



SAVONA ELEMENTARY



October 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

Thank you families, for your patience and support during our school start up. Students are in classes, and there are already so many great things happening. All students seem to be settling into the routines of a new school year. Families, it is always my goal to work alongside you for the educational benefit of your child (ren). We are a team.

Two goals of this school year are to work with students on Literacy Skills and to work on establishing more of a Growth Mindset model of learning (perseverance and resiliency). Families, you can support these goals at home by reading to your child (ren) each night, and encouraging them to spend at least 10 minutes each night with a book. If your child comes home discouraged, encourage them to keep trying and remind them that they might not be able to do something 'yet,' but with practice and determination they will be able to do it. School can be difficult, we want to work with students to understand this, and realize they can do hard things.

Thank you, PAC, for supporting and funding our 'Walk to Breakfast' event. Thank you to those parents who were able to join us. This is a great way to start the school year.

School library times are being established. Ms. Johnson's class will have Library time on Tuesdays. Ms. Gill and Mrs. Regan's classes will have library time on Wednesdays. Please keep library books in a safe spot at home, and return them on scheduled Library Days. Students do have the option of renewing a book if they are not done with it.

Thank you to students and parents for not bringing, or wearing scented products at school. Again, I know I have said this a few times, but we do have scent allergies and sensitivities at the school.

I want to take this opportunity to wish families a 'Happy Thanksgiving!' I am thankful and grateful for all of the students at Savona Elementary!

Teamwork makes the Dreamwork!

Ms. K. Chernoff
Principal, Savona Elementary School

Terry Fox

A very special thank you to everyone who brought in a "Toonie for Terry" or donated online in support of our Terry Fox Run on September 28th. We will continue our collection efforts for another week in hopes of reaching our \$300 goal.



Cross Country Running



Our Savona Elementary Run Club has had one successful run at McArthur Park and has two more coming up. The Cliff Weathermon run hosted by RLC will take place at Eagle Point Golf on Wednesday, October 7th and the Westsyde Schools Run will take place at Westsyde Centennial Park on Wednesday, October 14th. A special thank-you to all our parent drivers who have helped transport students to and from these runs.

Every Child Matters - September 30

"Orange Shirt Day is a time for reflection, learning, and listening. We honour the survivors and remember the children who never came home from residential schools.

As a school, we are committed to Truth and Reconciliation not just today, but every day."



Late Students

If a student is arriving late, please have them check in at the office prior to heading to class. This ensures that our attendance is accurate in case of an emergency.

Theatrical Theatre! After-School Program

We are excited to offer students in grades 2-7 the opportunity to explore the theatrical arts. This program will be led by Ms. McKinlay on Thursdays after school from 2:34 – 4:30 pm. The 8-week

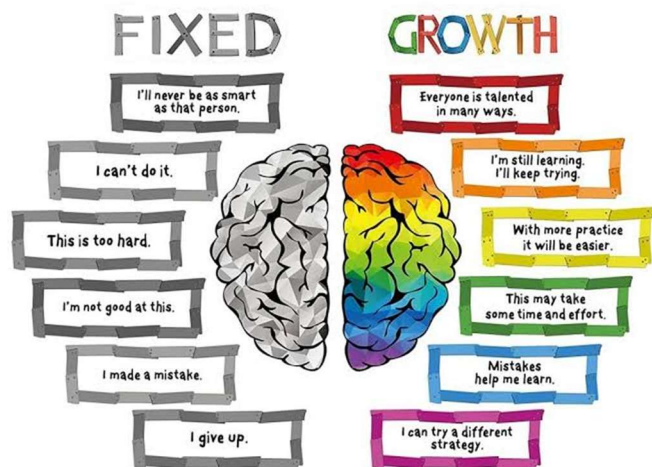


program begins on October 8th and runs until November 26th. Students will learn the fundamentals of acting while invigorating their senses. They will participate in warm-ups &

theatrical games, exploring conversation, movement, environment, creative thinking and team building, while building confidence and stretching their creative muscles. Permission slips have gone home and are due back by Tuesday, October 6th.

School Learning Plan Goal: Growth Mindset

Let's work together on shifting the mindset from a Fixed Mindset to a Growth Mindset.



Picture Day

Right Photography will be here on Wednesday, October 21st to take individual student photos.



Picture proofs will go home with your child once we receive them back at the school. Retakes day has been rescheduled due to a conflict and will now take place on Tuesday, December 1st for students who missed picture day, or who would like to have their picture taken again. Right Photography will be back again in the spring for class photos and a picture of the whole school.

Volleyball

We will be doing an expression of interest very soon about a Savona Elementary Volleyball team. We are working on securing a coach. If you are interested and available to support coaching, drills, practices, please reach out to Ms. Chernoff.



PAC - Parent Advisory Council

Our PAC group would like to extend an invitation to all interested parents: Come on out and join the group! PAC meetings are held bi-monthly at the Savona Elementary School Library and childcare is provided during the meeting.



The next meeting will take place on Monday, November 9th at 5:00 pm. We would like to encourage parents to join the Savona Elementary PAC Facebook page as well. It is a GREAT way to keep current with school events and PAC fundraising efforts.

PAC is compiling a community cookbook that will be for sale this Christmas. They are looking for



recipes from families and community members and also student artwork for the cover and subtitle pages. All submissions of recipes and art must be submitted by Friday, October 23rd. Emailing your typed recipe submissions is preferred, but we will also accept copies at the office. Please email submissions to megan_cummings@hotmail.com.

PAC will be Sandbagging on Sunday, October 25th at 10:00 am at the Savona Transfer Station. Volunteers are needed to help fill and deliver sandbags to our local gas stations. Please comment on the PAC Facebook page if you are able to donate some time.



PAC will also be sending home a Growing Smiles Poinsettia order later in October. Orders will be due back by November 13th and pickup of items will take place December 1st or 2nd.

Scholastic Book Fair

We are happy to announce that we are hosting our Scholastic Book Fair again this year from November 2nd – November 6th.

Students will be given time on Monday to view the books and create a wish list to bring home. They will be allowed to make purchases during their lunch hour throughout the week. Parents are welcome to come to view the books and make purchases during lunch hours between 12:15 pm and 12:45 pm or after school between 2:35 pm and 3:30 pm. Our goal is \$2000 in book sales which would earn us \$600 in resources for our school. There will be great reading materials for all ages, and it is an excellent opportunity to get some Christmas shopping done early!



Flexible Format Learning Updates

Student assessment and reporting is continuously evolving and changing. Teachers are required to report on student achievement five times during the school year. Three of these updates will be written and two are called 'Flexible Format.' Flexible Format Learning Updates can look differently for each teacher or in some cases for individual students. Parents can expect to have some communication (for example, written, oral, student self assessment, sample of learning, etc.) from teachers between Mid-October and Early November. Again, these Flexible Format Learning Updates can be done in a variety of ways and may or may not be done face to face. The first Formal Learning Update will be coming home in December and will be a written Learning Update. Involving parents is key to student success so if you do have questions about student progress, please reach out to teachers, or Ms. Chernoff. If you have questions about Learning Updates, Flexible or Formal, please reach out to Ms. Chernoff.

Please check-out the following website for more information:

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/student_reporting-brochure_for_families.pdf

Halloween Costume Expectations

We will be sending out more information about Halloween events as October 31 gets closer. We do know that students are always very excited to plan their costumes. As students begin to plan their costumes, please be mindful that SD 73 has some expectations regarding Halloween costumes at school:



- Student faces must be visible at all times (masks cannot cover student faces);
- Props that resemble weapons are not permitted at school; and
- Make-Up should not depict extreme gore.

Student Dress Code

In Accordance with School District 73

Administrative Procedure 350.2: Students must not wear clothing which undermines the district's commitment to a safe and inclusive learning environment. This includes:

- Clothing that promotes the use of tobacco, illegal drugs or alcohol;
- Clothing that advocates illegal activity;
- The wearing of clothing, insignias, symbols or adornments that denigrate or promote hatred of a person or persons, including, but not limited to, clothing that denigrates or promotes hate based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, or age;
- Clothing which contains profanity, pornography or obscene images.

Student clothing must conform to health or safety requirements, including requirements arising from participation in specialized programs and events. Other than for religious purposes, health and safety requirements, or where required to accommodate a disability, students must not wear clothing which obscures their face.

Parent Engagement Session

Title: Partnering for Success

Presented by Deanna Brady, District Principal of Inclusive Education and Lise Hyam, District Coordinator of Inclusive Education.

Join us for the first SD73 Parent Engagement Session of the 2026-2027 school year to learn about empowerment and partnership—helping you become a strong advocate for your child while building positive, collaborative relationships with the school team.

In this session, you will:

- Learn how the BC education system supports students with diverse needs
- Understand the roles of teachers, education assistants, case managers, and school teams
- Gain a clear overview of Individual Education Plan (IEPs)—what they are, how they work, and your rights as a parent
- Discover simple strategies to prepare for, participate in, and follow up after IEP meetings
- Take home easy-to-use resources, including checklists, key questions, and a guide to supports available in BC

This workshop will be held via Zoom on **Monday, October 5, 2026, from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM**. If you are interested in attending, please use the following Zoom link [here](#).

2026 Adams River Salute to the Sockeye

We are excited to be able to take our grades 2-7 students on a field trip to Tsútswe'cw Provincial Park for the 2026 Salute to the Sockeye.

Students will be taking part in a 30-minute Educational Interpretive Program provided by Fisheries and Oceans that is

geared towards their grade level. We encourage you to visit the Adams River Salmon Society's website at www.salmonsociety.com to learn more about the program. Permission slips are going home soon and will be due back by Friday, October 16th.



Fire Prevention Week – October 4th - 10th



Charge into Fire Safety: Safe Charging is a Superpower

That is the theme for Fire Prevention Week™ this year. Safe charging means making smart choices every time you plug in. Everyday charging habits can help prevent lithium-ion battery fires.

Cheap charger? Don't chance it.

- Use the cord and charger that came with your device or one approved by the manufacturer.

Soft surface? Hard pass

- Charge on a hard, flat surface like a table, desk, or bare floor.

Fully charged? Time to unplug

- Unplug your device when it is fully charged.

For tools and rides, charge outside.

- Charge large items like e-bikes, scooters, and power tools outside when possible. Do not block exits when charging.

Feels hot? Stop using it.

- Stop using your device if it feels very hot, starts to swell, smells strange, leaks, smokes, or makes popping or hissing sounds.

On a flight? Keep it in sight.

- When on a plane, keep devices where you can see them while charging. Do not charge e-cigarettes or vapes on a plane. Tell a flight attendant if you notice a problem with your device.

For more information on Fire Prevention Week, please visit <https://www.nfpa.org/Events/Events/Fire-Prevention-Week>.

Savona Fire Hall Visit & Lunch



Savona Fire & Rescue has invited our students for a visit to the Fire Hall on Wednesday, October 7th during Fire Prevention week. Each class will be given a 20-

minute tour of the hall and fire truck then served lunch of a hot dog and drink. Volunteers are also hosting a Fire Prevention Week colouring contest. Students will be given a colouring sheet to colour and bring back to the Fire Hall on the 7th.

We would like to extend a huge THANK-YOU to the Savona Volunteer Fire Department for all they do and for giving us this wonderful opportunity!

Earthquake Drill - October 15

Savona is registered to participate in the Great British Columbia Shake Out. This will be happening on October 15. This is the day millions of people worldwide will practise how to "Drop, Cover and Hold On" during Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills.



Mabel's Labels Fundraising



Save the Date!



Worry Bugs

Worry Bugs 2026/2027

Worry Bugs is a group for children in kindergarten and grade 1 who struggle to manage day-to-day worries. Together, children and caregivers will learn strategies to manage anxiety.

Fall session: Thursdays 4:00-5:00 PM
Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26 Dec. 3, 10, 2026

Winter Sessions: Wednesdays 4:00-5:00 PM
Jan. 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 17, 24, 2027
- OR -
Thursdays 4:00-5:00 PM
Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 11, 18, 26, 2027

Spring Session: Wednesdays 4:00-5:00 PM
April 14, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26, 2027

All sessions will be held at the Henry Grube Education Centre - 245 Kitchener Crescent.

Registration pre-screening are required.
For more information contact Ian Reedman at:
email: ireedman@sd73.bc.ca
phone: (778) 694-7620

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 73
Kootenai-Thompson

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Events

Oct. 2	PAC Hot Lunch – Chicken Nuggets w/veggies
Oct. 4-10	Fire Prevention Week
Oct. 5	Munchable Monday – French Toast
Oct. 7	Savona Fire Hall visit & lunch
Oct. 7	Cross Country Run @ Eagle Point Golf
Oct. 8	After School Theatre 2:34 - 4:30 pm
Oct. 9	PAC Hot Lunch – Mac n' Cheese
Oct. 12	Thanksgiving – No School
Oct. 14	TNRD Waste Management Presentations
Oct. 14	Cross Country Run @ Westsyde Centennial Park
Oct. 15	After School Theatre 2:34 - 4:30 pm
Oct. 15	Earthquake Drill
Oct. 16	Hot Dog Day (if purchased)
Oct. 19	Munchable Monday – Mini Pizza
Oct. 21	Right Photography Picture Day
Oct. 22	Salmon Run Field Trip – Grades 2-7
Oct. 22	After School Theatre 2:34 - 4:30 pm
Oct. 23	Pro-D Day – No School
Oct. 25	PAC Sandbag Fundraiser @ 10:00 am
Oct. 26	Munchable Monday – Penne Alfredo w/Chicken
Oct. 29	After School Theatre 2:34 - 4:30 pm
Oct. 30	PAC Hot Lunch – Beef Soft Taco
Oct. 30	Halloween Activities TBA
Nov 2-6	Scholastic Book Fair Week
Nov 9	PAC Meeting @ 5:00 pm

OPEN HOUSE

Discover your future at **TRU's Open House**

Explore programs, take a campus tour, engage in hands-on activities and enter to win prizes!

 **Saturday, Oct. 3**

 **10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

 **TRU Kamloops campus,
multiple locations**

Apply to TRU at Open House and enter to win a tuition-free semester!



SCAN FOR MORE DETAILS

