

Dr. Charles Best Secondary Newsletter

Issue #6 – November 8, 2023

2525 Como Lake Avenue, Coquitlam, BC V3J 3R8 604-461-5581

Website: <http://www.sd43.bc.ca/school/charlesbest/Pages/default.aspx>



Principal – Heather Murphy

Vice-Principals – Michelle Ciolfitto, Kelly Fridge, and Joel Nelson

Our school goal is to develop a culture of connectedness and belonging within the school, among school staff, students, and our parent community, in order to enhance opportunities for collaborative partnerships.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, November 9

Remembrance Day Assembly (Assembly Bell Schedule)
Mid-Term Reports published

Friday, November 10

School Closure Day (Students do not attend)

Monday, November 13

Remembrance Day Statutory Holiday

Tuesday, November 21

UBC Sauder School of Business Post Sec. visit (Library)

Wednesday, November 22

University of Alberta-Campus St. Jean ([French](#) Post Sec. visit in Library)

Wednesday, November 22-Saturday, November 25

MetFest

Thursday, November 23

University of Calgary Post Sec. visit (Main lobby)

Wednesday, November 29

Western University Post Sec. visit (Main lobby)

Thursday, November 30

Douglas College Post Sec. visit (Location TBD)

Tuesday, December 5

Caroling event

Wednesday, December 6 (6-9pm)

Grade 11/12 Winter Ball



REMEMBRANCE DAY

Leadership students will be coming to classrooms prior to the assembly tomorrow to accept donations and give out poppies. Any donations are appreciated, but a reminder that these poppies are a fundraiser for the Canadian Legion and is one of their main sources to help veterans in need.

Please don't take a poppy if you can't afford a small donation. Even a quarter helps, thank you.

Best Community We Need your Help!

As the holiday season approaches, we realize that many families in our own community are struggling to meet the increasing financial demands. Traditionally we organize a food drive to support the local Food Bank at SHARE Family & Community Services Society (SHARE). This year, they are respectfully asking us to consider raising funds rather than food. Below is some information.

Holiday food drives undoubtedly result in large quantities of food for SHARE's Food Bank.

Unfortunately, they also create some very real challenges, including:

- Large quantities of damaged and expired food being donated, that has to be sorted by SHARE staff and volunteers and then sent to landfill/compost/recycling.
- Significant drain on volunteer resources to handle the pickup, sorting and storage of the food items.
- Mismatch between the items most needed by those we serve (culturally specific items such as lentils and rice), and the items that are donated (e.g., Kraft dinner); and
- Large amounts of non-perishable and typically less nutritious food items being donated, versus SHARE's current focus of providing meat, milk, eggs, fruit, and vegetables to families visiting the Food Bank.

When SHARE receives monetary donations, they use those funds to buy items in bulk (thereby increasing the purchase power of every dollar donated) and to focus on what is most needed by those we serve every day – this means meal supplements for our seniors, fresh fruits and vegetables for our families, infant formula for our babies, and culturally appropriate items for everyone.

Anything you can do to support this important initiative for one of our main partners would be greatly appreciated.

We will ask grade 11 and 12 students who are attending the **Winter Ball** to bring a loonie or toonie to the Winter Ball. We will have leadership students collecting donations at the front of the school some mornings.

We will also accept donations at the office, or through your School Cashonline account **until December 18th**.

Please help us support our family hampers as well as a donation to our Local Food Bank.

Thank you. Log into your account here: <https://sd43.schoolcashonline.com/>

WINTER BALL

All grade 11 and 12 students are invited to attend the Dr. Charles Best Winter Ball 2023. December 6th 6-9 pm. For \$20, snacks and drinks are provided as well as a professional DJ so you can dance all night! Limited number of tickets will be on sale **starting November 14th** via School Cashonline. <https://sd43.schoolcashonline.com/>

As we are collecting cash donations for our family hampers as well as the Food Bank, we are also asking students to bring a Loonie or Twoonie to the dance that night (in lieu of a non perishable donation). Thank you in advance for your kind generosity! If you would like to request a song here is the form for that request: <https://forms.office.com/r/qGnX3RuL19>

MID TERM REPORT CARDS

Reports will be published into the Family portals at the end of the school day on Thursday, November 9th. An email will be sent to your inbox when report publishing is complete.

2023-2024 CLUBS DOCUMENT

We have now added our 2023-2024 list of Clubs to our school website homepage. You can find the PDF document under 'Documents' which is below the 'Quicklinks' category.

FRESH VEGGIE FUNDRAISER UPDATE

Thank you again to those who purchased a fresh veggie bundle. Our students will work hard to organize the bundles, so they are ready afterschool on Thursday Nov. 16th or Friday Nov. 17th just outside the cafeteria door (near the main entrance of the school) from 3 pm - 3:30 pm. Students or parents are welcome to pick up the bundles. If you cannot make these pick-up times, please email me directly (sviswanathan@sd43.bc.ca) with the name on order and we can arrange alternate pick-up times. Ideally, we would love everyone to get their order by the end of the day Friday Nov. 17th to ensure freshness of your produce!

PHOTO INFORMATION

School Photos

Students who had photo retakes, your Student ID cards are ready for pick up in the office. If you ordered a photo package those can be picked up as well. Please see Ms. Thibault.

GRAD PHOTOS OCTOBER JANUARY 5th-19th, 2024

Grad photos are just around the corner! January 5-19th Artona's trailer photo studio will be onsite in the upper parking lot to capture images of this year's graduates. If you haven't already done so, please book your Grad Photo session by using the QR code posted below. At time of booking there will be a \$60.00 refundable deposit can be used towards the purchase of any products or refunded if no order is placed. Grads will receive a complimentary 5x7 Commencement photograph, 5x7 Dinner Dance photo. In addition, as part of this years \$65 grad fee, graduates will receive a composite folder containing the Grad Class of 2023 photo. To book your appointment please use the QR code at right.



METFEST

The Best Players are rapidly working tirelessly to present **Out of the Dark**, an evening of one act dramatic plays. Our fall one act festival begins November 22nd, and runs November 23rd, 24th, and 25th. Tickets are \$8.00 for students and seniors, and \$10.00 for adults and the box office opens at 7:00 PM, with curtain at 7:30 PM. Our featured plays will be **The Insanity of Mary Girriard**, by Lanie Robertson, as well as, the Acting 12 class offerings, **The Drown Woman** by Neil Simon and **The Come Back Caper** by Anne Coulter Martens. The acting students are all so courageous and I am extremely proud of the work we will be presenting. Don't forget to mark your calendars so that you can enjoy these performances. Bring the kids and support the wonderful work we do here at Dr. Charles Best. See you at the festival.

CAROLING EVENT

Mr. Sokol's leadership periods 2 and 3 classes have been corresponding with residents at Lakeshore and Madison Care Homes as pen pals. On **Tuesday December 5th** after school from approximately 3:30-4:30pm we are trying to get students and teachers to come with us to Madison Care Home to do 5-6 Christmas Carols for the residents. Mr. Major has graciously offered to drive the bus for those that need a ride. If you can come with us, please leave your name with our Youth Worker, Heather Bjornson (hbjornson@sd43.bc.ca).

GRADE 11 PARENT DINNER DANCE - A FUNDRAISER FOR GRAD 2025

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday March 9, 2024 doors will open at 6pm, dinner at 7pm.

This fun evening will include dinner, music, silent auction, 50/50 and much more!

The committee is looking for donations for the silent auction and corporate sponsors. If you have any questions or wish to make a donation, please email bestgrad2025@gmail.com

For more information follow us on:

Facebook - <http://Facebook.com/BestGrad2025> Instagram - bestgrad2025

Threads - bestgrad2025

Twitter/X - bestgrad2025

Next planning meeting will be **December 6th** at 7pm in the Best Library

WORK EXPERIENCE 12

PARENTS: Do you work for a community-minded company willing to take on a Work Experience Student?

Work Experience 12 students are looking for unpaid, career-related experience in the following fields:

accounting, business, finance, real estate, engineering, construction trades, medicine, dentistry.

The goal is to arrange a consistent weekly schedule that is mutually agreeable between now and Jan. 15, 2024.

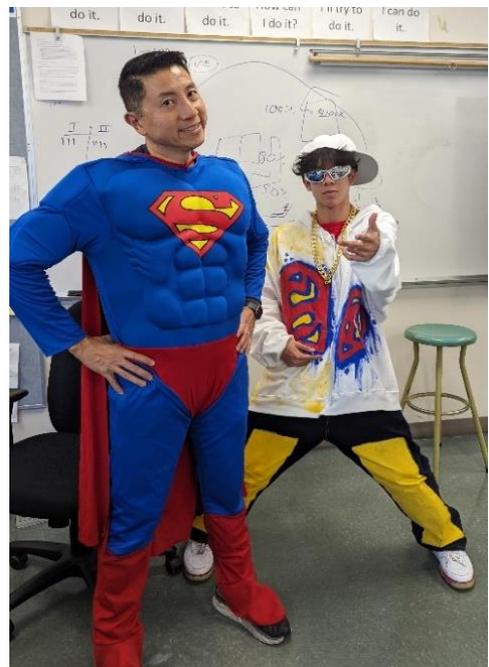
Work experience sponsorship is easy and facilitated by the teacher. Please contact Kumi Abercrombie by email for more information: kabercrombie@sd43.bc.ca. Thank you for your involvement and dedication to our students!

HALLOWEEN FESTIVITIES FROM OCTOBER 31ST

If you see Grade 12 student Hannah Mc., congratulate her for her place win in the senior category of the Coquitlam Public Library's Scary Story contest. Her spooky tale, "Survivor," can be read on their website! Congratulations!



Catching treats!



first

Superman aka Mr. Dy



"The Guardians" aka our Administration



"Evil Disney" aka our Languages Department



Blue Devil then and now



Mr. Nelson & Caretaker Dave getting pied

ATHLETICS

VOLLEYBALL

Jr. Boys Volleyball are District Champions!

Congratulations to the Junior Boys' Volleyball team for their impressive victory in the District Championship against Pinetree on Thursday, November 2nd. Despite dropping the first two sets, they showed great resilience and rallied to win the next three sets. We would also like to extend our congratulations to the Tournament All-Stars: Artin S. and Jonas K., and the Tournament Most Valuable Player, Nico P. Best of luck to the team as they advance to the Fraser North Championships next week!



Junior Girls Volleyball

The Charles Junior Girls Volleyball Team had a great season. They played well at the Graham Grizzlies and the Earl Marriott Tournaments and narrowly missed 3rd placement in a 5-set battle with Pinetree. The girls showed a lot of resilience by coming back after losing the first 2 games to capture the next 2 games unfortunately finally succumbing in the 5th. A worthy season for all team members!



Senior Boys

Congratulations on an outstanding volleyball regular season! The team finished with a 6-1 record, with their only loss coming from a hard-fought match against Pinetree this week that went to five sets. Best of luck to the team as they prepare for the upcoming Fraser North Championships.

Senior Girls

The senior girls had a strong start to their season and are going into playoffs with a 6-2 record. The girls played in three tournaments which featured fast-paced play and long rallies, and celebrated their graduating player, Aram, at Seniors Night. The girls are excited to bring their Blue Devils spirit to playoffs which start next week at Gleneagle. Come out and support your senior girls volleyball team!

Grade 9 Girls

The grade 9 girls volleyball team placed 6th in league play, defeating Pinetree to move on to the district playoffs. The team faced Heritage Woods Secondary (3rd place) in the first game of playoffs and were tied 1-1 going into the third set. The players battled hard and played their best volleyball all season but fell short and eventually lost the game 3 – 1. Congratulations to the Grade 9 girls' volleyball team for their valiant effort and dedication this season.



ATHLETICS CONTINUED

SENIOR BOYS SOCCER

Our boys have a flair for late dramatics and decided to wait until we were 2-0 down to come back and win in shootout 3-2 on Tuesday, November 7th. Not an easy route to take, but we are very proud of their resilience and fight. We are thankful that many of our penalty shooters had nerves of steel and put their shots away with confidence and we also needed our goalie to step up and make a save with cool confidence. So, kudos to all who helped in our pursuit of moving on to the next game in the Fraser North Championships. We are hoping our team can build off this match and carry it forward to their game against Burnaby South to determine third place in the Fraser North Championships and a spot into the provincial tournament. Stay tuned for more results. The team plays Thursday, November 9th.

CROSS COUNTRY

The Charles Best Cross-Country team competed at the Fraser North Championships on October 25th. Our Junior Boys had a very strong race, placing second in the zone to Heritage Woods by a single point. The boys qualified for the BC High School Cross-Country Championships, which took place on Saturday, November 4th at Crescent Park in South Surrey. Congratulations to Joshua F., Sasha G., Jayden A., Cameron H., Frederick H., Emilio N., Charlie E., Matt S., and Isaiah B.!

Our Senior Boys team ran a strong race at Zones but came just short of qualifying for the BC Championships, placing 7th. James H. (17th) and Lucas P. (18th) did qualify for BC Champs as individuals.

In the Junior Girls race, we placed 8th, led by Amanda R. (20th) and Michelle L. (23rd). Unfortunately, they just missed qualifying for BC Champs as individuals.

Our Senior Girls team placed 6th, led by Manuela M. (13th) and Diana Z. (22nd), who qualified for BC Champs as individuals.

At the BC High School Cross-Country Championships, our Junior Boys placed 11th out of 33 schools, missing a top-10 placing by just 7 points. Congrats on a great season! (The Jr. Boys won the Triple C Invitational, placed 2nd at Zones, and 11th in the province!).

Senior Boys: Lucas P. placed 81st and James H. placed 103rd

Senior Girls: Manuela M. placed 68th and Diana Z. placed 93rd

CAREER CENTRE NEWS

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL STUDENTS:

SD43 TRADES PROGRAMS – VIRTUAL INFO SESSION

Do you want to learn how you can get certified for free in one of SD43's 24+ Trades and Career programs? Earn high school credits at the same time you are completing your training. **Wed, November 15th**, 6 pm. [Register here.](#)

ENVIRONMENTAL OPPORTUNITY: INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL

All ages are welcome to help the Lower Mainland Green Team with this activity at Thurston Woods Trail, Port Moody. Sat, November 18, 9.15 am – 12.30 pm. Instructions, gloves, tools, snacks will be provided. [More info here.](#)

MEDCONNECT 2023

Students interested in pursuing a medical career, this day-long conference is your chance to make connections with doctors, nurses, and like-minded students. Through lectures from physicians of varying specialties, hands-on professional workshops from health professionals, and a panel of medical students, this event's goal is to inspire and educate the next generation of health professionals into their future endeavors. Get a taste of what medical school and the application process are like. SFU Burnaby Campus, **Sat., November 18th**. \$25. [Register now.](#)

AUNT LEAH'S CHRISTMAS TREE LOT VOLUNTEERS

For over 25 years Aunt Leah's Christmas Tree Lots have been raising money to fund programs that help prevent children in foster care from becoming homeless, and young mothers from losing custody of their children. You can support youth by helping the organization selling Christmas trees! The tree lot by Gleneagle Secondary will open November 25th. [More info and sign up here.](#)

PORT MOODY WINTER MARKET

Volunteers are needed for the Sunday Farmers Market, located in the Port Moody Rec Centre parking lot. Volunteer opportunities are available between the hours of 8am - 3:30pm, with shifts being two hours minimum. The Market runs until April 28th, and volunteer opportunities are currently available starting in early December. [Sign up here.](#)

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

BEEDIE LUMINARIES BURSARIES

100+ awards of up to \$11,000/ year (for up to 4 years) are available. Valid at one of the 25 BC post-secondary institutions. Must be a grade 12 student in BC who are Canadian citizens or PR for at least 3 years. Grade average 75%+. [More info.](#) Register for an [info session](#) on **November 15**, 4 pm. **Deadline to apply: January 8, 2024.**

UBC BEYOND TOMORROW ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIPS

A number of award categories are available to support undergraduate Black Canadian students applying to both campuses. Some are one-time and some are renewable up to \$80,000. In addition to the financial assistance, scholars will be supported with a range of programming dedicated to student success. Submit their UBC application and complete the [Beyond Tomorrow Scholars Award application](#) by **December 1st.**

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED

UBC CENTENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Graduating High School students with demonstrated financial need and a strong academic record are eligible to apply. Must submit UBC application and the Centennial Scholars Award application **by December 1st**. [More info here.](#)

TERRY FOX HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Grade 12s, are you involved in voluntary humanitarian activities? Up to \$28,000 are available over four years. Terry Fox Award recipients are "doers" who make a positive impact on the lives of others. They are persistent, selfless, and compassionate. If that sounds like you, [learn more here](#). **Deadline to apply: December 1.**

SFU UNDERGRADUATE ENTRANCE SCHOLARS AWARDS

If you are applying to SFU for fall 2024, meet the admission requirements to your primary program of choice at SFU, have grades in the 90% range in courses required for admission to your program, and have demonstrated excellence in both academic and extracurricular activities, read [more here](#). Up to \$60,000 are available for domestic students, and up to \$140,000 for international students. Must apply to SFU and complete the scholarship application **by December 15th**.

SCHULICH LEADER SCHOLARSHIPS

Canada's largest and most prestigious undergraduate Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) scholarships to encourage our best and brightest students to be the next generation of entrepreneurial-minded, technology innovators. 100 scholarships of up to \$100,000 are available. You must be nominated by the school to apply. Read more about the criteria and the nomination process [here](#). Deadline to submit your Schulich brag sheet is **Sun, January 7, 2024**.

POST-SECONDARY EVENTS

SFU FACULTY OF ENVIRONMENT VIRTUAL INFO SESSION

Explore how a degree in Environment can be more impactful and influential than you think. Meet current student changemakers and staff who will share their favourite classes and talk about co-op work term opportunities, field schools, careers and more. **Tue, November 14, 4:30 pm.** [Register to attend.](#)

WATERLOO ENGINEERING WEBINAR

"Tips for Applying to Waterloo Engineering" will provide an opportunity for prospective students to ask their questions about the admissions process and hear from our Engineering admissions team on tips for success.

Wed, November 15, 5.30 pm (Pacific Time). [Register here.](#)

POST-SECONDARY APPLICATION SESSION

Are you in grade 12 and need help with your post-secondary application? Join Ms. John and Ms. Kaufmann on **Thursday, November 16th**, after school. Topics will cover creating an account with Education Planner BC, applying to Ontario universities using the OUAC portal, choosing a faculty/ program, learning more about post-secondary in general. Bring your device. Due to limited space, [sign up is required](#).

NATIONAL PORTFOLIO DAY

National Portfolio Day is free for students who want to launch their future in art and design. Meet with counselors, admission team members, and faculty from accredited art and design schools across the world for free portfolio reviews. **Sat, November 18, 11 am - 3 pm**, Wilson School of Design at KPU, Richmond. [Register here.](#)

INTERNATIONAL POST-SECONDARY FAIR

Are you planning to apply to university, college, or some other post-secondary program in the next two years? Meet international education representatives from some of the top post-secondary institutions in British Columbia and other parts of Canada at the International Education Post-Secondary Fair. **November 30, 3 - 6 pm**, Education Learning Centre, 1080 Winslow Avenue, Coquitlam.

TERRY FOX RUN DONATIONS

We will be continuing our support of the Terry Fox Foundation until December. Donations can be sent to school with your child and dropped off at the office. Thank you in advance for your kind and generous support.

PAC CORNER

Upcoming PAC meeting: Join us in the new year on **Monday, January 8th** at 7:00pm in the school library. All parents are welcome!

Did you know? You can DONATE TO THE PAC ONLINE!

Parent donations to the Charles Best PAC help to support various aspects of your student's educational experience. Each year, the PAC provides much-needed funds to support activities such as extracurricular clubs, After Grad, teacher appreciation, and student scholarships. Login to your student's portal on the [SchoolCash Online system](#) to make your PAC donation today!

AFTER GRAD FUNDRAISING

PURDY'S AFTER GRAD 2024 FUNDRAISER (CHRISTMAS)

Please help support our After Grad 2024 fundraiser by purchasing your Purdy's Christmas chocolates using the link below:

<https://fundraising.purdys.com/1049914-109988>

The link to the Purdy's Christmas brochure is [here](#).

Depending on the method used to order, you may be prompted for a customer code: 59854

The order deadline is **November 13, 2023** and pick up will be arranged during the week of **November 26, 2023**.

Thank you in advance for supporting our 2024 after grad event!

RETURN IT RECYCLING PROGRAM

2024 After Grad has partnered with 'Return-It' recycling centres to make fundraising for next year extra easy!

- 1) Use Recycle Account – Charles Best AfterGrad 2024
- 2) Use the school's phone # (604-461-5581) when you print labels for your recycling bags



Growing Smiles
FUNDRAISING

**Charles Best Secondary
After-grad Winter plant
Fundraiser is back!!**



**Order Deadline is Nov 19th, 12am
Confirmed pick up date is Dec 5th
for product details check out link below:**

<https://charlesbestsecondaryaftergrad.growingsmilesfundraising.com/>



**Thank you
for supporting
our 2024 Grads!!**



Save the Date!

Friday December 8th, 6-9 pm

**Wreath Decorating Night
and Bake Sale!**

Your support will make the biggest difference for our Grade 12 After-Grad Fundraiser

Everyone in the family is welcome to come!
Tickets are \$65 per
**Wreath Decorating Workshop
Includes entry for a door prize!!**

Register on School Cash Online. Spots are limited. **Deadline to register is November 21**

Don't want to make a wreath?
Then come on down for **free** to enjoy our
Bake Sale
Hot Chocolate Bar
Pizza Slices for Sale
Reverse Draw for Gift Basket
Have an Ugly sweater in your closet?
Wear it and maybe win a prize!

It's going to be fun!
Please note this is a CASH ONLY event

**Me-n-Ed's Pizza
December 8th Fundraiser**

Call and make your order at the Austin branch.
Mention Charles Best Fundraiser for our 20% back.
Get it delivered to your home or to the school
We are excited to share this experience with you!

VANCOUVER CANUCKS OFFER

QUESTIONS? Please contact bestaftergrad2024@gmail.com



**VANCOUVER
CANUCKS
DISCOUNTED
OFFERS!!**

All Charles Best Secondary students, teachers, faculty and their friends and families are eligible to take advantage of discounted offers for Vancouver Canucks games!

Access these offers through this link and QR code:

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/group/Charlesbest>

This is a great opportunity for you to enjoy Canucks games, while supporting the school community to fundraise for our grade 12's after grad.



Dr. Charles Best After-Grad 2024

Meridian
FARM MARKET

**Farm Fresh
Fundraiser**



Meridian Meat Gift Cards to use for Christmas gifts or for your holiday food shopping.

Gift cards (\$20 or \$100 denominations) are available for online use and will be distributed the week of December 11th.

Customers can shop online and choose in-store pickup or home delivery (free delivery on orders over \$100)

For Product Selection check out:
<https://meridianfarmmarket.ca>

Buy gift cards by retyping this URL in your browser
<https://best-grad-2024.square.site/>

Order Deadline: November 24

Thank you for supporting our 2024 After-Grad

For any questions or difficulties please contact us at:
bestaftergrad2024@gmail.com