



News from the Nest



Friday, February 18th, 2022

Weyt-kp parents, guardians, and caregivers,

The sun is starting to shine and the days are getting longer which makes me, for one, very happy. I find it very difficult to be grumpy when the sun is out. I hope that this spring weather is here to stay. The past few weeks have been very busy, as teachers and staff have been working hard to get everyone caught up with the learning that was missed due to the large number of absences during the month of January. It was no small feat, but I think we are finally seeing the fruits of our labour.

As we look ahead to Spring Break, it is important for those families who are planning to travel internationally, to make note of the changes to the [Federal Travel requirements](#). In addition, as you are probably aware, Dr. Bonnie Henry, our Provincial Health Officer, and the Honourable Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, have made some announcements in the past few days regarding group size limits. We have heard more from the Ministry of Education gotten direction from our Superintendent, Dr. Rhonda Nixon, as to how these changes impact our school. The notable changes are:

- No restrictions on visiting schools, so parents are welcome back into buildings, however, they must wear a mask while indoors,
 - We are still in the process of figuring out how parents and visitors will be able to access the building, (i.e. what door they should use, if they need to sign in at the office, indicate if they've done a health check, etc.) so I ask for your time and patience while we figure all of this out
- No capacity limits for school gatherings (same school), so assemblies are a go,
- No capacity limits for staff gatherings (same school), so face-to-face meetings are a go,
- 50% capacity limit or 50 people (whichever is greater) for spectators or gatherings involving staff/students/volunteers from more than one school
 - What this means for your child playing basketball is that one parent per child may come to watch him/her/them play.

Family Day

Monday February 21st is Family Day and the school is closed. Take advantage of this day to spend some quality time with loved ones, especially now since gathering restrictions have been removed. Here's hoping that the weather is good and you can head outside for some fun in the sun and snow.



Staff Parking Lot

We have noticed that there are several parents/guardians/caregivers either parking in the staff parking lot or on the driveway up to the school in the morning, but moreso, at the end of the day, and I would like to politely ask you to discontinue this practice, as it causes an unsafe environment for children and families during high volume times, such as pick up and drop off times.

Please keep in mind the following rules for dropping off and picking up your child/ren:



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- **DO NOT ENTER** the staff parking lot. This driveway is used by families walking up to the school, and we want to make sure that it is kept safe for everyone. If you need to access this parking lot for some reason, please make sure that you have appropriate signage on your vehicle or seek permission from either the secretary, principal or vice-principal beforehand.
- The drop-off/pick-up lane is for that purpose only. **DO NOT** park your car here and wait for your children to walk up, have conversations with other parents, or get out of your car. We need to keep this lane moving as not to back up traffic on the very busy Summit Drive.
 - If you need more time with your child/ren in the morning, or if he/she/they are not down at the pick-up area when you arrive in the afternoon, please park your car in a designated spot either in our parking lot or on a neighbourhood street and wait there for him/her/them.

Heritage Fair Stamps

I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate the following students who have had their Heritage Fair Stamp chosen to represent our school at the District Heritage Fair Stamp Competition: Kenna Zenner, Meliya Horton, Sophie Popa, Grace Davis, Josephine Redmond, Indie Mcleod, Johnathan Kuang, Sophia Maltais, and Mason Vos. Félicitations mes amis!!!

Pink Shirt Day

Pink Shirt Day will take place on **Wednesday, February 23rd**. What is Pink Shirt Day and why do we celebrate it? Pink Shirt Day began in 2007 when a student in Nova Scotia was bullied for wearing a pink shirt to school. It has since been recognized annually worldwide as a day to stand against bullying. Pink Shirt Day aims to reduce bullying by celebrating diversity in all its forms and supporting workplaces, communities and schools to be safe, supportive, welcoming and inclusive of all people. While all people can be the target of bullying, some groups or individuals experience more bullying than others.



While Pink Shirt Day only happens once a year, we work year-round to encourage students to be kind to each other and to be as inclusive as possible. One of the big things we focus on is distinguishing between peer conflict, mean behaviour, and bullying.

Peer Conflict

Conflict between and among peers is a natural part of growing up. Children will have times when they disagree and can't solve their own problems. They may even become so frustrated that they say mean things or act out physically by hitting, kicking or trying to hurt.

If it's peer conflict you will be aware that these children:

- usually choose to play or hang out together;
- have equal power (similar age, size, social status, etc.);
- are equally upset;
- are both interested in the outcome; and will be able to work things out with adult help (after calming down).



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Mean Behaviour

Children may try out behaviours to assert themselves – sometimes saying or doing mean things – such as making fun of others, using a hurtful name, taking something without permission, leaving a child out, or “budging” in line.

If it is mean behavior, usually:

- it is not planned and seems to happen spontaneously or by chance;
- it may be aimed at any child nearby;

the child being mean may feel badly when an adult points out the harm they’ve caused.

Bullying Behaviour

Bullying is serious behavior that has three key features – all three must be present for the situation to be considered bullying:

- Power imbalance -- One child clearly has power over the other(s), which may be due to age, size, social status, and so on.
- Intention to harm -- The purpose of the bullying behaviour is to harm or hurt other(s) – it’s intended to be mean and is clearly not accidental.
- Repeated over time -- bullying behaviour continues over time, and gets worse with repetition. There is a real or implied threat that the behaviour will not stop, and in fact, will become even more serious.

We take the notion of bullying very seriously and do our best to create an environment where everyone at school feels safe, both physically and emotionally. It is our hope that every student has, at the very least, one adult he/she/they can go to when he/she/they is encountering at problem at school; however, if your child/ren is/are unable to identify someone with whom they feel comfortable discussing matters, they are encouraged to use the ERASE reporting tool to bring attention to the matter in a confidential manner.

The erase Report It tool is an easy to send a message to your school or school district’s safe school coordinator, who will follow-up on the situation right away. They will also follow-up with you privately, if you provide your name. **DON’T WORRY, YOU DON’T HAVE TO GIVE YOUR NAME AND THE PROBLEM WILL BE KEPT PRIVATE.**

Erase Report It Tool – Scan here with your phone

erase | EXPECT RESPECT &
A SAFE EDUCATION
ON THE WEB: erase.gov.bc.ca.
ON TWITTER: @erase



Lost and Found

Our Lost and Found boxes are already almost completely full. Please make sure to label your child’s belongings so that we can get them back to him/her/them when we find them. This includes mittens, gloves, boots, hoodies, masks, water bottles, etc.



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Student Learning Survey

The [2021/22 Student Learning Survey](#) (SLS) is now available until April 29, 2022 for students in Grades 4, 7, 10, and 12, as well as parents, staff and principals/vice-principals. The student and staff surveys are available in English and French, and the parent survey is available in 18 languages.

Parents

- Please complete one survey for each child.
- Parents have two options for accessing the survey: either by using a logon provided to you by your school, or by using the Direct Access (no logon number required) Access (please select one of the options below).

| | |
|--|---|
| With a logon number from your school | Direct Access — no logon number required |
| Logon # <input type="text"/> | District: <input type="text" value="73 Kamloops"/> |
| Language: <input type="text" value="English"/> | School: <input type="text" value="South Sa-hali Elementary"/> |
| <input type="button" value="Log On"/> | Language: <input type="text" value="English"/> |
| | <input type="button" value="Log On"/> |

It would be greatly appreciated if you could please take a moment to fill out this survey. Students will be completing the survey during class time sometime before Spring Break.

Dressing for the Changing Weather



Spring is trying to make its way and the snow is melting, leaving us with some pretty slippery conditions in the morning and very wet conditions by lunch time. We try to get students outside every day, even if it is only for 10-15 mins in very cold or wet weather; therefore, it is very important for your child/ren to come to school prepared for the elements. In addition, teachers will continue to bring their students outside for some much needed “mask breaks,” so appropriate attire (ie – outside rain/snow boots, rain/winter jacket) will be necessary.



It is also very helpful for your child to have a change of clothes at school in the off chance that they get wet or muddy during their outside play time. It is much less disruptive to everyone (you included) if we can have them change into dry clothes without having to call someone to bring some to the school in the middle of the day.

New Bathroom

We now have a newly renovated *universal access, all-gendered*, bathroom which is available for anyone (staff, students, visitors, etc.) to use. It is located in the hall just inside the main entrance, to the left of the bulletin board. A big thank you to our Vice-Principal, Mme Clare, who spearheaded the project, the SD73 maintenance department for doing the construction, and Mme Dianna, our daytime custodian, who went above and beyond to sprucing up this space and making it so welcoming to anyone using it.



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Spirit Day

Mme Wallis' grade 5/6 class has been busy planning some fun activities around the school to build school spirit. They created this lovely wall of hearts to celebrate kindness on Valentine's Day and they are in the midst of planning an 80's themed Spirit Day on the last day of school before Spring Break, **Friday, March 18th**. Get out your old leg warmers and neon colours. I am very much looking forward to seeing the interesting outfits



PAC Hot Chocolate Day

In the hopes of bolstering our school spirit, our PAC has decided to treat each child and staff member with a Hot Chocolate on **Friday, February 26th** in the afternoon. We will be sending classes outside for their hot chocolate in staggered groups in order to limit the number of students who are gathering and allow for more space between students. If weather permits and we get more snow, we will open the sliding hill back up for some sliding time either before or after their hot chocolate.



PAC Hot Lunch

The PAC would like to thank all the generous families for their extra meal donation for those kids who go without. It has gone a long way to make sure all students have access to this service regardless of his/her/their family's financial situation.

We would also like to express our gratitude to Krista and Victoria, who come to the school every week to organize and distribute the orders.

Ordering for our final term for the 2021-2022 school year will run from March 4th -18th. No late orders will be accepted!

The PAC Hot Lunch organizers would also like to remind parents that meals cannot be saved for late pick up if their child/ren are absent. They got a big lecture from Food Safe about this matter. Meals for absent students will go to students in need.

PAC Fundraising

The PAC has a number of fundraising initiatives planned for the coming months.

1) Facebook Online Auction (FEBRUARY)



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PAC is currently seeking donations of products or services to host a Facebook auction. All items collected will be featured in a public group where participants can bid on the items of their choice, with all proceeds going towards supplies to support outdoor learning on school grounds. Businesses who donate will receive great exposure to our school community and their friends and family. If you own a business or can donate a product to be auctioned off, or to request a letter which you can take to your employer to request a donation from them please contact Amanda at amanda.j.mckeen@gmail.com or 250-320-3641 (cell). **Deadline for donations is Feb 18.** Auction will take place **Feb 26 & 27**. Stay tuned for the link where you'll be able to place your bids! Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks so much

2) Meal Prep Workshop Fundraiser (MARCH):

Do you like the idea of meal prepping but aren't sure where to start? Does 5 o'clock ever arrive and somehow you forgot to plan dinner? Love having an easy dish ready to cook for your family's dinner? Join this fun virtual meal prep workshop! Pick-up your grocery package, then tune in to the zoom to see how to prepare 4 entrees in under 1 hour. Your registration of **\$120** includes all groceries except those listed plus Tupperware containers to freeze your meals in once complete. A portion of your registration will be donated to the school.

The meals to be prepared are:

- Slow Cooker Pepper Steak
- Asian Beef Skewers
- Bruschetta Chicken Bake
- Curried Chicken Slow Cooker Stew (can be vegan on request)

You will need to provide: 1 cup soy sauce, 1 tablespoon cooking oil, 2 tablespoons cornstarch, 1 teaspoon sugar, salt and pepper. **The rest of the groceries will be provided to you.** All recipes are gluten free (if you use gluten-free soy sauce).

Grocery pick-up:

Option 1 - Sunday, March 6, 4 pm-9pm at 465 Gleneagles Drive

Option 2 - Monday, March 7, 2 pm-3:30 pm at the school

Then join the zoom class on Monday, March 7 at 7pm for a one-hour workshop where we will prep all our entrees and you'll learn a ton of meal prep tips and tricks! Register at this link: <https://forms.gle/iqdisZ65DJZTCQh69> or contact Amanda at amanda.j.mckeen@gmail.com or call/text 250-320-3641 if you have any questions. Registration deadline Friday, March 4.

3) Value Village FunDRIVE (APRIL):

Are you ready to do some spring cleaning? Our PAC has a Value Village FunDrive coming up in April where you can donate clothing and small household items and PAC will receive a donation from Value Village for them! Start organizing those closets! **We will not be collecting books or household items larger than a microwave, including furniture.**



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4) Plant Sale (APRIL/MAY)

Orders are due in April with delivery of plants in early May.

5) Online 50/50 Draw (JUNE)

6) Mabel's Labels (ongoing)

1. https://mabelslabels.ca/en_CA/by-occasion/school-labels.html
2. Click support a fundraiser
3. Search for South Sahali. Select our school.
4. Shop as normal! 20% of your purchase comes back to the PAC.

PAC Meeting and PAC FB page

Our next PAC meeting will take place **Thursday, March 17th at 6:30pm** via Zoom. Everyone is welcome to attend. Our PAC also has a [Facebook page](#) (South Sa-Hali Elementary PAC-Ecole South Sa-Hali PAC) that you might want to consider joining. In order to be granted access, you will need to answer the questions posted.

Important Upcoming Dates

Monday, Feb. 21st

Tuesday, Feb. 22nd

Wednesday, Feb. 23rd

Thursday, Feb. 24th

Friday, Feb. 25th

Tuesday, Mar. 1st

Wednesday, Mar. 2nd

Thursday, Mar. 3rd

Friday, Mar. 4th

March 14 – 18

Friday Mar. 18th

March 21st – April 1st

Monday, Apr. 4th

Family Day Holiday – School is Closed

Tier 1 Boys Basketball Game vs Arthur Stevenson @home @3pm

Tier 3 Boys Basketball Game @ Westmount @3pm

Tier 3 Girls Basketball Game vs KSA @home @3pm

Mme Jayme's class to MacArthur Island 9am – 12:30pm

Tier 1 Girls Basketball Game vs Arthur Stevenson @home @ 3pm

PAC Hot Chocolate Day

Tier 1 Boys Basketball Game @ KSA @3:00pm

Mme Nancy and Mme Sarah's classes skiing @ Harper Mountain

Tier 3 Boys Basketball vs RLC @ home @ 3pm

Tier 3 Girls Basketball @ Rayleigh @ 3pm

Tier 1 Girls Basketball @ Juniper Ridge @ 3pm

Mme Donas' class to McQueen Lake

School-Wide Write (all grades)

SPIRIT DAY – 80s Day

Spring Break (two weeks)

School Re-Opens

As always, if you have any questions or have any concerns that you would like to discuss, please don't hesitate to call the office.

Sincerely,

Susie Mabee

Principal