

CHASE RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1503 Cranberry Avenue

Nanaimo, BC V9R 6R7

Phone: 250-754-6983

Mr. David Cooper, Principal

Mrs. Christine De Vries, Secretary

January 2022

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

2022 is well on its way. We had a unique start to our return to school from the break. The first week saw only a few students attending. We are now back to a full school and students have resumed the deep learning that we've invested in since September.



We continue to ask families to please send your child with a mask everyday. As a school we have done a detailed review of prevention measures we all need to be practicing to keep us all safe. Completing a daily health check and bringing a mask each day is very important to this process.

As January unfolds, it is a perfect opportunity to re-establish routines and regular habits to support your child(ren's) school life. Here are six ways to assist you in this regard:

- ♦ 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 way.
- ♦ Regular daily homework/reading time (with parental support as needed) is essential to help children feel competent and confident in class.
- ♦ Ensure there is a balance between active play and television or screen time. Time with friends and family is essential to developing positive social skills and a sense of belonging.
- ♦ Computers/phones/electronics should be in a highly visible area of the house. A child's screen time must be monitored and should follow specific safety guidelines regarding site and program access.
- ♦ Share a caring conversation and a smile with your child each day.

We look forward to the continued learning as we move towards the second half of the year.

Best wishes for a very successful, happy and safe 2022.

Sincerely,

David Cooper



DRESSING FOR OUTSIDE

We would like to remind parents that we expect our students to go outside to play during our recess breaks. This is a healthy activity. Thank you for sending your children to school prepared for the cold, wet winter conditions. It is also helpful for students to have spare clothing available at school in case they get wet or fall in the mud.



DAILY HEALTH CHECK

Please be sure to do a daily health check before sending your child to school. Call 811 if necessary. Keep your child home until the symptoms disappear.



If your child is ill and going to be away from school, just phone the office or send an email to info.cr@sd68.bc.ca and we'll be sure to excuse them for the day.



RUNNING CLUB

Our updated running numbers after a short and snowy winter are:



- Greenway/Preston – 2963km – Outside Skidegate
- Eyres/Ducklow – 2478 km– Just past Redstone
- Schlitz/James/Weber – 2652km - Outside Bella Bella
- Lepage/Weber/Hornby/Armstrong—1633 km—Just outside Pemberton
- Currie/Phelan/Addison – 1283km Just outside Cranbrook

GRADE 8 REGISTRATION

Grade 7 students are automatically registered and scheduled at John Barsby for Grade 8, as John Barsby is our catchment high school. There is no need to apply to John Barsby as this is automatically taken care of for your child. Students wishing to transfer to a secondary school other than our catchment area high school, should notify their Principal and apply online at www.sd68.bc.ca. If you are interested in applying to one of our District Secondary Academies, please visit our website or the district website for more information:



REGISTRATION INFORMATION



ALL REGISTRATION IS ONLINE ONLY. PLEASE VISIT THE DISTRICT WEBSITE SD68.BC.CA OR EMAIL EREG@SD68.BC.CA

Important Registration dates:

- ♦ Jan 31 - registration deadline for Kindergarten and Grade 1 French Immersion lottery
- ♦ March 1 – registration deadline for District Secondary Academies
- ♦ March 31 – out of catchment applications are due
- ♦ June 15 – registration deadline for guaranteed placement at your catchment school

Before you begin, you will need the following:

- ♦ A valid email address
- ♦ Photo or scan showing proof of citizenship (ie. Birth certificate)

Photo or scan showing proof of Canadian residency (ie. Mortgage or bank statement, utility bill, driver’s license, etc.)

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.



Professional Day (Students do not attend)	Mon, Feb 7
Professional Day (Students do not attend)	Tues, Feb 8
BC Family Day (Students do not attend)	Mon. Feb 21
Last Day before Spring Break	Fri. March 11
First Day Back after Spring Break	Mon. March 28
Good Friday	Fri. April 15
Easter Monday	Mon. April 18
Curriculum Implementation Day	Thurs, May 5
Professional Day (Students do not attend)	Fri. May 6
Victoria Day (Students do not attend)	Mon. May 23
Summative Report Issued	Tues. June 29
Last Day of School (Dismissal at 2:15)	Wed, June 30
Administration Day	Thur, June 30

ENERGY CUP

We are participating in the NLPS Energy Cup. Many schools across the district are taking part in this friendly competition that empowers teachers and students to save energy and think about sustainability in schools. Our school team is comprised of 10 grade 7 students. This week has been “lights out” week. Students have been reminding classes to turn off lights when they leave the classroom. Next week is “sweater week.” The temperature in the school will be dropped one degree, so staff and students are encouraged to wear a sweater. In February we will have a “Lights Out Lunch.” Classes will be encouraged to turn off the lights while eating lunch and use natural light. Our hope is to bring awareness to ways for us to be more energy conscious.



FAMILY LITERACY DAY

Thursday, January 27 is Family Literacy Day. Here are some ideas from gettingsmart.com for you to try at home not just on Family Literacy day, but regularly.



- ◆ **Get Older Siblings Reading to Their Younger Siblings.** It's great practice for big bro or big sis to explain big words or summarize the story, and it's also an opportunity to demonstrate a love of reading to little bro or sis.
- ◆ **Practice Reading "Popcorn" Style.** Each family member can read a page or two and then "popcorn pass" to the family member of their choice.
- ◆ **Take Turns** choosing the book or the book reading location of the night.
- ◆ **Plan Themed Reading Nights.** Pitch a tent in the living room and "camp out" while you read, or build a "bear cave" fort and read books about bears. Let your imagination take your themes to the next level.
- ◆ **Incorporate Fun Accessories.** Make your own bookmarks or sand timer. Invest in a kid-friendly reading light.
- ◆ **Involve Distant Family and Friends.** Books can be read aloud over FaceTime or Skype. Record your child reading their favorite book and send the video to loved ones.
- ◆ **Read and Watch.** Choose a book that has been turned into a movie. Read the book first and then schedule a family movie night to see the book come to life on the screen.
- ◆ **Schedule It.** Reading should be an activity as important as our kids' various practices, lessons and play dates. If it's on the calendar, it will become a higher priority.
- ◆ **Book Swap.** Get other families involved in a periodic book swap where kids can lend and borrow books from friends in the neighborhood or other social circles.
- ◆ **Dinner Talk.** Books can be a topic of discussion at family dinner. Ask family members to share about the latest books they've enjoyed, or how the plot is twisting in their latest chapter book.



SCHOOL CLOSURES



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.

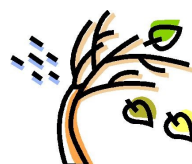
In addition, the district will post the information on the district's website, Twitter, Facebook and mobile app. Families may also receive a message through the School Messenger notification system via phone, email or text. Please keep in mind, however, that there may be situations where this is not 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.



JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

Our school is excited to be participating in Jump Rope for Heart again this year! We will be jumping in memory of our beloved bus driver, Martin, who passed away of heart disease this past November. Go to jumpropeforheart.ca go to "Families' Corner," then "Families' Get Started" and join our school's page. All fundraising and prizes will be online only. Our skip-a-thon will take place over two days this year, coming up on Thursday & Friday, February 10 & 11. The funds kids collect supports research that helps other kids and families across the country. Chase River was the #1 school in all of Canada for fundraising in 2021! Way to go!



Have a Wonderful Month