



Weekly Update from Cinnabar Valley Elementary School



November 24, 2017

Welcome to the first installment of weekly updates from the office at Cinnabar Valley. I am going to use this communication tool to share information with our wonderful Cinnabar community. This update will replace the most of the other emails that sent during the week unless there is an emergent issue. I will endeavour to post these weekly updates on our school website as well. Communication is very important! I would appreciate any feedback on this new model of communication.

One Wacky Christmas!

Rehearsals for our concert at the Port Theatre on December 20th are coming along nicely. Please note the following:

- Costume requirements – PJ's! Our show is based on the theme of the Night before Christmas. Mrs. Edwards, Ms. Brown and Mr. Sharpe will share the costume requirements for students with speaking roles.
- There is one show only! Ticket orders will come home next week. There is no charge for tickets thanks to the generous support of the PAC and Hot Lunch. Each family will have access to 4 tickets. Families can request extra tickets, yet we will wait to see how many extras we have before we make any decisions.
- Children need to be dropped off at the back (stage door) of the Port Theatre between 6:10 and 6:30. Doors for seating in the Port open at 6:45. Please ensure you keep your child's coats and other belongings with you!
- We will be doing an "essential item" donation drive for this event – stay tuned for more information from the PAC



Parking Lot Reminders

Please remember that the yellow painted zone in our driveway is for drop off/pick up only. In other words, please do not leave your vehicle. School buses are unable to navigate the driveway safely when cars are parked in this zone. Please remember that double parking is also a safety concern. Please consider parking on one of the side streets and walking up to the school instead of using the driveway as your drop off location if you prefer spending time on the playground.



Busses will be at Cinnabar every Friday morning.

Dogs on the Playground



One of our elementary schools in the NLPS was recently visited by a City of Nanaimo Animal Control Office who spoke to people about having their dogs on the playground and sports fields. Did you know that it is against city by-laws to have a dog on the school playground and sports fields? I was surprised to hear that the fine is up to \$150. We do have problems at Cinnabar with finding dog feces where kids play. While it is convenient for dogs to play here, it is more appropriate, given the bylaw expectations, to take your family pooch to one of the many off-leash dog parks in the city.



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Off leash dog parks:

<https://www.nanaimo.ca/docs/recreation-parks/recreation-facilities-and-schedules/dogbrochure.pdf>

Where does all the mud come from?



The slope from the big forest area towards the playing field has an underground water source that is running far more freely with all of the recent rain. This area has become a favourite place for students to explore many things. It is quite amazing to see that learning that is going on as students work together to create pathways for the water, build dams, and dig. They do get muddy! Please support your child's play by ensuring they have multiple changes of clothes! Boots are a necessary as well! Please note: I am checking with the grounds maintenance crew at the District around the overall stability of this area, and the increasing drop off created the industrious play. I will keep everyone posted if things need to change around this play area.

Emergency School Closures – a reminder

At times, schools may be closed for emergency reasons. The NLPS website shares the following information:

Occasionally, schools are temporarily closed on short notice for emergency reasons. A heavy snowfall is the most frequent reason for emergency school closure, but individual schools can also be closed because of a power outage or furnace breakdown. Wondering if schools are open today? For the most current updates, listen to local radio stations (WAVE 102.3 FM and WOLF 106.9 FM) in the mornings.

We also update our website and communicate via Twitter and Facebook with news about school closures, but please be aware that power outages or technical problems may prevent us from doing so.

Calendar Updates November 27-Dec 1

Artist in the Schools – Div 12	November 28
Swimming Lessons – Div 11 and 13	December 1
The NED Show – all divisions (except 11 and 13)	December 1
Hot Lunch	December 1