



SAVONA ELEMENTARY



October 2022

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

Greetings to all Families - and Hello October!

I want to start by thanking the entire Savona School community for allowing for a great start-up to the year. Transitioning back to school is not always easy for students and families. We also got to welcome our new Kindergarten students and new students who have transferred in. It has been great meeting the new students and their families.

Given that October is now upon us, staff and students start thinking about Thanksgiving and all that we are thankful for. I wish to thank the community for its generosity regarding donations to the Raise-a-Reader campaign and to the Terry Fox Run. Due to our families' generosity, we were able to raise significant amounts of money for both.

Personally, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve the Savona community, and I am glad to be back as Principal. The students here are a joy to be around, and I enjoy seeing their smiles and watching them enjoying their learning. I even enjoy the commute!

I am looking forward to Parent Teacher Interviews on October 12th. It is always great to get together as a community.

Sincerely,
Scott Galloway

School Fees and Forms

Thank you to all parents who have sent in their fees and forms to the office. We appreciate you all getting them in so quickly, however we are still missing a few. Please call Mrs. Lambertson in the office at 250-373-2520 for new forms or to make arrangements.



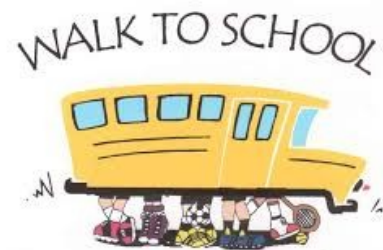
DEWRS

Savona Elementary students in grades 4 through 7 will be participating in an online survey called the District Engagement, Well-Being and Resiliency Survey (DEWRS) on Tuesday, October 4th. This survey provides the school with important information to allow us to help students achieve better and enjoy school more. Students anonymously share information on their experiences at school, the school environment and school improvement programs. For more information on the DEWRS student survey, please visit The Learning Bar Inc.'s website: www.thelearningbar.com. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Galloway at the school.

Walk to School

We will be having our annual Walk to School day on Thursday, October 6th. Students who take the bus will meet staff at the pumping station at about 8:15 am. If you drop your child off at school, please meet the group at the pumping station between 8:15 am and 8:25 am. The group will start walking to school at 8:30 am. One staff member will remain at school to walk with any students from the before school program or who may have come to school by mistake, and they will meet up with the group.

Parents are welcome to join in on our walk as well. Breakfast of cereal, fruit and juice donated by our wonderful PAC will be served to students when they arrive at school.



Purdys Chocolates

Purdys chocolate fundraising bars have arrived! Milk and dark chocolate bars are both available for \$2.50 each. Proceeds from the sale of the bars will be going to various school items such as extra field trips, more electronics and various other opportunities that arise throughout the school year. Order forms will be sent home in the coming weeks with purchase information. Students may also purchase bars in the office at the end of the day that are to be taken home. We thank-you for supporting our school!



P.A.C. - Parent Advisory Council

Our PAC group would like to extend an invitation to any and all interested parents: Come on out and join the group! PAC meetings are held bi-monthly at the Savona Elementary School Library and child care is provided during the meeting. The next meeting will take place on Monday, November 7th at 6:30 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. The next PAC fundraisers are a bottle drive on Wednesday, October 12th and Sandbagging on Sunday, October 23rd. PAC will provide more information about these 2 fundraising events soon.



Fire Drills and Lock Down



In the last three weeks we have had two of our mandatory six yearly fire drills. Our students were AMAZING: they left the building in an orderly fashion, hands at their sides, quietly lining up in single file for attendance. We will be having one more fire drill this month during Fire Prevention Week and three more in the Spring. Our first Lock down drill will take place on Tuesday, October 18th. A letter with more information will be sent home with students about this drill.

Terry Fox Thank You!

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 23rd. Our school raised an AMAZING total of \$540 for cancer research! Together, we can help keep Terry’s dream alive and win the battle against cancer.



Parent/Teachers Interviews - Early Closure Oct.12th

Parent/Teacher interviews will take place on Wednesday, October 12th beginning at 1:00 pm. There are 2 options for your interview. Parents may come to meet the teacher in person, or you may schedule a time for the teacher to call you. Please call Mrs. Lamberton in the office at 250-373-2520 to schedule an interview time. If October 12th does not work for you, you may email your child’s teacher to set up an alternate time.

***Please note on this day our bus will be running two hours early, and the students will be dismissed at 12:30 pm. Interviews will start at 1:00 pm.**

2022 Adams River Salute to the Sockeye

We are excited to be going on a school-wide field trip to Roderick Haig-Brown (Tsútswecw) Park for the 2022 Salute to the Sockeye. Mrs. Walker’s and Mrs. Regan’s classes will be taking part in a 30 minute Educational Interpretive Program provided by Fisheries and Oceans. They will then meet up with Mrs. MacBurney’s class to take part in a self-directed River Walk and a walk along the “Story Trail.” We encourage you to visit the Adams River Salmon Society’s website at www.salmonsociety.com to learn more about the program. Permission slips have gone home and are due back by Friday, October 14th. We are looking for some parent volunteers to help out as well. If you are able to join us, please indicate that you can help supervise on the permission slip.



Lions Vision Screening

On Tuesday, October 18th volunteers from the Alberni Valley Lions Club will be at our school to perform free vision screening for our grades 3 and 6 students. A letter detailing the checks will be sent home soon. Please only fill out the form if you do not wish your child to participate in the screening. You will be notified if the exam suggested that further screening by an optometrist is recommended.

Horsting's Farm Field Trip

We will be going on a school-wide field trip to Horsting's Farm on Friday, October 28th. The school will be split up into 3 groups and will rotate between picking out a pumpkin in the pumpkin patch, finding their way through the corn maze, and playing on the jumping pad and petal go karts. Permission slips for this trip will go home soon. We would love to have some parent volunteers join us. Volunteers will need to drive in their own vehicles and are responsible for their own admission fee. We look forward to another amazing school trip!



Come Read with Me – Grade 1 & 2 Students

We would like to invite all grade 1 and 2 parents and caregivers to join us for a fun, interactive Come Read with Me workshop on Wednesday, November 9th from 8:30 am – 10:00 am in our Savona Elementary School Library. The first 45 minutes will focus on helping parents learn ways to support their young reader at home. The next 30 minutes, parents will read and play word games with their child. A registration form will be sent home with grade 1 and 2 students in the coming weeks. We highly encourage a parent to attend however, if you are unable to make it, you are invited to send another caregiver in your place so that your child has someone to read with.



Fire Prevention Week – October 3rd - 9th



Fire won't wait, Plan your escape

That is the message during Fire Prevention Week™ this year.

Today's homes burn faster than ever. You may have as little as two minutes (or even less time) to safely escape a home fire from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Your ability to get out of a home during a fire depends on early warning from smoke alarms and advance planning. It is important for everyone to plan and practice a home fire escape. Everyone needs to be prepared in advance, so that they know what to do when the smoke alarm sounds. Given that every home is different, every home fire escape plan will also be different. Have a plan for everyone in the home. Children, older adults, and people with disabilities may need assistance to wake up and get out. Make sure that someone will help them!

Smoke Alarms

Smoke alarms sense smoke well before you can, alerting you to danger. Smoke alarms need to be in every bedroom, outside of the sleeping areas (like a hallway), and on each level (including the basement) of your home. Do not put smoke alarms in your kitchen or bathrooms.

Choose an alarm that is listed with a testing laboratory, meaning it has met certain standards for protection. For the best protection, use combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms that are interconnected throughout the home. These can be installed by a qualified electrician, so that when one sounds, they all sound. This ensures you can hear the alarm no matter where in your home the alarm originates.

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

Scholastic Book Fair

We are happy to announce that we are hosting our Scholastic Book Fair again this year from October 31st – November 4th.

There is also a virtual book fair that runs alongside the in-school fair. The link to the virtual fair can be found on our school website at www.savona.sd73.bc.ca. 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 view the books and make purchases during lunch hours or after school between 2:45 pm and 4:00 pm. All sales from the in-school and virtual event support our school. Our goal is \$1500 in book sales which would earn us \$450 in resources for our school. All purchases made through the virtual fair link will be shipped to our school and sent home with your child. We encourage you to share the link with your friends and family. There will be great reading materials for all ages and it is an awesome opportunity to get some Christmas shopping done early!



Oct 4	DEWRS Gr. 4-7
Oct. 6	Walk to School & Breakfast
Oct. 9-15	Fire Prevention Week
Oct. 10	Thanksgiving – No School
Oct. 12	Early Dismissal at 12:30 for P/T interviews – Bus 2 hrs early
Oct. 12	PAC Bottle Drive fundraiser
Oct. 18	Lock Down Drill
Oct. 18	Vision Screening Gr. 3 & 6
Oct. 19	Salute to the Sockeye Field Trip
Oct. 21	Pro-D Day – No School
Oct. 23	PAC Sandbagging fundraiser
Oct. 28	Field Trip to Horsting’s Farm
Oct. 31	Halloween Activities – Costume Parade after lunch
Oct 31	Book Fair Begins

Student and Family Affordability Fund

The Ministry of Education and Child Care announced the Student and Family Affordability Fund on August 29, 2022. This \$60M one time fund is intended to make back to school more affordable for families that need it most. This fund is provided directly to school districts to help expand school meal and snack programs, ensure students have access to school supplies, field trips, arts, cultural events, and athletics. Please contact your school principal for more information or click this link: <https://www.sd73.bc.ca/Modules/News/index.aspx?newsId=b2a261ad-18e6-4536-b91b-0a32c61a9c15>