

## Chalmers Elementary Newsletter

11315 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Delta BC V4C 1H8  
 School Office: 604-594-5437  
 Absentee Line: 604-594-0269  
 Principal: Jeff McCallum  
 Vice Principal: Tina Doukas  
 Admin Assistants: Anna Dougas  
 Samantha Towler  
 School Website: <http://ch.deltasd.bc.ca>



Issue #: 6

Date: February 6, 2019

### Important Dates to Remember:

Feb. 6	Student Led Conferences (12:25pm dismissal)
Feb. 7	Gr 6 Skiing
Feb. 12	Ready Set Learn for children ages 3-5 years old and their parents (1:30-2:30pm)
Feb. 12	Gr 7 Boys Basketball Game (@ Chalmers)
Feb. 12	Gr 7 Girls Basketball Game (@ Sunshine Hills)
Feb. 12	Late French Immersion Online Application closes @ 4:00pm
Feb. 13	Kindergarten Registration from 9:00 – 12:00 pm
Feb. 13	Treat Day – Krispy Kreme Donuts
Feb. 13	Delta Police Dept. Open Gym from 2:00 – 3:00 pm
Feb. 14	Valentine's Day!!
Feb. 14	Gr 6 Skiing
Feb. 15	PRO-D Day (No School for Students)
Feb. 18	Family Day (No School)
Feb. 19	Gr 7 Boys Basketball Game (@ Pinewood)
Feb. 19	Gr 7 Girls Basketball Game (@ Chalmers)
Feb. 20	Delta Police Dept. Open Gym from 2:00 – 3:00 pm
Feb. 21	Gr 6 Boys Basketball Game (@ Pinewood)
Feb. 26	Gr 7 Boys Basketball Game (@ Heath)
Feb. 26	Gr 7 Girls Basketball Game (@ Chalmers)
Feb. 27	Delta Police Dept. Open Gym from 2:00 – 3:00 pm

### Dear Parents:

Happy February Chalmers community! February is a very busy and important month as it is the halfway point in the school year. It is hard to believe how quickly we have reached this point in the school year! As well, February is a time of year when Kindergarten registration for the next school year takes place, and teachers prepare term two report cards.

February is also a time when, at school, we are doing everything possible to keep Chalmers Elementary a healthy place to work and learn. If your child is sick or exhibiting any flu symptoms, it is extremely important that you keep your child at home until all symptoms have disappeared. Please make sure you call the absentee phone line (available 24 hours a day) at 604-594-0269. Leave your name, your child's name and division number, and the reason your child will be absent. It's very important that you phone us every day your child is away, to help us know they are home safe.

*Mr. J. McCallum*  
Principal

*Ms. T. Doukas*  
Vice Principal



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### Did You Know

Groundhog Day is celebrated every year on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. The legend of Groundhog Day predicting the weather comes from long ago in Europe. According to German folklore, if the sun comes out on Candlemas Day (the precursor to Groundhog Day), the badger will see its shadow and six more weeks of winter will follow. When German settlers came to Pennsylvania they continued the tradition, using groundhogs instead of badgers to predict the weather.



The first official Groundhog Day was celebrated on February 2, 1886 in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. The groundhog used to see if winter will be extended was named, "Punxsutawney Phil".

Phil's fame began to spread and newspapers around the world began to report his predictions. Thousands of fans now make the annual trek to Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania on February 2<sup>nd</sup> to see whether Phil will see his shadow.

Some of you may have heard of Wiarthon Willie, the Canadian version of Phil, who came to fame in 1956 when a Wiarthon resident named Mac McKenzie sent out invitations for a "Groundhog Day" gathering...his actual intent of the invite was for a party. A Toronto Star reporter showed up looking for a story, instead he found Mac at the local watering hole partying. He was invited to join the party, but the next day complained that he would need some kind of story to justify his expenses. So Mac grabbed his wife's fur hat and dug a burrow in the snow. The picture of Mac and the hat ran in the February 3, 1956 edition of the Toronto Star. An annual festival was born.

So, the question we still need to answer is...what did Punxsutawney Phil and Wiarthon Willie predict for 2019? Neither saw their shadows, so as legend goes, we are in for an early spring. After the weather we've been having the past few days, spring can't come soon enough!

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### Basketball Season



It's the beginning February and basketball season is well underway! This year, the Chalmers basketball program will consist of four teams. The Grade 7 Boys Basketball team is being coached Mr. McCallum, the Grade 7 Girls Basketball Team is being coached by Mr. Smith, the Grade 6 Boys Basketball Team is being coached by Mr. Ng, and the Grade 6 Girls Basketball Team is being coached by Ms. Soparlo. Mrs. Bromley, Mrs. Loodu and Mrs. Kondo will be running Hoop Shoot on Mondays at lunch for the months of February and March. Go Stingers Go!

Practices for the four basketball teams are as follows:

Grade 7 Boys: Thursdays (7:45 – 8:45 am) and Fridays after school

Grade 7 Girls: Wednesdays and Thursdays at lunch (12:40 – 1:15 pm)

Grade 6 Boys: Mondays after school and Tuesdays at lunch (12:40 – 1:15 pm)

Grade 6 Girls: Wednesdays (7:45–8:45 am) and Fridays at lunch (12:40–1:15 pm)

The Hoop Shoot event will take place on Tuesday, March 12 at Seaquam from 3:45 – 5:45 pm.

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## Pink Shirt Day

On February 27<sup>th</sup> students and staff will be encouraged to wear Pink t-shirts / clothing to acknowledge Pink Shirt Day. This annual event takes place to remind everyone that kindness and acceptance for everyone is what we should all strive to achieve. To help acknowledge the day, we will be holding an assembly on this day. The theme of this assembly will be Caring for Others.



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## Building Security

ALL VISITORS  
PLEASE  
CHECK IN AT  
FRONT OFFICE

Thank you for observing the signs posted on various doors reminding all parents and visitors to enter the school during the school hours only via the front door and only after checking in at the office. It is imperative to school security that we know who is in the hallway during regular school hours.

If you are dropping off lunches, please leave them on the “lunch table” in the front hallway and please ensure they are labeled with your child’s name and division.

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## Kindergarten Registration at Chalmers

Our Kindergarten registration for the 2019-20 school year will take place from 9:00 – 12:00 pm on Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> for children who will turn five-years-old by December 31, 2019. 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 fill out the Non-Catchment or Non-District Application Form online (<https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/schools/student-registration/>) or print it out and take it to the school they wish their child to attend, anytime on or after Monday, February 4, 2019 at 8:30 am. ***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.***

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## Ready, Set, Learn



Ready, Set, Learn!

Chalmers Elementary School will be hosting a Ready, Set, Learn event on the afternoon of Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> for parents and their three or four year old children. It will take place from 1:30 – 2:30 pm. This is a great opportunity to help preschoolers get ready for school!

Studies suggest that children who have their own books and are read to by their families get off to a flying start as learners. The Province's Ready, Set, Learn initiative recognizes that families need positive connections with the school system and community agencies that provide relevant resources and information.

The Ministry of Education, in collaboration with the Ministry of Children and Family Development and the Ministry of Health, is providing resources to support a series of Ready, Set, Learn events. Families and their pre-school aged children who attend receive:

- An age-appropriate book for the child
- Helpful tips for supporting their preschooler's learning and development
- Additional information from community agencies

If you participate in a Ready, Set, Learn event your child will receive a book to take home. Please take the time to read it with your child and to talk about the illustrations. Give your child the gift of reading and have fun spending time together.

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## Strong Start Program

Strong Start is a free Parent Participation Early Learning Program at Chalmers Elementary. You can help your child learn early literacy, social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development through play with carefully selected materials and activities under the guidance of Early Childhood Educator, **Mrs. Rupinder Sandhu**. The sessions run Monday to Friday during the school year, from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm. The program is **designed for children from 0 to 5 years, and their parent/caregiver**, and you are invited to drop-in anytime. For more information, you can contact Mrs. Sandhu directly at the school office by calling **604-594-5437**.



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## 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.

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**PAC Happenings:**  
*- Submitted by Ranita Kajla, PAC Chair*

Hello Chalmers Families!

Here are some upcoming dates of fun stuff brought to you by the PAC:

Wednesday, February 13 -- Valentine's donuts treat day

Friday, March 8 -- Chalmers Paint Nite fundraiser

Wednesday, April 10 -- Hot lunch

Thursday, April 18 -- Chalmers Movie Night



Please note: The next hot lunch is in April, there will be no hot lunch in February and March.  
Don't forget: When you visit M&M Meat Shop and Cobs Bread, mention that your child(ren) goes to Chalmers Elementary and these companies will donate to Chalmers PAC.

**CHALMERS PAINT NITE FUNDRAISER**

Learn to paint 'Bonsai Mountain'

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 2019 at 7:00 PM @ Delta Lion Pub

\$45/ticket - Proceeds go to Chalmers Elementary PAC

Buy your tickets at: <https://www.yaymaker.com/events/bonsai-mountains-at-delta-lion-pub-10131880>



Check out the Chalmers PAC website regularly for updates [www.chalmerspac.weebly.com](http://www.chalmerspac.weebly.com). If you have questions, suggestions, or want to help out with any events, please email [chalmerspac@deltasd.bc.ca](mailto:chalmerspac@deltasd.bc.ca).