

The Eagle Gazette

January 2026



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



Aurora read 100 books and earned her golden eagle feather award!

Principal's message

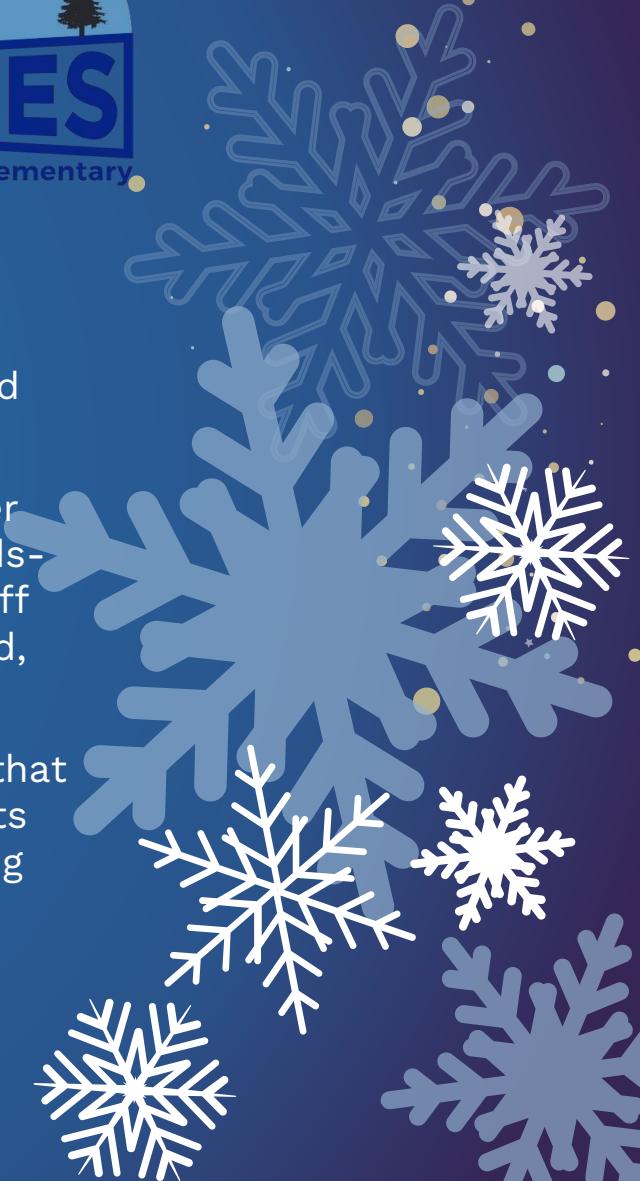


Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season filled with rest and joy. As we step into the second half of the school year, I'm excited about the incredible learning and growth that lies ahead for our students.

The coming months will be full of opportunities—whether it's diving deeper into literacy and numeracy, exploring creative projects, or engaging in hands-on experiences that spark curiosity and critical thinking. Our dedicated staff is committed to creating an environment where every child feels supported, challenged, and inspired to reach their full potential.

The school and the PAC have some exciting events and activities planned that will bring our school community together and celebrate the amazing talents and achievements of our students. Stay tuned for more details in upcoming newsletters!

Warm Regards,
Ms. Lemon



Welcome Back SKE!

For Your Calendar

January 5	School Resumes
January 15	Rockets Visit #1
January 20	PAC Meeting @ 7:00 pm
January 23	School Spirit Day: Wear spirit wear or blue!
January 26	Rockets Visit #2
January 29-30	Parent Teacher Interviews
Dismissal	12:30 Early



Winter Weather

Students are expected to wait outside until the morning bell rings and they are expected to go outside for a fresh air break. Please ensure that your children are dressed appropriately for the weather.

Supervision is provided after 8:10 am and until 2:45 pm



Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for:

Thursday, January 29th
and
Friday, January 30th.

Students will be **dismissed** on these dates at **12:30 p.m.** Busses will be running. Because there will be no formal recess or lunch period on these days, it will be important to provide your child with a substantial snack.

Please watch for information from your child's teacher for further details.

Sharing Kindness Everyday!

School Communication Emails

Please check school emails regularly to ensure that you stay updated on all important announcements and deadlines.

All school emails can also be found in the School Messenger app.

Student messages

Please notify the office of important student messages (e.g. your child needs to go on bus or an appointment scheduled during the day). *It is best to have this communicated to the office via phone or email since teachers cannot check their emails during instructional time.*

All other messages can be communicated in student planners regarding after school arrangements different from the norm. Playdates should be made from home.

Please do not have student make last-minute playdate arrangements during the school day.

Safety Drills

We hold six fire drills per year: three each in the fall and spring. We also hold an earthquake drill and lockdown drill in the fall.

The earthquake drill provides students with a procedure to follow should they experience an earthquake anywhere anytime.

The purpose of the lockdown drill is to practice a safety procedure to be used in the event that students and staff are required to remain in a safe location until an all-clear signal is given.



STUDENT ONLINE ENROLLMENT

The enrollment application period begins:

Monday, February 2, 2026 at 7:00 am-Friday, March 13, 2026

The summer Enrollment Application period begins:

Tuesday, September 1, 2026 to Thursday, September 3, 2026.

The French Immersion Kindergarten Information Session meeting on Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 6:00 pm via Zoom



THE CENTRAL OKANAGAN SCHOOL DISTRICT'S SANCTUARY SCHOOLS POLICY

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 resident 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.



Central Okanagan
Public Schools
Together We Learn

French Immersion Kindergarten
Informational Session: Tuesday, January 13, 2026
@ 6:00-7:00 pm Zoom Link: sd23.org/french
This meeting will be recorded and posted on the
District website

ONLINE APPLICATION for STUDENT ENROLLMENT begins on Monday, February 2, 2026, at 7:00 am for 2026 - 2027 School Year
(for kindergarten, new students, and school of choice for K – 12)

Schools will be open at 7:00 am to provide support to parents that require assistance.
Documentation Submission Deadline: Friday, March 13, 2026

If you are new to Canada, please contact the Welcome Centre for enrollment information at (250)870-5155

HOW TO APPLY

PLEASE NOTE: The application process is online only. You are required to have a valid email account.

In your web browser type: https://www.sd23.bc.ca/school-enrollment

No internet access? Please contact your school for assistance.

Online applications begin on **Monday, February 2, 2026 at 7:00 am**. Applications will be assigned a date-time stamp on a first-come, first-served basis, which will factor into a student's placement priority.

Complete the online application as early as possible, and provide the required documents listed below directly to the school in by email or in person by **Friday, March 13, 2026**.

1. Student's Birth Certificate or other government issued proof of age and citizenship.
2. Proof of Parent/Guardian B.C. Residency
 - a. Combination BC Driver's License and Services Card (copy of both sides); or,
 - b. BC Services Card (copy of both sides) **and** one item from the list of Supporting Documentation (3.) below; or,
 - c. Proof of application for BC Medical Services Plan and one item from the list of Supporting Documentation below.
3. Supporting Documentation/Proof of Parent/Guardian Living Address
 - Ownership of a dwelling or long-term lease or rental of a dwelling;
 - Documentation indicating British Columbia residence (i.e. utility bill);
 - British Columbia registration of an automobile;
 - British Columbia Driver's License (copy of both sides); or,
 - A current income tax return filed as a British Columbia resident.

AFTER Thursday, September 3, 2026

New in-catchment area enrollments: Parents will be notified by a confirmation email when the school has accepted the student's application for enrollment. Board Policy 405R – Student Placement (Regulations), will be used to determine student placement and priority.

New out-of-catchment area enrollments: Parents will not be notified until after the summer enrollment period is over and all in-catchment area students have been placed.

Qualifying age: The School Act requires that a child must be five years of age by December 31, 2026, to qualify for school enrollment in September 2026. No exceptions.

For further information, please visit the School District website www.sd23.bc.ca or call (250) 860-8888.



SKE COLD WINTER 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.

-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.

Snow Safety

- Snow must stay on the ground (no throwing or kicking snow). This includes school property, at the bus stops & between home and school.

Sledding Rules

- Single riders only
- Riders must wear snow pants, boots & mitts
- Sleds provided by the school; please do not bring from home.
- Bottom down; knees ok as well.
- Facing forward (no tummy or back rides)
- Supervised at lunch only.

JOIN OUR **FUNDRAISERS!** SOUTH KELOWNA ELEMENTARY



the lazy batch



Our Goal
Support our local community
and contribute to our
school's fundraising efforts.

Available to order now on
MunchaLunch.



Order on

<https://munchalunch.com>



SKE PAC NEWS

Next Meeting

JANUARY 20th @ 7:00 pm in the school library

All parents and caregivers are welcome. Come learn what's happening at the school and share your input.



SAVE THE DATE - Wed, Feb 11

The SKE PAC is excited to host a **Valentine's Dance** and we hope to see you there! All proceeds go directly toward enriching student experiences at SKE. From field studies and playground upgrades to new sports equipment and so much more, these events help make amazing opportunities possible for our kids.

Thank you for joining in the fun and supporting the activities that help our students thrive!



Please enjoy this photo of Ms. Slattery's class deeply engaged in their reading!

EcoCooks
club

Kelowna

Winter Registration

Wednesdays
Jan 14 - Mar 04
3:30 PM - 5:45 PM
604 Cawston Avenue

Free Afterschool Program for Gr 4 - 7 Youths

www.ecocooks.org/club-program

Thank you for reading.

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

