



CHASE RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Mr. David Cooper, Principal

Mrs. Christine De Vries, Secretary

February 2021

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It seems like we just got back from winter break and here we are 50% of the way through the year!

Last week you would have received your child's report card. This is a good opportunity to celebrate your child's learning and discuss areas that might need more focus in the second term. This is also a good time to remind families to set a regular reading time. Kids who get into the reading habit will do better throughout their school years. Set aside some time each day when you can read to and with your child.

Here are a few suggestions to reflect on this past term and to plan for the next term:

"What were some important things you have learned so far this year?" or "What have been your favourite moments up to now?" Write these positive memories in the planner or in a journal.

What would you like to be able to do better? How can we work together to help you meet your goals? Review planners and notebooks for ideas.

As we continue through the second half of the year, you can expect ongoing communication of your child's learning from their classroom teacher before the final report card. This can come in a number of forms, but will show some kind of evidence of learning, information about the related learning standards, teacher and student feedback.

We are excited to be able to do our annual skipathon. Students will be bringing home some information about this event tomorrow. Thank you to Mrs. Schlitz for all of her hard work putting this event together.

Next week we will have a virtual presentation from Earth Rangers. It will teach about biodiversity, inspiring students to adopt sustainable behaviours, and empowering them to become directly involved in protecting animals and their habitats.

I hope you all had a nice Family Day Weekend and were able to spend time enjoying some fun activities together.

Sincerely,

David Cooper



MONTH END ASSEMBLY

At our January virtual month end assembly we celebrated our Successful Learner Trait of being Creative. We shared some student reflections on how they showed creativity. It was great to see how many selected something to do with their writing.



We also received an update on our school running goal. The goal this year is for each learning group to run across Canada. Here is how far and where each one is:

- ♦ Greenway/Preston – 713 - 3937 km – just outside Wawa, Ont
- ♦ Ross/Eyres – 688 – 2500 – Regina, Sask
- ♦ Ducklow/Schlitz – 738 – 3808 km – White River, Ont
- ♦ James/Lepage 727 - 2899 km– Steinbach, Man
- ♦ Armstrong/Phelan/Addison –229 - 2289 km - Moosmin, Sask

SCHOOL CLOSURES

Now that we have seen some snow 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.

PINK SHIRT DAY

On Wednesday, February 24th we would like to encourage students to wear pink to school for Pink Shirt Day.

The message for us this year is to Lift Each Other Up. Part of the message is letting students know that bullying is not going to be stopped by them wearing pink shirts. They have to be aware of their actions and words, and how they treat others. This means looking at how they make others feel.

The word bullying tends to be used for any wrongdoing or “mean” comment. This is not the case. There can be conflict between two people without it necessarily being bullying. This does not excuse these actions, but labeling them as “bullying” when they are not waters the term down.

Students will be reminded that bullying is:

- Simply put, bullying is a repeated pattern of unwelcome or aggressive behaviour.
- Often with the goal of making others uncomfortable, scared or hurt.



The person bullying is seeking power, control, or material things

What Bullying is Not:

Many distressing behaviours are not examples of bullying even though they are unpleasant and often require teacher intervention and management.

Mutual conflict: involves an argument or disagreement between people but not an imbalance of power. Both parties are upset and usually both want a resolution. Unresolved mutual conflict can develop into bullying if one of the parties targets the other repeatedly in retaliation.

Social rejection or dislike: is not bullying unless it involves deliberate and repeated attempts to cause distress, exclude or create dislike by others.

Single episode acts: of nastiness or physical aggression are not the same as bullying. If someone is verbally abused or pushed on one occasion they are not being bullied. Nastiness or physical aggression that is directed towards many different people is not the same as bullying. However, this does not mean that single episodes of nastiness or physical aggression should be ignored or condoned as these are unacceptable behaviours.

Our goal is to work with students to understand the impact unkind behaviours can have on someone, while at the same time realize the kindness they give someone can have a real positive impact.

It is important that all students recognize that they are each responsible for helping to create a safe, caring, and respectful environment at Chase River.

The provincial ERASE website will be shared with students. This site has many resources for students, families, and educators. The link to the site is:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/erase>

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.

Jump Rope for Heart	Wed. March 3
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



Have a Wonderful Month

