



École Peter Greer Elementary

NEWSLETTER

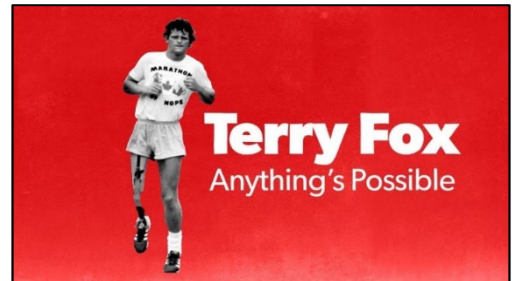
October 2025



Message from Your Admin Team

It's hard to believe that the month of September has come and gone! At our Open House on September 12, parents had a chance to learn a little more about their child's classroom space, expectations, and routines. These opportunities are the beginning of establishing a partnership between home and school. We stand at almost 100% chance of helping your child reach their learning potential when a true partnership exists. We can't do it alone. You are your child's first teacher and by the time they graduate, you will have spent more time being their teacher than we have. Despite this, we have them for 285 minutes a day, and with your help, our time with them becomes so much more powerful. The first step in establishing a positive partnership, is keeping the lines of communication open. Home-School communication is a key factor in the success of your child's academic success.

In other news, our school Terry Fox run was held on September 19, and all staff and students participated. Thank you to the families who donated. École Peter Greer Elementary has hosted a run the last 31 years raising close to \$17,000! Central Okanagan Public Schools has raised \$800,000 over 30 years of Terry Fox runs. Many of the students ran over 10 laps of the field without stopping. Members of our Grade 5 student leadership team helped organize and kick off the run. Thank-you to **Emma Sarbit** and **Nicky Krstel** for taking the lead role in organizing this run. The students were very motivated to run the laps! Nice work!



Truth and Reconciliation Week

From September 29 – October 3, 2025, our school and community participated in learning activities supporting Canada's 5th annual Truth and Reconciliation Week. On Sept. 29th, we recognized **Orange Shirt Day**. Our staff is grateful for the many events and learning activities that occurred in our classrooms to deepen our understanding and commitment to equity, truth and reconciliation. Students and staff heard a heartfelt speech from a residential school survivor from one of our families.

Noon Hour Supervisors

Our supervisors work in assigned areas and on the school ground, during the lunch period. They provide a high level of visibility and monitor the activities of students to ensure their safety, well-being, and conformance to the school's standards of acceptable behavior. We thank the following supervisors for the important role they play:

Jeanette Sfreddo
Colin Potticary

Tiffany Tsang
Chelsea Wiebe

Shauna Lyon
Tiffany Hogan

Carlee Kristensen

Yongsun Lee

IMPORTANT DATES FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

October 1	Individual Student Photos
Oct 1 – Nov 10	Foundation Skills Assessment for Grade 4 students
October 2	National Custodian Appreciation Day
October 7	La Vie Ensemble: French Cultural Performance
October 5-11	Fire Prevention Week
October 7	Fire Chief for the Day
October 8 th & 9 th	Parent-Teacher Conferences: Early Dismissal @ 12:30 Scholastic Book Fair in Library
October 10	Admin Implementation Day: Classes Not in Session
October 13	Thanksgiving Day (Schools Closed)
October 14	PAC Meeting @ 6:30 pm in the Library (or Zoom https://sd23.zoom.us/j/2735419423)
October 15	Fire Drill # 2 @ 2:10
October 17	Cultural Performance: Mark Kroos Classical Guitar
October 23	Student Photo Retakes PAC Movie Night: 6:00 pm
October 24	Pro D Day: Students Not in Attendance
November 6	Fire Drill # 3 @ 10:55
November 10	Remembrance Day Assembly 10:00
November 11	Remembrance Day: Schools Closed
November 12	Sexual Health Education for Grade 4 and 5
November 14	Sexual Health Education for Grade 4 and 5
Nov 18 – 20	Sexual Health Education for Grade 4 and 5
November 18	PAC Meeting @ 6:30 pm in the Library (or Zoom https://sd23.zoom.us/j/2735419423)
November 20	Harmony Day
November 21	Strong Start Closed Today
November 24	Cultural Performance: Axe Capoeira (Dance & Acrobatics)
November 25 & 26	Time of the Red Salmon
December 19	Last Day of School Before Winter Vacation



Student School and Cultural Fees

Parents need not worry about purchasing school supplies for their child. The school bulk purchases supplies and passes on the savings to parents! Teachers will hand out supplies as needed which helps keep things organized and allows students access to supplies when they run out. Also, art supplies such as construction paper, drawing paper, bristle board, glitter, pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks, and many other incidentals are covered by these costs. **School supplies fees are \$40.00.** The prompt payment of "School Supply Fees" by our parents does much to keep our record keeping efficient. Unless other arrangements have been made, we expect that all fees will be paid by October 1st.

If you are unable to pay your child's school fees, please contact administration. Thank you for your efforts in this regard.

Cultural Fees - Schools also charge a \$10.00 Cultural Fee. This fee provides various cultural performances and concerts in our gym throughout the school year. The performances include live theatre, musicians and other talented groups that have been carefully selected by a District Committee consisting of both School District personnel and parents.

Parents are asked to pay online (<https://centralokanagan.schoolcashonline.com/>) by October 1st. By doing so, you may be eligible to win a refund of your school fees.

Order on [School Cash Online](https://centralokanagan.schoolcashonline.com/)
By Midnight Every Tuesday

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Wednesday and Thursday, October 8th & 9th, 2025

Teachers will be reaching out to parents to arrange for an opportunity to meet to discuss your child's transition back to school. There will be a variety of formats (e.g. in-person, Zoom, Open House etc.) will be available. **Check your emails, Class Dojo or look for a paper notice coming home.**

There will be an early dismissal at 12:30 on both of these days to accommodate afternoon and evening appointments. Please note: Some teachers may have before and after school appointments available on other days during this week. On the early dismissal days, children will receive an activity and nutrition break in the morning so please send a healthy, substantial snack.

Please note that teachers have not had a lot of time since the start of the year to gather student assessment data. As a result, these conferences will be more of an opportunity to meet the classroom teacher, learn about how your child has settled into the new routines of the classroom and school, share information between home and school, and maybe set some learning goals.

The Central Okanagan School District's Appeals Process

The School District Appeals Policy states that, "A student or a parent of a student who is entitled to an educational program in School District No. 23 may appeal a decision of an employee of the Board of Education which significantly affects the education, health or safety of the student". For a complete description of the Appeals Policy along with the recommended steps to follow in attempting to solve a problem, please refer to Policy 460 – Appeals, that can be accessed from the 'Policies' link under the Board of Education heading on the School District's homepage – www.sd23.bc.ca.

The Central Okanagan School District's Financial Hardship Clause

Within School District Policy 425 – Student Fees (see www.sd23.bc.ca), the Board of Education has indicated "that a student will not be excluded from any educational program due to financial hardship". This clause in the policy provides for the private and confidential consideration of financial circumstances of individual students and families, while preserving the dignity of families who may be unable to pay. Please contact the school Principal if you are facing a financial hardship that may restrict the ability of your child to access a school program.



Cold and Flu Season is Here



We are only one month into the school year and have had several students and staff absent due to colds and flu bugs. One of the most important ways to prevent the spread of germs is to wash, wash, wash your hands!

RECIPE FOR WASHING

1. Wet hands.
2. Add soap.
3. Rub vigorously (15-30 seconds)
4. (Sing Happy Birthday to yourself when you have finished singing 20 seconds have passed)
5. Rinse well.
6. Towel dry!

Always wash your hands; before preparing food or eating and especially after using the bathroom!



StrongStart Early Learning Centre

Participate with your young child (aged birth to five) in play-based early learning activities – including stories, music, and art. At no cost to families, this early learning drop-in program helps prepare children for success in Kindergarten. Open during school hours. Please check the Strong Start section on our [website](#) for registration details and more information and be sure to check our online calendar which shows days where the centre is closed. The entrance is on the right side of the building and is clearly labelled. Our StrongStart Facilitator is **Chelsea Coates**.

Breakfast for Learning

Our school's nutrition program is proudly funded by Breakfast for Learning and PC Children's Charity. Thanks to their support, we are able to offer our students a healthy meal or snack during the school day. **Breakfast for Learning** is a national charity that is committed to ensuring students attend school well-nourished and ready to learn, giving them the best chance of success in life. Since 1992, Breakfast for Learning has helped serve over 510 million meals to children and youth across Canada. The local organization, Food For Thought, administers the funding here in Kelowna and works with schools and the board office to get food to the schools. Thank you to CEA **Connie Radis** for her efforts in making sure there is food in each classroom for all students to access.



PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

As parents of students at Peter Greer Elementary, you are all members of the school's Parent Advisory Committee. We hope that you will join us to help create a fun, supportive and caring community for all Peter Greer students.

Who is the PAC?

All parents and guardians of Peter Greer students are part of the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC).

What does the PAC do?

The PAC's role is to enhance the educational experience of our children at Peter Greer. We help strengthen the school community by organizing events and volunteer opportunities. We raise funds to provide our children with extracurricular experiences and help fund things like the fish tank, new books, and equipment. We advocate for public education, provide leadership in school and encourage communication between parents, school administrators, teachers, and students. And we run the Tuesday Fun Lunch program! Sign up for one or more shifts by going to this link <https://signup.com/go/pgepac>

Where Can You Connect?

If you have any questions regarding the PAC team, please feel free to connect with us and follow us on social media on upcoming events and fundraising goals.

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ParentsPGE/>

PAC Executives Email us: pge.pacpresident@sd23.bc.ca

PAC Hot Lunch Email: Petergreerhotlunch@gmail.com

Join us for our next PAC meeting on Tuesday, October 14, at 6:30pm in the Library

(online option available at <https://sd23.zoom.us/j/2735419423> Meeting ID: 273 541 9423)

The Peter Greer Elementary PAC meets on the second Tuesday of each month to consider school issues of concern to parents, to organize parent education and to plan ways of supporting school programs. Our vision is to build community ties and enrich the educational experiences of our children. Meetings are conducted according to the constitution and by-laws of the PAC, and the Executive is elected by the parents annually. The Principal and/or Vice Principal attends the PAC meetings to facilitate consultation between the school and PAC. Plan to attend these meetings, as it is your way to keep informed of important information and events that will impact your child's education.

The Executive for the current year is as follows:

President: Kora Holt
Vice - President: Danielle Lamb
Co-Treasurer: Jane Sanson
Co-Treasurer: Laura Wood
Co-Secretary: Irene Haywood
Co-Secretary: Kristen Michiel
Members at Large: Jen Millar and Sophie Harrison
COPAC Rep: Timothy Lynch

Other PAC Roles:

Events: Laura Murphy
Fundraising/Art Cards: Darci Vickery
Social Media: Erin Talbot
Fruit & Veggie Coordinators: Becky Carr
Co-Yearbook Coordinator: Jen Millar
Co-Yearbook Coordinator: Erin Talbot
Hot Lunch Systems Coordinator: Jane Sanson
Hot Lunch Volunteer Coordinator: Becky Carr, Laura Murphy & Danielle Lamb



DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE A SERIOUS MEDICAL CONDITION THAT WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT?

It is very important that parents/guardians provide information about serious medical conditions at the beginning of each school year. Parents also need to make sure that the appropriate forms are completed by your family physician and prescribed medicine is on hand at the school. Medical conditions may include diabetes, epilepsy, life-threatening allergies, severe asthma, blood clotting disorders, and serious heart conditions. Please pick up a medical form from Mrs. Nuyens in the office. If your child requires daily prescription medication, you will also need to complete this form.

<u>MEDICAL ALERT PLANNING FORM</u>		PHOTO ID
School Year _____ School Attended _____		
B.C. Care Card # _____		
INFORMATION AND PLAN WHILE IN THE CARE OF THE SCHOOL		
Student Name: _____		Birth Date: (YMD) _____
Parent or Guardian: _____	Day Phone: _____	Cell Phone: _____
Emergency Contact Name: _____	Day Phone: _____	Cell Phone: _____
Physician: _____	Phone: _____	
Potential life threatening medical condition diagnosed as: _____ _____ _____		
1. New Condition: ☐ Yes ☐ No Date condition identified: _____		
2. Describe the potential problem: _____ _____ _____ _____		
PLAN WHILE IN THE CARE OF THE SCHOOL The information for the school plan must be updated annually and when the child's condition changes. The plan is updated by the student/parent, in consultation with the family physician, and reviewed as needed with the appropriate school staff in consultation with the Public Health Nurse. NOTE: any changes to current plan must be initiated by the parent.		
♦ Symptoms to watch for are: _____		
♦ Precautions in the classroom are: _____		
♦ Emergency Plan school staff need to follow (step by step): 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____		
Form 436.2 – Medical Alert Planning Form Page 1 of 2		

Head Lice

Since head lice is so common in school-aged children, here's what you can do to help:

- Check your child's head on a weekly basis. Let the school know if your child has head lice. It will be handled confidentially.
- Treat head lice with a head lice shampoo or use wet combing. Check your child's head daily if a classmate or friend has head lice. Teach your child not to share scarves, combs, brushes, hats, or other headgear.
- Just remember – head lice do not spread disease and thus, they are not a major public health concern. However, itchiness from head lice can be irritating and uncomfortable for children, so it is important for families to help prevent and control its spread.



If you need more information, please call the local health nurse or visit the Interior Health website.

Important Traffic Safety Information

A recent Health & Safety assessment conducted by the school, in consultation with the District's Traffic Safety Officer, the RCMP, the District of Lake Country Bylaw Officer, and the Parent Advisory Committee determined that the use of the 'Kiss and Go Lane' between the hours of 2:00 to 3:00 pm poses a risk to adult and student pedestrian safety. Therefore, please be advised that the 'Kiss and Go Lane' is closed from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. during the school week to all traffic except emergency vehicles. The Kiss and Go Lane remains open for the morning drop-off. Please use the marked lane on the left side. It is single lane traffic only and parents do not need to wait to get to the front of the line anymore. Students can be dropped off anywhere in the lane as the right-hand side is now used for foot traffic. This should make the drop-off process quite a bit faster.

If parents do not choose to use the Kiss and Go Lane, there is also ample parking on the surrounding streets (a luxury compared to some schools). Our recommendation is that parents plan with their children to meet in a designated location on the street. The safest option for parents of younger children or for parents who have concerns is to park on the street and either accompany your child to the school in the morning and/or pick up your child at the school and walk with them back to your vehicle after school.

We realize that some parents will be inconvenienced by this course of action, but it is important for us all to put the safety of our students first!



Volunteers wanted!

We need a few more volunteers to help fill some spots.
Are you able to help during one of the following times below.

We would greatly appreciate your help! We need volunteers to help with fair set up, to assist shoppers during the fair or to be a cashier at the checkout. The book fair sale days coincide with the parent-teacher conference days Oct. 8 & 9.

DATE	TIME	VOLUNTEER
Monday, Oct. 6 (SET UP)	1:00 – 2:30	1 more volunteer to help with set up
Wednesday, Oct. 8	11:45 – 2:30	1 more volunteer
Wednesday, Oct. 8	2:30 – 5:00	1 more volunteer
Wednesday, Oct. 8	5:00 – 7:00	FULL
Thursday, Oct. 9	11:45 – 2:30	2 volunteers
Thursday, Oct. 9	2:30 – 5:00	2 volunteers

If you can volunteer, please email sherri.savage@sd23.bc.ca with your availability.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Gratefully,

Sherri Savage (PGE Teacher Librarian)

How to Sign Up to School Cash Online

For safety and efficiency reasons, School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) are reducing the amount of cash and cheques coming into our district. Please join the thousands of parents who have already registered and are enjoying the convenience of paying online.

Step 1: Register

Please go to <https://centralokanagan.schoolcashonline.com>

And select the "Get Started Today" button

Complete each of the three Registration steps:

- Enter your first and last name

- Enter your address and email

- Enter a password & security question

- Click yes for emails

Password requires 8 characters (capital, lowercase, and number)

Step 2: Email

You will receive the following email:

Please click the link below to confirm your email address.

<https://centralokanagan.schoolcashonline.com/Registration/ConfirmConfirmationEmail/09ac89f9-a796-4720a494-5fe1a71a90a7> If the link doesn't work, copy the link, and paste it into your web browser.

Step 3: Find a Student

- Leave as Central Okanagan School District;

- Choose your student's school;

- Click "I don't have a student number" if not already checked;

- Enter student's first & last name & birthday;

- Click the calendar & chose your student's year first, then month & day;

- Choose your relationship, agree to terms & press continue;

Step 4: Support

Contact support at 1.866.961.1803 or email parenthelp@schoolcashonline.com