



PACIFIC WAY ELEMENTARY

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Principal: Katrina Sewell (ksewell@sd73.bc.ca) Vice-Principal: I-Wen Bluhm (ibluhm@sd73.bc.ca)

January 2026

Principal's Note:

Happy New Year! It's hard to believe that 2026 is already upon us. I hope you enjoyed a fun and recharging Winter Break with your families and are ready to get back to school routines.

I would like to extend a HUGE thank you to our staff and students, who worked hard to produce wonderful concerts in December - the Grade 6/7 *Dig It* production and the K-Grade 5 Winter Concert. Thank you to all of the families who brought food and monetary donations to the concerts. The Salvation Army was overwhelmed with our school community's generosity.

CONGRATULATIONS to the 10 Front Row Seat Raffle winners, who won a pair of 2 seats in the front row of the evening K-5 Winter Concert. Thanks to the generosity of everyone who purchased tickets, we were able to raise **\$840.25**, which will be put towards a new soundboard and other performance equipment.



Winter Routines:

Although we will be returning to mild temperatures, colder weather is no doubt on its way. Please ensure your child comes to school prepared for being outside at recess and lunch time. This includes outdoor footwear, as well as warm coats, mittens or gloves and hats. Labeling your child's clothing with a permanent marker (or Mabel's Labels) helps eliminate students accidentally wearing another student's identical item of footwear and clothing home. Also consider sending your child with a change of clothes to avoid phone calls home after they come in wet from outdoor play.

Thinking ahead to colder temperatures, we typically plan to go outside with temperatures above (or at) -15°. There are a few exceptions to this. If the air temperature is showing slightly warmer than -15°, but the windchill is showing much colder, I will usually call an inside day. However, if the temperature is hovering at -15° or -16° at recess time, and there is no indicated wind chill, I will usually send students outside for the morning recess and then reevaluate at lunchtime.

Reviewing our School Values:

We will be starting the New Year with focusing on how our positive actions have a lasting effect. During Monday's assembly, we will review our school Matrix:

- ★ **P** stands for Persevere
- ★ **A** stands for be Accountable
- ★ **C** stands for Cooperate
- ★ **K** stands for be Kind

Later in January students will learn about the Seven Grandfather Teaching, Honesty, with a focus on being and accepting yourself, and walking with integrity.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Katrina Sewell



Basketball season begins the week of January 19th and teams have been set.

Basketball Coach Needed:

We have coaches for all but one team. In order to run a boys recreation basketball team, we will need a coach who has some basic elementary school basketball knowledge and knows how to run practices and game play. If you or someone you know is able to coach, or would like more information about coaching, please call the school or email Mrs. Sewell at ksewell@sd73.bc.ca.

Referees Wanted:

Teams will be playing on the following days:

- **Tuesdays:** Tier 1 Boys Competitive and Recreational
- **Wednesdays:** Tier 3 Boys and Tier 3 Girls
- **Thursdays:** Tier 1 Girls Competitive and Recreational

This means many after school games. Are you or someone you know able to referee our home games? Do you have a teenager who is confident about game play and able to ref grade 5-7 students while earning a per game stipend? If so, please let Mrs. Sewell know.

Kindergarten Registration:

We look forward to welcoming our new Kindergarten students for the 2026-2027 school year. It is important that we get our students as soon as possible as it helps with staffing and school organization.

Pacific Way Elementary Registration begins the week of February 2-6. The registration process is as follows:

- Pick up a registration package from the school (or complete this [digital copy](#)) and return completed forms to school
- Parents will be required to provide child's care card, proof of address, child's birth certificate, and other applicable documents
- Registration is based on the catchment boundaries, as set for the 2026 school year

If you have questions or if you would like help completing your registration, please contact the school.

SD73 Kindergarten Virtual Information Night:

Wednesday, January 28 - 6:30 PM

[ZOOM Link Here](#)

Meeting ID: 634 1071 0053 / Passcode: 389554

To learn more about Kindergarten in SD73:

- Explore: [Welcome to Kindergarten Handbook](#)

Pacific Way’s Chromebook Lending Library

As we are starting to replace some of our aging chromebooks out of classrooms, we wanted to salvage some of them by having our district staff do a clean up and reset of the chromebooks. By doing so, we were able to breathe a bit more life into them! While they aren’t able to keep up with the high volume of a classroom, they certainly will do just fine for a student who would like to use a chromebook at home to finish up a project. If you have a child who needs to use a chromebook at home once in a while for school related assignments, you can now sign out a chromebook from the school just like a library book.



Need a Chromebook for Homework/Project completion?

Welcome to Pacific Way’s Chromebook Lending Library! We’ve refreshed some older Chromebooks so students can borrow them for schoolwork at home. They’re not ideal for full-time classroom use, but they work great for finishing projects!

How to Borrow One:

- 1. Let your child’s teacher know you’d like to sign out a Chromebook.
- 2. When your child goes to the library for their book exchange, the librarian will check a Chromebook out to your child, in addition to their library book.
- 3. You may keep it for **2 weeks**.
- 4. Need more time? Email the teacher for an extension.
- 5. Return it by the due date.

How to use it at home:

- 1. Connect the Chromebook to your home wifi.
- 2. Sign your child in using their GEDU username and password.
- 3. Don’t know what that is? No problem! Email your child’s teacher for that information.
- 4. This will give you and your child access to their google drive with all the documents and the google suite of apps such as Google Slides, Google Sheets, Google Docs, etc.

Sledding Reminders:

- ★ Students must wear snow pants, boots and mittens/gloves
- ★ Students must sit on bum or knees facing forward
- ★ Only 1 sled may go down a sled lane at a time
- ★ Maximum 2 people per sled
- ★ No trains
- ★ Students must get out of the way as soon as possible
- ★ Students must use the stairs or go up the far side of the sledding area
- ★ Students must stay in their area (Primary vs. Intermediate)
- ★ Only soft sleds (crazy carpets or foam sleds)
- ★ If you do not have a sled, you may bum slide but only at the back of the school by the 4 square and only if you have snow pants and boots

Parents Advisory Council (PAC) Corner:

Hot Lunch Orders – Winter Session:

- Winter session is now in effect. Special note: paying by **cash, cheque, or e-transfer** helps the PAC save on credit card fees, raising more funds for the school. Order here: <https://pacificway.hotlunches.net/>

Purdy’s update:

- Sales were \$10,422.00 with a profit of **\$3,282.90**

Bingo Event:

- Mark your calendar for **February 6th** starting at 5:00pm. More info to follow.

Mabel’s Labels Fundraiser:

- With every purchase, the school receives **20% back!**
- Visit mabelslabels.ca and at checkout you'll see a "Support a Fundraiser" box, type Pacific Way Elementary, select our school and complete your order!

Next PAC Meeting:

- **Tuesday, January 20, 6:00 PM** In the Library – everyone is welcome!

Noon Hour Supervisors Needed

With winter upon us, we are currently needing noon hour supervisors for all 5 days of the week. You will receive an honorarium of \$12 for the hour.

Please contact Mrs. Sewell by phoning the school or emailing at ksewell@sd73.bc.ca. We will give your contact information to Cathy, our supervisor organizer, and she will reach out to add you to the schedule.



Come Read with Me

BECOME A VOLUNTEER TUTOR

Do you have **2 HOURS A WEEK** during school hours to read one-on-one with young students?

- No experience is necessary, but you must have good English language skills
- We provide free training and ongoing support
- Tutors read with 3 elementary students for 30 minutes each, once a week for 12 weeks

Volunteer Training
Tuesday January 27, 2026 9:00 am - 12 noon
Monday February 2, 2026 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Henry Grube Education Centre
245 Kitchener Crescent

Please register by contacting Cami at camiliteracyinkamloops@gmail.com or 250-573-1785



Dates To Remember

January 5	First Day of School from Winter Break
January 20	PAC Meeting - Library @ 6:00pm
February 6	Non-Instructional Day - No school
February 6	PAC Evening Bingo Event
February 16	Family Day - No School