

# The Eagle Gazette

## April 2025



South Kelowna Elementary  
Phone: 250-870-5107  
[ske.sd23.bc.ca](http://ske.sd23.bc.ca)



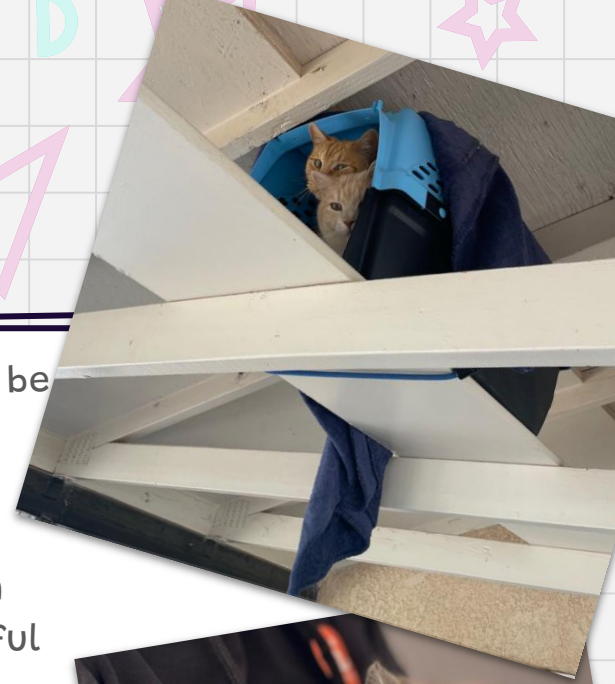


# Principal's Message

Welcome back to school, and our final term of learning for the 24/25 school year. There is much to be proud of so far, and more achievements and milestones to come. During the break, I spent an afternoon volunteering at an animal sanctuary. My son is a cat-lover, so we were assigned to support unsocialized felines (some formerly feral cats, some who just had not spent time with humans). We were encouraged to be calm, and to help the cats build trust with us by feeding them baby food on tiny spoons. Some even let us play a little. Each of these cats was nervous and careful in its own way. Some spent all their time in the rafters, but others approached us cautiously to enjoy their treats.

This experience got me thinking about how challenging it is to experience something new, such as learning a new skill, building vocabulary in a new language, figuring out a new math concept, or just meeting new people. Some of us are cautious, and some of us jump in with no hesitation. One thing that is common though, is the need for supportive and caring people to help us along the way, so that we can build trust in ourselves! We look forward to seeing all our students continue to grow and thrive this spring, and to being the supportive, caring people that they need! Please read on for more SKE news.

Happy Spring, *Ms. Lemon*





# Sharing Kindness Everyday!



## UPCOMING DATES:

April 1-16	Growing Smiles Fundraiser
April 11	Spring Fling Dance
April 14-17	Kelowna Gymnastix
April 16	PAC Meeting @ 7 pm
April 18	Good Friday - <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
April 21	Easter Monday - <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
April 22	Your Green Kitchen
Fundraiser	
April 23	Track & Field Begins
April 24	ELFF Night 4-5:30 pm

## OUTSTANDING FEES

Please log in to your School Cash Online to see if you have any outstanding fees to pay:

<https://centralokanagan.schoolcashonline.com>

*\*Please contact the office if you are having financial hardship so we can assist\**

## Reminders from the Office

- **Is your current K-5 student leaving SKE for the 25/26 school year? Please notify the office ASAP.**
- Please sign into the office when visiting the school.
- Please have students check in at the office when they are late.

**Thank you!**



## MOVING PLANS?



If your family will be moving away from our school over the summer, please advise the school office as soon as possible. Your email, call or letter will help us plan our classes more accurately for September. It will also allow us to reassure another family in our catchment area that we will have room for their child at SKE. Thank you!



### TRANSPORTATION REGISTRATION REMINDER

Online busing applications are now available. Please register as soon as possible. **The deadline is May 31st.**

**Link for the Information and to Apply:**

<https://busconnect.sd23.bc.ca/application>

### WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS



If you see a cougar, bobcat, bear or other wildlife in the area, you are encouraged to contact the Conservation Officer at **1-877-952-7277**.

### SPRING FIELDS

Springtime at school often means warmer weather and more time spent outside. Unfortunately, there may be unpleasant smells from the fields. The health authority assures us that this is not a sewer or septic tank problem but rather an “anaerobic” bacteria growing in the muddy soil. Increased moisture from spring rain can make the soil damp and musty contributing to the odor. We hope there is no odor this year!



**Please remember that DOGS are  
not allowed  
on the school grounds.  
Thank you for your cooperation.**



## STUDENT PLACEMENT REQUESTS for SEPTEMBER 2025

**Submissions accepted: April 2 - May 12, 2025**

Staff will be meeting before the end of this school year to discuss the placement of students in classes for next year. There are often many changes before classes are finalized in September. Placement of all students is done after careful consideration and a great deal of time and thought. Please be assured that teachers care about each individual child and there are many factors to consider for the best placement for each child. To achieve a good balance in each class, we consider many factors, including the following:

- ☐ Age
- ☐ Gender
- ☐ Academic achievement
- ☐ Class size and composition
- ☐ Peer relations
- ☐ Previous placement history
- ☐ Special education needs
- ☐ Learning styles

With respect to combined/split classes, please remember that combined classes are a fact of school life, and are more the norm than the exception. We are very confident that the students in all classes receive a full and rich academic program at their grade level.

Parents may submit a written request regarding placement (not for a specific teacher), which focuses on the kind of learning environment in which you believe your child learns best, to the school principal for when we begin to tentatively place students in their next year's classes. **To ensure your requests are received, letters must be presented in hard copy and addressed to the Principal before May 12.** Letters that focus on learning are welcome and can at times be very helpful. In the past, there have been parent requests based solely on friends. This is not the purpose of these requests. Your child's teacher and our extended team know your child well and will have good ideas about who they learn well with. The requests support us as there can be special circumstances such as special needs or history that we may not be aware of or that you feel we may need to be reminded of. Please give writing a letter serious consideration based on the above. Although we strive to accommodate parents' wishes for placement, we may not place your child in the classroom you have requested. The final authority rests with the school. Thank you in advance for your understanding of our placement protocol.

**Deadline for submissions is May 12, 2024.**

*NOTE: These are for "Exceptional Requests" only, if your child has a specific need that you do not think we are aware of. We will not be accepting specific teacher requests as some teachers may be changing grades, taking leaves and/or moving schools.*



# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TRACK & FIELD



The intermediate students from South Kelowna Elementary School will be participating in Track and Field events 2 days per week at school **starting Wednesday, April 23rd until Wednesday, May 21.**

In order to run stations on each of these days, **we will need parent volunteers** to run a station along with the 4 intermediate teachers.

The days we will need commitment from our volunteers are **Wednesday** and **Friday afternoons**. On each of these days, we will need our volunteers at the school for 12:00 pm. We will be starting the 20 minute station rotations at **12:10 ending at 1:30 pm.**

Our Apple Bowl date is on Tues. April 22 this year which happens to be the day before we start our school program. We will introduce the grade 4's to the basics, before Apple Bowl day, so they understand how each station works. Apple Bowl is a fun day, so any data collected will not be used towards determining who qualifies for the District Track Meet.

If you are able to volunteer, please email Mrs. Wilson ([Chontelle.Wilson@sd23.bc.ca](mailto:Chontelle.Wilson@sd23.bc.ca)) . **Let her know your child's name, and the days you are able to volunteer.**

**Please note that all volunteers must have their criminal record check and volunteer forms filled out and up to date at the office prior to volunteering.**

**Dates:** *Wed. April 23, Fri. April 25, Wed. April 30  
Fri. May 2, Wed. May 7, Fri. May 9, Wed. May 14, Fri. May 16, Wed. May 21*

The District Track Meet is June 5, and our SKE track data will be used to determine who qualifies to attend.  
If you are able to volunteer at the Apple Bowl on Tues. April 22 please click on the attached link and complete the form.  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc4InhcTCydoiQWZSzEm9TdHmMS7RHIVuajlpDxvTDdfarupg/viewform>



Thank you so much!

Ms. Wilson & SKE Intermediate Teachers

# SAFETY REMINDERS



## Home Safety – Walking Home

- Do a visual check as you are walking. Look out for strange people and strange vehicles.
- When possible, walk with others.
- Don't get into a car with a stranger. Tell the stranger your parents are expecting you on this route and will be by soon to pick you up.
- Don't take anything from a stranger and do not approach the stranger's vehicle.
- Be polite but be firm. If the stranger continues to bother you, go to a neighbour's home. If neighbours are too far away, discuss with your parents an alternate plan. Develop a password to use when your parents send someone to pick you up.



## Bikes, Skateboards, Scooters, Rollerblades

Please note that bicycles, scooters, skateboards and rollerblades **may not** be used on school property. Bicycles and scooters must be walked on school property and stored for the day. **Helmets are mandatory.** Please use a lock to secure bikes to the bike rack upon arrival at school. Scooters must be folded and stored in the classroom. Skateboards are to be carried on school property and stored away for the day.

## Bike Safety



Bikes are ridden with the flow of traffic. Helmets and arm signals must be used for safety. Bikes are walked in the crosswalk and on school property. Bike racks are out of bounds during school hours.

## Bus Safety



Skateboards are not allowed on the school bus. Skateboards become potential projectiles if the bus driver ever has to perform an evasive maneuver. Small items may be carried onto the bus (including a musical instrument) if they will fit under the seat or on your lap. If the driver thinks an item will block the aisle, floor space, or seat, it will not be allowed on the bus.



# SCHOOL SECURITY



Safety is very important here at South Kelowna Elementary. As such, we would like to remind our parents of a number of security precautions in place:

- All outside doors remain locked during the day, except the front entrance door, which is visible to the office. Anyone who enters the school is expected to report to the office and notify the secretary or principal of their purpose.
- Volunteers are welcome to support students. Please make prior arrangements with classroom teachers and remember to sign in at the office.
- Instructional time is important for learning, therefore, we ask visitors to refrain from loitering in school hallways.
- All visitors are asked to report to the office, sign in and out, and wear a visitor's badge while in the school.
- Morning playground supervision is from 8:10 – 8:30 am and after school from 2:30 – 2:45 pm. **There is no supervision after 2:45 pm. Students must report home after 2:45 pm or have a parent with them to play after 2:45 pm.**
- Please pre-arrange playdates in advance. Our school phone is meant for calling home, not to set-up after school playdates.
- Students waiting for parent pick-up during the day will wait inside the school. Parents need to pick up students from the office.
- Safety procedures (fire drill, earthquake drill, lock-down drill) are practiced regularly.
- Parents are asked **NOT** to use our student washrooms – please ask at the office to use our staff adult washrooms.







# PAC NEWS

## April Fundraisers

### Growing Smiles: April 1 – 16

Beautiful flowers, plants, herbs, veggies, potting soil,



fertilizer and more!

Delivery to School: May 1

[skelownaelmpac.growingsmilesfundraising.com](https://skelownaelmpac.growingsmilesfundraising.com)



### Spring Fling: Friday April 11

Food starting at 4:30pm, DJ Haymaker: 5pm – 8pm

\$5 admission per family, \$2 per concession ticket

Pre-order dinner on **Munchalunch**



### Your Green Kitchen: April 22 – May 2

Tea towels, snack bags, sweatshirts, tote bags and more here at <https://ygkfundraising.ca>



You are invited to our next PAC Meeting!

**April 16 @ 7 pm**

**All parents are welcome.**

## Spring Fling Dance

The SKE PAC still need volunteers to help with the Fairy Tale Ball Spring Fling, please consider giving a little of your time:

**VOLUNTEER HERE**



# Spring Greenery!



*Spring Greenery Fundraiser open now until April 16*  
Delivery to school: May 1

Online orders: [skelownaelpac.growingsmilesfundraising.com](http://skelownaelpac.growingsmilesfundraising.com)

Click the image on the right to go directly to the ordering site! You can read all about the options there!

## Spring Fundraiser 2025

Orders due: April 16th  
Delivery to school: May 1st  
[skelownaelpac.growingsmilesfundraising.com](http://skelownaelpac.growingsmilesfundraising.com)

**\$29**

**UPGRADED MIXES!**

Get the best of both worlds! These hanging baskets are perfect for sunny spots, blooming with gorgeous flowers & trailing plants. With beautiful varieties to choose from, they're here to add a special touch to your space!

**\$39**

**UPGRADED MIXES!**

Discover the excitement of our Super Plants! These plants are perfect for sunny spots, blooming with gorgeous flowers & trailing plants. With beautiful varieties to choose from, they're here to add a special touch to your space!

**NA**

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**\$19**

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March  
@ SKE

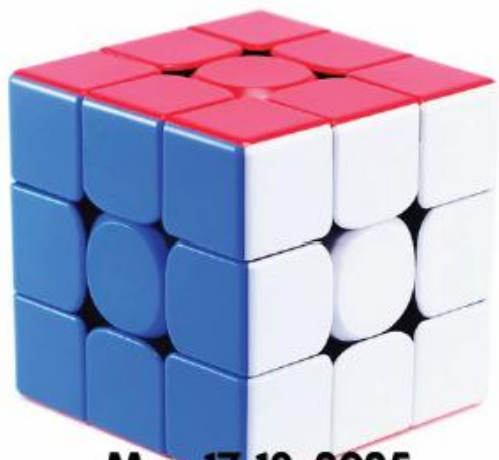




# Community News, Events & Opportunities

## SPEEDCUBING COMPETITION

Held at Penticton Lakeside Resort & Conference Centre



May 17-18, 2025



SCAN ME

Scan to register!

Registration  
opens March 3rd  
**60 Competitors**

No need to be  
fast, just need to  
know how to  
solve a cube!

## ORL SPRING PROGRAMMING

The Youth Services Committee has been working on a way to better promote our awesome library services to schools and community contacts. The latest [Library Link: Youth Programs & Resources](#) newsletter is ready! This is a tool that local branch staff can use to engage with their communities. Newsletter updates will be made in October, February and May.

Newsletter link: <https://orl.ca/librarylink/>



### SPRING PROGRAMS

**SPRING 3ON3**  
Sundays, March 30 - June 22  
Grades 1-9 Boys & Girls

**SPRING MICROBALLERS**  
Sundays, March 30 - June 22  
Boys & Girls, Birthdates 2020, 2021, 2022

**MARCH BREAK CAMP**  
March 25-27  
Grades 1-9 Boys & Girls

CONTACT: 250-675-7731  
[WWW.GOCOYOTES.CA/JUNIORCOYOTES](http://WWW.GOCOYOTES.CA/JUNIORCOYOTES)





THURSDAY, APRIL 24  
4 - 5:30 PM

**READY, SET, LEARN!**

## EARLY LEARNING FAMILY FUN NIGHT

4176 SPIERS ROAD

CALLING ALL FAMILIES WITH  
3 TO 5 YEAR OLDS!  
COME TO SKE'S READY, SET, LEARN EVENT.  
MEET OUR STAFF, SEE THE SCHOOL!

TOUR • PIZZA • PLAYTIME • GOODY BAG

SIBLINGS ARE WELCOME!

RSVP HERE OR 





**LACROSSE - THE FASTEST  
GAME ON 2 FEET**

**JOIN THE FUN!**

Build skills, make new friends,  
and most importantly, HAVE  
FUN.

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!**  
SEASON RUNS APRIL UNTIL JUNE 30  
\*UNLESS SELECTED FOR PROVINCIALS

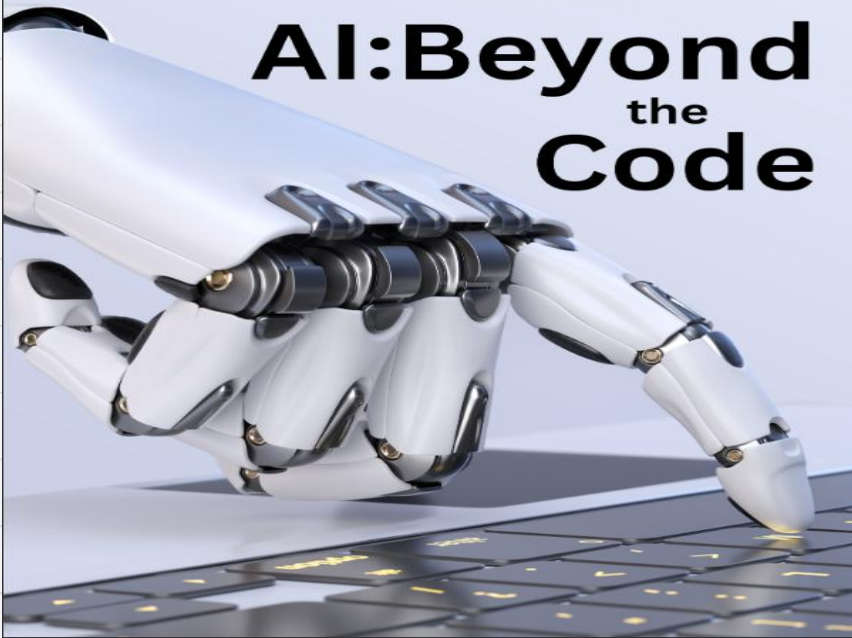


Register at:  
[kelownalacrosse.ca](http://kelownalacrosse.ca)

**Ballzee Productions Film Premiere**  
March 26th at the UBCO theatre  
Scan the QR code for tickets by donation



**AI:Beyond  
the  
Code**



# CANADA SAFETY COUNCIL HOME ALONE & BABYSITTING COURSES



**Kidz 4 Safety**

ONLINE & IN-PERSON SESSIONS

Home Alone: Ages 9+ yrs | \$53  
Babysitter Training: 10.5+ yrs | \$70

Register at:  
[www.babysittingkelowna.com](http://www.babysittingkelowna.com)  
[kidz4safety@gmail.com](mailto:kidz4safety@gmail.com)  
or  
call/text 250-317-2868



# Take the Plunge

Come Join our Supportive Diving Community &  
Learn from one of our Incredible Coaches!

1 meter & 3 meter springboard diving  
lessons for:

- Beginners
- Competitive Athletes
- Adults



- Programs for everyone ages 5 and Up
- Lessons held at the H2O Adventure + Fitness Centre & Rutland Family YMCA

zefpovaznphotography

Email [ksdc.general@gmail.com](mailto:ksdc.general@gmail.com)  
with any questions





## UBCO Heat Sport Camps



Get in the game this summer with UBCO Heat Sport Camps

Led by nationally recognized coaches and student athletes, UBCO's Heat Sport Camps offer a fun-filled week of skill development for kids aged 6 to 18. These camps are a great way to introduce youth to a sport or help them improve their techniques. Camp offerings include basketball, volleyball and our newest full-day camp, STEM-letics, which combines the excitement of athletics with the curiosity of science, technology, engineering, and math.

Camps are set to run in July and August, and registration is now open. Click [here](#) to learn more.

## OKANAGAN JR WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL

Register now  
for our Spring  
session!



**Cost: FREE**  
Equipment provided

Join us for a fun &  
challenging team sport  
designed for ALL abilities!  
All skill levels are welcome!

**When:** April 9 - June 18\*  
Wednesday nights

**Who:** Ages 6-16

**Rec division:** 5:45-6:45pm  
**Competitive division:** 5:45-7:15pm

**Where:** Green Bay Bible Camp,  
West Kelowna

\*no practice on Apr 23, May 21  
or June 4

To register, email:  
[okanaganjrthunder@gmail.com](mailto:okanaganjrthunder@gmail.com)





### Mini Rugby

**Location**  
Martin Park at 1434 Graham St.

**When**  
April 27, May 4, 11, 25, June 1, 8, 15

Mini Rugby ages 4-8	9-10am
Flag Rugby ages 9-12	10-11am

Jamboree's for ages 9-12 to  
be held in Kamloops, Salmon  
Arm, Vernon, and Kelowna

Registration opens  
February 14th  
Cost - \$100



A chance for little ones to try rugby



**FREE** Ages 12-17

## Youth Nights

Friday April 25 & May 30  
6-8:30 p.m.

At YMCA Youth Nights, you can explore all your options. Play sports, go for a swim, play video games, work out in the weight room, grab a bite to eat, practice your artistic side, or just hang out with your friends.



Register online  
[ymcasibc.ca/rec](http://ymcasibc.ca/rec)







# THANK YOU FOR READING!

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

See you at the Spring Fling!



SKE PAC Presents  
*Fairy Tale Ball  
Spring Fling*  
featuring DJ Haymaker

4:30 Doors & Food  
5:00 - 8:00 Music

*April 11th*  
\$5 admission per family  
\$2 each concession tickets

PreOrder Dinner on  
MunchaLunch  
March 14 to April 4

Come dressed up as a  
fairy-tale being.

Prizes to be given out

Volunteers Needed:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoD4FA5AB2CABF5C61-55557974-spring/>