

# February 2021 Newsletter



## Chelsea Elementary School

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### Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

February has arrived and we are looking forward to several special activities. Staff Appreciation Week is taking place February 1st until the 5th. I'd like to thank everyone who has taken time to show your appreciation to the members of the Chelsea team for their hard work. A big thank you goes to the Home and School association for organizing surprises throughout the week!

Term 1 report cards have been released on the Parent Portal. Parents of students who have IEPs can expect a paper copy of the term evaluation sent home the first week in February. Parent /Teacher interviews will take place on February 8th, 2021 and 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.

Last week, students began Yoga sessions with Lori Morrison, owner of the Wakefield business, *hOMe*. Students will participate in either outdoor or virtual sessions geared specifically to their grade. These yoga/mindfulness sessions will continue throughout February and March.

February is Black History Month, a key time for staff and students to learn about the contributions of Black Canadians, past and present. This year's theme is, THE FUTURE IS NOW and resources can be found at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month.html>.

This month, the staff and students are focused on the value of Empathy. Throughout the month we will challenge ourselves to commit random acts of kindness, which fits in well with our Valentine's focus. On February 12th, Chelsea students and staff are welcome to recognize Valentine's Day by wearing red, white and pink, demonstrating acts of kindness throughout the day, and sharing 'verbal Valentines' with their classmates and the staff. Due to COVID Public Health guidelines, students will not be exchanging the traditional paper Valentines or sharing any food items/candy at school.

Wishing everyone a good month ahead,

Andrea Gage  
Principal

### Upcoming Events

February is Black History Month

**February 1-5-Staff appreciation week**

**February 08 and 09- PD Days**

**February 12- Red, white & pink Day**

**February 15-19-Daycare fees due**

**February 18- 100s Day**

### Change of daily routine for any student:

In order to keep track of where children should be at the end of the day, we ask that parents send in a written note in the morning or an e-mail to: [chelseaattendance@wqsb.qc.ca](mailto:chelseaattendance@wqsb.qc.ca) for any change. **Phones or e-mails will not be answered or checked after 1:30** as last minute changes are difficult to manage. Thank you for your continued collaboration.

## Outdoor Learning

Students are very engaged in outdoor learning, even during these colder months! We were pleased to welcome Mr. Earwaker who worked with the grade 3 and 4 classes in January on a Mammal Study workshop. He will return mid-February to work with the grade 5s to explore snow and snow sculpture. In order for your child to get the most out of their outdoor learning opportunities, please make sure they come prepared for time spent outside and are dressed in layers.



Students in Ms. Julie's class enjoy an outdoor activity with Mr. E about the needs of living things and species population dynamics.

## Anti-Bullying Violence Prevention

The Anti-Bullying Violence Prevention Committee recognizes that students are now spending more and more time on-line. This is a new world for many of our students to navigate and we want to support the appropriate and safe use of the internet. As partners with parents in this, we feel that it is important to assess the current level of student awareness about online safety and, in particular, cyber-bullying. To do this we have created a short survey for Chelsea Elementary students.

The link below is a voluntary survey for Chelsea Elementary students. It is anonymous and will help us establish a baseline understanding of awareness across the grades. Your child will likely need support to read and respond to this survey and should you choose to have your child participate, we appreciate the time given to this. This information will be used to plan pertinent educational interventions with the aim of increasing student safety.

The Chelsea Elementary Anti-Bullying message for students is: WE HELP. WE TELL. WE INCLUDE. This message is as true and as relevant online as it is in person. Please reiterate this message with your child and remind them to always tell an adult at home and an adult at school if they experience acts of violence or acts of bullying.

Thank you for helping increase awareness about online safety!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FBVJMDK>

## COVID PROTOCOLS

Parents are reminded to ensure their child is symptom free before sending them to school each day. The COVID-19 self-assessment tool should be used to help guide the decision to stay home or seek medical advice- <http://www.quebec.ca/en/health/health-issues/a-z/2019-coronavirus/covid-19-symptom-self-assessment-tool/>

Any child that is sent home from school will receive a summary of symptoms and an attestation form; this attestation must be completed and returned when the child returns to school, following the advice of public health. Recent protocol updates include the following:

- Those with certain symptoms will be recommended for immediate testing rather than being observed for 24 hours
- Siblings are recommended to go home from when a child is being sent home with symptoms

Ms. Deanna's Grade 5 perspective art: From a Worm's Perspective



## After School Program News

February 8 & 9 P.D. days: registration was due by January 27<sup>th</sup>.

A reminder that the students spend a lot of time outside at Daycare. Students may need extra mitts and socks by the end of the day.

Income Tax receipts will be issued at the end of the month. Please watch the Daycare bulletin board in the lobby for a notice of when they will be available for pick up.

February Daycare fees will be due the week of February 15 – 19.

## Governing Board 2020-2021

It's Staff Appreciation Week (February 1-5) and the Governing Board (GB) Parent Representatives would like to give a shout-out to all the superhero teachers and staff at Chelsea Elementary School! Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do through this unprecedented time. We recognize your resilience and dedication, and for this we are grateful.

In terms of the next GB meeting, it is scheduled for March 18 at 6:30 via TEAMS. Agenda items are still being finalized but already include a discussion on school success targets and subject time allocation for the 2021-2022 school year. Additional details will be available in the March newsletter.

An important note: GB Parent Representatives were recently asked to complete a survey, commissioned by the Quebec English School Board Association (QESBA), with respect to forthcoming changes to the English-language school system under the recent passage of Bill 40. The results of the survey will be used by the QESBA in the court case which is currently challenging this legislation. Tangential to this issue is the postponement of the English School Board Elections. In the meantime, Ward 5 (which serves Chelsea Elementary School) will continue to be represented by Commissioner Laurie Garbutt. Under current rules, Commissioners cannot be sitting members of the school's Governing Board; under the new regime only sitting GB Parent Representatives will be allowed to serve on a Service Centre's Board of Directors. These issues continue to unfold and updates may be provided, as appropriate.

Please contact Governing Board Chair, Keri George ([kerigeorge@hotmail.com](mailto:kerigeorge@hotmail.com)), for additional information on any of these matters. Thank you.

## Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration will take place from Monday February 8<sup>th</sup> to Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. Please see attached flyer for further information.

## Home and School Association January News

### Chelsea Home and School Association February News

**\*Please refer to our H&S newsletter for full details on all our upcoming news and events! To get in touch with us contact: [chelseahands15@gmail.com](mailto:chelseahands15@gmail.com)**

**\*February meeting is Wednesday, February 3rd at 7p.m.**

**\*Reminder-** Staff Appreciation Week- February 1st- 5th

Don't forget to have your child(ren) fill out the Staff Appreciation Templates and Submit them by Monday February 1st!

Please submit all gift card donations by January 28th

**\*Sign up for RAZ Kids!** Please ask your teacher(s) for login details  
<https://www.raz-kids.com>

**\*A Total of four Picnic tables for the school have been purchased and delivered!**

## Appointments/Late arrivals:

We ask that parents notify the school by leaving a message or e-mailing when you know that your child will be late or has an appointment. You can reach Ms. Adele at 819-827-0245 or e-mail her at:

[chelseaattendance@wqsb.qc.ca](mailto:chelseaattendance@wqsb.qc.ca)



BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2021

# THE FUTURE IS NOW

[CANADA.CA/BLACK-HISTORY-MONTH](http://CANADA.CA/BLACK-HISTORY-MONTH)

#BHM2021

# Chelsea Elementary February 2021 Value= Confidence

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2	3 H & S meeting 7 P.M.	4 YOGA- outdoor/virtual	5
8 PD Day  Parent/Teacher interviews	9 PD Day	10  Mr. E visits grade 4 /5	11  YOGA- outdoor/virtual  Mr. E visits grade 5	12 Mr. E visits grade 4 /5 Wear red, white, pink Celebrating Random acts of kindness/verbal valentines
15	16	17	18  YOGA- outdoor/virtual  100S Day	19
22	23	24	25 YOGA- outdoor/virtual	26

