

SEPTEMBER 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

Welcome back! With such a positive and vibrant group of students, alongside an outstanding staff, I think we are in for a remarkable year at SOSS. Although there were some hiccups in the beginning with our new administrative computer system (MyEd), our counsellors worked tirelessly for the first week ensuring all students had complete timetables and course changes were addressed in a timely fashion. We appreciate the patience and flexibility our students and parents showed as we worked through the addition of some sections and re-shuffled some timetables. Students now seem to be settled into their classes as we have now put an end to course change requests.

For second semester this year, applications are still being accepted from students

for the EPIC program. This is an exciting new opportunity for students in grades 9 and 10 to complete courses through experiential and project based learning (see attached flyer for EPIC). If you have any questions regarding this program, please feel free to contact the school for more details.

With a new school year comes the fall season of athletics. Students are strongly encouraged to become involved in extracurricular school sports, clubs, or groups. We currently have volleyball, field hockey, art club, and leadership happening right now. Mrs. Harrington is again taking a group of 20 students to WE Day in Vancouver this October with her Leadership students. All great ways for students to make connections in high school. Don't sit on the side lines...get involved.

A warm SOSS welcome to our new staff members this year: Graeme Baerg

- ◆ Learning Assistance
Gurneet Stone
- ◆ Punjabi and Socials 8
Lindsey McVicar
- ◆ Art, Computers
Hillary Frank
- ◆ Spanish, Foods
Margie Nazaroff
- ◆ Counselling, French
Diane Desbrisay
- ◆ Educational Assistant
Sandy Fritz
- ◆ Child Care Worker

Please feel free to contact teachers or administrators if you have questions or concerns regarding your son or daughters education. We want to have open communication and a strong working relationship with families to ensure our students are getting as much support as possible with their education at SOSS.

M. Toneatto



OVERDUE STUDENT FEES

Reminder to pay all outstanding fees to Ms. Jones as soon as possible.
Thank you!

*"A smile is a curve
that sets everything
straight."
-Phyllis Diller*

Important Dates to Remember

September 24	Terry Fox Run, Spirit Day
September 28	PSI Sessions, 12:45-2:45- Small Gym
September 30	Early dismissal, 12:05pm– Inquiry Time
October 9	Grade 8 Rotation change
October 12	Thanksgiving Day (no school)
October 15	PAC Meeting, 6:30pm– Library
October 21	Early dismissal, 12:45- Parent Teacher interviews Interview sessions: 2-4pm & 5-7pm
October 22	Early dismissal, 12:45pm
October 23	Professional Development day (no school)
October 28	Early Dismissal , 12:05 pm– Inquiry Time



Yearbook

Yearbooks are here! If you purchased one last year, you can pick it up in the library. If you would like to purchase a copy, you can pay \$50 to Ms. Jones.

Office Info

Absences: Please advise the office (not just classroom teachers) if your son/daughter is going to be absent for any reason or duration of time.

Contact info: Please let us know of any changes to your address, phone number or email address.

Consent Forms: please return the Parent/Guardian consent form to the office as soon as possible.

Musical Notes

After school Band is Mondays from 3-4pm starting on September 28th. Any Grade 8-12 students are welcome to join.

Spirit Day

Our Terry Fox run is taking place on September 24th. This will also be a spirit day, where students are divided into colour teams to raise money collectively via a coin drive. Teams will compete in some fun events prior to heading out on the run. We are looking forward to seeing your school spirit and how much money we can raise for the Terry Fox Foundation.

School Fees

A note about fees: all students must pay a \$20 student activity fee. This not only covers locker costs, but also goes towards other activities throughout the year. Even if your child does not want a locker, they still must pay the activity fee. New students are required to pay a \$35 textbook deposit. This will be returned at the end of their tenure at SOSS once all books have been returned in good condition. Math students may be required to purchase a workbook, cost varies by class.



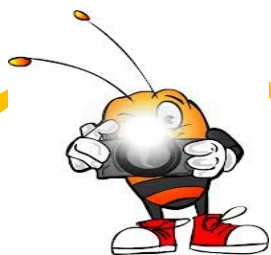


Photo retakes are scheduled for October 5th. School photos are used for the yearbook and student ID cards.

Field Hockey

Field hockey season is underway, with two teams looking forward to representing SOSS on the field. An enthusiastic group of Grade 8's are learning new skills to be used against teams from Penticton later in the season. The Grade 8 roster includes: Lauren Bjornson, Madison Boen-Shekula, Kiera Gaudet, Bailey Hartle, Avery Kane, Hailea Lysak, Makayla Marcy, Ryan McGinnis, Sydney Meyer, Grace Neily, Autumn Pelly, Riah Podmorow, Azriel Starcic, Jamie Audet and Jennifer Zepeda. This year's combined Jr/Sr team begin league play on

Wednesday as they face off against Maggie at 4pm on the top field. This weekend, the girls host the Fall Festival, one of two home tournaments this season. Eight teams will compete, with SOSS playing their first game against Mt. Boucherie at 10:00am on Friday, September 25. Next week, they head off to UBC to face some tough competition against teams from the coast.

Good luck to this year's team: Sierra Callander, Tatum Brogan, Kenzie Harrington, Sally Lee, Morgan Larosee, Rayleen Chyzzy, Sienna Bontorin, Kali Ga-

briel- Baptiste, Teija Anderson, Alicia Schutz, Katelyn Wiens, Loveleen Gill, Ishika Gill, Madelyn Bjornson, Megan Murray, Selina Mason, Neha Chahal, Noorat Gill and Anya Nazaroff.



Volleyball

The fall season is quickly upon us and volleyball teams have started training at SOSS. This year SOSS is running teams for the Grade 8 Girls and Boys, Junior Boys, and Senior Boys. Grade 8 and Juniors teams will begin South Zone league play be-

fore the end of September. Members of the teams are working hard and look forward to facing their rivals from the various communities in the zone. The Senior Boys Volleyball team will once again take part in a South-Central league where they will com-

pete against teams from the Central Okanagan and Skaha school districts. The Senior Boys first home action is Wednesday, September 23rd at 5:30 pm vs Princess Margaret from Penticton. Come out and support your Hornets!



Athletics Calendar

September 23	Girls Field Hockey vs. Princess Margaret- 4pm, Upper Field
September 23	Sr Boys Volleyball vs. Princess Margaret- 5:30pm, Main Gym
September 25/26	Sr Boys Volleyball @ Vernon Christian Tournament
September 25/26	Fall Festival field hockey tournament
October 1-3	Sr Girls Field hockey @ UBC Tournament
October 16/17	Sr Boys Volleyball @ Best of the West Tournament (KSS/UBCO)
October 17/18	Fall Festival field hockey tournament (#2)
October 23/24	Sr Boys Volleyball @ TRU Howler Tournament (Kamloops)
October 28	Sr Boys Volleyball league games at home- 5:00pm, Main Gym
November 4	Sr Boys Volleyball League playoffs (@ KCS)
November 9-12	Sr Boys Volleyball Zone playoffs

Did you know...

Red and purple leaves are caused by the presence of sugars from sap that is trapped inside of the leaves, while yellow, orange and brown leaves are caused by diminishing levels of chlorophyll.

"Life is 10 percent what you make it, and 90 percent how you take it."

-Irving Berlin

News from your PAC

First meeting of the year: September 17th. **Next meetings:** October 15th and November 19th.

- ♦ Meetings are held monthly on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm in the school library. There are no meetings in December, March, or June, so that's only seven meetings a year!
- ♦ Parents and Guardians of SOSS students are cordially invited to come to a meeting and observe, or bring your questions and concerns. If your student is in Grade 8, or new to the area, or if you have a returning student and have never attended a PAC meeting, this is a chance to meet other parents in the community.
- ♦ One or both administrators attend, and it is a great chance to chat with them in a casual setting.
- ♦ There is no obligation to take on a position or do any fundraising, but you get the opportunity to have a say in spending funds that benefit the students.
- ♦ Come when you can, and if Thursdays don't work for you, please contact an executive member or leave a note in the PAC mailbox via the school office. We will be happy to bring forward your item or concern for discussion.
- ♦ Minutes of previous meetings can be found on the SOSS website under "Parents"

Executive:

Chair:	Bibiana Bailey	bibibailey@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Paula Martins	redhaven@telus.net
Secretary:	Audrey Silbernagel	silbma@telus.net

Each autumn, monarch butterflies migrate from the U.S. to Mexico and some parts of Southern California. They fly at speeds ranging between 12 and 25 miles per hour. Monarch butterflies are the only insect that migrates to a warmer climate that is 2,500 miles away.



Trades Opportunity in Welding

If you are in grade 10 or 11 and are considering welding as a career option, there is a great opportunity for you. Okanagan College has a welding class starting in Penticton in August, 2016. You could spend your first semester at Okanagan College learning welding, then return to SOSS for the second semester. The tuition would be paid by the school district and you would get 32 credits in that first semester.

See Mr. Kitt as soon as possible. This program will fill up quickly.

Post Secondary Information Sessions

The BC Post-Secondary Institutions information sessions will be held at SOSS on Monday, September 28th 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.



• SOSS ABORIGINALS •

Welcome Back Everyone!

Hello and welcome back, hope that everyone had a great summer. It's great to see everyone again for another school year.

We are excited and looking forward to great things for the Aboriginal Program this Year.

We hope to have lots of activities and events, for both cultural based and academic. We want to have at least one activity for the students each month.



Programs Starting up this Semester

After hours tutoring

- Everyday 8-8:30am
& 2:45-3:30pm

R'Native Voice

- Starting in October
- 9 week credited program
- 3:00-6:30 once a week
- topics covered include language & culture, mental health, self identity, sense of belonging.

Thank You

Aboriginal Support Staff

UPCOMING EVENTS

AEAC Student Rep Election/ Welcoming Lunch

We had our Student Rep Election and are happy to have Kali Gabriel-Baptiste back as our Senior Rep and welcome Brooke Tanner as our Junior Rep

R'Native Voice

Starting in October
Registration Forms in the
Ab.Ed Room

PARENTING WORKSHOPS

Fall 2015

Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada - Parenting Workshops provide practical support ideas, in a safe, confidential environment for parents of preteens and teens.

Preparing for the Teen Years

This workshop will focus on how parents can best support their preteen as they enter their adolescence.

A discussion on:

- What to expect in the teen years
- The importance of the parent/child relationship in the teen years
 - Adolescent brain development
 - Boundary setting
 - Punishment vs. Discipline

Wednesday, September 30th
6:00-8:00pm

Stepfamilies - Living in a Stepfamily

This workshop will focus on parenting in a stepfamily and building stronger relationships.

A discussion on:

- Blending two families into one - common experiences and issues
 - Dealing with resistance and "attitude"
- Effective communication to help reduce conflict in the home

Wednesday, October 14th
6:00-8:00pm



Okanagan
Boys & Girls Clubs

For more information or to register for
one or both of these free workshops:
Okanagan Boys and Girls Club
250-498-8844
Location: Oliver Elementary School

BGCC - Parenting Programs are generously funded provincially by the Ministry of Children and Family Development.



Experiential, Project-Based, Indigenous, Community (EPIC) is an outdoor leadership program which focuses on academic success, experiential learning and community connections in School District 53.

The program can accommodate 20 students with a passion for the outdoors, a strong work ethic, dedication, responsibility, and a desire to learn in an innovative and meaningful program.

Who should apply?

- Any student enrolled at Southern Okanagan Secondary school entering grade 9 or 10
- Students interested in earning graduation credits in a cross-curricular approach
- Students willing to commit to hard work
- Students looking for a different way to learn
- Students must participate in an application and interview process to determine placement in the program

Program Overview

EPIC students will not have a traditional, Monday to Friday, 8:30 - 2:45 timetable. Instead, students will have a flexible timetable that will allow participation in project-based learning opportunities, both in school and in the community. Time will be required outside of the traditional school day to accommodate field trips. A focus on community involvement will encourage relationships with members of the business community, the Osoyoos Indian Band, and its elders.

Possible Course Credits for 2015-2016

Junior EPIC

- Physical Education 9/10
- Information Technology 9/10
- Woodwork 9/10
- Social Studies 9/10
- Math 9 or Apprenticeship and Workplace Math 10

