

The Eagle Gazette

April 2026



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

Principal's Message



Dear SKE,

As the sunshine finally returns and spring brightens our days, we're delighted to celebrate the creativity, curiosity, and joy our students bring to our school each and every day. They've grown so much this year—academically, socially, and in their confidence—and their progress is truly something to admire (even on those days when spring fever makes pencils mysteriously vanish!).

Our school is a special place, made even richer by the kindness, encouragement, and partnership of our entire community. Thank you for helping make this a vibrant, supportive, and joy-filled home for learning. We are excited to enter into our final term of this school year, with field studies, school wide events and maybe even some happy surprises coming our way!

In the spirit of learning,

Ms. Lemon

SHARING KINDNESS EVERYDAY!

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

April 3	Good Friday – NO SCHOOL
April 6	Easter Monday – NO SCHOOL
April 9	PAC Family Bingo Night
April 13–17	Gymnastix
April 14	PAC Meeting @ 7 pm
April 15	ELFF @ 4 pm
April 22	Track & Field Begins
April 23	Battle of the Books
April 23	PAC Plant Pickup (2–5 pm)
April 24	Rainbow & Tie Dye Day
April 30	Apple Bowl

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>

ELFF REMINDER

Early Learning Family Fun Night is coming up on **April 15th.**

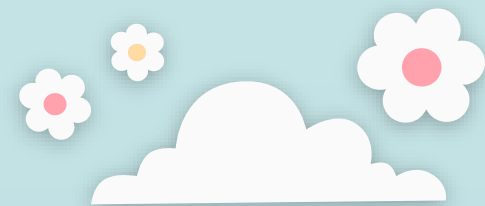
If you are interested, please

CLICK ON THE IMAGE TO REGISTER





OFFICE REMINDERS



LATE OR EARLY PICKUP?

PLEASE DO NOT GO TO YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM.

For the safety of our students and to minimize disruptions to instruction, we kindly ask that parents and guardians check into the office where our staff will be happy to assist you in signing your child in and out. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and focused learning environment.



All visitors including parent volunteers must **SIGN IN** and **OUT** at the office.
Thank you!

PLEASE NOTE

IS YOUR CURRENT K-5 CHILD LEAVING SKE for the 26/27 SCHOOL YEAR?

Please notify the office ASAP.

DO YOU NEED A TEACHER MEETING?

Please make arrangements with teachers in advance.
Please do not stop in without an appointment.

OUTSTANDING FEES

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

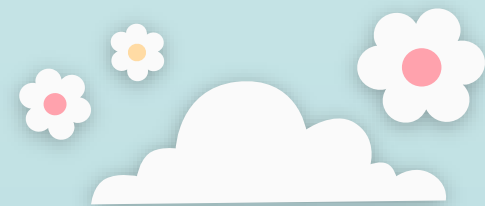
[School Cash Online](#)

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





HAPPY SPRING!



Gymnastix

We are excited to welcome Kelowna Gymnastix to SKE again this year. There is a fee for this program, as it supplements our Physical Health program. Please head over to schoolcashionline.ca. If financial hardship is a concern, please contact Ms. Lemon directly.

GROUNDS REMINDER



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

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!

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**.



White Hatter Presentation

On March 10th, all of our grade 4, 5 and 6 students participated in a digital literacy learning session presented by the White Hatter. This session was designed to help youth online understand the basics when it comes to privacy and security in the connected world. No amount of filtering or monitoring tools are as effective as critical thinking skills, and the understanding of behaviours and their potential consequences. **Huge thanks to our SKE PAC for supporting the funding of this presentation!**





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TRACK & FIELD



Our Apple Bowl date is on April 30. The grade 4's will have had a chance to practice the basics before Apple Bowl day so they will 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.

**Dates: Wed. April 22, Fri. April 24, Wed. April 29,
Fri. May 1, Wed. May 6, Fri. May 8, Wed. May 13, Fri. May 15, Wed. May 22.**

The District Track Meet is **Tuesday, June 2** and our SKE track data will be used to determine who qualifies to attend.

If you are able to volunteer at our SKE Apple Bowl on Thursday, April 30, please click on the link below and complete the form.



<https://forms.gle/fZNSiKCfR8e7ecPq8>



STUDENT PLACEMENT REQUESTS for SEPTEMBER 2027

Submissions accepted: April 3rd - May 4th 2026

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.

Caregivers 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 4th, 2026.** Letters that focus on learning are welcome and can at times be very helpful. In the past, there have been 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 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 caregivers' wishes for placement, we may not be able to fulfill your requests. The final authority rests with the school. Thank you in advance for your understanding of our placement protocol.

Deadline for submissions is May 4th, 2026

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.



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 use our staff adult washrooms.

**SCHOOL SAFETY:
A SHARED
RESPONSIBILITY**



SAFETY REMINDERS

Drop Off & Pick Up Reminders

The parking lot is for staff only. Please do not use it for dropping off or picking up students.

The bus loop is closed to personal vehicles between 8:00 and 8:25 am and 2:15 - 2:45 pm.

K & Grades 4 - 6: Pick up & drop off by the back field fence.

Grades 1- 3: Pick up and drop off on Spiers Road, on the front side of the school.

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.

Our RCMP traffic safety officer reminds all drivers: "Be part of ensuring safety for our children. Leave early so you don't have to rush & remember that each of you makes a difference for ALL of us!"

PAC NEWS



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>



APRIL FUNDRAISERS

- FAMILY BINGO NIGHT
April 9th



- SPRING PLANT FUNDRAISER

ORDER HERE



Closes – April 10th
Pickup – April 23 2–5 pm
at the school entrance

NEXT PAC MEETING:

APRIL 14th @ 7:00 pm
in the School Library

Everyone is welcome!



SKE PUZZLE MASTERS

Mrs. Jennejohn, Ms. Juda, Ms. Brazeau and Mrs. MacLean recently took on a speed puzzle tournament and casually decided to dominate – finishing in an impressive fourth place like the legends they are. Armed with sharp minds, lightning-fast hands and the kind of teamwork that would make professional sports teams jealous, they sorted, snapped and strategize their way through the chaos of 500 tiny cardboard pieces. Honestly, it was heroic.

And can we talk about how unfair it is that they managed to look absolutely beautiful while doing it? Most people at a speed puzzle tournament resemble sleep deprived goblins by hour two – not these four. They somehow combined brainpower, glamour and perfectly timed sarcasm. Their laughter was constant, their commentary hilarious and their confidence unmatched.

Smart, funny, stunning and just competitive enough to be dangerous, this fabulous foursome proved that puzzles don't stand a chance when brilliance and beauty join forces. Fourth place? Please. That puzzle was lucky to meet them.



We hope you enjoy this silly side of our staff – our SKE team truly loves working and playing together.





Celebrating All Our Families & Caregivers

This year, after staff discussion, our school is shifting to recognizing **“People Who Love Us”** instead of the traditional Mother’s Day & Father’s Day crafts and activities so that every child can feel included, supported, and represented. At times, Mother’s Day and Father’s Day activities can unintentionally exclude children whose families don’t fit traditional structures—such as those with single parents, two moms or two dads, grandparents as primary caregivers, divorced families, or other unique arrangements. Celebrating “People Who Love Us” allows us to honor the many caring adults who play meaningful roles in children’s lives and the many ways that families can exist.

By taking this inclusive approach, we create space for children to recognize and celebrate the special people who support them—whenever those people may be. This shift also reduces emotional stress for children who may feel pressure or sadness around traditional holidays, ensuring that no child feels left out or singled out because of their family circumstances. Our goal is to foster a community where every child feels valued, seen, and affirmed, and celebrating **“People Who Love Us”** aligns beautifully with that commitment.

Please watch for classroom-specific recognition to come home near the end of May/early June!





PANCAKE BREAKFAST



MARCH AT SKE



COMMUNITY NEWS, EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

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

Email ksdc.general@gmail.com with any questions



UBCO HEAT
— SPORT CAMPS —

UBCO Okanagan Summer Sport Camps
Registration now open!

Visit GoHeat.ca/Camps

JUNIOR COYOTES SPRING PROGRAMS

<p>SPRING 3ON3</p> <p>Sundays March 29 - June 21</p> <p>@ KCS High School</p> <p>Boys & Girls Grades 1-12</p>	<p>SPRING MICROBALLERS</p> <p>Sundays March 29 - June 21</p> <p>@ KCS High School 1:00-2:15pm</p> <p>Boys & Girls Ages 3-5</p>	<p>SPRING 5ON5 LEAGUE</p> <p>April 6 - June 19</p> <p>Boys & Girls Grades 1-8</p> <p>1 Weekday Practice & 1 Friday Game per Week</p>	<p>MARCH BREAK CAMPS</p> <p>March 16-17 March 23-24</p> <p>Boys & Girls Grades 1-12</p>
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WWW.GOCOYOTES.CA
250-575-7731 jessica@ocbasketball.ca

Studio 100, Rotary Centre
www.newvintage.ca

Last Class Performances Pro Instructors

NEW VINTAGE THEATRE

SPRING ACTING CLASSES
STARTING THIS APRIL

YOUTH-PLAYS
MONDAYS-DESPICABLE ME-4:15-5:30PM
SATURDAYS-DESPICABLE ME-10-11AM

YOUTH-MUSICAL THEATRE
SATURDAYS-A 1980'S SNOW WHITE-1-2PM

TEENS
Mystery Saturdays-The Watcher-11-12:30pm

ADULTS
Mondays Improv Games Night-5:30-7pm

Brave Hearts Club

Children's Grief and Loss Support Group

Where Healing Meets connection

Central Okanagan Hospice Association is pleased to offer an eight week grief and loss support group for children ages 6-12 who have experienced the loss of a family member or friend through death.

COHA
CENTRAL OKANAGAN HOSPICE ASSOCIATION

Wednesdays from 4pm-5:30pm
April 29 - June 17

A safe space to explore grief
Art, games, gentle discussion

Snacks and refreshments

No cost to attend



Registration is Required andi@hospicecoha.org

Starts April 29, 4pm-5:30pm 250.763.5511

COHA August Center, #200-1890 Cooper Road

UBC Geering Up Kelowna, Okanagan



Summer Camp Registration Now Open!

Take your STEM learning beyond the classroom!

Join our action-packed, hands-on summer day camps to explore the wonderful worlds of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math! Build, explore, and design through our camps' interactive sessions.

All of our summer camps are taught by passionate, subject area expert university students and meticulously designed to tap into core foundational knowledge and speak to young curious minds.

Dive into Coding, innovate in unique environments like our All Girls* camps, and more! Each week is a dynamic mix of hands-on activities, demonstrations, tours, mentors, and design challenges.

Limited bursaries available. Please scan the QR code to learn more.

A Glimpse of Geering Up Camps

- 📅 Weekly programming from June 29th to September 3rd, 2026
- 🕒 9AM - 3PM (Before/After Care options available)
- 📍 UBC Okanagan, Kelowna Campus
- 🎓 Grade Levels: 1-12 (Program themes vary)

Register Today! 

For more info, visit: bit.ly/kelownacamps

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA School of Engineering Okanagan Campus A network member of **actúa**

BECOME A VOLUNTEER KELOWNA!

JULY 22-26, 2026



Kelowna BMX OPEN House

SATURDAY APRIL 11th

RACING @ 12pm

ALL FIRST TIME RIDERS RACE FOR FUN!

DATE April 11th, 2026
DAY Saturday
TIME 10am-11:30am Open House + Racing @ 12:00pm
WHO Current Riders, New Riders, EVERYONE!
WHERE Kelowna BMX Track, 645 Dodd Road

DETAILS

Come check out what BMX is all about!
 Bring your bike to ride the track, learn about the club, and check out the bike and gear swap.
 Stick around in the afternoon to watch or join in on some BMX racing, grab some pizza and win some prizes.

New & Want to Race?

Get a membership or fill in the 1 day trial waiver.



Riders need:

- bike & helmet (all bikes welcome)
- closed toed shoes
- long sleeve shirts, full length pants or knee/elbow pads.

Thank you for Reading!

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



This is where you section ends. Duplicate this set of slides as many times you need to go over all your sections.