

Chalmers Elementary Newsletter

11315 75th Avenue, Delta BC V4C 1H8
 School Office: 604-594-5437
 Absentee Line: 604-594-0269
 Principal: Ken Levenstein
 Vice Principal: Tony Weber
 Admin Assistants: Anna Dougans
 Andrea Schroeder
 School Website: <http://ch.deltasd.bc.ca>



Issue #: 9

Date: May 1, 2017

Important Dates to Remember:

May 3	Fruit and Veggie Program Delivery Day (Mini Peppers)
May 3	Div. 15 & 16 – Burns Bog (Morning)
May 5	May Sharing Assembly at 11:00 am
May 5	District Emergency Preparedness Drill from 2:10 – 2:30 pm (Student Release)
May 6	PAC Pub Night at the Delta Lion Pub
May 8	Grade 6 Immunizations
May 10	Regional Track Meet at NDSS
May 12	Regional Track Meet Rainout Day at NDSS
May 15 to May 17	Scholastic Book Fair in CH Library
May 16	Div. 1 & 4 – Gregg Lerrock Concert (Morning)
May 18	District Track Meet at SDSS
May 19	PRO-D Day (No School)
May 22	Victoria Day (No School)
May 30	Parent Appreciation Event
June 2	June Sharing Assembly at 11:00 am
June 6	Dv. 13, 14, & 15 – Grouse Mountain (All Day)
June 7	Fruit and Veggie Program Delivery Day (Cabernet Red Tomatoes)
June 8	Welcome to Kindergarten at 1:45 pm
June 21	Chalmers Challenge Day (Sports Day)

Dear Parents:

In the Spring of each year schools begin to plan for the upcoming Fall. As the school population at Chalmers Elementary has been known to vary quite a bit from the end of June to the beginning of September, it is often not possible to finalize classes until the first week of school in September

At this time of year, we begin to collect information about students from many sources to help us determine the best placement for all the students at Chalmers. This includes information about a student's strengths and needs, their social relationships, their interests, their learning styles and previous placements.

If you have any information about your child and the kind of learning environment which he/she best works and learns, please share this information with our staff by filling in the "Parent Information Form" available at the school office. We ask that completed forms be returned to the school no later than Friday, June 2nd.

Please note – we cannot consider any requests for specific teachers. The "Parent Information Forms" are intended to provide parents with the opportunity to tell us important information about your child.

Mr. K. Levenstein
Principal

Mr. T. Weber
Vice Principal

District Emergency Preparedness Drill:



On Friday, May 5th Chalmers Elementary will take part in the Delta School District's annual District Emergency Preparedness Drill. During this drill, students learn about earthquakes and what being in one might look and feel like as well as the important safety procedures they must following in the event of an earthquake. They take part in a 60-second "Duck, Cover, and Hold" safety drill. After this, students will evacuate the school, assemble on the field, and staff will practice filling out attendance reports.

In addition to this, we would like to practice the student release procedures that would be implemented in the event of an emergency. In an effort to improve the student safety in the event of an actual earthquake, we will be implementing a new student release procedure this year. **As it is a new protocol, we will only be releasing students from Division 3 (Ms. Hay), Division 7 (Mrs. Martin) and Division 17 (Ms. Ashbrook).** Instead of having parents with children in these classes report to their child's teacher for student release, parents will now sign-out their child from our new "Command Centre" that will be located on the south end of the grass field on the outdoor basketball court. Staff runners will retrieve the child from designated waiting areas on the back field (at the north end of the school) and release the child into the custody of the parent or the designated emergency release contact. With the above new student release procedures in mind, we are asking for all available parents from the above-mentioned divisions (Divisions 3, 7, and 17) to pick up their child(ren) for an early dismissal anytime between 2:10 – 2:30 pm. Parents who are able to be involved are asked to arrive no earlier than 2:10 pm and to line up in the correct alphabetized line at the Command Centre to show their identification. If you are able to participate, **please remember to sign in to Parent Connect and update your Emergency Release Contacts.** Since this student release procedure is new for us at Chalmers, there may be some bumps and therefore, your patience with the release is greatly appreciated. **Those students who are not released early will be dismissed at 3:00 pm from their classroom, and will not be called out of class prior to 3:00 pm.** Please contact the school office if you have any questions or concerns.

Lost and Found:

This is just a reminder that students and parent have until the last Friday at 2:45 pm of every school month to claim lost and found clothing items. Clothing items not claimed after 2:45 pm on the last Friday of every school month will be donated to charity.



Track and Field:

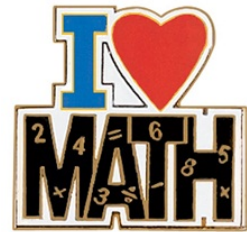


The Regional Track Meet will be held on Wednesday, May 10th at North Delta Secondary School. In the event the track meet is cancelled due to heavy rain, the alternate date for the Regional Track Meet is Friday, May 12th. This year, all of our Grade 4 – 7 students had the opportunity to try out track and field events during the school day. Our Grades 4 and 5 students had the opportunity to practice track and field events during the school day and our Grade 6 and 7 students had the opportunity to participate in extracurricular track and field practices. **Only those students participating in an event attend the track meet.** Students are not to attend the meet under any other circumstances (e.g. as a spectator, to accompany a sibling, etc.).

Top finishers at the Regional Track Meet may be eligible for the District Track Meet (Thursday, May 18th at South Delta Secondary School). **The District Track Meet will be held rain or shine.** I want to thank Mlle Hughes and Mr. Ng for organizing our school's track and field program as well as all our staff who helped coach events, run various stations at the Regional Track Meet, and provided an instructional program for students who were not attending the track meet. We have a wonderful staff at Chalmers.

Math Celebration:

On Wednesday, April 19th students in Grades 4 – 7 from Chalmers Elementary competed in a district math competition at Richardson Elementary. Students worked together in "same grade" teams of four to solve extremely challenging math problems. Parent representatives from each school were responsible for judging how well students worked together to solve the math problems. I would like to thank Mrs. Dudzic for organizing this experience for our students, and I would like to congratulate the following students from Chalmers who were exemplary representatives for our school at this district event:



Grades 4 and 5 Participants:

- Yuvraj B., William Y., Ayaan S., Sarina J., Shaan R., Jastaj P., Connor M., Matthew Z.

Grades 6 and 7 Participants:

- Gurshaan D., Ananya P., Jaijit S., Ashni A., Julian V., Michael V., Anisha R., Amar T., Kurt K-L., Devin H., Daniel J., Hogan L.

Parent Appreciation Event:



Based on the tremendous success of last year's parent event, the staff have once again organized a morning coffee and baked good event to thank the parents of the Chalmers community for everything they do to make a difference at our great school! As our way of saying thank you to our amazing parents, we will hold the appreciation event from 8:15 – 9:15 am on Tuesday, May 30th at the front of the school. In addition to serving coffee and baked goods, our Stinger Singer Choir will perform for our parents from 8:45 – 9:15 am. Please plan to stop by the front of our school and let our staff celebrate and acknowledge the hard work of our many parent volunteers!

We look forward to seeing you there!!

Dress Guidelines:

As the weather warms up, it is a good time to remind parents and students of the dress guidelines at Chalmers Elementary. We believe that some clothing is more appropriate for recreational activities outside of school. When students come to school, they spend their day engaged in learning activities, and should consider school as their place of work. Therefore, students should come to school appropriately dressed for their day. We ask that parents take a moment to review with their children the following:

- Students should not come to school wearing t-shirts with obscene or suggestive words or pictures on them
- Students should dress so that no undergarments are visible, and that the midriff is covered
- Students should not come to school wearing tops with "spaghetti straps"; straps should have about a three-finger width at the top
- Length of shorts guideline: when a student is standing with their arms to their sides (hands pointed to the ground) shorts must extend past their fingertips
- Safe, play-appropriate footwear should be worn; flip flops are considered inappropriate footwear for school



Students who come to school wearing clothing that, in the professional opinion of the staff, detracts from the learning environment will be asked to change or if necessary will be given clothing supplied by the school. Parents, we thank you in advance for your assistance with our dress guidelines.

Use of Electronic Devices at School:



Since our return from Spring Break, staff and parents have noticed a significant increase in the number of students walking around the building talking on or playing with cell phones and MP3 devices. We have also had issues with such devices being inappropriately used during the lunch break.

As was stated in the January newsletter, cell phones, MP3 players and other electronic devices are not permitted at school. In addition to interfering with the learning environment, there is no safe place at school to store such valuables. As well, there is a risk of an invasion of privacy when such devices are used to photograph or video tape students.

Electronic devices are to be left at home as the school is not responsible for their loss, theft or damage.

Parents who, for safety reasons, have supplied their child(ren) with cell phones to communicate their safe arrival to and from school must understand that students are not allowed to use their cell phones in the school building or on the school grounds during school hours. It is school policy that students who bring cell phones to school (for the reason mentioned above) are expected to have them turned off and stored in their backpacks during the school day.

We are asking for your help in enforcing this school policy. Students caught using cell phones or other electronic devices will have them confiscated by their classroom teacher. The first time an electronic device is confiscated, it will be returned to the student at the end of the school day. Should a student get caught a second time, the electronic device will be confiscated and held at the school office for a parent to pick up.

Jump Rope for Heart:

- Submitted by Mrs. Martin

Our 2017 Jump Rope for Heart and Stroke fundraising campaign was another great success! Congratulations Chalmers students and families for raising a grand total of \$4,880.55! Wow!

The top fundraising class this year was Ms. Sabatini/Ms. Baghela's class of Grade 5's who raised a whopping, \$1,714.00! Their class has been entered into a district draw for a trip to Sky Zone. Good luck Division 6. The top three student fundraisers for 2017 were: Pavan Mesuria - \$731.00, Charles Zickefoose - \$657.00, and Rebecca Noble - \$447.00. Thank you to each and every Chalmers student and family who contributed their support to this amazing cause.

