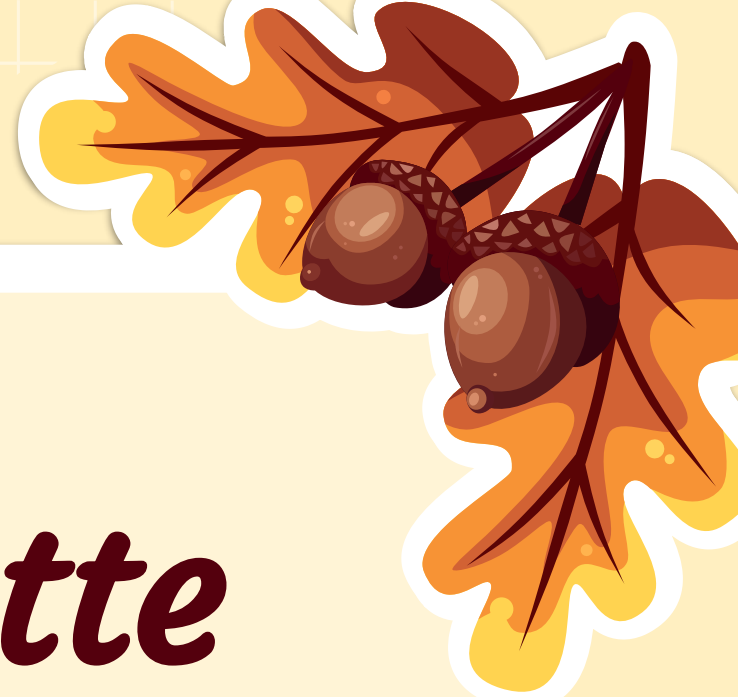


The Eagle Gazette *November 2024*



South Kelowna Elementary
Phone: 250-870-5107
ske.sd23.bc.ca



Principal's Message

We are excited for you to enjoy this edition of our newsletter. October was a wonderful month at SKE. Big thanks to our SKE PAC for hosting the Halloween Howl, and sponsoring Alien In-Line Skating! As you can see from the picture here, I did not get to participate in the skating - I suffered a knee injury last weekend and have had to spend some time at home. Coincidentally, my ER doctor is an SKE parent, and another SKE parent helped supply an ice machine. That is what makes our community so special! Thank you for being part of helping us to **Share Kindness Everyday!**



With gratitude,
Ms. Lemon



Sharing Kindness Everyday



For Your Calendar

November 8 Remembrance
Day

Ceremony @ 8:45 am

November 11 Remembrance
Day

- NO SCHOOL

November 20 PAC Meeting @
7 pm

November 22 Harmony Day
Schoolwide Potluck



Student Information

It is imperative that we have the correct student information on file. If you have a new phone number/address or any other demographic change, please let the office know.

Parents and Visitors

Please remember to sign in and out when you are visiting the school.

In the event of an emergency, we depend on the sign-in log to identify the number of volunteers situated in our school. Should an evacuation or lockdown be necessary during volunteer times, volunteers are required to comply with emergency directions posted in every classroom.

Forgotten Lunch? Student Message?

Please help classroom teachers maintain the **focus on learning**.

Parents/caregivers are required to leave items or messages for students at the office. We will be sure to get them to your child when needed. Do not head directly to classrooms.

When parents/caregivers or other unexpected adults arrive to classrooms, learning momentum is disrupted.

Thank You!



Sharing Kindness Everyday




Lost and Found

Please encourage your children to look at the Lost and Found on a regular basis. Families can prevent losses by labeling your children's clothing. All unclaimed items will be packed up after being displayed and will be donated on **November 30th.** Parents are welcome to come in and check as well.

Save the Dates!

WINTER WARMTH: A
CONCERT OF
TOGETHERNESS



DECEMBER 11TH & 12TH 2024,
AT 1PM

Please save the dates for SKE's 2024
winter concert. We look forward to
seeing you there!

Let's Celebrate Together!



Winter Concert Prep!

Students in our Dance Club are busy practicing each week for a big group number to take place during our Winter Concert!



Fire Chief for a Day

Congratulations to Gunnar, who won our Fire Chief for a Day colouring contest. He was able to join students from around our district at the Kelowna Fire Hall for dinner, equipment demonstrations, and he even got to sit in the fire truck! Way to go, Gunnar! Maybe fire fighting is in your future.



PAC Information

The Halloween Howl was a wonderful event! It was terrific to see so many families all dressed up and ready to enjoy an evening together. The limbo contest was next level! Parent volunteers are always welcome at our events. Please sign up for a short window of time - many hands make light work, and our kids are so grateful!

Fundraising Opportunities: Coming up are both our annual Purdy's drive, and Winter Greenery sales. Even more exciting - family Santa Photos! More information to come soon.

Thank you to our Hot Lunch volunteers: Addy Calder, Amanda Stevens, Carleigh Peach, Carling Lorentz Christy Jacobs, Jessie Steinhoff, Jordana Magin, Kamal Gill, Kay Bowering, Linda Galaviz, Amanda Desilets, Jessica Broderick, Natalie Barkman, Michelle Hecht, Jenny Kurnik



Beau proudly shows off his new library bag! Thank you, SKE PAC, for providing these canvas bags for all primary students. Replacements are \$10 cash, available at the office.

Contact: ske.PacPresident@sd23.bc.ca



Remembrance Day

Our Remembrance Day Assembly will be held on Friday, November 8th at 8:45 am in the gym. The theme of this year's assembly is "Remember Our Veterans" in recognition of our Canadian members of the Armed Forces.

Students who are members of any service organization (Brownies, Beavers, Sparks, Cubs, Guides, Cadets etc.) are encouraged to wear their uniform on November 8th.

Students will receive a poppy to wear to the assembly. *We encourage students to make a small donation online at [The Poppy Campaign](#).* Through your generosity, the Royal Canadian Legion helps all of Canada's Veterans and their families. Thank you.

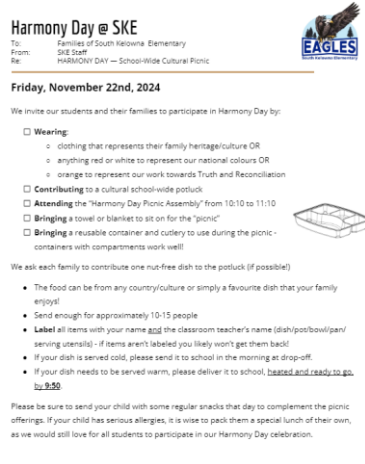
All parents, caregivers, and families are invited to attend our Remembrance Day Assembly. If you plan to attend, [please RSVP here](#). That helps us have enough seating.



Harmony Day: Nov 22nd

We are thrilled to be holding an inter-cultural community potluck on this day. Each family will have received an information sheet with details. We need to know what your family will contribute (if possible). Bite-sized is best. Please fill in and return to the teacher.

We also require **parent volunteers** to make this happen - at least 3 per class to support set up, food distribution, clean up and all the other details. If you can spare time that morning between 8:30 and 11:10 am, please let us know via the sign up sheet. Just click the image!



Harmony Day @ SKE

To: Families of South Kelowna Elementary
From: SKE Staff
Re: HARMONY DAY — School-Wide Cultural Picnic

Friday, November 22nd, 2024

We invite our students and their families to participate in Harmony Day by:

- ☐ **Wearing:**
 - clothing that represents their family heritage/culture OR
 - anything red or white to represent our national colours OR
 - orange to represent our work towards Truth and Reconciliation
- ☐ **Contributing** to a cultural school-wide potluck
- ☐ **Attending** the "Harmony Day Picnic Assembly" from 10:10 to 11:10
- ☐ **Bringing** a towel or blanket to sit on for the "picnic"
- ☐ **Bringing** a reusable container and cutlery to use during the picnic - containers with compartments work well!

We ask each family to contribute one nut-free dish to the potluck (if possible!)

- The food can be from any country/culture or simply a favourite dish that your family enjoys!
- Send enough for approximately 10-15 people
- **Label** all items with your name and the classroom teacher's name (dish/pot/bowl/pan/serving utensils) - if items aren't labeled you likely won't get them back!
- If your dish is served cold, please send it to school in the morning at drop-off.
- If your dish needs to be served warm, please deliver it to school, heated and ready to go, by 9:30.

Please be sure to send your child with some regular snacks that day to complement the picnic offerings. If your child has serious allergies, it is wise to pack them a special lunch of their own, as we would still love for all students to participate in our Harmony Day celebration.

Finally, does your child or family have a cultural talent (song, dance, instrument) that they would be willing to share with our community?

We would love to put together a short program celebrating the diversity of our school. **You could even send a photo or two of a family cultural experience that we could put together into a slide deck.** Just reach out to jasmine.lemon@sd23.bc.ca.

We are looking forward to this special event!

Grade 6 Leadership



Our enthusiastic 2024/2025 **SKE Grade 6 Leadership Team** is ready for another year filled with coming together to make a difference for both our local and global communities. Making a difference for others using their unique talents, skills and passions is what the next year, and beyond, is all about. They have begun sharing their skills already, including visiting classes on two occasions already.

We took the opportunity to celebrate together with an evening filled with team building activities, brainstorming, planning, and sharing ideas on the evening of **Thursday, October 10th**.

Thank You

Thank you to Mrs. Estey, Ms. Wilson, Mrs. Morgan and Ms. Tamelin for organizing our grade 6 leadership activities this year.

Thank You

Kindergarten at SKE



Pumpkin Patch
Visit



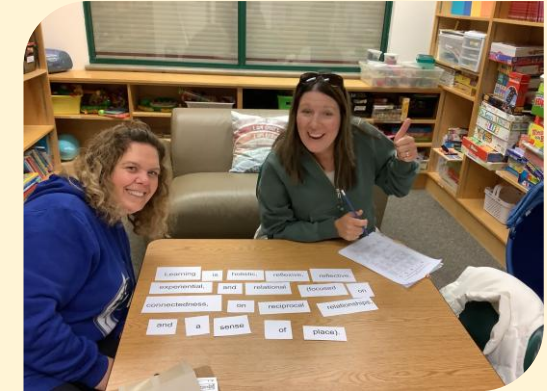
Roots of Empathy

Our kindergarten teachers and students have been hosting a very special mother and baby for the Roots of Empathy program. This important program helps our students observe an infant's development and emotions through relationships and connections that are made with others.



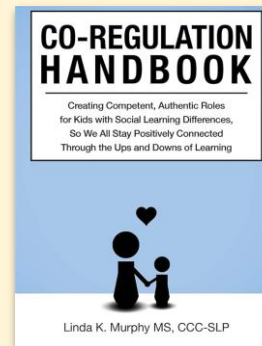
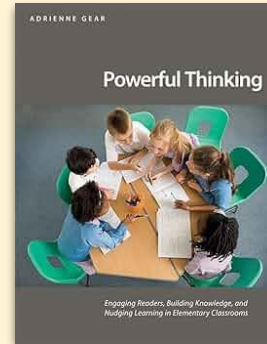
Implementation Day @ SKE

October 11, 2024



Learning Objectives

- To collaborate & build collegial connections
- To experience learning that can be used with our students
- To explore numerical, critical and creative thinking

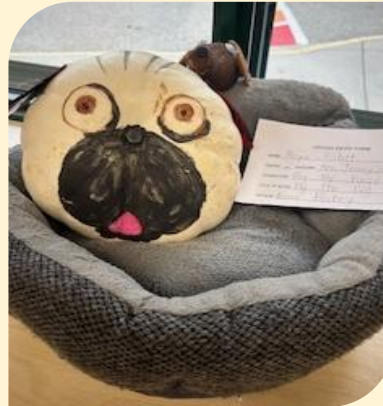


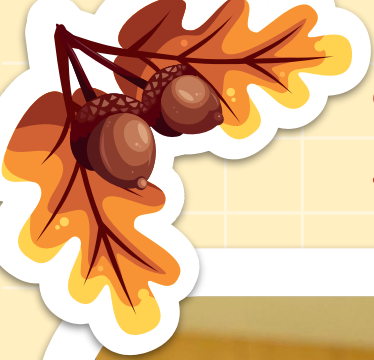
Shape of our Day

The staff of South Kelowna Elementary gathered for a day of learning on Implementation Day. Through team-based collaborative, experiential learning, we built connections, deepened our understanding of each other, and touched on topics including land-based learning, First Peoples' Principles, Inclusion and more. Kendra Jacobson, local Numeracy consultant, joined us in the afternoon to explore strategies for building thriving Mathematical communities. Each staff member received one of two books, with plans for further learning as the year continues. **Together we are committed to fostering powerful learning for our students!**

South Kelowna Elementary Library Story Character Pumpkin Decorating Contest

Thank you to all of our students that participated in character pumpkin decorating!
The pumpkins were outstanding and very creative. Fantastic job!





Teacher Interns



Ms. Tamelin

Ms. Lutz

This fall at South Kelowna the students in Mrs. Morgan's class and Mrs. Wilson's class have been joined by two wonderful teacher interns, Ms. Tamelin and Ms. Lutz. They have been a dynamic addition to our school team, supporting classroom learning, building relationships, and assisting with various school activities and events. We wish them both all the best as they complete their programs!

Ms. Tamelin says: "During my time at SKE, I have greatly appreciated the welcoming atmosphere and strong sense of community fostered by both the school and staff. The collaboration among staff members has created an environment rich in support and encouragement. I have benefited immensely from the mentorship provided by my colleagues, who have guided me in developing my teaching pedagogy and creating engaging lessons for my students. I have also enjoyed connecting with students through activities such as volleyball and leadership initiatives. Each day, I walk into the school feeling welcomed by everyone, which enhances my overall experience. I look forward to my remaining time at SKE."

Ms. Lutz says, "My time here at SKE so far has been a truly transformative experience. I've learned so much about building positive connections, supporting student growth, and creating lessons that are both engaging and meaningful. The support and encouragement from this school have been invaluable, and I feel incredibly fortunate to learn from such a deeply knowledgeable community. As each day brings new opportunities to grow as an educator, I am incredibly grateful to be part of such a dedicated team. I have enjoyed building connections with students, staff, and families and will treasure and appreciate every moment I have left here at SKE."



SCHOOL FOCUS AND LEARNING PRIORITIES 2024/2025

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 emotional wellness

Mindset for Learning Focus - How can we help each of our students:

- Develop flexible critical thinking skills to solve mathematical problems;
- Build stamina for approaching learning challenges with resilience and confidence;
- Increase their sense of belonging and inclusion while recognizing themselves holistically and as a unique member of our interwoven community?



Sharing Kindness Everyday



SKE in October



Alien Inline Skating



Rachel says, "It's really good, and I love jumping and going really fast!"





Halloween @ SKE!



Stay Connected


Please feel free to sign up for our text messaging system by texting **y** to **978338**. This allows us to send alerts and reminders to you about important dates and events!



To Report an Absence or Late

 School Messenger APP on cell phone

 Website
<https://go.schoolmessenger.ca/#/home>

 Phone Message
Call 250-870-5107
#1, Follow Prompts

Phone calls and emails to the office or to teachers will not be accepted.

If your child has an unexcused absence, you will receive a notification (phone call/email) from School Messenger to ensure your child's safety.



SKE Cold Weather Guidelines

Students must be dressed properly for the weather. Students wait outside until the morning bell rings and they are expected to go outside for some fresh air at lunch and recess. ***Students must be dressed appropriately for the weather so that they remain safe and comfortable during these outside playtimes.***

We do not have a school or district policy for cold weather procedures. However, the following guidelines are in place at South Kelowna Elementary School.

BELOW FREEZING (-1 Celsius to -15)

Students will go outside. Parents should ensure that their child brings the following items needed to stay warm and comfortable when outside:

- Warm Coat
- Gloves/Mittens
- Head/Ear covering
- Boots
- Waterproof snow pants



-15 to -20 Celsius

Students will go outside providing the wind is calm and the students will be able to stay dry. The Environment Canada website (<http://www.weatheroffice.gc.ca>) will be used to check weather conditions. The same clothing items as noted above should be worn. If the wind starts to pick up, we will ring the bell early and allow students to come inside to their classroom for the remainder of the outside play time.

TEMPERATURE REACHES -20 Celsius

If the temperature reaches minus 20 Celsius, and the grounds are dry and the wind is calm, students will go outside for 15 minutes. After 15 minutes, the bell will ring to allow students to come inside to their classroom for the remainder of the outside play time.

TEMPERATURE REACHES -20 Celsius (with windy conditions)

If the temperature reaches -20 Celsius, and it is windy, students will stay inside their classrooms during lunch and recess



Community News, Events & Opportunities



WINTER 2025 SATURDAY CLUBS

JOIN US FOR OUR 2025 STEAM CLUBS!

Discover your inner scientist at these themed STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) clubs! Join us in Kelowna for exciting 10-session programs and be amazed by our passionate undergraduate staff.

DATES

January: 18, 25
February: 1, 8, 22
March: 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

MEETING INFO

- UBC Okanagan Campus
- Saturday mornings, 10am to 12pm

PRICING

\$245 for 10 club sessions

Need financial assistance? Visit our website for bursary opportunities.

CLUB THEMES

STEAM: Gr. 1-2

Join to explore Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, with a good bit of Art! From building bridges, to exploring nature, your child will be inspired to imagine, build, and create through the fundamentals of STEAM!

Maker: Gr. 5-7

Join for hands-on challenges that engage budding Engineers in robotics, environmental design, and innovative structures. Innovate together and use core principles of Engineering Design. Get your hard hat ready for some serious fun!

STEM Explorations: Gr. 3-4

Join for creative challenges and hands-on projects that will have kids exploring how things work through robotics, chemistry, marine biology, and more. Each lesson is designed to promote critical thinking, problem-solving, and a love of learning.

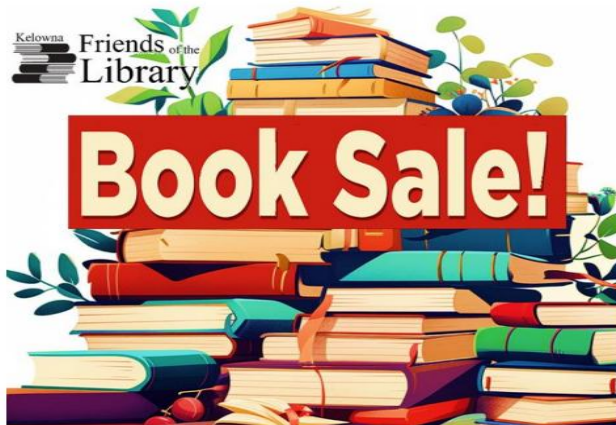
Engineering Conservation: Gr. 8-10

Calling all high school students passionate about making a real-world impact. From designing sustainable structures to exploring renewable energy, by joining, you will ignite your creativity, harness your design skills, and become a change-maker for a sustainable tomorrow.



LEARN MORE
AND REGISTER:

Scan this code or visit
bit.ly/GU-OK-Clubs



34th GREAT OKANAGAN BOOK SALE SUPPORTING ALL BRANCHES OF OKANAGAN REGIONAL LIBRARY

Wednesday	November 13	1pm to 8pm
Thursday	November 14	10am to 8pm
Friday	November 15	10am to 8pm
Saturday	November 16	10am to 2pm

Location: Immaculate Conception Parish Hall
839 Sutherland Avenue, Kelowna

fol4k@hotmail.com | www.kelownafol.ca | Facebook



Exciting New After-School Programs Coming Winter to Okanagan College!

Hello Families,

The school year is well underway, and we are excited to offer more After School programs for the Winter session at Okanagan College. Our new programs are designed to build on the fun and excitement experienced at Camp OC this summer. Our aim is to continue inspiring your child's curiosity, creativity, and love of learning within a structured and safe environment.

This new program will be offered at our Kelowna and Penticton campuses, bringing the magic of camp into the school year!

- Education focused programs for Grades 1-3, 4-6 and 7-9
- KEL/PEN | Face to Face | 18hrs | Jan- April 2025 | \$239 + materials
- For more information, please contact Kelowna at cskelowna@okanagan.bc.ca or Penticton at cssouth@okanagan.bc.ca

Program Highlights:

- **Camp-Inspired Themes:** Experience the fun of our most popular summer camps, including **Robotics, Chef Camp, Theatre, Science** and more. Each session is designed to captivate and challenge students through engaging and interactive activities.
- **Hands-On Activities:** Our program features a variety of activities aimed at inspiring, educating, and stimulating your child's imagination. Whether it's building robots or creating culinary masterpieces, every activity is crafted to offer meaningful learning experiences.

Registration Information:

To see what is offered at your local campus and to register, please visit [Kelowna Youth Programs](#), [Penticton Youth Programs](#)

We look forward to seeing you in the classroom soon!

Sincerely,

Your Youth Program Team
Okanagan College, Continuing Studies
Phone: (250) 762-5445
cskelowna@okanagan.bc.ca
cssouth@okanagan.bc.ca

Thank you for reading!

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

