

SEPTEMBER 2024

SOUTHERN OKANAGAN SECONDARY SCHOOL



HOME OF THE HORNETS



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to another school year at SOSS. September is always a busy and exciting month. I would like to welcome our new staff, including Mr. Turnbull (WEX/SSA), Mr. Cordeiro (SS/CLE), Ms. Szabo (IST), Taletha Wyatt (EA), and Tina Salamat (custodian).

Additionally, we would also like to welcome all the new families who have settled into the community. Our enrollment for September is around the same as last year (just over 500 students). Thanks to the hard work of our counsellors, Mr. Willms, Ms. Ibaraki and our librarian Mrs. Goncalves, we have been able to settle students into their classes with minimal disruption.

The Welcome Back BBQ was a great way to kick off the school year. This is an annual PAC fundraiser. All funds collected go towards the PAC scholarship. Thanks to everyone who attended.

Athletic teams are in full swing thanks to the organization of our Athletic Director Mr. Podmorow. This year for fall sports, we have soccer, volleyball and field hockey with over 130 students participating on one or more teams. We wish all student athletes a fun and positive season and a huge thank you to all the coaches who are volunteering their time to work with our kids.

The cafeteria is up and running with delicious food being prepared by our students under the guidance of Mr. Dyer. The monthly menu has been posted on our website. Cafeteria punch cards are available in the office and on line for \$60. Our payment system is also up and going so if you haven't already paid school fees, please do so as soon as possible. You can pay fees on our website using this link: <https://www.studentquickpay.com/ossd53/>. Debit is also available this year for lunch purchases of \$4.00 or more.

Food security is important to us, and thanks to the Feeding Futures grant so that we can provide breakfast carts every morning. Additionally, we will be providing monthly schoolwide breakfasts and lunches so watch out for information on our announcements. Thanks also to Sam Marsel and the Starfish Program which supports many of our priority families. Please contact us if you need more information.

As a final reminder, student pick up and drop off should not be in the bus lanes as this becomes quite a safety issue. Thanks for your attention to this matter.

Thanks so much for your continued support. We are looking forward to a great year.

Sincerely,
T. Harrington

IMPORTANT DATES

SEPTEMBER 16
SEPTEMBER 25
SEPTEMBER 27
SEPTEMBER 26
SEPTEMBER 30

PSI DAY
INQUIRY DAY, CLASSES OUT AT 11:55AM
ORANGE SHIRT DAY
TERRY FOX RUN AND BBQ
NATIONAL DAY OF TRUTH AND
RECONCILIATION, NO SCHOOL

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](https://www.soss.sd53.bc.ca)
Email: soss@sd53.bc.ca

DROP OFF/PICK UP

Reminder that drop off and pick up should be taking place either on Gala Street in front of the school or on Spartan Street behind the school. Please do not drop off or pick up your student at the front entrance as it blocks bus traffic in the morning and after school during their drop off times.

STUDENT FEES

Student Fees are now overdue. Please pay these as soon as possible either at the accounting office or by using our online payment system:

<https://www.studentquickpay.com/ossd53/>

**NO MATTER THE DISTANCE.
NO MATTER THE OBSTACLES.
NO MATTER THE JOURNEY.
NO MATTER THE ODDS.
NO MATTER WHAT.**



This year our Terry Fox run will take place on Thursday, September 26th. There will be a short assembly in the morning followed by the run. After the run there will be a school-wide BBQ with hot dogs for \$2.00 and ice cream, pop and other items for \$1.00. All proceeds will go directly to the Terry Fox Foundation.

Exciting fundraising challenges will be taking place at the school as well to raise money for this very important and meaningful cause. Donations will be accepted at the school as well as online at <https://schools.terryfox.ca/SouthernOkanaganSecondary>.

SKATEBOARD CLUB

Skateboard Club is back! Fall session starts Sept. 19th. All you need is a skateboard, a helmet and a positive attitude. Permission forms can be collected from Mr. McKinnon outside Room 206. Beginners welcome. Check us out on instagram: @sossskateboardclub. See you soon!

SKATEBOARD DATES:

Thursday, September 19 (Penticton)
Tuesday, September 24 (Summerland)
Thursday, October 3 (Oliver)
Tuesday, October 8 (Penticton)
Thursday, October 17 (Oliver)
Tuesday, October 22 (Penticton)
Thursday, November 5 (Summerland)

Sept30

Wear orange to support residential school survivors

#OrangeShirtDay



September 30th is the National Day of Reconciliation. Wearing orange represents standing with indigenous communities and against the tragedies of residential schools. Since the 30th is on Monday and there will be no school, please wear orange on the 27th.

For more information visit: <https://orangeshirtday.org/>

Purchase an orange shirt from Mrs. Wilkie in the Accounting office for \$15.00



WELCOME TO THE LIBRARY!

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL AND THE LIBRARY!
WE INVITE YOU TO BRING US YOUR READING
WISHLIST SO THAT WE CAN ORDER IT FOR OUR
SHELVES. BRING US THE TITLE AND THE AUTHOR
AND WE WILL ORDER IT FOR YOU AND MAKE
SURE THAT YOU ARE THE FIRST TO READ IT.



Spaces EDU Getting Started

Reporting on learning for students in grade 8 and 9 is a continuous process using Spaces Edu. This can be accessed using the app or using a browser at spacesedu.com. You will receive an email invitation from your students teachers. If you do not have an account set up you will be required to set up an account using the email that your invitation was sent to. [Here are the instructions to set up your account.](#)

Questions?

Email Mrs. Goncalves at rgoncalv@sd53.bc.ca

EUROPE 2026

There are still spots open for this fantastic opportunity to travel to Paris and Italy for 10 days during Spring Break of 2026. This trip is open to students currently in grades 10 & 11 and includes 10 amazing days enjoying a fantastic learning and travel opportunity creating memories that will last a lifetime!! Students can see Mrs. Stopa or Mrs. Goncalves if they have any questions. Parents can email hstopa@sd53.bc.ca or rgoncalv@sd53.bc.ca for any questions or to sign your student up.



WELCOME BACK BBQ



CAFETERIA MENU

ENTREE: \$ 5.00
SOUP: \$ 3.00
PIZZA SLICE: \$ 3.00
GARLIC BISCUITS: \$ 1.00
DESSERT: \$ 1.00
JUICE BOX: \$ 1.00
LUNCH CARDS: \$60.00



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Lunch: Labour Day No School	3 Lunch: First Day of School No Service	4 Lunch: Kitchen Orientation No Service	5 Lunch: Food Safe Certification No service	6 Lunch: Food Safe Preparation No service
9 Lunch: Mac and Cheese Roasted Red Pepper Soup Garlic Bread	10 Lunch: Pork and Beef Tacos Black Bean Soup Mexican Corn	11 Lunch: Sweet and Sour Chicken Chop Suey Wonton Soup	12 Lunch: Pizza Day	13 Lunch: Bahn Mi Sandwiches Veggies Ramen Soup
16 Lunch: Meatball Subs Caesar Salad Chicken Noodle Soup	17 Lunch: German Schnitzel Mashed Potatoes Goulash Soup	18 Lunch: Butter Chicken Roti Rice Dahl	19 Lunch: Pizza Day	20 Lunch: Fettuccini Alfredo Garlic Bread Italian Wedding Soup
23 Lunch: Spaghetti and meat sauce Garlic Bread Green Salad	24 Lunch: Home Made Calzones Caesar Salad Potato Leek Soup	25 Lunch: Inquiry No Service	26 Lunch: Pizza Day	27 Lunch: Indigenous Tacos Three Sisters Soup
30 Lunch: National Day of Truth and Reconciliation No School	1 Lunch: Moroccan Chicken Pita Wraps Greek Fries Tzatziki	2 Lunch: Palak Paneer Roti Rice Dahl	3 Lunch: Pizza Day	4 Lunch: Creamy Italian sausage penne Garlic Bread Minestrone Soup

SD53 PERSONAL DIGITAL DEVICE POLICY

Students will not be allowed to use personal digital devices during instructional hours unless explicitly permitted by a teacher for educational purposes.

Personal digital devices must be turned off and stored in backpacks, lockers, or at home.

Personal digital device are not permitted in hallways or washrooms during class time.

Exceptions will be made for students with accessibility or medical needs.

Families can contact the school office to leave important messages.