



Weekly Heads Up!

Friday 9th October 2026

Today marks the last day of term for all students. It's been a brilliant few weeks back, with a settled staffing and a firm focus on what 'best' looks like for our school and our young people.

We've had fun this week with a 'Wee Read' photo challenge - photos to follow - and assemblies galore, supported ably by local businesses.

A reminder that Monday 19th is an inset day and students return on Tuesday 20th October.

For senior students, the return from half term will mark the start of Checkpoint Assessments which are an important attainment marker in preparation for final exams. Students are aware of their content and have been working hard towards this aim.

Have a lovely break, everyone.

Mrs E Dickson
Headteacher





Duke of Edinburgh - Silver Practice Expedition

Ten students undertaking their DofE Silver Award set off from Abbey St Bathans early on Sunday morning, full of enthusiasm and ready for the challenge ahead.

Putting their navigation skills, developed during enrichment sessions, into practice, they followed a pre-planned route through the Scottish Borders to Cockburnspath. There, they pitched their tents, prepared their evening meals and rested their tired feet. Special mention goes to Ted, who prepared vegetables in garlic oil beforehand - a meal that received excellent reviews from the group!



On Monday morning, the students set off at 9am, perhaps with slightly less enthusiasm than the day before!

Thankfully, the weather remained kind as they followed the coastal route towards Belhaven Bay, where a hot shower was a welcome treat.

The evening brought everyone together for music, s'mores and some unexpected wildlife encounters, including a very friendly grasshopper.

Tuesday was the final stretch, with a shorter route from Belhaven Bay towards Hailes Castle. By this point, tired and aching feet were certainly being felt, but resilience, teamwork and the promise of a comfortable bed or a hot bath kept everyone motivated to reach the finish.



Miss Dunn and I are incredibly impressed with how well all the students approached the expedition. They should be very proud of their achievements and can feel confident as they look ahead to their qualifying expedition in the Lammermuir Hills in May/June. Well done to everyone, and enjoy a well-deserved holiday next week!

Mr Watson - DofE Coordinator



Tweedstart

Our Girls' TweedStart programme continued on Thursday 1st, with 16 students heading to Chatton Fishery for another day of fishing, outdoor learning and plenty of fun!

The programme has quickly become a favourite with our students. We've now welcomed students to three TweedStart days, and the waiting list for our next session in the spring is already growing!

With beautiful sunshine and unusually warm temperatures for the time of year, we couldn't have asked for better conditions. Throughout the day, the girls had the chance to try their hand at fly tying and fly fishing, as well as exploring the water environment through invertebrate studies.

There were plenty of moments that showed just how quickly new skills can develop. Some of the girls demonstrated a real natural flair for fishing, while others were simply happy to get stuck in, try something new and learn from the coaches. There was certainly no shortage of enthusiasm!

We were very lucky to have such a fantastic coaching team supporting the day. Ben, Fin, Norrie and Alex Johnston all gave up their time to work with the students – with Alex being “volunteered” by his daughter, O.J.!

A huge thank you to Ben and Fin from the Tweed Foundation and to all of our wonderful volunteer coaches for giving the girls such a memorable experience. We are also incredibly grateful to the team at Chatton Fishery for welcoming us and allowing us to make use of their fantastic fishery.

With so many students already keen to take part in the next session and the potential for an extended programme in 2026, we're looking forward to getting back out in the spring!

Tight lines,
Miss Grant





Modern Studies Edinburgh Trip

Modern Studies pupils recently visited the Scottish Parliament and Edinburgh Sheriff Court as part of their studies.

At the Scottish Parliament, pupils learned about devolved and reserved powers, political parties and the process of making decisions and laws in Scotland. They had the opportunity to see the debating chamber and develop a better understanding of how Scottish democracy works. They also got to meet and ask questions of their constituency MSP, Rachael Hamilton and two regional MSPs, Duncan Dunlop and Laura Moodie.



The visit to Edinburgh Sheriff Court gave pupils an engaging insight into the Scottish justice system. They had the opportunity to sit in a real courtroom and observe cases taking place, while learning about the roles of sheriffs, solicitors, advocates, and other court staff. Pupils also took part in a mock trial, allowing them to experience the different roles within a courtroom.

Mrs Hoggan-Nisbet



Home Economics Practical Lessons - Week beginning 19th October

This is what students will be making next week. Please could we ask your help in ensuring your child has the correct equipment.

Year	Making	Tub/Container
S1	Theory on Macro-Nutrients	No
S2	Scottish Dietary Goals Assessment	No
S3	Theory and Lemon Drizzle Cake	Yes
Seniors	Assessment: Leek and Potato Soup Assessment: Apple Meringue Pie	Yes Yes

Aim for Best: Learn • Achieve • Contribute

Beekeeping Trips to Marchmont Estate

Our students recently enjoyed their beekeeping practical skills trips to Marchmont Estate. We were very kindly supported by Ian Sinclair and Lindsay Craig from the Borders Beekeepers Association, alongside Lesley Rosher from BHS.

The students learned about hive inspections and the importance of working safely around bees before carrying out their own inspections, identifying workers, drones and one group even spotted the queen. The groups removed the honey supers in preparation for honey processing after the October break. They also added Apivar strips to help protect the colonies against varroa mites.

It was a fantastic hands-on learning experience, giving students a valuable insight into beekeeping and the care of honeybee colonies.

I'd like to thank Ian, Lindsay, Mrs Rosher and Marchmont Estate for supporting us with the delivery of this award.

Ms Addie



S2 PE Students

A huge thank you to Janie Frampton (OBE, former FIFA and England football referee), who visited Berwickshire High School to speak to our S2 classes about all things resilience, attitude, effort and the power of a positive mindset.

Janie shared some fantastic messages with our young people about believing in themselves, overcoming challenges, making the most of opportunities and understanding how their attitude and effort can help shape their future and support them in achieving their goals. It was a really valuable and inspiring experience for our students.

A huge thank you also to Miss Currie for creating this opportunity and making the connection between Janie and the BHS PE Department. Mr Chalmers



East Emerging Schools Rugby Festival - Wednesday 7th October

A huge well done to our 27 boys and girls who represented the school at the **East Emerging Schools Rugby Festival at Meggetland** on Wednesday 7th October.

The event brought together schools from across Edinburgh and the Borders, providing a fantastic opportunity for our young rugby players to test themselves against a range of opposition. Our pupils represented the school extremely well, showing great enthusiasm, teamwork and sportsmanship throughout the festival.

There was plenty of talent on show and lots of potential for the future of rugby at the school.

A special well done also goes to our senior pupils **Oran Butler, Cameron Robertson and Joe Davies**, who supported the event by refereeing and managing/coaching a team each. They were brilliant role models for our younger rugby players and showed excellent leadership throughout the day. Mr Chalmers



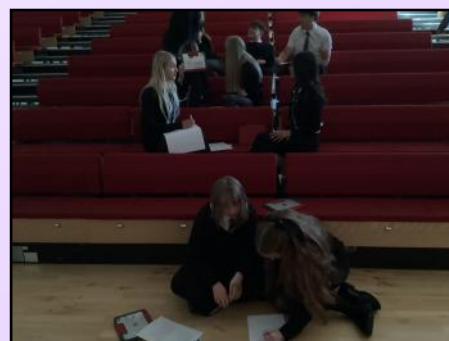
Creative Writing with John Osborne

It has been a literary week here at the BHS as we head to the October Break

The Berwick Literary Festival enabled the second literary speaker event of the week at BHS on Thursday morning. A group of S5 and S6 students worked with author John Osborne on a creative writing task. John explained how he began planning his writing and encouraged students to build their own creative writing on the theme of a shipwreck. Students worked in groups to build short story ideas, characters and descriptive elements.

We are incredibly grateful to Berwick Literary Festival for continuing to encourage and enable our students to access and connect with the literary world.

Miss Currie



STEM Roadshow

The Material World Education Roadshow visited Berwickshire High School today, their last stop on a tour around Scotland.

All our S1 students were treated to an informative, incredibly funny & interactive theatre show, designed to inspire young people into careers in STEM.

The students enjoyed the performance & agreed it was a super end to the half term. Hopefully they will visit us again next year! Mrs Dalton



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



ARTICLE 34 (sexual exploitation)

Governments must protect children from all forms of sexual abuse and exploitation.

Heads Down - Upcoming Student Assessments (November)

Subject	Level	Teacher	Assessment	Date
Modern Studies	S2 - 2D1	Mrs Hoggan-Nisbet	Poverty - End of Unit	Monday 2nd
Modern Studies	S2 - 2D2	Mrs Hoggan-Nisbet	Poverty - End of Unit	Wednesday 4th



Parent Council



Thank you to everyone that donated towards our minted sale and to everyone who came on the night.

We raised £665 which is a great amount and will be used to support the students at BHS. Thank you to everyone on the parent council for their hard work in putting this event together.

Special thanks to Mrs Dickson and Mr Murray for their help before and during the event on the day and to Nicola for your support behind the scenes.

Sally Kitchen, Chair of the Parent Council

Parent Representatives



Chair - Sally Kitchen



S1 - Marianne Hodge



S2 - Sandra Dewar



S3 - Kirsty Binnie



S4 - Jude Reid



S5 - Jo Mabon



S6 - Clare Stewart



BHS



Berwickshire High School Christmas Fair

Thursday 26 November 5pm-8pm

 Stalls |  Raffle |  Tombola |  Refreshments



Hosted by the BHS Retail Class.

If you would like a stall, please email gw19hillkaren@glow.sch.uk

Shop local • Support local • Celebrate Christmas at BHS!

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BERWICKSHIRE HIGH SCHOOL

CAREERS FAIR 2026

Thursday 29th October
6 – 8pm
Berwickshire High School

All BHS students, parents & carers and our cluster P6+7 pupils are invited to come along and gain a real insight into the many different career pathways and opportunities available to them in the future

Berwickshire High School



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Phone: 01361 883710

Twitter: Direct Message @DYWBHS

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SPACE

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healthily



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in the Scottish Borders**



starting
Wednesday 18th November

Eyemouth Community Centre
Albert Road, Eyemouth, TD14 5DE
11:00am - 1:00pm

office@parentspace.org.uk
07502 412321
www.parentspace.org.uk

Borders
Youth
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Presents:

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Adapted for BYT
by **Struan Henderson**
from the original novel by R L Stevenson

All performances at 7.00pm

Friday 16th October: **Smailholm** Village Hall
Saturday 17th October: Volunteer Hall, **Duns**
Friday 23rd October: Currie Memorial Hall, **Lilliesleaf**
Saturday 24th October: Evergreen Hall, **Hawick**

Tickets: Full £12, Concession £8,
Family (2+2) £30 Available at the
door or book online at
<https://buytickets.at/bordersyouththeatre/>

This production is supported by
The Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust

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