young people are involved and, as ever, all credit to our wonderful staff who make these massive productions work year-on-year.

We had our last Chestnut café for the school year today, with scones, plants, traybakes and drinks. It's amazing to see how much our young people have grown in confidence in this setting, which was the aim of the space in the first place. My waiters today were Jokubas and Harry and they did a fabulous job.

My Headteacher Value awards go to students from the Chestnut Class this week for the enthusiasm with which they've embraced the challenge of running a café and learning new skills. I will drop these off to the class on Monday.

Activities Day is this Friday and there is more information included below.

Mrs E Dickson
Headteacher



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Activities Day - Friday 26 June

We are delighted to announce that our annual Activities Day will take place on **Friday 26 June**.



You may notice that Activities Day is being held on the **last Friday of term rather than the final day of term**. This decision has been made following feedback from previous years, which highlighted that the day was more successful and enjoyable when held on a Friday. The shorter activity blocks on a Friday allow the day to run more smoothly and provide students with a better overall experience. We have also chosen to hold the event before the final day of term to maximise student participation, as attendance is typically higher.

Timetable for the Day

The normal school timetable will be suspended for Activities Day. Students should attend registration as normal before gathering for a short whole-school assembly on the bandstand.

Time	Event
Registration	As normal
8:55am - 9:00am	Whole-school assembly on the bandstand
9:00am - 10:10am	Activity 1
10:10am - 10:40am	Break
10:40am - 11:50am	Activity 2
11:50am - 1:00pm	Activity 3
1:00pm - 1:20pm	PSA House Challenge

The day will conclude with a fun and competitive **PSA House Challenge**, bringing the whole school together for a memorable end to the event.

Dress Code

School uniform is not required on Activities Day.

Students are encouraged to come dressed in their house colours - **Douglas (blue)**, **Home (green)**, and **Scott (red)** - to help create a vibrant atmosphere and show their house spirit. Those who wish to fully embrace the occasion may choose to wear fancy dress, although this is entirely optional. Prizes will be awarded for the best fancy dress costumes.

Students may also choose to wear casual clothing that is suitable and appropriate for their chosen activities. However, we strongly encourage everyone to wear their house colours wherever possible.

Activity Choices

Staff have come together to provide a wide range of activities that we hope will appeal to all of our young people.

Students can choose from a variety of sporting activities, including Football, Rounders, Capture the Flag, Tennis and Netball. For those with creative interests, there are opportunities to take part in activities such as Musical Theatre, DanceFit, Trampolining, Just Dance, Guitar Jamming, Knitting and Textiles, alongside a range of craft activities.

Other activity examples include a walk around Duns Castle Estate, The Big Fat Quiz of Everything, Bake Off, Bingo, Board Games, Escape Rooms, Rocket League, Treasure Hunt and Computer Gaming Competitions.

These examples represent just a small selection of the activities available, with many more opportunities on offer throughout the day. With such a varied programme, there is hopefully something for everyone to enjoy.

Students have been selecting their preferred activities this week, choosing a first to fifth choice for each activity block. At the beginning of next week, students will be informed of the activities they have been allocated.

Any student who was absent this week and has therefore not yet submitted their activity choices should see Mrs Morrison as soon as possible.

Level 6 Exercise & Fitness

Miss Dunn and Miss Williamson's Exercise and Fitness class has settled into the new timetable with great enthusiasm.

The class recently welcomed a special visitor from Berwick Leisure Centre, Michelle (Miss Williamson's mum), who has been leading fitness sessions on Thursday afternoons. These sessions have introduced our senior pupils to a range of different ways to keep active, including Body Combat and Pilates.

Pilates proved to be a particularly interesting challenge!

A huge thank you to Michelle for sharing her expertise and enthusiasm. Well done to our seniors for stepping outside their comfort zones, giving new activities a go, and approaching each session with such positivity.



Attendance Support

If your child is going to be absent from school, or will arrive late, please inform us as early as possible.

We understand that some absences are unavoidable. If your child is unwell, has a medical appointment, or there are other circumstances affecting their attendance, please keep us informed.

You can report an absence in any of the following ways:

- Call the school office: 01361 883710
- Leave a message on the absence line: 01361 884844
- Via the website: CONTACT - [STUDENT ABSENCE](#)
- Email: bhs@scotborders.gov.uk
- Use the Xpressions/Eduspot app to send a message

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.



Heads Down - Upcoming Student Assessments (June)

Subject	Level	Teacher	Assessment	Date
Maths	N5 Apps	Mrs Dalton	Progress Assessment 4	Tuesday 23rd

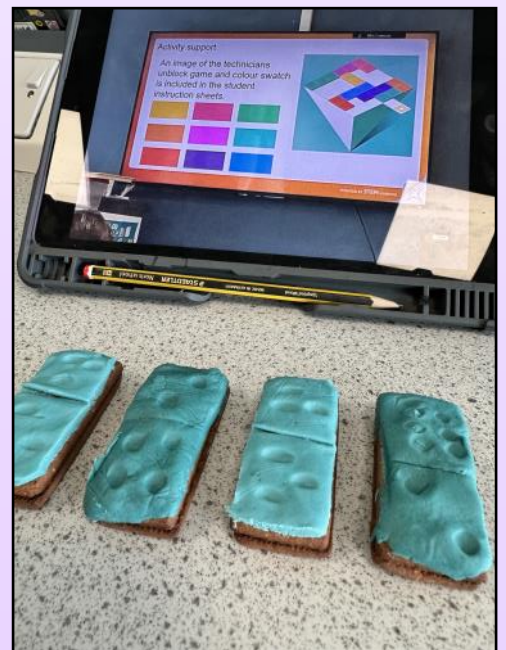
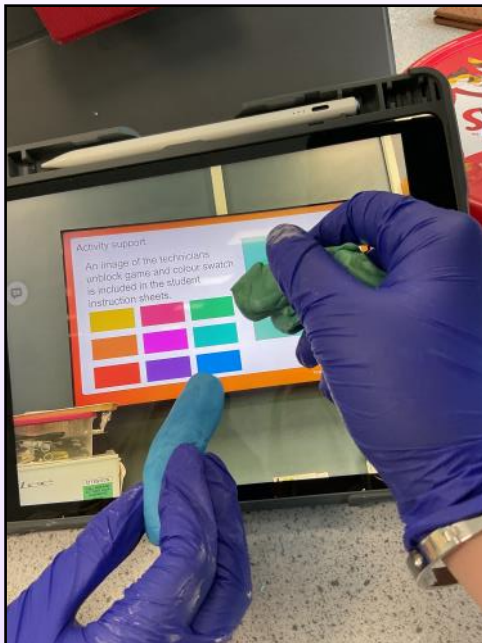
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STEM Technicians Club

The Home Economics Department gave our S2 students an insight into the Colour Dye Technician's role this week. The students learnt about natural & synthetic methods of dyeing. They also learnt how to mix primary colours to make a variety of different shades of icing, which they used to make biscuit dominoes.

Both students and teachers enjoyed this activity!

Mrs Dalton



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



ARTICLE 18 (parental responsibility and state assistance)

Both parents share responsibility for bringing up their child and should always consider what is best for the child. Governments must support parents by creating support services for children and giving parents the help they need to raise their children.

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Girls' TweedStart Day

On Thursday, thirteen students enjoyed an trilling day at Watch Water, designed to introduce them to the exciting world of angling. This was the second TweedStart event of the year, with two further sessions planned for after the summer break.

Despite challenging weather conditions, including high winds and torrential rain, the students showed great determination and enthusiasm throughout the day, embracing every activity on offer.

Participants rotated through sessions in fly tying, fly fishing, and invertebrate studies, developing both their casting skills and their understanding of freshwater habitats. The day was supported by a wonderful team of coaches: Andrew (and his dog), Ben, Allan, and James Joyce—a parent who was kindly "volunteered" by his daughter, Lilly-Rose.

There was some impressive natural talent on display from the outset, with the group landing five fish during the day, including a rainbow trout weighing at least 4lb. Students who successfully landed a fish were rewarded with a free day's fishing courtesy of the Kelso and St Boswells Angling Association. In addition, the Whiteadder Angling Association generously provided free caps for all students.

A special thank you goes to Ben and the dedicated team of volunteers who made the event possible. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to the Parent Council for funding the minibus hire. Without their generous support, the day would not have been possible. Miss Grant



Chestnut Café/Plant Sale

On Friday, the Enhanced Provision held their final Cafe of the year, which was, as always, incredibly well supported by staff. We had some new staff working this week, as Ryan, Charlie and Oskar came along to help with serving. It was so much fun, Ryan said it was better than playing Rocket League!

Alongside the cafe we also held a plant sale. This included plants the students had grown, some from Mrs McGregor's garden and some plants that had been donated. Our aim had been to raise some funds towards plans for a gardening group next year, and once again we thank staff for their continued support toward creating meaningful and purposeful learning opportunities for our students.

Special thanks to Mrs McGregor for her ideas and gardening knowledge.

Please enjoy a photo of the sale before nearly everything was sold! Mrs Morgan



Newcastle High School



Sporting Superstar

Elliott Scott



Elliott Scott is a sporting superstar.

Elliott attended a trial in Northumberland where he was successful and has signed for InMotion Scholarships.

Congratulations & good luck for your future!

Committed, Respectful, Enthusiastic, Supportive & Safe

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THE BERWICKSHIRE HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS...

Tickets available on the door!

ROALD
DAHL'S

CHARLIE

AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

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 available on the door!

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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 school 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; however, fully black versions are acceptable.



Our school uniform consists of:

- Black trousers (not jeans or leggings)
- Black skirt or tailored shorts (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, available from Border Embroideries
- Black socks (unless worn underneath school trousers)

We recognise that, for some students, wearing a standard school uniform can cause distress due to sensory needs. We are pleased to note that ASDA now offers a range of sensory-friendly schoolwear, which some families may find helpful.

We would also like to make a particular appeal to the parents and carers of our returning senior students. Our senior pupils are important role models within the school community, and we would like their uniform to set the standard that younger students can aspire to from the very first day of the new timetable.

We have a selection of uniform items available within school should support be required. We understand that purchasing school uniform can be expensive, and we are committed to supporting families wherever possible. If you require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the school in confidence.

Thank you for your support in maintaining our high standards and helping to create a positive learning environment for all.

Mrs Kennedy



**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!

COME & TRY TENNIS

AT DUNS TENNIS CLUB



SATURDAY
20TH JUNE

.....★.....
2-4PM

All ages
& abilities
welcome!



HAVE FUN



MEET NEW PEOPLE



TRY TENNIS



EVERYONE WELCOME!



Come along, give it a go
and enjoy the game!

