



# March/April 2026 Newsletter

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## *MARCH MADNESS FOOD BANK DRIVE*

*Do you want to help us stock up the Kamloops Food Bank shelves as well as have bragging rights in the Valleyview/Dallas schools? We are competing against Juniper Ridge, Marion Schilling, Dallas and RLC to collect the most food for the Food Bank.*

*Last year, RLC challenged Ralph Bell and Marion Schilling during the first two weeks of March to collect food. RLC was the overall winner last year, but the Food Bank is the biggest winner of all by being able to stock their shelves to support those in need. Several of our families access the Food Bank. This collection will support our local Ralph Bell families as well.*

*We are collecting food from March 2-12. Our plan is to fill as many of the boxes that are in our hallway. Please tell your family and friends. Thank you for your help in beating the other schools as well as supporting an amazing cause.*

### **UPCOMING**

*Next week, we will be having the Robotics team coming in to work with our Grade 1-7 classes. We are looking forward to it.*

*Learning Updates - will be published to the MyEd BC portal on Wednesday, March 11. Please contact the office if you want a paper copy.*

*Spring Break is coming. Please note the dates: March 15-March 27.*

*Breakfast program - if your child needs extra food or missed breakfast, all students are welcome to attend our morning breakfast program.*

### **LAST MONTH**

*February 13 was such an exciting day at Ralph Bell. The Olympics came to our school. Kukwstsétsemc (thank you) to Mrs. Grimm, Mr. Denby, Mrs. O'Donovan, and TRex for all the hard work planning the events. Selected students participated in speed skating, bobsled, skeleton, curling and biathlon. Every classroom ended up winning a medal and there were many smiling faces cheering on their country. It was an amazing success! Also, kukwstsétsemc (thank you) to Mrs. Tomada and her class for making all the medals!*

*The PAC made \$600 on the book sale. It was great to see a variety of books for the students to choose from. Way to go familie for providing all the books!*

### **SCHOOL JERSEYS**

*We are unfortunately missing several jerseys at the school (approx. 15). If your child has participated in any school sports at Ralph Bell, could you please look through your child's bedroom to see if there is one there? They are very costly to replace.*

### **PLAYGROUND AND FIELD**

*From time to time, unwanted items (such as drug paraphernalia or other unsafe objects) may end up on our school grounds or playground. Our staff works diligently each day to monitor these areas and ensure they remain safe for students. Despite these efforts, it is still possible for items to be missed and later discovered by students.*

*At school, we regularly remind students not to pick up any unknown or potentially unsafe items they may find outside. We ask that you please review this safety message at home as well.*

*Today, for example, a group of students found broken glass on the playground. They responded appropriately —they did not touch it and immediately informed an adult. Their parents were notified, and our staff quickly cleaned the area.*

*We will continue our regular process of monitoring and inspecting the playground and field to maintain a safe environment for all students. If you want to know about the unsafe items that are found on our playground/field moving forward, please refer to this link.<sup>1</sup> It will be updated weekly.*

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## **STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES**

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### **FLAG FOOTBALL**

*We are looking for a Flag Football coach. Please contact Mrs. Grimm if you are able to help out - [agrimm@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:agrimm@sd73.bc.ca)<sup>2</sup>. Sign up will begin after spring break.*

### **TALENT SHOW**

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<sup>1</sup><https://sway.cloud.microsoft/LqiW2GnCNQr4NQBQ?ref=Link>

<sup>2</sup><mailto:agrimm@sd73.bc.ca>

*We will have our annual Talent Show in June. Date to be determined. Sign up for tryouts will be at the end of April. When students sign up, they need to have an idea of what they will be performing. Their performance does not need to be perfected by the time of the tryouts, but be able to present something.*

### ***DRAWING CONTEST***

*We are looking to create a welcome sign to go above the front doors of our school. We would like the drawing to be created by students of Ralph Bell. Students are encourage to submit their drawings (digital or hand drawn) to the office. The student population and staff will pick the drawing that best fits our school.*

*The **following requirements** will need to be in the drawing:*

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- Welcome/Weyt-kp to Ralph Bell Elementary*
  - Bobcat mascot*
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*For any digitally drawing submission, the images that are downloaded from the Internet need to follow copyright rules. If your child is unsure of an image, have them connect with the office or their teacher.*

*All submissions are **due on April 7, 2026**. The winning piece will be digitally enhanced to be put on the sign. We are excited to see all the submission.*

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## PARENT CORNER



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### PARENT INVOLVEMENT

*If you are interested in getting involved as a volunteer at our school, here are some reminders on what you can do to help out:*

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- *Crossing guard in the morning and after school*
  - *Handing out snack baskets at recess*
  - *Lunch time activities (i.e, supervision, refereeing a soccer/hockey/football game, chess club, games club, art club, science club, math club etc.)*
  - *Supporting PAC events, coming to PAC meetings etc.*
  - *Other ideas?*
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*To get the ball rolling, you will need a criminal record check and connect with the office.*

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# PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

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The next PAC meeting will be held in the Ralph Bell library on Wednesday, **April 8, 2026 at 6:15pm**. Childcare is available. The PAC Facebook page has a lot of information for parents as well – Ralph Bell Elementary PAC.<sup>3</sup>

Any questions, email [ralphbellpac@gmail.com](mailto:ralphbellpac@gmail.com)<sup>4</sup>

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## Golf and Restaurant Fundraiser - Ralph Bell PAC 2026

Golf and patio season are almost here, and we've got a deal for you! Ralph Bell Elementary PAC is fundraising by selling discount golf and restaurant cards!

**Option 1:**

**2026 Golf Season Discount Cards \$30/card**  
Use the card up to 4 times at each course!

Pine Ridge Golf	
Two green fees for \$45 Mon-Thurs anytime. Carts not included	
The Dunes at Kamloops	18 holes guest walking rate of \$80 on Sun to Wed after 1pm.
Bighorn golf and Country Club	2 for 1 based on 18 hole prime season rack rate.
Shuswap Lake Golf Course at Blind Bay	25% off one regular priced peak season prime time 18-hole green fee
Chinook Cove Golf & RV	2 for 1 green fee weekdays after 1:30 pm and weekends after 2:30pm.

**Option 2:**

	<b>2026 Great Deals Restaurant Cards \$30/each</b> Visit each restaurant up to 4 times!
	HOJA MONGOLIAN GRILL
	2 FOR 1 Adult buffet Mon-Wed (dine in only)
	MOXIES KAMLOOPS
	Half price wine ANYTIME
	DENNY'S North Shore
	Free Appy with purchase over \$40. All week 5pm-9pm.
	NOBLE PIG
	Buy one appetizer and get the other for 1/2 price ANYTIME!
	THE COLUMBIA DINER
	2 for 1 lunch or dinner entrée. Any day, any time.

**How to order:**

- Transfer the PAC at [ralphbellpac@gmail.com](mailto:ralphbellpac@gmail.com). Tell us in the comments if you are purchasing a golf or restaurant card and how many of each. Make sure to include your child's name and teacher in the comments.
- Please transfer \$30/card that you are purchasing.

**Order deadline is :** April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Cards will be distributed April 10<sup>th</sup>.

## UPCOMING DATES

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### PAC Snack Days

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<sup>3</sup><https://www.facebook.com/groups/646472643192990>

<sup>4</sup><https://ralphbellpac@gmail.com/>

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- *Mar. 5 – Muffin and Milk*
  - *Mar. 12 – Donut and Milk*
  - *April 2 - Muffin and Milk*
  - *April 9 - Donut and Milk*
  - *April 16 - The Pasta Place*
    - *April 23 - Popcorn*
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### ***School Activity Dates***

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- *March 3 - Presentations for the Grade 4-7 – Cole Levitt*
  - *March 4 - Plant Walk Field Trip - Mrs. Hill's class*
- *March 5 - All Library Books due before Spring Break*
  - *March 6 - Mrs. O'Donovan's class at TRU*
- *March 9-14 – Robotics in classrooms – Grades 1-7*
- *March 11 - Learning Updates go home via MyEd*
  - *March 13 – Last day before Spring Break*
    - *April 3 and 6th - No school*
    - *April 7 - Day of Suwentwécw*
  - *April 14 - CrèSon School Presentation*

- *April 15 - Swim Meet*
- *April 17 - John Dunn Presentations*
  - *April 24 - Class Photos*
- *April 30 - Fire Drill at 11:00am*
- ***Every Wednesday at 7:15am***

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– *Basketball shooting for Intermediates with Mr. Denby*

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- ***Every Thursday at Lunch***

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– *Battle of the Books practices - Mrs. O'Donovan*

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CAPTURED MOMENTS



1 - Tubing at Harper



*2 - Tubing at Harper*



*3 - 100's day in Mrs. Jobson's class*



*4 - Speed Skating at the Olympics*



5 - Mrs. Jobson's class winning sliver at our Olympics

## REMINDERS

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### **PARKING**

*For student safety, the **front parking lot is not to be used for dropping off or picking up students.** Please use the **side streets, Valleyview Drive,** or have your child **ride the school bus.***

*Our buses help transport students who live in areas that are not walkable, and using bus transportation also helps reduce traffic congestion around the school. The parking lots become extremely congested during the morning and afternoon, creating **unsafe conditions for students and families.** For this reason, we will continue to reinforce this expectation.*

*Thank you to all families who are following these procedures and helping keep our school community safe.*

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RALPH BELL WEBSITE<sup>5</sup>



**RALPH BELL**  
ELEMENTARY

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<sup>5</sup><https://ralph-bell.sd73.bc.ca/en/index.aspx>