



The "Swilhcha Cedars" logo is a combined vision from the local communities and the Cultus Lake School students and staff. In the logo the cedar trees with the Trigon shapes are to be the strength in the design. Our local cultural teachings tell us a cedar tree can withstand any weather; withstanding any elements such as the wind, rain, snow, heat and it will stand strong. Inside the oval frame pays respect to the lake and depicting the longtime use of the lake for canoeing with the local First Nations. The two youth in the cedar canoe riding with the wave is to represent the strength of paddling together in unison to create a balanced journey to a strong finish. Sxwoxil (Jay Roberts – artist)

## December 2024

Ey Swayel Families,

As the pace quickens this holiday season, I hope you are able to give and receive the best gift of all – **time**. *Time is the most precious gift of all.* I hope that you find time to make memories with the people that bring you happiness and joy!



## Indigenous Education Success Grant

Last year at this time, staff, students, and families were invited to give their voice in our application for our annual Indigenous Education Success Grant.

### **The focus of our application was around language in the following areas:**

- The co-naming of our school
- Learning place names and the story behind the names
- Building up our classroom libraries with more Indigenous authors and stories
- Creating outdoor learning opportunities that weave language, culture and history together

Over the past year, we have worked with our community to co-name our school, had a new logo designed – see top of page (thank you to Jay Roberts), and we have built up our classroom library collections. Our staff continue to include outdoor learning as part of their regular weekly schedules. We have had guest speakers into our school to teach us about place names and the stories those names hold.

### News from the library...



Thank you for ensuring that books are returned to the library every week. Some of our books are in "hot demand" so everyone appreciates when books are returned on time. Please remember that, ideally, books are in a plastic bag in your child's backpack, so they are not water damaged. (Unfortunately, this has happened to many books recently). Plastic library bags are always available to purchase in the library for \$1.

The Reading Link Challenge books for 2025 have just been announced. This is a program open to all grade 4 and 5 students. (You can find out more information [HERE](#)). Interested students in grades 4 and 5 can come to a first meeting that will take place at lunch sometime in the week before the Winter Break.

We are getting excited to announce and kick off our next One School One Book which will be happening in January. Stay tuned for a big announcement next month. 😊 The planning has already begun!



CLCSA has been very busy this fall! Our 3 - 5 daycare is full with a waitlist for Jan, and room for July and Sept.

Before and After School Care is not full. We offer care after school, professional days and during some school breaks.

Drop in Adult Yoga continues to be very popular on Monday nights at 6:30 - 7:30. \$10 per class or 10 for \$80

Drop-in Youth Ball Hockey continues on Thursday afternoons from 4 - 5:45 pm. Cost is \$3.

Birthday parties are available most weekends, reach out to our office to book.

Soccer and TaeKwonDo finish this week.

A by invitation Art Class is happening on Wednesdays with limited space left, reach out to Melissa.

Math Tutoring is available for \$20/ 30 minutes, email to book - [clcsacultuslake@gmail.com](mailto:clcsacultuslake@gmail.com)

Limited new programs start in December, sign up will be happening next week - watch our social media!

Dec 5th - Ball Hockey

Dec 17th - Bingo and Board Games

Dec 19th Organized Gym Games

Dec 20 - Christmas Crafts - Each class is by donation to CLCSA.

New January programs will be listed mid-December.

**Don't forget the annual Craft Fair happens Dec 7th.**

Please email Melissa Giles at [clcsacultuslake@gmail.com](mailto:clcsacultuslake@gmail.com) for updates on programs being offered.

Also check out Instagram: **@clcsacultuslake**

# PAC

Thank you to our PAC for their planning and organization of weekly hot lunches, supporting our school wide field trips and getting the pancake breakfast ready for our students on the last day of school!

**Our Holiday Store will be open on Dec 13<sup>th</sup> for students to purchase gifts for their family. Donations for the store will be accepted until December 12<sup>th</sup>.**

**If you would like to volunteer for the Holiday Store, please use this link to sign up:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D49AEA62DA2FA7-53456193-santa>

**Christmas concert Rock Star Parking and VIP Seating** – if you would like to purchase raffle tickets for one Rock Star Parking spot for the December 12<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm performance of the Winter Concert or 4 VIP front row seats, please check out the link in Munch-a-Lunch. Draw will be held at 2 pm on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Winners will be notified by 3 pm. The proceeds from this raffle will go towards school-wide field trips and classroom materials.

You can reach the PAC at: [Cultus-PAC@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:Cultus-PAC@sd33.bc.ca)

## STAFF

We welcome **Mrs. Spielman, Mrs. Niznik and Ms. Gnanasena** as the newest members of our EA team.



### **Canned Food Drive**

**Starting this Monday, December 2nd**, our school will be asking families to donate items to the Salvation Army Canned Food Drive. **Last day for collection will be Dec 18<sup>th</sup>.**



Fri. Nov. 29	School Wide Hike
Fri. Nov. 29	Deck the Halls
Sun. Dec 1	International Day of People with Disabilities
Mon. Dec. 2	Canned Food Drive starts
Wed. Dec. 4	CLCSA Board Meeting
Fri. Dec. 6	Spirit Day - <b>Wear Your Christmas Clothing!</b>
Sat. Dec. 7	Christmas Craft Market (10 – 3)
Tues. Dec. 10	Human Rights Day
Thurs. Dec. 12	Winter Concert at 12:00 and 6:30 (students at school by 6:00) <i>* See more info below</i>
Fri. Dec. 13	Holiday Gift Store (one day only)
Fri. Dec. 13	Choir performance at the Cultus Lake Church (6:30 pm)
Wed. Dec. 18	Last day for Salvation Army Food Bank donations
Wed. Dec. 18	Report Cards go home
Fri. Dec. 20	PJs & Pancakes (for students)
Dec. 21 – Jan. 5	Winter Holidays (school starts up again on Jan 6)
Dec. 25 – Jan 2	Hanukkah
Dec 26 – Jan 1	Kwanzaa

### **Winter Concert Information**

The CLCS Winter Concert is always a sell-out - standing room only in many instances. Unfortunately, however, we do need to abide by the capacity that our gym is allowed to hold. This year, we will have two shows: Matinee (starting at 12:00) and evening (starting at 6:30). **We will be giving each family 2 tickets to the matinee performance and 2 tickets to the evening performance.** That way, we hope there will be more of a balance of attendees at each performance. You must have your ticket to get into the performance. Tickets will be sent home on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

If you require additional tickets, please contact Leann [leann\\_wiebe@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:leann_wiebe@sd33.bc.ca)  
**Canned food donations are encouraged.**

## Doors

Matinee – doors will open at 11:45

Evening – doors will open at 6:00 (this is when students are expected to arrive)

## Parking

Parking is free at Main Beach Parking Lot B



*Happy Holidays from the staff at  
Cultus Lake Swilhcha Community School*