

Chalmers Elementary Newsletter

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Issue #: 2

Date: October 4, 2017

Important Dates to Remember:

Oct. 4	Red Cross Babysitting Course (1 of 4)
Oct. 4 – 6	Grade 7 Outdoor Ed (Camp Jubilee)
Oct. 6	Grade 6 Immunizations
Oct. 9	Thanksgiving (No School)
Oct. 11	Red Cross Babysitting Course (2 of 4)
Oct. 17	Div. 17 - Rondriso Farms
Oct. 18	Parent/Teacher Conferences (12:25 pm Dismissal)
Oct. 18	Red Cross Babysitting Course (3 of 4)
Oct. 18	After School Pottery Classes (1 of 5)
Oct. 19	Div. 18 & 19 - Westham Island
Oct. 19	The Great BC ShakeOut
Oct. 19	Hot Lunch Day - Pita Pit
Oct. 19	Parent/Teacher Conferences (2:00 pm Dismissal)
Oct. 20	Provincial PRO-D Day (No School)
Oct. 23	PRO-D Day (No School)
Oct. 25	Red Cross Babysitting Course (4 of 4)
Oct. 25	After School Pottery Classes (2 of 5)
Oct. 31	Halloween Parade at 1:30 pm
Nov. 1	After School Pottery Classes (3 of 5)
Nov. 3	November Sharing Assembly at 11:00 am

Dear Parents:

Our Canadian Thanksgiving is just around the corner! Thanksgiving is a time to give thanks for all the things we have received in our lives over the past year, and give thanks to those who have helped us along the way.

We tend to forget that happiness doesn't come as a result of getting something we don't have, but rather of recognizing and appreciating what we do have.

- Frederick Koenig

On behalf of the staff at Chalmers Elementary, I would like to wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving. I hope all of you are able to take some time to get together with family and friends and to be grateful for all the positive things in your lives. We all have so much to be thankful for.



Mr. K. Levenstein
Principal

Mr. T. Weber
Vice Principal

Traffic Reminders:



For safety reasons, there is no parent parking or drop-off in the school parking lot from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. The only vehicles that may enter the parking lot during the above mentioned restricted times are buses, licensed daycare vehicles with a current pass, vehicles requiring access to handicapped parking (they must display a handicapped parking pass), and Chalmers staff. It is also asked that our parents respect municipal traffic laws; particularly those around making U-turns. While I know most of our community practices safe driving it is imperative that everyone follows the rules if we are to keep our children safe.

Chalmers Spirit Wear:

Come join in the school spirit! This year we will once again be selling a black t-shirt with our updated logo (updated last year) centered on the t-shirt in a shade of goldenrod. The t-shirt will be perfect to use for gym strip as well as for school spirit theme days! A school spirit wear order form went home to families yesterday (Tuesday). Sample spirit wear t-shirts are available at the school office for sizing. Please make sure you come in and check your child's size as the clothing is non-refundable once ordered.



Electronics at School:

Since our return from summer 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. Staff are concerned with a number of issues associated with students bringing electronic devices to school:

- The invasion of privacy that can occur with cell phone videotaping or photographing
- The type of music being played on personal listening devices cannot be monitored effectively
- The ability for handheld games to distract students during class time and prevent students from participating in active play on the playground
- The potential for lost or stolen valuables
- The status that seems to be attached to these items has placed unnecessary pressure on other students

For these reasons, we ask that students leave electronics devices at home. If a parent wishes their child to have a cell phone we are requesting that students turn them off while they are at school and leave them stored in the backpack during the day. Parents wishing to communicate with their child during the school day can do so via the office. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Parent/Teacher Conferences:

On **Wednesday, October 18th**, and **Thursday, October 19th** parents are invited to meet with their child's teacher. The purpose of these early conferences is to provide an opportunity for you to share your child's education and for the teacher to explain his/her expectations. Together, you may wish to discuss:

- Goals for your child's learning, defining areas of success and concern
- Homework expectations
- Communication between home and school
- Work habits and attitude towards learning
- Appropriate behavior expectations



To provide time for conferences, students will be dismissed at **12:25 pm on Wednesday, October 18th** and at **2:00 pm on Thursday, October 19th**. All conferences will be booked using the Delta School District's Parent Connect Interview Booking System. Information will be sent home to families soon explaining how to use this online system to book parent/teacher conferences.

It takes a meaningful, learning partnership between home and school to educate a child in today's society. The parent/teacher conferences are a fantastic way to begin that partnership between home and school. The staff at Chalmers Elementary thank you for being a part of our community of learners!

The Great BC ShakeOut:



On **Thursday, October 19th**, the staff and students at Chalmers Elementary will participate in The Great BC ShakeOut. During this earthquake drill, our students, along with thousands of other students throughout BC, will drop, cover, and hold on, at a specified time in the morning. The Great BC ShakeOut is the largest earthquake drill in Canada.

Halloween Parade:

On **Tuesday, October 31st** at approximately **1:30 pm**, students are being asked to dress up in their costumes and participate in Chalmers Elementary's annual Halloween costume parade. During the parade the students travel through classrooms so their fellow students can enjoy their creative costumes. Parents are welcome to attend and view the students in the gym. Please note students are not permitted to bring replica weapons of any kind to the school.



Remembrance Day Assembly:



Each November brings a time to remember the sacrifices of our Canadian soldiers, past and present. The Chalmers Remembrance Day Assembly will be held on **Friday, November 10th at 10:50 am in our gym**. Parents are invited to attend this special assembly on this solemn occasion. As part of our Remembrance Day Assembly, we would like to honour members of the Chalmers community who are serving or have served in the military. Please contact the school office if you have a family member who is a current member of the military or a veteran.

Lost and Found:

At Chalmers, lost and found clothing items are stored on a laundry line located in the hallway alongside the gym. The school has the following policy with respect to lost and found clothing items. Students and parents will 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.



Chalmers PAC Happenings:

- Submitted by Ranita Kajla, PAC Chair

Chalmers PAC is excited to share what is in the works for the fall season! It is full steam ahead with fundraising as Chalmers PAC is in the final stretch of raising money to replace the **primary playground**, so we need lots of help and cooperation from all of our wonderful Chalmers families!!!! Be sure to check your kids' backpacks for notices coming home regarding upcoming events. If you would like reminder emails and information sent to you, as the school is no longer allowed to send reminder emails for PAC fundraisers, please email chalmerspac@deltasd.bc.ca and check the PAC website www.chalmerspac.weebly.com for all the latest happenings!! Some upcoming PAC events include:

- The first hot lunch of the school year is on Thursday, October 19th
- Paint Night for the Chalmers Playground is on Friday, November 17th
- Chalmers PAC Meeting is on Wednesday, November 29th
- Neufeld Farms frozen food playground fundraiser pick up is on Thursday, November 30th from 2:45 - 3:15 pm
- Chalmers Christmas Craft Fair is on Sunday, December 3rd

As you can see there are lots of fun ways to be active in your child's school, but these events are only a success with the help of YOU... the parents! If you are interested in taking part in any of the events, please email chalmerspac@deltasd.bc.ca.