



THE EAGLE GAZETTE - DEC 2022

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



Dear SKE Families,

The December newsletter is an excellent opportunity to recognize the staff and parents who make South Kelowna a wonderful community of helping hands. I would like to take the time to thank all the volunteers who go "above and beyond the call of duty" to make this a great environment for growth, safety and opportunity for our students. Our staff and students appreciate your efforts!

I feel fortunate and very thankful to be part of the SKE learning community. Together we are continuing to make a positive difference in the lives of our children on a daily basis.

From all of us at SKE, we wish you and your family a Merry Christmas, and a festive holiday season filled with warmth and good cheer!

Sincerely,
Nadia Piasentin, Principal



For Your Calendar

December 7	1:00 Winter Concert #1
December 8	1:00 Winter Concert #2
December 9	Grade 6 Entrepreneur Fair
December 14	Progress Reports Go Home
Dec 19 - Jan 2	Winter Holidays
Tues. January 3	Back to School 8:30-2:30

Please return your child's **PROGRESS REPORT ENVELOPE** to your teacher so they can be re-used throughout the year.

THANK YOU

ABSENCES AROUND THE HOLIDAYS

Please continue to enter absences into School Messenger. You may enter an absence at any time - for 1 day or multiple days, as well as an Early Departure or Late Arrival.

If you are planning a trip around the winter break, please enter the absences so you will not receive notifications (emails and/or phone calls) while you are away.

Reporting also provides teachers and office with accurate numbers for field trips. Thank you!



www.CreativeCertificates.com



WARM CLOTHES



As we venture deeper into the cold season, please remember to send your child with weather-appropriate clothing for playing outside, including extra hats and mitts in case they get wet. ***Please label all of your child's belongings.*** Thank you.

Sharing Kindness Everyday 

Parenting is hard, and the rapid rise of technology and social media use in the lives of our kids makes it harder. To help, we're extending complimentary access to download "[Raising Digitally Responsible Youth – A Parent's Guide](#)" from Safer Schools Together. The guide was designed to help introduce Parents and Caregivers to leading social media platforms, video games, and relevant trends that are either being used already or have the potential to be used by their children.

This complimentary guide is full of tips, how-to's and definitions for the most widely used apps – including TikTok, Snapchat, Instagram and more.

WATER BOTTLES & UTENSILS

Please send a water bottle and utensils with your child to school every day. ***We do not provide these items anymore.***

Supervision is provided AFTER 8:10 a.m. and ENDS at 2:45 p.m.

Students must leave the school grounds by 2:45 p.m., unless they are with a parent. Students are to report home after supervision is over at 2:45 p.m., and then the student may return to play, if a parent gives them permission.

Please be reminded that unless the weather is extreme, students are expected to wait outside until the morning bell rings and they are expected to go outside for some fresh air at break time. **Please ensure your children are dressed for the weather!**

SAFETY REMINDERS

Unlike many schools, we have options for dropping off students in the morning. However, with vehicles coming and going from so many directions, this can increase safety concerns. By taking a few extra minutes in the morning and noting the following safety rules, we can ensure safer access for students.

BUS LOOP: If dropping off in the bus loop, please be sure your child(ren) exit the right-hand side of the vehicle directly onto the sidewalk. This avoids children going around vehicles and being in the line of passing cars.

SPIERS ROAD: If dropping off on the school side (West), please be sure child(ren) exit the right-hand side of the vehicle directly onto the sidewalk. If dropping off on the far side of the road (East), please park your car and escort your child(ren) across the road.

PARKING LOT: The Staff Parking lot is for **STAFF ONLY.** Please do not park in the staff parking lot during the day.

A few things that continue to be a concern:

- Parents stopping in the middle of the parking lot instead of using the bus loop or surrounding parking areas
- Cars passing each other in the parking lot
- Parents ignoring the no parking signs along the road, restricting vision for cars exiting the parking lot
- Cars blocking the handicapped parking and sidewalk accesses
- Parents using the restricted bus turn-around as a parking area, passing, blocking and congesting the exit.
- Parents blocking and parking in neighboring driveways

OUTDOOR EXPECTATIONS

Please be reminded that unless the weather is extreme, students are expected to wait outside until the morning bell rings and they are expected to go outside for some fresh air at break time. Please ensure your children are dressed for the weather!

We have been discussing the following winter playground expectations with our students. Please review:

- Throwing or kicking snow is not acceptable as it may cause injury to another student.
- Sliding is allowed on the South back field only.
- Students should be wearing snow pants to slide. Wood or metal sliders are not allowed. Soft, plastic or vinyl sliders only!
- Students should wait until the sliders in front of them are out of the way before sliding.
- Students should walk up the hill away from the sliding area.
- Only those students with sliders should be in the sliding area.
- Only one person per slider is allowed. No pairs or groups together.
- Students must slide on their knees or bottom and face forward.
- No standing or sliding on stomach.

Supervision is provided after 8:10 am in the morning and until 2:45 pm in the afternoon.

Students should not be on the playground outside those times without a parent.



LOST AND FOUND

If you are visiting the school, please check out our **overflowing lost and found** located in the front foyer.



A reminder that dogs are not allowed on the school grounds.

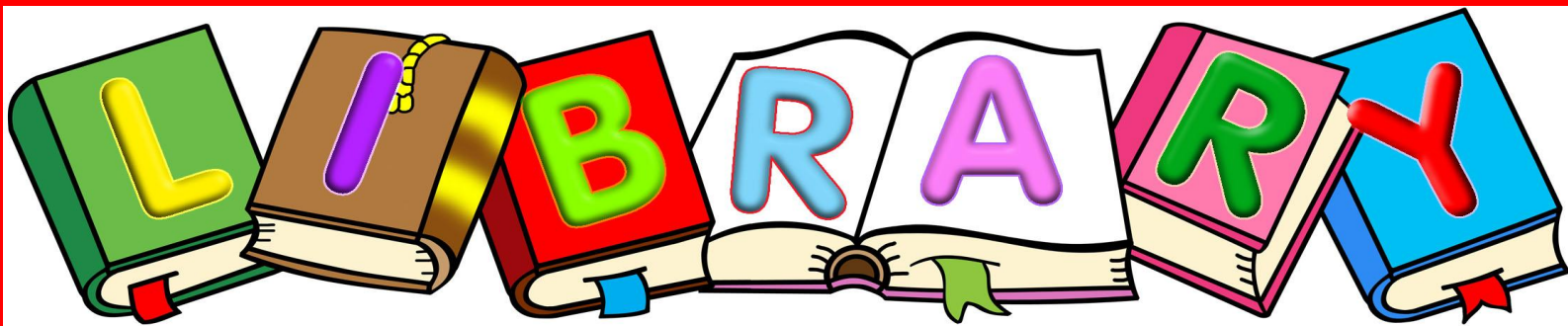
Thank you for your cooperation.

PAC INFO

There is **no** general PAC meeting scheduled in December. The next PAC Meeting will be held on **JANUARY 18 @ 7:00 p.m.**

All Parents are welcome to join!

THANK YOU to all of our amazing parent volunteers for helping to make our Spirit Wear, Winter Greenery and Purdy's chocolate fundraisers a huge success!



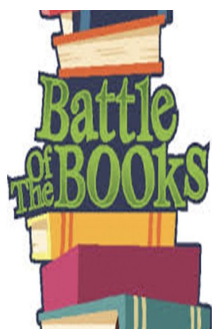
Librarian - Mrs. Obedkoff
Library Assistant - Mrs. MacLean



Students who have no overdue books are welcome to take double the books over the winter break.

The Battle of the Books reading program has begun and several students have signed up to be part of this optional program. The goals of this reading program are to encourage the love of reading and to expose students to a variety of authors and genres. Four students from each class will represent South Kelowna Elementary School in the zonal battle. It is expected that upon return from winter break in January, students will have read at least two of the nine books from their grade level list. See below for a complete list of books. In early April we will have a school-based Battle of the Books to determine who will represent South Kelowna at the zonal competition. Happy Reading Everyone!

Grade 3/4 Battle of the Books Reading List



- ◆ Crenshaw
- ◆ Fortunately, the Milk
- ◆ Heartwood Hotel: A True Home
- ◆ Kenny and the Dragon
- ◆ Leroy Ninker Saddles Up: Tales from Dekawoo Drive
- ◆ The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane
- ◆ Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin
- ◆ Runaway Ralph
- ◆ Upside Down Magic

Grade 5 Battle of the Books Reading List

- ◆ Among the Hidden
- ◆ Front Desk
- ◆ Home Child
- ◆ Roller Girl
- ◆ Rules
- ◆ Shiloh
- ◆ Stand on the Sky
- ◆ Warriors: Into the Wild
- ◆ A Wolf Called Wander

Grade 6 Battle of the Books Reading List

- ◆ Bloom
- ◆ The City of Ember
- ◆ The Girl Who Could Fly
- ◆ Greystone Secrets: The Strangers
- ◆ Ground Zero
- ◆ Holes
- ◆ The Lightning Thief
- ◆ A Mango-Shaped Space
- ◆ The One and Only Ivan



GRADE 6 NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DRIVE

Warm Winter Greetings SKE! The members of the SKE Grade 6 Leadership Team would like to thank you all. The team has been sponsoring our annual SKE Community Non-Perishable Food Drive for our SKE Community, **Thank you for giving back to our community.** We are most grateful for your generous donations and just wanted to let you all know what an amazing difference you have made for others in our community.

Happy Holidays SKE from the SKE Grade 6 Leadership Team

....and a very special thank-you to Mrs. Estey for spearheading this annual event. Thanks for the extra support from AJ Pratt and all volunteers for their time in helping make this a success for all.



SPIRIT WEEK

DECEMBER 2022

SOUTH KELOWNA ELEMENTARY

**DEC
12**

FLANNEL-PLAID

**FAVORITE SANTA
HOLIDAY HAT**

**DEC
13**

**DEC
14**

**WEAR GREEN &
GRINCH OUT**

**DEC
13**

**HOLIDAY
SWEATER OR TOP**

**DEC
15**

**DEC
16**

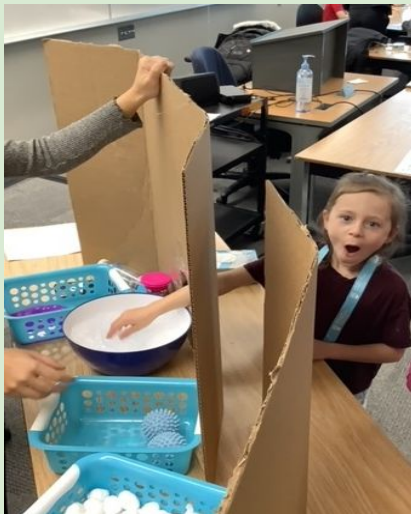
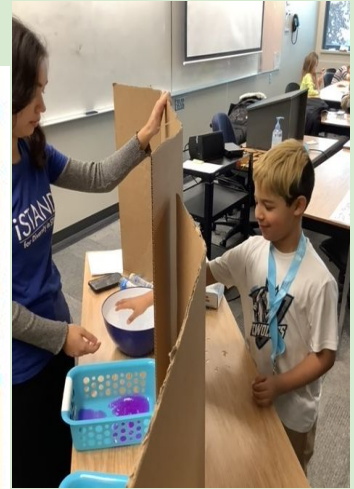
PJ'S & STUFFY DAY

Presented by Mrs. Estey
& SKE's Gr. 6 Leadership

THANK YOU to the Kelowna Rockets for visiting SKE!!



UBCO STEM COLLABORATION





Afterschool Pajama Party

Age: 6Y-12Y

Have a blast watching a movie on the big screen and playing games with your friends. Popcorn is provided.

Frozen Themed:

26114 Th Jan 19 5:30 PM-7:30 PM \$16.50

Jumanji Themed:

26111 Th Feb 9 5:30 PM-7:30 PM \$16.50

LEGO Batman Themed:

26112 Th Feb 23 5:30 PM-7:30 PM \$16.50

Harry Potter Themed:

25819 Th Mar 2 5:30 PM-7:30 PM \$16.50

Minions Themed:

25820 Th Mar 16 5:30 PM-7:30 PM \$16.50

All Star Sports & Games

Age: 5Y-12Y

Our programs are based on the belief that school age children require a balance of all elements of interactions.

We will offer a variety of games and sports to build cooperation and social interaction with friends!

25811 Tu Jan 3-Mar 14 2:30 PM-4:30 PM \$181.50

25812 Th Jan 5-Mar 16 2:30 PM-4:30 PM \$181.50

Creative Corner & Active Play

Age: 5Y-12Y

A variety of activities will be offered including painting, colouring, constructing or floor hockey, basketball and scooter fun. Our goal each day is to prioritize outdoor recreation, treasure hunts and playground time.

25809 M Jan 9-Mar 13 2:30 PM-4:30 PM \$148.50

25810 W Jan 4-Mar 15 2:30 PM-4:30 PM \$181.50

Funtastic Friday

Age: 5Y-12Y

We will celebrate the end of another great week with an afternoon filled with themed activities such as: dance, picnics, outdoor and indoor games and movie days.

25813 F Jan 6-Mar 17 2:30 PM-4:30 PM \$165

Power Hour Playtime Fun

Age: 5Y-12Y

This program is an hour full of fun! There will be a little something for everyone with games, sports & activities.

25814 M Jan 9-Mar 13 4:30 PM-5:30 PM \$85.50

25815 Tu Jan 3-Mar 14 4:30 PM-5:30 PM \$104.50

25816 W Jan 4-Mar 15 4:30 PM-5:30 PM \$104.50

25817 Th Jan 5-Mar 16 4:30 PM-5:30 PM \$104.50

25818 F Jan 6-Mar 13 4:30 PM-5:30 PM \$95



Registration opens
December 6

REGISTER ONLINE
at kelowna.ca/recreation

REGISTER BY PHONE
250-469-8800

REGISTER IN-PERSON
1800 Parkinson Way

THE MIDDLE YEARS DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT (MDI) IS COMING TO YOUR SCHOOL IN JANUARY/FEBRUARY!

School District 23 has partnered with the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) at the University of British Columbia to measure and promote children's social and emotional development, health, well-being, and assets through the Middle Year Development Instrument (MDI). The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) is a self-report questionnaire that asks children in middle childhood about their thoughts, feelings and experiences. The MDI is the first survey of its kind to gather information about the lives of children both in school, in the home and in the community, from their own perspective. The survey questions align with the BC Ministry of Education's K-12 curriculum, which includes a focus on promoting children's personal and social competencies.

Grade 5 students are invited to complete the MDI during class time between:
January 10th and March 3rd, 2023.

For more information and to view the questionnaires:

<https://earlylearning.ubc.ca/monitoring-system/mdi/mdi-overview/>

Parent FAQs:

<https://earlylearning.ubc.ca/monitoring-system/mdi/parent-caregiver-info/>

If you don't want your child to participate, please contact your child's teacher, fill out the withdrawal form at the end of the parent/guardian informed passive consent letter, or contact the MDI project staff at mdi@help.ubc.ca.