



SAVONA ELEMENTARY



December 2025

Our Mission Statement – To respect and enable learners to grow intellectually, emotionally and socially by providing a safe, nurturing environment that encourages risk taking.

Principal's Message

Welcome to December! It is hard to believe we are in the full swing of the holiday season and activities.

Courage was a focus of November. Students showed many examples of courage throughout the month. Students have been reminded that they can do 'Hard Things' and there is satisfaction and empowerment in doing the 'right' thing.

The school community extends huge gratitude to Ross Lamont for being a special and honoured guest at our Remembrance Day Assembly. The bagpipes added a symbolic and special impact to the observance. Thank you!

Grades 4 / 5 / 6 / 7 students had the opportunity to participate in after school volleyball practices. Thank you to Coach Taya for giving our students this opportunity.

Savona Elementary had a very successful Book Fair. Thank you to Mrs. Lamberton for your leadership with this, as well as other staff who helped set up, organize, and pack up the Book Fair. We are looking forward to adding many new book titles to our school library because of the funds raised during this Book Fair.

As we enter December, thank you to the Savona Seniors' Community for helping with the gift wrapping for the Annual Craft Fair. Also, thank you to the PAC for organizing this amazing community event. We also appreciate the bakers and the sandwich makers for making this event complete.

This is truly the most wonderful time of the year! I love hearing the singing, seeing the crafts, and experiencing the excitement of the season. I am looking forward to seeing families enjoy our upcoming Christmas Concert. From the bottom of my heart, Happy Holidays to one and all!

Ms. K. Chernoff
Principal, Savona Elementary School

PAC Christmas Craft Fair

We will be hosting the PAC Christmas Craft Fair on Wednesday, December 3rd from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm in the school gymnasium. Our students will have an opportunity to shop for gifts for their family and have them wrapped by some of the local Savona seniors. Shopping lists have been sent home so that parents can plan with their child who they would like to shop for. At school, they will be paired up with a "big buddy" to help them stick to their list. Coffee, tea, sandwiches and baked goods will be served (by donation) by our grade 7 students. We have asked that our grade 4, 5 & 6 students bring in some baked items, and our grade 7 students bring in some sandwiches for this event. All the proceeds from these items will be used to help fund the Grade 7 year end celebration. We look forward to seeing everyone at this fun community event!



NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY MONDAY, DECEMBER 1st

Our third non-instructional day for this year will be held on Monday, December 1st. All schools in the district will be closed that day.

PAC Poinsettia Delivery

The PAC poinsettia orders will be arriving sometime on Tuesday, December 2nd. We are unsure of the delivery time, but you will be contacted when they are ready to be picked up. You may also pick them up the following day at the Christmas Craft Fair between 10 am and 2 pm. There will be a few extras available to purchase at the Craft Fair for those who missed the deadline. Thank you once again for supporting our PAC!



Scholastic Book Fair

We would like to say a huge Thank-you to all the parents and community members who came out and supported our Book Fair this year. Thanks to some last-minute purchases, we just met our \$2000 goal and were able to earn \$600 in resources for our school!



Skating at McArthur Arena

Our school will be going to McArthur Arena on Monday, December 8th to go skating. The bus will leave the school at 9:00 am and students will be on the ice from 10:15-11:15 AM. All students must have a pair of skates and a helmet. It is also recommended that students bring a pair of snowpants and warm mittens. If you need help securing a pair of skates for your child, please reach out to the school and we will do our best to help. The arena does not rent skates. Parent helpers are needed for this trip to help tie skates and to skate with some of our younger students. Parents will have to drive themselves to the arena as there is no extra room on the bus. Thank-you in advance for your help!



Battle of the Books and ...Maybe Gift Ideas



There has been an effort into getting Battle of the Books titles added to the library. We have many students who have expressed an interest in Battle of the Books. We hope to have teams finalized in the New Year. If you have a student interested in Battle of the Books, you may want to check out the list of titles and perhaps give the gift of reading this Holiday Season. Battle of the Books titles are aimed at students in Grade 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7. <https://bob.sd73.bc.ca/>

VIP Concert Seating Raffle

Our grade 7 students are running a raffle for 2 sets of 4 front row tickets for the afternoon and evening Christmas Concert performances. Raffle tickets are available for \$5.00 each with all of the proceeds going to the Savona Heritage & Museum Society as chosen by the students. The deadline for purchasing tickets is Friday, December 5th and the drawings will take place on Monday, December 8th. Thank you for your support!



Christmas Concert

We will be having our Savona Elementary Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 11th. There will be 2 performances. The afternoon performance will take place at 1:30 pm and the evening show will be held at 5:30 pm. Teachers will reach out to parents to let them know if there are any costume items needed for the performance. If you know that your child will not be in attendance that day for either show, please let their teacher know as soon as possible. Students should arrive by 5:15 pm so they have time to get organized for the 5:30 pm evening show. We will have food donation boxes at each concert if you are able to bring in a non-perishable item to donate. We will collect items throughout the week, and a staff member will be dropping off the donations at the Food Bank. Staff and students are excited to share all their hard work with you!



Supporting Student Learning During the Holidays

The holiday break is a great time for family fun, and by incorporating reading and games, you can help keep your child's mind sharp and prepare them for a successful return to school. Reading together, or playing educational games, reinforces learned skills and can be woven into your holiday routine through festive activities like reading holiday stories or creating your own games and recipes from a book. This balance of rest and continued learning is a valuable gift for your child's development



Upcoming Harper Ski Trip

Students in Ms. Mann's and Mrs. Regan's classes will be going to Harper Mountain to ski or snowboard on Thursday, January 22nd and Friday, January 23rd. We will be sending permission slips and waivers home before winter break as we must



let the ski hill know our numbers on the Friday of our first week back to school. We will need some parent volunteers that are able to ski with groups and assist with equipment both in the morning and at the end of the day. Please let us know if you are available as soon as possible so there is time to complete a criminal record check if you do not already have one on file at our school. Our students always have an amazing time, and we look forward to another great trip to the mountain.

Cold & Flu Season

Cold and flu season is certainly upon us. Absences due to illness have been up across the School District. Here is some guidance from our Public Health nurse on when children should stay home from school.



Keep children at home if they have:

- a fever and keep them home for 24 hours after the fever has gone away without the help of medication.
- Vomiting or diarrhea and keep them home for 24 hours after the last episode.
- a severe sore throat
- a rash with no known cause
- a severe cough especially with other symptoms like a runny nose and headache
- redness, swelling or discharge of the eyes, ears or skin, unless treated.
- been acting unwell and have little energy to join in school activities.

Thank you for following these guidelines which will hopefully help to keep our absences down and people from sharing germs with their classmates.

Cookie Decorating

Students will be decorating cookies during the last week of school before winter break. We would like to thank our PAC in advance for providing the cookies, candy and icing.



December Theme / School Spirit Days

December is a great time to show your school spirit! Let's have some fun and participate in these Christmas Themed Spirit Days:

Friday, December 12 - Cozy Up and Relax After Christmas Concert Day: Students and staff wear pajamas and get ready to 'chill-lax.'

Monday, December 15 - Festive Feet Day: Students and staff focus on the feet by wearing holiday-themed socks, light-up slippers, or festive shoes.

Tuesday, December 16 - Red and Green Day: A simple but festive theme where everyone wears the traditional Christmas colours.

Wednesday, December 17 - Christmas Sweater Day: Students and staff wear their tackiest or funniest holiday-themed sweaters.

Thursday, December 18 - Holiday Hair / Hat Day: Students and staff top off their outfits with festive headwear, like a Christmas topper or holiday-themed accessory (or more simply Santa / Elf hats or a holiday 'hair-do').

Friday, December 19 - Just another Pajama Day!

Volunteers Needed!



Come Read with Me

WANTED:
Volunteer School Coordinator

Come Read with Me Volunteer Tutoring Program
(formerly ONE TO ONE)

Keep this program going at our school and become a School Coordinator!

For details please contact Cami at camiliteracyinkamloops@gmail.com

After School Sports & Arts Opportunities



SD73 Kamloops Thompson
CONNECTING STUDENTS TO THEIR FUTURE

AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS AND ARTS INITIATIVE (ASSAI)

The SD73 ASSAI program is seeking arts and sports enthusiasts to join our team! We are hiring for Arts and Sports Leaders as well as Persons of Rapport positions. For more details on these positions and the program, go to <https://sites.google.com/gedu.sd73.bc.ca/sd73-assai-program/home>



- ✓ Flexible Hours
- ✓ Training and Professional Development opportunities
- ✓ Fun and meaningful work

APPLY NOW!

Send your questions or resumes to Diana at dattermole@sd73.bc.ca

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport.



Parent Engagement Session

Presented by Child and Youth Mental Health Eating Disorder Clinicians.

Join Child and Youth Mental Health Eating Disorder clinicians as they examine eating disorders, what they are and what you can do.

In this session, you will:

- Examine what an eating disorder is
- Review the signs and symptoms to watch for
- Explore what to do and how to respond
- Identify supports available in the community

This workshop will be held via Zoom on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. If you are interested in attending, please register in advance at <https://forms.sd73.bc.ca/Parent-Engagement/2025-2026/Examining-Eating-Disorders>. Following your registration, you will receive the link to the meeting.

CP Holiday Train



DATE:

Thursday, December 18, 2025

TIME:

ETA 7:05 PM

LOCATION:

In front of the Fire Hall

Join CPKC and celebrate the holidays by listening to great music and donating to help your local food bank.

MUSICAL GUEST:
Barenaked Ladies



#CPKCHolidaytrain

cpker.com



Upcoming Events

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Dec. 1 | Pro-D – No School |
| Dec. 2 | Poinsettia order delivery (time TBA) |
| Dec. 3 | PAC Christmas Craft Fair
10am-2pm |
| Dec. 3 | Travelling Library books due back |
| Dec. 5 | PAC Hot Lunch – Grilled Cheese |
| Dec. 8 | Skating Field Trip |
| Dec. 11 | Christmas Concert 1:30 & 5:30 pm |
| Dec. 12 | Pajama Day |
| Dec. 12 | PAC Hot Lunch – Pancakes |
| Dec. 12 | Written Learning Updates go home |
| Dec. 18 | CP Holiday Train @ 7:05 pm |
| Dec. 19 | Pajama Day |
| Dec. 19 | Hot Dog Day (if purchased) |
| Dec 22-Jan 4 | Winter Break |
| Jan. 5 | First Day Back |
| Jan. 6 | PAC hot lunch forms due back |
| Jan. 9 | Harper Skiing forms due back |

*Cash donations will be accepted at the Fire Hall. They no longer accept food donations