

Chalmers Elementary Newsletter

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Issue #: 4

Date: December 2, 2019

Important Dates to Remember:

Dec. 3	Kindergarten Hearing and Vision Screening
Dec. 6	PAC Holiday Movie Night (5:30pm)
Dec.10-13	Scholastic Book Fair
Dec. 11	Neufeld Orders Available for Pick-Up
Dec. 13	Term 1 Report Cards
Dec. 16	Hot Lunch
Dec. 19	Christmas Concert - Afternoon Performance (1:30 – 2:30pm)
Dec. 19	Christmas Concert – Evening Performance (6:30 – 7:30pm)
Dec. 20	Last Day of School before Winter Vacation
Dec. 23- Jan. 3	Winter Vacation Period
Jan. 6	School Re-Opens after Winter Vacation

Dear Parents:

With December almost upon us, we would like to take the opportunity that the season brings to say THANK YOU to our very supportive community for all your help so far this year. All contributions from hot lunch help, driving on field trips, helping kids with homework, fundraising, and ensuring kids arrive on time, combined with all other efforts, make a HUGE difference for the students here at Chalmers Elementary.

We would also like to thank our PAC for their dedication and support in making Chalmers the great school it is!

A final 'thank you' to our outstanding Stinger Staff. Their commitment to bringing out the best in all of our students is unmatched!

We have a busy few weeks left in the calendar year. There are several field trips planned, Term 1 report cards go home, and we have a festive Christmas Concert planned for December 19. We hope that December is a wonderful month for all of you, and I look forward to seeing as many people as possible at the concerts!

On behalf of the entire Chalmers Elementary staff we would like to wish our community a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays! We hope you all enjoy time with family and friends. We also want to wish everyone all the best for a happy and healthy 2020!



Mr. J. McCallum
Principal

Ms. T. Doukas
Vice Principal



Term One Report Cards



On **Friday Dec. 13**, students will be bringing home their first, formal, written report card for the current school year. This is an exciting time for children and parents, a time to offer encouragement and support as well as a time to set realistic goals. As you sit down to discuss your child's report card with him/her, keep in mind the following questions.

- **At what type of work does my child excel?** All children have strengths and it is important to look at areas of excellence as well as areas requiring attention. Celebrate your child's successes.
- **What type of work is most challenging for my child?** Areas of challenge provide children with opportunities to demonstrate perseverance, diligence, and determination, virtues that we want to foster in our children.
- **What is my child's attitude towards learning?** Attitude is a key ingredient to success. While we need to help children be realistic about what they can achieve, everyone does better with a winning attitude.
- **How can I support my child in his/her learning?** While a variety of homework activities may be assigned on any given night, use the report card to determine which subject area might require extra attention. This will provide a focus for those evenings when your child says, "But I don't have any homework." Regular practice with reading, spelling, or basic math facts will make a difference over time.
- **What goal(s) can we set together for the next term?** Together, with your child, choose something to work on and then make a plan for how to achieve the goal.

Thank you for your positive partnership with us in helping your child to succeed at school. If you have questions about how you can support your child in their learning, contact their classroom teacher. Together we can make a difference.

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 Mr. Ng, Mr. Clay, Ms. Galbraith and Ms. Hobbs, 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/parentsignore.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 19th at 1:30 pm (afternoon performance) and 6:30 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 (1:30 pm or 6:30 pm). A notice went home last week 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.

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 accessible parking may continue to do so provided they have clearly displayed the appropriate parking pass.

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 students and parents have until 2:45pm of the last school day of every month to claim lost and found clothing items. Clothing items not claimed after 2:45 pm on the last school day of every 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 19th at 2:45 pm. Clothing not claimed after 2:45 pm on December 19th will be donated to charity.

Green Team - Crayola ColourCycle It!

At the Sharing Assembly last April, three Green Team volunteers did an amazing job introducing and promoting the recycling of dried out markers. This 'Green' initiative was so successful that the Chalmers' Green Team are continuing the program again this year! They feel strongly about keeping used markers out of the landfill!

The entire Stinger community are being encouraged that instead of throwing out used felt pens, dry erase markers, and highlighters, they are now recycled in a specially marked clear, red-topped bin located near the office. **All** brands are accepted, not just the Crayola! Parents and families are welcome to use our bin to recycle these items from home too.

The Green Team has already counted and boxed up 1,310 markers for FedEx to pick up and ship free to a recycling facility in Ontario.

Did you know that recycled felt pens are re-purposed into clean energy? Entire markers are melted and compressed in machines. Machines process the plastics and produce clean fuel that can be used in ships, boilers, and cars! More information can be found at:

<https://www.crayola.com/colorcycle>



Thank you for being Green and joining in our latest initiative!

Grade 7 Parent Information Evenings



Burnsville'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 16th, from 7:00 - 8:00 pm at Burnsville in the Library. This evening will provide information specific to the Immersion program at Burnsville 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 22nd in the Burnsvie 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 Burnsvie. This evening is open to all Grade 7 parents and students interested in attending Burnsvie. Parents attending the French Immersion information evening on January 16th will also benefit from attending this evening as other material will be covered. Please check the Burnsvie website in the new year for a start time for this presentation.

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

Upcoming French Immersion Parent Information Meetings and Application Deadlines

Early French Immersion Parent Information Nights: (For Kindergarten entry into French Immersion)

Burnsvie Secondary-Tuesday, **December 3rd**, 2019 at 6:30pm

South Delta Secondary-Wednesday, **December 4th**, 2019 at 6:30pm

Early French Immersion Application Dates:

Online application will be available on Delta's website on **Monday, January 6**, 2020 at 8:00 am

Application deadline: **January 25**, 2020 at 4:00 pm

Late French Immersion Parent Information Nights: (For Grade 6 entry into French Immersion)

Burnsvie Secondary-Monday, **January 27th**, 2020 at 6:30pm

South Delta Secondary-Wednesday, **January 29th**, 2020 at 6:30pm

Late French Immersion Application Date:

Online application will be available on Delta's website on **Monday, January 6**, 2020 at 8:00 am

Application deadline: Saturday, **February 15**, 2020 at 4:00 pm



News from the Chalmers PAC

Season's Greetings Chalmers Families! Mark your calendars for the following exciting events brought to you by your PAC!

Friday December 6 at 6pm (doors at 5:30pm) -- Holiday Movie Night featuring 'The Lion King' (2019) in the Chalmers gym -- Concession available including pizza, popcorn and other goodies!

Monday December 9 -- Deadline to order Pita Pit hot lunch

Wednesday December 11 at 1:45pm -- Neufeld Farms order pickup by the outside gym entrance

Monday December 16 -- Pita Pit hot lunch



Monday January 13 -- Hot dog hot lunch
Monday January 27 -- Chopped Leaf hot lunch
Thursday January 30 -- General PAC meeting

Please sign up on www.munchalunch.com/schools/chalmers to be able to order your child's hot lunch. Stay tuned to hot lunch dates and other fun events by checking the PAC website <http://chalmerspac.weebly.com> and join the 'Chalmers PAC' Facebook page to stay in the loop!

CHALMERS FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

FEATURING:

‘The Lion King’ (2019)

Friday Dec 6, 2019 @ 6pm (doors open @ 5:30pm)

*** Admission by donation* (Recommended \$2 per person) ALL CHILDREN MUST BE WITH AN ADULT!**

Bring a blanket, pillow, PJ's and a stuffy!.... just be comfy!

**Concession Available—including fresh popcorn, pizza & more!
NOW TAKING INTERAC & CREDIT WITH MINIMUM \$5 PURCHASE**

