# École Cheam Elementary School Newsletter

Chilliwack School District

**November 5th, 2026**

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## Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day marks the official end of hostilities of World War I on November 11th, 1918. World War I was a massive conflict and was played out over the whole globe, but particularly in Europe, where troops from Canada supported the Allied forces. World War I resulted in the loss of huge numbers of lives amongst both civilians and military personnel. The war left great emotional scars in the servicemen who had experienced it, and in the communities who lost so many loved ones. Remembrance Day commemorates those brave men and women who died in armed conflicts, in and since World War I.

Our school will be hosting a ceremony for students to commemorate Remembrance Day on Tuesday, November 10th. Parents are welcome to attend. The assembly will begin at 10:30 am. Sunday, November 8th is National Indigenous Veterans Day, a day of remembrance and commemoration of the contributions of Indigenous veterans.

Schools are closed for Remembrance Day on Wednesday, November 11th.



**Bell Schedule (8:15 am-2:20 pm)**

8:00 am----------Supervision Begins
8:10 am----------Warning Bell
8:15-10:15 am----------Classes in session
10:15-10:30 am---------Recess
10:30 am-12:15 pm----Classes in session
12:15-1:00 pm----------Lunch
1:00-2:20 pm----------Classes in session
2:20 pm----------Dismissal
2:20-2:35 pm----------Supervision after school

## Pack It In, Pack It Out

We have been trying to instill a better understanding and appreciation of the need to manage our waste in an environmentally responsible way. At school, we have a system for sorting our waste, including the recycling of a wide range of materials and composting of organic matter. However, with so many individuals on site, it is difficult to ensure all of our waste is being sorted accurately. To help manage this, we are promoting a 'pack it in, pack it out' philosophy. Where this is particularly helpful is with food scraps, which can make a real mess if not handled appropriately. It may also be helpful to you, to see what your kids may not be eating from their lunches. We appreciate your support in this.

## Reporting An Absence

Our school uses an online absence reporting system called *School Messenger*. Click on this link for more details: https://www.sd33.bc.ca/safe-arrival.

## Medical Alert Conditions

All students with potentially life-threatening medical conditions and those who require medication and/or special consideration at school

should update their documents on file at the school office as soon as possible.
If your child has a medical condition that the school needs to know about, please speak with your child's teacher as soon as possible as well as contact the office so we can be informed.

**Peanut Aware**
In an attempt to make Cheam a safer place for all of our students, we respectfully ask that you be 'peanut aware'. Please do not send food containing peanuts, or products that 'may contain traces of peanuts'. We fully appreciate how challenging it can be to change habits and find safe and healthy alternatives. Thank you for your support.

**Volunteering**
If you are hoping to participate in activities in your child's classroom or help with fieldtrips, a Police Information Check (PIC) must be completed. Police Information Checks are mandatory for all volunteers and are valid for four years. We ask that a PIC be completed once while your child is in the Primary grades and again when they are in Intermediate to ensure all PIC's are current. There is no cost for having this done. Forms are now completed online. https://sd33.bc.ca/volunteering

*As it can take time for PICs to go through the system, we do encourage you to take care of this step as soon as you're able to. Also, if you'd like to help out with driving, we'll need a driver's abstract on file. Volunteer driver forms need renewed* ***every year****.*

**Labeling Clothing**
Our Lost and Found cupboard is often overflowing with jackets, sweaters, and such. To help minimize loss, please put your child's name on the labels of their personal items.

**Supervision**
A reminder that supervision begins at 8:00 am in the morning. For student safety reasons, please *do not* drop off your children or leave them unattended before this time. Supervision after school ends at 2:35 pm. Any students that have not been picked up by this time will be asked to wait outside the office.

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

**Important Dates**

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Nov 6: Pro-D Day
Nov 10: Remembrance Assembly and Family Movie Night
Nov 11: Remembrance Day (stat holiday)
Nov 12: PAC Meeting
Nov 17-18: Scholastics Book Fair
Nov 18: Hot Lunch
Nov 19: Bullying Awareness presentation
Nov 20: Rock Your Mocs Spirit Day
Nov 27: Pro-D Day
Nov 30 *Mo'vember* Spirit Day

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Dec 4: Deck the Halls
Dec 7-10: Tradansa (performance on Dec 10)
Dec 11: PAC Pancake Breakfast
Dec 16: Term One Learning Updates
Dec 18: *'Tis the Season* Spirit Day and Hot Lunch
*Check the calendar for more events….*

**Communication**
If you want to know what's going on at school, our website is an excellent place to begin. Visit http://cheam.sd33.bc.ca/. Key areas to focus on are the *Home* page, the *Calendar* and *News and Events*. The site will be updated regularly. We will also send out periodic reminders via our email system: *sysadmin@myeducation.gov.bc.ca*.

All of our monthly newsletters will only be published online. If you require a paper copy, please inform Merilee at the office.
There is a Cheam Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/groups/cheamelementary/, which has proven to be an excellent vehicle for sharing information and keeping families connected. I encourage you to visit the site and request to be added to the group. Please understand this is a parent forum, with parent administrators. If you ever need to get a hold of me or other staff, best to contact us directly.

Your child's teacher will also be in regular contact with you, of course, perhaps by newsletter, communication book, planner, class website, email or phone.

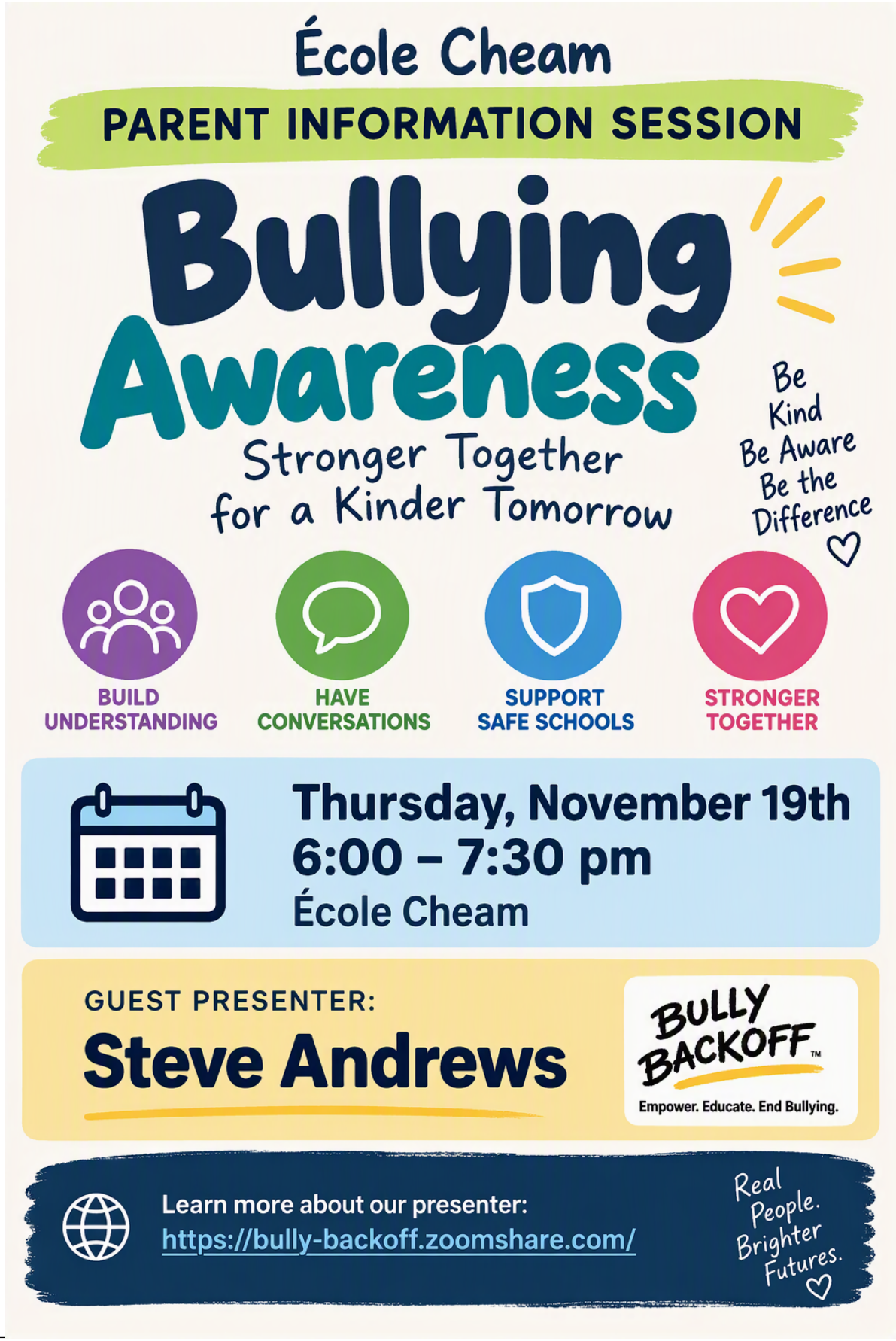
We now also have a Chilliwack Chapter of the organization *Canadian Parents for French* (CPF-Chilliwack). To learn more about the group's activities, you can email cpf.chilliwack@gmail.com and follow them on Facebook CPE-Chilliwack Facebook.

**Family Movie Night**
Back by popular demand is our PAC-sponsored Family Movie Night on Tuesday, November 10th. We will be showing Toy Story 5. Doors open at 5:30 pm, and the movie begins at 6:00 pm. This is a family event, so all children must be accompanied by an adult. We will have some mats out for the kids and they are invited to bring a blanket to help be more comfortable. Parents are to bring their own camping chair. It's hard to predict how much space we have for everyone, so please keep extra 'stuff' to a minimum. We are also asking kids to keep their stuffies (or any toys, really) at home. There will be a concession stand, so keeping the extras to a minimum will help prevent many 'accidents'.

**Scholastics Book Fair**
The Scholastic Book fair is coming November 17th and 18th. On the 17th, it will be open after school until 3:30 pm. On the 18th, it will be open at lunch and after school until 3:30 pm. It will be open to students during their book exchange time, as well. For students, we will accept cash only. Cash and cards will be accepted after school when accompanied by a parent or trusted adult (e.g., grandparent, guardian). As always, Mme Sarrazin would love some volunteers to help with set up, take down, supervision and sales. Please contact katie_sarrazin@sd33.bc.ca for more information.

**Parent Information Session**
On November 19th (6:00-7:30 pm), Steve Andrews from 'Bully Back Off' will be here to discuss bullying awareness. See poster below.

***V'ni dansi!***
A key component to many cultures' Christmas/winter celebrations is music and dance. Our students will be treated to a week of dance instruction from Anita Rudichek of *Tradansa*. The students will learn a few traditional French-Canadian steps in class, and then present what they have learned to the other classes on Thursday, December 10th at 1:00 pm. Parents are invited to join us for this festive occasion. We are also working on having the performance filmed and shared from a secure server afterwards.


École Cheam
PARENT INFORMATION SESSION
Bullying Awareness
Stronger Together for a Kinder Tomorrow
Be Kind
Be Aware
Be the Difference
BUILD UNDERSTANDING
HAVE CONVERSATIONS
SUPPORT SAFE SCHOOLS
STRONGER TOGETHER
Thursday, November 19th
6:00 – 7:30 pm
École Cheam
GUEST PRESENTER:
Steve Andrews
BULLY BACKOFF™
Empower. Educate. End Bullying.
Learn more about our presenter:
https://bully-backoff.zoomshare.com/
Real People. Brighter Futures.