



Melrose Primary School

Parent/carer bulletin 9: Match 2026

Melrose Has Talent!

On Friday 27th March, we were delighted to host our School Talent Show, where our finalists performed in front of the whole school and a wonderful audience of parents and carers. It was truly a wealth of talent, with pupils showcasing confidence, creativity and a love of performing. We are incredibly proud of every child who took part. This event links closely to UNCRC Article 29, which highlights the importance of developing children's talents, personalities and abilities to their fullest potential.

Results

P1-3

- **Runner-up:** Evie Glover and Georgie Helps
- **Winner:** Eilidh Kelly

P4-7

- **Runner-up:** Thea Bastianelli
- **Winner:** Marah Watson

Best Collaboration Award

- Jack Wood and Mack Casswell



School Uniform – Working Together

We would like to take a moment to thank families for their continued support with school uniform. Wearing uniform helps to create a sense of belonging, pride, and equality within our school community. It also supports children in feeling ready for learning and part of something shared.

We understand that there can be individual circumstances and challenges, and we always aim to approach this with care and understanding. However, we are noticing an increasing number of children not wearing full school uniform, and we would appreciate your support in helping us maintain high expectations for all.

P7 Hoodies Have Arrived

We are delighted to announce that our P7 hoodies have arrived. The children will be able to wear these in school from after the Easter holidays.

We would like to extend our thanks to Caroline Roden for organising this — it is greatly appreciated.

We know the children will wear their hoodies with pride as they enjoy their final term in primary school.

Melrose Primary School Additional Needs Peer Support Group

Please see below for the QR code and link to join the WhatsApp group. There is a Facebook page too - Melrose Primary Additional Support Needs Page which a few parents run and share local events and things of interest. The WhatsApp group is made up of parents with a wide range of experience of additional needs. It welcomes anyone who has a child with additional needs whether they have a diagnosis or not. This includes physical, neurological, developmental or any other type.

The group is completely parent led although some members have active roles in the Parent Council and can help raise generalised ideas or queries. It provides a positive supportive space where parents can ask others advice and share experiences on a wide range of topics - not necessarily school matters but home life and health service perspectives too.

The group has in the past met face to face for coffee and peer support. It's warm and friendly with no commitment required - just a friendly WhatsApp!

https://chat.whatsapp.com/JgUralxKzS3DLI65miClbl?mode=gi_t



World Book Day

Our whole school came together to celebrate World Book Day in a fun and engaging way, with a strong focus on sharing a love of reading.



Pupils brought in their favourite books from home, giving them the opportunity to share stories with friends and talk about books they enjoy. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm for reading across all stages.

Throughout the day, classes took part in a variety of exciting activities, including:

- Book-themed scavenger hunts
- Designing and creating their own book covers
- A whole-school creative project to design images for large frames, which will be proudly displayed in our school library.

These activities helped to promote creativity, collaboration and a lifelong love of reading. We are still working towards becoming a Reading School. We would love to see some videos of your children reading at home.

Please send your video to natasha.cranston@scotborders.gov.uk

Awareness Friday

On Friday 20th March, our school proudly celebrated both Red Nose Day and World Down Syndrome Day. Children were invited to come to school wearing something red and funky, mismatched socks to show their support. It was fantastic to see so many bright, creative outfits across the school, helping to raise awareness and celebrate inclusion.

To mark the occasion, pupils from each class were selected by our Pupil Council for their effort and creativity. Winners received a £10 Simply Delicious voucher kindly donated by Mr and Mrs Blackport and the runners up received a chocolate bar kindly donated by Simply Delicious.



People Who Help Us – Primary 1

Our Primary 1 pupils have been enjoying their topic on “People Who Help Us”, learning about the important roles different people play in keeping us safe and supporting our community.

As part of their learning, we were delighted to welcome visits from the Police and the Fire Brigade. The children had the opportunity to:

- Learn about how the police help keep us safe
- Explore the role of firefighters and fire safety
- Ask questions and find out more about these important jobs

The visits brought learning to life and helped pupils develop a deeper understanding of the world around them.



Primary 7 PE Change

School gatherings will now take place on Thursdays therefore P7 PE will take place on a Monday and Tuesday instead of a Thursday.

Morrison Construction Challenge

Our Primary 6 pupils recently took part in an exciting Business Challenge set by Morrison Construction. Each team was given a “starter budget” of £50 and tasked with designing and growing their own business. Throughout the project, pupils developed valuable skills in teamwork, creativity, problem-solving and enterprise.

We were incredibly grateful to Amy Miskelly, who kindly volunteered her time to:

- Present a business idea to inspire the pupils
- Support the children each week as they developed their plans
- Join our “Dragons’ Den” style panel, alongside Mrs Innes and Liz (our Head Cook), to help select the winning team

Winning Team

- Naomi Richard
- Tessa O’Donnell
- Marah Watson
- Katrina Muizniece

The team went on to present their business idea at the Inspire Building, where they were awarded Best Overall Business and Best Trading Activity. As a result, they won a fantastic new robotics kit for the school—an amazing achievement!

A Special Thank You

As a thoughtful gesture, Amy Miskelly kindly gifted all participating pupils a cushion for their classroom chairs. This followed discussions initiated by our P6 pupils, who spoke with Amy while she was supporting them. Their initiative was inspired by the example set by our P7 pupils, who had confidently presented to the Parent Council to make a case for improving seating in school.

We are extremely proud of our pupils for their enthusiasm, innovation and teamwork throughout this project and very grateful to our P6 teachers who supported this fantastic learning opportunity.





P6 and P7 Basketball Tournaments

Our P6 and P7 boys recently took part in a cluster basketball competition held at Earlston High School.

Both teams played exceptionally well, with one team beating Lauder to secure a place in the Borders Finals on Thursday 26th March. The boys gave their all at the finals and demonstrated fantastic teamwork and determination, though they faced some tough competition. The overall Borders Schools winners were Duns Primary.

A huge thank you to Isaac Simpson and Miss Edwardson, who dedicated time coaching the boys after school and supporting

them at the tournaments, with additional support from Mrs Cranston at both tournaments.

We are incredibly proud of all our pupils for their effort, sportsmanship, and commitment throughout the competition.

Borders Cross Country – P6 and P7

Many of the children had been preparing for this event by attending the cross country club led by Miss Tait, our P6T teacher, and their dedication really showed on the day.

Pupils Representing Melrose

P6: Hamish Crawford, Emily Cranston, Georgie Graham, Katrina Muizniece, Naomi Richards

P7: Dominic Higgins, Struan Gill, Angus Dyer, Sophie Ruthven, Sophia Scott, Emily Banka, Olivia Smith

The whole team displayed fantastic sportsmanship, determination, and perseverance throughout the event.

Special congratulations to Emily Cranston, who won a Silver medal in the P6 girls category!



A huge thank you to Miss Tait for preparing the children so well, and to Tommy Graham (Parent) and Mrs Cranston for supporting the pupils during the competition.



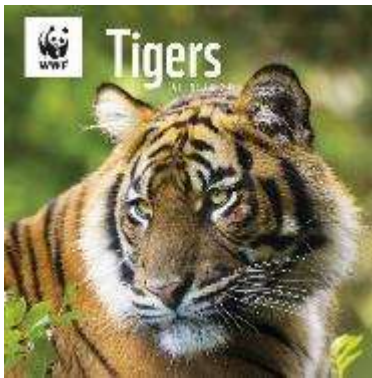
P1/2 Bake Sale

As part of World Wildlife Day, our P1/2 class explored the idea that small actions can make a big difference. Inspired to help wildlife, the pupils decided they wanted to adopt a tiger.

To raise the £75 needed for the adoption, the class held a very successful bake sale. Showing great teamwork and generosity, a group of P4 girls also contributed by selling toys at the event, raising an additional £40.96. In total, the bake sale raised over £350. Pupils from P1/2 then asked the wider school community if they would like to adopt an animal, and it was decided that a snow leopard would be adopted.



Thanks to the pupils' efforts, they were able to make a meaningful contribution to wildlife conservation, learning that even small actions can have a big impact!



Learning about our Community

As part of their interdisciplinary learning project, our P7 pupils have been exploring the local community and its needs. As part of this, they received an informative talk from Mountain Rescue, helping them to better understand the important role they play in keeping people safe.

This learning links to the UNCRC, particularly Article 24 (the right to health and safety) and Article 29 (developing skills and understanding of the world around them), as pupils build awareness of how communities work together to protect and support others.



Allergies

Please remember that we are a nut-free school. We have several pupils and staff, in school, who are severely allergic to nuts. It is imperative these products are not brought to or consumed on school premises, including in the playground.

Dogs in the Playground

Reminder: We do not allow dogs in the playground. Recently, we have noticed an increase in dogs, particularly at the end of the day. Please ensure this message is passed on to anyone who collects your children. We appreciate your support in keeping our playground safe for all pupils.

Diary Dates

Friday 3 – 17 April 2026 – Easter holiday, school and ELC closed

Monday 20 April 2026 - School and ELC open

Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 May 2026– May Day holiday and in-service, school and ELC closed

Tuesday 19 May 2026- P5 Countryside Day

Wednesday 20, Thursday 21 & Monday 25 May – Parent / Carer Consultations

Wednesday 3 & Thursday 4 June 2026 P7 visits to Earlston High School

Wednesday 10 June 2026 Sports day

Wednesday 17 June 2026 alternative Sports day

Friday 3 July – Friday 14 August – summer holiday school and ELC closed

Monday 17 & Tuesday 18 August – first day for staff school and ELC closed

Wednesday 19 August – first day of school for school and ELC