



CHEMAINUS SECONDARY REFLECTIONS

9947 Daniel Street, Chemainus, BC V0R 1K1
 Phone: (250) 246-4711 Fax: (250) 246-2318
 Lori Hryniuk, Principal Jennie Hittinger, Vice Principal

Upcoming Dates

Dec 7-8: Holiday Craft Fair

Dec 11: Learning Lab semester 1
showcase from 9:15-11:15am

Dec 13: Foodsafe

Dec 18: Worksafe BC - Worksite
safety presentation (all grade 10s)

Dec 19: Gr 8 Field Trip to Victoria

Dec 20: Winter Luncheon

Dec 21: Last day of classes before
Winter Break

Dec 24 - Jan 4:

Winter Break (school closed)

Jan 7: School reopens

Jan 14-18: Grad Photos

Jan 15: Grad Transitions Interviews

Jan 18: Non instructional day (no
classes)

**We would like to take this
opportunity to wish
everyone in our community
all the joys of this holiday
season with good wishes for
the New Year**

Term 1 Report Cards

Term 1 report cards were issued and sent home with students on November 16. If you haven't received your child's report card, please contact the school. It is very important that parents keep informed on how their children are doing in order to support and guide them along their way to a successful school.

Parent Communication

We encourage you to keep in contact with your son/daughter's teachers. All of our staff contact information can be found on our school website at <http://chss.sd79.bc.ca/> under the Contact tab. Keeping in communication throughout the school year will support your child's success at school. In addition, like us on Facebook - this is a good resource for school events and information.

Remembrance: A local story

Keep us updated!

Has your phone number, email or address changed in the past few months?

If you answer yes to any of the above, please contact the counselling office to update your child's student file. You can reach Angela at:

PHONE: 250-246-4711 ext 110

or

EMAIL:
counsellingchss@sd79.bc.ca

Student Absences

Please remember to inform the school of a student absence, you can **leave a message by pressing 1(one) on the automated message, email chss@sd79.bc.ca** or call Abigail at ext 151. Also if your child needs to be released from school please send a note or contact the school in the same manner as you would report absentees.

Remembrance: A Local Story

Chemainus Secondary had a very special and memorable Remembrance Ceremony last month.



Chemainus resident and SD79 Counselor Richard Mathews presented two gravestone rubbings from a trip that he and his family took last year to the battlefields and graveyards of France. Richard located the gravestones of two local Chemainus boys, Ben Bonsall and Ernest Cathcart who fought in WW1 and died in the battle. We were honoured to hear Richard speak of their history and bring the

act of remembrance home to our staff and students.

Learning Lab Showcase - Celebrate Our Learners

This year we continue to support our learners in offering time and support for our students to follow a passion, get extra support or enhancement with their courses in a structured "Learning Lab" block. This was offered twice a week for a burst of five weeks in the first semester. This will happen again next semester. As part of the expectations, students are preparing to participate in a required Showcase of Learning to be held on December 11 from 9:15-11:15. We invite you to come share in this learning exhibition! See firsthand the incredible work our students have been engaging in. The topics are diverse - from fine arts, community service, app development, robotics/programming, to name a few! Come out and celebrate our learners on December 11.

Leadership

The Leadership class ran the gym riot last month. It was a huge success! Team Blue took the GOLD!!! Go Blue!



We are just starting up our collection for the Back Pack Project next week. So please help us out by sending your child to school with at least one of the following: new toothbrushes, tooth paste, deodorants, warm clothes such as socks, toques, gloves, and school supplies for our cause. There are many struggling families in our local area and we want to make sure they have a fresh start to the New Year.

Leadership is also trying to help the families in our community have a nice Christmas dinner. We are collecting **non perishables food** items for our local Food Bank. We will be running this event through till December, 20th..

Candy "O" Grams will be on sale soon. Fifty cents to send your favourite friend or teacher a nice message and a candy cane.

We will also be helping with the cooking class to run our annual **Turkey Lunch on Thursday, December 20th!** It's also **"Wear Your Ugly Sweater"** on this day too

Grads

GRAD PHOTOS - January 14-18, 2019

Please access the following link to book an appointment: www.lifetouch.ca/victoria.



Our first Gym Riot of the year took place on November 12, hosted by the Leadership class.

Land Based Learning

Chemainus Secondary students interested in science and environmental studies were offered an incredible opportunity to live and study aboard Raincoast Foundation's 62 foot research vessel, "The Achiever". Aboard the boat students learned how to sail, navigate, studied terrestrial and marine environments and took on the responsibilities of working on a scientific research vessel. Special thanks to School District 79's



Career Education Department, teacher Craig Lauridsen and Raincoast Foundation.

All About That Taste

Breakfast: Tuesday - Friday,
Lunch: Tues & Weds

Healthy breakfast options include freshly made homemade muffins and granola bars, as well as a menu with breakfast sandwiches, bagels, hot and cold drinks.

Our lunch menu is ever changing..homemade: sandwiches, burgers, wraps and sliders; rotating salad options: taco salad, Caesar salad, Greek salad with homemade pita chips and dips...and homemade soups: chicken, tomato, Mexican tortilla. Hearty meals of pierogis, baked spaghetti, Mac and cheese have been added now that the cooler weather is here.

****Now available...payment by debit card with interac flash and Apple Pay**



Japanese students Aona Seto and Yuma Ishii presented some gifts from their school in Japan

Yokohama

Hayato to Ms. Hryniuk and International Teacher, Ms. Woodwark,



Another incredible partnership with SD79 and Outward Bound gave two of our students a paddling trip of a lifetime. Here's Will and Matt having dinner after a huge day of paddling in the Gulf Islands.

Inclement Weather

With the winter season fast approaching, it is important to remind you about the school district's procedures regarding inclement weather. There may be times when bus routes will not be operating as usual, or where schools in the district are closed. This letter outlines how these decisions are made, and identifies where you can find this information in the event of severe winter weather. Local radio and TV media outlets will be contacted prior to 6 a.m. with information regarding bus or route cancellations and school closures. News announcements usually begin after 6 a.m. They will not be notified about individual route changes due to conditions of specific roads.

The following local radio stations will be contacted about inclement weather notifications:

- 100.3 The Q! (100.3 FM)
- CBC (90.5 FM)
- JUICE-FM (89.7 FM)
- CFX (1070 AM)

The following TV stations will also be contacted:

- CTV Vancouver Island
- Global BC
- CHEK News

Information about a bus cancellations, school or district closures will also be posted on the district website (www.sd79.bc.ca) and Facebook page (www.facebook.com/CowichanValleySD79) as early as possible.

Finally, you can follow the transportation department on Twitter (@TransportSD79) for updates.

Athletics (Mr Peruniak)

Grrrrrr! COUGARS! GRRRRRRR!

The winter sports season is upon us! That means wrestling and basketball for Chemainus Secondary athletes.

Basketball is one of the major sports of the year with the season running from Nov 26th to late February/early March. If you are a player or a fan, please feel free to come watch home games and support our youth! Senior Boys basketball is underway with our next home game on December 13th @ 4pm vs. Frances Kelsey Secondary. Girls basketball has begun as well and we are looking for a few more girls to round out our team before league play begins. We are also looking to put together a boys Grade 8 team. If your son is interested please have them see Mr. Arkell. If competitive basketball is not your cup of tea, we will be looking to host a drop-in basketball after school come January. Please stay tuned for more details.

The Cowichan Valley Wrestling Club is our venue for athletes wanting to test themselves physically and mentally. This is a great community with many different age groups and weight classes to accommodate individual athletes. Check out their Facebook page for more information. Our wrestlers have begun their season and head to Frances Kelsey Secondary on Dec 7 & 8th for their first tournament of the month.

Volunteers! If you would like your son or daughter to gain some volunteer experience to add to their resume, look no further than our Athletics department. We need student volunteers to help run the score table during home games. We could use up to 5 students per game to help with score keeping and running of the game clock. Please have them come see me if interested.

After school sports is a great way to develop communication, physical literacy, social and personal skills to help foster confidence and a healthy lifestyle for life after high school. Student-athletes help build and promote school and community spirit that makes life at Chemainus Secondary more engaging and rewarding. If you have any questions about how to get your son or daughter more involved please feel free to contact me.

Grrrrrr! Cougars! GRRRR!

DECEMBER PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Senior Boys Basketball 3:30-5:30pm	Grade 8 Boys Basketball – tentative: 3:30-4:30pm	Girls Basketball 3:30-4:30pm		Senior Boys Basketball 7:00-8:30am

Parents, guardians, and community members we are still looking for COACHES! To build a sustainable athletics program in any school requires a great amount of help from our community. Without community coaches many of our programs will not be possible. If you are interested in getting involved please call me (Mr. Peruniak) at the school 250-246-4711 or email at kperuniak@sd79.bc.ca.

Counselling & Careers (Mr Culbertson & Mrs Stoochnoff)

BURSARIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS (Ms Hittinger)

Grade 12 students have been provided with some preliminary information about bursaries and scholarships. A detailed booklet will be ready for distribution at the end of January when they will attend a scholarship/bursary workshop with Ms Hittinger. Students could now be preparing their applications by updating their resumes and gathering the letters of recommendation that are normally required for bursary or scholarship applications.

Grad Transition - Grade 12

Graduation Transitions is a 4-Credit requirement that must be completed in order for a student to graduate. Students will receive an RM (Requirements Met) upon completion. Grads that are in Ms Hryniuk's semester 1 GT class or grads that are graduating early, should be finished or ready for their exit interview on **January 15**. All grads are reminded to continue to work through their GT booklet and seek help from Ms Hryniuk as needed.

What's been happening around CHSS



Work BC's "Find Your Fit" Tour came to Chemainus Secondary on November 15. This interactive exhibition allows students and staff the opportunity to learn first hand, career opportunities that are available in B.C. All of our students had the chance to tour the exhibit and find out more careers of their interest.



For more information or to take a career survey, go to <https://www.workbc.ca/Resources-for/Youth.aspx>



We had the crew of **Live Different** come to town on their “**Kindness Changes Everything**” tour. They spent the day with us and every student was engaged in a highly interactive, media presentation followed by facilitated community building activities.



Warren teaching some of our students guitar in the Aboriginal Support Room. A huge thank you to The Q radio station for a School of Rock music grant that allowed us to purchase 7 new Yamaha guitars. These guitars are for all students to use, learn and enjoy!

PAC News (Alana Starkie, PAC Chair)

Our next PAC meeting will be held Monday, January 21st at 4:00. We will not have a December meeting.

At our last meeting we unfortunately, had to make the decision to cancel the pizza lunch fundraiser, as sales were sporadic and we are struggling to find volunteers to support it.

We also discussed the need to make some changes to our bylaws in order for the PAC to keep operating at the school. We cannot stress enough that we are in need of parent/guardian support at our meetings as well as on our Executive. At this point we are trying hard to keep moving forward, but the consideration of dissolving the PAC is a reality we might have to consider.

The PAC receives approximately \$10,000 in funding, to support our students, through BC Gaming and fundraising efforts each year and if there is no PAC, then that money will not be available.

Last year we provided the following:

Earthquake/Emergency storage container and supplies

Sewing machines

Athletics awards: trophies/engraving

Athletics travel expenses

Athletics officials/referees

Turkey Luncheon

Year end awards: trophies/engraving

Guest Speakers

Student benevolent funding

Water filtration

Bursaries for post secondary x3

Robotics funding

Woodworking saw and supplies

Science equipment

Yearbook subsidy

As the holiday season approaches, we encourage you to support PAC by using our FlipGive page to link you to all your favourite online retailers, where we will then earn a commission for your purchases.

Go to www.flipgive.com and search for "Chemainus Secondary School PAC" to link your spending to our team account. You can also download the mobile App "FlipGive" and use it directly from your phone! Every little bit adds up to help us support our students.

If you have any questions or would like to join our PAC and offer your support, check out our Facebook group page "Chemainus Secondary PAC" where you can keep updated and connect with us.

When: Friday December 14 4-6pm

Where:
Cowichan Intercultural Society
68 St. Charles Street
Follow the sign!

Hosted by: Cowichan Intercultural Society

Come out to queer youth film night
and meet new friends, bring your
friends, watch cool
movies & eat popcorn.

* *This month's film is:
She's a boy I knew* *

This is a coming-of-age film about a girl named Lily. The film focuses on the intergenerational relationships of a family who unexpectedly find their bonds strengthening as they overcome their preconceptions of gender and sexuality.

For more information/questions contact:
Ms. Donnelly @ sdonnelly@scs179.bc.ca

FREE

