



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

October 1, 2026

Phone (250) 870-5138

Email dwe@sd23.bc.ca

Upcoming Events

Oct. 1 - FSAs Begin

Oct. 8 - PAC Outdoor Family Movie Night

Oct. 9 - Implementation Day / No School

Oct. 12 - Thanksgiving / No School

Oct. 15/16 - Parent / Teacher Conferences

Early Dismissal 12:25pm

Oct. 16 - Photo Re-Takes 8:30am

Oct. 23 - Pro.D. Day / No School

Oct. 30 - Halloween Celebrations

Nov. 10 - Remembrance Day Assembly (Tuesday)

Nov. 11 - Remembrance Day / No School (Weds.)

Nov. 27 - First Written Learning Update home

Dec. 15 - Winter Music Performance 9:15-10:15

Dec. 16 - Winter Music Performance 1:15-2:15

VOLLEYBALL NEWS

Games begin soon!

Girls' Practice Weds. and Thursdays at lunch

Coaches - Mariah Peters and Kailey King

Boys' Practice Tuesdays and Fridays at lunch

Coaches - Justin Brown and Gord Sparrey



Halloween at DWE



As students begin to think about Halloween costumes, please note that, just like last year, inflatable costumes will not be permitted.

On Friday, October 30th, students will be allowed to wear costumes to school. Some classes will allow students to wear costumes all day, others may request that they are worn for the afternoon only. Classes going on field trips may have other considerations.

Please make sure that students do not bring/wear:

- pretend-weapons of any kind (and of course no real ones either!), even if they are part of their costume
- no blood or gore
- no Halloween masks (as they restrict vision and create hazards)
- no excessively frightening or revealing costumes Students will hopefully have the opportunity to show off their costume to the entire school during a fun assembly
- no inflatable costumes due to safety concerns, visibility

Finally, it is always nice if you pay close attention during the days following Halloween to make sure the sandwich-made-with-love is not swimming in a lunch box filled with, if not entirely replaced by, chocolates and candies.

REMINDER

School Fees Are Due: School Cash Online

**DUE
Today**

\$40 School Fees
\$10 Cultural Fees

If student fees and field trip costs are causing your family financial hardship, please contact the office. We do not want any student to miss out on opportunities due to financial reasons.

Bikes and Scooters

- *All student bikes MUST be parked at our designated bike racks and not along our fences, please!*
- *Non-motorized scooters may be parked at the "scooter cage" nearest our front entrance.*
- *Motorized scooters are not permitted.*
- *Helmets must be worn.*
- *"Wheels" must be walked at our crosswalk and on our school property*



Optional Student Accident Insurance

Central Okanagan Public Schools does not insure expenses for student injuries that occur on school grounds or during school activities. Parents and guardians can voluntarily purchase private accident insurance. Student Accident Insurance by StudyInsured is a voluntary plan that provides coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses, and critical illness. To apply for the Plan or to find out more, visit this website:

www.studyinsuredstudentaccident.com/

ARRIVING TO SCHOOL ON TIME

Our school places an emphasis on being on time. It is very helpful and adds success to each child's day when all students are seated by the second bell and classroom instruction can begin without interruption. Arriving on time sets up all our students for success. Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation with this goal. If your child arrives late, please ensure that they report in at the school office before going to their classroom.

Please also remember school ends at 2:25pm and there is supervision outdoors until 2:40pm.



Safety Reminder

Please DO NOT enter our staff parking lot between 8am-3pm. Students are often crossing the parking lot before / after school. We need to avoid near misses!

Personal Devices at School

We want to remind parents and guardians that students are not permitted to use their personal devices at school (this INCLUDES texting with smart watches).

During school time, including lunch and recesses, personal devices should be in backpacks and smart watches should not be used for any other purpose than to tell time. If a student needs to contact their family, or receive an important message, this should be done via the office.

A note from the Principal

Dear DWE Families,

As we move into October, it is incredible to reflect on the positive energy, enthusiasm, and sense of community that have filled our school throughout September. Our students have settled beautifully into their classrooms and routines, building new friendships, strengthening existing ones, and embracing the opportunities that a new school year brings.

One of the highlights of the month was our participation in the **Terry Fox Run**. Students demonstrated outstanding school spirit as they came together to honor Terry Fox's legacy of courage, determination, and hope. Through their participation, they were reminded that even small actions can make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

We also took time to recognize **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**, an important opportunity for learning, reflection, and understanding. Across the school, students engaged in age-appropriate activities and discussions that helped deepen their awareness of Indigenous histories, cultures, and perspectives. As a learning community, we remain committed to fostering respect, inclusion, and reconciliation in our daily work together.

Student leadership is already making a positive impact this year. Our Student R.O.A.R. Council is in development. This new group of students will be planning initiatives that will help strengthen school spirit, encourage acts of kindness, and support a welcoming environment for all learners. We are excited to see our student leaders develop their voices and contribute to our vibrant school community throughout the year.

We are also proud to celebrate our student-athletes who are representing D.W.E. on the **District Volleyball** stage. Congratulations to the students involved with the Grade 5 English / Grade 6 French Immersion DWE Volleyball Teams. Their commitment, teamwork, and sportsmanship exemplify the values we strive to cultivate both in and out of the classroom. We wish them continued success and enjoyment throughout their season.

As we look ahead, October brings many opportunities for learning, connection, and celebration. We look forward to a cozy break at Thanksgiving, a time to reflect on gratitude and the many good things within our school community. Students will also enjoy the excitement of Halloween activities later in the month, while continuing to focus on meaningful learning experiences in their classrooms.

Please note that October will also include professional development days, providing valuable opportunities for staff to engage in learning that supports student success. Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place this month as well, offering families and teachers an important opportunity to celebrate student growth and discuss goals for the year ahead.

Thank you to our students, staff, and families for helping make the start of this school year such a positive one. Together, we continue to build a caring, inclusive, and engaged school community where every child can thrive. We look forward to enjoying all that October has to offer and to continuing this wonderful journey together.

Warmly,

Christey Hughes

Principal, DWE



Community

2nd Annual
**Make a
SPLASH!**
& Drown-Proof the Okanagan




ADOPT A DUCK.
Watch it race.
Save a life.



ymcasibc.ca/splash

Support the **YMCA Okanagan Swims** program to ensure every Grade 3 child has access to essential swim lessons and water safety training.

Ducks race on October 3, 2026
at H₂O Adventure + Fitness Centre!

2nd Annual
**Make a
SPLASH!**
& Drown-Proof the Okanagan




DUCK RACE
Adopt a duck! 

**QUACK & SPLASH
TEAM CHALLENGE**
Team up, have fun, raise funds! 

**AQUA
CLASS**
Family fun! 

BBQ
by donation 

Join us and support the **YMCA Okanagan Swims** program to ensure every Grade 3 child has access to essential swim lessons and water safety training.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2026
H₂O Adventure + Fitness Centre



ADOPT A DUCK OR DONATE
at ymcasibc.ca/splash

JUNIOR COYOTES BASKETBALL

5x5 League
September 11 - November 21

Grade 1-2 Boys & Girls
Grade 3-4 Boys & Girls
Grade 5-6 Boys & Girls
Grade 7-9 Boys
Grade 10-12 Boys
Grade 7-8 Girls
Grade 9-12 Girls

Practice & Game
per Week

See Website for Scheduled
Practice & Game Times

Fall Programs

3x3 League
September 12 - November 22

Grade 1-2 Boys & Girls
Grade 3-4 Boys
Grade 5-6 Boys
Grade 7-9 Boys & Girls
Grade 3-4/5-6 Girls

Microballers
September 12 - November 21

Boys & Girls
Ages 3-5

**OC Home
Schedule**

Sat, Oct 24
vs VIU

Sat, Oct 31
vs Capilano

Sat, Dec 5
vs CBC





Register:
WWW.GOCOYOTES.CA

Contact:
250-575-7731
andrew@juniorcoyotes.com





DIVE INTO THE FUN, MAKE A SPLASH

AND SWIM IN SYNCH WITH THE KELOWNA DOLPHINS THIS YEAR!





REGISTRATION FOR THE 2026-2027 SEASON IS NOW OPEN!



PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FOR YOUTH AGES 5 TO 20 AND FOR ADULTS.



RECREATIONAL, LIMITED COMPETITIVE AND PROVINCIAL COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FOR ALL AGES.



BUILD SKILLS, MAKE FRIENDS, GAIN CONFIDENCE AND BE PART OF A SUPPORTIVE TEAM ENVIRONMENT!



FUN, FITNESS AND PURPOSE—IN AND OUT OF THE POOL!

EMAIL registrar@kelownadolphins.com

VISIT kelownadolphins.com FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SCHEDULES AND FEES.

Brave Hearts Club

Children's Grief and Loss Support Group



Where Healing Meets connection

Wednesdays from 4pm - 5:30pm
October 7th - December 2nd
(no session on Nov. 11th)

Central Okanagan Hospice Association is pleased to offer an eight week grief and loss support group for children ages 6-12 who have experienced the loss of a family member or friend through death.

- A safe space to explore grief
- Art, games, gentle discussion
- Snacks and refreshments

No cost to attend



Registration is Required
Starts Oct. 7 4pm-5:30pm
COHA August Center, #200-1890 Cooper Road

andi@hospicecoha.org 250.763.5511



Games Fair at VegFest Kelowna



SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 10AM - 4PM
CITY PARK
1600 ABBOTT STREET, KELOWNA

PLAY FOR THE PLANET! 🌍

HOW IT WORKS **1 REGISTER & FUNDRAISE IN ADVANCE**
Register & fundraise \$15+ = Free Games Passport

OR **2 DROP IN ON EVENT DAY**
Drop-in = \$20 Games Passport

THEN **3 JOIN US AT GAMES FAIR ON SEP 20TH!**
Enter VegFest by donation, explore the festival, and head over to the Games Fair. Take your Games Passport and complete challenges and receive a swag bag & enter to win prizes!

AT THE EVENT

- Fun games & challenge stations
- EcoWarrior obstacle course
- Swag bags (while supplies last)
- Win fundraising & event prizes!



Help us raise \$10,000 for youth climate action!
www.ecocooks.org/games-fair

FALL Registration Open!




Kelowna

604 Cawston Avenue, Kelowna

3:30 - 5:45PM
on Wednesdays

September 16 - November 18

www.ecocooks.org/registrationkelowna

ÉCOLE DOROTHEA WALKER ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR 2026-2027

School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan Public Schools)

4346 Gordon Dr, Kelowna, B.C. V1W 1S5

Phone: (250) 870-5138 www.dwe.sd23.bc.ca

Days in session	189
Number of days of instruction	182
Number of non-instructional days	7
Schools open – Tuesday only, 8:25-10:55	Tuesday, September 8, 2026
National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	Wednesday, September 30, 2026
Administrative Implementation Day (no regular classes)	Friday, October 9, 2026
Thanksgiving Day (schools closed)	Monday, October 12, 2026
Early Dismissal at 12:25 for Parent-Teacher Conferences	Thursday, October 15, 2026
Early Dismissal at 12:25 for Parent-Teacher Conferences	Friday, October 16, 2026
Teacher Professional Day	Friday, October 23, 2026
Remembrance Day (schools closed)	Wednesday, November 11, 2026
First Written Learning Update	Friday, November 27, 2026
School closes for Winter vacation at 2:30	Friday, December 18, 2026 at 2:30pm
Winter vacation period (schools closed)	Monday, December 21, 2026 – Friday, January 2, 2027
Statutory holiday (schools closed)	Friday, January 1, 2027
School reopens after Winter vacation	Monday, January 4, 2027
Teacher Professional Day (Support Staff In-Service Day)	Friday, February 12, 2027
Family Day (schools closed)	Monday, February 15, 2027
Early Dismissal at 12:25 for Parent-Teacher Conferences	Thursday, February 25, 2027
Early Dismissal at 12:25 for Parent-Teacher Conferences	Friday, February 26, 2027
Second Written Learning Update	Thursday, March 11, 2027
School closes for Spring vacation at 2:30	Friday, March 12, 2027 at 2:30pm
Spring vacation period (schools closed)	Monday, March 15 – Friday, March 25, 2027
School reopens after Spring vacation	Tuesday, March 30, 2027
Good Friday (schools closed)	Friday, March 26, 2027
Easter Monday (schools closed)	Monday, March 29, 2027
Victoria Day (schools closed)	Monday, May 24, 2027
Last Day of School and Third Written Learning Update	Thursday, June 29, 2027
Administrative Day (students do not attend)	Friday, June 30, 2026
School closes for summer	Friday June 30, 2026

Bell Schedule for 2026-27

8:20 Welcome Bell
 8:25 Morning Classes Begins
 11:10 Outdoor Play
 11:35 Lunch
 12:00 Lunch Completes
 12:05 Afternoon Classes Begin
 1:10 Little Recess
 1:25 Final Period
 2:25 Dismissal

Early Dismissal Days for 2026-27

Dismissal will happen at 12:25 on the following days:
 October 15 and 16, 2026
 February 25 and 26, 2027

Staff In-Service Days for 2026-27

Friday, October 9, 2026
 Friday, October 23, 2026
 Friday, February 12, 2027

Statutory Holidays are highlighted in the above calendar.