

Chase River Elementary School Newsletter

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Tricia McKay, Principal

Sandra Fox, Secretary

September, 2016 Volume One

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENTS

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! to all of our returning families of Extension, South Wellington and Chase River and welcome also to the new families who have the good fortune to join one of our neighbourhoods. As a staff we are delighted to be back in session and are looking forward to getting to know everyone.

We have a few staffing changes this year but for the most part we remain stable. Joining us for the first time this year is Rod Huneault replacing Leianne Skill, as the School Support Teacher. We have two new classroom teachers joining us this year at the primary level; Lance Hornby and Nicole Phelan. Ms. Phelan spent some time at Chase River a few years ago and now returns to us in a continuing assignment.

Also returning to us again this September is intermediate teacher, Travis Preston and Secretary, Sandra Fox. Teaching Music, French and a little in Ms. Arabsky's classroom is Music specialist, Elizabeth Laforest. Mrs. Laforest is replacing Will Johnson who has taken a classroom assignment elsewhere in the district. To all of our departing staff from last year we wish them all the best in their new assignments and warmly welcome those returning or joining us for the first time

Just a quick reminder to families residing in the South Wellington area, there will no longer be bus transportation provided by the district. Families in the Extension area must register for the bus using the link available on the district website, www.sd68.bc.ca.

House construction continues in the area surrounding the school and as a result we continuing to grow. We are looking forward to another great year as we celebrate Canada's 150 years of Confederation and continue to explore the new British Columbia K to 7 curriculum and Assessment and Reporting practices. We are all excited to have the opportunity to work with your children as we strive for "Success for All"

On behalf of the entire Chase River Staff, welcome back!

Tricia McKay
Principal

FIRST WEEK

During our first week students will spend a day with last year's teachers, doing a series of lessons designed to kick start their learning. Primary and Intermediate students have the opportunity to reconnect with staff and peers in a relaxed and supported manner. On Thursday morning we hope to be able to get children into their permanent classrooms. On Friday afternoon, students will be divided into multi-age groups and with the leadership of our wonderful senior students; they will rotate through 9 stations on the playground. Staff at each station will to review playground expectations and safety. And we are off!

STAFFING

Please take time to get to know our skilled and caring staff members at Chase River.

Classroom teachers

Mr. R. Greenway
Mr. T. Preston
Mr. M. Eyres
Mrs. S. Schlitz
Mrs. M. Arabsky
Mrs. C. Lepage
Mr. L. Hornby
Ms. N. Phelan
Mrs. Y. Bunce
Mrs. L. Laforest

Support Staff

Mrs. Sandra Fox (Secretary)
Mrs. Bev Ballegeer (EA)
Ms. Deanna Madge, (EA)
Mrs. Janet Turner, (EA)
Ms. Joelene Akitt (Ab.Ed. EA)
Ms. H. Fargo (Library)
Mr. R. Middleton (Counselor)
Ms. E. Mason
Mr. B. Grinnell and Mr. D. Brandback (Custodians)
Ms. M. Ware-Jud (Speech and Language)
Mr. Rod Huneault (Student Support Teacher)
Mrs. C. Walterhouse (Psychologist)

CHASE RIVER PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Chase River School Parent Advisory Council would like to invite you to have a look at the PAC board that is set up in the hallway just outside the library. PAC meeting dates will be set later this week and will be posted on this board. They invite all parents to attend the meetings and to be a part of

2016 – 2017 Bell Schedule for Chase River Elementary

As you will recall, we are again experiencing a change in the bell schedule for Chase River School. This year we will be starting school 10 minutes earlier and ending ten minutes earlier. We continue to have an early dismissal every Monday throughout the district to accommodate our practice of Professional Learning Communities.

Day	Start	am Recess	Lunch	End
Monday	8:35	10:15-10:30	11:45 - 12:20	1:27
Tues. – Friday	8:35	10:15-10:30	11:45 - 12:20	2:27

Bus Registration Process

Bus transportation is provided for students who live outside the walk limit boundaries. Walk limits for the provision of school bus transportation are:

- Students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 living beyond 4 km (2.5 miles) from school will be eligible for transportation.
- Grades 4-12 pupils living beyond 4.8 km (3 miles) from school will be eligible for transportation.
- All Grades 1-12 pupils may be required to walk up to 3.2 km (2 miles) to the nearest bus stop.

The bus routes are all posted on the website, Students & Parents/Parent Resources/Transportation Registration and there is a link at the bottom of the box "Our Bus Fleet". That page will also provide information on how to register for the bus for those who have not done so yet. If you do not have access to a computer (registration can be done with a smart phone), please come by the office where our secretary will be happy to provide access and to guide you through the process.

You will require student numbers to register and these are available from the school secretary, Sandra Fox if you don't have the information from last year.

BUS ROUTE



Route 9; Extension to Chase River School	
Monday - Friday AM	
1845 Nanaimo River Road (by white gate)	7:55 AM
Twilight /Nanaimo River Road	7:56 AM
MacDonald Road/Nanaimo River Road	7:58 AM
White Rapids/Nanaimo River Road	8:00 AM

Godfrey & White Rapids	8:02 AM
Godfrey Road/Welding Shop	8:04 AM
Extension Elementary	8:08 AM
2730 Extension	8:09 AM
CHASE RIVER ELEMENTARY Bell 8:35	8:20 AM
Return Route 9	
Monday	1:35 PM
Tuesday - Thursday	2:35 PM
Friday	2:45 PM

OPEN HOUSE

Our school will be having an Open House on Tuesday, September 27th, 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. We hope that all of you will be able to attend to meet your child's teachers and have a look around their classrooms.

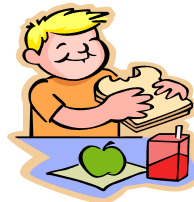
STUDENT INFORMATION FORMS

A student information form will be sent home with students at the end of the week. It is important that **both sides** of this form are completed accurately, signed and returned to the school as soon as possible. If during the school year, personal information changes it is very important to notify the school so that in the event of an injury or illness or missed bus, we are able to notify parents in a timely manner.

LUNCHTIME PROCEDURES

Just a reminder to students and parents, students will be dismissed for lunch recess at 11:45 am and return to class at 12:20 pm to eat lunch. In some cases teachers may choose to have children eat lunch prior to the recess break. As students eat lunch classroom teachers will be reading to them or otherwise engaging them.

Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds during the noon recess without permission from their teacher(s) and written parental permission. Generally, this is permission to go home for lunch. We do not allow students to visit the store during recess as it is difficult to ensure proper supervision and safety.



SCHOOL STUDENT AND PARENT HANDBOOK

The 2016/17 student handbook has been included in the student planners. Basic school policies, procedures and programs are outlined in these introductory pages. We hope that this format will serve as a useful reference for use throughout the school year.

OUR SCHOOL MISSION

"Working together with our school community, is our mission at Chase River Elementary to ensure a safe, supportive and

respectful environment which promotes the development of individual potential and enthusiasm of life-long learning.”

The staff of Chase River Elementary strives to create an educational climate that encourages each child to grow academically, physically, and socially to the best of his/her ability. Classes and programs are organized to provide each child with successful experiences, appropriate challenges and a sense of achievement. We are committed to creating a safe, warm, and nurturing environment for each student.

We welcome parent involvement in the school. We believe that when we work together, we can provide successful educational experiences for students.

A message from Nanaimo RCMP

Back to school safety tips

This week and next students will be returning to the classroom. It is an exciting time but often a hectic time for parents and young people alike. "It can be a very busy time, and the Nanaimo RCMP is encouraging people to remain mindful of safety to help ensure things go as smoothly as possible.

The RCMP will be strictly enforcing school zone speed limits and traffic and pedestrian safety laws. Motorists, parents and students are reminded to stay alert. Everyone has a role to play in ensuring their personal safety and that of others," said Constable Gary O'Brien of the Nanaimo RCMP.

Safety tips include:

Parents and students:

- Students should walk on sidewalks and use marked crosswalks when possible.
- When there is no sidewalk, stay on the left-hand side of the road, so that you can see oncoming traffic.
- Always look both ways before crossing any street, make eye contact with drivers to ensure they have seen you, and wait for cars to stop.
- When waiting for the school bus, stand back from the roadway until the bus has come to a complete stop, with its flashing red lights activated.
- Ensure children know their home address and at least one phone number to contact a parent or guardian.
- Remind children that they should never accept a ride or get into a vehicle with a stranger.

- Practice safety in numbers. Walk to school or to the bus stop with a friend or group of friends whenever possible.
- Wear reflective or light-coloured clothing to help ensure motorists can see you.
- Be alert. Wearing headphones or walking and texting may pose risks, as you may not be aware of nearby traffic.
- Always respect traffic lights and wait for the walk signal before crossing the street.

Motorists:

- Slow down and always respect the speed limit in school zones.
- Yield to pedestrians at crosswalks. Failing to do so could result in a fine.
- Watch for and pay attention to crossing guards and school buses with their lights flashing yellow.
- Traffic in both directions must stop when a school bus has its red lights flashing. Wait until the bus driver has turned off the red lights before proceeding.
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DATES TO REMEMBER

September 23	Month End Assembly
September 27	Open House
September 30	ProD Day
October 10	Thanksgiving (no school)
October 11	Picture Day (individual photos)
October 17–21	Parent/Teacher Interviews
October 23	ProD Day
October 28	Month End Assembly
October 31 st	Costume Parade 9:30am and Dance 12:15-1:20pm