

MAY 2023

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 be working closely with those students who still need to complete outstanding course work. If you have not seen your child's report card, please check the Parent Portal on MyEd, Spaces, or contact the office for more information.

We are currently designing the 2023-24 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 8th, and the Francis Family Scholarship application is due May 12th. Please check in the office for additional information. There will be a grad bottle drive on Friday, May 5th from 3:00pm-6:00pm. Please drop off any bottles at the front of the school. Grad fees are due May 10th. Please pay as soon as possible. (check with Mrs. Wilke if you have done fundraising). A reminder that meat and flower pick up is Friday May 12th between 3:30pm - 6:00pm. Prom will be on Saturday, May 13th. 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 27th and the Grad Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, June 28th. 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 very excited to be welcoming 76 new Grade 8 students next year!

"Find Your Fit" will be here on Monday, May 8. Parents are welcome to come out between 4:00pm-6:00pm. See the flyer that was previously sent out. It will be an awesome opportunity for our students to explore a variety of career options.

Our Indigenous Advocates are organizing Red Dress Day for Friday, May 5th. This is to bring awareness to the missing and murdered Indigenous women. Information will be provided to classes and staff and students are encouraged to wear red on this day.

The SOSS Staff is hosting a school-wide breakfast on Friday, May 5th.

Mr. Kitt and Ms. Ibaraki are taking the grade 10's to Experience Okanagan College on Thursday, May 11. Students need to sign up for this event. For more information, contact Mr. Kitt.

The Student Forum will be held on May 24th. This will be an opportunity for some staff and students to connect and give feedback about a wide range of topics. We use this feedback to guide our planning process.

Finally, Ms. Smith 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 incredibly positive opportunities for our students thanks to the hard work and dedication of our staff! Thank you to everyone for putting students first.

T. Harrington

IMPORTANT DATES

MAY 4	SALMON FRY RELEASE
MAY 5	SCHOOL WIDE BREAKFAST, 7:30-8:30 AM
MAY 5	RED DRESS DAY
MAY 11	MOOSE HIDE CAMPAIGN DAY
MAY 12	FLOWER AND MEAT PICK-UP, 3:30-6:00 PM
MAY 12	TICKLEBERRY'S FUNDRAISER DEADLINE
MAY 18	PAC MEETING, 6:30PM LIBRARY
MAY 31	INQUIRY DAY, EARLY DISMISSAL AT 11:57
MAY 30-JUNE 1	GRADE 9 GARDOM LAKE TRIP

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GRAD INFORMATION

- Grad bottle drive fundraiser Friday May 5 from 3 - 6 PM and drop off is at the front of the school
- Grad Fees - \$140 are due May 10 and this covers all the fees associated with the ceremony
- Meat and flower fundraiser order pick up is Friday May 12th 3:30 - 6:00 PM
- Prom will be at Spirit Ridge Saturday May 13
- Tentative schedule for the day:
 - 3:00 - 5:00 PM pictures with location TBD
 - Fairview Golf Course is going through upgrades meaning this location is unavailable. Looking into alternate locations including Gyro beach in Osoyoos
 - 5:00 - 10:00 PM dinner and dance
 - 10:00 PM - 11:00 PM clean up and take down decorations
- Baby pictures for the Grad slideshow need to be sent to Mrs. Goncalves at rgoncalv@sd53.bc.ca and the deadline to submit is Tuesday May 31st
- Reminder that all communication regarding Grad activities is to go through Teams channel



CAREER LIFE CONNECTIONS

Career Life Connections 12 is a required course for graduation. Parents of Grade 12 students - please check in with your child to make sure all assignments have been submitted and that Capstone projects are ready to present this month. Please email Mrs. Burns at jburns@sd53.bc.ca with any questions.

DUAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

Dual Credit programs enable students to earn both high school graduation credits as well as credit at Post Secondary while still in high school. Students need to be in grade 11 or 12 to enroll in these programs and they are filling up. See Mr. Kitt for details. Tuition is paid by the School District.... Yes... Tuition is paid!

TRADES

Students can enroll in a "Foundation" program, in the Trades. Programs vary in length from 24- 40 weeks. This usually means a student will attend a post-Secondary program for one semester of high school. These programs take students with little or no experience and provide them with the skills necessary to get hired in their chosen trade.

GATEWAY PROGRAMS

Gateway to Trades: 12 Week program with Okanagan College where students get to try a variety of construction trades. Starts in February 2024

Gateway to Tech: Partnered with Okanagan College. Students get to try a variety of computer programming outcomes. This popular program will go in the evenings, 2 days per week (5:00 pm- 8:30pm) Start in September 2023

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Students can jump start their career in Early Childhood Education with Okanagan College in Penticton. This program will begin in September 2023 with classes occurring online in the evenings and in-class sessions occurring on one Saturday per month in Penticton. Students will achieve Early Childhood Education Assistant certification through completion of this program. If they wish to continue with their studies, they have a jump start on the courses required.

BUSINESS PROGRAMS

Students can get started in Business Admin Certificate programs at Okanagan College while still enrolled in high school. This program can be taken in either Kelowna or Penticton.

See Mr. Kitt for details about any of these programs soon!

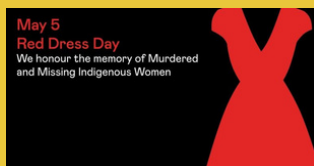


INDIGENOUS DEPARTMENT

May is shaping up to be a busy month! On May 4th we will be releasing the salmon fry into the water that the gathering room has been taking care of since they were eggs. May 5th is Red Dress Day; everyone is encouraged to wear red to honour and remember the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and Two-Spirit People across Canada. The Moose Hide Campaign Day is on May 11th. This campaign is a BC-born, Indigenous-led grassroots movement to engage men and boys in ending violence towards women and children. On May 25th our Indigenous students will be participating in the Graduation Ceremony celebrating all of the status, non-status, and Metis graduates.

Our Pow-wow took place on April 20th & 21st and was a great success with lots of fun had by all. A HUGE shout out to all who attended and helped organize the event. It was amazing to see everyone.

Lim Limp't!



STUDENT VOICE

The Student Voice Club raised funds and collected donations for their annual SHE-DRIVE in March. Students and staff bought tickets to guess the candies in the jar. The runner-up was Tristin Cachola, and the jar winner was Mrs. Harrington! She generously shared the sweet prize around the school that day.

Club advisors, Ms. Laver and Ms. Scott delivered the goods to the grateful staff at South Okanagan Women In Need Society (SOWINS) in Penticton.



SPACES REPORTING

Many of our grade 8 and 9 courses are using Spaces EDU for communicating learning this year. This platform is intended to provide families with an ongoing look at student learning and communication between teachers, students, and families. If you have not yet created your account please find a visual (sent as an attachment) with this newsletter to help with creating an account, navigating the space, engaging and accessing reports. Please contact your child's teacher or Mrs. Goncalves for any help.

SPACES SURVEY

With everything that we do in our classroom, family engagement is always a top priority. This past school year, we integrated the use of SpacesEDU to document students' learning, growth, and next steps.

We would like to ask for 3 minutes of your time to complete [this Survey](#) to share your experience, unique perspective, and feedback on the use of SpacesEDU. Our school district is #53 and no other identifying information is requested. Your feedback will make a difference in the development of the platform and in our use of Spaces at our school. Thank you SO much for sharing your time and your thoughts!

NEXT YEAR SCHEDULES

The scheduling team is about to begin the process of building the schedule for next year. If you have not submitted your course requests for next year your selections will not be programmed. Please check in your MyEd Requests Tab to make sure your requests are accurate. Our goal for publishing student schedules is Friday, June 2nd and course changes will be open on Monday June 5th. Please contact Mrs. Goncalves with any questions.

EARTH SCIENCE 11

As we delve into the geology and geomorphology of the planet on which we live, Earth Science 11 students are beginning to learn about the fun and fantastic activity of Rock Hounding. As an assessment for their current unit on Rocks and Minerals, students are collecting and curating their own rock collections. We have taken some local field trip to gather interesting samples and back in the classroom we are learning to classify and identify the rocks and minerals based on various properties.

Interested in seeing the final collections? With the help of Ms Kingsfield, they will be on display at the end of year Celebration of Learning in June!



HORNET SK8TERS

Spring is finally here and we managed to beat the weather last week in Summerland. It was a great session - Mhyles Postnikoff got a 50-50 grind on the ledge, Mikey Skolos and Mason Marcinko ollied the long 2 set, Merrick Ogden and Gavin Heise kickflipped the long 2 and manualled the ledge. Gavin ollied the long 4 set and backside boardslid the down rail. Shout outs to Janav and Sophie for building their fundamentals and keeping skateboarding fun. Mr. McKinnon got in a boardslide on the flat bar and a few slash grinds in the pipe before finding a bottlecap in the bottom of the bowl and slamming. Don't litter kids!

Thanks to Respect Record and Skate for sponsoring our shirts (coming soon!) and spare setups to keep kids stoked and in gear. Stay tuned for the Oliver Skateboard competition in June... details to follow soon!



The 2022/23 yearbook is heading into the final stages of development and almost ready to be sent off to the printers! Get yours today for only \$20.00! See Mrs.

Wilkie in the accounting office or order online on the SOSS website. All orders must be in by no later than Monday, May 8th.

NBN Basketball Camp

NBN is for players of all levels. We focus on improving basketball skills and strategies while stressing proper FUNDamentals on both ends of the court! Ball handling, shooting, passing and fun games every day, as well as offensive and defensive strategies. BC Basketball Hall of Famer Spencer McKay brings incredible knowledge and unmatched international experience to NBN. This year the camp runs from July 4-7 at SOSS. The registration form can be found [here](#) at the NBN Basketball website and is also attached to this newsletter. Spots fill up fast so don't wait!



WorkBC

FIND YOUR FIT



TOUR

EXPLORE IN-DEMAND CAREERS



The WorkBC Find Your Fit tour is coming to your school.

The WorkBC *Find Your Fit* tour is an interactive event where you can try the skills you'll need for different careers that are in demand in your region and across the province.

This hands-on program will help you apply real life experiences to your career planning.

MONDAY MAY 8TH

Find more information at [WorkBC.ca/FindYourFit](https://www.workbc.ca/FindYourFit)

Find Your Fit school sessions follow a COVID-19 health and safety protocol plan such as enhanced sanitizing and cleaning procedures, use of PPE equipment by all tour staff, decreased student touch points and operating at a reduced capacity to accommodate safe physical distancing measures.

Multicultural Week

MAY 15-19

**SHOW YOUR PRIDE AND THE
DIVERSITY AT OUR SCHOOL!**

Cultural dishes in the Caf

Each day in the cafeteria we will be serving food from different cultures around the world.

Informational posters in the foyer

Posters detailing facts and history about each culture will be on display at the front foyer. Pay attention to them as they also act as answers to the daily trivia on the announcements.

Wear the clothes of your culture!

On Friday everyone is encouraged to wear traditional clothing/regalia from their culture.

PRESENTED BY THE STUDENT VOICE CLUB