

MAY 2024

SOUTHERN OKANAGAN SECONDARY SCHOOL



HOME OF THE HORNETS



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We are on the home stretch of this school year as we have less than two months left. Report cards have been posted, and we will work closely with students who still need to complete outstanding coursework. If you have not seen your child's report card, please check the Parent Portal on MyEd and/or Spaces or contact the office for more information.

We are currently designing the 2024-25 timetable. Counsellors will be having discussions with parents and students regarding appropriate placements for next year.

For the grads, this is an exciting time. District Dogwood Authority presentations will be held on Monday, May 6th, and the Francis Family Scholarship application is due May 10th. Please check in the office for additional information. Grad fees are due May 8th. Please pay as soon as possible. (check with Mrs. Wilkie if you have done fundraising to be applied to your fees). A reminder that meat and flower pick up is Friday, May 10th between 3:30pm – 6:00pm. The prom will be on Saturday, June 8th. Check the notice in the Counselling Centre to make sure you are on the grad list and Teams for the most up-to-date information. The Grad Scholarship night will be on Tuesday, June 25th and the Grad Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, June 26th. More details to follow.

The grade 7 transition meetings will be held this month. This is an opportunity for us to plan accordingly for our new Hornets. We are excited to be welcoming 116 new grade 8 students next year! Our Indigenous Advocates are organizing Red Dress Day for Monday, May 6th. This is to bring awareness to missing and murdered Indigenous women. Information will be provided to classes and staff, and students are encouraged to wear red.

The SOSS grads are hosting a school-wide breakfast on Friday, May 3rd.

Finally, Mr. Adam and Mr. Willms are taking the grade 9 students to Gardom Lake at the end of the month. This three-day trip is going to be amazing. If you need more information, please contact us as there is still plenty of planning to do.

So many positive opportunities for our students thanks to our staff's hard work and dedication! Thank you to everyone for putting our students first.

T. Harrington

IMPORTANT DATES

MAY 3
MAY 16
MAY 20
MAY 21-25
MAY 28-30
MAY 29

SCHOOL WIDE BREAKFAST
GRADE 8 DAY ON THE LAND
PAC MEETING
VICTORIA DAY, NO SCHOOL
MULTI-CULTURAL WEEK
GRADE 9 GARDOM LAKE TRIP
EARLY DISMISSAL INQUIRY

2023-2024 ORDER A YEARBOOK!

**\$20 PER BOOK, GET PAYMENTS
IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**

**ORDER BY MAY 8TH
DELIVERY BY JUNE 18TH**



Southern Okanagan Secondary School
6140 Gala Street
PO Box 990
Oliver, BC V0H 1T0

Phone: 250-498-4931
Fax: 250-498-6957
Website: soss.sd53.bc.ca
Email: soss@sd53.bc.ca

STUDENT VOICE

The Student Voice Club is hosting a Multicultural Awareness Week May 21-24. They will be interviewing students of various cultural backgrounds in the school and posting their personal anecdotes. There will be a trivia contest each day and cultural dishes served in the Cafeteria.



IF ANY FAMILIES ARE
LOOKING TO GET RID OF
DSLR CAMERA EQUIPMENT,
THE PHOTOGRAPHY
PROGRAM WOULD BE
APPRECIATIVE OF YOUR
DONATIONS



SKATEBOARD CLUB

Skateboard club has its biggest roster ever this spring. So far, we've been to Osoyoos, Oliver, and Penticton skateparks. Shout outs: Teoh Ransinangue-Novak for pushing his limits hard and showing us that perseverance pays off, to Peter Ruckheim for encouraging us to find our own expression and to try new things, to Abe Southern for offering his trick tips and wisdom with tons of patience; to Brody Thomas for charging fast and hard at everything, and to the rest of the club for staying positive and having fun.

We have trips each week until June, and another half-day trip is in the works. Stay tuned for more information. Don't forget to check out our instagram: @sossskateboardclub.

As always, we are grateful for the continuing support of Darren Tokaryk and his crew at Respect Record and Skate. Check out the skateboard deck art show hanging in the shop as I write this, and be sure to mark off June 21st on your calendars for Go Skate Day. See you there!



HORNETS TAKE EUROPE 2026

Planning is underway for a school trip to Europe in March 2026! The trip is open to students who will be in Grade 11 or 12 that year. The general itinerary is to visit Paris, southern France, and Italy. Interested students and parents are invited to attend a meeting in the Library on Thursday, May 9th at 5:00pm to learn more about this exciting opportunity. Please email Mrs. Stopa (hstopa@sd53.bc.ca) or Mrs. Goncalves (rgoncalv@sd53.bc.ca) if you have any questions.



GIRLS SOCCER



The Sr. Girls' soccer team has had another excellent season and has become one of the best teams in the valley again. They have gone undefeated in their league and will be travelling to George Elliot to compete at the OVSAA Championship on May 14/15 to hopefully earn a berth to the AA Sr. Girls Provincial Championship which will be held in Burnaby this year.

During the course of the season the team has hosted the largest tournament yet, with 13 teams from as far away as Ft. St. James and the coast, where they missed the finals by a shootout goal. They also placed 3rd place in Osoyoos, and travelled to Merritt, where they had a strong showing.

This year, the soccer program at SOSS has expanded to include a Junior team, comprised mostly of grade 8 and 9 students. They competed in 2 senior tournaments and hosted the first ever "Conquering of the Cantaloupe" tournament which was held May 5/6. We are very excited that these girls have worked so hard and improved so much this year. Our future looks bright and we are looking forward to developing these players to be on the Senior team soon!

If you have any questions about the SOSS Soccer programs, please contact Mr. Russo at mrusso@sd53.bc.ca.

Grade 7 Transitions for next year

Our transition team is meeting with the grade 7 teachers and classes in May at each school.

All Grade 7 students meet at SOSS Wednesday, June 5 @12:30pm - 2:00pm for tours and other activities. A simple lunch will be provided for all students and staff upon arrival. Elementary schools will arrange transportation for the trip to SOSS and back.

Grade 7 Parent Meeting is Wednesday, June 5 @ 5:30pm. This is an evening meeting for parents of all incoming grade 7 students @ SOSS Library. SOSS will send out an invitation by email.

STARFISH PROGRAM

THANK YOU TO THE
CONTINUED COMMUNITY
SUPPORT FOR THE STARFISH
PROGRAM. IT MAKES A HUGE
DIFFERENCE FOR OUR
STUDENTS AND FAMILIES.



GARDOM LAKE

Gardom Lake Trip for Grade 9 students is from May 28-30. Please pay fees ASAP. Please contact Mr. Adam if trip fees are a barrier to participation. We want this trip to be accessible to all Grade 9 students.

PAC NEWS

The SOSS PAC offers an opportunity to be involved in the student experience while providing parents with a place to voice any concerns or issues. We also receive direct feed-back from the school administration and School Board Trustees at each of our meetings. If you have any questions, please contact PAC at sosspac53@gmail.com.

Next meeting: May 16 at 6:30pm in the library. This will be our last meeting of the year including our AGM. We will be looking for parents interested in being part of our executive committee.

Mental Health Matters

May 2024

Mental Health Week

May 6-10th

[A Call To Be Kind](#)



#compassioncounts

Family Reading



77 Children's Books About Mental Health

Fun Activities to do Outdoors as a Family!

- Pitch a tent in yard
- Plant a small container garden
- Play classic outdoor games such as kick the can, wall ball or skipping
- Play Follow the Leader through your yard or neighborhood, or 'I spy'
- Play on a swing set in the dark

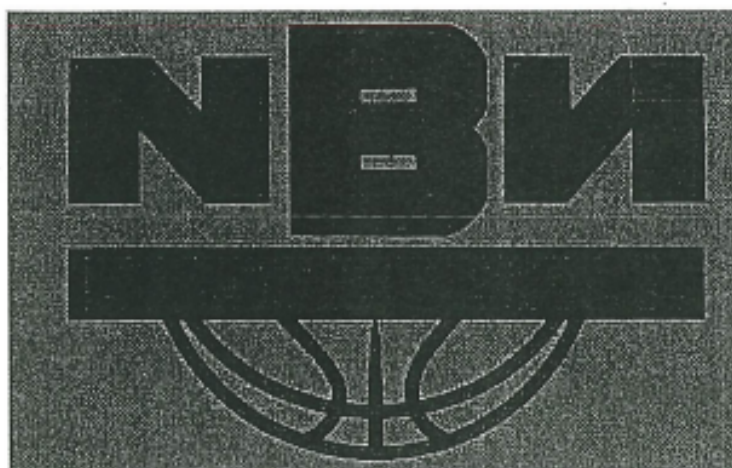
Did you know!

Nature Makes you Happy BBC Earth



STUDENT SCHEDULES

Student schedules for next year are underway. Please make sure that you, as a student, are checking your Teams for any messages from the scheduling team for any questions we may be asking to finalize your schedules. All of this communication is sent to students only so please have your notifications turned on or check on a regular basis. Once all of the schedules are complete we will send out an email indicating that it is time to check in MyEd to confirm that your schedule is correct. With this email we will include a link for requesting course changes to help with our return to school in September. Thank you for your help in the process so far as it makes the release date earlier when you help answer our questions.



Registration Form

Date: July 8-11, 2024

Place: Southern Okanagan Secondary School Gym, Oliver B.C.

Time: 9am-12noon (*Rookie Camp*)
1pm-4pm (*Pro Camp*)

Cost: Rookie and Pro Camps: \$ 199.00

No Refund After June 10th, 2023.

Late Fee for the camp after June 11th: \$ 224.00

What to bring: Proper basketball gear, water bottle, and a great attitude!

What you get: an NBN camp T-shirt, basketball, Gatorade, gift certificates and other

prizes. **What do we do:** **NBN** is for *players of all levels*. We focus on improving basketball skills and strategies while stressing proper *FUN*damentals on both ends of the court! Ball handling, shooting, passing and fun games every day, as well as offensive and defensive and strategies. **BC Basketball Hall of Famer, UVIC Hall of Famer, Former UBC and UVIC assistant coach, Coordinator of Lake City Development, Spencer McKay**, brings incredible knowledge and unmatched international experience to **NBN**.

-----Please cut here-----Keep top portion for your reference-----

Name of Player: _____ Birthdate: _____ Gr: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Contact#: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Email: _____

Medical Number: _____ Allergies: _____

Camp Selection: Please Check off :

Rookie Camp (Gr. 3-6) \$199 _____ Pro Camp (Gr. 7-11) \$199 _____

Day Drop in (\$60/day) days _____

Shirt: Adult: Please circle size XXL XL L M S Youth L M

South Okanagan Secondary School

Semester 2 _____

“Celebration of Student Achievement”

Date: Wednesday June 12th

Time: 5:30- 7pm

Location: SOSS library, front entrance, and cafeteria

**Please join us in celebrating our students’
achievements from their semester 2 studies.
The evening will include a variety of student
displays, performances, food and fun!**

