



News from the Nest



Thursday, September 15th, 2022

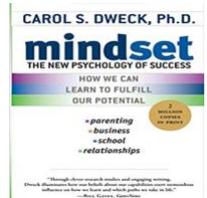
Weyt-kp parents, guardians, and caregivers,

Well, we made it through the first couple of weeks of the 2022-2023 school year, with smiles on our faces that we could FINALLY see, as they were not hidden behind masks. We settled into classes last Wednesday, and if they haven't already done so, I have no doubt that your child/ren's teacher(s) will be reaching out soon to introduce themselves and share with you what their expectations are for this year.

One thing that I would ask you to keep in mind when you are communicating with your child/ren's teacher is that they are not often at their e-mail during the day, as they are actively teaching your children. If you send a message to him or her, please allow for at least 24 hours for their response. If it is an emergency or time sensitive matter, please phone the school to speak to him or her. Another thing to keep in mind is, when you pop in before or after school for an unannounced visit, the teacher may not have the time to have a discussion with you at that moment. While we all love a quick hello, or a logistics clarification, it is much better if the teacher knows you are coming, so they can plan to give you the necessary time and their undivided attention to address the matter adequately.

With the introduction of our new 5-Year District Strategic Plan, we needed to make some small changes to our School Learning Plan Goals. They are now stated as follows:

1. Students will show growth in their ability to recognize the appearance of and the monetary value of currency, solve real-world problems involving money, and identify their needs and wants with respect to spending and saving.
2. **Students will experience a sense of belonging by developing warm, caring and consistent relationships with peers and adults. (this is a new goal)**
 - a. We are taking on the book *The Growth Mindset*, and we hope that with an increased sense of belonging, students will feel safer to take risks with their learning and show resilience.



Health and Safety

We continue to focus on ensuring the health and safety of students and staff in our [SD73 Communicable Disease Prevention Plan](#). Some reminders:

- Stay home when sick
- Practice the daily health check and follow health advice
- Wearing a mask is a personal choice
- Practice good hand hygiene (wash hands, use hand sanitizer) and good respiratory etiquette (cover mouth when coughing; wash hands after coughing or sneezing)

Day of Mourning – Monday, September 19th

Schools and school district offices will be closed on **Monday, September 19, 2022**, in School District No. 73 (Kamloops-Thompson) in honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's funeral service. The reason that we are closing schools and district offices on September 19th is due to the Province's announcement on September 13, 2022, in which the government of B.C. advised all provincial public sector employers to recognize Monday, September 19, 2022, as a holiday this year without prejudice.

This was originally supposed to be a professional development day for teachers, so I will let you know when this day has been re-scheduled by the school district.



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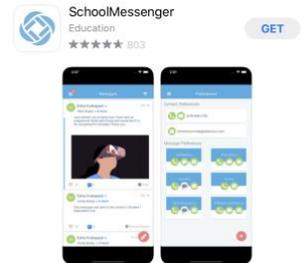
Road Construction Project

The construction road work on Summit Drive, by the City of Kamloops, starting at the Church and travelling North towards Sa-Hali Secondary has made great headway and should be wrapping up in the coming weeks. While traffic was snarled the first few days of school, it seems that the major disruptions have settled and traffic is moving much more smoothly. I know that it can be quite stressful to be running late in the morning and then run into traffic, but our priority needs to remain on the safety of everyone involved. Please make sure to take your time in the morning and abide by all traffic laws and personnel.



Safe Arrival

A big thank you to the many of you who are using the **SchoolMessenger Safe Arrival app** or phone number 1-844-350-2647 to report your child/ren's absences. For those of you who are new to the school, it is an app that can be downloaded to your cellphone and is easy to use. SD73 is asking that if you are reporting your child's absence as illness, to please designate the appropriate type of illness that applies to your child. Interior Health needs to keep track of any abnormalities in our attendance data, in the case that there is a health concern that our community needs to know about. If those options don't appear on the app, refresh the app on your phone.



Terry Fox Run

We are scheduled to hold our Terry Fox run this Friday, September 16th; however, if the Air Quality Health Index is not in the low category, we will postpone it one week to allow for the smoke in the air to dissipate. In the meantime, we need for your child/ren's "Off School Grounds" permission slips that were sent home in the forms package to come back to school ASAP so that they can participate in the community run. Parents are welcome to participate, and we will need a few to stand at strategic locations to make sure that all students travel along our route safely.

We will be raising money for the Terry Fox Foundation for Cancer Research. As it was Terry's dream to raise \$1.00 for each Canadian 41 years ago, we have made it our school goal to raise \$2.00 for each student in the school. Our school currently has 363 students, making it our school goal to raise \$726.00. In order to make things interesting, if we reach our goal of \$726.00, one lucky student will get the opportunity to throw a pie in Mme Mabee's face during our virtual assembly. For each \$2.00 that a student brings in, they will get their name in the draw. For each \$50 over our goal, I will draw an additional name. We will draw the winner the afternoon of Friday September 16th.



September 30 and Orange Shirt Day



You may or may not be aware that September 30th has been designated as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, and as such, the school will be closed. This statutory holiday was established to fulfil the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Call to Action #80 and to honour the Survivors of Residential Schools, their families and their communities. It also serves to ensure that the public commemorates the history and legacy of residential schools.

As September 30th is typically Orange Shirt Day, and school will not be in session, we will hold our **Orange Shirt Day on Thursday September 29th**. There is not enough time for the school to do an Orange Shirt Day t-shirt order; however, there are many options out there of which families can take advantage.



News from the Nest



Administrative Procedures to Review

Each year I am asked to share a couple of Administrative Procedures with my parent community, as they pertain to conduct on behalf of students and our community. Attached to this newsletter are the following APs for your review:

- AP 350 – Student Code of Conduct
- AP 145 – Use of Personal Electronic Devices
- AP 146 – Social Networking (Employees and Parents)

School Supplies, Forms Package, and School Cash Online

Last week your child came home with a package which included a variety of permission slips and this week a verification form was sent home. Please read the permission slips carefully, as each one grants access for different things. Of particular importance is the media release. As a school we do not post photographs on social media, but we do sometimes use student photos in presentations of learning (i.e. like our Christmas Concert, Assemblies, etc.) within the school district. Please read these forms carefully and express clearly to your child/ren's teacher your boundaries for photographs.

In addition, read carefully and correct any information on the verification form that was sent home this week. The office uses this form to update your contact information in our information system and it needs to be accurate so that we can communicate with you and contact you in the case of an emergency.

School Cash Online is up and running and we already have a large number of families who have paid for their school supplies – Thank you. Please read carefully, as not all classes opted for an agenda this year. In addition, we will be using this system to pay for field trips and anything else that requires payment to the school (i.e., school clothing orders). The system allows for safer payments and more accurate and efficient record keeping.



Morning Announcements

Each morning after the 8:40 bell, we have morning announcements, and each day there is a different theme.

Mondays we begin announcements with the Secwepemc Welcome Song, and we close them with O'Canada. We also introduce the word of the week. The word of the week is repeated each morning and used in a sentence. I will be asking for students to create their own sentences for the word of the week so that they can share them on the announcements. Something that you can do to help them practice this new vocabulary word is to ask your child what the word of the week is and get them to make a sentence with it. We also introduce a Mindset Monday quote, which speaks to resilience and how to have a Growth Mindset.

Tuesdays are when we release our math word problems of the week. There is a variety of levels, and students can choose to answer the problem that is at their level. We will draw a winner from the correct answers on Friday mornings and they will get their picture posted on the "Genius of the Week" bulletin board outside of the office.

Wednesdays' we repeat the resilience quote from Monday.

Thursdays' we introduce a riddle (une devinette) that we hope will engage the curiosity and problem-solving abilities of our students. Starting in October, I will be asking students to come up with their own riddles in French to read on the announcements with me.



News from the Nest



Fridays are Funny Fridays and I tell a joke in both French and English. I will be reaching out to students for their input in the coming weeks, so if your child/ren have some school-friendly funny jokes up their sleeve, and they can be translated into French, have them write them on a piece of paper with their name and they may get the opportunity to read their joke on the announcements.

NED Mindset

On Tuesday, September 20th, we will be having a NED Mindset Mission Assembly. (**Never give up! Encourage Others? Do your best!**). As a part of this presentation, the school will be selling some yo-yos for students to practice their NED Mindset. Please see the attached order form for more information, and please do not feel like you need to buy a yo-yo. We just wanted to give you a heads up in case your child comes home wanting to purchase a yo-yo.

At school, we will have a very specific yo-yo area for students to practice their yo-yo skills. Students will be allowed to bring their yo-yos to this area only in order to keep everyone safe. This will be explained during the assembly on Monday.

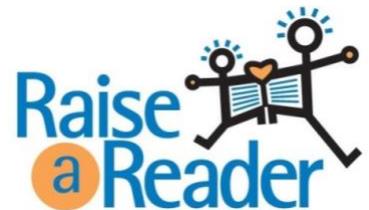
Sports/Athletics

Sports are back in full swing at École Élémentaire South Sahali! We have a very quick start up with X-country running, as our first race is Wednesday, September 21st at Mac Arthur Island Park, sponsored by OLPH. Students will be transported by parent drivers, so we will be looking for parents to drive athletes to and from these runs. If you are able to drive, please ensure that you have an up-to-date driver waiver on file at the office and carry the appropriate amount of insurance. Mme Funk and Mme Magalie are taking this on this year and permission slips for these races went home on Wednesday, September 14, 2022. They are planning on running practices on Mondays at lunch, so if your child is wanting to participate, please ensure that they are dressed appropriately with running shoes and shorts or track pants, as they will be running outside.

As well, volleyball will be starting soon! League games will start the week of **October 18th**. We have a lot of students who are excited and looking forward to volleyball season. In order for us to be able to offer this opportunity, we have some parent coaches to take on some of these teams. Ideally practices would start at least a couple weeks before the season starts so students can feel prepared for their first game. Please contact Mme Leah Clare at 250-374-2451 or by email at lclare@sd73.bc.ca if you are able to coach. Parents who volunteer to coach must have a criminal record check completed each year. Information regarding the criminal record check can be picked up at the school or emailed to you. For further information regarding athletics in SD73, please visit our [school website](#), select Our schools/Programs and then select [Elementary Athletics](#). Thank you!

Raise a Reader

Wednesday, September 21st is Raise a Reader Day and we will be collecting donations for Literacy Initiatives here in Kamloops that day in our "Loonies for Literacy" campaign. If you would like to participate, please feel free to send a loonie with your child. We will have some Grade 7 students at the bottom parking lot collecting money that morning.





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Grade 7 Fundraising

Each year our grade 7 students go on an overnight field trip at the end of the year to celebrate their years at our school. This trip is a pricey one, and as such, they do fundraising to offset the cost of the excursion.

They are starting with an Apple Sale: <https://fundraising.sunokafruit.com/s/southsa-halielementaryschool> .

The Deadline for sales: **October 8th**. Expected delivery is during the week of **October 17th**. See the attached poster for more information.

PAC Hot Lunch

Our PAC is once again organizing Hot Lunch delivery every Thursday beginning on Thursday, September 29th. They are using HotLunch.net to do all of the orders and payment. Please see the attached form for more information about how to access this service. You will have to sign up once again this year, even if you had an account last year. You must have your order and payment into the system by **September 23, 2021, NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**

PAC Meeting and PAC FB page

Our school Parent Advisory Committee meets monthly to discuss initiative, issues and plans for fundraising events for our school. They also organize and distribute Hot Lunches each Thursday, which is a big hit for both staff and students alike. Last year the PAC paid for all of the bussing for field trips, and a new set of Chromebooks for our school, and they give each classroom funds to spend on incidentals such as fun art projects, stickers, and other supplies. All parents are welcome to attend all meetings.

Our school's first PAC meeting will take place September 23rd at 6:30pm. Because of the everchanging nature of the Public Health Guidelines, they have decided to hold this meeting virtually via Zoom. Meeting invitation information will come out closer to the date.

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

All of our school events are posted on the [École Élémentaire South Sa-Hali](#) website. If you subscribe to the calendar on our [school website](#), updates to the calendar will be sent directly to your phone. You may also opt for a weekly e-mail as to the week's upcoming events.

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| September 12 th -16 th | Toonie for Terry Week |
| Friday, Sept. 16 th | Terry Fox Run @ 11:00am |
| Monday, Sept. 19 th | Day of Mourning for Queen Elizabeth – <u>SCHOOL IS CLOSED</u> |
| Tuesday, Sept. 20 th | NED Mindset Assembly @ 11:00am |
| Wednesday, Sept. 21 st | Raise-a-Reader Day (Loonie for Literacy) |
| | X-Country Run @ MacArthur Island @3:00pm |
| Friday, Sept. 23 rd | PAC Hot Lunch Orders are due |
| Sept 27 th – 30 th | Truth and Reconciliation Week |
| Thursday, Sept. 29 th | Orange Shirt Day |
| | Mme Jayme's class to McQueen Lake |
| | PAC Hot Lunch – Panago Pizza |
| Friday, Sept. 30 th | National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – <u>SCHOOL IS CLOSED.</u> |
| Thursday, Oct. 6 th | PAC Hot Lunch – Señor Froggy's |



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| Monday, Oct. 10 th | Thanksgiving (School Closed) |
| Wednesday, Oct. 12 th | School Photo Day |
| Thursday, Oct. 13 th | Early Dismissal @ 12:51 for parent-teacher interviews PAC Hot Lunch – Wok Box |
| Wednesday, Oct. 19 th | Come Read with Me (for Grade 1 parents) Salmon Run for Grades 2-5 at Tsútswecw (Roderick Haig-Brown) Provincial Park |
| Thursday, Oct. 20 th | PAC Hot Lunch – Spa-ghet-ti |
| Friday, Oct. 21 st | Professional Development Day (School is not in session for students) |
| Thursday, Oct. 27 th | PAC Hot Lunch – Pita Pit |

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