



École Peter Greer Elementary

NEWSLETTER

February / March 2023



Message from Our Admin Team

It is hard to believe February is upon us. Time sure flies when you are having fun, safely of course! Seeing as though March is a short month, we combine the February and March newsletters. The weeks since our holiday break have translated into a month of hard work and focused attention on the curriculum. Our accomplishments to date have been outstanding. Our team monitors learning data closely and frequently to ensure that we are helping all students reach their learning potential. As we diligently work through the second term, we can all feel confident that January has provided us with many academic accomplishments, and milestones surpassed.

As many of you are aware, quite a few businesses and organizations are facing staff shortages due to illness, and this has not escaped the schools in our district. For the last two weeks we have had higher than usual absences where we have had to be creative in making sure continuity of learning was maintained. We would like to thank those staff members who have been reassigned from their regular roles to cover enrolling classroom teacher vacancies. Your patience and support do not go unnoticed!

We hope parents will be able to take a bit of time out of their busy schedules to attend our **Parent-Teacher Conferences** on Thursday, February 9th and Friday, February 10th, 2023. There will be a variety of different formats offered. Some teachers will meet with parents in person, some with and some without students, some will host in an Open House format, and others may arrange an opportunity for students to share their learning with parents. Of course, Zoom options will be available as well. Regardless of format, these conferences are a great opportunity to re-connect with your child's teacher, share information between home and school, update parents on their child's transition to a new grade, and to set learning goals. Teachers will communicate their chosen format with you in the near future. If you have not heard from your child's teacher about a time for your conference, please contact the school.

On Tuesday, February 14, we have our monthly **Parent Advisory Council** meeting in the library at 6:00 pm or by Zoom <https://sd23.zoom.us/j/2735419423> (Meeting ID: 273 541 9423). PAC activities rely on the support of parents and guardians participating and volunteering some of their time to make them happen. PAC continues to look for help with their Fun Lunch program. We hope you can help!

Mr. J. Minkus and Mr. R. Bischoff

IMPORTANT DATES FOR FEBRUARY AND MARCH

| | |
|------------|--|
| Jan 30 | Registration Starts @ 7:00 am |
| Jan 31 | Starling's Class to Vernon Science Centre |
| Feb 1 | Kindergarten Dental Screening |
| Feb 2 | Groundhog Day Vernon Science Centre Visits Craig's Class |
| Feb 9 & 10 | Parent-Teacher Conferences: Early Dismissal 12:30 |
| Feb 14 | Parent Advisory Council Meeting @ 6:30 |
| Feb 15 | Harmony Day |
| Feb 16 | Intermediate Classes Tubing @ Silver Star |
| Feb 17 | Professional Development Day: Schools Closed |
| Feb 20 | Family Day: Schools Closed |
| Feb 23 | Explore Science Program (Caillaud & Harper) |
| Feb 24 | Craig & Dewolf to Kelowna Art Gallery & Museum Fire Drill # 4 @ 2:00 pm |
| Feb 27 | Sexual Health Education for Grades 4-5 |
| March 1 | Sexual Health Education for Grades 4-5 |
| March 6 | Chefs in the Classroom Program Starts (Dewolf & Craig) |
| March 7 | Talent Show Rehearsals Harper's Class to Rotary Arts Centre |
| March 8 | Talent Show Matinee for Students & Staff Talent Show @ 5:30 pm |
| March 10 | Report Cards Home Diversity Club Meets @ Lunch |
| March 14 | Parent Advisory Council Meeting @ 6:30 |
| March 17 | Last Day of School Before Spring Vacation |
| April 3 | Schools Reopen After Spring Vacation |



2023 – 2024 Budget Presentation

The public presentation explaining how the district's budget is established will take place at the Central Okanagan Parent Advisory Council (COPAC) meeting on Monday, February 6, 2023, at 7:00 pm by Zoom. If you would like to attend this presentation, please email copac.president@sd23.bc.ca and the Zoom link will be shared with you.

We encourage all those interested in learning more about School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan)'s 2023/2024 budget and how to provide input to participate in this information meeting.

StrongStart is a free drop-in early learning program for children aged 0 to 5 years (prior to entry into kindergarten), who are accompanied by their parents or caregivers. It is the beginning of a special partnership between families and schools. The program at Peter Greer is facilitated by Nicole Kierstead, a Licensed Early Childhood Educator. Click [here](#) for more information.

If you are a returning StrongStart family, then feel free to drop-in on days that work for you. StrongStart Centres are open: Monday – Friday 8:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

French Immersion at Ecole Peter Greer

Parents interested in the French Immersion program for Kindergarten students were invited to attend the French Immersion Open House at 6:00 pm. Tuesday, January 17 on Zoom (<https://sd23.zoom.us/j/66788384519>). Each French Immersion School used to hold these sessions, but now there is one session for all interested parents in the school district. The presentation was recorded and is available to be viewed [here](#). School tours and classroom visits at PGE are available by request. To set up a time, please email the Vice Principal at russ.bischoff@sd23.bc.ca or call the school at 250-870-5129.



Get in the game this summer with UBCO Sport Camps!

Led by nationally recognized coaches and student athletes, UBCO Heat Sport Camps offer a fun-filled week of skill development. These camps are a great way to introduce youth ages 5 to 17 to a sport or help them improve their techniques. Camp programming includes golf, basketball, volleyball, biking and more.

Camps are set to run in July and August at UBC Okanagan. Follow this [link](#) or check out goheat.ca/camps to learn more and register today!

Contact ubcoheat.summertimecamp@ubc.ca for additional information.

Ecole Peter Greer
Entertainment Presents

Talent Show

**UNLEASH YOUR
INCREDIBLE TALENT**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

**MATINEE FOR STUDENTS & STAFF @ 12:15
PARENT AUDIENCE PERFORMANCE @ 5:30 PM**

AUDITIONS START FEB. 5
LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION COMING HOME SOON!



WWW.RPGE.SD23.BC.CA



CALL 250-870-5129

Harmony Day - Central Okanagan Public Schools is celebrating the 16th annual Harmony Day on February 15, 2023. Our theme this year is *Caring Communities* and we would like to recognize that everyone in our community plays a role in making our lives just a little bit better on a daily basis! Harmony Day recognizes that citizens of the Central Okanagan come from all over the world. It provides a yearly opportunity for the community of Central Okanagan Public Schools to celebrate our culturally diverse society and commit ourselves to mutual respect. At PGE, we will once again be having a picnic/potluck!

Harmony Day Picnic Details - more information will be coming home in the next few days.

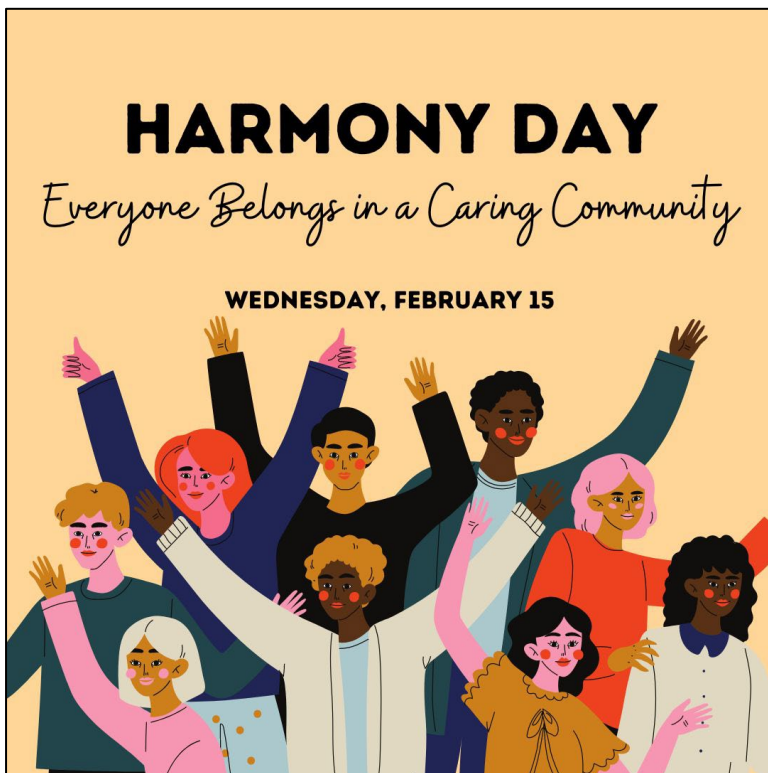
When: Feb. 15 @ 10:15 (Primary) and 11:45 (Intermediate)

What is happening: A fun and casual time to share a meal together with our school community (parents included!). This is a social event and not a formal assembly.

What students should bring: Tupperware and fork for food/ blanket or towel to sit on/ **bring normal lunch** just in case your child does not like the food being served.

Families bringing food: Thank you!!! It looks like there is going to be a wide variety of meals and snacks and treats being served. How exciting!!!

Volunteers: Thank you!!! We could still use a few more volunteers, especially with set up. We will need your help with set up, serving food etc. Please email pge@sd23.bc.ca if you can help.





Ecole Peter Greer Elementary invites you to

Early Learning for Families

A free evening, with dinner, for families with 3 - 5 year olds!

Click [here](#) to register!



Thursday, May 4 from 4:30 - 6:00 pm

When parents are involved in the children's education, their children do better in school. ELFF is a program for families of 3 - 5 year old children designed to build connections between home and school and help children some foundational skills in literacy, numeracy and social-emotional learning.

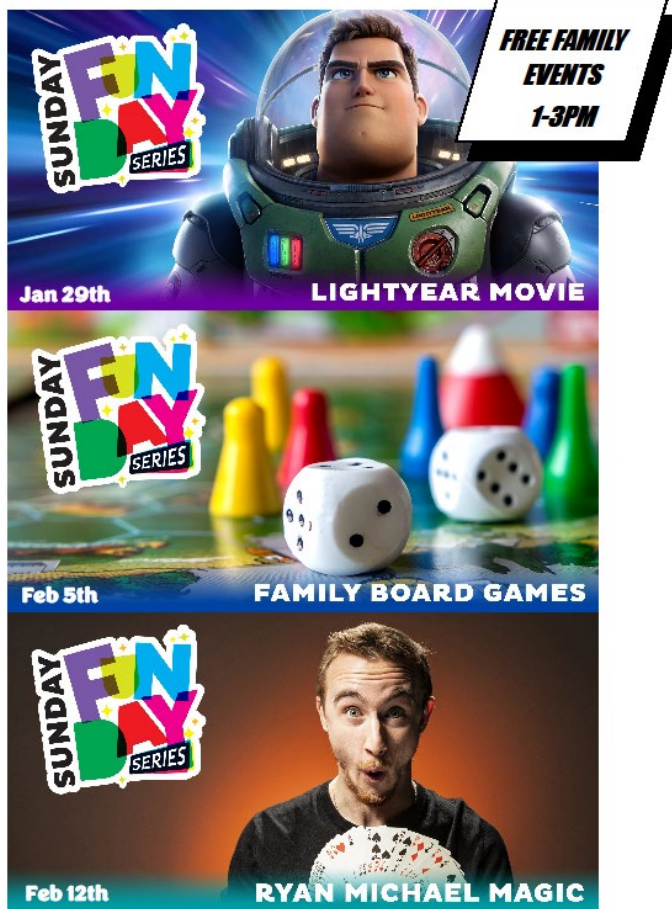


Sponsored by Central Okanagan Public School's Early Learning Team. We will.....

- eat a pizza supper together
- learn together at various learning stations
- give you a 'goodie bag' to take home
- have lots of prizes and fun!



CREEKSIDE THEATRE



CALLING ALL PGE STUDENTS!

2023

Your Cover Here!

Want to create the cover for the 2022-2023 yearbook?

Requirements:

- Complete on a white piece of 8.5x11 paper
- Paper needs to be portrait
- Use any art medium
- Must include the title: Peter Greer Elementary
- Must include the year: 2022-2023

Please contact Caitlin Harper, PGE yearbook advisor with any questions at caitharper@gmail.com or 250-718-1062

Submission deadline April 1, 2023.

Sunday January 29th – Lightyear Movie FREE to attend.

The whole family is invited to join us for the first of our three-part series SUNDAY FUNDAY where we will be screening Lightyear in the Creekside Theatre. Popcorn, snacks, and beverages will be served (cash only). Doors open at 12:45pm and movie will start shortly after. No registration is required. Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

Sunday February 5th – Family Games Day <https://fb.me/e/2yFF2vk5D>

FREE to attend.

The whole family is invited to join us for the second of our three-part series SUNDAY FUNDAY where we will be hosting a Family Games Day Extravaganza. Board games will be played in the GESS foyer and video games will be played in the Creekside Theatre (including Mario Kart). Popcorn, snacks, and beverages will be served (cash only). Doors open at 12:45pm. No registration is required. Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

Sunday February 12th – Ryan Michael Magic <https://fb.me/e/5lykbpAZ5>

FREE to attend.

The whole family is invited to join us for the last of our three-part series SUNDAY FUNDAY where we will be hosting internationally award winning illusionist and mentalist, Mr. Ryan Michael. Popcorn, snacks, and beverages will be served (cash only). Doors open at 12:45pm and stage show will start shortly after that in the Creekside Theatre. Following the stage show, Ryan will be performing close up magic in the GESS foyer to blow our minds even more. No registration is required. Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY

We request that families and care providers consider the following:

It is illegal to:

- Drive through a marked crosswalk when it is occupied by pedestrians. As you approach a crosswalk, scan both ends and stop if occupied. Try to make eye contact with the pedestrian.

Park or stop on any marked crosswalk or within 6 m of the approach side of a crosswalk. If you do, you are in contravention of Traffic Bylaw 98-186. Parking on the crosswalk forces young children to attempt to cross the road elsewhere and puts them at risk to be hit by a vehicle.

- Make a U-turn if it interferes with other traffic.
- Park across the entrance to a driveway or intersection.
- Park where a curb is painted yellow.



Other reminders:

- The driveway and parking lot in front of the school is closed to all traffic except staff, fire, and vehicles equipped with a handicap pass.
- Use the 'Kiss & Go' lane, **but do not park there!** Follow the yellow arrows and drop-off in the upper level at the end of the drive-through. Do not stop at the start or middle. NEW: The four vehicles at the top of the Kiss and Go lane can let their children exit at the same time as there is a sidewalk along the lane four vehicles deep. This would help move the line a little faster.
- Safely walking, cycling, riding scooters and skateboards require continuous reinforcement both at home and at school. This equipment is not to be used on school property until after 2:45 pm.
- A reminder to parents that there are lots of students out and about during peak drop off and pick up times and we urge you to use extra caution while driving.
- Also, parents are asked to use the sidewalks if walking their children to and from school and not to cut through the parking lot as it is not safe.

SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS NEEDED

Do you have a passion to work with children or youth, enjoy driving and excited to have the holidays and summers off with your children?

Central Okanagan Public School District is in need of professional drivers to operate our school bus routes

For more information contact Transportation Services
250-870-5151 or email us at transportation@sd23.bc.ca

To apply

Scan the QR code or use the link: <https://bit.ly/SD23BusDrivers>



\$28.23 per hour

Applicants must have:

- Completed Grade 10
- A valid Class 1 or 2 B.C. Driver's License with Air Brake Endorsement or
- A class 5 License with a Class 2 Learners and Air Brake Endorsement
- A clear Driver's Abstract



Central Okanagan
Public Schools
Together We Learn



WE NEED YOUR HELP

LOST & FOUND



IS FULL!

Our Lost and Found is overflowing with some really nice items of clothing. They will be on display on the rack and in the bins in the hallway by the office until 3:00 pm, Friday, February 10. Items left unclaimed after this time will be donated to a local charity.
Thank you for help with this!

Parent Volunteers Needed - OECD Consultation

The Ministry of Education and Child Care is asking for parent volunteers to participate in a targeted consultation, via Zoom, on Wednesday, February 15th from 630pm-730pm (Pacific). Click [here](#) to register no later than Monday, February 6th.

As one of a few high performing education systems (as identified by the OECD - Organization for Economic and Education Development), the Ministry can provide input on their framework for "Education for Human Flourishing". All 8 jurisdictions that have been identified for this phase of the work (US, UK, Estonia, Finland, Singapore, Germany, Australia and BC- not Canada) have been tasked with asking a small parent group of 15 people their thoughts on the attached questions. The Ministry is hoping to hear from parents from different regions, diversity characteristics, and perspectives across the province. This is clearly not a scientific study but does give some thoughts on the multinational project regarding how folks feel about these issues. No personal attributions will be made.



Central Okanagan
Public Schools
Together We Learn

French Immersion Kindergarten
Informational Session:
Tuesday, January 17, 2023
@ 6:00-7:00pm
bit.ly/FI-Information-Session

**ONLINE APPLICATION for STUDENT ENROLLMENT begins on
Monday, January 30, 2023, at 7:00 am for 2023 - 2024 School Year**
(for kindergarten, new students, and Programs of Choice for K – 12)

Schools will be open at 7:00 am to provide telephone support to parents that require assistance.
Documentation Submission Deadline: Friday, March 17, 2023

If you are new to Canada, please contact the Welcome Centre for enrollment information at (250)470-3258

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://enrollment.sd23.bc.ca>

No internet access? Please contact your school for assistance.

Online applications begin on Monday, January 30, 2023 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 by email by Friday, March 17, 2023.

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 below; or,
 - c. Proof of application for BC Medical Services Plan and one item from the list of supporting documentation below.
3. Proof of Parent/Guardian Living Address/Supporting Documentation
 - 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, August 31, 2023

New in-catchment area enrollments: Parents will receive 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 may 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, 2023, to qualify for school enrollment in September 2023. No exceptions.

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



**Central Okanagan
Public Schools**
Together We Learn

The School Bus Transportation Application for the 2023-2024 school year is now open!

IMPORTANT

Although school bus transportation applications are accepted throughout the school year, priority seating for the 2023–2024 school year is given to those applicants who have applied before end **of day on May 31, 2023**

Use the link below to submit a school bus transportation application for the 2023-2024 school year.
<https://busconnect.sd23.bc.ca/application>

Students must be registered to ride on the school bus, for detailed information regarding student eligibility for transportation please visit our website:
[http://www.sd23.bc.ca/ProgramsServices/transportation/Pages/default.aspx#/=](http://www.sd23.bc.ca/ProgramsServices/transportation/Pages/default.aspx#/)

470R – Transportation Services Management – Guiding Principles for Transportation
in Central Okanagan Public Schools
<http://www.sd23.bc.ca/Board/Policies/Section%204%20%20Students/470R.pdf>

!!STOP!!

**For RED FLASHING LIGHTS
IT'S THE LAW**



Safety is everyone's responsibility