

November 2022

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I entered this building 8 years ago as principal, just in time for the schools' 85th year celebration. At that time, I didn't fully understand and appreciate the special place this was and certainly I did not know how this place and the people who pass through this place would profoundly impact me over the next many years. I inherited the legacy that the former staff and students left—a belief of “leaving things a bit better than you found them”. I mean that in regard to our interactions with people and with place. Let me share with you what I have experienced.

This school is embraced by the community and a quiet army of caring volunteers. The support from service organization like Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions Club, Kinsmen, Main Street Church, Victory Church, Bowls of Hope, Star Fish, and businesses such as the Book Man, Fresco, Honda, Staples, Algra Bros. etc. is truly amazing. It really does take the Chilliwack village to raise a child.

Central's current identity is a collective one, of what has been, what is and what is to come.

We find ourselves in a special place, situated in an interesting location--- anchored in the center of a somewhat complicated downtown. Things have changed around us in the downtown core in Chilliwack, yet I believe when that recess bell rings and our students run outside, the sound of the children's voices and laughter is what needs to be heard in the heart of this town.

In one of our newsletters, I wrote about how I was thinking about the Opal gemstone and how it is beautiful because of its imperfections and cracks that allow the light to shine through. This is similar

November Dates to Remember:

November 4	Early Dismissal 11:20
November 6	Fall back an hour
November 8	National Indigenous Veterans Day
November 10	Remembrance Day Ceremony 10:30am
November 11	Remembrance Day Stat – NO SCHOOL
November 14-18	Rock your Mocs week
November 14	Lockdown drill 9:30 am
November 24	Spirit Day: Crazy Hat/Hair
November 25	Pro-D day. Classes not in session
November 28	Assessment Day-Classes not in session

December Dates to Remember

December 2	Hot Lunch/Spirit Day - Ugly Sweater Deck the Halls at 1:00 p.m.
December 3	Pancake Breakfast with Santa 9:00 am
December 6	PAC Potluck meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the library
December 15	Christmas Concert 6:00 pm
December 16	Last Day of School before Winter Break

December 19 – January 2 – Winter Break

January 3 – School Back in Session

to us as people, it is our flaws and cracks that make us who we are.

We are people who try our best daily to come together to create a caring learning community. Our staff and students enter the doors of Central each morning bringing the best they have, to learn, work, play, and grow together. It is my hope that collectively through mistake making and risk taking we leave a little bit better than when we came.

It is with optimism, support, humility, and a respectful manner that we aim to build a healthy community by encouraging each other through

positive interactions and conversations. We ask our parents to give us their patience and understanding as we endeavor each day to make a great experience for their child(ren) at Central Community School.

We strive to follow our *Code of Conduct Matrix*, of being **Safe**, **Warm** hearted, having **Integrity** and being **Mindful**. **SWIM**. We are the home of the Sockeyes! We are a school that swims together, even if at times it feels like against the current. This is a place where children are learning, are happy, feel safe and experience meaningful friendships and connections.

The very name of our school, “Central Community School”, illustrates the “Central” place that this school has held in the history of this community and the hearts of so many, including mine.

As I leave to retire at Christmas, I want to say thank you to all our Central families for making my time here, as principal, an absolute highlight for me as an educator. Central is so very fortunate to have Ms. Arnold stepping into the principalship of this school. She will continue to work along side and lead the dedicated and talented team of teachers and support staff in this school.

INTERIMS WERE SENT HOME

Interims were sent home on, Tuesday Nov. 1st Hopefully you were able to meet with your child’s teacher on Nov. 3rd to discuss your child’s progress. Central Sockeyes are swimming to success! Let’s really work hard this month and next to end Term 1 on a successful note.

REMEMBRANCE DAY POPPIES

Remembrance Day is November 11th, and we will recognize the day at school with a ceremony on November 10th followed by a visit to the Cenotaph located behind the Chilliwack Museum. Poppies are available at the school for students. These are a symbol of remembrance for the veterans and current serving members of Canada’s armed services. You are encouraged to send along a donation of any size for your child’s poppy (a quarter or a loonie would be great), and these funds will be delivered to the Legion to be used for supporting veterans and their families in times of need.

Parents are welcome to attend the Remembrance Day Ceremony.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the Algra Brothers, Baker Newby and Community Services for supporting the day at Camp Charis for the entire school, including lunch. Thank you to our community partners for making such a special day for our students!

ABSENT?

If you know that your child is absent on any given day, please be sure to call the school and let us know as early as possible. This is essential to help us ensure your child’s safety.

LOST & FOUND

Our lost and found box is often overflowing with items. We do ask the children to check, however, if your child is missing a favourite clothing item please encourage your child to look by the gym in the lost and found. All unclaimed items will be donated before winter break.

SCHOOL/CLASS HOURS

Classes begin at 8:20 a.m. Children that arrive late miss important morning instruction and disrupt the teaching process. Please try to have your children at school on time and do not drop them off before supervision begins at 8:05 a.m.

Dismissal is at 2:20 p.m. and outside supervision is provided for 15 minutes after the dismissal bell. Please ensure your child is picked up from school no later than 2:35 p.m. It is important that students are not mingling outside unsupervised.

WEATHER & WEAR

Please make sure your child has an appropriate jacket and boots. We will continue to play outside for recess and lunch if it is just drizzling/lightly raining.

We do have some new boots and jackets that have been donated should you require help with this. Please let your child's teacher know.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of extreme weather conditions, parents are urged to check the School District website www.sd33.bc.ca or our Central school website www.central.sd33.bc.ca for information.

You can also tune in to radio stations STAR FM 98.3, 89.5 The Drive, to get up-to-the-minute information on any school closures. Reports will start at 6:00 am and will be repeated often. Inclement Weather Guidelines can also be found at the link below.

- [Inclement Weather Guidelines for Parents & Students 2022/23](#)

Please see our website for more information regarding this.

SCHOOL SECURITY

If you observe a situation at our site, please let us know immediately, or if it is after hours, please contact Griffin Security at (604) 703-0888 or the RCMP for assistance.

PAC

We just had a PAC meeting November 1st. Thank you to our parents who came out.

Watch for the Neufeld Farms fundraising forms coming home on Nov. 8th. Orders will be due the Nov. 22nd and delivered on Dec. 2nd in time for Christmas. As well, keep an eye out for ordering your child's Arts Cards by Kids.

Next PAC will in the school library on Dec.6th at 6:00pm. To celebrate December, the PAC is having a Potluck finger food and dessert meeting.

COMMUNITY SCHOOL

We would like remind our families that Denise Moore is the Family Navigator at Central. She is here to provide outreach resources and support to our families with children aged 0-6 years. If you have questions about your child's health and wellness, or need access to adequate food or housing, or simply need assistance filling out Kindergarten registration forms please don't hesitate to contact her. She can be reached at: via email at: centralfamilynavigator@gmail.com If you have questions or comments, feel free to do the following

FUN AT CENTRAL

Check out some entries at our 3rd annual Book Character Pumpkin decorating contest.

- Call the school office at (604) 792-8537
- Email the school at central@sd33.bc.ca
- Check the School Website <http://central.sd33.bc.ca>



Kindest regards,

Mrs. L. Waddington and Mrs. D. Arnold

