

Chalmers Elementary Newsletter

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Issue #: 5 Date: January 9, 2017

Important Dates to Remember:

Jan. 9	Grade 7 LFI Quebec Trip Parent Information Meeting at 6:00 pm in the CH Library
Jan. 12	Grade 6 Ski Program at Cypress Mountain
Jan. 12	Rotary Club Presentation of Dictionaries to Grade 3 Students
Jan. 12	Burnsview French Immersion Information Meeting for Grade 7 LFI Families from 7:00 – 8:00 pm (at Burnsview)
Jan. 13	January Sharing Assembly at 11:00 am
Jan. 19	Grade 6 Ski Program @ Cypress Mountain
Jan. 23	ArtsStarts Presentaion: Axe Capoeira Cultural Performance
Jan. 26	Grade 6 Ski Program @ Cypress Mountain
Jan. 28 to Feb. 3	Grade 7 LFI Trip to Quebec
Jan. 30	Curriculum Implementation Day (No School)
Feb. 1	Fruit & Veggie Program Delivery Day (Mixed Organic Apples)
Feb. 1	Student-Led Conferences (Dismissal at 12:25 pm)
Feb. 2	Burnsview Course Information Meeting for Grade 7's from 6:30 – 7:30 pm (at Burnssview)
Feb. 8	Grade 6 Late French Immersion Information Meeting from 6:30 – 7:30 pm in the CH Library
Feb. 10	February Sharing Assembly at 11:00 am
Feb. 13	Family Day (No School)
Feb. 14	Kindergarten Registration from 9:00 – 12:00
Feb. 17	2017/18 Grade 6 Late French Immersion Application (3:45 pm)

Dear Parents:



Happy New Year! I hope your holiday break was restful and renewing and that you enjoyed time with friends and family. The staff and students have come back to school with lots of energy and enthusiasm. This term promises to be a busy one, with many exciting classroom and school activities planned. Our Grade 6's will take to the hills for their annual ski and snowboard lessons, basketball season will begin shortly, planning has begun for our Ready, Set, Learn session, continued monthly sharing assemblies, and towards the end of the term we will be supporting the Heart and Stroke Foundation by participating in Jump Rope for Heart!

I hope 2017 is a wonderful year for everyone in the Chalmers community. The staff and I look forward to a fun and busy 2017!



Mr. K. Levenstein
Principal

Mr. T. Weber
Vice Principal

Electronics at School:

Santa is often very good to the students at Chalmers, as staff often notice a dramatic increase in the appearance of cell phones and other electronic devices at school when we return from Christmas Break. Staff are concerned with a number of issues associated with students bringing electronic devices to school:

- The invasion of privacy that can occur with cell phone videotaping or photographing
- The type of music being played on personal listening devices cannot be monitored effectively
- The ability for handheld games to distract students during class time and prevent students from participating in active play on the playground
- The potential for lost or stolen valuables
- The status that seems to be attached to these items has placed unnecessary pressure on other students



For these reasons, we ask that students leave electronic devices at home. If a parent wishes their child have a cell phone we are requesting that students turn them off while they are at school and leave them stored in their backpacks during the day. Parents wishing to communicate with their child during the school day can do so via the office. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Traffic Safety:



This is just a reminder to the Chalmers parent community of the following policy with respect to the use of the school parking lot:

There is no parent parking or drop-off in the school parking lot from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

There are two exceptions to this policy. First, licensed daycare providers can contact the school office for a parking lot pass that will provide them with access to the school parking lot during “restricted” hours. Second, families who require the use of our handicapped parking may continue to do so provided they have clearly displayed handicapped parking passes.

We thank you for your support with this pressing matter.

Scent Sensitivity:

At Chalmers, we have staff who suffer from respiratory difficulties that are made worse by scented products. We ask that students, parents, and staff do what they can to avoid using scented aftershave, hair spray, cologne or other scented personal care products.



School-Wide Medical Alert:



Several of our student have life-threatening allergies to eggs, peanuts, nuts (cashews, almonds, walnuts, pistachios, Brazil nuts, pecans, macadamias), and sesame seeds. Exposure to even tiny amounts of nut particles – residue on a desk, a book, a door handle, a computer keyboard, or a drinking fountain – may be enough to trigger a reaction. Please help us create a safe environment for them by keeping foods containing eggs, nuts, peanuts, and sesame seeds at home. Several companies are now making nut-free snacks and we encourage you to look for these new products when shopping. Other names for peanuts and other nuts include: arachide, arachis oil, beer nuts, goober nuts, goober peas, ground nuts, kernels, mandelonas, nut meals, valencias, anacardium nuts, calisson, marzipan, pinion, Queensland nut (macadamia). Label reading is the key to sending safe, egg-free and nut-free foods to school. Please do your part to ensure our school environment is a safe one for all our students. THANK YOU!!

Quebec Trip 2017:

On Saturday, January 28th our grade 7 Late French Immersion students will be heading to Quebec. After months of preparation (and fundraising by dedicated parents), we are very excited to have these students participate on a seven-day trip that will have them practicing their French and learning about the culture of Quebec. A trip of this undertaking is not possible without the hard work and dedication of staff and parents. “Merci” to everyone who worked to make this trip possible and an extra special thanks to Mlle Hughes and Mr. Weber who will be leaving their own families to accompany our students on the Quebec trip.



Late French Immersion Information Evening:



Late French Immersion is available at Chalmers Elementary to a child eligible for grade 6 in September of the year of application.

Parents and students interested in learning about the Delta School District's Late French Immersion Program (grade 6 entry) are invited to attend an important information meeting:

Date: Wednesday, February 8th
Time: 6:30 pm
Location: Chalmers Elementary (Library)
11315 75th Avenue

Note:

- The application deadline for Late French Immersion (grade 6 entry) is **Friday, February 17th at 4:00 pm**
- Completed forms must be delivered to Chalmers Elementary on or before the application deadline

Kindergarten Registration at Chalmers:

Our Kindergarten registration for the 2017-18 school year will take place **from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm on Wednesday, February 14th** for children who will turn five-years-old by December 31, 2017. Please bring the following information with you when you come to register your child(ren):

- An original Canadian birth certificate, Canadian passport, or Permanent Resident Card (for the student **AND** one parent)
- Immunization records
- Care Card
- Proof of residence (current property tax assessment or mortgage agreement documents) or rental agreement



Parents of Kindergarten students are required to register at their catchment area school, but they may pick-up a *Non-Catchment or Non-District Application Form* and take it to the school they wish their child to attend anytime on or after February 6, 2017. ***The earlier you get your paperwork into the school of your choice the better. Please note that applications will not be accepted unless all of the documentation above has been provided.***

Student-Led Conferences:

This year, student-led conferences will take place on **Wednesday, February 1st** (NOTE: The grade 7 LFI conferences will take place on a date to be determined as the students will be in Quebec on February 1st). Conferences will last approximately 30 minutes and the students will be in charge of conducting the conferences. To provide time for conferences, **students will be dismissed at 12:25 pm on Wednesday, February 1st**. All conferences will be booked using Delta School District's *Parent Connect Interview Booking System*. Information will be sent home later in the month explaining how to use this online system to book student-led conferences.



Lost and Found:



This is just a reminder that students and parents have until the last Friday at 2:45 pm of every school month to claim lost and found clothing items. Clothing items not claimed after 2:45 pm on the last Friday of every school month will be donated to charity.

YMCA/Steve Nash Youth Basketball Spring League:

North Delta Zone:

- The YMCA/Steve Nash Youth Basketball Spring League is a recreational basketball league (non-scoring, no standings kept) for boys and girls in grades 2 – 9
- The league runs from April 11 – June 18, 2017
- Practices are at North Delta elementary schools in the evenings (Tuesdays or Wednesdays)
- Games are on Friday evenings
- Each player will participate in one practice and one game per week
- The cost is:
 - \$129 per player (if registered prior to February 10th)
 - \$145 per player (if registered from February 11th to March 10th)
 - Financial assistance is available



To volunteer to coach or to register a player phone us at 604-631-5525 or come into the Tong Louie YMCA Monday to Friday from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm