

Chalmers Elementary Newsletter

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Issue #: 3

Date: November 8, 2018

Important Dates to Remember:

Nov. 8	Div 10, 11 & 12 Surrey Art Gallery in class workshop
Nov. 9	Remembrance Day Assembly (10:45am)
Nov. 12	Remembrance Day – Statutory Holiday (no school)
Nov. 14	Div 12 Tynehead Hatchery
Nov. 15	Div 7 Reifel Bird Sanctuary
Nov. 21	Hot Lunch day - Sushi
Nov. 23	Pro-D Day (no school for students)
Nov. 29	PAC Toonie Treat day – Krispy Kreme
Nov. 29	Div 8 & 9 TELUS World of Science
Nov. 29	PAC Meeting
Dec. 5	Hot Lunch Day – Hot Dogs
Dec. 7	December sharing assembly at 11:00 am
Dec. 7	PAC Holiday Movie Night (5:30pm)
Dec. 12	Duffelbag Theatre - A Christmas Carol
Dec. 13	PAC Toonie Treat Day- Smencils & Cookies
Dec. 14	Term 1 Report Cards
Dec. 20	Christmas Concert - Afternoon Performance (1:00 – 2:15pm)
Dec. 20	Christmas Concert – Evening Performance (6:00 – 7:15pm)
Dec. 21	Last Day of School before Winter Vacation
Dec. 24- Jan. 4	Winter Vacation Period

Dear Parents:

Each November we are reminded of the sacrifices made by Canadian soldiers, past and present. On Friday, November 9th we will be holding our annual Remembrance Day

Assembly at approximately 10:50 am. Students will be reminded that this is a solemn occasion, and that there should be no applause or unnecessary noise during the assembly. Our Remembrance Day Assembly will be led by some of our senior intermediate students and will include readings of poetry, songs, the presentation of our flags by the school's colour guard, and a moment of silence to remember those who gave their lives for our country. Each student will receive a red poppy to wear at this assembly and we will be collecting donations for the poppy fund at **9:00 am on November 9th**.

Parents are welcome to attend our Remembrance Day Assembly.

*Your life was a blessing,
 Your memory a treasure...
 You are loved beyond words
 And missed beyond measure.*



- Renee Wood

Mr. J. McCallum
 Principal

Ms. T. Doukas
 Vice Principal

Student and Staff Safety... Visitor Sign-In:



Parents, guardians, and all other visitors are asked to enter the school using the main entrance and sign in at the office. Please do not proceed directly to a classroom. All visitors must wear a "visitor" identification badge while in the school for the safety of our staff as the badge identifies our visitors as belonging to our school community. If you are picking up your child for an appointment, please ask the office to page them down from their classroom. If you are dropping off lunches, please leave

them on the "lunch table" in the front hallway and please ensure they are labelled.

Student safety is of the utmost importance. It is important that students, staff, and parents feel safe in our building and the school is not readily accessible to strangers. Aside from the daily security of our building, we are required to account for each and every child and adult who is in our school during a fire drill, emergency preparedness drill, earthquake drill and lockdown drill (for this reason, it is also important that you sign-out when leaving). Your cooperation with this matter is greatly appreciated.

Volleyball Season:

Volleyball season is now fully underway with Chalmers being represented by both a Grade 6 and a Grade 7 team. Our school teams compete on Tuesdays and Thursdays against many of our neighbouring schools. The Grade 6 team is being coached by Ms. Poirier and Mr. Ng while Ms. Hobbs and Mrs. Henry are coaching the Grade 7 team. Hats off to the Chalmers staff who have volunteered their time to provide our senior students with this exciting opportunity!



Observing Remembrance Day in the Community:



The Kennedy House would like to invite families in North Delta to attend a North Delta Remembrance Day gathering. It will be held outdoors at the North Delta Social Heart Plaza located at 11415 - 84th Avenue, Delta on Sunday, November 11th at 10:40 am. The event will provide the North Delta community with an opportunity to remember and thank those who have served and died protecting Canadian values. Local veterans, political representatives, emergency services, community service clubs, cadets, and other youth groups will be participating in this public event. Student representatives

from Chalmers Elementary have been invited to lay a wreath on our behalf.

Fall Flu Season:



The flu season is upon us, and at school, we are doing everything possible to keep Chalmers Elementary a healthy place to work and learn. All our students are receiving lots of reminders to wash their hands frequently, to cough into their elbows and to try and keep their work areas clean.

If your child is sick or exhibiting any of the symptoms of the flu, it is extremely important that you keep him or her home until all symptoms have disappeared. Please make sure to call the absentee phone line (available 24 hours a day) at 604-594-0269. Leave your name, your child's name and division number or teacher name.

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 aftershave, hair spray, cologne, or other scented products.



School-Wide Medical Alert:



This is a reminder to families in our community that several of our students have life-threatening allergies to eggs, peanuts, nuts (cashews, almonds, walnuts, pistachios, Brazil nuts, pecans, macadamias), and seafood. Exposure to even tiny amounts of egg, nut or seafood 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 seafood at home. Several companies are now making nut-free snacks and we encourage you to look for these products when shopping. Label reading is the key to sending safe egg-free, nut-free, and seafood-free foods to school. Please do your part to ensure our school environment is a safe one for all our students. THANK YOU!!

Lost and Found:

Our Lost and Found is currently very full. If your child is missing a jacket, shoes etc, please feel free to stop by the school and have a look. Items are on display in the hallway outside the gym. All unclaimed articles will be bagged and donated to charity at the end of November.



Dressing for the Weather:



Although we enjoyed some wonderful fall weather and many warm sunny days, fall is now truly upon us. As the temperature continues to dip, it is important that the students come dressed in outerwear appropriate for the cold, wet and wind. Here, on the West Coast, rain is just a fact of life. On most days, students will be going outside at recess and lunchtime. It is only in the case of **extremely poor** weather, that we designate the recess and/or lunch hour as an “in day”, which means that students are to stay inside and play quietly in their classrooms rather than venture outdoors. *We refrain from doing this unless absolutely necessary, as the children need the opportunity to get out in the fresh air* and be physically active before heading back into the classroom.

Not only do students need to be dressed warmly enough to enjoy themselves outside at recess and lunch, but having warm clothing is also essential in the event of an emergency or unexpected situation requiring a building evacuation. Many students are still coming to school without jackets, wearing shorts and hoodies ... even on the coldest, rainiest of days. Please ensure your children come to school dressed accordingly for being outside at recess and lunchtime (e.g. boots and a coat). Because our field also gets quite mucky and wet at this time of year, packing an extra pair of socks and pants into your child’s backpack is also suggested.



Snow Days:



If it snows, will there be school? The short answer is...YES! During extreme winter weather conditions, including heavy snowfalls, all schools in the Delta School District will remain OPEN, if at all possible. It is very rare that schools would be closed due to weather conditions or other circumstances. Schools may have a delayed opening to allow schools and routes to schools to be made safer for the arrival of students. Any closure or delayed opening will be decided by 6:30 a.m. and will be announced on the district website at: <https://www.deltasd.bc.ca>

To keep phone lines clear, we ask that you please refrain from phoning the school to check that we are open.

During extreme weather conditions it is also common for police and other authorities to advise citizens to avoid unnecessary travel. Parents should take this advice as well. Parents/Guardians are responsible for their children's safe travel to and from school. If, for any reason, a parent/guardian feels that a child cannot travel safely to school, then they should make other arrangements. Schools will be kept open except under extreme circumstances to provide the option of attendance for all, but the decision is the responsibility of each family. Should you choose to keep your child home, please call the office and leave a message reporting your child's absence.

PAC Happenings:

- Submitted by Ranita Kajla, PAC Chair

Happy Autumn from the Chalmers PAC! First of all, a huge thank you and good job! to all of you that sacrificed your time and energy to build the primary playground. It was a fantastic weekend of community building and we are all eager to see it totally completed and our children playing on this long awaited playground!!

Mark your calendars with some important upcoming dates:

If you have an Entertainment Book and have not paid for it, please return to it to the school ASAP!

Hot lunch -- Wednesday November 21 -- sushi -- deadline to order is Wed Nov 14
Wednesday December 5 -- hot dogs -- deadline to order is Wed Nov 28

If you are new to the hot lunch ordering system, here is the link to sign up: <https://munchalunch.com/frmNewUser.aspx?school=12822Chalmers>

If you are signed up and want to order your child's hot lunch: <https://munchalunch.com/login.aspx>

Toonie Treat Day -- Thursday November 29 -- Krispy Kreme Original Donuts

PAC meeting -- Thursday November 29 @ 6:30pm -- babysitting will be provided

Holiday Movie Night -- Friday December 7 from 6pm-8pm in the Chalmers Gym

Neufeld Farms frozen food fundraiser -- Watch for order forms in your child's backpack for delicious Neufeld Farms frozen foods! The ordering will close at the end of November and order delivery will be on Thursday December 13 after school.

If you want more information on Chalmers PAC events, please visit the website at www.chalmerspac.weebly.com and if you would like to get in touch with Chalmers PAC, please email at chalmerspac@deltasd.bc.ca

