

CHASE RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1503 Cranberry Avenue

Nanaimo, BC V9R 6R7

Phone: 250-754-6983

Mr. David Cooper, Principal

Mrs. Christine De Vries, Secretary

June 2021

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This is the final newsletter of the 2020-2021 school year.

Although there were changes to how school ran this year, it has been a successful year. Learning was at the forefront and some good times were had. Thank you to our families for understanding the need for the guidelines and for supporting them. I know it was difficult to not have all school events happening. We as a staff missed them too.

Thank you to our PAC who still put in the time to support our school. We greatly appreciate all of your efforts that support our students, staff, and school as a whole.

On behalf of the Chase River staff I wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer. We look forward to seeing you back in September.

Sincerely,

David Cooper



GOODBYE TO SOME SPECIAL PEOPLE



We will be saying good-bye to some special staff members this year. We are always sad to say good-bye to people who have made a significant contribution to our school.

Ms. Carolyn Broadhurst (counselor) has only been with us a year but built some strong relationships with students. Ms. Rosanna Cowie (CYFSW) will be moving on to another position in the district. Ms. Rosanna has been so supportive of students and families during her time at Chase River. Also moving to another school next year, Ms. Ross has been with us since the start of the year and we were happy she was able to stay in a part time role to finish the year. Ms. Joanna Armstrong joined our school in October and fit in right away and has done a wonderful job with her students. Ms. Aspen will be moving to another school next year as well. She has been a valuable member of Chase River in a number of positions over 6 years and we thank her for her dedication to the school and students.

We wish all of these staff members the very best in their new adventures.



OUR NEW GYM

We were fortunate to have our gym floor redone recently. Our district carpenters and painters have done an amazing job refinishing it to the point it looks brand new. Take a look!



EARLY/EXTENDED SUMMER VACATION?

If you are leaving early or enjoying a continued vacation in September, kindly call the office and let us know. It is imperative that we are aware if your child will be returning, as spaces cannot be held.



2021-2022 SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS



All school supplies for the coming year will be purchased by the teachers. You will be notified in September if they require any additional items ie: gym strip and indoor shoes. Once students are placed with their teacher for the year, a notice of the cost of supplies will be sent home..

There are no supply lists in any local stores that are relevant to your child's supplies at Chase River.

ARE YOU MOVING?

Schools are in the process of preparing school organizations for the 2021-2022 school year. It is important that we have accurate student numbers in order to project the number of classes required for next year. If you are moving to another school or district, please phone Mrs. De Vries in the office at your earliest convenience. Or if you know of someone that is planning on registering at Chase River, encourage them to do so as soon as possible.



LOST AND FOUND

Last chance to claim any lost and found items before the end of the School year.

Unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity.



REPORT CARDS

Report cards will be emailed to families again this year. They will be sent on the last day of school Wednesday, June 29



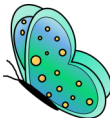
SCHOOL MASCOT

Since our last newsletter, a school vote was held to name our new mascot. The winning name was SONIC! Fitting for a speedy cheetah. This is just a fun mascot we will use for some school events. Our original cheetah log still remains.



TAKING CARE OF OUR SCHOOL

Over the summer months many people use the school fields and playground. Sometimes this will occur later in the evening. If you see activities that are dangerous or destructive to the building or to others, please do not hesitate to call the RCMP non – emergency 250-754-2345 or the school district security (250-754-9511). In this way we can ensure that our school grounds remain a safe place for everyone and our building remains secure.



SUMMER LEARNING IDEAS

Wow, this school year is almost over, and already children (and even some parents/caregivers) are looking forward to the freedom that comes with summer. It's great for children to have some unstructured time to rest up over the holidays, but two months without any schoolwork can have a downside. Some experts estimate that during the summer holidays, children can lose up to 20% of what they learned in school. In this month's column there are some additional ideas to help reduce learning loss and give your child a head start for next September.



Yes, hiring a tutor or enrolling your child(ren) in 'summer school' are good options for retaining academic success, but this is not always an option for many families, so here are some creative alternatives. It is always good to review the concepts learned in school, **but the key is to keep exercising the same parts of the brain. Some people compare it to a physical exercise program, where we must "use it or lose it".** For example, athletes who work hard all year would not stop training for two months and expect to go back into competition at the same level; however, they might switch up their training while still maintaining their fitness level. In fact, cross-training can actually help an athlete improve their performance, so it certainly can't hurt for students to do a little cross-brain-training over summer.

Children learn to store memories more efficiently through practice. So, from local daytrips to long holidays, help your child(ren) relive the events; exercise memory storage systems by asking specific questions about the day's experience. For instance, at the end of a trip or event, we often ask things like "Did you have fun?" Children don't have to think for more than a second before giving a 'yes' or 'no' answer. Use open-ended questions starting with How, What, Why, Who, When, and Where, like "What was your favourite part?" This encourages your child(ren) to think back, remember the sequence of events and make comparisons. It also gives you an opportunity to talk about an experience you shared together. You can continue the conversation and help your child (ren) to remember more by talking about your favourite parts, too. Do further exploration or research on interesting points or facts which come up. Bring in hands-on activities whenever possible as children are even more engaged when using more of their senses; it will also reinforce learning/memory in a different way.

Some ideas for daytrips:

- ♦ Visit a museum or local historical site. You can research it online, use Google Maps to plan your route, and even have your child hold the map to practice math, map, and communication skills as he or she becomes Navigator-for-a-day.
- ♦ Lots of stores have educational workbooks and travel games that children can use on car trips. (It's good to have some electronic-free car time anyway).

Feeling even more creative? Together, make up a poem, song or rap.

- ♦ While you have the electronics off, you can play memory games in the car- remember games like the trip game? ("I'm going on a trip, and I'm taking apples, books, hat, sunscreen, candy....." which each person repeats and then adds a word). The internet and library offer many more options of games.
- ♦ Speaking of the library, have your child(ren) sign up for the Library Reading Club, and make regular trips there. Kids can choose books that interest them, keep track of their reading, and earn prizes along the way – and it is all free! It's cool inside and there are several locations in Nanaimo, including one downtown next to the waterfront (where the seawall and ice cream are close by...hint, hint).
- ♦ Check the local newspapers for events - things like dog shows can be a rich source of information and a lot of laughs for everyone, and they are often held locally. Nanaimo Parks, Recreation & Culture and other agencies offer a wide variety of events (many of which are free). * Finally, why not have your child make a trip memory book or journal? It helps them remember things in sequence, helps them practice skills like writing and art, and gives them something to help remember their experiences, and to share with others. Keep in mind many back-to-school assignments include "What I did this summer..."



We hope these ideas help you get off to a wonderful summer, both full of fun and continued learning.



Have a safe, fun and memorable summer!!