



Weekly Heads Up!

Friday 26th June 2026

As we enter into the last week of term, I just want to thank everyone at home for all you've done to support our students over the past academic year. It's a real privilege to be Headteacher of a school that is supported so well by its community.

We were very excited to appoint our head team this week. Lloyd Baron, Tess Crilly, Logan Hodge, Jamie Mein and Simonas Sakalauskas are our 26/27 Head Team. We had many applicants this year and were really blown away with the standard of presentations and interviews. This will certainly be a year group that makes its mark. Well done to all of you.



The week has certainly been a challenge with temperatures but it was nice to end it with Activities Day today and some well-earned ice creams from the Parent Council. Thanks to Mrs Morrison and all staff for their work in making today happen.

With only 4 days left, I'd ask for your final support in making sure students are wearing the correct school uniform (we have spares if you don't want to buy anything new before the summer), are on time and are ready to learn. When you are buying school uniform this summer, please bear in mind that our school uniform asks for school shoes (or completely black trainers), tailored trousers, tailored shorts or skirts and tights (not leggings, jogging bottoms, sports shorts or jeans) and plain black jumpers. There should be no brand logos on any school wear. Please speak to support staff if you have any questions. We're really proud of how smart our students are and want that to continue as we move into the new school year - we can only do that with your help.

Mrs E Dickson
Headteacher



Activities Day 2026 - more to follow in next week's Heads Up

Great Tapestry of Scotland 300 Words Story Writing Competition

We are very proud to announce that Morgan Luke won the 13-15 year old category of the 300 Words Story Writing Competition. This is a national competition and a fantastic result.

All shortlisted stories were read out and prizes presented at a ceremony at The Borders Book Festival.

We hope she enjoys spending her £250 book voucher Prize. Miss Currie



Dance Showcase

On Monday 22nd June we hosted their first school Dance Competition. A huge congratulations to all dancers who participated and showcased their incredible talent.

Award winners are:

The Visionary Award - Jessica Ainsworth

Style Star Award - Olivia Johnson & Alicia Forbes

Showstopper Award - Lily-Rose Joyce & Olivia Johnson

Expression Expert Award - Katy Bramall

Spotlight Stealer Award - Alicia Forbes

Energy Explosion Award - Lily-Rose Joyce & Caitlin Baxter

Storyteller Award - Alicia Forbes & Olivia Johnson

Rhythm Master Award - Liadan Butler

Rising Star Award - Ella Pitman & Jessica Morrison

Team Spirit Award - Caitlin Baxter



Lockers

Could you please remind your son/daughter to ensure that their locker is completely empty before the end of term. Anything left in lockers will be disposed of during the holidays.

Aim for Best: Learn • Achieve • Contribute

Royal Highland Show Trip

Last Friday, 45 students enjoyed an exciting trip to the Royal Highland Show. Although we weren't lucky with the weather, it certainly didn't spoil the day. The students made the most of the conditions, treating themselves to ponchos and umbrellas before exploring everything the show had to offer.

The business students had the opportunity to see business in action, learning about setting up stalls, attracting customers, and showcasing product portfolios. Meanwhile, our geography students were able to expand their knowledge of agriculture through real-life experiences, including modern farming machinery, livestock judging, breeding stock, and the wide range of careers available within the agricultural sector.

To top it all off, we even had a few extra passengers on the journey home, as the Highland cow toys proved to be a big hit with everyone! Miss Brotherston



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



ARTICLE 26 (social security)

Every child has the right to benefit from social security. Governments must provide social security, including financial support and other benefits, to families in need of assistance.

Aim for Best: Learn • Achieve • Contribute

Gardening Project in Full Bloom

S2 and S3 students have been working determinedly in the garden, cultivating the raised beds - with the promising of a good harvest. Students have experienced soil preparation, planting and watering (and weeding), this term. We have already picked strawberries and radishes, which were delicious. Next term we will have onions, potatoes, carrots and parsnips which we will be utilising in Home Economics and perhaps showing at some of the agricultural shows!



Huge thanks must go our volunteers, John and Dougal who have help us tirelessly in the garden, John has even been taking our garden waste to the recycling centre - thank you. Thank you also to Martyn Lawrence our CLD worker who has supported the students with woodwork jobs around the garden. Mrs Tharme

Could You Be a Young Enterprise Mentor?

We're looking for enthusiastic volunteers to become a Young Enterprise Business Mentor for one of our S5/6 teams!

As a mentor, you'll be a sounding board for our students as they develop their business ideas, support them to raise capital and get ready to sell their products at Christmas fairs. You won't be expected to run the business or provide financial support, simply share your experience, ask questions, and help guide them towards creating a successful business.

The role involves weekly/fortnightly meetings (in person or via Teams), with a little extra support in September as the business gets underway.

After Christmas, the focus shifts to preparing for the regional finals, where mentors can support students by reviewing reports, helping with presentations, and if possible, cheering them on at the finals in March.

All PVG checks and online training are provided by Young Enterprise.

Interested in inspiring the next generation of entrepreneurs?

Please contact me at gw18brotherstonemma@glow.sch.uk to find out more.

Miss Brotherston



CRICKET SOFTBALL SUPERSTARS 2026



FUNDED BY **2026
SUMMER
OF SPORT**

**MANDERSTON
CRICKET CLUB**
TUE 21 to WED 22 JULY
10AM to 3PM

AGE: P4-7
COST: £12.50 per day



Find more information on venues, dates and details on how to book:
www.scotborders.gov.uk/booksummerofsport



Pride in the Borders Poetry Competition

To celebrate the inaugural Scottish Borders Pride, we are inviting LGBTQ+ people living in the area to send your poems about what being LGBTQ+ and living in the Borders means to you.

The winning and shortlisted poems will be published on the Border's Pride social media pages, with the winner and runner up awarded prizes and certificates at Borders Pride on 29th August 2026, where the winning poems will be performed.

It will be judged by performer and spoken word poet
Gray Crosbie.

First prize is a £50 book token.
Two runner up prizes of £10 book tokens.
Sponsored by The Wedale Bookshop.

Submit your poems by the Google form, or by email, by 20TH JULY. See rules and further details on Borders Pride Poetry Competition Facebook Page or @borderspridepoetry.bsky.social
We look forward to seeing your work!



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!**