

Okanagan Falls Elementary FALCON Findings



Principal: Mrs. K. Poole
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Please visit okf.sd53.bc.ca to keep up-to-date on your child's school.

Dates to Remember

March 2025

- 3-7 Drill practice week
- 5 Ready, Set, Learn @ 5:30pm
- 5 Pac meeting 6pm
- 7 Swimming Div 5 & 6
- 11 Div 1,2,3,5 to the Symphony
- 13 Badminton meeting
- 14 Swimming Div 5 & 6

17-28 SPRING BREAK

- 31 School re-opens

April 2025

Upcoming event In-Line skating

- 28 Parkour Div 1 & 6
- 29 Parkour Div 4 & 5
- May 1 Parkour Div 2&3

Principal's Message

February was a month full of excitement and memorable moments for our school community. We had a variety of opportunities for students and families to engage in including basketball, lacrosse clinics (A special thank you to our PAC for organizing this!), gymnastics, swimming, hockey, ice fishing, Pink Shirt Day and the *infamous* Pink the Rink event – Thank you to everyone who participated and made these activities successful!

These events were not only fun but also helped to build our school spirit and foster a sense of community. It was great to see so many families and students involved.

Looking ahead, March promises more opportunities for fun and learning. We can look forward to drill week (March 3-7), Come Rhyme with Me (for kindergarten), Ready Set Learn (for new kindergarten students), the symphony and spring break (March 17-28).

I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for all the time and effort our PAC and volunteers put into supporting our school. Your unwavering love and support for our students do not go unnoticed. We are fortunate to have such a beautiful school community grounded in kindness, spirit, and dedication to our students.

As we move forward to a month of new growth and sunshine, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on the values that guide us. Our primary purpose is to support our students and each other. Let's continue to work together, modeling kindness and respect in all that we do, both as educators and as parents. We teach our students to be kind, and we know that as a community, we can model that same spirit.

Thank you for everything you do to make our school a wonderful place for everyone!!

Mrs. Poole



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

If you have a child that was born in 2020, they are eligible to attend
Full Day Kindergarten in September 2025.



Visit our school office between 8:00-3:00pm to register. Please bring your child's BIRTH CERTIFICATE, CARE CARD, PROOF OF RESIDENCY and other pertinent information. Kindergarten students will be invited to our annual **Welcome to Kindergarten** event, held in the Spring, to learn more about a positive transition to school. Please contact Mrs. Poole if you have any questions about our full day kindergarten, preschool, or StrongStart early learning programs.

StrongStart Program

Our DROP-IN StrongStart
Program
welcomes children ages 0-5 years
with their parent caregiver.

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
8:30-11:30

PAC NEWS

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

Our next meeting will be:

March 5, 2025

@ 6:00pm

OKF School Library



Ready Set Learn

If your child is of preschool age or going into kindergarten this year, please register to attend this fun event!

Wednesday, March 5 from

5:30-6:30pm

Okanagan Falls Elementary

1141 Cedar St, OK Falls

****Registration Required by**

March 3**

RSL is sponsored by School District #53 and the Ministry of Education & Childcare.

By participating, you will receive:

- Complimentary pizza by the slice.
- An age appropriate book for your child
- Helpful tips for supporting your preschooler's learning and development
- Connections with the school and parents with similar age children
- Information for families from early childhood service providers
- Meet the Principal and potential teachers for future years

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday-Friday
8:00-3:00

ABSENT OR LATE?

Phone 250-497-5414 and leave a voicemail message before 8:45am, or email okf@sd53.bc.ca so it can be recorded as an explained absence.



Swimming in Summerland for Div 5 & 6

Mark your calendars!

Please bring swimsuit

Fridays, March 7, 14 at 915-10am

Divisions 5 & 6 only.



Student Learning Survey 2024-2025: for Students and Parents

Student Learning Survey - Province of British Columbia

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teacher and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

Early in 2025 the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in Grade 4 and 7 at the school.

Parents of Grade 4 and 7 students are expected to complete the survey by the Ministry of Education. We would like to encourage ALL parents to participate.

The results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province—in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

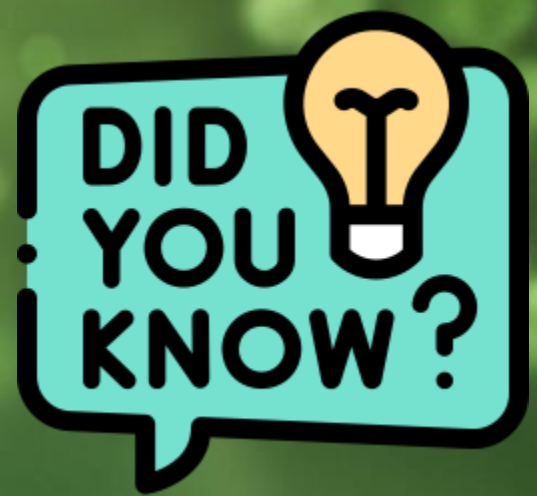
Parents/guardians/caregivers will have access to this online survey until April 30.

Thank you for participating in this innovative project. If you need more information, contact Mrs. Poole at 250-497-5414.

To complete the survey:

1. Go to any computer that has an up-to-date internet browser access (home, work, or school)
2. Go to www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm
3. Under the section *Direct Access—no logon number required* select:
 - **District:** Okanagan Similkameen (School District #53)
 - **School:** Okanagan Falls Elementary
 - **Language:** the language of your choice
4. Complete the survey by clicking on the appropriate circle to answer each question. Move to the next set of questions by clicking on the right arrow in the bottom right corner of the screen. Click on the left arrow to navigate backwards.
5. When you are finished the survey, you will get a message “Thank you for sharing your views.”
6. Once complete, your school will have the results immediately.

Immunizations are given by
appointment at the
Penticton Health Unit
located at
740 Carmi Ave



CHILDREN STARTING KINDERGARTEN IN SEPTEMBER 2024

All children aged 4-6 years should get their
kindergarten immunizations
at the Penticton Health
Centre

Book your child's
appointment **NOW!**
Call 250-770-3434



In March, Family Smart is
hosting a few online events
that may be of interest to our
students and families including:
ADHD—The Real Deal,
Explosive Behaviour in Teens:
Strategies to Empower Families

Here is the link : [https://
familysmart.ca/monthly-
events/](https://familysmart.ca/monthly-events/)

Substance prevention and Mental health sessions

The Ministry of Education and Child Care, in partnership with adolescent clinical psychologist Dr. Hayley Watson from [Open Parachute](#), will host three, free virtual sessions for parents, guardians and caregivers that will focus on practical skills you can teach your child and youth (ages 0-19) to prevent substance use and mental health needs. These sessions will build on a previous presentation, which focused on practical conversation tools for speaking about substance use prevention with your children/youth. The [previous session](#) is not a pre-requisite for this session.

Here is the link: 185114-9c15e8e2-e62e-4df2-8b8a-ea2de9febd35.pdf



Thank you to our amazing **Hot Lunch Restaurants** for the wonderful meals provided to our students each day. We appreciate you so much.

KJs Coffee bar– Joanie

Subway– Pinder

TacoRiendo– Jany

H and L Dumpling House– Lily

Bullies Pizza– Lynda and Dwayne

OK falls elementary– Mrs.

deRuiter for all your work with

Hot dog day!

Rocky Bedard for picking up hot lunch!



Hockey Charity Classic with
Hockey Academy students

The winners of the RDOS Valentine
colouring contest. **Congratulations.**



Thank you PAC for the Lacrosse day!

Thank you Swimming, Ice Fishing, &
Valentines day crafts Volunteers.

Thank you Mrs. Lipsett for the science
presentations.

Thank you Lions club for always being so
accommodating and supportive.

Thank you Fans aka Parents for coming out and
supporting our sports teams!!

Thank
you



Pink the Rink!!

Let's go Ok Falls! Thank
you to all who attended
and brought the spirit!



Happy Valentines Day
from Division 6



FALCON PHOTOS

Division 5 Ice Fishing



Lacrosse



Great job OKF

basketball team!!

Thank you Mr. Azak, Ms.
Parker and Mrs. deRuiter for
your coaching and support.



Gymnastics



Okanagan Falls

EXPLORE THE WONDERS OF SCIENCE CAMP

Does heat change
a substance?

Why do nails go rusty?

Join us for an exciting week
where these questions and
more will be answered
through hands-on
experiments.



Okanagan Falls Recreation Centre

When: March 24 - 28

Time: 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Ages: 8 - 12

Cost: \$125

**A minimum of 5 participants is needed to ensure this
March Break Camp Success**



rec@rdos.bc.ca



[@rdosrecreation](https://www.instagram.com/rdosrecreation)



rec.rdos.bc.ca