



École Peter Greer Elementary

NEWSLETTER

February / March 2024



It is hard to believe February is upon us. Time sure flies when you are having fun and learning so much! 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!

One of the highlights of January was the **Primary Winter Gathering** for our grade 3 Indigenous students. The event is a chance for Indigenous students to connect with culture. There was traditional drumming, dancing, and opportunities to learn about regalia! Students also enjoyed learning about Indigenous peoples' cultures, multicultural awareness, and respect for diversity. Thank you to Indigenous Advocate **Rose Alexis** for helping this day be such a great success!

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 8th and Friday, February 9th, 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 13, 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 29	Registration for 2024-2025 Starts @ 7:00 am (Current families do not need to register)
Feb 1	Cultural Performance @ 8:45: Kutipara (Modern Dance) Harper & Portwood to Rotary Centre for the Arts
Feb 2	Groundhog Day
Feb 8 & 9	Parent-Teacher Conferences: Early Dismissal 12:30
Feb 13	Parent Advisory Council Meeting @ 6:00
Feb 16	Professional Development Day: Schools Closed
Feb 19	Family Day: Schools Closed
Feb 20	StrongStart Closed Today Fire Drill # 4 @ 2:00
Feb 28	Pink Shirt Day – Kindergarten Classes to GESS (AM) for Kindness Connections and Singing
March 6	Changes in the Air Assembly (Artist in the Classroom Indigenous Project) @ 10:00
March 7	Class Review Meetings
March 8	Bray & Catton to Sovereign Lake Starling & Albrecht to Okanagan Science Centre
March 12	Gr. 4/5 Classes to Silver Star Tube Town PAC Meeting @ 6:00 pm
March 13	Class Review Meetings
March 14	Term 2 Report Cards Home
March 15	Last Day of School Before Spring Vacation
March 29	Good Friday
April 1	Easter Monday
April 2	Schools Reopen After Spring Vacation



2024 – 2025 School District 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 5, 2024, 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 2024/2025 budget and how to provide input to participate in this information meeting.



**Central Okanagan
Public Schools**

Together We Learn

The School Bus Transportation Application for September 2024 Opens 7:00 AM January 29, 2024

IMPORTANT

Although school bus transportation applications are accepted throughout the school year, priority seating for the 2024–2025 school year is given to those applicants who have applied before end of day on **May 31, 2024**

Use the link below to submit a school bus transportation application for the 2024-2025 school year.
<https://busconnect.sd23.bc.ca/application?year=2024>

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.

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 **Chelsea Coates**, 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.



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.summercamp@ubc.ca for additional information.



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!



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 of being 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.
- 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.

