

# CHASE RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1503 Cranberry Avenue

Nanaimo, BC V9R 6R7

Phone: 250-754-6983

Mr. David Cooper, Principal

Mrs. Christine De Vries, Secretary

15 September 2020

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

It was so wonderful to see Chase River students return to the building last week. Although this is a different start to the year, we are still planning for a fun year. As we begin this week, students will spend some time getting back into the swing of things at school. We realize that the last time we had "typical" school was back in March and students are going to need some time to get back into routines and build back their stamina for learning. Teachers will ease them back in, putting their well being at the forefront. It is crucial for students to feel comfortable and safe in order for learning to happen. As usual in September, staff will be assessing where students are in the core academic areas to determine their learning needs for the year. It is always important for there to be a bridge between home and school. Please take time each day to support your child's learning by asking questions about what they are learning and having them demonstrate that learning. Reading nightly is an essential part of a child's education and they are never too old to read with their parents or guardians. I look forward to another great year at Chase River.

Sincerely,

David Cooper



## 2020-2021 BELL SCHEDULE

Our bell schedule has changed this year. This year our bell schedule is the same all five days! 8:35-2:15 Monday to Friday. A friendly reminder that supervision begins 15 minutes before each morning bell, and ends 15 minutes after the dismissal bells daily. Students should not be left unsupervised by a parent or guardian outside of these times. Students should *not* arrive at school before the official supervision begins for safety reasons unless they have a practice or rehearsal in the morning. **Due to COVID we ask students be dropped off (or arrive by walking/bike) as close to 8:35 as possible and leave as close to 2:15 as possible.**

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



## 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.

This year if a child is late – they will need to knock on the front door where they can collect a welcome slip from Mrs. De Vries.

WE ARE GLAD YOU  
CAME TO SCHOOL



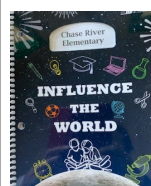
## EARLY DETECTION—PHONING IN ABSENCES



The early detection system is for the safety of all students at Chase River. We have a 24-hr voice mail so please report students who will be absent or late as early as possible in the morning (or even the night before). This program is for the safety of your child.

**All absences and lates should be called in.** When leaving a message please state your child's name, teacher name, division and if they are ill, at an appointment, or on vacation. If a call is not made, families will receive an automated call from School Messenger to check on your child. Please respond to this call by phoning the school office to confirm your child's absence or lateness.

## SCHOOL STUDENT AND PARENT HANDBOOK



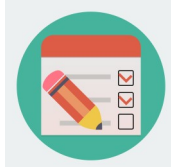
The 2020/21 student handbook will be emailed to parents next week. Basic school policies, procedures and programs are outlined in this document.

This information is also in the student planner that your child will receive this week. Payment for the handbooks can be made on the new School Cash Online.



## HEALTH CHECKS

We are asking parents/guardians to do a health check of your child(ren) before leaving home every morning. **If your child is feeling unwell (has a temperature, cough, chills, nasal congestion, headache, fatigue, sore muscles, running nose, sneezing, sore throat, hoarseness, wheezing, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, diarrhea, vomiting) please keep them home until they are well and do not have any other symptoms.** Note: if any of these symptoms are due to a verified pre-existing medical condition (ie. Asthma or allergies), the child is welcome to come to school.



Parents will be required to sign a form indicating that they will facilitate a daily health check with their child(ren) each day before school coming soon.

Students who fall ill while at school will be supervised in an isolated area. Parents or parental designate will need to come immediately to pick up their child. Siblings will not be sent home unless that is parental choice. If a student has cold, influenza, or COVID-19 like symptoms, the parents should seek assessment by a health care provider, follow their advice AND self-isolate while they await the results. If a family is unsure if a child should self-isolate or be tested for COVID-19, please use the BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool <https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en>

If still concerned, please phone 8-1-1 or the local public health unit for further input.

## VOLUNTEERS

Even though we cannot have parents in the school at this time, we would recommend you complete a criminal record check if you are interested in volunteering in the future. Once complete it lasts for 5 years. There is a delay after completing it to having it approved, so getting a jump will help. A link to CRC forms is available from this document <https://www.sd68.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/Administrative-Procedures/300/AP-310-Volunteers.pdf>

## SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

### NEW ONLINE PAYMENT SYSTEM

School District 68 has gone cashless. All transactions will now be through online payment. Cash and personal cheques can be made to the office if you do not have online access. Parents will need to sign up for an account in order to access this system. Anything requiring payment will be put on the site for online payment.

This system will also be used to send some important documentation to parents that requires signatures. Student Verification Forms will come home in paper format. To date the following forms can be found online:

- ◆ Daily Health Check
- ◆ 2020-2021 Student Information Consent Form

Please complete these forms immediately. Thank you!



## NEWSLETTERS AND NOTICES

Monthly newsletters will be sent out via email and posted on the school's website on the third Thursday of the month. In addition, Mr. Cooper sends out a weekly email on Friday with information for the following week. Mr. Cooper or Mrs. De Vries may send out email messages during the week to share information as needed.



## VALUABLE ITEMS

Please leave any valuable possessions at home. Parents are encouraged to label all clothing and personal items for their child (ren).



## CHASE RIVER WEBSITE

We want to bring to your attention our school website. Our calendar is kept up to date and all of our newsletters are posted there. Check us out at: <https://cr.schools.sd68.bc.ca/>



## IMPORTANT DATES

These are key dates at this time. We will update families about events as they arise. Also check the school website regularly. Our calendar there is updated frequently.



Non-Instructional Day (Students do not attend)	Fri. October 9
Thanksgiving (Students do not attend)	Mon, October 12
Pro-D (Province-wide) (Students do not attend)	Fri. October 23
Remembrance Day (Students do no attend)	Wed. November 11
PAC Meeting (6:30 p.m.)	Mon. November 16
Last Day before Holiday	Fri. December 18
First Day Back	Mon. January 4
Progress Report Issued	Fri. February 5
Non-Instructional Day (Students do not attend)	Thurs. February 11
Non-Instructional Day (Students do not attend)	Fri. February 12
BC Family Day (Students do not attend)	Mon. February 15
Last Day before Spring Break	Fri. March 12
First Day Back after Spring Break	Mon. March 29
Good Friday	Fri. April 2
Easter Monday	Mon. April 5
Non-Instructional Day (Students do not attend)	Fri. May 7
Victoria Day (Students do not attend)	Mon. May 24
Summative Report Issued	Tues. June 29
Last Day of School (Dismissal at 2:15)	Tues. June 29
Administration Day	Wed. June 30



## PARENTS/VISITORS TO OUR BUILDING



As much as we enjoy having parents and visitors in our building, we will not be able to open our doors to you at this time. Rather call us at 250-754-6983 and we will assist you as best we can. Teachers will be connecting with parents over the phone, email or via Microsoft Teams. To help us keep the number of people on our site at a minimum, we would ask you to avoid waiting with your children and meeting them at their entry/exit doors at the end of the day. We strongly encourage parents to plan to drop off and pick up as close to the bell as possible. Please maintain a physical distance to others while on our school site. Please also make arrangements with your children before they arrive for school so that they know where to meet you after school. Thank you in advance for your support in this effort.



## CELL PHONES/ELECTRONICS

As a school staff, we understand the importance of phone communication between parents and students before and after school. We have a “bell-to-bell” policy for cell phones. Cell phones brought to school must be turned off and stored in a backpack, prior to entering the building. Cell phones must be stored in backpacks and are not permitted to be brought out at any point during the school day-unless specifically asked to by their teacher for educational purposes. This is the responsibility of the student possessing the phone. After school, phones may be turned on and used outside of the school building. Cell phones are not to be removed from backpacks or used in hallways, classrooms, foyers or anywhere within the school building.



We understand that there may be times when parents need to immediately contact their children. At Chase River, it is always possible for parents to communicate with their children in an emergency, via the main office.

There should be no electronics like personal gaming devices brought to school.