

# FALL NEWSLETTER

*Home of the Hornets!*

## Our Mission:

*At SOSS, we inspire and support individuals to develop their full potential and to demonstrate a respectful, responsible commitment to community and society.*



## Principal's Message

Happy October Everyone, We are now back in the swing of things at school. Our late start up was very busy but students are now all settled in their classes and teachers are working hard to engage students in their learning. Each semester has been adjusted slightly to balance the school year. This means that our semester exams are now during the first week of February and semester 2 will start on February 6<sup>th</sup>. The updated calendar can be found on our webpage.

In light of the shortened semesters, we strongly encourage all students to be at school every day, on time, in order to meet the learning outcomes of the courses they are enrolled in. Absences should only be for situations that are absolutely unavoidable. Regular attendance will help ensure success.

As we have now adopted a static timetable at SOSS for this year, we will be looking

for feedback from parents and students as to how the static timetable compares with the rotating timetable. In February we will collate information from all our partner groups to make a decision on whether we will continue with the static timetable, revert to a rotating timetable, or have a mixture of the two. More information to come on this.

Interim reports will only be sent out this year for students who are in jeopardy of failing courses in each semester. If you have concerns or questions regarding your child's progress at school, please e-mail the teacher to request information.

Thank you to all our teacher volunteers who have been working hard to get our extra-curricular programs up and running. Field hockey, four volleyball teams and school clubs have now started. Students should listen to announcements to find out what is being offered at school.

On October 16<sup>th</sup>, we will have a sign up for this year's SALTS trip which will take place April 6<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup>. The cost of this trip will be approximately \$800 per student but there will be fundraising opportunities available for students to bring this cost down. We can take only 23 students on this trip so it will be a first come, first serve procedure with priority being given to students who have not been on the trip before. Students from all grades are encouraged to join this is multi-grade, once in a life time opportunity to learn how to sail a tall ship. Interested students and parents are encouraged to come out to an information meeting in October. The date of this will be posted on our website.

Enjoy the brilliant Okanagan autumn.

M. Toneatto



### OVERDUE STUDENT FEES

Reminder to all students with outstanding/overdue fees to please submit monies to Ms. Jones by the end of this week.

## Important Dates to Remember

October 6	Post Secondary Information Sessions– 12:45-2:45 pm
October 8	SD 53 Career Education Learning Forum, SESS Library, 7:00 pm
October 13	Thanksgiving Day (no school)
October 15	Grade 8 Parent Night, Frank Venables Auditorium, 6:00 pm
October 15	Grad Parent Meeting, Frank Venables Auditorium, 7:00 pm
October 20	Photo Retake Day
October 21	First day of new Gr.8 rotation
October 23	Art Starts Assembly
October 23	Early dismissal– 12:45 pm
October 24	Professional Development Day (no school)
October 29	Staff Inquiry time, Early Dismissal — 12:05 pm
October 30	PAC Meeting, 6:30 pm in the Library
October 30	Grade 9 Immunizations
November 4	Parent/Teacher interviews, Early dismissal– 12:45 pm
November 11	Remembrance Day (no school)

Welcome Back! Welcome Back! Welcome Back!



### Yearbook

Did you purchase your yearbook for last year? The book will be ready shortly so don't be disappointed.

The 2013-2014 yearbook, Tradition Starts Here is selling for \$50.

Please pay Ms. Jones.



### Library News

The library is open Monday to Friday from 8:00 am– 3:45 pm. Students are welcome to use computers, study or browse our extensive catalogue of fiction and non-fiction resources.

The library will once again be running a magazine fundraiser. Look for information coming home with your son/daughter soon.

### Musical Notes

There will be an extra-curricular band program on Mondays from 3-4pm for any grade 8-12 students that would like to participate. The first practice is on Monday, October 6th. Please contact Ms. Ante at 250-408-9322 or [lante@sd53.bc.ca](mailto:lante@sd53.bc.ca) if you need to rent an instrument.

### SALTS Trip

The SALTS trip is set to run again this year! This year the trip will be April 6th-10th. This is an excellent opportunity for students to get out of the classroom for some real hands on learning! Stay tuned for more info in the coming months.



### Email List

We need your email address! If you are new to our school, or have a new email please let us know so we can update our contact list. Newsletters and other information updates are sent out via email in our effort to reduce paper. Send your contact info to [hstopa@sd53.bc.ca](mailto:hstopa@sd53.bc.ca) to stay in the loop.

### Food + Nutrition

The Home Ec. Department would appreciate donations of local produce particularly apples, pears, tomatoes and squash, but other produce would be welcomed as well. As most of it will be cooked or frozen for later use, culls and falls would be perfect.

### Heads up!

Grade 9 consent forms for immunizations will be sent home next week. Please return these asap. Immunizations will take place October 30th.



Photo retakes are scheduled for October 20th. School photos are used for the yearbook and student ID cards.

## Field Hockey

Field hockey season has begun! The district groundskeepers did an amazing job of getting the top field ready in record time for our home tournament on September 27th and 28th. The combined junior/senior SOSS team played 8 games on the weekend and steadily improved their results with each game. The team heads to Chilliwack Thursday and

Friday October 2nd and 3rd, and then hosts Okanagan Mission Secondary on Monday, October 6th for an important league match. SOSS is preparing to host the AA Provincial Championships in November. Good luck to this year's team: Cheryce Martine, Kalli Marsel, Jenna Bower, Savannah Rowe, Brianna Agostinho, Sierra Callander, Tatum Brogan, Kenzie Harrington,

Kaiya Douglas, Cassidy Ward, Mikayla Podmorow, Sally Lee, Morgan Larosee, Rayleen Chyzzy, Hannah Byron, Kali Baptiste, Teija Anderson, Alicia Schutz, Katelyn Wiens, Kasinda McKay, Ali Lantz, Loveleen Gill, Ishika Gill, Madelyn Bjornson, Megan Murray, Selina Mason, Neha Chahal, and Jalisa Louie.

## Volleyball

Volleyball season is off to a quick start and teams are gearing up for what should be an exciting season of play at SOSS. Southern Okanagan is planning to offer volleyball at the Grade 8 Boys and Girls, Junior boys, and Sr boys levels this fall. Junior teams have been practicing and refining their skills as they prepare to take part

in South Zone league action beginning the week of October 6-10. The Junior Boys Volleyball Team is looking strong this season with 12 boys filling the roster. There are 3 returning junior players, and 9 players new to the division. They will be playing in their first tournament October 3rd and 4th in Kamloops at the TRU Wolfpack tournament. League play will commence next week!

The Sr Boys volleyball team

hosted their first games in South- Central AA Boys Volleyball league action hosting Princess Margaret and Summerland Secondary this past Wednesday. The Hornets got some early season jitters out of the way, improve their play over the course of the evening, but fell short in both matches. The Sr Hornets host Kelowna Christian Wednesday October 8th at 5pm. Come out and cheer on your Hornets!



## Athletics Calendar

October 1	Sr Boys Volleyball League game, 5:30 pm, Main Gym
October 2-3	Field Hockey, Chilliwack tournament
October 6	Field Hockey league game, 4:00 pm, top field
October 8	Sr Boys Volleyball league game, 5:30 pm, Main Gym
October 17-18	Field Hockey, Castlegar tournament
October 17-18	Volleyball, KSS Best of the West tournament
October 24-25	Volleyball, TRU Howler tournament
October 25	Field Hockey, Valley championships
October 27	Sr Boys Volleyball league game, 5:30, Main Gym
November 5	Sr Boys Volleyball, Zone playoff
November 6-8	Field Hockey Provincial tournament @ SOSS
November 14-15	Sr Boys Volleyball Valley championships

## News from your PAC

The first Parent Advisory Council meeting was held Thursday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>. PAC was pleased to hear that the startup of the school year went very well. The next meeting will be Thursday, Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm, followed by the Annual General Meeting and elections at the November meeting – date and time still to be determined.

PAC's purpose, as per our Parent Advisory Council Constitution, is: "to support, encourage and improve the quality of education and the well-being of students in Southern Okanagan Secondary School". With that mandate in mind, last year's expenditures from PAC funds were approved to benefit the most students possible. The following are last year's money allocations:

Heart Monitors/Sensors	\$2383
Music Department	\$2500
Missoula Theatre	\$500
S.A.L.T. Trip	\$1000
Drama Department	\$1500
Special Education Dept.	\$1000
Math Department	\$1568
Gym Mural	\$6700

Every parent or guardian of a student at SOSS is a voting member of PAC. We hope to see you at our next meeting Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. If you are unable to attend, contact the administration with any immediate concerns. For any issues or ideas that are less urgent, attend the meeting Oct. 30th and bring them forward, or, if you are unable to attend, email an executive member.

### Current Executive

Bibiana Bailey  
Margie Matheison  
Paula Martins  
Audrey Silbernagel

Co-Chair  
Co-Chair  
Treasurer  
Secretary

### Email

bibibailey@gmail.com  
mmathie@telus.net  
redhaven@telus.net  
audrey99s@gmail.com

## Post Secondary Information Sessions

The BC Post-Secondary Institutions information sessions will be held at SOSS on Monday, October 6th from 12:45- 2:45 pm. We will start with a mini career fair held in the small gym at lunch during which students are invited to browse. After lunch, students are welcome to return, with permission of their D block teacher. The institutions in attendance on this day include: Selkirk College, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Simon Fraser University, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, University of Victoria, Okanagan College, Thompson Rivers University, Trinity Western University, University of Northern BC, Vancouver Island University and British Columbia Institute of Technology . This is a great opportunity for students to speak to reps from various post secondary institutions.

## Study Tips for Parents

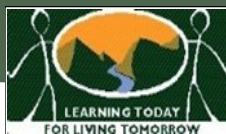
**Help your child be organized:** Provide one binder to keep all course work in. Provide dividers to section off subjects. Check to see if work is dated. Provide a planner and ask to see it from time to time. Develop a regular "homework time" each day – between 4pm & 6pm is best – your child will be more efficient and have the reward of doing what s/he wants afterward. Eliminate distractions: phones, TV, music, etc.

***Did you know...***  
*October is  
National Cookie Month,  
National Dessert  
Month,  
National Seafood  
Month, National Chili  
Month AND National  
Pizza Month!*

***Get Involved!***

*"By failing to prepare,  
you are preparing to  
fail."  
-Benjamin Franklin*





## NEW CAREER ROUTES AND OPTIONS!

*Can you imagine your child's college program being paid for by the school district? Or, being paid while they earn credits for high school graduation? How about completing a diploma while still in school so that they may start a well-paying career when they graduate? If these ideas interest you, join us at our next Learning Forum to find out more.*

School District No. 53 career education programs offer a variety of opportunities for students to complete graduation while preparing for a well-paying career after graduation. The evening will feature presentations and discussions on:



Work Experience  
SSA (Secondary School Apprenticeships)  
ACE IT (Accelerated Credit Enrolment in Industry Training)  
Dual Credit programs.

Wednesday, October , 2014

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Similkameen Elementary Secondary School Library



## Fall Festival Action



### Fun Fact

*According to superstition, catching leaves in autumn brings good luck! Every leaf means a lucky month next year.*

Top: team photo, Jenna Bower coaching  
Above: Kalli Marsel takes the ball up the field

Top: Tatum Brogan awaits the ball  
Above: Cheryce Martine passes to Selina Mason