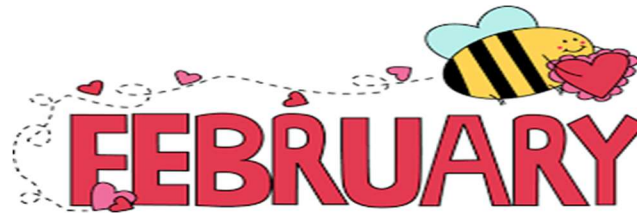




SAVONA ELEMENTARY



February 2026

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

I feel like I start each Principal's Message with a statement about how quickly the year is going. Once again, I cannot believe that we are already a month into 2026 and the school year is now halfway done. As I visit classrooms and work with students, I notice how much growth there has been. I want to thank students, staff, and families for their hard work and perseverance with meeting students where they are at and moving them forward.

January started with students excited to reconnect with peers and talk about their Winter Breaks. This month, students focused on the teachings of Swan and Honesty. Throughout the month, I observed students excited about Literacy by participating in Literature Circles and excited about Numeracy by using Counting Collections. Opposite Day challenged my brain a bit by trying to speak and do the 'opposite.' It was a great day for school spirit though and to beat the winter 'blahs.' The consensus was that ice cream sundaes taste good no matter the weather. Happily, we were able to reschedule our ski days, so students from Grades 2 to 7 were able to visit Harper Mountain. Thank you to students, staff, and families with your flexibility with this. January wrapped up with Unplug and Play / Literacy Week. As Literacy Week closes, I do encourage students to continue to engage with a book for a minimum of 15 minutes a night. There are also many fun word games that help build Literacy skills. For example, Boggle, Scrabble, Hedbanz, and Banagrams.

February will be another exciting month. Some upcoming activities include: Groundhog Day, 100s Day (Kindergarten and Grade 1), Valentine's Day, Family Day, and Pink Shirt Day. There will be a focus on kindness this month, including a 'Make Kindness the

Norm' Challenge. We are going to focus on Eagle in February. Eagle represents love.

I am a very Proud Principal! Savona Elementary is a great place to be! My goal is to always work with families, so please reach out at any time if you have questions, comments, or concerns. Even seemingly small pieces of information are valuable and can help the school to support a student on a given day. kchernoff@sd73.bc.ca

In closing, I want to thank Mrs. Lamberton for all her work on the School Web-Site. Please refer to the school website for information about school events, etc.

Ms. K. Chernoff
Principal, Savona Elementary School

Chernoff Challenges Savona to a Month of Kindness

Attached is a 'Make Kindness the Norm' Kindness Calendar. This calendar provides 28 days of suggestions for Random Act of Kindness. Some of the activities may have to be adapted slightly depending on a student's age. Hopefully, throughout the month of February, students and their families are inspired to use the ideas on the calendar, or come up with some of their own, to promote kindness. Students are encouraged to keep track of their acts of kindness (calendar or however they choose). I look forward to hearing these stories of kindness throughout the month. I would love to see, and celebrate, students' calendars once they are completed.



Kindergarten Registration

It is that time of year again to register your little ones for kindergarten in the fall of 2026!



To be eligible for kindergarten in September 2026, a student must be five years of age by December 31, 2026. Registration week is February 2nd through February 6th. Registration packages are now available to pick up and take home. If you already have a child attending Savona Elementary, please let us know and we can send the registration package home with their sibling.

To register your child for kindergarten you will need your child's original birth certificate, BC Services Card (front and back), proof of address and any legal documents concerning custody.

When you have completed the package, you can drop it off at the office or return it with their sibling. If you do not have access to a photocopier, we can make copies for you at the office. We look forward to meeting all our new students and families soon!

Basketball After School Program



The Basketball After School Program is running on Tuesdays after school until March 10th from 2:34 – 4:30 pm. It is open to students in grades 3-7. If your child is interested, please fill out the permission slip located on our school's website and return it with your child. If your child has signed up for the after school program, but is unable to attend a session, please contact the office to let us know. Thank you for your cooperation.

Eagles Basketball

Basketball is underway once again for students at Savona Elementary. Practices are being held during the lunch hour 1-2 times per week. The first game is on February 4th at AE Perry beginning at 3:00 pm. Parent drivers are asked to pick up students by 2:00 pm to ensure lots of time to get there and warm up. The next game will be played on February 11th at Kamloops Christian School and the final game will be played on February 18th at South Sahali Elementary We welcome you to come and cheer on our Savona Eagles!



PAC Fundraising

Our PAC is running a West Coast Seeds fundraiser again this



year. Every packet of seeds sold earns 40% profit for our PAC. Orders can be placed online between January 19th and February 2nd at <https://fundraising.westcoastseeds.com/>. If you have any questions or need some help with your online order, please contact Jennine Neu at jcneu@hotmail.com for assistance.

PAC is also partnering with DeMille's Farm Market & Orchard to offer apple cider and oranges. Order forms have gone home and are also available on our school's website. Orders are due back by Monday, February 9th and will be delivered to the school after Family Day on Tuesday, February 17th. Thank you in advance for your support!



Kindergarten Immunizations and Catch-up

Our public health nurse, Melissa O'Neill, has confirmed that they will be able to offer pre-kindergarten immunizations at our school when they come out to do the Grade 6 immunizations on the morning of May 6th. If you are the parent of a student entering kindergarten in the fall, or if you have a child that needs to catch up on their immunizations, please call the Public Health office at 250-851-7300 to schedule a time. You may also choose to have them done in Kamloops at the Public Health unit at another time.

immunizations



Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day activities will take place on Friday, February 13th at Savona Elementary. It will also be spirit day at our school. Students and staff are invited to wear red, white, purple or pink to show off their Valentine's Day spirit! There will be a Valentine's Dance at 1:00 pm in the gym. The primary students will stay for a few student-led dances at the beginning, then the intermediate students will stay until the end. Teachers will reach out to let parents know of any other special activities happening in their classrooms on this day.



Pink Shirt & Anti-Bullying Day

Wednesday, February 25, 2026, is Pink Shirt Day across Canada! We encourage staff and students to wear pink to school in support of its amazing message. On this day, we will all try to practice kindness and acceptance towards both ourselves and others. Throughout the month of February, we are challenging all students and staff to focus on only positive and encouraging talk – all day long! Talking to children about positive, pro-social behaviors on a regular basis, and modeling this behavior as adults, has shown to decrease negative student to student interactions at school, in the community, and at home.



For information on how you can erase bullying, visit the official E.R.A.S.E. website at <https://www.erasereportit.gov.bc.ca/>. You can also click the erase logo at the bottom of any School District 73 website at any time.



PAC Meeting

The next PAC meeting will take place on Monday, March 2nd at 5:00 pm in the Savona Elementary School library. We encourage all parents to attend, even if you've never been to a PAC meeting before. It is a great way to find out about events and fundraisers happening at our school that benefit all our students.



School Boundaries & Student Transfer Requests

Each year, students and parents will be given notice that they may, starting on March 1, request transfer to another school for the upcoming school year. For more information, please see [Administrative Procedure 305](#) available on the School District 73 website.

Student Learning Survey

The provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers, and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used to plan in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.



Early in 2026 the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 and 7 and was shared with their parents/guardians/caregivers, and all school staff. We encourage you to participate in this survey as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

To complete the survey:

1. Go to any computer that has an up-to-date internet browser access at home, work, or school.
2. Go to www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm
3. Click on the Parents icon for Direct (logon-free) Access
 - a. District: the name of your child's district (73 Kamloops-Thompson)
 - b. School: the name of your child's school (Savona Elementary)
 - c. Language: the language of your choice
4. Click Logon.
5. Complete the survey by clicking on the appropriate circle to answer each question and click "NEXT". Parents should be able to complete the survey in 15-20 minutes.
6. When you have finished the survey, you will get a message: "Thank you for sharing your views"

The e-survey site will be open until May 1, 2026. If you have any questions, please contact the school office. Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Events

- Feb. 2-6 Kindergarten Registration Week
- February 3 After School Program 2:34 - 4:30 pm
- February 4 Basketball Away Game vs. AE Perry – leave at 2:00 pm
- February 6 Pro-D – **No School**
- February 9 PAC DeMille’s orders due
- February 9 Young Artist’s Submissions Due
- February 10 After School Program 2:39 - 4:30 pm
- February 11 Basketball Away Game vs. Kamloops Christian School – 3:00 pm
- February 11 100’s Day – Ms. Gill’s Class
- February 13 Unplug and Play forms due back
- February 13 PAC Hot Lunch – Pancakes w/berries & whipped cream
- February 13 Valentine’s Spirit Day – wear red, white, purple or pink
- February 16 BC Family Day - **No School**
- February 17 DeMille’s order delivery
- February 17 After School Program 2:34 - 4:30 pm
- February 18 Basketball away game vs. KCS – leave at 2:00 pm
- February 20 Hot Dog Day – if purchased
- February 24 After School Program 2:34 - 4:30 pm
- February 25 **PINK SHIRT DAY**
- February 27 PAC Hot Lunch – Perogies
- March 2 PAC Meeting – 5:00 PM

Community Supports for Children & Youth

Empower Your Family with Community Connections!

Are you curious about community supports as your child enters kindergarten?

Would you like more information from organizations that can help support your family or school-aged child?

Are you wondering about services that may be available as your youth approaches adulthood?

Snacks and Doorprizes!!

February 24, 2026
4-6pm (drop-in)

Henry Grube Education Centre
(245 Kitchener Crescent)



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73
(Kamloops-Thompson)

Learn about local programs and services designed to support your child’s unique journey. Together, we can build a stronger, more inclusive community!

Questions?



Henry Grube Education Centre (250) 376-2266