

Dates to Remember 2009-2010 Calendar

Nov. 27	Elem. Report Cards Term 1 Distributed
Nov. 30	Elem. Parent Interviews (No School Elem.)
Dec. 4	HS Reports Term 1 Distributed
Dec. 7	H.S. Parent Teacher Interviews (H.S. 1/2 day)
Dec. 8	Hot Lunch -Pizza
Dec. 10	Grad Photos (3pm-8pm)
Dec. 10 Church	Pre-school & Primary Christmas Concert (7:00pm) @ Westwood
Dec. 11	Primary (11:00am) & Intermediate Christmas Concert (11:00am & 7:00) @ Westwood Church
Dec. 19 -Jan. 3	Christmas Vacation
Jan. 22	End of HS Semester 1
Jan. 25-29	H.S. Final Exams
Jan. 28	H.S. Semester Turnaround Day (HS No School)
Feb. 1	H.S. Sem. 2 Starts
Feb. 5	HS Semester 1 Reports Distributed
Feb. 22	Elem. Report Writing (No School Elem.)
Mar. 5	Elem. Report Card Term 2 Distributed
Mar. 8-19	Spring Break (All No School)
Apr. 2	Good Friday (All No School)
Apr. 5	Easter Monday (All No School)
Apr. 14	HS Term 3 Ends
Apr. 21	HS Term 3 Report Cards Distributed
Apr.22-23	Northern Pro D Conference (No school, K-12)
Apr. 26	H.S. Parent Teacher Interviews (HS 1/2 day)
May 20	Grandparents Day
May 24	Victoria Day (All No School)
June 4	H.S. Grad (HS 1/2 Day) Elem. Report Writing (No School Elem.)
June 11	Elem. Sports Day
June 18	Last Day H.S.
June 21-29	H.S. Final Exams
June 23	Last Day Elem. & Year End BBQ (Elem. 1/2 Day)
June 24-29	Admin Days

The Cedars Shake

November 26, 2009

www.cedars.bc.ca

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Facebook-Another Dimension to the Cedars Community

By Winston Price

I'm wondering if my home is typical of Cedars homes as we approach the year 2010. In the evening, we eat a quick supper, hopefully all together as a family, and rush off to Bible study, youth events, practices or meetings. Then, to cap it all off before bed, we check our Facebook page. I can't include myself in the 'we' because I'm the only one who doesn't have a facebook account in my family. I usually revert to glancing over someone's shoulder and snooping. "oh; What's so and so up to?" I may ask. A part of me is fascinated with this form of networking, and yet I hesitate to sign up.

Lately Facebook has become more front and center in my role as Vice Principal here at Cedars as well. A few times now, I have received calls from concerned parents who have noticed comments on Facebook from students that have been very inappropriate, or have been slanderous to Cedars. Typically, I have contacted related parents to give them a head's up with the situation. However, the types of comments found on Facebook by students, sent to other Cedars students, are raising questions as to the school's role in dealing with the content found on Facebook. Are the interactions between students that occur after school hours on Facebook open to scrutiny in relation to the student commitment form that High School students sign each year? Does the school have an obligation to deal with inappropriate interactions on Facebook that are occurring 24/7? Is informing parents enough? Do parents have the computer savvy to

monitor and enforce guidelines for their children's online activity? Are parents fully aware of the dangers out there?

Recently, I attended a workshop that addressed some of these issues. I realized more fully that the 'Net Generation' communicate differently and think differently than previous generations. Our students on Facebook are part of a network of 300,000,000 around the globe. Many of the students who network online are not monitored closely by their parents, and students need to be trained to use better discretion while online to avoid the inherent dangers. It was agreed by all at the workshop that parents and school authorities need to become more aware and to facilitate further workshops in regards to this issue.

On Thursday, January 7th at 7:00pm, we have tentative plans to host a workshop targeted for parents and teachers around the issues mentioned above. The presenter will be Bill De Jager, Director of Learning at the Society of Christian Schools in BC. Parents, please mark this date on your calendar and plan to come out to learn more.



Samaritans Purse

Our Christmas Box activity was a great success! Cedars packed approx. 190 boxes. Thank you very much for your generosity.

Let It Snow!

With the onset on winter, the school is in need of people to help shovel snow. Please contact the office or Mr. Price to volunteer. Thank you!



Character Day

This was a great success! Congratulations to all students for participating so enthusiastically and for being respectful while other students presented their activities. A lot of fun was had by everyone. Thanks to the PAC for providing snacks to all.

After School Pick-Up:

Please Pick Up Your Students Promptly!

Please pick up your children promptly after school. There are many young children waiting around the school long after supervision is over. Thank you for your co-operation!

Lost and Found

If you or your child are missing clothing items, etc. they are waiting for you to claim them. Call Colleen at 562-5681 to reconnect with your long lost items. They are clean and folded ready to spend more time at your house than at the school Lost and Found. After December 2nd, these items will be available at a thrift store near you!

Math Help!

Each WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY morning from 8:00 - 8:25 am, Mrs. Goertzen or Mrs. Fisher will be available to help Grade 3-6 students with their Math. Drop in for some extra help when you need it!

High School Parents

If your child has called you from the school on their cell phone to be picked up for sickness or appointments please contact the office to let them know as we have students leaving and not signing out. There is a yellow sign out book at the office that the students are supposed to sign when they leave and return to the school.

Times Tables Math Club!

Each TUESDAY and THURSDAY morning from 8:00 - 8:25 am, Mrs. Goertzen or Mrs. Fisher will be available to help Grade 3-6 students with their times tables through many activities. Let's get faster and more accurate at the times tables!

Finance Committee Survey

The Finance Committee is evaluating our tuition model and would like your feedback. We have compiled a survey which is to be completed on-line. A link to the survey can be found on our website under News -> Development and Finance (<http://www.cedars.bc.ca/news/development.html>). We appreciate you taking the time to complete this survey and provide us with your perspective.

Governor Generals Medal

Congratulations to Craig Pudlas who received the Governor General's Medal. Craig was the top academic student in our graduating class of 2009.



All Day Kindergarten

Thankyou to everyone who returned the surveys. The Education Committee reviewed the FDK optional year possibility and have recommended that Cedars waits until the mandatory year (2011-2012) to implement a Full Day Everyday Kindergarten.

Christmas Concert Dates

December 10 & 11 At Westwood Church.

Pre-School & Primary (Pres.-3) Dec.10-7:00pm

(K-3) Dec.11-11:00am

Intermediate (Gr.4-6) Dec. 11-11:00am
7:00pm



Save On Gift Cards Fundraiser:

Save On Foods gift cards are available at the office. 6% of the cost of the gift cards you purchase, goes to your child's student account (high schoolers only), or into the general school fund.

Cedars Suggestion Box

We have a Suggestion Box in the office. If you have any ideas or suggestions you would like us to consider, please drop off your ideas in the Suggestion Box located on the counter in the main office. Thank you to those people who have made suggestions.

Reminder

Cedars is a Peanut / Nut Free School.

For Sale

Twin bed with 3 drawers in base (includes mattress) \$50
Ikea (white) children's 4 drawer dresser \$25
Ikea (white) children's desk with side door with shelves (great for book storage) \$25
Call Becky Gairns (250)563-1971

FSA Results 2009

We are pleased to announce some excellent results from the government's FSA testing from last year. Please realize that these results are just a snapshot of learning in the school and they change dramatically year to year due to the make-up of our classes.

Grade 4 % of students who met or exceeded learning outcomes;
-Reading 92%
-Writing 89%
-Numeracy 74%

Grade 7 % of students who met or exceeded learning outcomes;
-Reading 95%
-Writing 98%
-Numeracy 87%

Requested Announcements

Whoever made the Lemon Crinkle cookies and the Hot Root Relish please contact the office.

