



Cedar Elementary News

November

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It is November already - this year is passing quickly. Our Kindergarten rooms are progressing and starting to look very nice. Our grade 5/6 class has moved into their portable and the Student Support rooms and Learning Commons have been put back in order - thanks to all the students, staff and parents for your patience and understanding.

As we enter our winter season, please make sure your children are prepared for the weather. Many students are just wearing a hoodie or sweatshirt with no hood as a jacket. We go outside unless it is an unbelievable deluge so please dress appropriately and send a change of clothes that can be kept in a locker or backpack. Dressing in layers and being prepared for changes in the weather will make these days more enjoyable for all.

PHONING IN ABSENCES

Cold and flu season is upon us! In order to prevent the spread of germs, please remind your children to wash their hands regularly.

Vancouver Island Health Authority also recommends keeping your child at home for 48 hours after symptoms subside if they have been vomiting. If your child is ill and going to be away from school, just phone the office and we'll be sure to excuse them for the day. Voice mail is available all day so parents can call any time to report students who will be absent or late. This program is for the safety of your child. All absences and lates need to be called in.



AFTER SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

We request that you make after school arrangements for your children in advance, wherever possible. We understand that emergencies arise and that there are times when plans need to be adjusted and we are happy to pass on messages in these situations. However, due to the busy nature of the classroom and the office, we appreciate it when plans can occur outside of school time. This allows learning to take place with the fewest interruptions. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Here are some dates to remember:

- Nov 2 Parent meeting - reporting
- Nov 3 Grade 7 parent meeting
- Nov 8 Parent Forum - Ladysmith Sec
- Nov 10 9:35 Remembrance Assembly
Hot lunch - pizza
- Nov 11 Remembrance Day - no school
- Nov 15 PAC 6:30
- Nov 25 Hot lunch - hotdog

- Dec 8 Christmas Concert
- Dec 9 Hot lunch
- Dec 15 PAC Christmas Craft Fair
- Dec 23 Hot lunch - pizza
Last day
- Dec 24-Jan 8 Christmas Vacation

- Jan 9 School starts again
- Jan 13 Hot lunch - hot dog

SECURITY PROTOCOL:

Ensuring safety for all students and school personnel is very important to us at Cedar Elementary. To that end, adults visiting our school are required to report to the office first, sign in the visitor's book and obtain an 'Authorized Visitor' pass from our secretary. This information is essential as it enables us to quickly determine the nature and length of your visit and account for all adults within the building in case of an emergency situation. Please remember to always report to the office first upon arriving to school, even if you are well known to the office staff. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation with this very important safety concern.

If your child is in Kindergarten, please call the office at Cedar (250-722-2722) and we will get a message to the teachers. The office is closed and the doors locked, please do not just knock to get in, we need to know who is visiting both sites.

Principal
Secretary

Shona Sneddon
Kim Freer

ssneddon@sd68.bc.ca
kfreer@sd68.bc.ca

250-722-2722
250-722-2722

PAC NEWS

The next PAC meeting is set for Tuesday Nov. 15th, 6:30 pm in foods room. Please join us! We are forming our Christmas craft fair committee. If you would like to join we will have more info at the meeting, or email Jalene (mike3494@telus.net).

Keep your eyes open for Frozen Cookie Dough fundraiser forms we are hoping to run it mid-November.

CHANGES TO ASSESSMENT & REPORTING

As shared through email and the recent parent meeting, the Province of British Columbia and Nanaimo-Ladysmith Public Schools are changing the way we assess learning and report to parents. Some of the significant changes include:

- Increased Ongoing Communication
- Increased Student Voice
- Increased focus on Core Competencies
- Reduction of Formal Report Cards from 3 to 2 per year, January and June

Join the discussion at: <http://www.sd68.bc.ca/>
Feel free to join the parent forum at Ladysmith Secondary on Nov. 8th at 7 PM

CROSS COUNTRY



Congratulations to all our Cross Country athletes. They trained hard and 40 of them participated in the Zone meet. Ten placed in the top twenty-five and competed in the district finals on Wednesday, November 2, 2016. Good job, runners!

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. 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.

GREAT SHAKE OUT



On Thursday, October 20, Cedar Elementary joined many schools across BC in participating in the Great BC Shakeout which saw most school in our district doing their first earthquake drill of the school year. Our staff and students did an amazing job of following the recommended evacuation procedures. Parents are asked to discuss the process with their children and to look at creating an evacuation and preparedness plan for their own homes. More information may be found here: <http://shakeoutbc.ca/>

LOST AND FOUND



Recognize anything? Our Lost and Found is filling up! Please claim items quickly. We will be donating any clothes left behind to those who need it.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

We will have 2 showings of our Christmas Concert this year due to the increased number of students. Because of this we will need to issue tickets that will be collected at the door. Fire regulations set the number of people allowed in the gym at one time as 525 people; with 350 students, we are unable to have only one show with each student inviting 2 guests. Instead we will have 2 shows. Please watch for further information coming home regarding tickets for the Christmas Concerts. Performances will be on Dec. 8th at 12:45 and 6:30 PM.

