

SOUTHERN OKANAGAN SECONDARY SCHOOL



HOME OF THE HORNETS



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The second semester is well underway, and parents/guardians should have access to their child's report card. If you or your child need assistance, please contact Mrs. Goncalves in the library.

A reminder to all parents and students that the courses they select during Course Selection are the information we use in building our timetable and staffing the school for next year. It is important that courses are thoughtfully selected. For more information, please go to the website (soass@sd53.bc.ca) Your child should be bringing home a copy of their Course Selection soon for you to sign or an approval request through email.

We would also like to thank our PAC for all the support they offer to our students. To date they have supported the Celebration of Learning, Yearbook initiative, Art Club, Student Voice, SOGI Club, and athletics. Additionally, we want to thank all our basketball coaches and individuals who run clubs within the school. We appreciate all the time you spend with our students.

Please note that the Grad List will be posted next week. Make sure to check it. If you are not on the list, you are missing a graduation requirement. Please see one of the Grad Team members immediately. Grad Photos are February 18-20. Sign up and payment is required prior to the date. Please note that there is a \$20 sitting fee and an additional group photo fee of \$10pp. The deadline for scholarship & bursary applications is Feb. 28. This application is mandatory for SOSS scholarships. To be eligible for school scholarships, students must be taking a minimum of six courses at SOSS and be a student in good standing. If you have questions, please contact our Grad Team of Ms. Ibaraki, Mr. Turnbull, Mrs. Burns, or Mrs. Harrington.

Mrs. Podmorow and her theatre students are busy preparing for Footloose. The play will run March 6-8. Tickets will be online and sold at our library. You won't want to miss out.

Family Conferences are on Thursday, April 10th from 2:00pm- 4:00pm and from 5:00pm – 7:00pm. More information will be sent out closer to the date. Have a good week.

Regards,

T. Harrington

IMPORTANT DATES

FEBRUARY 13	OIB LOONIE AUCTION, 5PM
FEBRUARY 14	PRO-D DAY, NO SCHOOL
FEBRUARY 17	FAMILY DAY, NO SCHOOL
FEBRUARY 18	GRADE 11 VISIT AT UBCO
FEBRUARY 18-20	GRAD PHOTOS
FEBRUARY 20	PAC MEETING, 6:30 LIBRARY
FEBRUARY 25	GRADE 9 IMMUNIZATIONS
FEBRUARY 26	PINK SHIRT DAY
FEBRUARY 26	APEX SKI DAY
FEBRUARY 26	EARLY DISMISSAL, 11:55AM
FEBRUARY 28	SPAGHETTI BRIDGE BUILDING

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



Get ready to cut loose! "Footloose - the musical" is a high energy show that will have you singing and dancing in your seat. This SOSS Production is based on the 1984 hit film. It is an electrifying show that tells the story of Ren McCormack, a city teen who moves to a small town where dancing and rock music are strictly forbidden. Ren is determined to change the town's rigid rules and leads the other teens to stand up for themselves. Full of recognizable songs and lively dance numbers, this show will be a memorable experience for all ages.

MARCH 6 - 7PM

MARCH 7 - 7PM

MARCH 8 - 2PM & 7PM

TICKETS:

Adults - \$20

Students - \$15

SOSS TAKES EUROPE 2026

The Europe Trip in March 2026 still has spots available for interested students in Grade 10 or 11. We are hoping to add ten more senior students to this trip before the end of February. Grade 9 students who are interested in coming should see Mrs. G or Mrs. Stopa in case the trip opens up to Grade 9's.

When: Spring Break, March 2026.

Where: Paris, Cote d'Azure, Italy (Florence, Rome, Pompeii).

Who: 30ish SOSS students, Lead Teachers Mrs. Stopa & Mrs. Goncalves, plus 3 other teacher-chaperones.

How: the tour is booked through the Explorica tour company

What: an 11 day trip of a lifetime for students. Fully guided by a multi-lingual Explorica tour guide, flights, hotels, coach transportation and TGV in Europe, breakfast & dinner included, entry to a variety of sights including the Louvre Museum, Eiffel Tower, Palace of Versailles, Colosseum, Vatican City & Pompeii.

Finances: please contact us directly for further details and cost. The group will be doing some fundraising this spring and fall to help offset the cost of the trip.

We are very excited about this opportunity for SOSS students in 2026. A similar trip took place in March 2024 and it was an incredible experience for all involved. Don't miss out on this chance to see some of Europe's iconic offerings with an amazing group of people. Reach out to Mrs. G (rgoncalv@sd53.bc.ca) or Mrs. Stopa (hstopa@sd53.bc.ca) if you'd like more information.

COURSE SELECTIONS

Course selections for next year are underway. Information can be found on our school website to explain how to complete the process. All students must include their ideal schedule along with alternate choices just in case we can't schedule in one of your top choices.

- See the website for the [Course Offerings Booklet](#) which has descriptions and some multi-media links to further explain the courses. If you are going into grades 10-12 the descriptions will be in [MyBlueprint](#) when you click on the course.
- Grade 9 students (this year's grade 8's) will use the [Course Request Form](#) to make their selections, have the form signed and returned to Mrs. Goncalves in the Library.
- Students in grades 10-12 next year will use MyBlueprint to select their courses for next year, submit their choices and then enter a parent/guardian email for approval.

All student requests are to be completed by February 13. If you have any questions about the process, or require some help, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Goncalves at rgoncalv@sd53.bc.ca. An information session will be provided for these students to help guide them in their choices and answer specific questions.



ULTIMATE PROGRAM



The SOSS Ultimate program has their eyes set on the start of their spring season of play. This year, we will be offering a Sr, Jr and Grade 8 team for athletes to join. Ultimate is the only mixed sport offered at SOSS and if your athlete is interested in playing, we will be hosting our first information session on February 19th in the big gym at the start of the lunch hour. Mr. Hall has been busy putting together our annual Southern Flights tournament on April 11-12.

This year's version of Southern Flights is shaping up to be our biggest yet with 8 teams registered in the Junior Division and 16 teams registered in the Senior Division for a total of 24 teams coming from across the province. If you would like to help out with running a portion of our tournament or want to assist with our team, please contact Mr. Hall by email at Rihall@sd53.bc.ca

GARDOM LAKE

Grade 9 Gardom Lake trip is May 27-29, 2025. Please pay deposit on 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 Quick Pay system or by going to this [link](#).

Orders have to be in by April 13 and 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 (dolce 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 (\$30)

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

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

Gift Card (\$30)

☐ 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 <https://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.



SD# 53 Annual Powwow Fundraiser

Come out and enjoy a Bannock Taco dinner, a Loonie Auction & 50/50 Draw

Date: February 13, 2025

Location: OIB Community Hall
(6046 Sandpoint Drive Oliver, BC)

Time: 5:00p.m.

Taco dinner and pop or water:

\$12 per person or \$45 per family of 5 or more (same household)

Pop or water \$1.00



Everyone Welcome!

***All proceeds go to our SD# 53 Annual Powwow event
held April 25 & 26 2025 at Similkameen Elementary
Secondary School***

Organized by the SD#53 Indigenous Advocate Powwow Committee

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.





The Rotary Club of Kelowna – Ogopogo is once again presenting Adventures in Tourism, a dynamic and exciting fun-filled interactive program to selected high school students from across Canada and around the world. Attending students qualify for 55 hours of (community volunteer) credits recognized at most schools.

Our ADVENTURES IN TOURISM program will involve up to 20 high school students in an intense five-day exploration of many leading tourism facilities within our beautiful Okanagan Valley, a four seasons playground very popular for many Canadian and International traveler's. Students will be treated to the very best hospitality being welcomed into Rotarian homes for the duration of the program.

During their packed program, participants will be given unprecedented behind-the-scenes access to the inner workings of leading tourist destinations. These can include internationally recognized wineries & vineyards, professional golf courses, major hotels, local ski hills, as well as exposure to our local culture including museum visits, hiking trails/parks and First Nations' attractions.

For over ten years now our ADVENTURES IN TOURISM program has given a greater level of appreciation for the value tourism represents to all communities. The program promotes an understanding of the vocational opportunities present within this important industry. It further exposes students to the inner workings of a variety of specific tourism industries with the intent of clarifying both the question of how these operations function and why they are integral components of all communities.

Our 13th annual event will be held from March 23 – 27, 2025. The 23th is your travel day with a welcome reception at dinner time. Departure is on the 28th. Your costs include a registration fee of CDN \$500 plus travel expenses to and from Kelowna, British Columbia.

For further information, please contact:

Donald Gordon, AIT Registration and/or Cindy Anderson, AIT Chairperson

ait.rotary5060@gmail.com

Website: www.adventuresintourism.weebly.com

Please feel free to share this with other Clubs in your area.



EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING SKILLS—ORGANIZATION

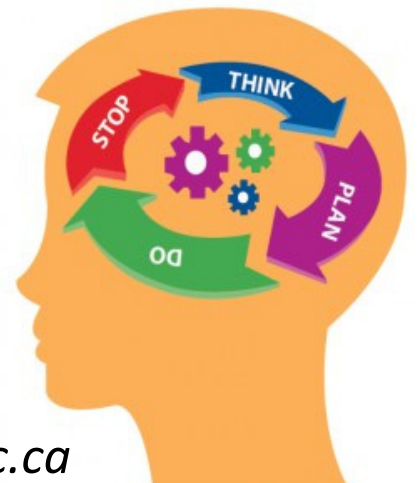
One of the SOSS inquiry groups is focusing on supporting grade 8s and 9s in their executive functioning skills. We are starting with Organization as our first theme for the grade 9 students. These however are helpful strategies for all of our students.

Examples:

- Arrives at school with the required materials.
- Keeps homework and handouts neatly organized in binder, with dividers.
- Meets deadlines for assignments, homework and tests.
- Time management (example managing screen time and homework time).

How to help improve organization skills:

- Check-lists for assignments.
- Organizer to keep track of school work due dates.
- Regularly checking binder and supplies needed.
- Creating routines.
- Clean out backpack each day.
- Checking off completed homework.



For more information email: mwillms@sd53.bc.ca