
March 2020 Newsletter

Chelsea Elementary School

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Principal's Message

Dear Parent Community,

March has arrived and begins with Spring Break from the March 2-6th. I wish everyone a relaxing time to reconnect with family and friends.

February was a busy month which included Hundred's Day, Défi Génie - Engineering Challenge, Science Fair, the WQSB volleyball tournament, The Hall of Heroes and finishing with JungleSport. Thank you to all the parents who were involved in supporting their child(ren) in these learning events!

March will also include numerous special activities for students so please review the Calendar of Upcoming Events. In preparation for the [Music Makers performance on April 22nd](#), Chelsea students from grade 1-6 are busy practicing under the guidance of two staff members.

Next month, the value we will be exploring is CREATIVITY. Creativity is an important skill for both parents and educators to nurture in our children. Creativity is not linked solely to the arts; it is a mindset that allows students to think critically, generate ideas and to test those ideas. It also promotes the acceptance of set-backs as natural steps within a creative process.

Term 2 ended on February 14th; parents should expect term 2 reports to be available on the Parent Portal Mozaik on March 11th. Parent teacher interviews will follow during the evening March 19 from 4:00- 7:00 pm. Teachers will be sending interview requests shortly. If you wish to meet with your child's teachers but did not receive an interview request, please contact them directly to schedule a meeting.

Sincerely,

Andrea Gage

Upcoming Events

Mar 2– 6th March Break

Mar 9th Bus Safety Presentations

March 11th Report cards available on Portal

Mar 19th Parent-Teacher Interviews

4 pm – 7:00 pm

Mar 20th PD Day

Mar 23-27 Author Workshops at Chelsea Municipal Library

March 25 Concours D'Art Oratoire

March 27 WQSB Debating Competition

March 31st Chelsea Stars Assembly 8:30 am

Governing Board

Thank you. On behalf of the parents at Chelsea Elementary, we want to thank Principal Gage, the teachers, staff and entire school community that have supported our kids during what has been a particularly difficult month of February. Sometimes we take for granted that we have professionals in place to rely on when our kids are faced with circumstances that are outside of regular, every day "kid stuff". We know they have the training and compassion to communicate difficult messages and watch for behaviour that might indicate our child is struggling. What we also know, but might sometimes forget, is that they too are dealing with their own reaction and emotions around these circumstances and are strengthened by the support we, as parents, can give them in our day-to-day interactions. So thank you, to everyone who has put on a brave face and demonstrated strength and vulnerability while they support our kids to the best of their ability while juggling a multitude of other responsibilities. We are grateful for everything you've done throughout the year, and in the past month in particular, and are here for you just as you've been there for our kids.

Sincerely,

Governing Board Parent Reps

As parent representatives, we're here to bring your questions and concerns around school governance to the table with Chelsea staff for discussion so please don't hesitate to reach out to any of the parent reps listed below or, join us for the public forum portion of the meeting (but please reach out to Marty Thomas ahead of time so we can accommodate the time needed). Our next meeting is Thursday, March 19th at 5:30pm.

Your parent reps are:

Keri George (kerigeorge@hotmail.com)

Jennifer Olson (olson_jenny@yahoo.ca)

Marty Thomas, Board Chair (marty.thomas123@gmail.com)

Abeeha Hassan (abeehahassan@gmail.com)

Najla Sater (najlasater@gmail.com)

Jessica Takacs (jessica@jessicatakacs.com)

Anti-Bullying Violence Prevention Update

Over the last two months our Anti-Bullying and Violence Prevention team has been busy implementing 2019-2020 plan. We will be purchasing appropriate 'loose parts' to be stored in the outdoor learning centre. These items will be accessible to students during outside times and will encourage creative play.

After March Break we will begin a Chelsea T-shirt drive. A few years ago, every student was given a new blue Chelsea School t-shirt. With a view to recycle and not simply just buy new, we will be looking for all blue Chelsea School t-shirts that are in good condition but no longer fit, to be donated back to the school. We will then distribute the recycled t-shirts as well as new t-shirts so that everyone can proudly share in our Chelsea school spirit! More information will come on when to return the outgrown shirts you have at home.

Coming up this term we have the “Tell Them From Me” survey. This is a survey done by all grade 4-6 students that focuses on how students feel about being at school. Subjects investigated include, do children have a safe person in the school to go to, have they experienced bullying and where the bullying occurs. This anonymous survey helps to guide us with our anti-bullying and safe school initiatives.

Most importantly I would like to ask everyone to keep on talking about creating and maintaining a safe school environment. Conversations about wellbeing and safety are the most effective tool we have to help our children feel heard and safe. Please feel free to message your child’s home room teacher or any other staff member that you feel comfortable messaging, if you are concerned for your child or if you have something to report. We must work together closely and communicate fluidly and respectfully when considering our children’s sense of safety and wellbeing.

I wish you all a happy spring! –Ms. Stephanie

Home & School Association - March News

We had an incredible response to this year's Staff Appreciation Week. We would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to everyone who contributed in some way. Many of you donated draw gifts, luncheon items and treats, while others volunteered their time or helped their children write wonderful appreciation notes for the staff. The week was a great success and the Chelsea Elementary School staff felt very appreciated indeed. We are so thankful for our wonderfully supportive school community!

Our next event.....Chelsea Comedy Night

Are you feeling the winter blues? Well nothing cures the blues like laughter!! Chelsea Home & School is excited to present a rare off site adults only (18+) event. Come out and laugh your way into spring with a night of comedy at Mill Road Community Space (8 ch. Mill, Chelsea, QC) on Friday, March 27th, 2020 at 7:00pm. Tickets available ONLINE ONLY. Visit the Chelsea Home and School Association page on Facebook or the Chelsea Home & School Association section of the Chelsea Elementary School website (<http://chelsea.wqsb.qc.ca>) for links to information and tickets. Tell your friends and neighbours! Get your tickets online for a night of fun. All proceeds will go to funding ongoing initiatives such as the Chelsea food program, classroom books, home readers and much, much, more!

Next Home & School Meeting - Please note that our March meeting will be Wednesday, March 11th at 6:30pm due to March Break. All are welcome to come and sit in on a meeting.

A look ahead to April

Did you know that in most Western countries, 6 - 12% of landfill waste is made up of discarded textiles? Instead of throwing them into landfills as garbage, textiles deemed unsuitable for charitable donations or re-sale can be sent to recycling facilities to be broken down and remade! Over the last couple of years, Chelsea Elementary and the community has managed to divert a couple of tons from the landfill. Do you have old towels that have seen better days? Bed sheets that are paper thin? Yucky rags? Socks that no longer cover your toes? Clothes with too many holes to be fashionable? Hold onto them!! We will be running our Bag2School fundraiser again in April. Drop off dates will be announced soon.

Home and School- Who We Are and What We Do

The Chelsea Home and School Association (CHSA) is an independent, not for profit, volunteer organization registered with the Quebec Federation of Home and Schools Association (QFHSA). We plan and run events throughout the school year to raise funds for various initiatives. Last year, we raised over \$10,000.00 and funded several projects including new books for the library and classrooms, cultural events, butterfly raising kits, food & refreshments for graduation ceremony, teacher appreciation week and other smaller projects. Funds raised over the past few years were allocated to the construction of the new Outdoor Learning Centre. This year, our focus will be on technology and cultural events.

Like and follow us on Facebook (Chelsea Home & School Association) for more news and updates! Contact us anytime at: chelseahands15@gmail.com Check us out on the school website at: <http://chelsea.wqsb.qc.ca/home-school-association/>

SCHOOL FEES

Outstanding School Fee reminders will be going out shortly. If you have not paid your school fees, please come into the office before March 31st.

E-MAILS

If your e-mail address has changed, please let us know as soon as possible so we can make changes in our system. Second Term Report cards will be going home in March so we need to have up-to-date addresses.

FOOD PROGRAMS

We are in desperate need of a willing volunteer to assist in the distribution of Pizza on Fridays for one hour starting at 11:00.

RE-REGISTRATION FORMS 2020-2021

Re-registration Forms for the 2020-2021 school year will be going on the portal soon. We will send out another notice when the time comes. So please keep an eye out for it.

DAYCARE

Daycare receipts for 2019 have been sent out, those who are not in Daycare have been sent home with students.

Daycare Fees Due March 27th.

March 20th PD Day Forms Due March 17th.

E-MAIL CONTACTS

agage@wqsb.qc.ca (Principal)
mburns@wqsb.qc.ca (Admin Assistant)
adelemclaughlin@wqsb.qc.ca (Secretary)
nboudreau@wqsb.qc.ca (Daycare)

CHANGE OF DAILY ROUTINE FOR ANY STUDENTS

In order to keep track of where children should be at the end of the day, we ask that parents send us an email at: chelseaattendance@wqsb.qc.ca or a written note in the morning for any change. Please ensure that you include first and last names of students.

Phones or e-mails will not be answered after 1:30 p.m. as last minute changes are difficult to manage. Thank you for your understanding.

March 2020 - Creativity

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
					31/1
2	3	4	5	6	7/8
MARCH BREAK	MARCH BREAK	MARCH BREAK	MARCH BREAK	MARCH BREAK	
9	10	11	12	13	14/15
	Mazzola	REPORTS AVAILABLE Shawarma Home and School meeting 6:30	Mazzola	Pizza 	
16	17	18	19	20	21/22
	Mazzola	Shawarma 	Mazzola Parent Teacher interviews 4-7	PD DAY	
23	24	25	26	27	228/29
Author Workshops	Mazzola Author Workshops	Shawarma Author Workshops Concours D'Art Oratoire	Mazzola Chelsea Stars Assembly @ 8:30 Author Workshops	Pizza Author Workshops WQSB Debating Competition	
30	31				
	Chelsea Stars Assembly @ 8:30				

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