



École Cheam Elementary School Newsletter



Chilliwack
School District

February 1st, 2025

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Planning for Next Year

We are only half way through this school year, but we are already in full swing planning for next year. If you know of any children who will be 5 years old by the end of 2025, please remind their parents to get their child registered at their neighborhood school as soon as possible. Please go to <http://www.sd33.bc.ca/e-registration>. Students in our English program that are moving on to Middle School next year will automatically transition to Rosedale Traditional Community School. Our Grade 5 Immersion students will be transitioning to Chilliwack Middle School. If you are thinking of attending a different Middle School, you need to apply online. I suggest you do so ASAP. Similarly, our French program students are automatically transitioned to the next grade in the French Immersion stream. If you are considering moving to the English stream, you should be looking into this sooner than later. If you have any questions about this, please call the office.

School Goal

To increase our critical thinking in Literacy, Numeracy, and Social Responsibility.

Before/After School Care Centre

We are very pleased to announce that École Cheam will be the newest SD33 BASC. This new care centre will be housed in Portable 4. Opening day is Monday, February 3rd.

<https://earlylearning.sd33.bc.ca/after-school-care-sites>

Inclement Weather

The decision to close schools due to inclement weather is made by our superintendent, and announcements will be made on the district

website [www.sd33.bc.ca] and on local radio. Please do not call the school.

Parking Lot

Thank you for your continued patience in and around our parking lot. Please remember, you do not need to rush in the morning. Similarly, there's no need to rush at the end of the day. We have supervision after school. I know many of you arrive very early to get parking. However, if you have the flexibility in your schedule, I invite you to wait until 2:20 - 2:25 pm. Once the buses are gone, our parking lot becomes very quiet. Your kids will be safe waiting a few extra minutes.

As pedestrians, the safest place to be walking is along the sidewalk. The sidewalks will guide you safely to one of two crosswalks- one by the main entrance, and the other just before the exit.

This is a snapshot of events on the horizon. Please keep your eyes on the website for details and updates.

Important Dates

- Feb 7-16 Carnaval d'hiver
- Feb 5 Global School Play Day/Popcorn Day
- Feb 11 Carnaval Cheam and Kouskous
- Feb 12 Family Skate
- Feb 13 Hot Lunch
- Feb 14 Pro-D Day
- Feb 17 Family Day
- Feb 24 Hot Dog Day
- Feb 26 Pink Shirt Day
- Feb 28 Early Dismissal

- Mar 12 Term Two Learning Updates
- Mar 14 World Book Day/Hot Lunch
- Mar 15-30 Spring Break

Additionally, we have narrow walking lanes along two sides of the lot, marked by striped, yellow paint. Pedestrian traffic must remain within these areas. Please respect that the bus lane is for bus use only, **at all times of day**. The *only* exception to this would be when directed by staff. In the morning, at times we can get a backlog of traffic along Banford Road, and the only way for folks to proceed is if cars are directed through the bus lane. As soon as the pressure has been relieved, we'll stop allowing cars through the bus lane.

Coming Soon *We have so many fun, fascinating, and exciting things on the go through February and March. Here's a preview of some of what we have in store. Updated information will be provided as we approach the various events. Please keep informed by checking our website regularly.*

Global School Play Day

Wednesday, February 5th marks the eleventh annual Global School Play Day. To show our support for this initiative, our teachers will be



dedicating one hour during the day to pure, simple, unstructured, and creative play.

How this looks in each class will be a little different, and your child's teacher may have additional information for you. In general, though, we invite students to bring their favourite toy or board game to share with friends. Please don't send anything that is too fragile or expensive, and please, no electronics! For more details, visit:

- <http://www.globalschoolplayday.com/>.



Carnaval d'hiver

Starting on February 7th and continuing to February 16th, the Québec winter carnival, a fine example of québécoise tradition and culture, will be celebrated. On February 11th, the kids will participate in some fun 'carnaval' games throughout the morning, and then be entertained by Kouskous (<https://kouskousmusic.com/musique-franco/>) in the afternoon. On February 12th, everyone is invited to join us for a Family Skate at The Chilliwack Coliseum. In the meantime, for more information about the *Carnaval d'hiver de Québec*, visit:

- <http://carnaval.qc.ca/en/>.

Pro-D, Family Day and Early Dismissal

Our next Professional Development Day is Friday, February 14th. Monday, February 17th is Family Day. Our next Early Dismissal Day will be on February 28th, when the students are dismissed at 11:15 am. More details will be provided closer to the date.

Pink Shirt Day

Wednesday, February 26th is national Pink Shirt Day. The purpose of Pink Shirt Day is to remind us to never lose our focus on working together and treating others with dignity and respect. For more information on this day, and to order t-shirts and other gear to mark the day, visit:

- <http://pinkshirtday.ca/>.



One School, One Book

This is an international initiative that was launched some time ago, designed to encourage the love of reading.

- <https://readtothem.org/programs/one-school-one-book/>

For several years, our PAC has funded the purchase of a chosen novel to gift to each of our families, in the hopes that parents and their children can enjoy reading together. This year, we have chosen the Wendy Orr novel, *Nim's Island*. Mme Sarrazin will be sharing a variety of materials along the way to help keep families engaged and excited, including audio recordings of every chapter. We will celebrate together on our World Book Day, Friday, March 14th. On this day, students are invited to come dressed as their favourite character from this novel, or any other book they have read.

Cheam 150

Did you realize that our school will be celebrating our sesquicentennial anniversary, that is to say our 150th anniversary this year?

The original Cheam school was opened in 1875 at a nearby location (close to Yale and Quarry Road). We will be holding an Open House in May to celebrate this milestone. We are still in the planning stages, but will have more details to share soon.

