



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 29, 2026

Phone (250) 870-5138

Email dwe@sd23.bc.ca



Spring Musical – April 15 & 16

Looking ahead, we are excited to share that Spring Musical planning is already underway!

Mark Your Calendar

January 25 – February 1 – Family Literacy Week
February 12 – Jensen / Peters Fieldtrip
February 13 – No School / Teacher Pro.D. Day
February 16 – Family Day / No School
February 25 – Bullying Awareness / Pink Shirt Day
February 26 – **Early Dismissal 12:25** / Parent Teacher Interviews / Student – Led Conferences
February 27 – **Early Dismissal 12:25** / Parent Teacher Interviews / Student – Led Conferences
March 12 – Second Written Learning Update
March 16-27 – Spring Break
April 3-6 – Easter Weekend
April 15-16 – Spring Musical
April 30 – PAC Event – Spring Dance 5:30pm–7:30pm
May 14 – Éloiz Performance Field Trip for French Immersion Students
May 18 – Victoria Day
May 20-21-22 – Gardom Lake for Grade 6 French Immersion and Grade 5 English Program Students
May 25 – Sailing Lessons Begin
June 4 – PAC Event – Family Fun Night 4:30pm–7:30pm
June 9 – District Track & Field Day (for qualifiers)
June 25 – Last Day of School for Students / Final Written Learning Updates Distributed
June 26 – Administrative Day

Safety Reminder

Please **DO NOT** enter our **staff parking lot** between 8am–3pm. Students are often crossing the parking lot before / after school. **We have had several near-misses!**



February Spirit Days

February 6 – Canada Colours / Olympic Spirit Day – Wear red and white or show your Olympic spirit by dressing like your favourite athlete or sporting team!

February 12 – Valentine Colours Day – Wear red, white, or pink to celebrate kindness, friendship, and Valentine's Day spirit!

February 20 – Jersey Day – Wear a jersey from your favourite sports team or club!

February 27 – DWE Colours / Spirit Wear Day – Show your school spirit by wearing DWE colours or spirit wear!



(Left): Mrs. Jensen's Grade 5 class visiting their "Big Buddies" at OKM this past month for some physical literacy activities

Dear Parent(s) and Guardian(s),

A note from the Principal

I would like to express gratitude to our school community for a wonderfully calm and positive start to 2026. January can often feel like the longest month of the year, but inside our halls it was filled with peaceful routines, student engagement, and steady learning. It has truly been a joy to watch students return from winter break ready to learn, reconnect, and support one another.



February is shaping up to be an exciting and meaningful month for our school:

All students will enjoy a performance from Dufflebag Theatre on February 10th in our gym. Their creative, interactive storytelling always inspires imagination, laughter, and a love of the arts.

We will hold our Pink Shirt Day / Anti-Bullying assembly on February 25 for our students, where we will reinforce the importance of kindness, empathy, and inclusion. We are thrilled to welcome leadership students from OKM, who will be joining us to present about standing up for others and making positive choices.

Parent-Teacher Interviews will take place February 26 and 27.

Please note: **Both days are early dismissal days (12:30 pm)** to allow time for conversations between families and teachers. We look forward to connecting with you to discuss your child's progress and goals for the spring.

February's theme is Kindness—a value we believe should shine every day, not just this month.

Our staff has been developing a student recognition initiative to celebrate whole-school efforts toward demonstrating R.O.A.R. values. In addition, our teachers continue to engage in meaningful professional learning during staff meetings. Our focus this term is enhancing student agency and strengthening learning competencies across all grade levels.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and support. We are grateful for the positive energy your children bring to our school every day. Wishing you a wonderful February filled with connection and kindness.

Warmly,
Christey Hughes, Principal

DWE Basketball Schedule

Grade 5/6 Boys, Coaches: Irene Hayward, Gord Sparrey

Practices Tuesday and Thursdays at Lunch

Games 3-4pm

Wednesday, Feb 4 at Casorso

Wednesday, Feb 11 at North Glenmore

Wednesday, Feb 18 Home Game

Grade 5/6 Girls, Coaches: Carly Newell, Sandra Light, Nicole Fleury

Practices Monday and Wednesday at lunch

Games 3-4pm

Wednesday, Feb 4 Home Game

Thursday, Feb 12 at North Glenmore

Thursday, Feb 19 Home Game





Family Day Fun at MNP Place

**Monday, Feb. 16, 2026
1 - 4 p.m.**

Free! Donations are greatly appreciated in support of Central Okanagan Search & Rescue.

Featuring fun and games for the whole family, including a Park & Play bouncy castle, active games, try-it sports scavenger hunt, and free skating! Skate rentals available on site, make sure to bring your own helmet.

Plus win prizes!




LICENSED SPRING BREAK CAMP



City of Kelowna day camps pack your week with gym games, creative crafts, outdoor adventures, and a splash-filled swim trip to Parkinson Rec Centre. Join our awesome staff for a fast-paced, fun-loaded adventure!

Watson Rd Elementary **Bankhead Elementary** **Age 5-12**

Registration

Registration must be completed through the Program Manager.
Please contact for more information.

Subsidy available!

 **Bankhead:** bankheadkelowna@gmail.com
 **Watson Road:** wraspkelowna@gmail.com

COPAC Parent Conference



Who should attend

- Any parents and caregivers of students in Central Okanagan Public Schools
- Parents & caregivers interested in learning how to better support their students in SD23
- Current PAC executives or those interested in getting more involved with their school PAC



**Saturday
February 28, 2026**

9am - 3pm
In Person at the new Learning Center at Hollywood Road Educational Services

 **Register Now: FREE**



Parent & Caregiver Learning Sessions
9am - 12pm



Lunch & connections
12pm - 1pm

PAC Learning Sessions
1pm - 3pm

Coffee, snacks & lunch will be provided

What to expect

- Parent education sessions on current learning topics
- Insights into digital literacy and AI in SD23
- Lunch and networking with SD23 Trustees
- Practical PAC learning sessions
- Opportunities to connect with other parents




SKATE LIKE AN OLYMPIAN







**Our skaters start in Kelowna
then race
all over Canada!**




FREE Try-It Session Feb. 9th @ 5:45-6:30p
MNP Place Rink #2

All ages and experience levels welcome!!

kelownaspeedskate@gmail.com for registration info

Information for families with children starting Kindergarten in September: Enrollment for our sister school, École Bellevue Creek Elementary (Kindergarten – Grade 2)



Central Okanagan
Public Schools
Together We Learn

French Immersion Kindergarten
Informational Session: Tuesday, January 13, 2026
@ 6:00-7:00 pm Zoom Link: sd23.org/french
This meeting will be recorded and posted on the District website

ONLINE APPLICATION for STUDENT ENROLLMENT begins on Monday, February 2, 2026, at 7:00 am for 2026 - 2027 School Year
(for kindergarten, new students, and school of choice for K – 12)

Schools will be open at 7:00 am to provide support to parents that require assistance.
Documentation Submission Deadline: **Friday, March 13, 2026**

If you are new to Canada, please contact the Welcome Centre for enrollment information at (250)870-5155

HOW TO APPLY

PLEASE NOTE: *The application process is online only. You are required to have a valid email account.*

In your web browser type: <https://www.sd23.bc.ca/school-enrollment>

No internet access? Please contact your school for assistance.

Online applications begin on Monday, February 2, 2026 at 7:00 am. Applications will be assigned a date-time stamp on a first-come, first-served basis, which will factor into a student's placement priority.

Complete the online application as early as possible, and provide the required documents listed below directly to the school in by email or in person by **Friday, March 13, 2026**.

1. Student's **Birth Certificate** or other government issued proof of age and citizenship.
2. **Proof of Parent/Guardian B.C. Residency**
 - a. Combination BC Driver's License and Services Card (copy of both sides); or,
 - b. BC Services Card (copy of both sides) **and** one item from the list of Supporting Documentation (3.) below; or,
 - c. Proof of application for BC Medical Services Plan and one item from the list of Supporting Documentation below.
3. **Supporting Documentation/Proof of Parent/Guardian Living Address**
 - Ownership of a dwelling or long-term lease or rental of a dwelling;
 - Documentation indicating British Columbia residence (i.e. utility bill);
 - British Columbia registration of an automobile;
 - British Columbia Driver's License (copy of both sides); or,
 - A current income tax return filed as a British Columbia resident.

AFTER Thursday, September 3, 2026

New in-catchment area enrollments: Parents will be notified by a confirmation email when the school has accepted the student's application for enrollment. Board Policy 405R – Student Placement (Regulations), will be used to determine student placement and priority.

New out-of-catchment area enrollments: Parents will not be notified until after the summer enrollment period is over and all in-catchment area students have been placed.

Qualifying age: The School Act requires that a child must be five years of age by December 31, 2026, to qualify for school enrollment in September 2026. No exceptions.

For further information, please visit the School District website www.sd23.bc.ca or call (250) 860-8888.