

Champlain Heights Newsletter – October, 2017

<http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/champlain-heights>

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Vice-Principal (Annex): Andrea Zeitz

Director of Instruction: Magdalena Kassis

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A Season of Thankfulness and Thanksgiving!



What a great way to start off the school year! I would like to thank all of the staff of Champlain Heights for providing our students with a very smooth start to the school year. Thank you for all of your hard work, time and initiative to ensure that our students re-establish a sense of routine and structure at school. To our parent community, thank you very much for your enthusiasm and positive attitudes back to school. We have appreciated your work and effort in facilitating a seamless transition back to school – participating in Meet the Teacher, completing various forms and paperwork and connecting with teachers and support staff. To our wonderful students, we thank you for diving into September with an energetic spirit to work hard and engage fully. I am truly thankful to be a part of this learning community that works so well together!

To handle yourself, use your head; to handle others, use your heart.

- Eleanor Roosevelt

Mr. Chiu

Important Dates to Remember

- Wednesday, October 4th & Thursday, October 5th – Goal Setting Conferences (2:00 pm Dismissal)
- Thursday, October 11th – PAC Meeting at the Annex
- Tuesday, October 17th – Meet the Grade Seven Event (1:00 pm – 3:00 pm in the Gym)
- Thursday, October 19th – Final Cross-Country Meet at Trout Lake
- Friday, October 20th – Professional Development Day (Non-Instructional Day)
- Friday, October 27th – Photo Day (Individual Head Photos)
- Tuesday, October 31st – **HALLOWEEN!**



We're Going Paper-Less!



Please note that starting November, all of our newsletters will be uploaded electronically onto the school website (<http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/champlain-heights>). We will no longer be distributing paper copies of our newsletters in an effort to reduce paper consumption and to be more environmentally responsible. This current newsletter edition will be the last one to be circulated in paper format. Thank you for your cooperation!

Staffing Update

A very warm welcome to Shirley Tong who will be joining us at Champlain Heights this term as part of our Resource team! Shirley will be working with our school community on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Welcome, Shirley!

NEW VSB Safe Arrival Program



Reporting Student Absences:

Student safety is of paramount importance at the Vancouver School District. Ensuring student safety is a shared responsibility. In order to assist schools, we ask parents to notify schools of student absences. If your child will be absent from school, please phone the school to report this absence as early as possible. Parents should leave a message on a dedicated answering service (see below). Messages will be received before the office is open. School offices are busy places: consistently notifying the school in advance of your child's absence will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Safe Arrival Morning Routine.

To Report Your Child's Absence via *Telephone*:

1. Call 604-713-5159
2. Provide the two-digit extension for our school: "18"
3. Record your message (include child's full name, grade and division)
4. Hang up

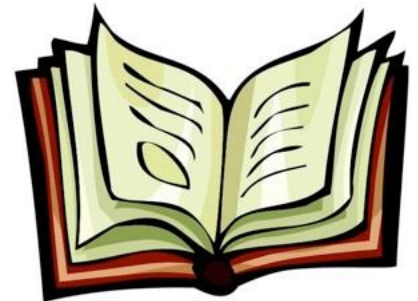
To Report Your Child's Absence via *E-mail*:

1. E-mail: chaattendance@learn.vsb.bc.ca
2. Type your message (include child's full name, grade and division)
3. Hit send

Please report the absence to the Safe Arrival Program even if you have already notified your teacher.

Student Sign-Out Procedure

When you pick up your child *during* the school day, please ensure that you sign them out at the school office. If you do not sign out your child, they will be unaccounted for, and the school will identify your child as a 'missing' student and will commence a search of school grounds. If the school staff do not locate the child, and are unable to reach a parent promptly, the school will call the Vancouver Police Department. Therefore, clear communication is essential for ensuring the safety of your child and to prevent unnecessary searches.



Thank you for helping us keep your children safe!



Traffic Safety – Drop Off and Pick Up

"NO STOPPING 8am - 5pm SCHOOL DAYS"

These signs designate the zones where vehicles are not permitted to stop under any circumstances. These zones are kept clear to provide good sight lines for drivers to see students and students to see drivers.

"NO PARKING 8am - 5pm SCHOOL DAYS"

These signs designate the zones for active picking up and dropping off of students. Do not park and leave the vehicle in these zones.

School Area Signs:

This sign is used in advance of school to warn drivers that children may be walking along or crossing the road. On local streets 30 km/hr signs are posted and the speed limit is 30 km/hr from 8am - 5pm on school days.

School Crosswalk Signs:

A school crosswalk sign indicates where children will be crossing the road. Vehicles must yield to pedestrians at all intersections and crosswalks.



Vehicles must remain stopped until children are safely across and on the curb. Please remember children are playful and impulsive and may enter the roadway suddenly.

School Safety Patrols:

School safety patrols direct and help students cross at intersections near schools. The school safety patrols are given important responsibilities and follow established procedures to help to ensure the safety of students. Please respect the patrol.

Traffic Safety Tips for Parents:

Encourage walking, cycling, or carpooling to school. If you must drive, park a couple of blocks away and walk to the school. Reduce traffic congestion and make school zones safer.

Dietary and Food Allergies

NUT AWARE SCHOOL – NUT ALLERGIES

We have a number of students who have a life-threatening allergy to NUTS and exposure could result in severe sickness or death. To help reduce the risk of accidental exposure, we need your cooperation in order to provide a safe and secure learning environment. The following are respectfully requested:



1. Students do not bring food to school that contain peanuts or nut products (i.e. peanut butter, muffins/cookies with nuts, granola bars). Please read ingredients on purchased and packaged food items included in your child's lunch and snack.
2. If your child enjoys peanut/nut containing products at home, please ensure that your child adds hand washing to their routine before coming to school. Even a small amount of peanut oil or dust from a friend's hand can easily be transferred to crayons, books or playground equipment that can pose a risk for the allergic child.
3. Discuss with your child the importance of not trading or sharing food.

The above items will also be discussed with all the students in the classroom setting along with ways to help their allergic friend stay

safe. We hope you will appreciate the seriousness of this condition and that you will assist us in our efforts to create as safe an environment as possible for all students. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Code of Conduct

At Champlain Heights Elementary, we R.E.A.C.H. for the Heights!

R – Respect

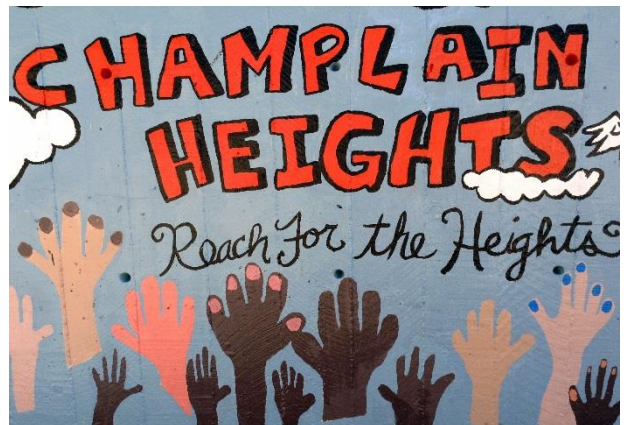
E – Empathy

A – Achievement

C – Cooperation

H – Helpfulness

Please see the attached Code of Conduct for Champlain Heights. We expect families to take a minute to review the school's Code of Conduct with your children.



Student Supervision

Also, please note that unless it is raining heavily or deemed necessary to have an 'inside day' by the Principal, all children are expected to be outside during recess and lunch. Please ensure that your child comes to school dressed appropriately for the weather

As a reminder, before school, students are expected to wait for their teachers to enter the classroom. Children may not congregate in the Library Learning Commons before the morning bell unless they are supervised by a parent or guardian. School Staff supervision runs between 8:40 am to 9:00 am and from 3:00 pm to 3:20 pm.