OTTER NEWS

October 10, 2023

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| **Upcoming Events** |
| **Date** | **Event** |
| October 6 | Photo deadline |
| October 9 | Thanksgiving (stat holiday) |
| October 11 | Musical Scientist Performance (1:00PM) |
| October 13 | Grade 2-3 to the Pumpkin Patch |
| October 19 | Interim Reports Go Out |
| October 20 | Provincial Pro-D Day |
| October 24 | Photo Retake Day |
| October 23-26 | Scholastic Book Fair |
| October 25 | Parent-Teacher Conferences – 2:00 – 4:00 (1 hour early dismissal. **Students released at 1:08PM)** |
| October 26 | Parent-Teacher Conferences – 2:00 – 7:00 (1 hour early dismissal. **Students released at 1:08PM)** |

**Thank you, Parents**

On behalf of North Otter staff, I would like to express our heartfelt thanks for all the work that went into making World Teacher Day so special for our staff. Your balloons, signs, coffee, snacks, and treats have gone a long way to making the week a special one.

**School Photos Deadline – October 6th**

Reminder that the deadline for ordering school photos is 11:59PM, October 6th. Any late orders will incur a late fee. If you need assistance or have misplaced your proof/code, please reach out to Darby Photos at info@darbyphotos.com or 604-274-0306.

**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!

**Scholastic Book Fair**

It’s that time of year! We are grateful that our PAC can provide this opportunity for our student community to purchase a variety of the latest reading materials. The book fair runs October 16-19th. Students will have a chance to do a walk through during the school day and make purchases during lunch and after school. Parents are welcomed to make purchases after school or during parent-teacher conferences.

**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

**Otter Athletics**

As we begin our volleyball season, here is some helpful information for parents. Games will not start until October 17th.

* 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)