


CHIRNSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

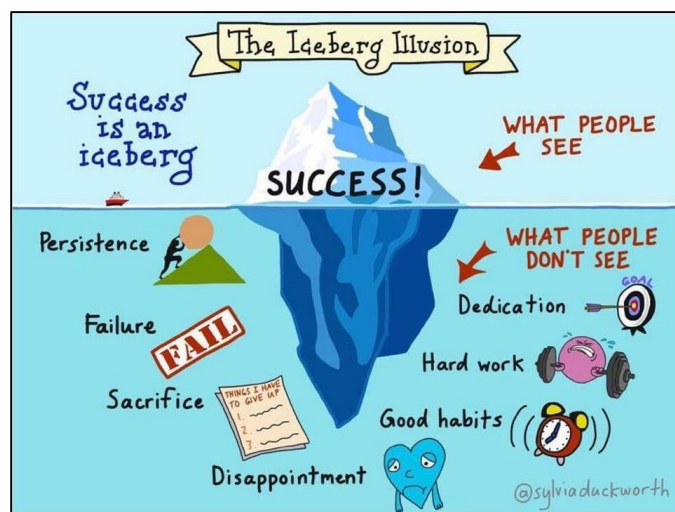
Chirnside, Duns, Berwickshire, Scottish Borders, TD11 3XH

<http://www.chirnside.scotborders.sch.uk>

 Search for 'Chirnside Primary School'

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T: 01890 818274



Dear Parents, Pupils and Staff,

We all want our children to be successful and achieve the very best that they can be.

Success and achievement can mean many different things to

many people. Often it can be a focus on winning a race, receiving a medal, making a leap in our learning, or achieving a goal we had set ourselves. Often, these can result as a 'New Year's Resolution'.

These examples are the visible signs of achievement, or the tip of the iceberg. What often goes unnoticed, unrecognised or uncelebrated is the biggest part of the learning journey that came before (the part of the iceberg that is hidden underwater).

This is the part that needed the most effort in terms of:

- Persistence when the going got tough;
- Not fearing failure and using it as an opportunity to learn more;
- Sacrificing things in order to concentrate on the goal;
- Dealing with disappointment when things didn't work out as first anticipated;
- Developing good habits and routines in terms of commitment;
- Hard work and dedication to achieving the goal.

These are the parts of the learning journey that our children need the most support and investment (in terms of our time and attention) from us as adults. By collaborating and working in partnership together to support your child's learning, we can open a world of opportunity for our children and their futures.

I wish you all a happy and enjoyable Christmas break and best wishes for the New Year. By working together, we can ensure that 2016 is the best year yet for our children on their learning journey.

Nicholas Trussler

Kind regards,
Nick Trussler
Head Teacher

Resilient Schools Update

As winter sets in and the threat of adverse weather increases, Scottish Borders Schools are planning their Resilient Schools arrangements.

The purpose of Resilient Schools is an attempt to keep the economy moving and essential services open as part of a wider Scottish Borders response to the effects of adverse weather.

In the case of adverse weather, a decision will be made by the Chief Executive and Senior Management Team to invoke Resilient Schools across the Borders. In this event the following procedures will be put into action:

- Parents will be notified by 'Group Call' that Resilient Schools arrangements are in place. This is the responsibility of staff at Head Quarters. Information updates will be available via Radio Borders and the SBC Website. **Please ensure we have the most up to date mobile number for you and contact the school office with your new number.**

What does this mean for Chirnside Primary School?

Due to expected resilient schools staff being available on a vastly reduced basis, should Resilient Schools be invoked, the following arrangements have been planned for:

- Mrs. Jayne Waite, Head Teacher of Swinton and Greenlaw Primary Schools will manage the school.
- Primary 5, Primary 6 and Primary 7 stages will be open **only**.
- Only pupils who usually walk to school should attend. The final decision for these pupils to attend lies with the parent.
- Due to reduced staffing numbers because of available Resilient Schools staff, we are able to open P5-P7 based on the known walking pupil numbers. Therefore, pupils who usually travel on school transport, or with parents from outside the village, **should not attend school**.
- A number of home-school learning activities are available for parents and pupils to download from the school website at the following links:
 - ELCC and Primary 1: <http://chirnside.weebly.com/nursery-and-p1-learning-activities.html>
 - Primary 2 – Primary 4: <http://chirnside.weebly.com/p2-p3-and-p4-learning-activities.html>
 - Primary 5 – Primary 7: <http://chirnside.weebly.com/p5-p6-and-p7-learning-activities.html>

Teaching Student Placement

We are pleased to welcome Ms. S Devanney, a 4th Year BEd teaching student to Chirnside Primary School. Ms. Devanney is studying at the University of Edinburgh and will be on teaching placement in Primary 3 from 11th January to 23rd March with Mrs. Bennie.

She is due to visit us prior to the Christmas holiday to meet Mrs Bennie and our Primary 3 class.

Parent Council Update

Elected Parent Council Committee Members for 2015/2016

Following the AGM held in October, the following parents were elected to these positions:

- Katrina Reynolds – Chair
- Catriona Craze - Vice Chair
- Lesley Thomson - Minutes Secretary
- Emma Jones - Communications Secretary
- Julian Lake – Treasurer
- Michelle Simpson - Fundraiser Co-coordinator

Contacting Chirnside Parent Council

The Parent Council has a set up new email address. If parents would like to receive communications from the Parent Council such as minutes from our meetings or request discussion items to be added to meeting agendas, please send an email to the following email address - Chirnsidepc@aol.co.uk.

Parents can also receive information from the Parent Council by liking the school Facebook page.

Current Projects funded by the Parent Council

Parent Council have allocated spending from current funds for the following projects:

- Transport for P7's to undertake Swimming classes at Duns Pool
- £1000 to start Outdoor Play Facility Fund
- £1250 to provide non-fiction reading material in the school over next year.

Christmas Arrangements

P1-3 Nativity

This year, Primary 1-3 pupils will perform their 'Little Red Robin' nativity on Tuesday 15th December at 14.00.
Doors open at 13.30, with a silver collection at the door for charity.

P4-7 Performance

This year, Primary 5-7 will be performing a music, dance and acting extravaganza based upon their learning in their 1960s topic entitled 'That Was the 1960s'. Primary 4 will also be taking part in the performance. There will be two performance times for parents to choose from:

- Afternoon performance: Wednesday 9th December at 13.30 or
- Evening performance: Thursday 10th December at 18.30

Next PARENT COUNCIL Meeting



**Thursday 28th January 2016
At 7.30pm**

In Chirnside Primary School
All Parents Encouraged to Attend

Tickets are now on sale at the school office priced £2.00 for adult and £1.00 for children.

****Please note P4-P7 pupils should attend school for 18.10 for the evening performance on Thursday 10th December****

Parties

Christmas party dates have been set as follows:

- P1-3: Afternoon of Monday 14th December
- P4-5: Afternoon of Wednesday 16th December
- P6-7: Afternoon of Thursday 17th December

If children wish, they can bring party clothes in the morning to change into after lunch. **Please note this is not compulsory.**

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch for pupils and staff will be held on Thursday 10th December. There will be a change to options on lunch envelopes for this day. Details will come home the week before on Tuesday 1st December.

Church Service ****CHANGE OF DATE**** - Thursday 17th December

The end of term Christmas service will now be held **in the Parish Church on Thursday 17th December, starting at 10.30am.** Everyone is warmly invited to attend.

Term, holiday and closure dates for the remainder of 2015-16

Friday 18 December 2015	All break, term ends
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Winter term

Tuesday 5 January 2016	All resume
Thursday 11 February 2016	Pupils break, February holiday
Friday 12 February 2016	Staff in service day
Wednesday 17 February 2016	All resume
Friday 25 March 2016	Good Friday, school closed
Friday 1 April 2016	All break, term ends

Summer term

Monday 18 April 2016	All resume
Friday 29 April 2016	Staff in service day
Monday 2 May 2016	May Day holiday, school closed
Wednesday 29 June 2016	All break, term end

Casual holiday: Berwickshire
Monday 30 May 2016

Upcoming Events

7th December – Rag Bag collection

8th December – National Dental Inspection P1 and P7 pupils

9th December – P4-7 60s Performance at 13.30 in the school

10th December – Pantomime: 'A Christmas Carol' (morning)

10th December – Christmas Lunch for pupils and staff

10th December – P4-7 60s Performance at 18.30 in the school

14th December – Primary 6 to Kirk Care to entertain residents (morning)

14th December – P1-3 Christmas Party

15th December – P1-3 Nativity

16th December – P4-5 Christmas Party

17th December – P6-7 Christmas Party

17th December – Christmas Service in the Parish Church at 10.30am - ****NB CHANGE OF DATE****

18th December - ELCC (Nursery) Christmas Party in the morning session.

18th December – School closes for holidays at 12.20

Tuesday 5th January 2016 – School reopens for pupils and staff.

28th January 2016 – Parent Council Meeting at 7.30pm in the school.

**Don't let anyone feel left out...
...Be a good friend!!**

Let's Stop Bullying

WHY DO PEOPLE BULLY?

- TO PRETEND THEY ARE TOUGH
- THEY COPY OTHERS WHO BULLY
- TO GET OTHERS TO LIKE THEM
- THEY ARE UNHAPPY
- TO HIDE FROM THEIR OWN FEARS
- THEY DON'T LIKE WHO THEY ARE

IT'S NOT ALL PHYSICAL

Psychological abuse is a form of bullying. This includes name calling and exclusion from activities.

CYBER BULLYING

Cyber bullying is increasingly common inside and outside of school. Cyber Bullying involves the use of mobile phones or the internet, sending offensive text messages and emails or pretending to be somebody else on social networking sites such as Facebook.

HELP IS AVAILABLE

Bullying UK
0808 800 2222

Childline
0800 11 11

NSPCC:
0808 800 5000

Anti-Bullying Line
0131 651 6100

VISIT CAPTAIN BULLY ONLINE AT:
www.letsstopbullying.co.uk

COMPUTER SUPPORT SCOTLAND

Home users and small businesses

- On-site / At Home Support
- Computer Purchasing Help
- Customised Computer Setup
- Internet & Networking Setup
- Computer Related Training
- Backup & Security Help
- Website Design
- Computer Troubleshooting

You can get friendly help with all the above and more.

GpComputerSupport.com
Gary@GpComputerSupport.com
01896 751024 or 07846 264643
facebook.com/GpComputerSupport

www.beatbullying.org
www.bullyfreezone.co.uk
www.kidscape.org.uk

www.bullying.co.uk
www.dfes.gov.uk/bullying
www.antibullying.net

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Chirnside Christmas Lights – The Big Switch On!

The switching on of Chirnside Christmas lights will take place at 6.00pm on Saturday 12th December at the Crosshill.

Please come and enjoy Carol Singing and Soup and mince pies! There will also a visit by Santa at approximately 6.30pm. A collection will be made for local charities.

Please come and support this village event.

Chirnside Common Good Committee

Early Learning and Childcare (Nursery) Enrolment for 2016-17

Children born between 1st March 2012 and 28th February 2013 will be will be eligible for a free Early Learning and Childcare place from August 2016

We can confirmation that the week for parents to apply for a place will take place on 18th to 22nd January 2016

The table below gives information on start dates for 4 and 3 year old ELCC pupils from August 2016:

Age	Child's birthday	Starts from
4 year old	1 st March 2012 and 28 th February 2013	August 2016
3 year old	1 st March 2013 and 31 st August 2013	August 2016
3 year old	1 st September 2013 and 31 st December 2013	January 2017
3 year old	1 st January 2014 and 28 th February 2014	April 2017

Enrolment forms and information will be available from the school office from Monday 18th January 2016. Please note, parents of current ELCC pupils who intend continuing in ELCC for 2016-17 must complete an enrolment form for 2016-17.

Building Works Update

The new infant toilet and canteen store build is due to be completed by the 8th of December. We have been informed that the current boy's toilet block will now not be demolished. Instead, the space will be refurbished as additional storage space in the school.

If you have any questions or points you wish to be raised, please email (nick.trussler@scotborders.gov.uk) or call on 01890 818274.

Breakfast Bar

Last term we ran a Breakfast Club for pupils to gauge interest and need for this service. It proved to be very popular with pupils. As a result of this market research, we have decided to reopen our Breakfast Bar in the canteen on a term by term basis.

Opening times for the Breakfast Bar are 8.30am – 8.50am (last serving at 8.45am). On offer are cereals, fruit, milk and water. There is a small charge of 20p per pupil per day for this service.

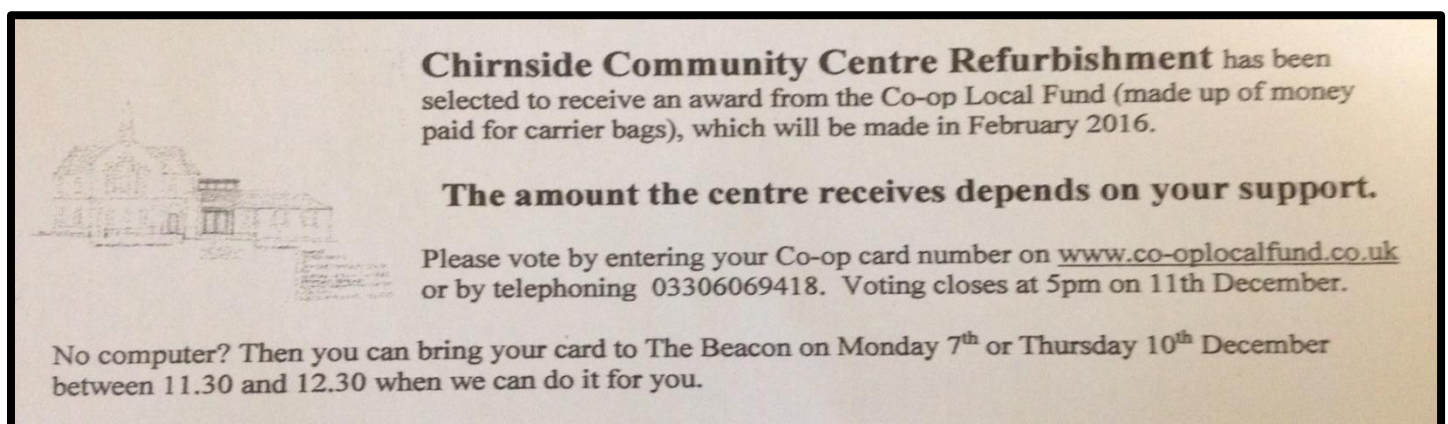
Improving Learning Update:

Last month (November 2015):

- Mrs Reap worked with other primary teachers from Berwickshire cluster schools on 'Critical Reading' approaches. She has been using these approaches on a 'test for change' basis with her Primary 5 class to develop a wider range of reading skills with her pupils. This will continue for the remainder of this session, with a view to adopting these approaches across classes next school session 2016-17.
- We explored the theme of inclusion, with specific focus on Educational Psychology Service and Berwickshire Support Centres to ensure a better understanding of what these services can provide in supporting children's learning and additional needs.
- We moderated pupil writing samples to ensure we are maintaining appropriate standards and expectations across classes in terms of progression and pupil attainment.
- We revisited previous teacher learning in relation to Modern Languages and the teaching of French across primary classes.
- Attended a Berwickshire wide In-service morning at Berwickshire High School with a focus on better teaching, better learning for all. The morning offered teachers a choice of practical workshops to attend and also a keynote speech from Service Director Donna Manson on the themes of inclusion and pupil achievement.
- Some teachers continued to develop 'Practitioner Enquiry' approaches to develop an aspect of their teaching practice and evaluate the impact of this upon pupils' learning.
- A group of teachers will continue to develop a teaching and learning progression for Religious and Moral Education.
- Some teaching staff attended a twilight Child Protection Training Refresher at Ayton Primary School to ensure all our staff are up to date in their training requirements in this area.

Would you like our newsletter by email?

If you would like to receive newsletters by email, please send a request to nick.trussler@scotborders.gov.uk



Chirnside Community Centre Refurbishment has been selected to receive an award from the Co-op Local Fund (made up of money paid for carrier bags), which will be made in February 2016.

The amount the centre receives depends on your support.

Please vote by entering your Co-op card number on www.co-oplocalfund.co.uk or by telephoning 03306069418. Voting closes at 5pm on 11th December.

No computer? Then you can bring your card to The Beacon on Monday 7th or Thursday 10th December between 11.30 and 12.30 when we can do it for you.