

The Eagle Gazette

October 2024



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




Sharing Kindness Every



FOR YOUR CALENDAR

October 3-4	Parent Teacher Interviews Early Dismissal @ 12:30 pm
October 4	Grade 6 Immunizations
October 11	Implementation Day - NO SCHOOL
October 14	Thanksgiving - NO SCHOOL
October 16	PAC Meeting @ 7 pm
October 18	Cultural Performance
October 18-19 Station)	Elections BC (Voting
October 23	Photo Retake Day
October 25	PRO-D Day - NO SCHOOL
October 31	Halloween Costume Parade



PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS SAFETY DRILLS

Parent-Teacher conferences will take place on Thursday, October 3rd and Friday, October 4th. **We will have an early dismissal at 12:30 on both days.**

Busses will be running.

Please watch for information coming home asking for your preferred time for a conference. It will be a good opportunity to meet your child's teacher, ask questions about your child's academic and social emotional learning and for you to share any information you feel is necessary about your child.

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

Parents and visitors at the school during these drills will be also accounted for.

SCHOOL FEES

A reminder that school fees were due on Sept 30 and can be paid on schoolcash online. www.centralokanagan.schoolcashonline.com

**Student fees are \$45 per child
\$35 supplies + \$10 cultural).**

Please contact Ms. Lemon if you are experiencing financial hardship and need help with the 2024/25 fees.

Principal's Message

Do you have "math eyes"?

The students in Mrs. Oakes' class recently went on a math walk and discovered hidden math in the world around them. When we look at the world with new eyes, we will see new possibilities! This month at South Kelowna we are looking forward to sharing our early learning experiences during our family conferences. Our staff will gather on Implementation Day to learn together in relation to our student learning priority around numeracy.

Later in the month many teachers will attend conferences on the Pro-d Day. Of course, we can't forget about Thanksgiving, which is an opportunity for families and friends to spend precious time together! We hope each of our SKE families enjoys a wonderful start to the fall season. In the spirit of togetherness, **Jasmine Lesner**, Principal



Sadie uses her "math eyes"!



Reminders & Update



Illness & Poor Health

SKE has a communicable disease plan to ensure we collectively stay as healthy as possible. As we move towards cold & flu season, we remind families to **please keep children home if they are not feeling well**, are showing symptoms of illness, and will not be able to participate in learning. We have a number of students with respiratory sensitivities as well, and what might be a mild cold for one student can be significantly more concerning for those learners. Use School Messenger to report absences.

Thank you!

IN-LINE SKATING

We are excited to welcome Alien In-Line Skating to SKE at the end of October. You will notice a \$10 fee for this opportunity. Thanks to the PAC for subsidizing a portion of the cost for everyone. Let's get rolling!!

TAKING YOUR DOG FOR

Please remember that dogs are not allowed on school property.

Dogs may be on leash on the sidewalk. You are welcome to use the city fields according to posted signs if your dog needs a good run!

PICK UP/DROP OFF

- ☒ Park on the street or behind the school field.
- ☒ No bus lane 8:00 - 8:15 am, 2:00 - 2:45 pm.
- ☒ Give a great big hug!
- ☒ **A WALK?**
- ☐ Use the staff parking lot at any time.



From the Office

LATES Please see Ms. Angus in the office to have your absence converted to a Late or parents will be phoned by the automated system for an unexcused absence.

LEAVING EARLY: Students must see Ms. Angus in the office to leave the school any time before the end-of-day dismissal. Students will not be able to leave unless the office has prior parental permission.

STUDENT MESSENGER: If you haven't already downloaded the School Messenger app for your cell phone, you should give it a try! It's the most efficient way to let the school know about your child's absence, late arrival or early appointment. It is used by all School District 23 schools for students from K-12! Emails to teachers will NOT notify the office and so parents are still required to use School Messenger.



Picking up a student early?
Parents & caregivers must
report to the office. **Do not go
directly to your child's
classroom.**

A school staff member will get
the student for you.



Important Information

NUTS AWARE!

There are a number of children in our school with extreme allergies to peanuts and tree nuts. **Tree nuts include peanuts, cashews, almonds, pecans, pistachios and walnuts.** Our goal is to make the school a safe environment for all students. **We ask that all families avoid sending foods that contain nuts or nut products.** Please visit this website for more detailed information on tree nuts/peanuts and possible sources of treenuts/peanuts :

<http://foodallergycanada.ca/about-allergies/food-allergens/>

Thank you for supporting us to help keep all children at SKE safe.



VOLUNTEERING

A reminder if you are volunteering to **please ensure you have completed a Criminal Record Check (CRC) form at the school office prior to volunteering (no charge).** These forms must be completed **every four years.**

Please contact Ms. Angus in the office if you are unsure if you have an approved CRCon file.

SCHOOL BUS STOP

School Bus Stop is the program School District #23 Transportation Services uses to post route cancellations or delays in excess of 10 minutes, which then sends a text or email to parents when there is a route status update. Parents that have children that use school buses are asked to register for The School Bus Stop [HERE](#). You are required to sign up each year for this program.

TURN YOUR KEY, BE IDLE



School Zones are "NO Idling" zones, which includes our parking lot as well as surrounding streets.

Please consider all the pollution you are creating for young lungs as you have your car running while waiting for pick-up.

THANK YOU for your consideration.

Volunteer Opportunity

Between Oct 28th and November 6th, SKE will be welcoming Alien In-Line Skating. Every SKE student will receive approximately 2 hours of instruction with their certified leaders! Parents are invited to sign up to support this program (especially helping students put on and take off the equipment).

Check out the [Sign-Up Genius](#) so you can volunteer for your child's class and join in on the fun!



Other volunteer opportunities

- ❖ Are you available to lead any **lunchtime activities** with students? For example, during the winter, indoor floor hockey or ping pong? We are interested in connecting with parents or caregivers who might be available to support this initiative a day or two per week.
- ❖ Harmony Day is November 22nd. We are currently planning a recognition event during the school day celebrating the diversity of our community. We are gathering a list of parents available to support and will have more details soon.
- ❖ Do you have one hour or less every 1-2 months to support the organization of our **lost and found**? We could use a parent or two willing to keep it tidy, and bag it up for donation every now and again.

To indicate your interest in the options above, please email jasmine.lemon@sd23.bc.ca. Thank you!

Halloween



On Thursday, October 31st, students will participate in our annual Halloween **Costume Parade at 2:00 p.m.** This will occur on the back field, weather permitting. Families are welcome to attend.

SKE Halloween Guidelines:

Dressing in a costume is optional. Your child may prefer to wear orange and black clothing, or their regular clothes. Students wishing to wear their costumes should get ready at home.

If your child chooses to wear a costume, please keep in mind that he/she will have to be comfortable for a day of learning at school and playing on the playground.

Please be sure that:

- your child will be able to wear their jacket over their costume for outside playtime.
- the costume is age-appropriate and school -appropriate (not gory or scary).
- hand-held accessories have been left at home (no weapons, brooms, wands, etc.)
- If the costume includes a mask, students may bring it to show the class but no face coverings are to be worn at school during the day.

To help prevent hurt feelings and disappointment, please have a discussion with your child about taking responsibility for their own costume and about respecting other children's costumes. Children should also take extra care while playing outside at lunch and recess.

After Halloween, please do not send Halloween candy/treats to school and do continue to send healthy fruits and vegetables.

Thank you.



South Kelowna Elementary Library Story Character Pumpkin Decorating Contest

Why? To celebrate reading and to have fun!

It is intended to be an individual or family project. This project is completely optional.

Pumpkins must represent a favorite book character. Absolutely no carved pumpkins.

To decorate you can use paper, glue, paint, markers, pipe cleaners, fabric, or other craft items on the pumpkin. **Let your creativity soar!**

Pumpkins may be placed on the cart available at the front doors starting on October 24th. All pumpkins will be displayed in and around the Library.

On the form please have the **name of the character, the title of the book your character comes from, and the author's name.** Make sure to get the book information before starting to decorate the pumpkin.

**Pumpkins must be picked up in the library and taken home
by the end of day on Thursday, October 31st.**



Truth and Reconciliation

On September 27th, we wore ORANGE in honor of Truth and Reconciliation Day and to share the message that every child matters. We gathered for a schoolwide assembly outside to learn about the significance of the day and the meaning of the colors of the medicine wheel. We are grateful to have this opportunity for us to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come.

**NATIONAL DAY FOR
TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION**
SEPTEMBER 30TH



Special thanks to Sab, Isla, Bentley, Autumn, Summer and Charlotte for being our speakers for this important gathering.



South Kelowna Elementary gathered in circle on the land to recognize Orange Shirt Day together on Friday, Sept 27th. The whole school created a medicine wheel together, learning of the balance provided through the four directions.



Winter Concert

Ms. Sadlowski, our new Fine Arts teacher, is excitedly planning and preparing for our traditional winter concert, alongside our students. You are invited to save one of the dates indicated here so you can join us in celebrating in the spirit of togetherness.

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!

SKE PAC Updates

Huge thanks to our amazing SKE PAC for sponsoring the purchase of high -quality canvas book bags for our primary students. Each K-3 student will receive a durable bag to use for transporting their school library books from school to home, and back again. Each bag will be pre-labelled with student names, and is intended to last for years. We will collect them at the end of the school year to keep them safe.

If a bag is lost, there will be a \$10 replacement fee, or families can choose to supply their own bag.



Our school is fundraising with Mabel's Labels! Take advantage of the exclusive deals (including 20% off right now) on Mabel's Labels and help keep your child's belongings out of the Lost & Found.

Mabel's Labels is a company that produces personalized, durable, and waterproof labels (and more) that you can use to label clothing/shoes, food containers, water bottles, backpacks, sports equipment, stationary, etc. You can customize them with your name and a design, and they are dishwasher, laundry and microwave safe. Mabel's Labels also offers clothing stamps and silicone bands for water bottles.

To support our fundraiser and purchase a set of labels (instead of replacing lost items), visit campaigns.mabelslabels.com and select South Kelowna Elementary (BC). You can pick out whatever labels or products you want, and it will ship for free directly to your house. Thank you for supporting us!

erase | EXPECT RESPECT & A SAFE EDUCATION

To help students, adults, and school staff build safe, caring and inclusive school communities, the Government of BC has created a valuable new online resource tool called [ERASE](#)

Learn more by viewing the links below

Learn about erase



Learn about the different tools, information, and resources available on erase to help support students, adults, and school staff.

Safe, caring and inclusive schools



A short animated video about the importance of schools fostering inclusive classroom environments where everyone regardless of race, culture, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or ability, is welcome and feels safe.

What is the Report It tool?



Learn about an online reporting tool available to students to seek help or submit reports if you see or hear something that concerns you.

erase: The Story



Read more about the erase strategy and how to build safe, caring and inclusive school communities.

School Traffic Safety:

Please click below
to view this document

Clean Air & Safe Routes 4 Schools

A School Travel Plan
South Kelowna Elementary School



South Kelowna Elementary **Clean Air & Safe Routes 4 Schools—a School Travel Plan** is delivered in partnership with the City of Kelowna, Regional District of Central Okanagan, School District 23, Interior Health, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). The Regional Air Quality Coordinator compiled this Plan.

Revised August 2024

Community News, Events & Opportu



LEARN TO SKATE

SPEEDSKATING.CA

First and Fast Strides Learn to Skate Program
Skaters wear comfortable clothing, hockey or figure skates, hockey or ski helmet and gloves/mittens.
Classes: Monday's 5:45 - 6:30pm @ MNP Place Rink #2
For more information and to register please scan the QR codes below

September 23, 30 Oct 7 October 21, 28 November 4 November 18, 25 December 2, 9





FIRST & FAST STRIDES

**CANADA SAFETY COUNCIL
HOME ALONE &
BABYSITTING COURSES**



Kidz 4 Safety

FALL COURSES

Home Alone: Ages 9+ yrs | \$53
Babysitter Training: 10+ yrs | \$70

Register at:
www.babysittingkelowna.com
kidz4safety@gmail.com
or call/text 250-317-2868

REGISTER FOR

Shine On 

**Fall programs
& swim lessons**

Let your child explore their potential under the guidance of certified swim instructors and skilled coaches.

- ▶ Y Dance ▶ Y Basketball
- ▶ Y Create ▶ Swim Lessons
- ▶ Y Soccer ▶ Y Fridays

Register online
ymcasibc.ca/programs

Kelowna Family YMCA
375 Hartman Rd.

H₂O Adventure + Fitness Centre
4075 Gordon Dr.



SKE's Terry Fox Run!



On Monday, September 23rd, our whole school ran the Terry Fox Run for cancer research. Mrs. Shannon, as the teacher organizer, ensured that our run was successful, and we congratulate Mrs. Bernard's class, who raised the most money and have won a pizza lunch from Ms. Lemon. It is with huge appreciation to our community that we raised \$1348.25. This is amazing!



Thank you to Mr. Larkin's students for helping with our new PHE equipment!



Our top 3 finishers!





September at Lake



Thank you for Reading!

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

