Dear Parents/Carers

I am pleased to offer the following items for your information.

PARENT/PUPIL DROP-IN & LEARNING JOURNAL DEMOS
Thank you to everyone who came along to our first Drop-in of the year. We welcomed a high percentage of families and hope that you enjoyed visiting your child’s classroom and meeting the Teacher. The P.2-7 online Learning Journal demos were also well attended and I attach another copy of the guidelines for your info. Please don’t hesitate to get in touch should you need any help with this new system of sharing achievements and progress.

CLASS YEAR PLANS
Everyone should have received a class year plan, detailing the main learning planned for this session. We hope that you find this useful and informative.

SCHOOL CALENDAR DATES 2017/18
The dates for the rest of this session were also distributed at the Parent/Pupil Drop-in on 30 September. Another copy is attached. These dates are correct at the time of printing, but please be aware that new dates are added all the time and sometimes dates can change. We communicate additions and changes by Newsletter, email and online.

HARVEST FESTIVAL – THU 5 OCT, 2.30PM
The St. Ronan’s Harvest Festival will take place on Thursday 5 October at 2.30pm. This year we are continuing our support for the community of Thondwe in Malawi by asking for a small cash donation from each family. Following our support of Malawan families in crisis last year, we are pleased to be involved in the appeal to furnish the new staff room at the school. Currently the staff sit out under a tree to do their preparation, however a new staff room has been added on to the Library which our Rotary Club built earlier this year. The cost of the tables, chairs and a printer is between £200 and £300, so our donations will go a long way! Some members of our recently formed Pupil Malawi Committee will be presenting the assembly alongside members of the Gardening Club as we celebrate the harvest from our wonderful Edible Garden. All parents and friends are invited to attend the festival which starts at 2.30pm.

MALAWI TWINNING
We are delighted that our links with the community of Thondwe in Malawi continue to grow. A Pupil Malawi Committee has recently been formed, facilitated by Miss Bean who will be visiting Thondwe next week. The Committee has been considering a number of questions to ask their peers in Malawi and Miss Bean will be coming back with lots of information and ideas to strengthen our links. We wish her well for the trip and look forward to hearing about the visit.

SIXTY YEARS OF LEARNING
Children across the school are exploring different themes linked to our 60th Anniversary. Thanks to everyone who came along to our ‘Antiques’ Roadshow and donated photos and other memorabilia. These items will all be used to help the children learn about the past and develop their investigation and inquiry skills. Next we are looking for memories of the school from ex-pupils and staff. You can either email your memories to stronansps@scotborders.gov.uk or complete and return the attached sheet. These will be used by the children in their research and to present their findings in different ways next term. Thank you.

NHS FLU IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME P.1-7 PUPILS - 18 OCT
NHS Borders will carry out the flu immunisation programme at St. Ronan’s on the above date. All pupils P.1-7 will be offered the immunisation on the above dates. You should have already received and returned permission forms from NHS – please return as soon as possible if you’ve not already done so.

WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK – 23-27 OCTOBER – A message from our JRSOs, Freya & Eilidh...
Walk to School Week will take place from 23-27 October. We are encouraging everyone to walk all the way or part of the way to school. You can also cycle or scooter to school and that will count too. If this is impossible, pupils can meet the Junior Road Safety Officers at the flagpole at break-time and they will lead a walk around the school.

SWIMMING
Swimming dates have been arranged as follows. Pupils will travel to Peebles Pool and we hope that the cost of the transport will, once again, be funded by our PTA. All will go as a class except for P.4, who will go as a year group. Parent helpers are required to help supervise on the bus etc. If you are willing to help, please contact Mrs Huxley in the School Office.

- P.6: 21/09, 28/09, 05/10, 19/10, 26/10
- P.4 yr group: 02/11, 16/11, 23/11, 30/11 7/12
- P.7B: 11/01/18, 18/01, 25/01, 08/02, 22/02
- P.7H: 01/03, 08/03, 15/03, 22/03, 27/03
- P.5: 19/04, 26/04, 03/05, 10/05, 17/05
- P.5/6: 24/05, 31/05, 07/06, 14/06, 21/06

St. Ronan’s & Walkerburn Community Schools Partnership

K.J.B. / 04/10/2017
NEWS FROM THE PARENT PARTNERSHIP

The work of the Parent Partnership is to support the school, and find out and represent the views of parents. Some of the specific ways we are getting involved this year is helping with Learning Journals, Raising Children with Confidence and Parental Involvement in School. We are always keen to hear new ideas and views. If you want to get involved in any way, please email us on parentpartnership@st-ronans.org.uk. We’re also particularly keen to recruit a rep from P.1/2 and P.7H. The next meeting will be held on Monday 20 November at 7.30pm in the Family Room and all parents are welcome to attend.

NEWS FROM THE PTA

OFFICE BEARERS 2017/18
Thank you to everyone who came along to our recent annual general meeting. The office bearers for 2017/18 are: Chair, Sarah Birks; Vice Chair, Kelly Glendinning; Secretary, Lynne Campbell; Treasurer, Colin Turnbull.

BAG 2 SCHOOL
Thank you to everyone who donated towards this collection. We collected 688kg of items resulting in £275.20 being raised!

COFFEE MORNING THANKS
Thank you to everyone who helped us to raise £423.50. This is a fantastic amount and it was good to see so many families and members of the community turn out in support. Special thanks to everyone who donated cake & candy!

HALLOWE’EN PARTIES - MON 30 OCT
The PTA will, once again, organise the Hallowe’en Parties:
6.00-7.00pm P.1-3
7.15-8.30pm P.4-7
The parties are FREE to attend but we ask to confirm your child's attendance using the slip attached.

FUTURE EVENTS (ALL TO BE HELD IN SCHOOL):
- CHRISTMAS FAIR – WED 29 NOV, 6-8PM
- FREE FILM NIGHT – FRI 26 JAN, 5.30PM
- FOOD FESTIVAL – FRI 23 MAR, 12 NOON-2.30PM

SOME REMINDERS...

NO DOGS IN SCHOOL PLAYGROUND
Dogs must not be brought into the school playground or tied to the school gates during the school day, or when children are passing at drop-off or pick-up times. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause, but this is for the safety of our children. Thank you.

BIKES & SCOOTERS IN SCHOOL PLAYGROUND
Only those children who have returned the cycle to school contract (see last Newsletter) may bring their bikes or scooters to school. Children must dismount at the school gate and push bikes/scooters to the parking areas and must not cycle/scooter around the playground at the end of the school day. Scooters should be parked on the stands next to the school building, not in the bike shelter. You are advised to chain all bikes/scooters.

SCHOOL WATER BOTTLES
We are pleased to be able to supply water bottles with the school logo – these are available from the school office at £1.50 each.

NUT FREE SCHOOL
We have children in school who are allergic to nuts. If they eat or even come into contact with nuts or nut products the consequences could be very serious. We therefore ask parents to avoid snacks and packed lunch items which contain nuts or nut products as far as is reasonably possible. This includes chocolate nut spread and also some cereal bars. We thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

SCHOOL GROUNDS AFTER 3.10PM
We are always pleased to see children playing in the school grounds after 3.10pm. We do ask, however, that parents are responsible for their children at this time and that we expect pupils to show care and respect for our school property at all times. Thank you.

HOLIDAYS & INSERVICE DAY
Mid-term holidays begin at the end of the day on Thursday 5 October and school re-opens on Monday 16 October. The St. Andrew’s Day holiday will be held on Monday 27 November and school closes for Christmas on Thursday 21 December, reopening Monday 8 January 2018.

AND FINALLY...
Should you have any concerns regarding your child, please do not hesitate to contact us – details at the top of the newsletter.

Yours faithfully

K. J. Belleville, Headteacher
HALLOWE’EN PARTIES

RETURN SHEET

St. Ronan's Hallowe’en Party - P.1-3
Monday 30 October - 6 - 7pm
St. Ronan’s School Hall
Fun, Games & Prizes - Fancy Dress
Prizes for Best Carved or Decorated Pumpkin & Best Dressed Boy & Girl
FREE ENTRY
SLIPS MUST BE RETURNED
Children must be collected by a known adult at 7pm.
Enter by back playground door for pick-up.

Pupil Name:                  Class:
Pupil Name:                  Class:
Pupil Name:                  Class:
Will be attending the P.1-3 Halloween Party. I will collect my child at 7pm
Please tick:
Parent signature:

St. Ronan's Hallowe’en Disco - P.4-7
Monday 30 October - 7.15 - 8.30pm
St. Ronan’s School Hall
Fun, Games & Prizes - Fancy Dress
FREE ENTRY
PERMISSION SLIPS MUST BE RETURNED
Prizes for Best Carved or Decorated Pumpkin & Best Dressed Boy & Girl
Children must be collected by a known adult at 8.30pm OR you must give
permission for them to walk home alone using the slip below.
Enter by back playground door for pick-up.

Pupil Name:                  Class:
Pupil Name:                  Class:
Pupil Name:                  Class:
Will be attending the P.4-7 Halloween Disco.
Please tick:
I will collect my child - sign here:      or
My child has permission to walk home alone - sign here:
MEMORIES OF ST. RONAN’S SCHOOL
Please tell us your memories of your time at
St. Ronan’s Primary and/or Secondary School.
Tell us about your teachers, the subjects you studied, funny things that happened, how things have changed, trips, experiences, etc., etc.....

These will be used by the children in their research and to present their findings in different ways next term.

Please return this sheet to school by 20.10.17. Thank you!