

# Ocean Grove Elementary

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## January 2022 Newsletter

Dear Ocean Grove School Community,

Welcome to the beginning of a brand new year! I hope that you all had an opportunity to gather with friends and family in a safe way over the holiday break. Every year, as we deal with the ongoing challenges of the Pandemic, we begin to appreciate more and more the really important things in our lives. May your new year be full of these important things!



There have been a few changes over the break. Firstly, Mrs. Soutar is currently away on a leave of absence. I will be standing in as Acting-Principal while she is away and will be replaced in the classroom by other teachers (except for Fridays when I will stay with my current class). Joining our administration team during the leave will be Joanna Broadbent. She is a long time administrator from Campbell River and will be in the building on Wednesdays and Fridays to help support our learning.

Secondly, as most of you know, a new strain of the Corona virus (Omicron) has been making it's way around the world. Unfortunately, many of you may already have made it's acquaintance over the holiday break. In order to keep our school open and running and our staff and students safe we will need your help. Please see information regarding new provincial protocols/mandates, and parent/guardian expectations on page two of this newsletter.

In particular, we ask that you be vigilant about doing your Student Health Checks daily. Here is the link to download the app for your phone: [LINK](#)

Please continue to check information available on the school/district websites, and look for emails providing updates as we receive them from the Province.

While we love to see parents in our building, the new health guidelines are once again asking us to keep adult presence inside the building to a minimum. Again, please see page two for expected procedures.

If we all follow these guidelines, we will hopefully keep illness to a minimum and therefore minimize the risk of staff and student absences or the need to move learning back into a remote format. Thank you for your patience and understanding at this time.

We have so many fun learning opportunities to look forward to in 2022!

Ms. Deborah Beres, Acting-Principal

### Important Dates

**Jan. 31 - Feb. 4 Sept.**  
2022 Kindergarten  
Registration Week

**Feb. 11**  
Cross Catchment  
Transfer Deadline

**Feb. 18 - NO CLASSES**  
(Pro-D Day)

**Feb. 21 - SCHOOL**  
CLOSED (Family Day)

**Please ensure that you perform a Daily Health Check on your child every morning, and follow the directions as to when to keep them home. (see website to download K-12 health check App)**

### Bell Schedule

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



## Provincial COVID-19 Guidelines for K-12 Settings

In accordance with provincial guidelines provided over winter break, additional focused actions and prevention measures are in place in response to the recent rise of cases of Covid-19 to ensure schools have effective measures in place to prevent transmission of this disease.

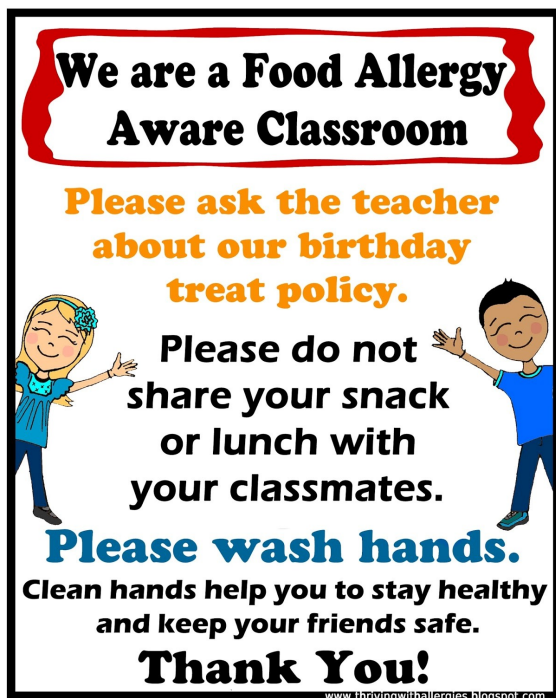
Schools have been mandated to implement additional prevention measures, including:

- providing regular reminders to students, families and staff about the importance of completing a DAILY HEALTH CHECK, staying home when sick, and following public health recommendations.
- Having staff demonstrate and model how to practice personal prevention measures at school (e.g. wearing a mask, hand hygiene, etc.).
- Sharing trusted information from the BC Centre for Disease Control.
- Desk/table arrangements have been modified in classrooms to avoid/limit face-to-face seating arrangements.
- As all classrooms have exterior doors for entrance/exit, there is no need to stagger our start/dismissal times.
- Measures have been taken to limit/prevent traffic and congestion in the hallways and shared spaces.
- Lunch time play will be split into zones.
- Parents are not permitted in the school without purpose and volunteers are not allowed at this time.

## Expectations for Parents/Guardians

- **Each morning before school** complete a Student Daily Health Check with your student. There is an App available on the district website that may be used for the purpose, and it may also be downloaded to mobile devices.
- **If your student is sick** keep them home.
- **If your student shows signs of illness during the day** they will be sent home. Please ensure that you have someone available to pick your child promptly. Upon arrival please phone the school office (250-923-4266) and your child will be sent out the main entrance doors to meet you.
- **Masks must be worn by all students** inside the school (unless exempted by administration). Masks must have a proper fit and should be 3-ply. For this reasons, bandanas are not acceptable. Although we do have a supply of disposable masks, we ask that you provide your child with a mask and a spare in their backpack.
- **Outside Play** will be split into zones. At this time, we also strongly suggest that students wear their masks during outside play.
- **Student Drop-Off/Pick-Up** - Do not get out of your car unless necessary. If you have a very young child and feel you need to walk them to their classroom door please wear a mask and respect social distancing. You can watch your late student go through the main entrance doors to meet Mrs. Worsley to sign in.
- **If Meeting a Staff Member** contact the office and follow the health protocols when entering the building.

*Thank you for your continued cooperation.*



## 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*

## Weather Closure of Schools

This time of year the likelihood of school disruptions due to snowfall or power outages increase. **In the event of a school closure, an alert notice will be posted on the school's website.**

Decisions on partial day school closures are made on a case-by-case basis. In most cases, when the power goes out emergency lighting is activated and heating/water is not adversely affected. If there is no immediate concern a call will not be made for early dismissal. In these situations parents are, of course, welcome to pick up their child early as long as appropriate sign-out protocols are maintained.



Thank you so very much for your generous donations for the Knights of Columbus Christmas Toy and Food Drive Hampers.

As a school we donated over 14 boxes stuffed full of goodies, and cash donations of \$242.35.

What wonderful community spirit!



*Grade 5 Leadership Students with Knights of Columbus Hamper donations.*

## Kindergarten Registration for Sept. 2022 AND Cross Catchment Transfers

Kindergarten registration for September 2022 will take place the week of **January 31st**. Registrations will still be accepted after this period, however, parents are asked to register by Friday, February 4th if possible.

**Please provide us with the following documentation via email to "oceangrove@sd72.bc.ca":**

- **Completed student registration form (may be downloaded from district or school website);**
- **Copy of student's birth certificate;**
- **Copy of student's care card (both sides);**
- **Proof of residency (ie driver's license, tax/utility bill);**
- **Any legal documentation pertaining to custody/guardianship/access to the child; and**
- **Any materials to support special needs**

Although emailed registration is the preferred method, you may also phone the school office to set up an appointment time for registration.

Children must be five years old before December 31st, 2022 to register.

For parents interested in early French Immersion, we anticipate there will be an information session later in January, or materials provided directly by the School Board Office, 425 Pinecrest Rd.

**Cross Catchment Transfer deadline will be February 11, 2022; applications must be submitted to the School Board Office (425 Pinecrest Rd) or emailed to [student.registration@sd72.bc.ca](mailto:student.registration@sd72.bc.ca) by 4 pm.** Students must be registered at their catchment school before requesting a cross catchment transfer. Please also provide a copy to your registered school.

## 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](mailto: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!



## New District & School Websites

After 10 years, our district and schools are getting new mobile-friendly websites!

To make the switch our websites will be unavailable from 8 pm on Jan. 18 until 8 am on Jan. 19 when the new sites come online. Important information during this time will be posted on the district's Facebook and Twitter. Be sure to follow @CRSD72.

Web addresses for all school sites will be now be shortened to [www.sd72.bc.ca/schoolname](http://www.sd72.bc.ca/schoolname).

## January Birthdays

Happy birthday wishes to the following students having a birthday in January:

Kohen	Verena	Savanna	Piper
Ryder	Grant	Tanner	Mariah
Nathan	Ivy	Oliver	Julia
Adam	Liam	Skye	Hunter
Alexis	Hannah	Ashtyn	Rocky
Elizabeth	Chase	Jordan	Taleah
Zayden	Grady	Ellia	
Chase	Layla	Bradley	
Mason	Autumn	Braeden	
Holland	Alasdair	Jordan	
Hunter			



*Mrs. Farrell's grade K/1 classroom art posted in the hallway.*