

## Dates to Remember 2009-2010 Calendar

Oct. 17	Work Bee
Oct. 19	PAC Meeting
Oct. 23	Fall Fair
Oct. 27	Hot Lunch -Amigo's Taco
Nov. 3	Photo Retakes
Nov. 6	HS Term 1 Ends
Nov. 11	Remembrance Day (All No School)
Nov. 13	HS Reports Term 1 Distributed
Nov. 16	Elem. Report Writing (No School Elem.) H.S. Parent Teacher Interviews (H.S. 1/2 day)
Nov. 19	AGM
Nov. 27	Elem. Report Cards Term 1 Distributed
Nov. 30	Elem. Parent Interviews (No School Elem.)
Dec. 10	Grad Photos (3pm-8pm)
Dec. 10 & 11	Christmas Concert at Westwood MB Church
Dec. 18-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. 15-16	Spring Northern Pro-D (All No School)
Apr. 23	HS Term 3 Report Cards Distributed
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

### Parent Volunteers

Please note that you cannot drive on field trips, volunteer at Cedars or attend field trips if we do not have your Criminal Record Check form on file. Please pick up a form at the office. There is no charge for this.

### Away Today?

If your child is sick, away on vacation, leaving for an appointment or late, please notify the office by calling, leaving a message on the answering machine or emailing us at [office@cedars.bc.ca](mailto:office@cedars.bc.ca). Please be sure to let us know every day that your child is away or they will be marked unexcused.

# The Cedars Shake

October 15, 2009

[www.cedars.bc.ca](http://www.cedars.bc.ca)

No. 4, Volume 37

## Making the Blur More Clear

Mr. Gerry Goertzen  
High School Principal

When I was in grade 3, my parents took me to the eye doctor because I was complaining that I couldn't really see the chalkboard (yes, I grew up with chalkboards...). They determined that I was shortsighted - very shortsighted. I remember the day we picked up my glasses and we drove home. I couldn't believe what I could see. All the street lights were clear and sharp. I had always assumed that everybody saw the world in a blur, just like me.

Last week, our staff put on some new glasses to view learning in our school. I won't say that everything is crystal clear now, but it is becoming clearer. The main idea of a professional learning community is to create a paradigm where we collaborate to ask 4 big questions:

1. What do we want students to learn?
2. How do we know if they learned it?
3. What do we do if they don't learn it?
4. How do celebrate when we have successfully learned it?

You may think these questions are pretty obvious for an educational institution but there are many areas in our school where we are not intentionally answering these questions together. A local facilitator led us through an insightful morning of learning. He encouraged us in our implementation of P.L.C. ideas in our school. On Friday, Willow Brown, an education professor at UNBC, spent the morning sharing insights with us about assessment. We can use assessment to improve of, for, and as learning. Both days were exceptional for our staff. The afternoons were spent in staff groups exploring the implementation of these ideas into our programming.

We are excited about the potential for these ideas in our school. If we are to develop the unique potential of each of our students, we will need to be intentional about answering the big 4 questions, together, in this school. Seeing the learning happen more clearly at Cedars is always a good thing.

### Work Bee

Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
9:00 am- 12:00 pm

This Saturday morning we are having our Fall Work Bee. Please consider coming out to help us prepare our school for winter, both inside and out. General cleanup, along with installation of skate rink boards and construction of cabin stairway rails are highest priority **A great way to earn volunteer hours.** Please bring a rake, shovel, work gloves, strong arms and a serving spirit! Refreshments will be provided.

Thanks, The Maintenance Committee -Joel Uy, Gerry Karpenko, Ian Hedges, Jim Brown, Kevin Bedford, Howard Anton, Rick Neufeld, Winston Price

### Fall Fair

#### COMMUNITY EVENT

Friday, October 23rd 5-8 pm

We have attempted to contact every family regarding the Fall Fair - a big thank you to those who have already signed up to do their 1-2 hour/ family volunteering!

For those who haven't yet done so, please visit the office and/or contact Helen Bouque (250-562-2840 or email her at [hbourque@telus.net](mailto:hbourque@telus.net)) and she will be more than happy to sign you up! A reminder for what's needed from each family: 1-2 hours volunteering

6 items to sell - ideas such as bake sale items -pkgs of 6 cupcakes, cookies, yeast breads, pies (NO NUTS!), jams, preserves, or a special cake for the cake walk (bring on the 23rd).



### PAC

All parents welcome to attend. Next meeting is Monday, October 19th at 7:00 pm.

### Photo Day

**Photo Retake Day will be on Tuesday, November 3rd.** In order to ensure delivery of all portraits before Christmas, portrait packages will only be made for students who submit a Photo Order Envelope with payment to the photographer on photo day. **You can pick up a Photo Order Envelope at the school office.** Please note that orders handed in after the second photo day require special processing and are therefore subject to a \$10.00 handling fee. These orders will be processed separately from the school orders and mailed directly to the customer's home address.



### 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.

### We're Online!

To keep up to date with what's going on at Cedars, check out the Shake online at- [www.cedars.bc.ca](http://www.cedars.bc.ca)



### Notes From the Business Office

[businessoffice@cedars.bc.ca](mailto:businessoffice@cedars.bc.ca)

#### Business Office Hours:

Tues. - Fri. 8 am - 4 pm

**Tuition-** October tuition is now due! Please visit Patti or Michelle in the Business Office to set up a PAD agreement.

**Volunteer Cheques-** Volunteer cheques should be in for each family. If you haven't brought yours in yet, please do so. The cheque should be for \$250 and dated June 30, 2010. The cheque is only cashed if the required 25 hours of volunteer time has not been completed.

### Cedars AGM

Thursday, November 19th  
Registration at 7:00 pm  
Meeting Begins at 7:30 pm

Please remember to make sure your society membership is current (paid up). Nominations for one Board vacancy will be accepted at the school office until 3:00 pm on Monday, November 2nd. Nomination forms are available at the school office. Questions? Email Judy Serup at [jlsерup@shaw.ca](mailto:jlsерup@shaw.ca).

### Contact Information

Please let the office know if you have changed any of your contact information so we can update our records.

### Need Volunteer Hours?

Volunteer hours available. Come and work off those hours in the store at lunch with your son or daughter. Leave a message at the store or see Mrs. August.

### Parking Lot

#### Please Slow Down

1. The speed limit on Preston Rd. is 30km/h. Please obey this limit.
2. Allow space for customers at Howie's Marine to cross the backed up line of traffic. Don't block anybody in the parking lot at Howie's Marine.
3. If Howie's employees are moving boats or other machinery, try to be courteous and allow them space to do their work.
4. Please move up as far as possible to drop your child off along Preston Rd.
5. Do not drop students off in front of the main entrance in the back parking lot. Instead, please drop students along Preston Rd. or park and walk your child through the back parking lot to the school.
6. Please try to avoid turning left onto N. Nechako Rd. from Preston Rd. during peak drop off times in the morning, as this causes worse traffic congestion.

### Throw a Pie at a Teacher!

Bring your \$\$ for the opportunity to throw a pie at a teacher at the Fall Fair. Each one will be separately auctioned off to one lucky winner...

Mr. Price, Mrs. Hoekstra, Mr. Costley, Mr. Nelson, and maybe Mr. Wiens.

Auction starts at 7:30pm on Friday, October 23rd at the fair.



### Cedars Survey

As a result of the survey and the comments we received last March, the staff are currently implementing the following initiatives:

1. Providing more service for students. The High School student council will be focusing on service activities in the Prince George community. The elementary students have been divided into three Chapel Kids Teams to provide leadership and ministry training by planning and presenting elementary chapels.
2. Scheduled a two week Spring Break.
3. Working on a data-base for e-mail addresses for all families as a primary form of communication.

A summary sheet of results is included for your information. Results will also appear on the Cedars website. We will include more results in our next newsletter.

### Requested Announcements

#### Free Skates

A Cedars family is willing to give two pairs of boy's hockey skates (sizes 6 and 7), and one pair of girl's skates (size 9) to students who need them this winter. Come to the office to try them on.

