

September 29, 2025



RED WING NEWS



Today, there is a sea of orange shirts in our community as we come together to recognize and honour our tomorrow's **National Day For Truth and Reconciliation**. We warmly invite families in our school community to view [our video](#), showcasing a special art installation at the Kelowna Airport

featuring tiles individually created by each of our students. The exhibit will be on display until October 14th.

Can you believe **October** is just around the corner? The first month of school has passed in the blink of an eye! As temperatures begin to drop and the leaves start to turn, we kindly remind students to **dress for the season** and bring a jacket to stay warm during those crisp morning hours outside.

A huge thank you to everyone for supporting our fundraising endeavour for the Terry Fox Foundation!!! So far we have raised **\$2,960.00**. Thank you to our school community!

As students settle into their new classrooms and routines take shape, we are excited to continue nurturing curiosity as a foundation for growth and discovery—for both our students and ourselves. **Children are naturally curious**, but that spark needs to be encouraged and supported. This year, with our school-wide **focus on learner agency**, we aim to empower students to take ownership of their learning, ask questions, make choices, and explore their interests with confidence. By fostering curiosity and promoting agency, we hope to inspire meaningful learning experiences and deeper engagement. We're eager to see where this journey leads us together!

www.wat.sd23.bc.ca

www.sd23.bc.ca

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Wash your Hands!
Remember the #1 best guard
against COVID, colds and flu is to
WASH YOUR HANDS!!

DATES TO NOTE:

- **Oct. 2nd**—Just Dance Fundraiser \$2.00
- **Oct. 3rd**—First Hot Lunch
- **Oct. 5th**—World Teacher Day
- **Oct. 10th**—School not in session
- **Oct. 13th**—STAT Thanksgiving
- **Oct. 14th**—Cultural Performance
- **Oct. 15th**—Gr. 6 Parent Meeting about Gardom Lake
- **Oct. 16th**—Retake Student photo
- **Oct. 20th**—PJ and DEAR
- **Oct. 23rd**—PAC Meeting
- **Oct. 24th**—School Not in Session
- **Oct. 30th**—PAC Family Dance 6:00—8:00
- **Oct. 31st**—Costume parade

Oct.
16th



PICTURE RETAKE Day!

Drop Everything and Read Day (**DEAR Day**)
will be celebrated on **October 20th**.



LIBRARY

Our Library is a busy place! Mrs. Mamchur, our teacher-librarian, and Mrs. Kuyvenhoven our assistant, welcomed back our students for book exchange and library activities.

Our students in Kindergarten– gr. 3 come each week for 20 minutes, and students in gr. 4–6 come every second week for 20 minutes.

Students will be reintroduced to the pleasures of reading and are given a chance to borrow books to share with their family!

Kindergarten students will be given a special book bag to help keep our books safe and clean. We ask that every student have a water proof bag in order to get books, as if a book is lost or damaged, we ask for a replacement fee.

We hope you will share in their excitement by spending time with them reading and enjoying a good story!

**Did you know that we are open before
and after school each day for book
exchange?**

Thank you for paying your student fees:

A big thank you to all those parents who have already paid their school fees. Please contact the office if you have not paid and need to arrange a payment schedule. Please know that the school does not have a budget to cover the cost of unpaid fees.

Kindergarten - Gr. 6 = \$50.00

School Fee Payment online:

<https://centralokanagan.schoolcashonline.com/>

PAYMENTS DUE BY: September 30th

In Central Okanagan Public Schools, no student will be denied participation in an educational program due to financial need. Our

Board's Regulation 425R – School Fees (Financial Hardship Clause) ensures families can confidentially request support or alternative arrangements. If cost is a barrier for your child, please contact the school principal.

Safety First: At Watson Road, we hold six fire drills per year: three in the fall and three in the spring. We also hold an earthquake drill and a hold and secure/lockdown drill twice during the year. The earthquake drill provides students with a procedure to follow should they experience an earthquake anywhere, and anytime. We will be practicing with the rest of British Columbia's in the Great British Columbia **Shake Out Earthquake Drill at 10:16 on October 16th**. For more details, check out the website: www.shakeoutbc.ca On Oct. 7th, we will practice a hold and secure drill—the purpose is to practice a safety procedure to be used in the event that students and staff are required to remain in a safe location during critical situations. Parents and visitors at the school during drills will be included in the practice.

Halloween: On **Friday, October 31st** students will have an opportunity to have a class photo in the morning, and at **12:20 pm** we will have a costume parade outside (weather permitting)!

- Dressing in a costume is optional. Your child may prefer to wear orange and black clothing.
- If your child chooses to wear a costume, please keep in mind that they will have to be comfortable for a day of learning at school and playing on the playground.
- Please be sure your child will be able to wear their jacket over their costume for outside playtime.
- Please be sure that the costume is age-appropriate and school-appropriate (not gory or scary).
- Please leave hand-held accessories at home (no weapons, brooms, wands, etc.)
- If the costume includes a mask, students may bring it to show the class but it will not be possible for them to wear it.
- 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, it is always nice if you pay close attention during the following few days to make sure the sandwich-made-with-love is not swimming in a lunch box filled with, if not entirely replaced by, chocolates and candies.**



Understanding the Importance of the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA)

The Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) is a province-wide assessment that provides a snapshot of how well students in British Columbia are developing core academic skills in Literacy and Numeracy.

This annual assessment, designed by B.C. educators, is an important tool for understanding student learning at the provincial, district, and school levels. It helps identify areas of strength and areas needing improvement, and it supports planning to enhance student achievement across the province.

Key Information for Parents:

- Parent information letters will be sent home prior to the start of the assessment.
- Once completed and marked, student assessments will be sent home for review.
- All students are permitted to use a calculator, dictionary, thesaurus, and receive extra time as needed to support their success.
- The results of the FSA do not count toward your child's term Learning Update (report card).

We encourage all parents and guardians to review the assessment results as they offer valuable insights into your child's foundational learning progress.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's learning or the assessment process, please contact the school directly. We are here to support your child's educational journey.

Crosswalk Patrollers:

A special thank you to our crosswalk patrollers who will be keeping our students and families safe everyday while they cross the walkway into the school ground.

The patrollers all participated in a half-day training session under the guidance of our District Traffic Officer Trainer. We appreciate the support of all drivers as they work with our patrollers when dropping off and picking up students.

A friendly reminder to all parents that if they see any activities and/or behaviours at the cross walks that you feel are inappropriate please let Mr. Johnson know as soon as possible rather than speaking directly with patrollers.



We are hoping you can help us out by having a discussion with your child regarding **Pokemon cards, Hockey card, and YuGiOh card for example**, if your child is one who enjoys bringing cards to school. At Watson Road, we recognize the enjoyment and learning that cards can bring to students during lunch and recess. While supervising students during this activity, we encourage them to show, look, play and talk about cards. We discourage trading cards and ask students to wait until after school so their parents can supervise trades to ensure they are fair.



Most of our students are able to follow this request and are able to enjoy social time with cards and friends. In some cases, students choose to not follow the rule of 'no trading cards.' This leads to significant disruptions to the child's learning day. In these cases, staff are called upon to deal with disputes between students, poor trades, and lost cards. Without banning them entirely, we are asking for your help to ensure students are following the guidelines, as well as respecting their teacher's rules about Pokemon cards, so everyone can enjoy the time together with friends and cards, and that they don't disrupt the learning day within their classrooms. **Thank you for your understanding.**

Next PAC Meeting:

Thursday,
October 23rd @ 6:30
in the school library

All parents &
guardians welcome
to attend!



PLASTIC FORKS AND SPOONS:

To reduce the amount of plastic in our landfill and ultimately in our lakes and oceans, we do not provide plastic forks and spoons for students. We are encouraging families to send reusable cutlery when packing a lunch requiring a fork or spoon. We encourage caregivers to pack a 'litter free lunch.' A litter free lunch is one way to reduce garbage. A waste-free lunch (sometimes called a litter-less, smart, garbage-less, waste-free, no-garbage or waste-not lunch) means that you have no packaging to throw away when you're done. All you're left with is apple cores, banana peels and other biodegradable extras. Also, all items sent in a lunch will be returned at the end of the day (used or unused).



Central Okanagan Public Schools does not insure expenses for student injuries that occur on school grounds or during school activities. Parents and guardians can voluntarily purchase private accident insurance. [Student Accident Insurance by StudyInsured](#) is a voluntary plan that provides coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses, and critical illness. To apply for the Plan or to find out more, click [here](#)"



[Compare Plans - Study Insured Student Accident](#) A plan for every need Whether your child is a star athlete, naturally rambunctious, or just accident-prone, we've got you covered. Choose the plan that works best for you, your family, www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com



PARENT VOICE - OCTOBER



FALL 2025 4 ON 4 VOLLEYBALL PROGRAM

OPEN FOR REGISTRATION

REGISTER NOW @ GOHEAT.CA

PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Community → Volleyball

This program focuses on skill building and game play using smaller sized courts and a 4 on 4 format. Fewer players means more contacts and a faster game to accelerate your development. Each of the 3 sessions will feature a warm-up, skill acquisition activities, and game play so athletes can apply what they have learned. Whether you are new to the game, playing on a school team or preparing for club tryouts, this program will help you develop your skills, prepare for 6 on 6, and have fun.



*Select **UBCO Heat | Men's Volleyball** to register.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

- Grades 4-5 @ 1:15pm-2:15pm (\$60.00)
- Grades 6-7 @ 2:30pm-4:00pm (\$90.00)

All genders welcome!



UBC Okanagan Gymnasium
(3211 Athletics Court, Kelowna)



- Sunday, October 19
- Sunday, October 26
- Sunday, November 2

Questions: please contact
scott.koskie@ubc.ca



***Registration includes all three dates.