

Ocean Grove Elementary

3773 McLelan Rd., Campbell River, BC V9H 1K2

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December 2021 Newsletter

Winter Break is quickly
approaching!

Wishing you days filled with
laughter, love and good
health.

Enjoy, relax and don't forget
to take care of yourself.

From the
Ocean Grove
Staff



Important Dates

Dec. 1-13 - Knights of
Columbus Christmas
Hamper Drive

Dec. 17 - Xmas Hat/Shirt
Day

Dec. 17 - Last Day of
Classes before Winter
Break

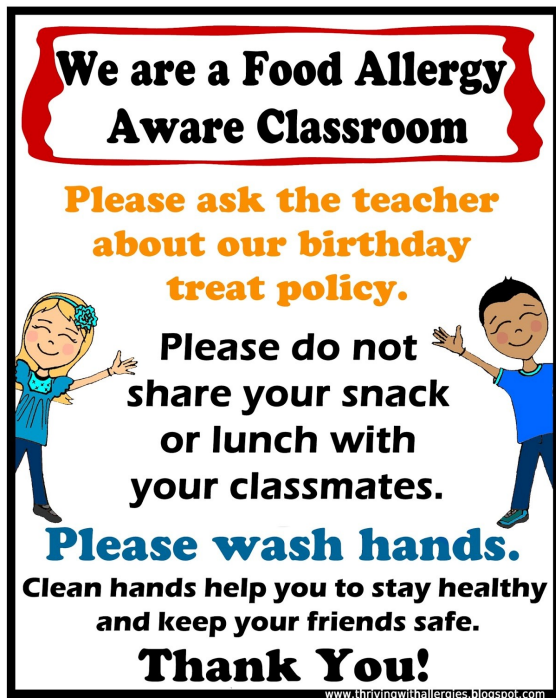
Jan. 4 - Back to School

**Please ensure that
you perform a Daily
Health Check on your
child every morning,
and follow the direc-
tions as to when to
keep them home.
(see website)**

Bell Schedule

8:25	School Starts
10:15-10:30	Recess
11:55-12:40	Lunch
2:10	Dismissal





Classroom Allergy Alerts

Please note that we have allergy alerts in certain classrooms.

Please help us keep our classrooms free of these allergens to protect these children.

Mrs. Kretlow
All nuts and eggs

Ms. Menard
All nuts

Mrs. Holland/Beres
Peanuts, cashews & pecans

Ms. Watkinson
All nuts & fish

Ms. Menard
All nuts

Mrs. Jarvis
Tree nuts, sesame, pistachios & cashews

Mrs. Hatfield
All nuts & lentils

A Friendly Reminder!

We try to have the students go outside at recess and lunch every day. The fresh air and movement is so important for learning!

Because the weather can be very wet on the west coast, we are requesting that students come dressed to be outside, with coats and boots, and we strongly suggest a change of clothes to keep in their backpacks (for ALL grades).



SD72 Bus Passes:

Our SD72 transportation department has now provided us with all back-ordered

student bus passes.

If you are expecting a bus pass and have not yet received it yet, please check with your child's teacher via email to confirm if they are holding on to one (just in case your child was absent when delivered).

If you have still not received an approved bus pass, please send your query to SD72 transportation: transportation@sd72.bc.ca.

Please note that all requested for a replacement bus pass due to loss/damage by a student will be charged \$10.

Please ask the office for the appropriate form to fill out.



Mrs. Gibson's grade 4/5 class planting trees with the Greenway Land Trust.

Student Masks & Water Bottles

We are currently handing out over **200** disposable masks to our students each week.

We ask that you help us cut down on this waste (and expense) by ensuring that your child comes to school with a reusable mask or disposable mask each day, with a spare (or 2) available in their backpack.

Due to continuing covid protocols, our water fountains remain closed at this time. However, the water bottle filler is available for student use.

We have too many students coming to school without their personal water bottles and we have had to purchase disposable water cups for their use. Again, we ask that you ensure that your child comes to school each day with their own water bottle (labelled please) so that we may avoid this expense and waste.

Thank you!

Reporting Student Absences

We require parent/guardian notification of student absences EACH day (unless you have pre-notified of a block absence).

Two ways:

(1) Phone

250-923-4266,
Option 2 for
Attendance Line

(2) Email

oceangrove@sd72.bc.ca

When leaving a message please state the REASON for the absence (ie sick, appointment, vacation, etc.)

We track for health reasons. Thank you!

Student Devices at School

Many students are tempted to bring electronic devices, special toys or other personal valuable to school (especially after Christmas). *These should be left at home.*

If you feel it is necessary for your child to bring a cell phone to school it must be kept in their backpack or given to their teacher for safekeeping throughout the day. No cell phones may be used during recess breaks and recording of other students is not permitted.



December Birthdays

Very happy birthday wishes to the following Ocean Grove students celebrating a birthday in December:

Owen
Kaden
Jayce
Jase
Silas

Gracie
Lane
Emmett
Riley
Elliott

Taylor
Magnus
Kaelyn
Liam
Hunter
Maverick
Magnus

Kayden
Hannah
Hayden
Ophelia
Halle
Nixon



Mrs. Muurmans' grade 1 students helping Greenways to plant trees at Willow Creek.

Knights of Columbus Hampers

Ocean Grove will once again be supporting the Knights of Columbus Community Christmas Hamper Fund. This is the 48th year that the Knights have organized this effort.

If you are in a position to help, we are asking for the donation of non-perishable food items, new toys, or cash (which goes a long way) to contribute towards these hampers.

Suggested food items for the hampers include:

Canned items

Cranberry sauce, tuna or salmon, soup, vegetables, fruit, ravioli, tomatoes ...

Other items

Jam, tomato/pasta sauce, rice, spaghetti, oats or cereal, coffee, cookies, hot chocolate, tea, crackers, pancake mix, pancake syrup, candy canes, noodles, chips, cake mixes, jello ...

**All items gratefully accepted between
December 1st and 13th**

Please drop off items to your child's classroom. If providing a cash donation, please seal in a labelled envelope. Thank you for your support!



Supervision Before School Starts

Before the first bell of the day our supervision is limited to the front of the school only.

Students should remain on the front area, black-top and playground only.

Due to the limited supervision before school, students are NOT to go play on the field.

Students should go place their backpack quickly behind the school, then return to the front area.

Please review and reinforce this safety protocol with your child. Thank you.

AM Attendance Call-Outs

Effective December 1st, our AM unexcused attendance call-outs will be made by automated phone and email message, rather than personal call. Please phone/email excused absences by 8:30 am.

Weather Closures of School

The Campbell River School District will try to keep schools open on every regular instructional day. Any decision to close schools is made by the Superintendent in consideration for the safety of our students. As winter approaches, the likelihood of school disruptions due to snowfall or power outages increases.

While the information below outlines how the Superintendent may decide to close schools, the CR School District, and our schools, respect and support parents if they feel that it is unsafe to send their child to school or wish to pick-up their child early due to potentially unsafe weather conditions.

In the Event of Extreme Weather Overnight

The Superintendent will make a decision on whether or not to close schools by 6:00 am after consulting with the manager of operations and head bus driver.

If the decision is to close schools, parents and students will be informed with an alert notice posted on the top of the district and all impacted school websites, as well as on the district's Facebook page (Campbell River School District—SD72) and Twitter account (@CRSD72). Local radio stations (99.7 FM—2Day FM; 97.3 FM—The Eagle; 98.9 FM—The Goat; 95.7 FM—Coast FM; 90.5 FM—CBC Victoria; and Spirit Radio), as well as CTV Vancouver Island News, CHEK TV, Global BC News, Shaw Cable, and the City of Campbell River's snow removal line will also be informed.

Staff will receive notification through email and all of these communications will be activated no later than 7:30 am. Please note that sometimes, give the number of calls that the radio and TV stations receive from other organizations, these media outlets may be delayed in getting closure information out.

If schools are open, the notification methods outlined out will NOT be activated. If there is no alert notice on the homepage of the district website or on the local radio stations, it is because schools are open and regular programming will be in session.

In the Event of Extreme Weather During School Hours

Sometimes it may be necessary to dismiss school early if weather conditions change and create a concern for the safety of students in returning home. After consulting with local authorities, the manager of operations and head bus driver, the Superintendent will instruct school principals to dismiss school early.

An alert notice with specific closure information will be posted at the top of the district and all impacted school websites, as well as on the district's Facebook page and Twitter account (see above). Parents and emergency contacts will be called and local radio stations notified.

PAC Christmas Wish Book Fundraiser

Thank you to our Ocean Grove families and friends for your support of the PAC's Christmas Wish Book fundraiser.

Also, thank you to the PAC for coordinating this event, and to our community vendors for participating.

An email will be sent advising when orders will be ready for pick-up from classrooms (early December).

The total amount raised is \$1,272.96!



Mrs. Hatfield's grade 1 class playing "Buccanneers", a pirate game to practice weekly words and team work.

Lost and Found

Please check what items your child has not brought home.

Our Lost and Found in the main foyer is overflowing!

We would really love to have all of the coats, hoodies, water bottles, shoes, and other items returned to their owners ASAP.

Our leadership students have taken our cart around to classrooms in an attempt to have students claim their items, but not many were taken. Most items are not labelled with names, which makes it very difficult to return to students.

PLEASE label your child's items with their name or initials.

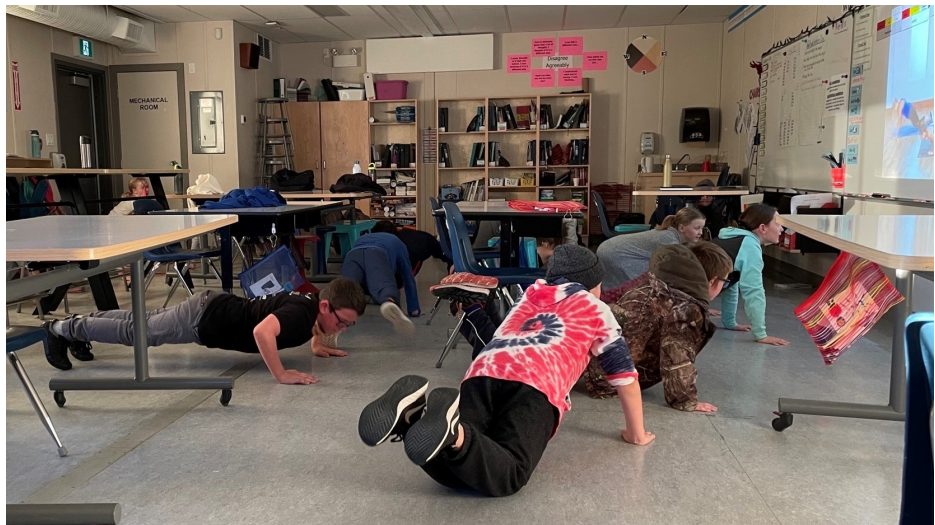
If you would like to come into the school to check the Lost & Found please phone Mrs. Worsley.

Any items not claimed by December 14th will be donated to a local charity before Winter Break.



Christmas Hat/Shirt Day

Celebrate the fun of the holiday season by wearing a Christmas hat/shirt on Friday, December 17th.



Mrs. Ross' grade 5 class doing their weekly HIIT (High Intensity Interval Training) workouts!



SD72 Bus Passenger Conduct

All bus students are expected to behave in accordance with our school's code of conduct. In addition, students are required to observe the following specific rules regarding conduct, *including* the following:

- Board and disembark in an orderly manner
- Refrain from distracting the driver
- Behave in a quiet and orderly manner while waiting for and riding on the bus
- Refrain from putting heads, arms, etc. out of bus windows
- Remain properly seated during entire journey
- Open windows only with permission of the driver

Travelling on a school bus is a privilege, which may be suspended or revoked for a student who does not observe the provisions of the operational procedures. The principal or designate shall determine which students are authorized to ride the bus. *Singularly inexcusable conduct shall result in an immediate and indefinite period of suspension from bus privileges.*

The principal shall notify parents/guardians in writing or by phone call about a student's misbehaviour and of any discipline. Any student suspended from district transportation is still expected to attend school. *Please discuss appropriate bus conduct with your bus child.*



Head Lice Awareness

Head lice are common in BC communities. Although they are a bother, **head lice are not a health risk.**

Head lice spread quickly by close, head-to-head contact. Lice cannot live on furniture or carpet, and they cannot jump or fly. There may be few or no symptoms, but itching may occur.

You can help by:

- Checking your child's head with the wet combing method of detection once a week throughout the year.

- Review the pamphlet *How to Get Rid of Head Lice Wet Combing*, available online, at your school and [Public Health Unit](#).

- Encouraging your child to wear their hair tied back.

- Treating if you notice live lice on your child's head.

- Reminding family and friends about the importance of routine head checks, using the wet combing method.

For more information:

Your local [Public Health Unit](#)

Read the HealthLink BC File on Head Lice [HealthLink BC File #06 Head Lice](#)



Eating Together, Eating Better

With busy schedules, it can be hard to find time for family meals. **Making the time for family meals is worth it.**

Children who eat with an adult almost every day:

- Are more connected to their families and friends

- Do better in school

- Are less likely to engage in high risk behaviours like smoking, alcohol and drug use

- Have less risk of depression and suicide

- Make healthier food choices and are more likely to maintain healthy growth and weight

Not sure how to get started? Here are some ideas:

- Make family meals a priority. Schedule meals the same way you schedule other activities.

- Involve your children in planning, preparing and meal clean-up. Give everyone a job to do.

- Keep table talk positive and supportive. Focus on the good things that happened in everyone's day, such as things learned at school, good deeds done, a book you are reading or a joke you have heard.

For more ideas and resources, check out [Better Together!](#)

Children and teens say eating together as a family is one of the things they like to do with their parents. Eating together is good for the whole family.

For more information:

Your local [Public Health Unit](#) [HealthLinkBC and Dietitian Services](#) or dial 8-1-1 and ask to speak to a Registered Dietitian (a free call) [Ellyn Satter Institute](#)