



# Arthur Stevenson Elementary

2890 BANK ROAD  
KAMLOOPS, B.C.  
V2B 6Y7  
Principal: Ms. Kirsten Farquhar  
Vice Principal: Mrs. Leah Clare

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## January 2026 Newsletter

### Message from Ms. Farquhar:

Happy New Year parents and guardians! I hope you all had a restful and joyful winter break filled with time to recharge alongside family and friends. It has been wonderful to see the hallways buzzing with energy again as our students return to their classrooms, ready for a fresh start in 2026.

As we look ahead to a busy and productive January, I want to share a few key highlights and updates for the month:

**Basketball Season Tip-Off:** Our gym is about to get a lot louder! The basketball season officially begins next week for all four of our teams. We are so proud of our student-athletes for their commitment and can't wait to cheer them on.

Our Grade 5 and 6 teachers are beginning the **District Numeracy Assessments** next month. These assessments provide valuable insights into our students' mathematical thinking and help us tailor our instruction to meet their needs. From now through May, students in Grades 4–7 will participate in the annual Student Learning Survey. Their feedback on school life is essential; it helps us monitor and adjust our school's intellectual and well-being goals each year to ensure we are providing the best environment possible.

I'd like to pass on a big thank-you to everyone who joined us for our winter concerts in December. It was heartwarming to see such a full house supporting our young performers. We also want to extend our deepest gratitude to those who supported our Parent Advisory Council (PAC) fundraising efforts. Your contributions directly enhance the programs and resources available to our students.

This month, our school focus continues with the **7 Grandfather Teachings**. Our January focus comes from Coyote and centers on the virtues of Humility and Integrity. We will be encouraging students to walk with "a humble heart"—recognizing that we are all equal and that our actions should be guided by honesty and strong moral principles. It is a beautiful way to start the calendar year, reflecting on how we can be our best selves within our community.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and support. Let's make it a fantastic winter term!

Warmly,  
Your Proud Principal,  
Kirsten Farquhar (she/her)



### **Winter Weather:**

Winter is officially here, please send your students with adequate outerwear. Students are encouraged to be outside for recess and lunch. We will keep an eye on the temperature and adjust our outside time (come in early or have an inside day) if it gets too cold. -15 is our approx. threshold for adjusting outside times.

### **Parking reminder:**

The staff and students thank all parents who park in the designated parent parking areas along Soldier Road and the side of Bank Road that is opposite the school. I should also let parents know that some staff have shifts that start and end closer to the bells and are often unable to access our staff parking lot in the morning or cannot leave at the end of their shifts due to cars blocking the entrance of our staff parking lot during pick up and drop off times. Some staff have other commitments after school, such as other jobs in the case of CEAs and TTOCs. We ask that you use the parent parking areas as noted above.

### **Food Drive Initiatives:**

Thank you to all of you who donated to the school's food drive/homeless hygiene initiative in December. The response was a wonderful example for our student community to see the generosity of our wider Arthur Stevenson community.

### **School Fees:**

This is a reminder to parents that school fees are now past due! Please contact the office or your classroom teacher if you require assistance with fees.

### **Lost & Found:**

Please label your child's personal belongings so we can get them back to their rightful owners. We are already starting to collect items on the Lost and Found shelves. At the end of January, we will pack up items for donation. If your child is missing some items, please come by this month.

### **P.A.C. – Parent Advisory Council:**

The next P.A.C. meeting will be held on Wednesday January 14, 2026 at 6:30pm in the Library. All parents are encouraged and welcome to come!

### **Hot Lunch :**

**[munchalunch.com/register](https://munchalunch.com/register)**

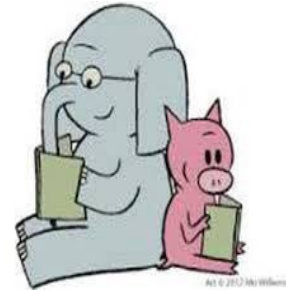
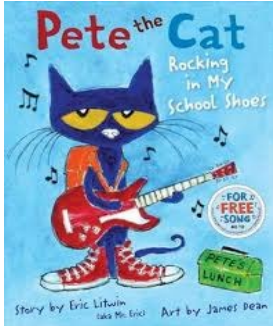
January 20<sup>th</sup>- Edo Japan

January 27<sup>th</sup> -Pizza

January 27<sup>th</sup> - Mexican

*\*\*If your student is away and you would like to pick-up their hot lunch, please email the PAC at [aseshotlunch@gmail.com](mailto:aseshotlunch@gmail.com) or you can call the school.\*\*\**

# ASES Unplug and Play Family Literacy Week Activities January 26th- January 30th, 2025



## **Literacy Week:**

We are excited for the January 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> Unplug and Play Family Literacy Week! Classes will be doing a variety of activities to engage in and celebrate literacy learning. Completed Unplug and Play forms are due back by February 5<sup>th</sup> and will be entered into a draw for prizes. Your packages also include a link to donate to community based literacy programs.

### **Monday, January 26th: D.E.A.R!**

Drop Everything and Read will happen twice during the day!

### **Tuesday, January 27th: Reading Rocks! Wear some Funky Socks and Dance on the Spot!**

Students wear funky socks and dance on the spot when the Principal plays music on the PA!

### **Wednesday, January 28th: Make a Bookmark Day!**

Students can use their creativity to make a bookmark.

### **Thursday, January 29th: Read my Shirt/Wear a Word**

Wear a shirt that has words appropriate for school. If you don't have a shirt with words, you can write your own words on a piece of paper and tape it to your shirt.

### **Friday, January 30th: Jigsaw puzzle day!**

There will be jigsaws in the library and boardgames in classrooms for students to enjoy.

## **Other Upcoming Events / Dates :**

**February 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>** – Kindergarten Registration (information following pages)

**Fri, Feb 6** – Pro-D Day – School Closed

**Mon, Feb 16**– Family Day – School Closed



# KINDERGARTEN

## IT TAKES A VILLAGE CONNECTING FAMILIES TO KINDERGARTEN

**A Parent/Caregiver-focused event:**  
Learn about local community supports  
and programs that can help your child  
transition smoothly into Kindergarten.



## February 18, 2026

**TIME: 5:30PM - 7:30PM**

**John Tod Early Years Center**

**150 Wood St, Kamloops, BC**





# Important Dates

- Schools of Choice Information Night - January 14, 2026
- Schools of Choice K Reg Dates - January 19-23, 2026
- Catchment K Information Night- January 28, 2026
- Neighborhood Schools K Reg Dates - February 2-6, 2026

## **FAMILY Support Nights:**

John Tod/ EYC - Feb 18th, 2026

*It Takes a Village: Connecting Families to Kindergarten* **5:30-7:30pm**

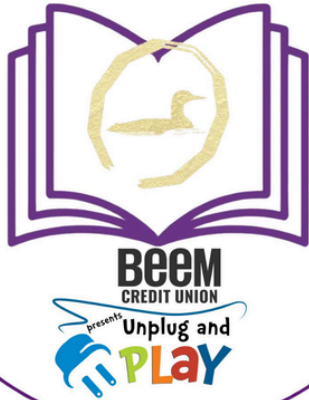
Henry Grube - Feb 24th, 2026

*Community Supports for Children & Youth* **4:00-7:00pm**

# SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.73 TOGETHER, SUPPORTING LITERACY!



Loonies for Literacy



## January 26th -31st

Donate online to support local literacy programs like:

- Come Read With Me Tutoring
- Bright Red Bookshelves
- Parent-Child Mother Goose.

[www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/42475](http://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/42475)



Come Read with Me



Enter to win a prize with  
Beem Credit Union at  
[facebook.com/InteriorSavings](https://facebook.com/InteriorSavings)



Follow us on Instagram  
[@kamloopsunplugplay](https://instagram.com/kamloopsunplugplay)



PARENT INFORMATION ZOOM:  
JANUARY 22, 2026 AT 6PM

DAY IN THE ARTS AT KSA:  
JANUARY 27, 2026 - AFTERNOON

**WHAT IS KAMLOOPS  
SCHOOL**

**OF THE  
ARTS?**

[HTTPS://CA01WEB.ZOOM.US/J/63016579375](https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/63016579375)

STUDENTS AND PARENTS FROM GRADE 6-12 ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US ON OUR PARENT INFORMATION EVENING AND A SCHOOL VISIT AND TOUR. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

# KAMLOOPS SCHOOL OF THE ARTS



1390 9<sup>TH</sup> Ave, Kamloops, BC V2C 3X5  
PHONE: 250-374-3200, FAX: 250-377-2245  
SAFE ARRIVAL: [go.schoolmessenger.ca](http://go.schoolmessenger.ca)

## REGISTRATION AND ADMISSION PROCESS

To register and be considered for admission to Kamloops School of the Arts, parents should contact the school or fill out our online registration application on our website: [www.ksa.sd73.bc.ca](http://www.ksa.sd73.bc.ca).

## ADMISSION PROCESS

### Grades 1 to 12:

1. Register online with our application on our website <http://ksa.sd73.bc.ca/> or contact the school for a paper-based application.

2. The application is placed on the KSA wait list, by grade, after speaking to parent/guardian by phone. If you do not receive a call within 48 of your application please call our office right away to ensure we have successfully received it.

3. An Interview with the parent and child will be arranged when the school anticipates space opening up. Interview sessions take place 3 times each year at natural transition times for families.

- a) Late August for new school season
- b) December for new calendar year
- c) Spring in anticipation of family relocations

4. If you are called for a student interview you are required to bring the following;

- a) 2 Report Cards (most recent)
- b) Student Fine Arts portfolio (scrapbook)

Scrapbooks may contain:

Samples of Art Work

Photos of Performances the student has done at school or with outside groups

Conservatory Music Exam Certificates

Dance Exam certificates

Performing Arts Festival Certificates or Awards

Letters of Reference (Performing or Visual Arts Teachers)

Participation Certificates from Music, Theatre or Dance Summer Schools

Letters of Reference from a current school Teacher which speaks to a child's involvement in the Arts, Work Habits and Citizenship.

5. During the student interview time, there will be a discussion with the parent(s) regarding whether KSA is a good fit and there will be a quick tour of the school.

We feel it is paramount that parents make an informed decision based on the nature of our busy school and our Arts-based instructional model.

Priority is given if there is already a sibling in the school.



# Kamloops School of the Arts

1390 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue Kamloops, BC V2C 3X5 \* Telephone: 250-374-3200 \* Fax: 250-377-2245

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RE: KSA Secondary School (Grade 8-12) for 2026-2027

Dear Families of Grade 6 and 7 students:

We are excited to inform interested students in grades 6 and 7 of two information sessions that will be taking place in the near future.

**Firstly**, KSA will be hosting a virtual family information zoom session on January 22nd at 6 pm. In our 30 minute session our school administration will lead you through our school program and provide valuable insights about Kamloops School of the Arts. We will also review the registration process to enroll in the KSA secondary division.

The zoom link for the session is: <https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/63016579375>

**Secondly**, following the zoom session, we invite any interested students to come to Kamloops School of the Arts on January 27th for an 'in person' tour of the school. The 'Day in the Arts' visit will give interested students the opportunity to meet the high school staff, participate in Art rotations and learn more about the programs at KSA. Any interested students not currently enrolled at KSA are asked to call the school at 250-374-3200 to confirm attendance in the Day in the Arts on January 27th.

**Please find an introductory video about KSA Secondary [HERE](#). Interested students can apply [HERE](#).**

We look forward to seeing you at the information sessions!

Blair Lloyd

Principal, Kamloops School of the Arts

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January 27th Agenda	
12:30 pm	Students meet at the front of the school (by the flagpole). A leader will walk students into the school.
12:40-1pm	Elementary Art room <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We will go over secondary expectations and course schedule planning</li><li>Students will be paired with 2 high school student leaders to head off to see secondary classrooms and meet the teachers</li></ul>
1:00	Students will rotate to 6 stations, meeting the high school teachers and getting a better idea of the KSA secondary division
2:40	Report back to their elementary classroom or leave school.

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