



February 1st, 2024

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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 2024, 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.

Back to the present....

In spite of everything I mentioned in regards to planning for next year, we have not forgotten about the here and now! We have so many fun, fascinating, and exciting things on the go before Spring Break and afterwards. 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.

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

Important Dates in February and March

- Feb 2: Hot Lunch
- Feb 2-11: Quebec Winter Carnival
- Feb 7: Global School Play Day
- Feb 8: Family Skate
- Feb 12: PAC Meeting
- Feb 16: Pro-D Day (District)
- Feb 19: Family Day
- Feb 22: Hot Lunch
- Feb 28: Pink Shirt Day

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- Mar 1: Early Dismissal and Open House
 - Mar 13: Hot Lunch and Term Two Learning Update
 - Mar 15: World Book Day
 - Mar 16-31: Spring Break

Carnaval d'hiver

Starting on February 2nd and continuing to the 11th, the Québec winter carnival, a fine example of québécoise tradition and culture, will be celebrated. For more information about 'Le Carnaval de Québec', visit <http://carnaval.qc.ca/en/>



Spring Production

We are excited to announce our spring production: *The Surprising Story of the Three Little Pigs* taking place in the evening on Monday, May 6. The play, a comedy and a fractured fairy tale mash-up, has just been cast with students from grades three through five. The final production, however, will involve all of our students in some capacity, whether on-stage performing in a class choir or part of the backstage crew. This production will be a large undertaking, and we need your help! Please consider getting involved in any of the following areas:

- costumes
- props
- hair/make-up
- lobby/decorating
- concession
- fundraising

If you are interested in helping, please e-mail Mrs. Zacharias at jennifer_zacharias@sd33.bc.ca.

One School, One Book

We hope you are all enjoying our selection this year, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. If you haven't already, please check out our library page (<https://cheam.sd33.bc.ca/library>). Mme Sarrazin has uploaded a variety of activities and audio recordings to go along with the book. There's also a suggested timeline to ensure the kids are ready for World Book Day on March 15th.

Global School Play Day

Wednesday, February 7th marks the tenth annual Global School Play Day. To show our support for this initiative, our teachers will be dedicating one hour during the course of 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. For more details on the initiative, <http://www.globalschoolplayday.com/>.

School Closures

Friday, February 16th is a District-Wide Professional Development Day, and Monday, February 19th is Family Day. School is not in session on either of these days.

Pink Shirt Day

Wednesday, February 28th is national Pink Shirt Day.



To show your support for the victims of bullying behaviour, and to send the message that if we stand together, the bullies of the world can't bring us down, wear a pink shirt to school. For more information on this day, and to order t-shirts to mark the day, visit

<http://pinkshirtday.ca/>. Many local and online businesses are also selling themed t-shirts to mark the day.

General Reminders

To close, here are a few day-to-day things to keep in mind.

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.

Student Illness

Thank you to parents for continuing to keep your children at home if they are showing symptoms of illness. It is not lost on us just how frustrating and

inconvenient it can be to have to take time off work. We do not want students missing any more school days than they really must, but it really helps minimize the spread of cold and flu viruses. And a day or two of rest will help them recover quicker, and enable them to focus and be more successful when they're back in class.

Parking Lot

In general, the flow of traffic in the mornings has been reasonably smooth. But like a garden that must be tended to ensure a healthy crop, sustaining a safe and orderly parking lot also requires regular attention. There are a few points of concern that I would like you to keep in mind:

1. Stopping in the entrance area is not permitted at any time. *Please pull all the way forward to the crosswalks at the far end of the parking lot.*

2. Do not enter the bus lane unless directed to by staff. *The safe walking space for kids along the portables is quite narrow, so the less they need to worry about cars, the better. And if there's no staff in the parking lot to direct you down the bus lane, don't do it!*

3. If you are directed to enter the bus lane, remain in the middle of the lane. *Pulling over to the side is a nice gesture, but it actually creates an unsafe situation: a. the safe walking area for people becomes compromised, and b. it entices people to pass you in their vehicle, which is exceptionally dangerous.*

3. Do not park in the handicap parking stalls if you do not have a valid permit. *There are only two designated stalls, and our remaining options are not easily navigated by those with mobility issues. These stalls must remain available for those in need.*

I recognize that the reasons behind certain expectations aren't immediately clear and can prove to be quite inconvenient for individual folks at times. ***Our primary concern is safety.*** It's as simple as that. A momentary inconvenience in exchange for a healthy life seems worthwhile. This is what it means to live in community with each other. Thank you for your continued patience and understanding. And thank you for remembering to turn off your engine while you wait.



Rising to Resilience: The Power of Connection

- An Evening with Dr. Jean Clinton
- Thursday, February 15th, 6:00-7:00 pm

Parents are invited to participate in this presentation at the Neighborhood Learning Centre (Chilliwack Senior Secondary). Dr. Clinton will explore what it takes to have our children and youth get through difficult and challenging times by looking at how the brain works and develops at different ages. We will look at what we can do as parents of kids to help them develop these strategies. *See below for full details. Scan the QR code to register.*

FEB 15, 2024
6:00 - 7:00PM
Neighbourhood
Learning Centre

PARENT NIGHT

presented by
Learning Services



**Chilliwack
School District**

**Rising to
Resilience: The
Power of
Connection**



With Dr. Jean Clinton

**Presented by Dr. Jean Clinton BMus MD FRCP(C) Clinical Professor
McMaster University Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural
Neurosciences**

We will explore what it takes to have our children and youth get through difficult and challenging times by looking at how the brain works and develops at different ages. We will look at what we can do as parents of kids to help them develop these strategies. **Spoiler alert: Their relationship with you and caring adults is key!**

- **Date:** February 15, 2024
- **Time:** Doors open at 5:30pm
- **Location:** Neighbourhood Learning Centre

*First 100 people to register will
receive Dr. Clinton's book!*

Register today!

