

Charlie Lake Elementary School January 2016 Newsletter



Welcome back to all of our students and families! Wishing all of our community a wonderful New Year. Here are some of the up and coming events for the month of January. This is our first attempt at emailing our newsletter to those families that indicated they had an email; it is our hope this will help reduce the amount of paper we use. Paper copies will continue to go home to those families who indicated digital means would not work for them. Given that technology can have its glitches, if you are not receiving a digital copy and were expecting one, please contact us at the school. Please see contact information for the school below for those families who wish to utilize digital means of communication:

School Website: www.charlielake.prn.bc.ca

Facebook: www.facebook.com/SD60CL

Twitter: www.twitter.com/sd60cl

School email: charlielakeschool.prn.bc.ca

As always, parents are most welcome to continue to phone us at the school.

Kindergarten Registration: It is that time of the year again to begin gathering registrations for Kindergarten for the September 2016 school year. If your child turns five by December 31, 2016 he/she can be registered for Kindergarten. Please bring your child's birth certificate, care

card and proof of residency to the school when you come to register. If you have any questions about the process or transition for your child, please contact us at the school. A Welcome to Kindergarten event will be held in late spring. More information will be sent out in the up and coming months to those families.

Foundation Skills Assessment & Provincial Satisfaction Survey

Students in **grade four** will be writing the FSA government exam from mid-January to the early part of February. More information will be sent home to grade four students in the up and coming weeks. Any questions about the exam can be directed to Mrs. Chretien via phone or email at cchretien@prn.bc.ca.

The 2016 Electronic Provincial Satisfaction Survey for the Ministry of Education is currently online. Parents of students in grade 4 are asked to fill in this survey. Information and codes will be forwarded to grade 4 parents next week.

Ready, Set, Learn!

This yearly event is aimed at families and their three and four year old children. This year at Charlie Lake, we are offering three sessions and families are welcome to attend one or all sessions with their child. It helps support community connections between families and the school system. Parents and children who attend can expect to take part in play-based activities as well as finding out about early learning. Registration for the event is preferred, but drop-ins are welcome. Please contact the school to register for the sessions below:

Session 1: February 19th at 2:00-2:45 pm in the Gymnasium

Session 2: March 15th at 10:00-10:30 am in Rascals

Session 3: April 21st at 2:00-2:45 pm in the Library

Interim Reports

Interim Reports will be coming home between January 25th and February 1st. Informal reports are required twice per year.

Science Fair

Science Fair is quickly approaching. Please check with your child's teacher about expectations of science fair for this year. Since we have many new families, we thought it important to give all a historical perspective about Science Fair in our community. It will take place on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 in the gym. Many thanks to Mrs. Haugen for her efforts in supporting this annual event as well as providing us all with its importance below:

Charlie Lake students and alumni have participated in science fairs at the school, regional, national and international level for close to two decades. Over that time our students have won over \$150,000 in cash and scholarships for themselves and their education. Science fair is about personal choice and project based learning – it allows students to engage in subjects that they would normally not learn in school. The students chosen to advance from the school fair to the regional fair have an exciting day of activities and judging. Starting at the Grade 7 level, five students are picked to compete for the Canada-Wide Science Fair. Each year one or more of those students has been a Charlie Lake alumnus. At this level the students travel to a university location within Canada to participate with up to 500 of the best science fair students. Three of our alumni have also competed at International Science Fairs in the United States and Taiwan.

At Charlie Lake, students may begin participating in science fair in grade 1. Primary students are encouraged to explore anything of interest. On judging day a student has one-on-one time with an adult to explain their project. For the primary years it is about talking to an adult, having fun with basic experiments like building volcanoes and plugging electrodes into lemons, and the excitement of having your work on display in the gym. It is strictly voluntary for students to participate.

At the intermediate level, students may be required to complete a science fair project by their teachers, but do not have to present to judges in the gym. However, if a student does not, he or she will not be considered for the regional fair.

Science fair teaches several important skills. Students learn how to develop, organize and complete a long-range project. They learn a topic in depth. One of the most important skills is the art of presentation. Students display their project in an organized manner and have to orally present to several adults and many fellow students everything learned about the project. Students are also encouraged to dress for the presentation. These last skills are useful for future job interviews.

Basketball Season

Basketball season is upon us! This year, Mr. Longley will be coaching the intermediate girls and Mrs. Fearon will coach the intermediate boys. Many thanks to both teachers!

House Teams

Our house teams have been organized thanks to Mrs. McLennan who takes on our student leadership in the school. Students and staff are divided into four house colors. Points are earned throughout the year for teams as they participate in various school spirit activities such as pajama day, laker days or food drives. The house teams help support school spirit amongst our students. Different spirit days are announced as they are organized on daily announcements. We will soon have a January Laker day to support students wearing our school t-shirts that will be distributed this next week. To date, the points are as follows:

Red	34
Yellow	118
Green	32
Blue	32

Additional Non-Instructional Days

There have been two new non-instructional days added to the school calendar in order to support the examination of the new curriculum. Schools will be closed on Friday, February 26th, 2016 & Monday, March 16th, 2016.

PAC News

Here are the updates from the PAC President, Mrs. Geilan Carnell:

We had another fun family dance and many thanks go out to all families that came out and had a fun time dancing with the wonderful Mrs. Angie Pomeroy. Thank you to our donors of gift prizes: NPCC for the ballet tickets, the City of FSJ for the skating and swim passes, Debbie Clarke/Dragon Fitness for the gift certificate, Menchie's for the gift basket, Chambers Farm for the

two family passes, Sandra Hoffmann for the Winnie the Poo gift basket and the school for the mugs and hoodies.

Important Dates for January 2016

January 11 Pizza Day
January 11 PAC meeting at 7:00 pm
January 14 Subway Day
January 20 Booster Juice Day
January 22 Hot Dog Day
January 27 Menchie's Day
January 29 Non-Instructional Day-Schools closed

A reminder to parents to ensure that students come to school with the required winter clothing in order to go outside. We endeavor to send students outside as often as possible, weather permitting. Wishing all families a wonderful month of January. As always, please contact us at the school should you have any questions or concerns.

Mrs. Chretien
Principal

Mrs. Neuls
Vice-Principal