



# CHASE RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1503 Cranberry Avenue  
Nanaimo, BC V9R 6R7  
Phone: 250-754-6983

Mr. David Cooper, Principal

Ms. Violet Walter, Secretary

September 2019

## Principal's Message

Our school year is well on its way!

I want to thank all the parents and guardians of our students for their patience and understanding during the first week of school. Elementary Schools in Nanaimo-Ladysmith normally do not place students in permanent classes during the first few days or week of school. This allows for a process that looks at first week attendance, wait-listed registrations, and new families who have moved into our area over the summer. We use this time to try to minimize potential re-arranging of classes due to enrolment fluctuations.

As we start another year, it is my hope that all of us, school staff, parents and students, will make the most of our time together. I would encourage parents to make the effort to get to know your child's teacher(s). You are welcome to request a meeting with them if you would like to share any information about your child or ask about their progress. It is important to build the bridge between home and school.

Be sure to take the time to chat with your child each day about his/her classroom activities, provide a regular homework and reading time, and check their planners for information from school. Working together, we will strive to provide the best possible education for your child.

Welcome and good luck for another school year.

Sincerely,  
*David Cooper*

## 2019-2020 Bell Schedule

Day	Start	a.m. Recess	Lunch	End
Monday	8:35	10:15- 10:30	11:45 – 12:21	1:27
Tues-Fri	8:35	10:15- 10:30	11:45 – 12:21	2:27

## Students Arriving Late

The beginning of each school day is a very valuable time. Being late to class can impact your child's day as critical information (ie shape of the day) is covered early on, as are the morning announcements. Being late can also cause distractions for students and staff. Please ensure your child arrives to school by 8:35 to maximize their learning at school.

## Early Detection: Phoning in Absences

The early detection system is for the safety of all students at Chase River. The answering machine is turned on each evening so parents may call before 8 am to report students who will be absent or late. This program is for the safety of your child. All absences and late arrivals should be called in. When leaving a message please state your child's name, division and whether they are ill, at an appointment, on vacation, etc. Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.

## Student Information Verification

You will have received a number of forms this week. Please be sure to read them and fill in the important information asked, and return them to your child's classroom teacher. One in particular is very important. It is a student information sheet and it is two sided. Please ensure that **both sides** of this form contain accurate information, sign it and return it to the school as soon as possible. If there are updates to be made, simply cross out the outdated information and print the new information on the form. 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.

## Aboriginal Ancestry Services

Mrs. Akitt, our Aboriginal Education Educational Assistant sent home a letter to parents and guardians of who had indicated that their child had aboriginal ancestry. If you did not receive one and your child is of Aboriginal ancestry and you would like the associated services, please email our secretary ([violet.walter@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:violet.walter@sd68.bc.ca)) to let us know and we can make sure that you receive the letter.

## Cheques to Chase River

When paying for various items, events, etc. at Chase River, please make cheques payable to **School District #68**

## Photo Day

Many parents wish to know in advance as to when school photographs will be taken. This year student pictures will be taken on Friday, September 27, 2019 and retake day will be Thursday, October 10.

## Chase River Staff

Div.	Grade	Teacher(s)
1	K	Ms. Jenn Addison
2	K/1	Ms. Nicole Phelan
3	1/2	Mr. Lance Hornby
4	2/3	Mrs. Carol Lepage
5	2/3	Ms. Maureen Arabsky
6	3/4	Mrs. Clare James & Ms. Angela Losch
7	4	Mrs. Sue Schlitz
8	5	Mr. Joe Ducklow
9	5/6	Mr. Mike. Eyres
10	6/7	Ms. Emma Aspen
11	6/7	Mr. Travis Preston
12	6/7	Mr. Russ Greenway
Music		Mrs. Liz Laforest
Librarian		Mrs. Heidi Fargo
Learning Assistance		Ms. Angela Losch Mr. Huneault
Aboriginal E.A. Hul'qumi'num		Ms. Joelene Akitt Ms. Gena Seward
Education Assistants:		Mrs. Bev Ballegeer Mrs. Deanna Madge Ms. Sarah Gavin Ms. Marcy Mullett Mr. Glenn Massick
CYFSW		Ms. Rosanna Cowie
Speech Pathologist		Ms. Elene Dolan
Counsellor		Mrs. Jenna Finetti
Custodians		Mr. Todd Dekuyper & TBD

## Meet the Teacher Night

Our K-7 meet the teacher night is scheduled for **Thursday September 26 from 6:00-7:00 PM**. Please drop in to meet your child's teacher. There is a Family Picnic prior to the event 5:00-6:00 in the gym. More details about this will be sent out soon.

## Parent/Teacher Interviews

Our parent teacher conferences will take place from **Monday, October 21 to Thursday, October 24**. More information will be coming prior to the sessions, **but please be aware students will be dismissed at 1:27 on the Monday and 1:07 Tuesday – Thursday** in order to facilitate the conferences. Sign up for times will happen during our Open House on Thursday, September 26.

## School Sports

Football season starts next week. Ms. Losch is coaching both our boys and girls teams. X-country will be starting soon with Ms. Arabsky and Mrs. James coaching.

## Safety Drills

Throughout the year we conduct numerous safety drills to ensure students and staff will know what to do in the event we ever have an emergency. There are three different kinds of drills we practice:

**Fire Drills:** after an alarm is sounded the students line up in a quiet fashion and exit the building through the closest door. Classes gather on the field and check in their attendance to ensure all staff and students are accounted for. There are 6 drills a year.

**Earthquake Drills:** an announcement is placed on the school PA system and the sounds of an earthquake are played for 60 seconds. Students get under their desks, cover their heads, and are instructed to face away from windows. During this time, they count until the sound effect has stopped. They then count to 60 again to account for any aftershocks or possible falling debris. After this time, students are taught to carefully move from under their desks and prepare to exit the building. Classes gather on the field and check in their attendance to ensure all staff and students are accounted for. There are two drills a year

**Lockdown Drills:** are intended to be used in response to an imminent and serious safety or security threat. A lockdown drill requires all staff and students to stay in their classrooms with the doors locked. Any students that are not in their class at the time would report to the closest classroom. During a lockdown all doors of the school are locked and no one will be granted access to the school until an "All Clear" signal can be given.

There two other versions of this drill called shelter in place and hold and secure. These are similar to a lockdown in that we do lock the exterior doors. The difference from a lockdown is classes continue to function normally. These two procedures are used when there is a potential threat occurring outside, but not necessarily related to the school. There are two drills a year.

Our first fire drill is on September 17<sup>th</sup>, we will be practicing our first lockdown drill on September 25<sup>th</sup>, and our first earthquake drill will be on October 17<sup>th</sup> – this is in conjunction with the Great BC Shakeout.

## Risk/Threat Assessment

SD 68 takes all threats seriously. What parents and students need to know? Students and parents need to be aware of the steps the school district will take in responding to a threat:

- Any threats must be reported to the school principal, counselor, or some other responsible adult
- Nanaimo-Ladysmith schools will follow up on every reported threat.
- Follow-up may involve the police
- Interviews will be held with the threat-maker and any other students who may have information about the threat.
- Threatening behaviour may result in discipline for a student
- Intervention plans may be developed for the student making the threat and a support plan developed for any students who are the target of threats.

## Chase River PAC

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. The first meeting is on Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the library. Future meeting dates will be set later next week and will be posted on the board across from the office. All parents are welcome.

## Back To School Routines

Taking the time to establish routines and regular habits will help to support your child's school life.

- Regular bedtimes with time for brushing teeth, bathing and quiet reading time helps to calm active children and enable them to sleep well each night.
- Consistent wakeup times, healthy breakfasts and sufficient time to dress and gather school books enables children to begin the school day on time and in a calm manner.
- Regular daily homework time (with parental support as needed) is essential to help children feel competent and confident in class.
- Make time to listen to your child read and read to your child. Even if your child is a confident reader, it is okay to still read to them.
- Ensure there is a balance between active play and television or computer time. Time with friends and family is essential to developing positive social skills and a sense of belonging.
- Computers should be in a highly visible area of the house. A child's computer time must be monitored and should follow specific safety guidelines regarding site and program access.
- Share a caring conversation, a hug and a smile with your child each day.

## Play Dates

Students are reminded that they do not use the school phone to arrange play dates at school. This is done before coming to school or with the parents after school. Parents' help reminding students is greatly appreciated.

## Important Dates

The next newsletter will contain more detailed calendar details, but for now...

<b>Terry Fox Run</b>	<b>Sept. 20</b>
<b>Open House</b>	<b>Sept. 26</b>
<b>Photo Day</b>	<b>Sept. 27</b>
<b>Orange Shirt Day</b>	<b>Sept. 30</b>
<b>Photo Retakes</b>	<b>Oct. 10</b>
<b>Pro D – No School</b>	<b>Oct. 11</b>
<b>Thanksgiving (stat holiday)</b>	<b>Oct. 14</b>
<b>Parent/Teacher Interviews</b>	<b>Oct.21-24</b>
<b>ProD - No School</b>	<b>Oct. 25</b>
<b>Zone X-Country</b>	<b>Oct. 29</b>
<b>District X-Country</b>	<b>Nov. 5</b>
<b>Remembrance Day Assembly</b>	<b>Nov. 8</b>

<b>Remembrance Day No School</b>	<b>Nov. 11</b>
<b>Christmas Concert 1:00 &amp;6:30</b>	<b>Dec. 11</b>
<b>Winter Break Begins</b>	<b>Dec. 20</b>
<b>School Reopens</b>	<b>Jan. 6</b>
<b>School Wide Skate</b>	<b>Jan 10</b>
<b>Report Cards Issued</b>	<b>Feb. 7</b>
<b>Family Day</b>	<b>Feb. 17</b>
<b>Pro D – no school</b>	<b>Feb. 24</b>
<b>Pro D – no school</b>	<b>Feb. 25</b>
<b>Spring Break Begins</b>	<b>Mar. 13</b>
<b>School Reopens</b>	<b>Mar. 30</b>
<b>Good Friday – no school</b>	<b>Apr. 10</b>
<b>Easter Monday – no school</b>	<b>Apr. 13</b>
<b>School Track Meet</b>	<b>May 5</b>
<b>Victoria Day</b>	<b>May 18</b>
<b>Pro D Day – no school</b>	<b>May 29</b>
<b>Zone Track Meet</b>	<b>June 2</b>
<b>District Track Meet</b>	<b>June 11</b>
<b>All School Year End Assembly</b>	<b>June 25</b>
<b>Last Day of School</b>	<b>June 25</b>
<b>Final Report Cards issued @ 2:27</b>	