

Chalmers Elementary Newsletter

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Issue #: 4

Date: December 10, 2018

Important Dates to Remember:

Dec. 12	Duffelbag Theatre - Twas the Night Before Christmas
Dec. 13	- PAC Toonie Treat Day- Smencils & Cookies - Neufeld Farms orders can be picked up on at 2:45pm at the front of the school
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
Jan. 7	School Re-Opens after Winter Vacation

Dear Parents:

As our first term at Chalmers winds its way to a close, we feel it is timely to reflect back on the many successes the school year has already provided. After reading through report cards it is obvious our students have had a great start to the school year. They are a very involved, caring group of children, and have a strong social conscience. Whether raising funds for the Terry Fox Foundation, or bringing in canned food items to support Deltassist, our students continue to exceed whatever charitable goals are established. In addition to their generosity, visitors to our school always comment on the friendliness and outgoing nature of our students. Our students can be proud of themselves and their efforts to make our school a great place and helping make a difference in the lives of others.

Our PAC has had a great start to the school year. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated group of parents, who are committed to making Chalmers the best that it can be. Whether it be their leadership on our new playground installation, organizing our community events, or financially supporting our school efforts, our PAC are very much appreciated and add a dimension to the Chalmers community that cannot be measured.

Our staff have given of themselves in so many ways. We are thankful for the many talents they share with our students both in the classroom and in those important extracurricular activities. Life at Chalmers is very full and rewarding!

As we move ahead into the year of 2019, we invite you to continue to be an involved member of the Chalmers community in any way you are able. You make such a difference in your child's educational life.

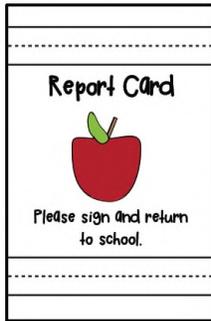
On behalf of the staff at Chalmers Elementary, we'd like to wish you all a very happy and safe holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Mr. J. McCallum
Principal

Ms. T. Doukas
Vice Principal



Term One Report Cards:



A reminder to our Chalmers families that report cards will be sent home with students Friday, December 14th.

We hope our Chalmers families use the report card as a chance to talk with your child about their progress at school. The written comments will provide some very helpful information for your child about how hard they are trying at school. Celebrate those comments that tell you your child is trying their best.

Remember to sign the report card envelope and return it to your child's teacher.

Volleyball Season:

As the volleyball season winds its way to a close, I would like to recognize the hard work of both the Grade 6 & 7 teams. Our athletes have worked hard to develop their skills and have shown much growth since their first practices. Many thanks to Ms. Henry, Ms. Hobbs, Ms. Poirier and Mr. Ng for their tireless efforts in building the skill level of our teams, and for the many volunteer hours these coaches put in to ensure students had an exciting volleyball season.



Parent Connect:

Please remember to update your family's emergency information online throughout the year. This includes changes to cell phone numbers, emergency release contacts, etc. The only change that cannot be completed by a parent is a change of address. The school needs to see proof of address to change the address in the computer system. The Parent Connect link is: <https://cimsweb.deltasd.bc.ca/schoolconnect/parentsignon.aspx>. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.



As well, just a reminder to ensure you've completed the **Forms** section on Parent Connect. The Delta School District requires that you provide permission for your children for events like walking field trips and Google Apps access. Without these permissions on file, your children could miss out on classroom activities.

Christmas Concert 2019:



The halls are filled with the rich sounds of students singing as our school excitedly prepares for the upcoming Christmas concert on Thursday, December 20th at 1:00 pm (afternoon performance) and 6:00 pm (evening performance)!

As always, our students are VERY excited to be participating in a concert for their families and friends. Given the limited number of seats our school gym can accommodate, we encourage families to attend only one of the performances (1:00 pm or 6:00 pm). A notice went home earlier this month requesting families inform our school about whether they plan to attend the afternoon or evening Christmas concert performance. Families opting to attend the evening performance should be aware that seating will be extremely limited (maximum of two seats per family), and tickets will be required for this performance. Tickets will not be issued for the afternoon performance. Our lunch break on Thursday, December 20th will be adjusted to accommodate the afternoon performance of our Christmas concert. Lunch on December 20th will take place from 11:45 am – 12:35 pm.

Whether you choose to attend the afternoon or evening Christmas concert performance, all students are expected to participate in both performances. Over the past couple of years, we have noticed an increasing number of students not participating in our evening Christmas concert performance. It is very disappointing and disrespectful to teachers and classmates when students do not participate in the evening performance as they often have key parts in the presentations and are not there to perform them. In order to continue to have evening performances, we must have full student participation!



Many thanks to Mrs. Wright and the staff serving on the Christmas Concert Committee for organizing this amazing experience for our school community!

Traffic Safety:



This is a reminder to parents driving their children to or from school, 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.

Snow Days:

If it snows, will there be school? The short answer is... YES! During extreme winter 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 for district or municipal staff to clear safe routes to schools for students and families. Any closure or delayed opening will be decided by 7:00 am at the latest, and will be announced through the media as well as through district and school websites. **Please note that no announcement will be made stating that schools are open. Only closures or delayed openings will be announced.**



Information about any closures will be sent to Metro Vancouver radio and television stations. Please check the following stations for school closure information.

Radio	Television
CBC 690 AM	Global BC
CKNW 980 AM	CBC TV
NEWS 1130 AM	CTV TV
Fairchild 1470 AM	City TV

Announcements will also be made 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 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 at home, please call the office and leave a message reporting your child's absence.

Lost and Found:



This is just a reminder that student and parents have until the last Friday at 2:45 pm of every 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.

In light of the fact that December is a shortened school month due to Christmas Break, clothing items will remain on the lost and found clothing line until, Thursday, December 20th at 2:45 pm. Clothing not claimed after 2:45 pm on December 20th will be donated to charity.

Grade 7 Parent Information Evenings:

Burnsview's Grade 7 parent information nights are coming up early in the New Year.

The French Immersion information night will be held on Thursday, January 17th, from 7:00 - 8:00 pm at Burnsview in the Library. This evening will provide information specific to the Immersion program at Burnsview including testimonials from students, descriptions of Immersion courses and activities, and a question and answer period. All Grade 7 French Immersion students and their parents are invited to attend.

The second information night will be held on Wednesday, January 23rd, from 7:00 - 8:00 pm at Burnsview in the Library, and will include an overview of the Grade 8 program including a description of courses, the course selection procedure, and extra-curricular opportunities offered at Burnsview. This evening is open to all Grade 7 parents and students interested in attending Burnsview. Parents attending the French Immersion information evening on January 17th will also benefit from attending this evening as other material will be covered.

Online course selection procedures can be found at <https://bu.deltasd.bc.ca/programs-courses/online-course-selection-procedures/>.

News from the Chalmers PAC:

Chalmers PAC would like to wish the Chalmers community a magical holiday season!

Our next Toonie Treat day featuring Holiday & Everyday Smencils or cookies for \$2 will be on Thursday, December 13th at lunchtime.

Neufeld Farms orders can be picked up on Thursday, December 13th at 2:45pm at the front of the school.

