



# Cinnabar Valley

**Diane Charles, Principal**  
**Laura Hague, Secretary**

October 6 2016

1800 Richardson Rd.  
Nanaimo BC  
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## Calendar Updates

- ✦ Oct 10 – Thanksgiving
- ✦ Oct 11-14 – Kerri Isham
- ✦ Oct 11 – PAC meeting
- ✦ Oct 14 – Crisis Society Presentation to grades 5-7
- ✦ Oct 17 – Camp Quality presentation
- ✦ Oct 18-20 – Early Dismissal for interviews (1:17 dismissal)
- ✦ Oct 19 – Photo orders are due (all online)
- ✦ Oct 20 – Shake Out BC Earthquake Drill – 10:20 am
- ✦ Oct 21 – Professional Day
- ✦ Oct 25 – Skating lessons begin Div 3 & 4
- ✦ Oct 25 – Zone Cross Country
- ✦ Oct 26 – Photo Retakes
- ✦ Oct 28 – Pumpkin Carving Contest sponsored by PAC
- ✦ Oct 31 – Assembly
- ✦ Nov 1 – Skating lesson #2
- Nov 3- District X-Country

## A note from the office ...

Once again I am blown away by how quickly the time goes once we are back into the routine of school. It was a very busy September with a number of unexpected events yet through it all we managed to keep a very positive and supportive feeling within the school.

I want to thank all of you who were able to join us at the Open House last week. It was great to see so many smiling faces, both on the kids and the adults faces.

There are a number of changes happening within the curriculum and how we will be sharing progress with parents. The changes that have been implemented by the Ministry support student learning in a more personalized manner, allowing students to go deeper and to develop their metacognitive skills.

Teachers will be sharing their learning plans with you. These plans will reflect the big ideas in each of the curricular areas. As well, they will develop the Core Competences of Com-

munication; Thinking—Creative and Critical; and Personal and Social—Positive Personal and Cultural Identity, Personal Awareness and Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. It is an exciting time for education. I look forward to sharing more with you as the year goes on.

I am very thankful to be part of this community,  
Ms. Charles,  
Principal



Our first official communication around student learning will be held the week of October 17-20. In order to increase the likelihood of parents being able to make these appointments we have created sign up sheets for families to choose the time that works best for

them. The schedules are in the front foyer of the school.

In keeping with the interim reporting order, the format of the interviews may be different this year than what you have experienced in previous years. Some teachers will be asking students to attend the interviews, with the student taking a role in talking about their learning. The addition of “student voice”, also know as metacognition (thinking about thinking) is an integral part of the new curriculum. A reminder notice will be sent home next week detailing the format of the interviews as well as reminding families of the change in dismissal times.

For More information or to report incidents of bullying please go to  
<http://www.erasebullying.ca/>



## Early Dismissal Times—Oct 17 –20th

*In order to accommodate time for teachers to meet with families as part of the reporting process, the following changes to dismissal times are in place for the week of October 17-20th.*

*Monday Oct 17—Regular Dismissal @ 1:37*

*Tuesday Oct 18—Early Dismissal @ 1:17*

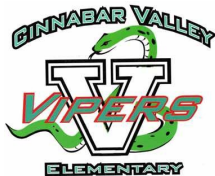
*Wednesday Oct 19—Early Dismissal @ 1:17*

*Thursday Oct 20—Early Dismissal @ 1:17*



### PARKING LOT SAFETY

Please remember that the area right in front of the main doors to the school is a no stopping, no parking zone. Most days there will be cones out to remind everyone. However, on the days when the cones are not there I am asking that parents and caregivers respect this safety zone. We are working to maintain clear site lines for our little and big ones who are walking through the busy parking lot before and after school.



### SCHOOL WEBSITE

Our School Website is now up and running. We are doing our best to keep it updated. Please take a moment to sign up for newsletters through the website as this will allow the school to communicate through email on items regarding anything to do with money.

Right now, all such information must come home on paper due to the anti-spam legislation. As a school we are trying to be as paperless as possible to help ensure that the paper budget supports students in classrooms. Please contact the office if you have any questions—[diane.charles@sd68.bc.ca](mailto:diane.charles@sd68.bc.ca).



### LOST AND FOUND

We are collecting a nice selection of sweaters, jackets, shoes and miscellaneous items in the hallway down toward the gym. Please check the hall regularly as we will be sending the items to charity donation centres on a regular basis. It is surprising how students can walk by things on a daily basis and not pick them up!

**Criminal Record Checks**—all volunteers must have a current CRC. These are now good for 5 years. Everything can be done online. There is no cost, yet it is best to get this done early in the year.

Visit this site:

<https://justice.gov.bc.ca/eCRC/home.htm> You will be prompted for the NLPS access code : **Access Code: UQ4T7XXBHE**

Once you have completed and submitted the form for the online criminal record check, **please provide your school principal with your full name and date of birth.**

*All adults who volunteer in any capacity in the school are required to have a Criminal Record Check. This would include all PAC members and those people who help out with Hot Lunch on Fridays.*

## SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

September was a busy month! Please enjoy some photos of some of the different events that occurred.



From left to right—Teaching Recess games, Welcome Back Barbecue, Play time at the barbecue, Primary Terry Fox Run, Keeping everyone safe at the Terry Fox Run, Running in the rain, and our student leader helpers on the Terry Fox Run.

The dots on the photos are from the rain on the camera!

## STUDENT LEADERS

Mrs. Stannard and Mrs. Stone are working hard with a large number of grade 7 students on a student leadership program. The students have really stepped up to help out around the school, including being instrumental in ensuring a safe Terry Fox Run, setting up assemblies, and doing our daily announcements. They will also be taking over responsibility for equipment sign out at long recess, assisting with the Hot Lunch Program, and organizing a number of spirit activities. I thank Mrs. Stannard and Mrs. Stone for stepping forward to work with these students! Cinnabar is a great school!

## SPORTS UPDATE

Go Valley Vipers! Mr. Sharpe is working with a small but fierce group of boys who have stepped forward to play football this year. The boys are experiencing great success. More importantly, they are learning to work as a team! Thank you Mr. Sharpe!

Mrs. Stannard is working with our long-legged gazelles, also known as the students interested in running cross country this year. The Zone meet is near the end of October and the District meet is the first week of November. Thanks Mrs. Stannard!

## **BE SAFE, BE RESPONSIBLE, BE RESPECTFUL**

At Cinnabar we have three widely held expectations for student behaviour—BE SAFE, BE RESPONSIBLE, BE RESPECTFUL.

At our first month end assembly we reviewed the meaning of each of these expectations. I shared a video which helps to teach the expectations as well (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JGQAp2PY8yY>).

When I meet with students for problem solving discussions I always relate the behaviour that has led them to be being in my office to these widely held expectations and get students to think:

Was it safe?

Was it responsible?

Was it respectful?

Our school Code of Conduct focuses on educative, restorative and preventative practices to help teach students different ways of solving problems. The new curriculum for the Province has an increased emphasis of social responsibility, which includes teaching students how to contribute to the classroom and school community, solve problems in peaceful ways, value diversity and defend human rights, and exercise democratic rights and responsibilities. (For more information on the expectations for Social Responsibility please refer to the performance standards found at: [https://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/perf\\_stands/social\\_resp.htm](https://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/perf_stands/social_resp.htm))

If your child comes home with a Problem Behaviour Sheet or a Think Sheet, please consider framing your discussion with him/her around our expectations and using similar language. Students are very adept at knowing what the issue was and can easily identify where their behaviour did not align with the concepts of safe, responsible and respectful.

Educative and Preventative practices in regards to behaviour occur with the direct teaching of what we expect as a school. As a PBIS school, this happens constantly. We use positive language to frame what we want to see (please walk vs don't run; stay in your chair vs don't wander around the class). Restorative practices involve repairing the harm or doing something to make a situation better. For safety issues, quite often we focus on community service to make the school safer for all (sweeping, removing litter, etc). For personal issues where feelings are hurt, we work on I statements and apologies so that both parties are able to move on from the issue at hand.

As a school team, we have agreed to keep track of both minor and major issues with students so that we know where to focus our preventative and educative practices. The data helps to guide our instruction.

We also celebrate students making great choices through the Valley Viper Draws. Our goal is to recognize positive behaviour 6 times more than corrective problem behaviour. When students know that what they are doing is positive and contributing to a safe, responsible and respectful environment the school grows!

Watch the bulletin board in the foyer to see the celebration of positive behaviour!

## **EMERGENCY DRILLS**

We will be practicing more emergency procedures in the month of October. We will be having at least one Fire Drill, and will be participating in the Shake Out BC Earthquake Drill on Oct. 20.

Please let the office know if your child has any anxiety around these safety drills.

Don't forget to send your child's Comfort Kits to the school Oct 17. The Earthquake Bins will be moved to our emergency centre as part of the preparation for the Earthquake Drill Oct. 20.

