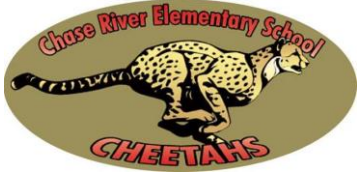


CHASE RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



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

Mr. David Cooper, Principal

Ms. Violet Walter, Secretary

November 2019

Principal's Message

The closing of October saw the end of another busy month at Chase River. Halloween brought out some great costumes and our costume parade was a lot of fun for all involved. Mr. Huneault especially had fun being dressed up by our PAC.

Our Scholastic Book Fair wrapped up on October 24th and it was a huge success! Thank you to all of the parents who volunteered to make this event happen. Your hours of dedication to the school are much appreciated.

Our school recognized Remembrance Day on November 8th with Ms. Arabsky's class, our grade 4s and grade 7s Caitlin and Brooklyn presenting the importance of all of us honouring those that have fought and protected our freedom.

We are looking forward to a great finish to November and start to December. Thanks for continuing to support both your own child(ren) and the larger Chaser River community.

Sincerely,
David Cooper

School Closures

As we approach the winter weather it is always important to remind families about the process to determine if schools are closed.

If schools are closed due to snow, or any other weather-related problems, announcements will be made on local radio stations (WOLF 106.9 FM, WAVE 102.3 FM, and 91.7 COAST FM) by 7 a.m. on the day of the closure. Please do not call the radio station – tune in and listen for the announcements, which will be made on a regular basis.

In addition, the district will post the information on the district's website, Twitter, Facebook and mobile app. Families may also receive a message through the School Messenger notification system via phone, email or text. Please keep in mind, however, that there may be situations where this is not always possible, for example, power outages or technical problems. **The most reliable method is to listen to the local radio stations.**

We would like to remind parents that it is their right to make the final decision as to whether it is safe for their children to travel to school on any given day. While the district strives to make the best decision possible for students across the district, there may be circumstances in your neighbourhood that lead you to decide to keep your children home, even though schools are open.

School Sports

Football season has wrapped up. Our girls' team was knocked out in the first round, but put up a great effort. After a heartbreaking loss in overtime in the semi-finals, the boys' team went on to finish 3rd in the district for small schools. Thank you to Todd Vass for coaching.

We sent 24 students to the district X-country on November 5th. We had some great results amongst our runners and our school placed 1st in the districts for small schools. Thank you to Mrs. Arabsky and Mrs. James for coaching.

Next up is volleyball. Chase River will have three teams. A bantam girls' team made up of grade 6 & 7s coached by Mrs. James, a bantam boys' team coached by Ms. Aspen and Mr. Huneault, and a pee wee boys' team made up of grade 5 & 6s coached by Mr. Eyres.

There will be open practices run by Mr. Eyres for all intermediate students every Thursday morning 7:45-8:20.

Month End Assembly

At our month end assembly we were entertained by Mr. Hornby's class performing a skeleton song. We also received an update on our school running goal. Our goal is to run a total of 31,040 km, so far our students have run 8242 km! A big thank you to Ms. Arabsky and Mrs. Schlitz for tracking all the progress.

Online Safety for Parents

Our PAC has been very generous in providing funds to have us bring the White Hatter (Brandon Laur) to Chase River to present two sessions on Thursday, January 30th for students on being safe online. There will be a session for grades 4/5 and another for grade 6/7. These presentations are designed to provide students with pro-active online critical thinking and decision-making strategies that they can immediately put to good use. **There will also be a parent evening on Wednesday, January 29th 6:30-8:30.** This presentation provides parents the tools they need to support their child in the online world.

These presentations have been presented all over North America and won numerous awards. It is a very worthwhile evening.

For more information and free resources follow this link: <https://www.thewhitehatter.ca/>

Chase River PAC

The next meeting is on Wednesday, November 20th at 6:30 in the library.

Office Efficiency

It is always a help for the office if families call the school in advance and leave a message on the answering machine, which is on 24 hours a day, if you know your child will not be attending school on that day. It has been very much appreciated this year, and some days we have only had to make 2 or 3 calls to parents. Play dates: please have after school plans set up with your child **before** the start of the day. Students are not allowed to use the phone at the end of the day to set up playdates.

BC School Fruit & Veggie Program

Our school is involved in a province-wide healthy living initiative. One of our goals is to encourage healthy eating by providing fresh BC fruits and vegetables as snacks. If you do NOT wish your child to participate in the program, please let us know in the office.

Inclement Weather

We have had a fairly dry November to start, but this is the westcoast and we know the rain is coming. This leads students to ask the question "Is it an inside day?" The answer on most days is no. Students will be going outside to play at recess and lunch unless it is raining heavily. We thank you for ensuring your child comes to school with appropriate rain and cool weather clothing. At Chase River we believe in the importance of fresh air and outside play for all students and appreciate your assistance in this regard.



Costume for Christmas Concert

Dear Parents/ Guardians:
Just a reminder that your child needs to come to school on the day of the program Thursday, December 12, 2019 dressed up like a Who. Hopefully many of you have had time to get an outfit already. If not please take the time to help your child come up with a costume. I have included a list of possible ideas below.

Costume

All the students are being asked to come wearing an outfit (shirt and pants/shorts/skirt) that is brightly coloured (red, green or any other bright colour) and mismatched. Any kind of bright or crazy clothes will work.

You can then add brightly coloured (red, green or other bright colours) accessories to the outfit like:

- Suspenders
- Crazy scarves
- Tutus
- Knee socks
- Fun shoes

- Unique jackets
- Big gaudy jewelry
- Vests
- Big belts

Hair

Also they need to try to do something crazy with their hair. Either:

- put hair up in multiple braids or ponytails
- spike their hair up with gel
- colour their hair bright colours.

If your child has short hair they can also wear:

- fun hats/ toques
- Crazy wigs
- headbands, or things that stick out of their head.

*A bit of face paint is also ok or make-up for eye shadow or rosy cheek circles, bright lips.

****Please take the time to help your child find a costume for the program. If you want you can send the items to school in a plastic bag marked with your child's name. Or keep it at home and send your child dressed the day of the concert.**

We are so excited to put on this musical and want to thank you ahead of time for helping your child find what they need. If you have problems contact Mrs. Laforest at the school.

Sincerely: Mrs. Laforest

Email: liz.laforest@sd68.bc.ca

Important Dates

New dates that have been added since the last newsletter have been highlighted. These dates with specific times can also be found on our school website.

Fun Lunch – White Spot	Nov. 28
Christmas Concert 1:00 & 6:30	Dec. 12
Winter Break Begins	Dec. 20
School Reopens	Jan. 6
White Hatter Parent Evening	Jan. 29
Fun Lunch – Coco's	Jan. 30
Report Cards Issued	Feb. 7
Skipathon	Feb. 13
Family Day	Feb. 17
Pro D – no school	Feb. 24
Pro D – no school	Feb. 25
Pink Shirt Day	Feb. 26
Fun Lunch – Tomo Sushi	Feb. 27
Childhood Stress & Anxiety Parent workshop	Mar. 4
School Wide Skate	Mar. 5
Spring Break Begins	Mar. 13
School Reopens	Mar. 30
Good Friday – no school	Apr. 10
Easter Monday – no school	Apr. 13
Fun Lunch – ?	Apr. 30
School Track Meet	May 5
Welcome to Kindergarten	May 13
Victoria Day	May 18
Fun Lunch – ?	May 28
Pro D Day – no school	May 29
Zone Track Meet	June 2
District Track Meet	June 11
All School Year End Assembly	June 25
Last Day of School	June 25
Final Report Cards issued @ 2:27	