



*Respect Enables
All Learners*

KAY BINGHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

950 Southill Street, Kamloops, BC V2B 5M2 · Phone: 250-376-5586 · Fax: 250-377-2252

January 27, 2026

Dear Parents,

The school year is almost half over, and I not sure where the time has gone. This winter has been quite mild, so we still might see some more snow and cold weather! As I sit writing this newsletter, children are laughing and playing during the lunch hour. Several of them stop and wave as they run by or make funny faces.



Just a reminder that student should stay home when they have a fever, diarrhea or vomiting, or have been instructed to do so by a doctor. Otherwise, for a few sniffles, light coughs, or allergies, students can attend school. Thank you for your ongoing diligence in this area.



Ms. Rosie Caputo, Principal

SAFE ARRIVAL

Many parents do not have contact numbers for safe arrival. You are asked to double check this ASAP. (Please see the attachment). As well, please do not forget to call in your child's absence and/or late arrival each day that they are absent from school. A huge thanks to those who always log their child's absence or respond to the first safe arrival call.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

It is that time of year again! All children entering Kindergarten must be 5 years old by December 31, 2026, to be eligible to register. Registration will take place **February 2-5, 2026**. Please have all your documentation in by the last day of registration. General information can be found on the [SD73 website here](#).

For registration packages to be accepted as complete, they must include your child's birth certificate, BC Services card, and proof of address (utility bill, rental lease, house purchase).

As we prepare for Kindergarten registration, there are a few things to keep in mind:

- If you have an older child attending KBES, and would like a package, please contact the school office and a package will be sent home with them
- If there are any questions, please contact Mrs. Bonderud in the school office

RAISE A READER

During **Unplug and PlayFamily Literacy Week (January 26-31)**, our school is supporting Raise a Reader through a Loonies for Literacy campaign. Families are invited to donate online to support local family literacy programs such as *ParentChild Mother Goose, Come Read with Me*, and *The Bright Red Book Bus*. Donations are matched and contribute to Raise a Reader 2026. Donate online at <https://canadahelps.org/en/dn/42475>

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The Kay Bingham Breakfast Program is designed to assist families who need a safe, supervised place for their child(ren) to be before school starts. While at the Breakfast Program, students will be fed a simple, healthy meal, provided by a school staff member. To maintain proper supervision and to provide sufficient time for breakfast routines, students attending the program will need to be dropped off at the school promptly at 7:45am. This is not a drop-in program. Spaces are limited and will be made available on an individual basis. You will receive a confirmation prior to the program. Please contact the Principal or Ms. Stanley (CEA) for an application.

INDOOR SHOES

There are several students who do not have indoor shoes to wear in the classroom once they take their wet boots off. Please ensure your child has a change of shoes at school to wear in and around the school. If there ever was a reason why we would have to evacuate the building in an emergency, children without indoor shoes would be in the snow in their sock feet, creating a secondary emergency. Thank you for ensuring your child's safety.

PAC

A big thank you to the PAC for contributing through:

- Bus trips to various field trips
- Set of 30 Chromebooks
- Subsidizing the Grade 7 hoodies
- Badminton rackets

Our very small, yet dedicated, PAC group works tirelessly to ensure classrooms and programs are supported through their generosity. As always, all parents/guardians of children at our school are members of our PAC and are encouraged to become involved in our school PAC. The next meeting is February 4 at 6:00pm.

PAC STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Our amazing PAC recognizes and sponsors the *Student of the Month* program. Each month, a student who exemplifies the ROCKS traits will be recognized with a small gift bag. Congratulations to our class winners this month for doing such an amazing job being respectful, organized, cooperative, kind, and safe!

Div 001- Addison Lauzon

Div 002- Lucas Brown

Div 003- Kai Caputo

Div 004- Deagan Thomas-Morrone

Div 005- Houston Hancock

Div 006- Kinley Sebastian
Div 007- Madison Lambert
Div 008- Stella McIntyre
Div 009- Sam Horton
Div 010- Aaliyah Jules-Hoodicoff



PARENT PORTAL

If you require assistance to gain access to the MyEd parent portal, please contact Mrs. Bonderud. MyEdBC is the student management system that houses all student demographics. The school district is moving towards posting many pieces of student learning on the portal including learning updates, portfolios, attendance, verification forms, high school course selection, and progress towards graduation. There are several benefits including:

- Parents can easily access their child's learning update (on the first report, only 24% of parents accessed their child's reports)
- Increase the security and privacy of student information. With the Family Portal, report cards are stored and accessed on a secure web server as opposed to being sent out on paper.
- Parents can view up-to-date attendance information.
- Parents can view demographic information and contact the school should updates/changes be required

CALENDAR EVENTS

January

- 30 PAC Hot Lunch

February **KINDNESS MONTH**

- 2-5 Kindergarten Registration
- 4 PAC Meeting 6pm
- 6 Non-Instructional Day
- 12 Duffle Bag Theatre presentation
- 13 Popcorn Day
- 13 PAC Hot Lunch
- 13 Wear red/pink for Valentines Day
- 16 Family Day (School Closed)
- 18 Spirit Day- Pod Colours
- 20 Popcorn
- 24 Brennan's class @ Stake Lake all day
- 27 PAC Hot Lunch

March

- 6 Popcorn Day
- 9 Grade 6 Immunizations (only if consent given)
- 11 PAC Meeting 6pm
- 12 Basketball season ends
- 13 PAC Hot Lunch
- 13 Spirit Day- wear your favourite hat
- 16-27 Spring Break
- 30 Back to School

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.73 TOGETHER, SUPPORTING LITERACY!



Loonies for Literacy



January 26th -31st

Donate online to support local literacy programs like:

- Come Read With Me Tutoring
- Bright Red Bookshelves
- Parent-Child Mother Goose.

www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/42475



Come Read with Me



Enter to win a prize with
Beem Credit Union at
facebook.com/InteriorSavings



Follow us on Instagram
[@kamloopsunplugplay](https://www.instagram.com/kamloopsunplugplay)



LinK
Literacy in Kamloops





SafeARRIVAL

Student Absence Reporting



APP:

In App store, search:
SchoolMessenger



PHONE:

Toll-free Phone Number:
1-844-350-2647



WEB:

Website:
go.schoolmessenger.ca

SafeARRIVAL

To Register:

- Go to the SchoolMessenger website:
 - go.schoolmessenger.ca
 - Click on Sign Up
 - Fill in your e-mail address (please make sure that the school has the same e-mail address on file)
 - Create a password
 - Click the "Sign Up" button
 - You will be sent a verification e-mail – follow those instructions, then login to SchoolMessenger
 - You will be taken to a screen titled "Update user settings"; fill in the appropriate information, making sure to identify yourself as a "Parent"
- You can now create absences for your students, by using the website, the app, or by using the toll-free phone number

Things to Know:

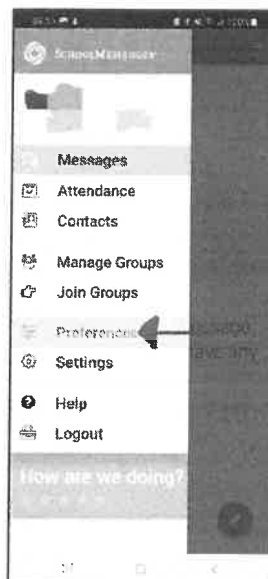
- The maximum number of days you can pre-arrange an absence for is 10 (if your absence will be longer than 10 school days, please contact the school)
- You will be able to create an absence up until the time that the Safe Arrival autodialer has completed its callout (this time will change from day-to-day, so "the earlier the better" is still the best option!)
- All time not in school is considered "Absent", so if you are trying to call in your child as "Late", you will first have to choose "Absent", then follow the instructions from there.

To Check Preferences (on the App):

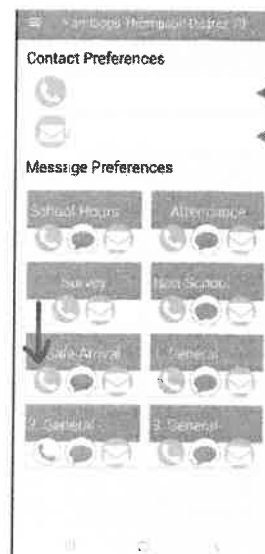
Step 1:
Click on the triple line



Step 2:
Click on Preferences



Step 3:
Make sure the phone and e-mail icons are green and not greyed out



← Contact's Phone #
← Contact's E-mail

KINDERGARTEN



IT TAKES A VILLAGE CONNECTING FAMILIES TO KINDERGARTEN

A Parent/Caregiver-focused event:
Learn about local community supports
and programs that can help your child
transition smoothly into Kindergarten.



February 18, 2026

TIME: 5:30PM - 7:30PM

John Tod Early Years Center

150 Wood St, Kamloops, BC



MENTAL WELLNESS PROGRAMS

JOHN TOD CENTRE Y- 150 Wood St.

CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

GLOW – Girls' Life of Wellness (Ages 8–12)

Supports physical, emotional, social, spiritual, and environmental wellness through group discussion and hands-on activities. Topics include body image, relationships, boundaries, puberty, and values.

Thursdays | 3:30 – 5:30 pm

January 22 – March 12

B.R.A.V.E – Building Resilience, Authenticity, Values and Empathy (Ages 8–12)

FREE wellness group for boys and non-binary children combining physical activity with emotional, social, and mental learning.

Saturdays | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

January 31 – March 7

No session February 14

Growing Mindfully (Ages 8–12)

Physical and mental wellness program supporting movement and healthy coping strategies.

Saturdays | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Saturdays | 2:00 – 4:00 pm

January 10 – March 7

No session February 14

Y Mind Teen x CAN (Ages 13–17)

Seven-week program for teens on the autism spectrum experiencing mild to moderate anxiety. Builds coping skills in a safe and supportive group environment. No diagnosis required.

Thursdays | 6:00 – 7:30 pm

January 29 – March 12

ADULT & FAMILY PROGRAMS

Y Mind Adult (Ages 31+)

Seven-week program supporting adults experiencing stress or mild to moderate anxiety using evidence-based coping strategies.

Tuesdays | 6:00 – 8:30 pm
January 27 – March 10

Aging Mindfully (Ages 55+)

FREE eight-week program focused on physical activity, mindfulness, and social connection.

Fridays | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
January 23 – March 13

Postpartum Connections

Support group for women experiencing isolation, sadness, or mild to moderate pre- or post-natal anxiety or depression. Peer support with education. Child-minding available.

Mondays | 1:30 – 2:30 pm
January 12 – March 9
No session February 16

Prenatal Wellness

FREE support group for expecting parents focusing on mindfulness, self-compassion, and coping strategies for labour and early parenting.

Mondays | 6:30 – 8:00 pm
January 26 – March 23
No session February 16

QUESTIONS OR REGISTRATION

Mental Wellness Team
mentalwellness@bc.ymca.ca
250-376-4771 ext. 122
