

DECEMBER 2025

SOUTHERN OKANAGAN SECONDARY SCHOOL



HOME OF THE HORNETS



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello December!! With less than three weeks until winter break, festive activities are well underway at SOSS. At the same time, this is an important period for students to stay focused and keep up with course work. When we return in January, classes will move into final units, reviews, assessments, and final exams.

Fall sports have now wrapped up and our winter season is underway. Thank you to all of our coaches for providing these opportunities for students. School clubs continue throughout December as well, and we are grateful to the teachers and support staff who dedicate their lunch hours and after-school time to support these activities.

To celebrate Winter Solstice, our Indigenous Education Advocates, together with the Cafeteria class, will be hosting a school-wide Indian Taco lunch on December 12th.

Our Senior Leadership class is organizing a school dance for this Thursday, December 4th from 6:30 to 9:30 PM. It promises to be a fun evening! The atrium is nearly fully decorated and looks beautiful. Please note that students must attend all classes during the day to participate in the dance.

Mrs. Podmorow and the Senior Drama class are busy preparing Christmas Chaos, always a highlight of the season. The performance for the Community will be at 7pm on Thursday, December 18th, at the Venables Theatre. Admission is by cash donation. All funds raised will go directly to the Oliver Food Bank. The whole school will be invited to attend on Friday, December 19th.

As we move toward the break, I hope the coming weeks are smooth and positive for you and your family. Wishing you a joyful and restful holiday season, however you celebrate.

Sincerely;

Bev Young



IMPORTANT DATES

DECEMBER 4	WINTER DANCE, 6:30PM
DECEMBER 5/6	OKANA-QEN BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
DECEMBER 7	SENIOR GIRLS MEAT DRAW @ OLIVER ELKS
DECEMBER 12	MEAT AND FLOWER PICK-UP, 3:30-6PM
DECEMBER 18	CHRISTMAS CHAOS, 7 PM VENABLES THEATRE
DEC 20- JAN 4	WINTER BREAK (JANUARY 5, FIRST DAY BACK)

JANUARY 12 - LITERACY 12 ASSESSMENT FOR STUDENTS IN ENGLISH 12 THIS SEMESTER
JANUARY 13 - LITERACY 10 ASSESSMENT FOR STUDENTS IN ENGLISH 10 THIS SEMESTER
JANUARY 14 - NUMERACY 10 ASSESSMENT FOR STUDENTS IN A MATH 10 THIS SEMESTER

SENIOR GIRLS VOLLEYBALL MAKE SOSS HISTORY

The Senior Girls Volleyball Team had a historical and memorable season. With only a handful of seniors, the team brought up several grade 10 players, and the group clicked quickly. They were committed to learning, training, playing hard, and having fun together. The girls were pushed harder than ever this year, and they responded with determination, improving their skills and their understanding of the game every step of the way.

The team earned the title of South Zone Champions, which sent them to the Okanagan Valley Championship in Merritt. There, they faced the strongest teams in the valley and battled their way into the bronze final to play against a powerful Merritt squad. In a best of five match, they traded wins back and forth. In the deciding set, SOSS was down 9-3 but fought back with grit to win 16-14, securing their spot at the BC Provincial Championships. They became the first ever girls volleyball team to make provincials from SOSS!

At provincials, the girls started strong, winning their first three matches with incredible support from our school community and Fan Bus. In the opening playoff round, they met the fourth ranked team in the province. Although they led at times, they couldn't quite find their rhythm and moved to the consolation bracket. From there, they continued to compete hard, playing solid volleyball and representing themselves and SOSS with pride. We are incredibly proud of this team, both for what they achieved and for their dedication throughout the season. Congratulations to the graduating seniors, Ava Kosaka and Paige Lougheed for their tireless dedication from grade 8-12 as a volleyball Hornet! They will be deeply missed in the years to come, but they have left a legacy for the next wave of girls to play volleyball at SOSS.

Thank you to the community for the generous support that helped get the girls to provincials - we couldn't have done it with you! The Senior Girls will be hosting the meat draw on Sunday, December 7 at the Oliver Elks Hall. We hope to see you there.



SEASON HIGHLIGHTS:

5TH - MERRITT SECONDARY TOURNAMENT
 5TH - SOSS TOURNAMENT
 2ND - MT. SENTINEL TOURNAMENT
 2ND - OSOYOOS TOURNAMENT
 1ST - SOUTH ZONE CHAMPIONS
 3RD - VALLEY CHAMPIONSHIP
 15TH - PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP

TEAM ROSTER:
 HENNA BRAR
 SAM ESPINOZA-RIVAS
 THERESE GRICE
 ALANA GUTTORMSSON
 PAIGE LOUGHEED
 AVA KOSAKA
 MAYA KRIESEL
 JOCELYN PRUDHON
 KAEAL ROUSSEL
 ARWYN SIMARD
 MIKAYLA TOFT-GARCIA
 ABBY WOLFE

MANAGERS:
 JAKI SIDORCZUK
 AYL A IRWIN

COACHES:
 LIZ LEE & LAUREN IBARAKI



FUNDRAISER: MEAT RAFFLE



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025
3:00PM

The Oliver Elks are supporting the Senior Girls Volleyball Team by hosting the Meat Raffle. Come out to support our girls by purchasing meat raffle tickets for \$1 each and participating in 50/50 draw!! Have fun and support local youth sports.

**THANK YOU TO OLIVER KIWANIS
FOR THE VERY GENEROUS
DONATION TO THE "HORNETS
TAKE EUROPE 2026" TRIP**



SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL

**THE SR. BOYS BASKETBALL
TEAM HOSTS THEIR FIRST
LEAGUE GAME WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 3RD AGAINST
KELOWNA CHRISTIAN.
THE 64TH ANNUAL OKANA-QEN
SR. BOYS BASKETBALL
TOURNAMENT IS THIS
WEEKEND (DECEMBER 5-6TH)
ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.
SEE THE SCHEDULE BELOW.**

64th Annual Okana-Qen Tournament Schedule

Game	Time	Teams
Dec 5th Friday		
1	9:30am	SOSS vs OSS
2	11:15am	SESS vs PenHi
3	1:00pm	NorKam vs Westsyde
4	2:45pm	MBSS vs LV Rogers
5	4:30pm	Loser 1 vs Loser 3
6	6:15pm	Winner 1 vs Winner 3
7	8:00pm	Loser 2 vs Loser 4

Dec 6th Saturday

8	9:00am	Loser 5 vs Loser 7
9	10:45am	Winner 2 vs Winner 4
10	12:30pm	Winner 5 vs Winner 7
11	2:15pm	Loser 6 vs Loser 9
12	4:00pm	Winner 6 vs Winner 9

As part of the careers week, School District 53 offered the Career Bus where we took group of Grade 10 and 11 students to visit local businesses that offer careers in many different fields. Our first stop was K&C Silviculture, where our students learned about forestry jobs and replanting forests. The next stop was Transwest Helicopters where the students saw a fully functioning helicopter maintenance facility and jobs in the aerospace fields. We moved down to Southern Okanagan Concrete Products where the students saw jobs that support precast and mining. The final stop was RCMP Border Patrol, where the students were shown all the different jobs within in the RCMP. I would like to thank our local businesses that took the time out of their day to provide the students an educational experience that will direct some of their career choices. Students were very surprised with all of the opportunities that exist very close to home.



SENIOR GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY

THE SENIOR GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY TEAM HAD AN OUTSTANDING YEAR. WITH 9 GRADUATING PLAYERS AND A STRONG GROUP OF GRADE 11S BEHIND THEM, THEY MADE LIFE DIFFICULT FOR ALMOST EVERY TEAM THEY FACED THIS YEAR. THEIR GAME WAS BUILT ON STRONG TEAM DEFENCE, GOOD BALL POSSESSION, DANGEROUS ATTACK FROM SKILLED FORWARDS, AND PUTTING THEIR GOAL-SCORERS WHERE THEY COULD DO DAMAGE. THE TEAM TRAVELED TO TOURNAMENTS IN DUNCAN, CHILLIWACK AND SURREY THIS YEAR. THE TEAM WON THEIR DIVISION IN SURREY AND DEFENDED THEIR VALLEY CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE 5TH TIME IN A ROW, WHICH QUALIFIED THEM FOR THE BCS. WHILE THE GODS WERE NOT SMILING ON THEM AT PROVINCIALS, THE FIELD HOCKEY HORNETS HELD IT TOGETHER AND HAD MANY OUTSTANDING MOMENTS, PLACING 9TH OF THE AA TEAMS IN BC. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TEAM: AUDREY NOFTLE, DEEPIKA BRAR, NEERA BRAR, ARPAN GILL, ALOE KENDRICK, KADENCE NEWSTEAD, DANIA SOTA-WILLIAMS, ZOE JONES, ANISSA KHODARAHIMI, NEVEAH PROSPER, AND TO THE GRADUATING PLAYERS: LILAH SMITH, OLIVIA GONCALVES, ISHMEET DHALIWAL, MAIA BELLINGAN, ROWAN STOPA, MEREDITH LESTER, SARAH SAYSOMSACK, HARNOOR BRAR AND KISMET DHALIWAL.



JUNIOR GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY

THE JUNIOR GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY TEAM HAD A SOLID SEASON THIS YEAR. A YOUNG TEAM WITH LOTS OF NEW PLAYERS, THESE HORNETS HAD A GREAT ATTITUDE AND SUPPORTED EACH OTHER ALL SEASON. THE TEAM MANAGED TO BE COMPETITIVE IN ALMOST EVERY GAME THEY PLAYED THIS YEAR, AND BY THE END OF THE SEASON THEIR SKILLS HAD DEVELOPED A TON! THE JUNIOR FIELD HOCKEY HORNETS HOSTED A HOME TOURNAMENT, TRAVELED TO COMPETITIONS IN DUNCAN AND CHILLIWACK, AND FINISHED SECOND OUT OF 6 TEAMS IN THE SOUTH ZONE CHAMPIONSHIPS ON NOVEMBER 1ST. CONGRATULATIONS TO: MICHELLE HAWARD, IKNOOR DHALIWAL, EMILY WEBB, OPHEA PEPE, ALLI BARISOFF, EVELIN ENOCKSON, ATTICUS FOSS-MCAULEY, ELLA ALBERTYN, MIREIA GARCIA, GURNAZ BUTTAR, CIENNA FOSSETT, AND PARVEEN BADESHA. THE GIRLS WOULD LIKE TO SHOUT OUT ALL THE PLAYERS FROM THE SENIOR TEAM WHO SUPPORTED AND PROVIDED LEADERSHIP TO THEM THROUGHOUT THE SEASON!



December 2025

Entrée \$5
Salads \$3 to \$5
Baked Goods \$1

Snack Cups \$3
Wraps \$4
Juice & Goodies \$1

1 Pizza Day	2 Pork Schnitzel	3 Loaded Taco Bowls	4 Chicken Parm Burgers	5 Pesto Pasta
8 Pizza Day	9 Meatball Subs	10 Appy Plate	11 Grilled Cheese Sandwiches	12 Fry Bread Tacos
15 Pizza Day	16 Sweet and Sour Chicken	17 Spicy Sausage & Roasted Pepper Pasta	18 Oven Baked Ham Dinner	19 Nachos
Winter Break December 20-January 4				

Gardom Lake

The annual grade 9 trip to Gardom Lake will be May 26-28 this year. This is a fantastic 3 day, 2 night trip to an outdoor camp near Salmon Arm. Students spend the three days participating in a variety of activities at a summer camp. Students stay in cabins and food is prepared by chefs at the camp. The trip cost is \$250 per student and there are payments set up on the Student QuickPay system. We are aware this trip is expensive and would like to ensure this trip is accessible for any grade 9 students who want to attend. Please contact Mr. Adam if you need assistance paying part or all of the fees to attend this trip.



**FUN
FUN
FUN**





Support Your Local Microgreen Fundraiser

FRESH! LOCAL! HEALTHY! GROWN WITH LOVE!

Help us grow a greener future by supporting our microgreen fundraiser.

A portion of your purchase will go towards the

SOSS PAC

- supporting students through funding for sports, clubs and scholarships -

What are Microgreens?

Tiny, delicious, nutrient-packed greens, harvested at their peak.

Perfect for sandwiches, salads, smoothies and more!

How Can You Help?

Purchase locally grown microgreens, delivered to you doorstep, within 24 hours of harvest!

Subscriptions are available weekly or bi-weekly,

with a portion of each and every purchase going to your SOSS PAC.

Share! Share! Share this fundraiser with family and friends in

OK Falls, Kaleden, Penticton, Oliver and Osoyoos!!!

Why it Matters?

Your support helps us promote healthy eating, sustainability while supporting local.

To Place Your Order:

backyardmicrogreens.com

Be sure to include **FUNDRAISING FOR: SOSS**

Backyard Microgreens of Oliver, will receive your order and start the growing process!

Thank-you for your supporting your SOSS PAC!!!