



# SAVONA ELEMENTARY



May 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

Welcome to May! Somehow we are in the final two months of the school year. Savona Elementary is a great place to be and each and every day, I have gratitude for the students, staff, families, and community members that work together to support each other.

Easter came very quickly after Spring Break. Talking to students, it sounds like students were able to enjoy the long weekend with friends and family while consuming 'the odd' chocolate treat. Savona Elementary and Pinantan Elementary were able to pair together to create a Flag Football Team. So far, students have participated in two games. There are still two games coming up in May. Track and Field rotations have begun where students from Grades 2 to 7 practice Long Jump, Triple Jump, High Jump, and Shot Put. Students in Kindergarten and Grade 1 have been practicing their skipping technique in preparation for our upcoming Jump Rope for Heart Event. We extend huge gratitude to Skeetchestn Community school for hosting our intermediate students at a Lahal Tournament.

This is currently a Flexible Learning Format time. Families will be receiving some form of communication from teachers. This may be an open house (presentation of learning), parent / teacher conference, phone call, email, or brief written report or checklist. Families are always encouraged to reach out to teachers if they have specific questions about how their child (ren) is / are doing. Term 2 Formal Learning Updates are still visible on the MyEd Parent Portal (please drop by the office if you need support logging in). Term 3 Formal Learning Updates will be posted to the Parent Portal near the end of June.

May will be a busy month! Please refer to the school website for the most up-to-date information. We keep extra copies of newsletters, permission forms, and informational items at the office. There are two bulletin boards, one in the entrance way, and one in the main hallway, that have information posted on them. There is also a Savona Elementary PAC Facebook Page. Thanks to the fundraising efforts (bake sale) of the Grade 5/6/7 Class, who are raising money to have our sign outside repaired to provide more communication about school events.

Two 'to do' items: (1) Please check bedrooms, etc. for Savona Elementary Library Books / (2) Please update student file information (Care Cards, Medical Information, Custody Agreements, Emails, Phone Numbers, Etc.).

I wish my mom, and all the other AMAZING moms out there, a very Happy Mother's Day!



Ms. K. Chernoff  
Principal, Savona Elementary

### PAC Meeting

The next PAC meeting takes place on Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm in the Savona Elementary School Library. Childcare will be provided during the meeting. If you haven't done so already, we encourage you to join the Savona Elementary PAC Facebook page. It is a great way to keep current with school events and PAC fundraising efforts.



### Young Authors' Conference

Congratulations to Mya Colville, Hayley Haywood-Farmer, Sylvie Haywood-Farmer and Jack Haywood-Farmer who had their writing selected to represent Savona Elementary at this year's Young Authors' Conference being held on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at Thompson Rivers University.



### Track and Field Meet

Our grades 4-7 students have been invited to take part in the Dufferin Elementary Track Meet that will take place on Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. Students will compete in events with an opportunity to advance to the Zone Track Meet taking place on Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Permission slips for the track meet are due back by Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. The Dufferin Elementary School PAC will have a concession where students will be able to purchase ice cream, chips and other snacks. Most items will be \$1 or \$2. Please bring small bills or change if you wish to purchase items from the concession. All students will need to bring a good lunch, a water bottle, proper shoes, gym strip and sunscreen. A huge Thank-you to Dufferin Elementary for giving us the opportunity to join their event!



### Yearbooks

We are putting together a yearbook for the 2025-2026 school year. Each yearbook costs \$5.00 and they will be delivered to students before the end of June. Order forms are due back by Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. You may send cash or cheque payable to Savona Elementary or use School Cash online. We look forward to sharing these wonderful memories with you!



### Salmon Release

Students in Ms. Gill's class and Ms. Mann's class will be going on a field trip to release our salmon at the Deadman Hatchery on Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. Students will rotate through stations where they will learn about watersheds, aquatic invertebrates and will be able to watch a salmon dissection. Please make sure your child is dressed for the weather and packs a good lunch and water bottle. Permission slips will be sent home soon and are due back by Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will be sad to see our fish go but are grateful for the opportunity to be involved with the preservation and enhancement of a species that is so important to our lifestyle and economy here in British Columbia.



### Rattlin' Ramble Run/Walk



Our school will be heading to the Skeetchestn Community Arbor on Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> to participate in

Skeetchestn School's annual Rattlin' Ramble! The Rattlin' Ramble is a 5km (2.5km for our younger students) run or walk. Students will arrive at the Arbor at 9:30 am and the day will start soon after with a welcome prayer and drum performance by SCS. It will be followed by warm-up activities & instructions, then the run/walk. There will be water stations set up along the way and people cheering participants on. A BBQ lunch will be provided, however please ensure your child brings a snack, proper running shoes, a hat, sunscreen and a water bottle. We are looking forward to this amazing day!

### Flag Football

Intermediate students have had the opportunity to join with students from Pinantan Elementary to form a co-ed flag football team. The first 2 games have taken place already and there are 2 more games scheduled on May 6<sup>th</sup> at Summit Elementary and May 13<sup>th</sup> at Aberdeen Elementary. Games start as close to 3:00 pm as possible. A big Thank-You to Ms. Mann for organizing this for our students!



## **Warm Weather Reminders**

As we move into the last 2 months of the school year, we are happy to see the beautiful, warm weather once again. We encourage students to protect themselves from the sun by wearing hats outdoors as well as applying sunscreen at home before coming to school. If you are sending sunscreen to school with your child, please ensure it is a lotion. Aerosol sunscreens are not permitted due to scent sensitivities, and because they settle on the floor making it slippery and unsafe. We also encourage you to send a water bottle with your child so they can stay properly hydrated.



## **Jump Rope for Heart**

On the afternoon on Thursday, May 14 students and staff will be participating in a variety of stations, including skipping, that help promote the importance of exercise and movement on the human brain and heart. We encourage students to wear red on this day and show school spirit and increase the visual impact of this event.



Our school is proud to be participating in the Heart & Stroke's Jump Rope for Heart. This week, students have been learning about EASY healthy habits and will hopefully be able to raise some funds to support lifesaving heart and brain research.

Help us reach our fundraising goal by donating or register to create your own fundraising page to share with family and friends. Visit our school's fundraising page to get started.

<https://jumpropeforheart.crowdchange.ca/114949>

We will also be accepting 'loose change' donations at the office for students who would like to make a small donation from their piggy banks.

## **New School Website**

School District 73 has partnered with a new company to host their school websites. When you visit our Savona Website, you will notice that it looks much different. We still have not received all of the training to manage this new site, so please be patient as all the information might not be as up to date as we would like to have it. If you are unable to find the information you are looking for, please contact the office at 250-373-2520.

## **Learn2Ride Safe Cycling Program**

Students in Ms. Mann's and Mrs. Regan's classes will be participating in the Learn2Ride program on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. This program consists of 2 units. The first is an in-class introduction to cycling safety and the second will be learning on-bike skills. Students will need to bring their bike & helmet to school on this day and come dressed for the weather. If your child does not have a bike, please let us know as soon as possible. The coordinators can bring some bikes and helmets if needed. Please look for an information letter that will be sent home with students soon.



## **Savona Elementary 'Green Thumbs'**

As a result of a successful grant application, you will start to notice changes to a small garden area being developed in front of the school. Staff member, Jordan McAlpine, has knowledge and experience in creating school gardens. He is working alongside students to create a revitalized Savona Elementary garden. Students have already



had the opportunity to help clean-up the area and do some rototilling. Students will also be working alongside Mr. McAlpine to build garden boxes and do some planting. Some plants have already been started inside the school. We extend thanks and gratitude to the Kamloops Rotary Club who heard about this initiative and donated a box of seeds. One goal is to have some food items that are ready to be harvested before the end of the school year

### **Mrs. Chaney - Good-Byes are Not Easy**

Mrs. Leeza Chaney has been a TRU Teacher Candidate doing her long practicum at Savona Elementary. Thank you, Mrs. Regan, for mentoring and supporting her. Mrs. Chaney has had an incredibly successful practicum, and students are going to miss her greatly. Mrs. Chaney has had a positive impact on all students at Savona Elementary. As hard as it is to see her go, we wish her luck and success in her career as a teacher. Mrs. Chaney, we thank you very much for all of your hard work, and we know you are going to be a FABULOUS teacher. Maybe one day, you will come back as a teacher here, at Savona Elementary (lots of fingers are crossed).

### **Grade 7 Celebration**

Families of Grade 7 Students . . . mark your calendars. The Grade 7 Celebration will be on Thursday, June 11. The students have decided on an Escape Room and dinner at Original Joes. We hope to have the Escape Room booked and reservations made by the end of the week. Grade 7 parents, there will be confirmation of times coming very soon, but SAVE THE DATE!



### **Moving?**

As we approach the end of one school year, we begin planning for the next school year. If you think there is a chance that you may be moving over the summer, please let the school know. It is helpful for us to have this information as soon as possible. Also, spread the word, if you know of families that are moving to Savona that plan on attending Savona Elementary next year, please encourage them to reach out to us. We are working on class scenarios for next year, so knowledge of any potential changes is greatly appreciated.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Upcoming Events**

May 1	Young Authors' Conference (TRU)
May 1	PAC Hot Lunch – Beef Vegetable Soup w/bun
May 4	PAC Meeting - 5:00 pm
May 5	After School Program 2:34–4:30 pm
May 6	Grade 6 Immunizations
May 6	Young Artist's Conference (TRU)
May 6	Flag Football @ Summit Elementary
May 8	PAC Hot Lunch – Meatball Sub
May 8	Eagle Bay Permissions due
May 10	Mother's Day
May 11	Dufferin Track Meet (Grades 4-7)
May 12	After School Program 2:34–4:30 pm
May 13	Flag Football @Aberdeen Elementary
May 13	SPARK Kindergarten Session 1 – 2:45 – 3:30 pm
May 14	Jump Rope for Heart
May 14	Hot Dog Day (if purchased)
May 15	In-Service Day – <b>No School</b>
May 18	Victoria Day – <b>No School</b>
May 19	Learn2Ride Bike Program
May 19	After School Program 2:34–4:30 pm
May 20	SPARK Kindergarten Session 2 – 2:45 – 3:30 pm
May 22	Zone Track Meet
May 22	Yearbook orders due
May 22	PAC Hot Lunch – Grilled Cheese
May 26	After School Program 2:34–4:30 pm
May 27	Salmon Release Field Trip
May 28	Rattlin' Ramble at Skeetchestn
May 29	PAC Hot Lunch - Spaghetti
June 2	SPARK Kindergarten Session 3 – 2:45 – 3:30 pm