OTTER NEWS

October 3, 2023

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| **Upcoming Events** |
| **Date** | **Event** |
| September 30 | National Day for Truth & Reconciliation |
| October 2 | Stat Holiday |
| October 4 | “Corner Store” Sale |
| October 5 | World Teacher’s Day |
| October 6 | School Improvement Day (no classes in session) |
| October 9 | Thanksgiving (stat holiday) |

**National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**

Thank you for joining us in recognizing Orange Shirt Day. We appreciated the opportunity to learn and honour the Indigenous community.

**“Corner Store” Sale**

The grade 7 fundraising team will be running a “Corner Store” on Wednesday, October 4, where they will be selling treats. Items are priced between $1-2, and we have put a max or $5 to ensure students are not “loading up” on sugar. If you are sending your primary-aged child to school with money, please ensure it is in a zip-lock bag or envelope with their name on it.

**Spring Musical**

If your child is in grades 3-7, and they’re interested in a singing and acting role in our Spring musical, The Little Mermaid Junior, or just want to know more about it, please join Ms. Russell and Mrs. Sutlow for a meeting on Tuesday October 3rd at lunch in the library! Audition sides will be ready soon, so please make sure they’re listening to the announcements. Rehearsals start in November, and our show will run March 5th and 6th, 2024!

**Student Supply Fees**

As mentioned in previous emails, student supplies were distributed through the classroom this year. To cover the expense, we have organized student supply fees on schoolcashonline. Any family that requires assistance to cover the fees is asked to reach out to the office or administration.

**Reporting Absences**

We know that with all the new office staff, it may be a bit confusing determining who you should email when you want to report an absence. The best way to ensure that on-call office staff receive your email is to either call the school and leave a message or email noeattendance@sd35.bc.ca

**World Teachers’ Day**

World Teachers’ Day is coming up on Thursday. If you have an encouraging word that you would like to share with one of our staff members, please take a moment to [fill in this form](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rvqr_Ar4dE-2p7oVwqS7JBJiFuZU4oZNmc3ijpPTWDhUNUpYWlI1UUVLQjg5Q0hYTERVSU83RU1RUy4u) and we will be sure to share it with the staff member.

**Otter Athletics**

As we begin our volleyball season, here is some helpful information for parents.

* Boys – Practices on M/W/F after school until the season starts. Once games begin, boys will practice on Monday and Friday, with games on Tuesdays.
* Girls – Games Wednesdays. Practices Tuesday after school and Wednesday at lunch

Athletic fees will be $20 and cover the cost of athletic gear (tshirt, water bottle, bag, etc.). Any family that needs assistance with cost, please reach out to admin. Boys’ volleyball players fees will be set up on schoolcashonline this week.

We are looking for parent managers to assist with arranging rides for away games. Please reach out to coaches if you can help.

**Communicating with the school**

When a concern arises with your child, we ask that you reach out to connect with those who are closest to the problem and who know your child best. We discourage parents from attempting to resolve conflict with other students’ parents unless you already have a positive relationship with the family. We also discourage parents from posting incidents on social media as it spreads misinformation and does not resolve the problem.

Often, addressing the problem means contacting staff in this order…

1. Start with the staff member who is closest to your child. In most cases, this is the classroom teacher. In the event your child works with a resource teacher, we ask that you include the resource teacher if the concern is related to their individualized education plan.
2. Contact the principal, vice-principal, counsellor, aboriginal support worker, or youth care worker if your concern involves any incidents that may be occurring outside of the classroom or with a student in another class.
3. Speak with a district principal or assistant superintendent if you feel your concern is not being addressed and/or you disagree with the approach the school has used.
4. When applicable, make an appeal to the Board of Education.

**News from PAC**

**Upcoming Events:**

**Santa Photo Sessions Fundraiser - November 20th | Sessions available from 3pm-8pm | $45**

**New this year!**

Your 5-minute session includes one downloadable digital group album with all of your photos. Each session includes a candy cane from Santa! Held at the school.

Sample images are viewable on the PAC Facebook page:

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**Book your session now!**

[https://northottersantapac.youcanbook.me/?fbclid=IwAR3xNHPBzqFpU3VFsp\_3-kmQ5cZRNqAsPrG1HtfHg9ZroX2AeJ83jOn0-Q0](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fnorthottersantapac.youcanbook.me%2F%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR3xNHPBzqFpU3VFsp_3-kmQ5cZRNqAsPrG1HtfHg9ZroX2AeJ83jOn0-Q0&data=05%7C01%7Cdwoelders%40sd35.bc.ca%7C34a7ce32880148826c5e08dbc2ce0bc6%7Cfcabfaaef80a4f74b6a7ba15c2a4bb24%7C0%7C0%7C638317962436689063%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=padV3zJezI6TOQ16jvQ5mrOjhJTtYIFsoQJA%2Bhn8fco%3D&reserved=0)

**General news:**

Hot Lunch: Preparation and planning is underway. We're hoping to have our first hot lunch happen in October!

Breakfast Club: Now open! 8:05am-8:20am in the multipurpose room (also the preschool area).

**Looking Ahead:**

We've been busy lining up fundraisers and events for the next few months.

Here's what you can expect to see soon:

October 16-19 - Scholastic Book Fair

Early November - Fall Neufeld Farms Ordering

Early November - Winter Greenery Fundraiser

November - Art Cards

November - Purdy's Holiday Fundraiser

November 20th - Santa Photo Sessions

December - Festive Pancake Breakfast

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**Ideas, Questions, Comments?**

Join the PAC Facebook Group where you'll be up-to-date on PAC activities, events, and fundraisers:

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/871816359874721](https://can01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fgroups%2F871816359874721&data=05%7C01%7Cdwoelders%40sd35.bc.ca%7C34a7ce32880148826c5e08dbc2ce0bc6%7Cfcabfaaef80a4f74b6a7ba15c2a4bb24%7C0%7C0%7C638317962436689063%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=BAD4xJAHINX%2Bbfc95DSOpPE8D%2BeJe%2Bk%2FgW4hEz3dCJk%3D&reserved=0)