



September 2025

NEWSLETTER



Message From Your Admin Team

Staff would like to take this opportunity to welcome back each family to Peter Greer Elementary – the home of the Eagles! We are a proud school in the heart of Lake Country. On our [website](#), you will be able to find information about our staff, parent newsletters, various activities, events, and school procedures and policies. Our Parent Handbook can be viewed [here](#). We will make every attempt to keep our site up to date so that anyone visiting it will find it current and informative.

Welcome to all our new Kindergarten students and parents, to all students joining us for the first time, and to all returning students. Students and parents can look forward to working with a highly energetic, talented, positive, and caring staff. The much anticipated first day of school, **Tuesday, September 2** is approaching quickly! Please plan to pick up your child at 11:00 am. School year beginnings are always filled with so much excitement, curiosity and desire to embrace all the new opportunities that exist. We have a rich, diverse student body, coupled with a dedicated staff and supportive community of parents. What a perfect balance to help ensure a positive, productive new school year. Join us in making the very most of our year together. Thank you to our fantastic custodial staff for their hard work over the summer getting our school ready for September. The school looks great!

Ms. Kuzik, our Vice Principal, and I are committed to ensuring a safe, caring, and inclusive learning environment for all students and staff in our school community. We are committed to providing an educational experience designed to meet each student's needs. We will do our best to communicate relevant information to the school community, and we will articulate and plan a direction to continually improve life at Peter Greer. Our focus areas this year are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Priority # 1 | Improve writing skills in grades 1-5. |
| Priority # 2 | Continued reading success in grades 1-5. |
| Priority # 3 | Building social-emotional resiliency K-5. |
| Priority # 4 | Maintaining positive relationships and connections amongst staff, students, Parents, and community (including our local Syilx people and Okanagan Indian Band). |

You're Invited! Parent-Teacher Meet and Great

On Friday, September 12, we will once again set aside from 8:00 to 8:30 am and open our classrooms to parents wanting to meet their child's teacher. Come and join us for some coffee, a muffin and some casual conversation with our teachers and staff!

Student School Supplies 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.

Meet the Teacher Conferences

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



Our first Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place on October 8th and 9th, 2025. There will be an early dismissal at 12:30 on both days to accommodate afternoon and evening appointments. These conferences are a great opportunity to share information between home and school, update parents on their child's progress, and set learning goals. Some teachers encourage students to attend with their parents so please check with your child's teacher. Information will be communicated by teachers closer to the date of the conferences.

Staffing and School Organization Updates

We had approximately 12 new registrations (11 English and 1 FI) over the summer. Our projected enrollment is 380 students, down from last year by 10 students. We are currently have space in all grades in English but we are full in most classes in French. This year's class lists will be posted on our website (by student PEN #) **after 3:00 pm on Friday, August 29, 2025. They are located in the 'News' section on the 'Welcome Back' page.** Class lists will also be displayed in the school's front windows (by student name) on the first day of school. Please Note: If you are looking for your child's PEN number, it was included on the June report card. Due to the *Freedom of Information Act*, we are not permitted to post names for more than an hour on the first day of school. Please note that the class lists are **TENTATIVE** until September 5, 2025, for several reasons:

- Some students may not return.
- We have a list of students that have registered over the summer to add to our class lists.
- There is a good chance that Davidson Road and Oyama may be sending us some students. Davidson had close to 15 registrations over the summer, and they may be redirected to us if they do not have space.

Changes may occur due to enrolment growth or decline. If your child is reassigned to a different classroom during the first week of September, you will be contacted.

Welcome back to the following staff:

MaryEllen Buhler	CEA	Courtney Daignault	CEA
Susan Niro	CEA	Donna Gruenenwald	BIT CEA
Megan Cliff	Teacher (Martin)		

Welcome to the following new staff:

Madison Clementi	ARC Programs	Cayman Feguson	CEA
Erica Yuill	CEA	Christy Mik	CEA
Christy Knuff	CEA (LDI Program)	Anastazia Ziros	Grade 2/3 Eng
Samantha Heimbach	Teacher (Swan)	Chloe Latendresse	Teacher (0.4 Dewolf ***)

*** Mme Dewolf and Mme Latendresse will be job sharing so that Mme Dewolf can take on the French Learning Assistance Teacher assignment.

Welcome back to the following itinerant/support staff:

Kelli Cook Counselor
Cheryl Elsworth SLP
Chelsea Coates Strong Start Facilitator
Heather Siemens Literacy Intervention Teacher

École Peter Greer Staff List

Cheryl Mazey	English	Grade K
Kim Payne	English	Grade K
Jenna Henderson	French Immersion	Grade K/1
Kelly Tait	French Immersion	Grade K
Brooke Sproson (Starling)	French Immersion	Grade 1/2
Marijke Albrecht	English	Grade 1/2
Megan Cliff (Martin)	English	Grade 1/2
Samantha Heimbach (Swan)	English	Grade 1/2
Sophia Miller (Lehman)	French Immersion	Grade 1/2
Keri Gagnon	French Immersion	Grade 2/3
Anastazia Ziros (Turik)	English	Grade 2/3
Jacquie Portwood	English	Grade 3
Kendra Harper	English Grade 2/3	
Jenn Dewolf/Chloe Latendresse	French Immersion	Grade 3/4
Sarah Letourneau	English	Grade 4/5
Kristen Dion	English	Grade 4/5
Christina Catton	French Immersion	Grade 4/5

Student Support Team

The following staff have been assigned to support roles. We will continue to use the Response to Intervention (RTI) model to allocate support based on need, which is determined following a review of the data and class review meetings.

Danielle Petryshyn	Learning Assistance Teacher English/School Based Team Chair/Prep
Jenn Dewolf	Learning Assistance Teacher French (0.4 FTE)
Lenora Manuel	Inclusion Teacher (1.0 FTE)
Kelli Cook	Counselor (0.5)/District SEL Consultant for Lake Country (0.5)
Cheryl Elsworth	Speech and Language Pathologist
Sherri Savage	Teacher-Librarian/ELL/Prep/SBT Coverage
Emma Sarbit	Inclusion Teacher//Principal Designate/First Aid (1.0 FTE)
Dana Guthrie	Prep/PE/Classroom Support (1.0 FTE)
Rebecca Carr	Prep/Primary Music (0.5 FTE)
Rose Alexis	Indigenous Advocate
Madison Clementi	Support Worker – ARC Programs
Chelsea Coates	Strong Start Facilitator
Heather Siemens	Literacy Intervention Teacher

Certified Education Assistants

Connie Radis
Wendy Parfitt

Ashley Cornelius
Kathryn Gevers
Victoria Galloway
Veronica Hudj
Marissa Holt
Anita Peter
Holly Solosth
MaryEllen Buhler
Susan Niro
Cayman Ferguson
Christy Mik
Erica Yuill
Courtney Daignault
Donna Gruenenwald
Christa Knuff

Administration Assistant

Caley Nuyens

Clerical Support

Shauna Lyon

Library Assistant

Shauna Lyon

Custodial Staff

Greg Snow, Head Custodian
Brad Raisanen (Opening and Noon Shifts)
Irene Marcelino (PM)
Dean Armstrong (PM)

Principal

James Minkus

Vice Principal

Tracy Kuzik

Our theme this year is:

WHAT IS LEARNER AGENCY?

Learner Agency is the degree to which an individual is able to take initiative to meaningfully influence their world, particularly in the face of challenges. It involves three interrelated and equally important elements: the **environment** to act, the **will** to act and the **power** to act.



The diagram illustrates the components of Learner Agency. It features three overlapping circles arranged in a triangle. The top-left circle is labeled 'THE WILL TO ACT' and contains a green silhouette of a head with a brain, with the word 'MINDSET' written below it. The top-right circle is labeled 'THE POWER TO ACT' and contains a colorful puzzle piece icon, with the word 'LEARNERSHIP' written below it. The bottom circle is labeled 'THE ENVIRONMENT TO ACT' and contains a blue silhouette of a school building, with the word 'SCHOOL' written above it. In the center, where the circles overlap, is the text 'LEARNER AGENCY'.



FREE EBOOK

2025-2026 Class Lists

Class lists will be posted on our website (by student PEN #) **after 3:00 pm on Friday, August 29, 2025. They are located in the 'News' section on the 'Welcome Back' page.** Class lists will also be displayed in the school's front windows (by student name) on the first day of school. Please Note: If you are looking for your child's PEN number, it was included on the June report card. Due to the *Freedom of Information Act*, we are not permitted to post names for more than an hour on the first day of school.

We started the process of placing students in classes in May, but we do not complete the process until after the registration period in the last week of August. Your child's teacher in May and June played a significant role in making these decisions. Other teachers, as well as Administration also participate and, in some cases, staff from support services (i.e., Learning Assistance Teacher, Counselor, Resource Teacher) are also consulted. The development of class lists is given a great deal of time, careful thought and understanding with the knowledge teachers have of each student and what will be in the child's best interest. Because teachers see how students function in a classroom every day, they are confident that they can make a suitable placement for your child. There are many factors that are considered in the process:

- Academic achievement
- Class size, composition and balance between boys and girls
- Student special needs
- Learning and teaching styles
- Social groupings
- Teacher and School Based Team recommendations
- Instructional groupings
- Previous placement history

It should be noted that there are several factors, including changing enrolments, Provincial class size and composition legislation, and budget restrictions, that make the placement of students a very complex task. Therefore, parent requests will be accepted as input but should not be considered as the driving force behind placement decisions. Our goal in creating each classroom composition is to provide the best possible educational placement for the students within the various constraints of the system within which we function. We appreciate your understanding of this very important issue.

We will reassess the class and school organization after the August registration period as we become aware of any enrolment changes that have taken place over the summer. As is the case every year in all schools, teaching assignments and class organizations are subject to change **during the first week of school.** Requests for placements are considered during the class building process, but not all can be accommodated for a variety of factors, and we are not able to accommodate parent requests for students to be 'switched' from one class to another once classes have been set. In this process, the Principal has the ultimate responsibility under the *School Act* for the final decision regarding placements of students.

Class lists are tentative until Friday, September 5, 2025. Changes may occur due to enrolment growth or decline. If your child is reassigned to a different classroom during the first week of September, you will be contacted. If your child is assigned to a different classroom during the first week, please help us by reassuring your child that all will be well and we will do our best to help this transition.



This is a Scent Free Zone

Chemicals in scented products can be harmful to people with fragrance sensitivities, asthma, allergies, and other medical conditions.

- Use unscented personal care products. Do not wear perfume, cologne, aftershave, and other fragrances.
- Use fragrance-free cleaning products, deodorizers, soaps, detergents, and fabric softeners.

Canada  **CCOHS.ca**
Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety



Milieu sans parfum

Les produits chimiques présents dans les produits parfumés peuvent être nocifs pour les personnes qui sont sensibles aux parfums ou qui souffrent d'asthme, d'allergies et d'autres problèmes de santé.

- Utilisez des produits de soins personnels non parfumés. Abstenez-vous de porter du parfum, de l'eau de Cologne, des produits après-rasage et d'autres produits parfumés.
- Utilisez des produits de nettoyage, des désodorisants, des savons, des détergents et des assouplisseurs non parfumés.

Canada  **CCHST.ca**
Centre canadien d'hygiène et de sécurité au travail

We Are Looking for Donations

We are asking families to please consider donating gently used sports equipment to the school, specifically:

- Soccer balls
- Baseball gloves
- Kickballs
- Footballs
- Camping/outdoor games
- Outdoor badminton nets/volleyball nets



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!



School Based Team

As a parent, you may be invited to a School Based Team (SBT) meeting. The SBT is a group of school-based personnel who work collaboratively with parents to best support their children in developing their academic and social/emotional skill set and by suggesting, providing, and implementing variety supports and strategies.

Who is on the team?

The SBT includes the following members:

- Principal and/or Vice Principal
- Learning Assistance Teacher (SBT chair)
- Classroom Teacher

Often the SBT can also include:

- School Counselor
- Speech Language Pathologist

On a case by case basis the SBT can include:

- Resource Teacher
- Aboriginal Advocate
- Outside community support (pediatrician/therapist etc.)
- District Student Support Services staff



At the SBT meeting, we will discuss what is working well for your child, highlight areas of continued growth, review any background history and brainstorm ideas of possible supports to be put into action. Please connect with Danielle Petryshyn (LAT and SBT Chair for English) or Susan Elliott (LAT and SBT Chair for French) if you have any questions. EMAIL: danielle.petryshyn@sd23.bc.ca

Strong Start Early Learning Centre

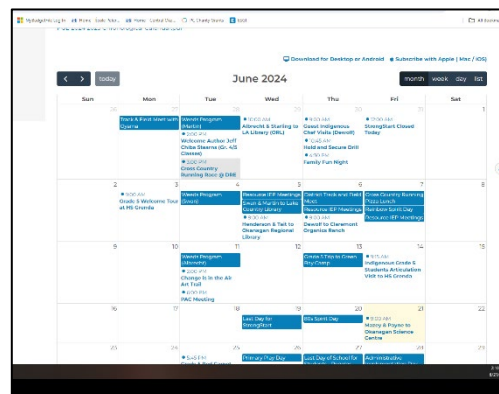


Participate with your young child (aged birth to five) in play-based early learning activities – including stories, music, and art. At no cost to families, this early learning drop-in program helps children develop the skills for a successful transition to Kindergarten. Open during school hours. StrongStart programs provide school-based early learning services for families or caregivers and their pre-school aged children. The programs are intended to fill a niche for young children who are not attending childcare and are in the home with their parent or other caregivers, such as grandparents or nannies. Both children and adults benefit from StrongStart BC early learning programs – children have access to high-quality learning environments and benefit from social interactions while the adults who accompany them learn new ways to support learning, both at the program and at home. Please call the school for more details or 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. We anticipate the first day to be Monday, September 15. Click [here](#) for more information. **Our StrongStart Facilitator is Chelsea Coates.**

Home and School Communication

We are always interested in enhancing our home/school communication. Here are a few ways that we plan to keep you informed about what's happening at the school...

School Calendar – All dates, field trips, special events, and anything of importance to our community will be on our 'Events' section on our website. There will not be a paper copy of the monthly calendar published. There are two reasons for this. One, having a single source for storing the information minimizes the chance that an incorrect date is published. For example, once a paper copy goes out and there is a subsequent date change, you can't pull back all the paper copies that were printed off. Second, the online calendar is accessible from any device at any time. -Parents and students can view our web calendar on the main page (just click on the little blue arrow) to get the most accurate, up to date information without wasting paper and harming our environment. The web calendar also allows parents to view months in advance all the way to June. Of course, parents who do not have access to a computer can still request a paper copy in the office.



Weekly Email Updates – Every weekend, we will send a **Week-At-A-Glance** email to families. This will include weekly announcements, informational items, and calendar updates.

"School Messenger" – Occasionally, you will receive a brief message on your phone, text or email to let you know of important reminders or unexpected changes to the school calendar or important reminders.

School Website – We will be using our website as a means of enhancing home and school communication. We will do our best to update the page on a weekly basis. our website is updated regularly and is another source of information for you. Check it out at www.pge.sd23.bc.ca.

School Newsletter—This is probably the most common way to keep up on what's happening at PGE. However, we also want to cut back on the use of paper to help mother nature! Therefore, all our newsletters are published on our website. Parents may also request a copy from the office in person. All monthly newsletters are posted on the website on or near the first of each month. An email will be sent out notifying parents when each newsletter is ready for viewing and a link to its location.

Plastic Spoons and Forks



To reduce the amount of plastic in our landfill and ultimately in our lakes and oceans, we do not provide plastic forks and spoons for students. We are encouraging families to send reusable cutlery when packing a lunch requiring a fork or spoon. We encourage caregivers to pack a 'litter free lunch.' A litter free lunch is one way to reduce garbage. A waste-free lunch (sometimes called a litter-less, smart, garbage-less, waste-free, no-garbage or waste-not lunch) means that you have no packaging to throw away when you're done. All you're left with is apple cores, banana peels and other biodegradable extras. Also, all items sent in a lunch will be returned at the end of the day (used or unused).



Allergy Awareness Zone

We have a number of students at PGE who are at extreme risk due to nuts, nut products, peanut oil or flour as well as kiwis. These students do not have to ingest nuts; they can have a life-threatening reaction to airborne particles or residue left on surfaces. For the safety of all our students, PGE is declared an ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL and we ask your cooperation by not sending these products to school. This includes but is not limited to peanut butter, granola bars with nuts, chocolate bars with nuts, trail mixes with nuts, etc. Please read labels. If one of these children is in your child's class, you will also be receiving a letter shortly outlining the procedures requested for keeping the student, class, and child safe.

All our staff have been made aware of this situation and been instructed in the correct procedures regarding anaphylactic shock. Prevention, of course, is the best approach and, therefore, we are requesting your cooperation by reinforcing with your children the importance of washing hands before and after eating and if possible, refrain from sending any products containing nuts to school with your child.

Have a Concern? Here's How to Get Help

From time to time, students or parents may disagree with the decisions or actions of teachers and/or administrators concerning the education, health, or safety of students. Some areas, which may raise concerns, relate to the assignment of students to classes or courses, grading practices, participation in or exclusion from school activities, or student discipline. Students or parents who disagree with or wish to question decisions or actions that are taken by teachers and/or administrators are expected to seek a resolution by pursuing the following steps:

Step One – the person with the concern must make every attempt to meet with the employee who made the decision to try to reach a solution.

Step Two - if the problem is unresolved, the person with the concern shall meet with the Vice Principal or Principal.

Step Three - if the person with the concern is not satisfied with the response provided by the Principal, he or she shall contact the Assistant Superintendent for Peter Greer Elementary at the School District Board Office. His name is Jamie Robinson and the number to call is 250.860.8888.

All concerns are taken very seriously, and every attempt will be made to resolve a concern in a timely manner once all the information has been gathered and options considered.



Date: _____

We are pleased to announce that our school has been accepted into the

BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program

(Administered by the BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation and supported by the Province of British Columbia and the Provincial Health Services Authority)

Our school is involved in a province-wide healthy living initiative. One of the goals is to encourage healthy eating by providing fresh BC fruits and vegetables to our students *during class time*. Our students will receive these healthy treats 12 times over the school year at **no charge!**

For students in grades K-5, there is also the option to have milk delivered along with the fruit and veggies, again, at **no charge**.

(A percentage of +Milk delivery will be fortified soy beverage for people with lactose sensitivities)

To ensure every student's health and safety please return this consent form.

Student's Name: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

Grade: _____

☐

YES I wish my child to participate in the BC School Fruit and Vegetable Program +Milk (as applicable)

☐

NO I do not wish my child to participate in the BC School Fruit and Vegetable Program +Milk (as applicable)

☐

MEDICAL ALERT My child has food allergies you need to be aware of and therefore he/she may not be able to participate in every offering. To assist you, below is information on my child's "allergy profile".

Please list allergy(s) and define allergy profile(s):

For Example:

☐

It is airborne

☐

It is by ingestion only

☐

It can be contracted through touch – the skin.

If you need further guidance in this area, please contact me at: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

(please print)

Signature: _____

School Food Programs

PGE currently operates three four food programs:

Breakfast Program – this breakfast and snack nutrition program has traditionally been funded by President's Choice Children's Charity Fund and operated by Food for Thought. Last year, President's Choice Charity Fund provided a grant to the school for \$10,000! Thanks to their support, we can offer our students a healthy meal or snack during the school day. Food for Thought provides free breakfast for up to 1600 school-aged children a day across 30 schools. Nutritious breakfast items are made available to all classrooms each weekday morning before classes begin. While this program is geared toward students facing food insecurity, any student is welcome to sit with their friends and share a meal in a safe and inclusive environment. Thank you to **CEA Connie Radis** for coordinating this program and Vice Principal Kuzik for applying for and receiving grant money for this program from President's Choice.



Brown Bag Lunch Program – this program provides lunches to students experiencing food scarcity and is fully funded by the BC Ministry of Education's Feeding Futures Grant. Families can request this service by contacting the office.

Backpack Program – this program provides groceries to families in need and is fully funded by the BC Ministry of Education's Feeding Futures Grant. Families can request this service by contacting the office.

BC Fruit and Vegetable Program – a locally sourced, fresh fruit or vegetable is delivered to each class once a month. Students enjoyed eating blueberries, Mandarin oranges, baby carrots, apples, pears, snap peas, and mini cucumbers.

Volunteers

As with any great organization, we rely on parent or family volunteers for many of our activities and initiatives. At the end of the day, it's all for the students! We are looking for help for the following. Please keep in mind that the time commitment is not that much, especially when you have enough people stepping up.

- Yearbook
- Hot Lunch
- Field Studies and Various School Events
- PAC Events (Fall Harvest Social, Family Fun Night)
- BC Fruit and Veggie Program



If you or anyone you know could lend a hand, please contact our office. Extended family members also make great helpers! Volunteer packages are in the office and will need to be completed prior to commencing any volunteer work.

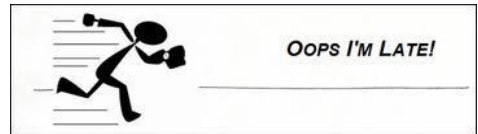
Student Information Verification Forms

With all the students in their intended classes, we can send home individual student information forms the first week of school. Please complete the form so that the data in our school computer is as current as possible.

It is essential that information regarding “Emergency Contacts” and phone numbers be provided for our staff to use if we need to contact you quickly.

Attendance Procedures/Late to School

The School District uses an electronic/app system for reporting student absences. The new system is a **safer** way to keep account of our students. You can enter absences in three ways, although we highly recommend using the School Messenger App, available in the App Store or Google Play. You may also enter an absence using the online parent portal or by simply calling the school and following the ‘prompts.’



A student's timely attendance at school is central to success at school and is also a lifelong skill valued by society. We hope that you support us in setting this expectation. Often, the most crucial information is given at the start of the day; the tone is set and goals for the day are being discussed. All students who arrive late must **check-in at the office** before going to class. In order to maintain a safe environment, please sign-in at the office with your child or send a note to confirm your knowledge of the late arrival.

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. The Kids Plus Accident Insurance Program that was previously offered to our students was discontinued in 2019. The IA Financial Group now offers the Family Accident Reimbursement Plan (FARP) which 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 Family Accident Reimbursement Plan or to find out more, visit

<https://specialmarkets.ia.ca/aonbc/home>

An advertisement for the Family Accident Reimbursement Plan (FARP). The background is a photograph of a man and a woman in a kitchen. The man is in the foreground, looking down at something in his hands, while the woman stands behind him, looking up and smiling. Overlaid on the left side of the image is the text "Family Accident Reimbursement Plan" in large, bold, blue letters. Below this, in smaller text, it says "Accident Insurance + Critical Illness Insurance" and "Only \$39.95/month for the whole family". At the bottom left, there is a blue button with the text "Apply Now" in white.

École Peter Greer Elementary **2025-2026 Calendar**

Days in session: 190
Number of days of instruction: 183
Number of non-instructional days: 7

Summer Pro D Day for Teachers	August 25 – 27
Schools Open	September 2 (11:00 a.m. dismissal)
National Day of Truth & Reconciliation (Schools Closed)	September 30
Parent-Teacher Conferences	October 8 - 12:30 pm dismissal
Parent-Teacher Conferences	October 9 - 12:30 pm dismissal
Administrative Implementation Day	October 10 – students do not attend
Thanksgiving Day (Schools Closed)	October 13
Teacher Professional Development Day	October 24 – students do not attend
Remembrance Day (Schools Closed)	November 11
Last Day of School before Winter Vacation	December 19
Winter Vacation (Schools Closed)	December 22– January 2
Statutory Holiday (Schools Closed)	January 1
Schools Reopen after Winter Vacation	January 5
Parent-Teacher Conferences	February 5 - 12:30 pm dismissal
Parent-Teacher Conferences	February 6 - 12:30 pm dismissal
Staff Professional Development Day	February 13 – Students do not attend
Family Day (Schools Closed)	February 16
Last Day of School before Spring Vacation	March 13
Spring Vacation (Schools Closed)	March 16 – 27
School Reopens after Spring Vacation	March 30
Good Friday (Schools Closed)	April 3
Easter Monday (Schools Closed)	April 6
Victoria Day (Schools Closed)	May 18
Last Day of School for Students	June 25 - Regular Dismissal
Administrative Day	June 26 – Students do not attend
Schools Close	June 26

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



Central Okanagan Public Schools

Updated Restrictions for Cell Phones and Personal Digital Devices

In accordance with the new [requirements from the Ministry of Education and Child Care](#), schools across our district have updated their Student Code of Conduct to include the restricted use of cell phones and personal digital devices during school hours effective July 1, 2024.

Our [School Code of Conduct](#) has been revised to reflect the new requirements regarding cell phone use in schools accordingly.

SD#23 Central Okanagan Public Schools

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT SECTION

Responsible Student Use of Personal Digital Devices, School Technology, and District Network Services

Student use of personal digital devices (any device used to communicate and/or access the internet), school technology, and district networks at school is for educational purposes.

Students must abide by the school's Code of Conduct and procedures, as well as Central Okanagan Public Schools Policy 486: Student Use of Network Services and Digital Technologies.

Students will:

- Secure, power off and store personal digital devices during instructional (i.e. class time) and non-instructional time (i.e. breaks/lunch) at Elementary schools unless instructed by the Principal or school staff;
- Use personal digital devices during instructional time for instructional purposes and digital literacy skills as instructed by the Principal or school staff;
- Ensure personal digital devices are not used in areas where privacy is expected, such as restrooms and change rooms;
- Be permitted to use personal digital devices to support accessibility, accommodations, medical and health needs;
- Always take precautions to ensure online safety, privacy, and security;
- Treat others with respect and kindness when using digital devices and district network services;
- Always use digital devices and district network services responsibly and with academic integrity.

Schools will ensure that all students have equitable and developmentally appropriate access to technology to meet curricular requirements. Students are not required to have their own personal digital device or cellphone at school.

The use of personal digital devices, school technology, and district networks is a privilege. Staff may revoke a student's access to devices because of inappropriate student conduct.

Violations of the school code of conduct could result in appropriate restorative processes or disciplinary actions including suspension and police intervention.

As part of our commitment to help our students develop digital citizenship, our educators will continue teaching our students how to use their personal digital devices and technology in a responsible and respectful way.

We ask that you support our staff and discuss these new restrictions with your child before the upcoming school year. If parents/caregivers need to contact their child during the school day, they should call the school office.

On a related note, the school is not responsible for lost, missing, or damaged personal digital devices that students choose to bring to school.

Your Child's Health & Social Media Use

Download the free **Learning for Life** resources (<https://digem.med.ubc.ca/projects/ubclearningforlife/>) for your grade 4-7 students! Learning for Life is an evidence-based program promoting **healthy lifestyle behaviours** and **digital health literacy** for intermediate elementary students, developed by **UBC's Digital Emergency Medicine**. Encourage students to apply their existing technological skills to explore their personal health needs and develop healthy behaviours.

Teaching resources include:

- Accessible and easy to use teacher's guide with lesson plans
- Lessons addressing physical activity, healthy eating, sleep hygiene,
- Social/emotional wellbeing
- Student activity workbooks available online or via download

Student activities include:

- In-class activities
- Take-home activities
- Extension activities
- Resource and book lists
- Exciting online graphic novels

Social Media Content:

New **Learning for Life** resources teaching healthy lifestyle behaviour and digital health literacy skills for gr 4-7 available free on our website! (link: <http://digem.med.ubc.ca/projects/ubclearningforlife>)

Looking for fresh PHE content? **Learning for Life** resources teach healthy lifestyle behaviour and build digital health literacy skills for gr 4-7. (link: <http://digem.med.ubc.ca/projects/ubclearningforlife>)

Teach kids gr 4-7 healthy lifestyle behaviour and digital health literacy with UBC's evidence-based **Learning for Life**. (link: <http://digem.med.ubc.ca/projects/ubclearningforlife>)



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/pgpac>

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, September 9 at 6:00pm 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: Kristin 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 Coordinator: Becky Carr (Still looking for more help!)

Co-Yearbook Coordinator: Jen Millar

Co-Yearbook Coordinator: Erin Talbot

Hot Lunch Systems Coordinator: Jane Sanson

Hot Lunch Volunteer Coordinator: Becky Carr, Danielle Lamb & Laura Murphy