

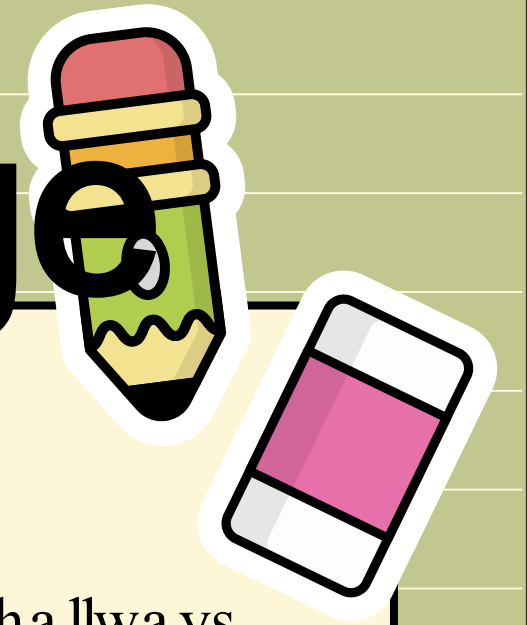
THE EAGLE GAZETTE

SEPTEMBER 2024



South Kelowna Elementary School
Phone: 250 -870-510 ske.sd23.bc.ca

Principal's Message



September 2024

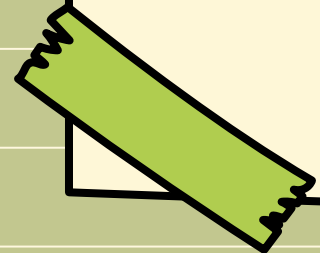
Dear SKE Community,

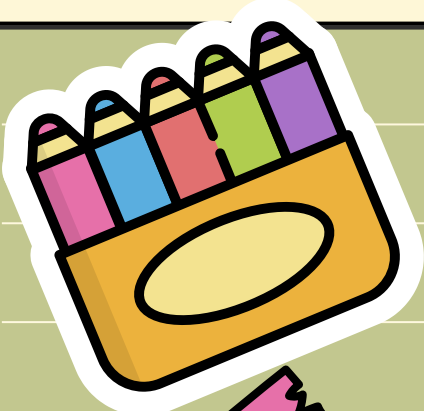
How excited we all are to return to learning this fall! The positive energy and enthusiasm throughout our hallways, classrooms and playground is fantastic. From welcoming our newest Kindergarten learners, to congratulating our new Grade 6s as they enter their final year at SKE, the fact that we are together again is wonderful.

As you may have heard, the theme of Central Okanagan Public Schools this year is “Togetherness”. We are looking forward to many opportunities to learn together in our classrooms, outside on our property, and throughout our community. Parents and caregivers are invited to volunteer for school and PAC activities. The SKE PAC is seeking a secretary. This role is essential to helping the PAC function. See info later in the newsletter, on the PAC page. If you plan to volunteer, please be sure to complete a Criminal Record Check through our front office. It's free!

Your first opportunity to volunteer is with the SKE PAC at the Welcome Back BBQ this coming Friday. You'll see information about that a little later in our newsletter. I sure hope to see many families there!

In the spirit of togetherness, **Jasmine Lemore**, SKE Principal



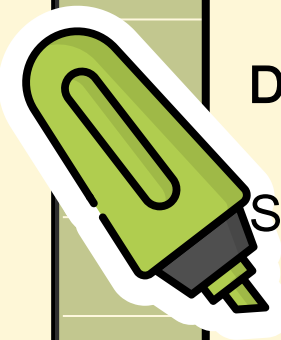


Sharing Kindness Everyday



For Your Calendar

| | |
|------------|--|
| Sept 3 | School Opens for Grade 1-6 (Early Dismissal @ 11:00 am) |
| Sept 6 | Kindergarten First Day of School (Gradual Entry) |
| Sept 13 | PAC BBQ 5-7 pm |
| Sept 16 | Picture Day |
| Sept 23 | Terry Fox Run |
| Sept 23-27 | Grade 6 SCREAM Program |
| Sept 30 | National Day of Truth and Reconciliation SCHOOL CLOSED |



School Hours

Our regular school hours for all grades
are as follows:

8:25 a.m. Warning Bell
8:30 a.m. Morning Classes

Begin

11:10 a.m. Lunch Recess
12:07 p.m. Classes Resume
1:30-1:45 Recess
2:30 p.m. Dismissal

SKE Website

Please make an effort to check our
website often for updated
information and the school
calendar.



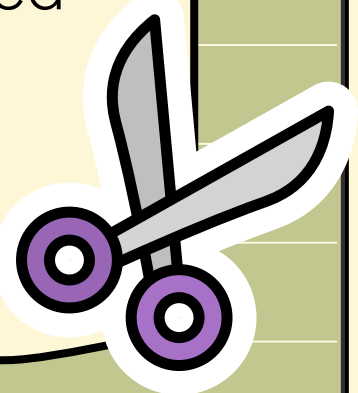
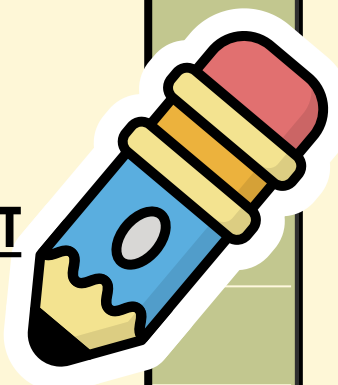
<https://ske.sd23.bc.ca>

Reporting Absences and Lates

1. **School Messenger APP**
on cell phone
2. **Website**
3. **Phone Message.**
Call 250-870-5107
#1, follow prompts

**EMAILS TO TEACHERS WILL NOT
BE ACCEPTED**

If your child has an unexcused
absence, you will receive a
phone call notification.



From the Office

Verification Forms

Please watch for verification forms coming home this month. These forms are very important for the office to have so your contact information is accurate when needed. **Please sign & return them even if nothing has changed.** They are **DUE** on **September 30th.**

Helpful Hints

- ★ Register for SchoolCash Online at <https://centralokanagan.schoolcashionline.com/>
- ★ Absences: please remember to notify the office in regards to any absences or lateness, even if you have let the teacher know. Please use School Messenger. See more information at [www.sd23.bc.ca/schoolmessenger/Pages/default.aspx#/="](http://www.sd23.bc.ca/schoolmessenger/Pages/default.aspx#/=)
- ★ If your child is late, they must check in at the office upon arrival before going to their classroom, otherwise they remain marked as absent. If you sign out your child early with the help of School Messenger, you must still call the office upon your arrival to pick them up.
- ★ Medical Alert: If your child has a medical alert, please make sure to contact the office to obtain and fill out a Medical Alert Planning Form

Student Fees

Our online payment system for student supplies and cultural fees should be up and running soon. At that time, please go to our school website, and select the link to register & pay for fees online, or visit the following website to register:

www.centralokanagan.schoolcashionline.com

Register by selecting "Get Started Now" and follow the steps. After you receive the confirmation email, please select the 'click here' option, sign in and add each of your children to your household account.

We ask that you register as soon as possible. Along with the option to electronically pay from your bank account, there is also the option to pay by credit card. **Student fees are \$45 per child (\$35 supplies + \$10 cultural).**

We strongly encourage parents to take advantage of the online payment process. Teachers will no longer be accepting cash and cheque payments in the classroom.

**School Fees are due
SEPTEMBER 30TH.**

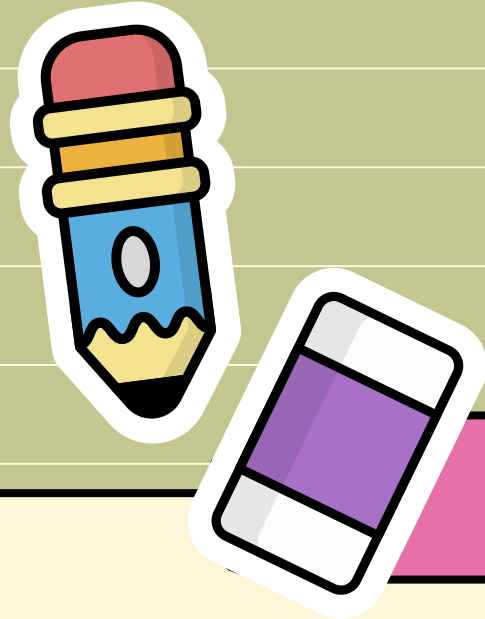
Volunteer + Criminal Record Checks

If you are planning to participate in activities in your child's classroom or help with field trips, a School District #23 Criminal Record Check must be completed.

This is mandatory for all volunteers, and is paid for by the district. We strongly recommend you complete one right away, as the process can take a few weeks before it is finalized. We cannot permit volunteers in the school or on field trips until the finalized record check is received.

Note that this process must be renewed every four years. In order to drive other children to field trips or sporting events, you must complete the "Driver Declaration" form as well, and bring in your vehicle insurance and driver's license to be photocopied.

Please see the office for the proper forms.



More from the Office

Student Messages

Messages should only be for emergency situations (e.g. car problems on your way, or an appointment scheduled during the day). Otherwise, please use the student planners for Gr. 1-6 to communicate messages regarding after school arrangements different from the norm (kindergarten students send a note to teacher). **Playdates should be made from home.**

Please be considerate of the many phone calls we receive through our office on a daily basis and try to keep your calls to very important messages only.

Terry Fox Run

We are excited to announce that our school will be proudly taking part in the 2024 Terry Fox School Run on **Monday, September 23rd**. This event will support cancer research while also building incredible school spirit for our students. Let's all show the great strength and resiliency of our school community with your support of one of our greatest Canadian heroes, Terry Fox.

More information will be shared soon!

Please see the below link to donate:

South Kelowna Elementary Fundraising Link: <https://schools.terryfox.ca/SouthKelownaElementary>

Picture Day is Coming!

Mark your calendar for our School Picture Day on Monday, September 16th.

Individual photos (students and staff) will be taken on this day with class photos taken in the spring. **Retakes will be available on October 23rd.**



Parking

At SKE we are very fortunate to have many options for dropping off students at SKE. By taking a few extra minutes in the morning and noting the following safety rules, we can ensure safer access for students.

Do not access the bus lane between 8:00 - 8:10 am, or 2:00 - 2:35 pm. ***DO NOT LEAVE YOUR VEHICLE in the bus lane at any time of the school day.***

The Staff Parking Lot is for STAFF ONLY. Please do not park in the staff parking lot during the day.

Important Information

Text Messages



TEXT MESSAGING IS AT SOUTH KELOWNA ELEMENTARY!

OPT IN BY TEXTING
"YES" TO 978338
OR SCAN THIS QR CODE



NO NUTS!



Please do not send your child with food products containing nuts. Thank you for keeping our children safe.

No Dogs!



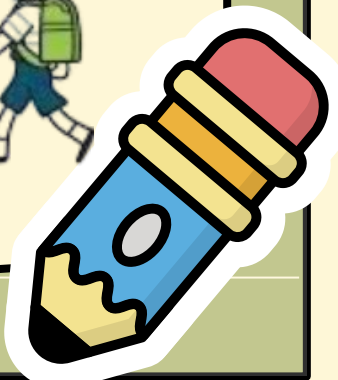
A reminder that dogs are not allowed on the school grounds.
Thank you for your cooperation.

Supervision

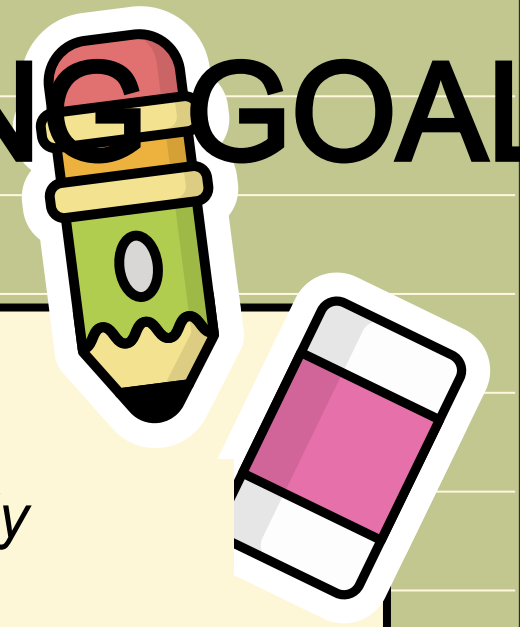
Supervision is provided AFTER 8:10 a.m.
and ENDS at 2:45 p.m.

Students must leave the grounds by 2:45 p.m. unless they are with a parent. Students are to report home after supervision is over at 2:45 p.m., and then the student may return to play if a parent gives permission.

*Thank you in advance for helping us
maintain your children's safety!*



SCHOOL PRIORITIES AND LEARNING GOALS

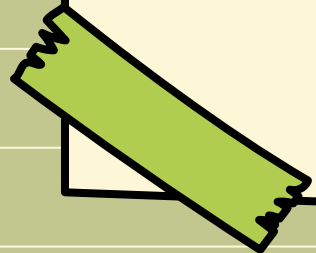


In 2024/2025, our priorities and learning goals are as follows below. As a school, our team will be intentionally seeking to support student learning and growth throughout the year .

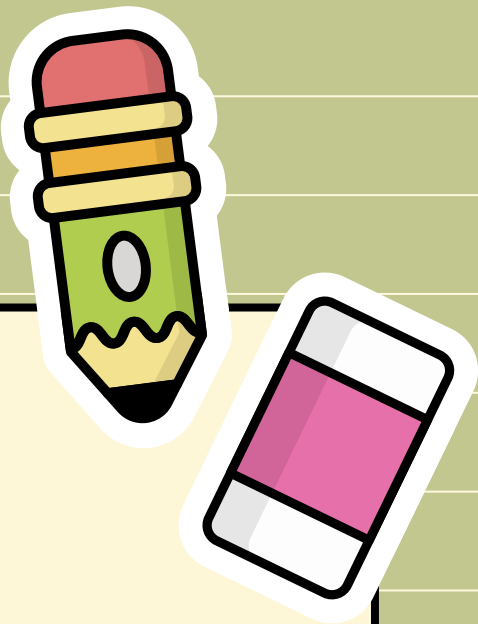
To ensure learner confidence and success for each of our learners by:

- Focusing on number sense fluency, mathematical problem-solving and critical-thinking skills
- Promoting, nurturing and developing a growth mindset, stamina for learning and resiliency to challenge
- Approaching and supporting our learners through a holistic lens, recognizing the interconnectedness of physical and mental wellness

SHARING KINDNESS EVERYDAY



20242025 STAFFING



PRINCIPAL
Mrs. Lemon
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
LIBRARY/OFFICE ASSISTANT
MacLean
Ms. Angus
Mrs.

TEACHER LIBRARIAN
Obedkoff Mrs.
ARTS EDUCATION
Sadlowski Ms.

KINDERGARTEN
Ms. Robertson

CLASSROOM SUPPORT/PREP Ms. Juda

KINDERGARTEN
Ms. Romano

COUNSELLORS Mrs. Foster

Mrs. McLeod

GRADE 1/2
Mrs. Oakes

INDIGENOUS ADVOCATE Ms. Phillips

GRADE 1
Mrs. Shanks

LEARNING ASSISTANCE Mrs. Bitcon

GRADE 2
Mrs. Kirschner

SPEECH & LANGUAGE Mrs.
Koskie

GRADE 2/3
Mrs. Jennejohn

INCLUSION TEACHER Mrs.
Lindsay

CEAS
Mrs. Anderson

Ms. Brazeau
Ms. Crane

GRADE
Mrs. Estey

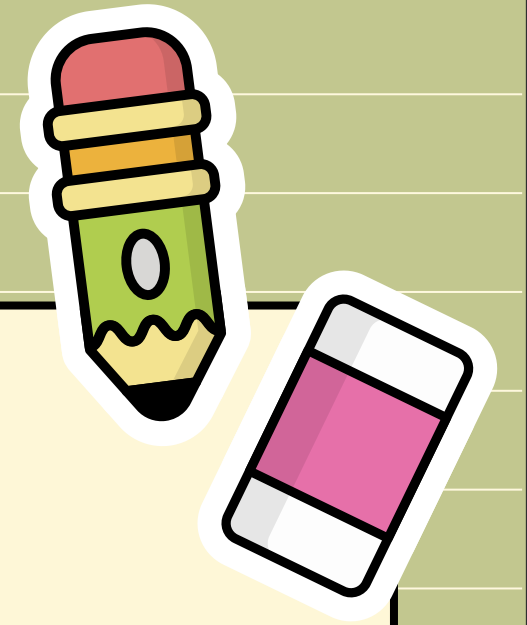
Ms. DaCosta

GRADE 3/4

Mr. Demafelix
Mrs. Porritt

Ms. Shannon

ORANGE SHIRT DAY SEPTEMBER 30th



“EVERY CHILD MATTERS”

September 30th has been declared Orange Shirt Day annually, in recognition of the harm the residential school system did to children's sense of self-esteem and well being, and as an affirmation of our commitment to ensure that everyone around us matters.

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake in the spring of 2013. It grew out of Phyllis (Jack) Webstad's account of losing her pretty new orange shirt on her first day of school at the mission, and it has become an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening annually.

The date was chosen because it is the time of year in which children were taken from their homes to residential schools and because it is an opportunity to set the stage for anti-racism and anti-bullying policies for the coming school year.

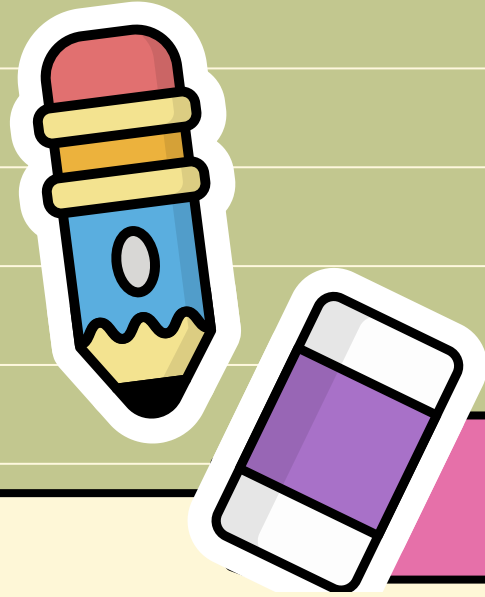
Orange Shirt Day is also an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools and community agencies to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come.

To read Phyllis' story please go to this link: <http://www.orangeshirtday.org/phyllis-story.html>



Please wear **Orange** on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th to show your support.





Important District #23 Information

Accident Insurance

Central Okanagan Public Schools does not insure expenses for student injuries that occur on school grounds or during school activities. Parents and guardians can voluntarily purchase private accident insurance. The Kids Plus Accident Insurance Program that was previously offered to our students was discontinued in 2019. The IA Financial Group now offers the Family Accident Reimbursement Plan (FARP) which is voluntary plan that provides coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses and critical illness. To apply for the Family Accident Reimbursement Plan or to find out more, [click HERE](#).

The Central Okanagan School District's Appeals Process Board Policy 460

Appeals states that, "A student or a parent of a student who is entitled to an educational program in the Central Okanagan Public Schools may appeal a decision of an employee of the Board of Education which significantly affects the education, health or safety of the student". For a complete description of the Appeals Policy, along with the recommended steps to follow in attempting to solve a problem, please refer to Policy 460– Appeals, that can be accessed from the 'Board Policies' link under the Board of Education heading on the School District homepage (www.sd23.bc.ca)

The Central Okanagan School District's Sanctuary Schools Policy

Board Policy 421 – Sanctuary Schools (see www.sd23.bc.ca) upholds the Board's commitment to providing educational opportunities for all students who are ordinarily residents in the Central Okanagan, including those with precarious immigration status or no immigration status. Student registrations that pertain to Policy 421 – Sanctuary Schools will be processed through the Welcome Centre.

Policy 421 – Sanctuary Schools <https://www.sd23.bc.ca/documents/cd7bd119-5ce7-5dfa-8b78-a054eb0e01d7/421.pdf>

Welcome Centre [http://www.international.sd23.bc.ca/Pages/default.aspx#/=](http://www.international.sd23.bc.ca/Pages/default.aspx#/)

The Central Okanagan School District's Financial Hardship Clause

The Central Okanagan School District's Financial Hardship Clause Within Board Regulation 425R – Student Fees (see www.sd23.bc.ca), the Board of Education has indicated "that a student will not be excluded from any educational program due to financial hardship". Clause 8.5 in the Regulations states: "Principals are directed to establish a procedure in each school which will allow for the private and confidential consideration of financial circumstances of individual students and families. Such procedures will preserve the dignity of families who may be unable to pay". Please contact the school Principal if you are facing a financial hardship that may restrict the ability of your child to access a school program.



SKE Parent Advisory Council



Friday, September 13th

5 - 7pm

SKE Family BBQ

Everyone is welcome!

See poster on next slide for more information.

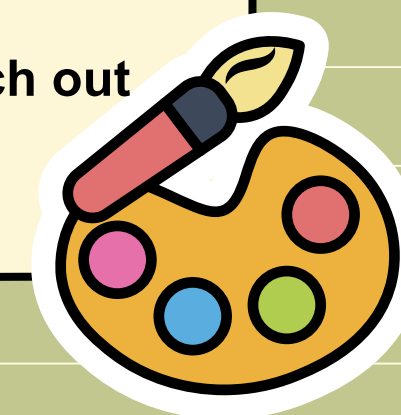
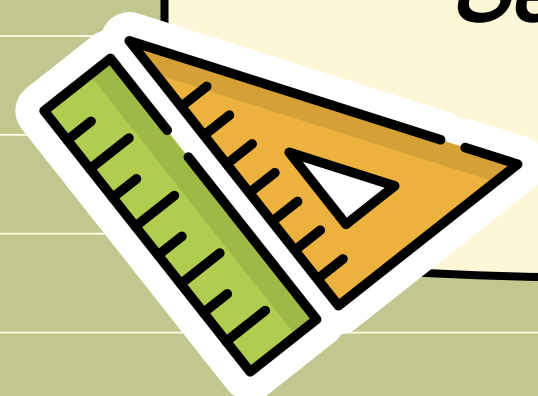
SKE's PAC is looking to add a few members to our board:

- Vice President
- Communications Coordinator
- KLO Representative
- Health & Safety Representative
- Secretary

For a PAC to be a legal entity, eligible for grants, and allowed to continue providing services for the school, we must have a secretary. This person is in charge of taking minutes (notes) at each PAC meeting, keeping the PAC organized.

If this is something that interests you, please reach out to Kay at Ske.PacPresident@sd23.bc.ca

**Next PAC Meeting: Wed, Sept
18th @ 7pm**





SKE PAC



Welcome SKE Families

★ Come join us for a ★
BBQ at the school

Hosted by PAC

Friday
Sept 13th

5pm - 7pm

Out front of
the school

Bring a
chair

Food • Drinks • Music • Games

****PLEASE BRING CASH ONLY****
Tickets sold upon arrival for dinner and
snack items (Approx \$6 per meal)



Able to Volunteer?

The SKE PAC needs volunteers for the BBQ this Friday. Please check out the opportunities available by clicking the link below. It won't take much of your time, but will make a world of difference!

[BBQ Volunteer Sign Up](#)

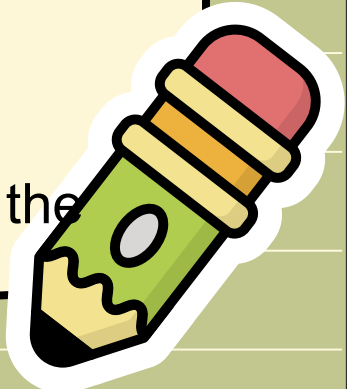


Lost & Found

SKE is seeking a parent (or a few) to manage our Lost & Found this year.

All this will require is a semi-monthly tidy and pick up. Items can be donated to the Diabetes Drop-Off bin on school property, so very little time will be needed. **If this would work for you, please contact the office.**

Thanks to PAC for supplying the storage rack!



Community News, Events, & Opportunities

Fall into fun with upcoming
City programs & events



Register now for fall 2024 programs

Embrace the changing season and fall into fun with indoor and outdoor recreation programs sure to bring excitement all season long.

This season's activities include hundreds of exciting ways for residents of all ages and abilities to get active, learn a new skill or try something new. Registration is now open for all programs.

Register now at kelowna.ca/recreation.

Licensed Preschool at Parkinson Recreation Centre is available this fall

Our preschool is play-based with arts and crafts, music and movement and basic literary concepts. Running from September to June and led by Early Childhood Educators, we're all about getting your kiddo (ages 3-5) kindergarten-ready.

Available on Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 8:40 to 11:10 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Subsidy is available!

To register, email parkinsonrecpreschool@gmail.com.



Upcoming events

- September 26 || 5 - 7 p.m. - Neighbourhood Pulse Pop-Up: Tremendous Trivia at Ben Lee Park
- October 26 || 6 - 9 p.m. - Free Youth Night at Parkinson Recreation Centre
- October 27 || 1 - 4 p.m. - Monster Bash at MNP Place

Find event details or explore even more events at kelowna.ca/calendar.

Learn more about recreation programs and activities at
kelowna.ca/recreation.



EcoCooks
club

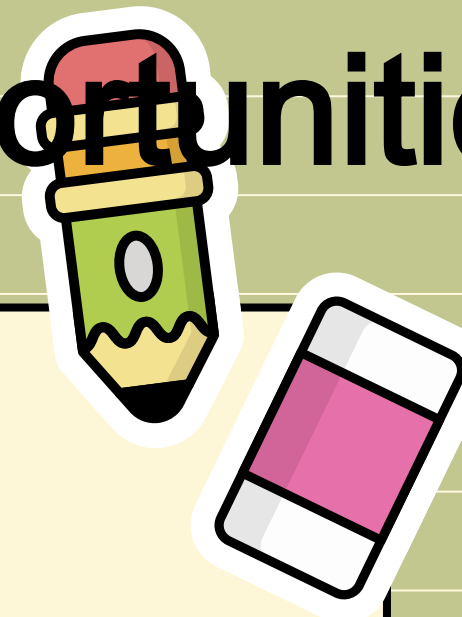
Kelowna

Fall Registration Open!



New location & time!
Willow Park Church
Fridays & Saturdays

www.ecocooks.org/registrationkelowna





Partners for inclusive Education (PIE) is a welcoming online space committed to supporting parents/guardians to learn more about the how students with neurodiversity, disability, support needs and/or diverse abilities are supported in their neighborhood school.

PIE is a space where parents/guardians, staff and community come together as partners to champion inclusive education by learning and supporting each other as we navigate the school years together. We connect virtually five times a year offering workshops, speakers, and opportunities to connect with other parents/guardians.

The purpose of Partners for Inclusive Education can be found on the School District website under Parent Resources

Next Event Date:

The next Partners for Inclusive Education meeting is scheduled for:

Date: September 17, 2024

Time: 6:30 pm

Topic: "Your Child's Team...Who is Who?" "The first few weeks of school." "How to Prepare for your Child's IEP."

Location: Zoom: <https://sd23.zoom.us/j/8569391842>

PIE Offering Letter to Parents

To all parents and caregivers of SD23,

Welcome to the 2024/2025 school year!

Some of our parents and caregivers may have heard of the group: Partners for Inclusive Education. (PIE) This group focusses on topics and questions as it relates to families and students that require additional support in our schools. This support can be for neurodivergent designations, learning support, medical or physical support, or gifted designations to name a few.

Navigating through the school system, while managing any kind of additional need, diagnosis or designation can be challenging. As a group, PIE provides a space for support, education and opportunities to ask questions. We meet once ever 2 months and use this time to present on topics that would be helpful for parents and discuss topics relevant to families as it relates to designations or diagnoses.

Our hope is to create an environment where parents feel welcome, informed and part of a community within our School District, that share unique challenges.

Please join is for out first meeting of the school year on Tuesday, September 17th, 2024 at 6:30PM. The meeting will be virtual, and we would like to give all parents an opportunity to discuss future topics of interests and what support looks like to them.

Link to meeting:

<https://sd23.zoom.us/j/8569391842>

If you would like to receive emails and updates from Partners for Inclusive education, please complete and submit the electronic form below.

<https://forms.office.com/r/5ZWgBTDZ4m>

Thank you and we hope to see you there,

Sarena Smith



First Week Photos @ SKE!
Enjoying staff lunch, new Kindie
lunch and tour, and revisiting
our old Kindergarten classroom!



THANK YOU FOR READING!

We hope that you enjoyed this month's
edition of The Eagle Gazette.

