



École Cheam Elementary School Newsletter



Chilliwack
School District

June 1st, 2025

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Nearing the Finish Line

What an amazing event our Cheam 150 carnival turned out to be. It was a true honour to be able to welcome former Cheam students back to their school. I'm so pleased so many of our families were able to join us for the day, as well. An absolute highlight of the day were the astounding performances of our current students (and a few alumni in the Sardis Secondary bands). After so many months of planning, it's hard to believe it's already been a month since that day! Time will only feel like it is moving faster as we approach the end of another school year. This newsletter contains some reminders about things to come in June, but also some information preparing you for next year.

Planning for September

Staffing is directly related to student enrolment. If you are planning to move, or transfer to another school in Chilliwack, please contact the office as soon as possible. The more accurate a picture we have of our student population, the more proactively we can build our classes for next year. We don't have a lot of flexibility, but where we do, we want to make the wisest decisions.

Student Placement Information

Staff will be meeting before the end of this school year to discuss the placement of students in classes for next year. To achieve a good balance in each class, we consider many factors:

- Academic achievement and needs
- Class size and composition
- Peer relations
- Previous placement history
- Learning styles

While considering the needs of the school/class as a whole, we take into account the learning and social needs of each child.

Staff members will be working together closely to make thoughtful student placement decisions through a comprehensive process. We do the bulk of this work in June, while we have the students fresh in our minds. We always face a few surprises in the fall, so the stronger our plans are now, the better we can adjust before classes are finalized at the end of the first week of school in September.

School Goal

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

With respect to combined classes, please understand that combined classes are a fact of school life and are more the norm than the exception. The thought process we apply in our selection for combined grade classes, in situations where we have options, is as unique as the students we are working with. We are very confident that the students in these classes receive a full and rich academic program at their grade level.

If you have pertinent details to share regarding your child's class placement, we are open to hearing your thoughts. If you send me an email (iain_gardner@sd33.bc.ca), I will ensure this information will be taken into consideration, along with all the other factors already mentioned. Please put 'Student Placement Information' in the subject line.

While all parent input will be given careful consideration, we cannot promise any specific

placement. We can promise, however, that we will do our very best for each and every child. Ultimately, our job is to ensure our students are successful, and their class placement is just the first step.

Student School Supplies

In September, you will be able to pay for your child's school supplies online. Our teachers are all quite thrifty shoppers so supply costs will remain the same for next year, i.e. \$50 (Kindergarten-Grade Two) and \$60 (Grades Three-Five).

School Bus Registration

Registration for bus transportation for the 2025/2026 school year is open. Visit <https://www.sd33.bc.ca/bus-registration-2025-2026> to register your child.

Child Care

[SD33 Early Learning and Child Care](#) is thrilled to announce the offering of Summer Care this year! This new program allows us to continue providing the same high-quality, reliable care our families count on—even after the school year ends.

Over the past few weeks, priority registration has been given to our current Before & After School Care (BASC) families. Now, we're excited to open remaining spots to additional families from the schools where we currently provide care (Central, Cheam, Greendale, Robertson, Sardis, Unsworth and Vedder). This year, Summer Care will be hosted at Unsworth Elementary in the Annex building.

The Early Learning & Child Care team is looking forward to a summer full of friendships, play and lasting memories—and we can't wait to welcome your child! If you have any questions or would like more information, please reach out to the Early Learning & Child Care Coordinator Laura Callaghan at laura_callaghan@sd33.bc.ca

Registrations are also open for school-operated Before/After-School Care centres for the 2025-26 school year. Please follow this link for more information and to access request forms: <https://earlylearning.sd33.bc.ca/after-school-care-sites>

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

Important Dates in June

June 3 Kindergarten Orientation
June 5/6 Young Entrepreneurs Showcase
June 6 Summer Fun Day/Hot Lunch
June 13 Bridal Falls Water Park
June 19 District Track and Field
June 20 Nat'l Indigenous Peoples Day
June 26 Last Day of School-Early Dismissal-Final Report Cards

PAC Meeting

The PAC Annual General Meeting is on Thursday, June 12th, 7:00 pm at the school.

Parking Lot- General Reminder

The safety of students, staff and community members is our number one concern in and around our parking lot. It is very important we all take time to periodically review the expectations at drop-off and pick-up. In particular, please note that the same expectations are in place throughout the day. If you are arriving outside our peak traffic times and there are no staff around to provide guidance, it is very important you follow the same procedures (i.e. park in a proper stall or pull-through to the crosswalk at the far end of the lot, and *never* use the bus lane). The key to safety is consistency. Besides, if you are arriving outside our peak times, you should be coming into the school with your child to check in at the office, so please park properly.

Boundary Review Discussion...To Be Continued

For the sake of families who may not be fully aware of what this Boundary Review is all about, and what impact it has on our school, here is a basic outline of the proposed plan. The Ministry of Education announced in September 2023 that a new 500-student capacity elementary school would be built on the old Rosedale Elementary site (McGrath Road). The school was initially slated to open in September 2026, but this has been adjusted to one year later, September 2027.

The first step outlined in the preliminary boundary review plan is to move all of the K-5 students out of Rosedale Traditional Community School and bring them to the new elementary school. RTCS would then become a Middle School exclusively. This would leave the new elementary school and Rosedale Middle each with about 250 available spaces for students.

The next phase of this preliminary plan looks at moving the Early French Immersion program from Cheam to the new elementary site (and the Early and Late Immersion programs at Chilliwack Middle are also being considered for a move to Rosedale Middle). The District is also considering moving all our English program students to the new elementary site, as well. Cheam would effectively close as an elementary school, and the current catchment area would be redrawn. Most families would fall within the catchment of the new elementary school in Rosedale, but some would become part of either Strathcona Elementary or Little Mountain Elementary catchment areas. Students currently attending Cheam that would then fall within those other catchment areas would still be able to make the move with their classmates to the new school.

In February and March, District staff held preliminary discussions with all school staff and families that would be impacted by these changes.

These talks were just the beginning of a larger process to consult with everyone before a final decision is made. In April, District staff shared their initial planning with our School District Trustees, including all the feedback they received from staff and parents. The official process was initially expected to begin before now, but as the opening has been delayed by one year, there's less of a rush. The specific details will be communicated via the school website and email.

In the meantime, if you have questions, reach out to me (jain_gardner@sd33.bc.ca), your PAC executive (cheam-pac@sd33.bc.ca), or the District Communications Manager (amy_dhanjal@sd33.bc.ca). You can also get further details and provide feedback through the District's 'Let's Talk' site: <https://www.letstalksd33.ca/>

T-Bird Ball Caps

As we head into Spring and the sun begins to shine, the time is right to start wearing hats to protect you from the sun. Why not look really sharp and support your school while doing it, too? T-Bird ball caps are on sale at the office. We have adult and youth sizes, \$20.00 each (discounts available if purchasing multiple units).

Happy Father's Day

Last, but not least, on behalf of the staff, I'd like to wish all our moms out there a very happy Father's Day on June 15th. Enjoy!



Please note our bell schedule will not be changing.

2025-2026 Local School Calendar	
Days in Session	187
Minimum Number of Instructional Days	177
Number of Non-Instructional Days	10
Schools Open (Early Dismissal- 10:15 am)	September 2
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY (District)	September 29
Nat'l Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Statutory Holiday)	September 30
Thanksgiving Day	October 13
Early Dismissal (11:15 am)	October 23
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY (Provincial)	October 24
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY (Assessment/Evaluation)	November 3
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY (In Lieu)	November 10
Remembrance Day (Statutory Holiday)	November 11
Last Day before Christmas Holidays	December 19
Christmas Holidays	December 22 to January 2
Schools Reopen after Christmas Holidays	January 5
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY (Assessment/Evaluation)	January 23
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY (District)	February 13
Family Day (Statutory Holiday)	February 16
Early Dismissal (11:15 am)	February 27
Last Day before Spring Vacation	March 13
Spring Vacation Period	March 16 to March 27
Schools Reopen after Spring Vacation	March 30
Good Friday (Statutory Holiday)	April 3
Easter Monday (Statutory Holiday)	April 6
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY (CTA)	April 24
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY (In Lieu)	May 15
Victoria Day (Statutory Holiday)	May 18
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY (Assessment/Evaluation)	May 29
Last Day (Early Dismissal 11:15 am)	June 25