

MARCH 2025

SOUTHERN OKANAGAN SECONDARY SCHOOL



HOME OF THE HORNETS



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome, March! Hopefully, the wintry weather is behind us now. A big shout out to Mr. Russo for organizing the Apex Ski/Snowboarding Day. It is always great when we can provide opportunities for our kids to be active. Another huge shout out to Mrs. Podmorow and her team in preparing for the Footloose production that will be held this week. We are really looking forward to it.

Basketball season has now wrapped up and spring athletic season has begun. We are excited to have over one hundred students participating in Ultimate, Soccer, Golf, or Tennis. Thanks to all our coaches for supporting our students.

Family Conferences are right around the corner. They will be held on Thursday, April 10th from 2:00pm-4:00pm and 5:00pm-7:00pm. Parents must sign up online to book a time. A reminder that teachers are available in ten-minute increments. If more time is required, please schedule a time later with your child's teacher. (Please note early dismissal April 10th and 11th).

Course selections should be in the computer by now. Please check MyBlueprint if you want to see what classes have been selected. Immediately after March Break, we will review each student's request to start the scheduling and staffing process for next year. If your child has not submitted their request, please have them see Mrs. Goncalves asap.

Spirit Week will be held next week, so listen to announcements for details. Link Crew is organizing a spirit event on Wednesday, March 12, and the grads are hosting a school-wide breakfast on Friday, March 14. Grade 11 & 12 students will be attending the Boom X presentation in the theatre on Friday, March 14th.

A reminder to grads that photo retake day is Tuesday, March 11th. See Mrs. Koffler for details. Please make sure you are checking your TEAMS on a regular basis. The revised grad list has been posted outside the counselling area. There will be lots of information coming out after the March Break. See one of us if you have questions.

The Grade 10 Numeracy Assessments will be held April 7-9. Information will be posted after the March Break. Finally, our next PAC meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 9th. New members welcome.

Sadly, Sarah Wilkie is leaving to take the head secretary job at You Learn. We will miss her and would like to welcome Shana Cachola to our team. I would like to also welcome Chelsea Wilson as one of our new Educational Assistants.

I hope you have a relaxing and fun-filled March Break. We will see everyone back on March 31st.

Take care,

T. Harrington



IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH 6-8	FOOTLOOSE MUSICAL
MARCH 11	GRAD PHOTO RE-TAKES
MARCH 10-14	SPIRIT WEEK
MARCH 14	SCHOOL-WIDE BREAKFAST
MARCH 15-30	MARCH BREAK
APRIL 9	PAC MEETING, 6:30PM
APRIL 10	FAMILY CONFERENCES
APRIL 10	HALF DAY, CLASSES OUT AT 11:55
APRIL 11	HALF DAY, CLASSES OUT AT 11:55

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SURVEY

The Student Learning Survey is a survey that collects insight into students' experiences at school and in their lives outside of school. This survey has a parent version for families to complete. You can complete the survey through this [LINK](#)

PAC INFORMATION

Thank you to all the parents that helped with snack shack fundraising.

The next meeting is on Wednesday, April 9 at 6:35 in the SOSS library. This is a change from the 3rd Thursday of the month!!

Call out for PAC executive members - AGM is in May. We need some new PAC members, specifically a treasurer heading into next year and possibly a Chair, Vice President, and Secretary.

Come check out our April meeting to see how PAC supports our SOSS students!!

We have a Microgreens fundraiser that's ongoing. Please help spread the word about these amazing, tasty little greens!

The donated profit PAC receives from Backyard Microgreens goes back into the general PAC account to continue funding the PAC scholarships.

The Fundraiser flyer is included in this newsletter.



GARDOM LAKE

Grade 9 Gardom Lake trip May 27-29, 2025

Please pay deposit and first payment on Student Quick Pay ASAP.

Please reach out to Mr. Adam if you are interested in chaperoning.

Grade 9s are doing a Fundraiser through Tickleberry's. You can place orders through the Student Quick Pay system or by going to the LINK.

Orders have to be in by April 13. Items can be picked up at SOSS the afternoon of Thursday, April 17th and all day on Friday, April 18th.



Fundraising With

Southern Okanagan Secondary School

SOSS Fundraiser for the Grade 9 Gardom Lake Trip.
Submit orders through the SOSS QuickPay site (Preferred) or by bringing cash or cheque to the SOSS office.

Customer Name	Email
Student Name	Contact Number

Payment Method ☐ On SOSS QuickPay site (preferred) ☐ Cash ☐ Cheque made Payable to SOSS

Ice Cream Cake (\$25)

- ☐ Bunny Eggs (chocolate mini eggs ice cream, waffle cone shortbread crust, chocolate syrup with decorative toppings)
- ☐ Caramel Easter (douce caramel ice cream, waffle cone shortbread crust, caramel syrup with decorative toppings)

Bunny Burrow (Gingerbread House) (\$50)

- ☐ Funfetti sugar cookies with all the fixings to create your own bunny burrow!

Cookie Box (\$25)

- ☐ 2 Dozen (mix of Funfetti sugar cookie, chocolate brownie cookie, carrot cake & lemon crinkle cookie)

Fudge (\$50)

Choose 5 kinds below, packaged in cute box with little spoons to share and topped with one bear claw.

☐ Chocolate	☐ Raspberry	☐ Praline
☐ Maple	☐ Creamside	☐ Funfetti
☐ Turtle	☐ Espresso	☐ Cookies n' Cream

Gift Card (\$50)

- ☐ Visit Tickleberry's for the full experience and choose what you want with your gift card.

Orders and Payments are due Monday, March 11, 2024

Orders can be made online at <http://www.studentquickpay.com/ossd53> or <http://www.studentquickpay.com/ossd53/MyAccount/Main.aspx?webitemid=269>

Order pickup is Thursday, March 14 and Friday, March 15 at SOSS



Total Number of Items in Order _____

Total Cost \$ _____



Students: Please complete orders through SOSS QuickPay or bring cheque/cash and order to the SOSS Office.



ULTIMATE PROGRAM



The Hornets Ultimate program has been incredibly busy preparing for the upcoming season. Tryouts have been held and a record number of students attended. As we shift into the March Break, training camp will be held on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 12:00 - 2:00 at SOSS over the break. Anybody wanting to improve their Ultimate skills is welcome and encouraged to attend as we gear up for our home tournament, Southern Flights, hosted April 11-12. Anybody who would like to volunteer with running the tournament should reach out to Mr. Hall (rihall@sd53.bc.ca). We look forward to the start of another amazing season!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Carson Clarke, an SOSS Dual Credit student in the welding program, was the gold medal winner at the Regional Skills Canada Competition at Okanagan College. Carson was able to demonstrate his skills in welding, competing against 12 competitors from various schools across the Okanagan region. Carson will now represent the Okanagan Region in the provincial welding competition in Abbotsford on April 16th.



GRAD INFORMATION

There are some upcoming Scholarship Application Deadlines:

District/Authority Scholarship due Apr 23rd
Kiwanis Bursary due Apr 25th
South Okanagan Health Care Auxiliary Bursary due Apr 25th
Francis Family Portfolio due May 9th

Grad Write-ups due March 28th and the Grad Spring Fundraising information will be coming out after March Break!

The Grad trip is still in the planning process and once a destination has been decided more information will be provided.



SPAGHETTI BRIDGE BUILDING

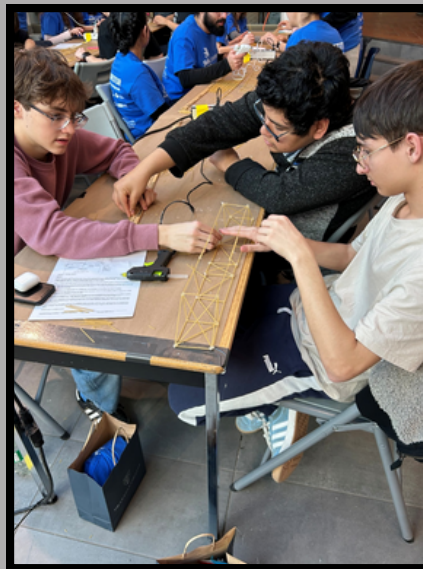
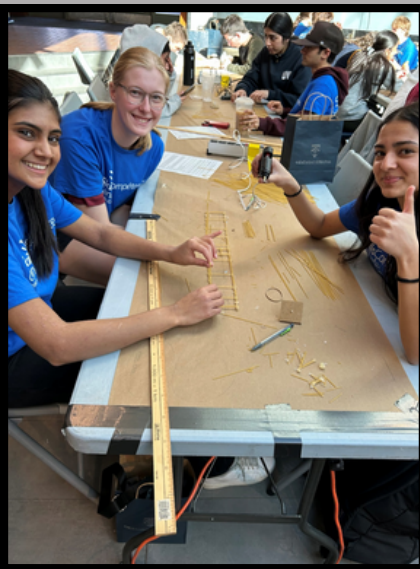
We had 9 teams that entered the 40th annual Spaghetti Bridge Building contest at Okanagan College in Kelowna. All the groups worked hard and did a great job designing and building a bridge. They had to build a bridge that spanned a minimum of 50cm and hold 1kg for 60 seconds. They chose to go as light as possible and go for the win and one team came out of the competition with second place. The students had a great time and worked well together as a team.

Second Place:

Arjun Brar, Henna Brar, Anissa Khodarahmi, Deepika Brar.

Other students who participated in the contest:

Rylan Bakker, Julian Barata, Kieran Bidmead, Heera Buttar, Riya Chahal, Eli Fernandes, Kimveer Karwasra, Ari Kendrick, Kaeli Lester, Kyra Linders, Pedro Murillo, Kian Narayan, Jackson Schaffrick, Mayera Soni, Jesse Wyatt, Nolan Casorso, Warispreet Brar, Gabriel Espinoza-Rowe, Harnoor Brar, Nathael Collettere-Reza, Ishmeet Dhaliwal, Kismet Dhaliwal, Florence Klimo, Meredith Lester, Lilah Smith, Kira Usher



Southern Okanagan Secondary School Enrichment Fund Society

ANNUAL MIXED GOLF SCRAMBLE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 2025 at



Join us for this one day mixed scramble that includes 18 holes of golf at beautiful Fairview Mountain Golf Course, contests, live auction, ball d raw, skill and draw prizes, a dinner and great fun, all for a good cause—scholarships for SOSS graduating students.

When: Saturday, August 9, 2025
Where: Fairview Mountain Golf Course,
Oliver BC
Time: 2:00 p.m. Shotgun

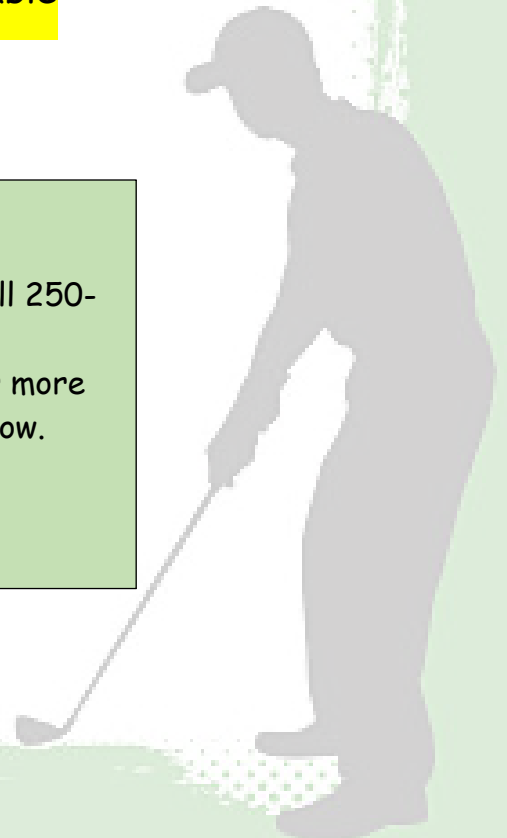
The play will be 6 players per team (3 men, 3 women).

You choose your own team! Or we can add you to a team if you prefer.

Registration is limited to the first 132 players.

Sponsorship opportunities are available

We can be contacted via email at sossenrichmentfundsociety@gmail.com or call 250-498-9407. Please visit our website at <https://sossenrichmentfundsociety.com> for more information and registration forms to follow.



GREEN FUNDRAISER



South Okanagan Secondary
School



Backyard Microgreens is a small Canadian Owned 'direct to community' Microgreens Farm in Oliver that delivers right to most doorsteps, (home or work) in the South Okanagan, within 24 hours of harvesting. They aim at helping our community by offering fresh, local produce!

Backyard Microgreens is donating a part of the proceeds of their "Micro Variety 4 Pack" sold, to the South Okanagan Secondary School PAC

ORDER ONLINE AT:

www.backyardmicrogreens.com
SPECIFY FUNDRAISING FOR: SOSS
DELIVERY TO YOUR DOORSTEP
WEDNESDAY,
2 WEEKS FROM
THE TIME OF YOUR ORDER

Questions: grow@backyardmicrogreens.com

EXECUTIVE FUNCTION NEWLETTER

Helping your child become an organized student:

- create a schedule for checking binder
- Checking homework is completed
- Create goals
- Contact teacher/support worker to create a plan for check ins if needed
- Is back pack organized and clean?
- Create a system to organize binder/homework with dividers, folders, etc.

S.M.A.R.T goals

a smart goal is an outline to create effective goals that can be attained (example: being on time for all my classes for the remainder of the year)

- S—Specific (simple, defined, and easy to understand)
- M—measurable (a way to indicate progress)
- A—achievable (goal is clearly expressed, and reasonable to complete)
- R—realistic (can this goal be achieved? What resources are available?)
- T—time related (what time line is needed to show results?)

WORLD LINK

THURSDAY MARCH 13 @ 11:15AM - 12:00PM

- Accumulate volunteer hours for CLC and Leadership
- Engage in language and cultural exchange
- Foster connections and cultivate friendships
- Exchange new experiences and encourage dialogue

JOIN IN ROOM 202, SNACKS PROVIDED



SOUTH OKANAGAN
IMMIGRANT AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES



Okanagan
Similkameen
SD53



Health and well-being for all
Quality | Integrity | Compassion | Safety

Measles Prevention: What You Need to Know

Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent measles. Measles vaccines are tested and are effective at protecting your children and others from serious illness.

Having two doses of a measles-containing vaccine greatly reduces the risk of catching the disease. These two doses are nearly 100% effective and are recommended for children and teens.

To book an appointment to update your child's immunization visit interiorhealth.ca or scan this QR code to find the closest Community Health Centre.



If you are not sure if your child is fully protected against Measles, or other preventable diseases visit Health Gateway, or scan this QR code.



Increased Measles Around the World

As you may have seen in the news, there is an increase in the number of measles cases being reported around the world, including in Canada and in B.C.

We would like to remind you to [check your child's vaccination records](#) before travelling during Spring Break and to ensure they are protected.

If you are planning to travel internationally:

- Babies between the age of 6 months and 1 year should get immunized against measles before travelling. This dose is not included in the routine two doses but will add to the protection against measles while travelling.
- Children between age 1 and 4 years can get their second dose early if they are travelling internationally before they are due at age 4-6 yrs.

If your child has not yet had their vaccines, please make an appointment with your local public health unit. Children 4 years or older, as well as adults, can also be vaccinated at community pharmacies.

Measles is a serious illness caused by the measles virus. It is very contagious.

- It can spread easily through air.
- Measles can cause complications like inflammation of the brain (encephalitis), which can lead to seizures, deafness or brain damage. Other complications can include ear infection, diarrhea, pneumonia and death. This is why protection by vaccination is so important.

If you have immunization records for your child that are not recorded in their Health Gateway profile, you can submit those records online by sending them to immunizationrecord.gov.bc.ca

March 2025

Interior Health would like to recognize and acknowledge the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Okanagan, Kootenai, Shuswap, Secwepemc, St'at'imc, Syilx, and Tl'it'at' Nations where we live, learn, collaborate and work together.