



Salmon Arm West Elementary School

4750 10th Ave SW

Salmon Arm, BC V1E 3B5

Phone: (250) 832-3862 Fax: (250) 833-1126

September Newsletter

Dear SAW Families,

It has been so wonderful to meet and begin getting to know the students, staff and some families of this community. I would like to send a very warm welcome to all of our new students, and a welcome back to those returning! The students have been so friendly and helpful to those new to the school (including myself!) and have done a great job being active members of the SAW community.

This is a lengthy newsletter, but we would appreciate if you could review all of the information, as the newsletter has information to review for returning families and important information for new families. Please remember, if you ever have any questions or concerns, you are always welcome to give us a call, make an appointment to see us or e-mail us at saw@sd83.bc.ca

On behalf of the school staff, we would like to thank all of our families for their patience during the first few days of school. Students enjoyed time in their last year's classrooms for the first two days, reconnecting with friends and their former teacher, which allowed for us to confirm enrollment and receive District approval for a fifth division. We are so excited for this addition and look forward to welcoming a new teacher to the team!

I would like to introduce you to the SAW team for the 2022-2023 school year:

Kindergarten/Grade 1: Dianne Peebles

Grade 1/2: Korrie Mueller

Grade 2/3: To be announced!

Grade 3/4: Jason Chambers and Laura Jègues

Grade 4/5: Jake Jakobsen

Administrative Assistant: Dani Hickman

Learning Resource Teacher & literacy support teacher: Leah Shykora

Certified Education Assistants: Doris Tress, Brenda Servold

Custodian: To be announced!

Aboriginal Education Worker: Lana Binder

Speech/Language Pathologist: Matthew Baldwin

Counsellor: Trudy Rosman

Librarian: Seatty Owens

Music: Chelsea Goshulak

All staff contact information can be found on the SAW webpage under the **Home** top tab -> **Staff Contact Information**.

School Health & Safety

SAW is following the SD83 Communicable Disease Safety Plan. This plan can be found on the school website and the SD83 district website.

Please note we are now a 'Nut-Aware School' (hand washing after eating nut products, no food sharing), with the exception of classrooms where your teacher will inform families they are now a 'Nut-Free' classroom. Thank you for your attention to this.

If at any point in time you have questions or concerns related to Health & Safety, please contact the school. We would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

School Forms

We would like to draw your attention to the last two pages of this Newsletter, which include instructions on Parent Connect Verification and Permissions. If you have any questions or require support, please contact Dani at saw@sd83.bc.ca or by phone (250)832-3862. These are very important forms for the school to have.

Please complete by Friday, September 23rd.

For student supply fees and any payments throughout the year, e-transfers may be sent to saw@sd83.bc.ca (be sure to include your child's name in the 'memo' section).

Please skip past the question/answer portion (this is not required for school transactions). We will continue to accept cash and cheque as needed.

A financial hardship policy is in place at Salmon Arm West Elementary School for families unable to afford school fees. Please contact Laura Jègues, Principal, for further information.

Safe Arrival

If your child is going to be absent or late, we ask you to call the school by 8:20 am to advise us. Once teachers take attendance, Dani will call the home of all those students who are not at school, excluding the ones who have called in. This will ensure that the safety and whereabouts of every child is known.



Bell Schedule

8:00 – *Supervision Begins (no supervision before this time)*

8:20 – *Classes Begin*

9:50 – 10:05 – *Recess*

11:35 – *Bell for Lunch (Eating Time)*

11:55 – *Bell for Lunch (Outdoor Play Time)*

12:20 – *Classes Begin*

2:17 – *Dismissal*

2:30 – *Supervision Ends (School will call families of students still at school)*

School PAC

All parents automatically belong to PAC - our Parent Advisory Committee. All parents are always welcome at meetings! You can plan to attend all or just some of the meetings. We welcome all new Salmon Arm West parents as well 😊

As you know, the PAC makes it possible for our students to participate in things such as swimming lessons and some field trips. PAC also funds a variety of resources at our school and plays a crucial role in our school community.

Please come out and join this dedicated group of parents who contribute so much to our school. Keep in contact through the PAC email and Facebook page coming soon!

Our first PAC meeting will be held **Wednesday, Sept 14th 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.**

Volunteer Police Information Checks

As you may know from the last couple of years, the school district now requires all parents who volunteer to work with children (unsupervised by the teacher) in the school setting have a Police Information Check (PIC) completed by the RCMP. This is of particular importance for parents driving students to sporting events and on field trips. Simply put, if a parent is not on our file at our school for having had a record check completed, s/he can ONLY drive his/her own children. As a result, this may affect sports teams' participation in road games, as well as field trips in our community. If you would like to get a Police Information Check (PIC) done, please visit the following website: <https://justice.gov.bc.ca/eCRC/home.htm>

You will be required to enter an Access Code that is unique to School District No. 83. Please contact the school's main office for the Access Code. There is no cost to have a Police Information Check completed, and the PIC is valid for five years

Truth & Reconciliation

Thursday, September 30th, 2022, is Canada's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. This day is an important step in the reconciliation process. It provides an opportunity to recognize and commemorate the tragic history and ongoing legacy of residential schools, and to honour their survivors, their families, and communities.

In honour of this day, we will be hosting a District Orange Shirt Day assembly on September 29th at 10am. Families are welcome to attend - please contact the school to confirm your attendance so we can ensure enough chairs are set out for families.

Bussing

Students who ride the bus must be respectful towards the driver of the bus, other students and the property of the bus. The bus driver needs to have a quiet and respectful environment on the bus, in order to ensure that all students arrive at school and home in a safe manner. Riding the bus is a privilege and students who do not follow the expectations set for riding the bus may be asked to find an alternate form of transportation. Students who regularly ride the bus will receive a Bus Orientation early in the school year, so all expectations for riding the bus are known and understood. Students who are not registered are not permitted to ride the bus.



Meet & Greet!

This year we will be hosting a meet and greet evening on **Tuesday, September 27th from 5-6:30pm**. Families can come tour their child(ren)'s classrooms from 5-5:30, after which we will head outside to mingle from 5:30-6:30pm. Families will have the option to order pizza for their family (PAC will provide information on ordering!). Bring a blanket and come enjoy our welcome back community event!



Important Dates

Please note: upcoming school events will be added to each monthly newsletter. Our webpage is updated regularly with any new additions.

This month's important dates:

Wednesday, September 14th – PAC meeting 6:30pm in the library
Friday, September 16th – Popcorn Day (sponsored by PAC for this month 😊)
Monday, September 19th – Professional Development Day - Classes Not in Session
Tuesday, September 20th – Kindergarten students' first full day
Tuesday, September 27th – Meet & greet Pizza night 5-6:30
Thursday, September 29th – Orange Shirt Day - Assembly 10am
Friday, September 30th – Truth and Reconciliation Statutory Holiday (no classes in session)

Year at a glance...

October 10th – Thanksgiving (no classes in session)
October 12th – Photo Day (re-takes November 7th)
October 21st – Professional Development Day - Classes Not in Session
October 26th – Conferencing Day

November 10th – Professional Development Day - Classes Not in Session
November 11th – Remembrance Day (no classes in session)

Winter Break December 19th-December 30th

January 2nd – New Year's Day Statutory Holiday in lieu
January 30th – Professional Development Day - Classes Not in Session

February 17th – Professional Development Day - Classes Not in Session
February 20th – Family Day (no classes in session)

Spring Break March 20th – March 31st

April 7th – Good Friday (no classes in session)
April 10th – Easter Monday (no classes in session)

May 1st – Professional Development Day - Classes Not in Session
May 22nd – Victoria Day (no classes in session)

June 29th – Last day before summer break (early dismissal)
June 30th – Non-instructional day (No school for students)

****Please visit our webpage for Upcoming Events and important information****

www.saw.sd83.bc.ca

Thank you for taking time to read our Newsletter. We want to keep you informed of school activities and events, using various methods of communication.

This newsletter is being sent home with all students; however, future newsletters will be e-mailed to families. The school newsletters will also be available on the school website. Our goal is to reduce the amount of paper distributed by the school, so we would like to encourage as many families as possible to receive newsletters via e-mail. Of course, families who do not have access to e-mail will receive a paper copy of the newsletter.

*Thank you for trusting us with your children and working together to provide them with the best education possible. I am committed to supporting our staff and families in providing all students with an equitable, supportive and caring learning environment where **everyone** feels safe, welcome and respected.*

On behalf of the staff and myself, we are SO excited to embark on the 2022-2023 school year. I look forward to meeting everyone from our community in the coming weeks and welcome you to pop by and introduce yourself any time!

Sincerely,

Laura Jègues

Principal



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September 13th, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

RE: SD 83 Permission Forms Information

Below, you will find instructions on how to go online to update your child's information and permission forms on Parent Connect. **Please complete any time before Friday, September 23rd.**

The forms have been posted on **Parent Connect** for you to review and authorize. Please login to your Parent Connect account, review the notices and select the appropriate response to each form.

It is mandatory that all forms be reviewed and responded to by your child's parent/guardian. Several forms require student verification on Student Connect as well.

To access Parent Connect please click [HERE](#) or go to our Salmon Arm West School website, <https://saw.sd83.bc.ca/> and click the Parent Connect link under the Parent Information drop down menu on the top bar. Parent Connect Instructions are located below the sign in button. You can access your account using the email we have on file for you. If we don't have your current email, please let Dani (office secretary) know and she update your email address to our system. You can select "forgot password" and a new password will be emailed to you. If you have more than one child, you will be sent a password for each child. You can change the passwords to the same word to simplify login for your family. You can also watch a video on using Parent Connect, found on the Parent Connect Sign In screen, if you require additional assistance. You may also contact Dani at the school with questions. 😊

On Parent Connect, please click and respond to each of the forms below. To view the forms, click on the "Click here to view form" box. ***IMPORTANT*** - As you review and update each form, PLEASE SELECT THE APPROPRIATE RESPONSE ON PARENT CONNECT AND **CLICK SAVE** (located near top right of page).

- **Parent Personal Information Consent**
- **Parent Outside Media Consent**
- **MyBluePrint Consent**
- **Parent Network Permission**
- **Walking Parent Permission**
- **District Cloud Services Consent**

Walking Parent Permission and District Cloud Services Consent only need to be completed once and will be missing from the list if already completed last year.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, please review the Green Student Information Verification sheet sent home to ensure your contact information and address is correct. Please update any Emergency Contact information if needed. Please complete the Consent for Electronic Messages for Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation form on the pink sheet.

If you have any questions or concerns or if you need a paper copy of the permission forms, please contact Dani at the school, 250-832-3862, or email at saw@sd83.bc.ca.

Thank you,

Laura Jègues
Principal



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School Fee Schedule 2022-2023

Permissible Fees:

- Listed below are the permissible school fees in compliance with provincial legislation. A **financial hardship policy** is in place at Salmon Arm West for families unable to afford school fees. Please contact Laura Jègues (250.832.3862) for further information. If you wish to work out a payment plan, please contact Dani Hickman, the school secretary.
- *Due by September 30th, 2022*
 - **School Supplies (Div 1/2/3/4):** **\$30**
 - **School Supplies (Div 5 – Gr 1/2):** **\$25**
 - **Student agenda:** **\$10** (Agenda replacement: \$10)

Requested Fees:

- Provincial legislation does not allow schools to charge a mandatory activity fee. Our PAC and staff believe these programs and activities are important for our students. We are requesting parents continue to pay these fees, so these programs can continue. Our ability to provide these programs will depend on the response from parents. No student will be denied access to a school sponsored program/activity for financial reasons. If circumstances do not permit payment at this point, please contact Laura Jègues.
 - **Optional Cultural Performance and Activity Fee \$20 per student (max. \$60 per family).**
 - **Field Trips:**
Teacher may plan field trips and charge a fee to cover costs (eg. transportation, entry fees, accommodation, food, equipment rentals, etc.).

Total: Div 5:	\$55
Div 1/2/3/4:	\$60

Payment can be made by e-transfer to saw@sd83.bc.ca, cash, or cheque.

A password is not required for e-transfer.

Please be sure to include your child's first and last name and what the payment is for in the Memo/Notes section (eg. Jenny Ray – School Fees).

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions regarding fees.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank families for their continued support.

Thank You,

Laura Jègues
Principal