



KSA Community Connection

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MARCH 2023

Principal's Message

Spring has almost sprung, fingers crossed! With warmer weather on its way, I encourage students to clean out their lockers and take home their winter boots.

A large part of February and the beginning of March have been about festival. I want to congratulate all the students and teachers who worked so hard during the past while with various festival performances. Their commitment and dedication were truly evident in the highly polished performances- Bravo and a standing "O" to our students and staff who have worked so hard over these last few weeks! We are also looking forward to senior drama production of Les Miserables, I encourage everyone to come out and support our actors.

We hope your family enjoys some wonderful relaxation and time together. We want to say a BIG "thank you" to our PAC and parents who support many activities in our school. We are looking forward to the upcoming events planned by the PAC!

A reminder that our Spring Break this year is a two-week break. The last day of school for students is March 17th. We return from the break on Monday, April 3rd.

Thank you for your continued support,

Blair Lloyd, Proud Principal of 509 KSA STAR students!



Student Learning Survey 2022/2023

The Provincial Student Learning Survey gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers, 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 2023 the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4, 7, 10 and 12, their parents/guardians/caregivers, and all school staff. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as 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.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey. Any computer with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link with or without an anonymous logon code by selecting the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the Results section. The e-survey site will be open until April 29th. If you have any questions, please contact the school at 250-374-3200.

SD73 Parent Engagement Session - March 8/23 6:30-7:30 PM

[Competency-Based Inclusive Education Plans \(CBIEPs\)](#) Presented by Lise Hyam, District Coordinator - Inclusive Education

Students in School District No.73 who have exceptional needs may be eligible for a Ministry of Education Special Education Designation. Join us to learn more about what this means, how Competency-Based IEPs are designed to support students, and how parents can be involved in the process. Whether your child currently has a CBIEP in place or if this is a new process for your child, this session will be helpful for all parents to learn more about how diverse learners are supported in our schools.

Register here to receive the ZOOM link: [Your-Child-and-the-Competency-Based-IEP](#)

Points of Progress/Report Cards

A child's report card can bring feelings of joy, excitement, and pride: it can also cause concern, frustration, and uncertainty. In either case, the reporting period marks a new beginning to set goals and reflect on past work habits, achievements, and hardships. Most important, it is a time for you to communicate with your children and determine a path for future academic enrichment and social- emotional growth.

FOCUS ON THE POSITIVE

Regardless of the grades your child brings home, you must first focus on the positive aspects of the report. This is not always an easy task. For some, this might mean highlighting a strong effort or citizenship grade, or praising an academic accomplishment or a perfect attendance record. Starting on a positive note shows your child that you truly care about the accomplishments, not only areas that need improvement.

ASK THE RIGHT QUESTIONS

Be careful not to overreact to low grades, or grades you view to be unsatisfactory. Instead, use this time to look at past performance and plan for the future. Talk to you child, asking questions to understand how a particular grade was earned: Was the work too difficult? Could the pace of the class be too fast or too slow? Does you child complete all class work or home work and ask questions when issues arise?

The answers you receive might indicate a need to review your child's study habits. Determine whether or not your child is recording all assignments and bringing home all materials necessary to complete them. Does your child have a specific nightly study time (Sunday through Thursday) when they can not be disturbed? If not, this would be a great time to establish one! If so, is it long enough? Does your child have a specific place to study where resources (including someone to answer questions) are available and distractions are minimized? Is your child completing all homework or studying on a nightly basis, or are the assignments being turned in late, or not at all? Once you have determined the problem, you can begin to create a solution.

THE NEXT STEP

Creating a plan to maximize future academic success is an important part of every child's education. Help your child set realistic and attainable goals for the next reporting period. Outline ways in which these goals can be met. Type the 'official plan' and post one copy in a prominent household location, another in your child's binder or planner, and forward another to the teacher. Involving your child give them ownership and importance in this process, and this makes the report card important not only to you, but also to your child. As parents and teachers, we want the best for children, but in too many cases this is measured only by the number of A's and B's brought home. Emphasize to your child the importance of doing the very best job they can. Encourage them to succeed, and measure their progress in realistic terms, letting them know that you care and are available to help. Break tasks into small steps, so that even the youngest child can measure their growth, and the most advanced child can measure their progress. By reviewing the report card, and developing a plan for the future, you will help your child find the road to success.

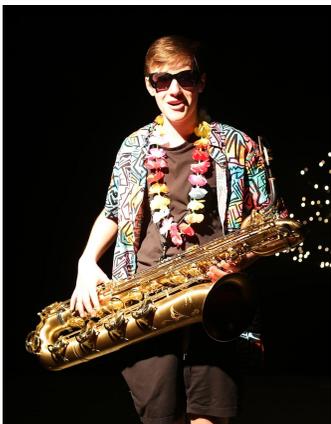
Pink Shirt Day - Feb.22, 2023

Pink Shirt Day began in 2007 when a student in Nova Scotia was bullied for wearing a pink shirt to school. It has since been recognized annually worldwide as a day to stand against bullying. Pink Shirt Day is an antibullying campaign that celebrates diversity and creates environments where all people can feel safe, valued and respected. KSA showed their support by proudly wearing PINK and sharing kindness!!



Connections Crew Evening Coffee House

Connections Crew held yet another spectacular sold-out evening coffee house showcasing the talents of KSA students and staff. Performers played to a full house and an enjoyable evening was had by all. Stay tuned for information on our Year-End Coffee House.



Kindergarten Family Read Day



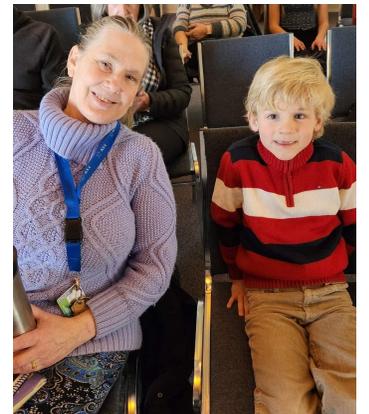
100 Day Celebrations

Several of our primary classes celebrated the 100th day of school this month by participating in various numeracy activities related to 100.



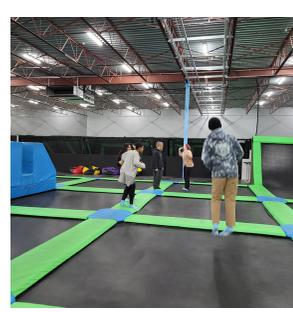
KSA shines at Kamloops Festival of the Performing Arts

On Monday and Tuesday, KSA had students present at the Kamloops Festival of the Performing Arts in the Speech and Dramatic Arts classes. In the non-competitive 5 year old to 10 year old category, KSA had 53 students entered in eight different classes. These students did a fabulous job representing our school! In the competitive 11-13 year old category we had 16 students entered in 7 classes. They brought home 7 first place, 4 second place and 3 third place certificates. Way to Go! KSA also had two students from the high school program who participated and they won three first places and one second place. Awesome KSA! A big congratulations to all of our participants for your dedication, hard work, and courage. Your coaches are proud of each and every one of you!!



Secondary Extreme Fun Day

What a great day! KSA students were allowed to pick their own adventure! Whether they were on the hill or bouncing on a trampoline, KSA students were able to change up their regular classroom routines for some fun and adventure. This is something we definitely want to make an annual event!



March PAC Update

PAC had a great February and enjoyed hosting Family Movie Night. Thank you to those who joined us with their families to kick off Family Day Weekend with the Puss in Boots movie.



PAC purchased Pink Shirt Day Stickers for all KSA Students on February 22nd to show our support in the efforts of anti-bullying. A big thank you to Mr. MacFarlane and one of his students for helping us design this sticker and getting it off to print.

PAC recently purchased LED uplighting lights that will be used for dances, festivals, pod sharing, concerts and much more. At the March 1 meeting PAC approved to purchase choir mics and stands, pipe and drape, jerseys and assist in purchasing a Drumline for our school.

PAC would like to thank both GK Sound and Visions Electronics for their continuous support of KSA. GK Sound recently donated iPads and iMac computers and Visions recently donated headphones, speakers and a new CD player. Please tell them THANK YOU if you get the chance.

As always our amazing volunteers handed out many bags of popcorn, hot lunch from The Chopped Leaf and Booster Juice. Thank you volunteers!

April - June Hot Lunch & Booster Juice | Ordering Now Open

Please visit <https://munchalunch.com/schools/ksa> (Kamloops School of the Arts (PAC) button) now to order hot lunch and booster juice for the rest of the year!



April | Spring Family Formal

We are looking for volunteers to assist with the Spring Family Formal. We need assistance with planning, event set-up, during event and event clean-up. If you can give 1 hour or more we would greatly appreciate the help! Email board@ksapac.ca if you can help!

April 6 | Mom's Pantry Order

Please watch your children's backpacks for a Mom's Pantry brochure - coming home soon. Deadline to order will be April 6.

April 12 | 6pm | PAC Meeting

We invite all guardians to attend the PAC meeting on Wednesday February 12 at 6pm in the Elementary Dance Studio. Park in staff parking and enter through the doors at the back.

REMINDER to join our Facebook page to always stay up to date! facebook.com/groups/ksapac

Questions, comments or concerns for KSA PAC? Please email: board@ksapac.ca

Important Dates:

- March 9 | Booster Juice
- March 17 | Eat Clean Hot Lunch
- April 6 | Mom's Pantry Order Deadline
- April | Spring Family Formal Dance
- April 12 | PAC Meeting
- May 10 | PAC AGM Meeting
- June 15 | Year-End BBQ

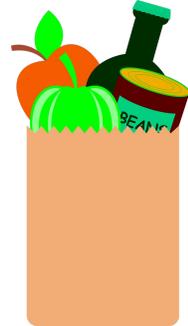
S.T.A.R. Attributes Theme: Accountability

This month we are focusing on accountability! Students and staff will be discussing what being accountable looks like, sounds like, and feels like in our KSA community.



Helping Our Community

KSA participates in the district Starfish Grocery Program through the Kamloops Food Bank to provide bags of groceries to families in need. If you would like more information on this program, please contact the school.



Parking Reminder

Parking and Traffic - All student pick-up and drop-off occurs on Fraser Street. The staff parking lot is for staff only. Cars without a staff pass may be towed. If you require handicapped parking or have a child with an IEP that requires accommodation, please contact the office. We believe strongly in the safety of our children, therefore, please make sure you are aware of parking and traffic routines at our school. Students are reminded to follow road safety at all times. Students are required to use the crosswalk and look both ways before crossing the street.



School Academy Fees

School fees are now due to the office. Please be aware that unpaid fees directly affect programs and resources at the school. School fees are available to view on the School Cash Online site. Please call the office at 250-374-3200 if you need more information about the total cost for fees, or if you require assistance with the School Cash Online program.

MyEdBC Parent Portal

If you have not already done so, we suggest that you set up your MyEdBC Parent Portal account at your earliest convenience. Report cards will be published on the Parent Portal, as well as other items specific to parents. Report Cards will be available February 17, 2023 via the MyEducation BC Parent Portal. Click [HERE](#) for information on accessing the Parent Portal. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

Scent-Considerate Environment Reminder

The District recognizes the need for a safe working environment for all employees and students. This includes the provision of a scent-considerate environment. Scented products and devices may cause severe and/or life-threatening allergic reactions in some individuals. To assist with the health and well-being of employees against environment chemical sensitivities, all employees and visitors are to be considerate in their use of scented products and devices when attending District facilities. Scented products may include personal hygiene items, such as cosmetics, perfumes, colognes, creams, deodorants, shampoos, conditioners, hair spray and soaps. Scented products may also include non-personal items, such as candles, essential oils, potpourri, household or industrial cleaning products, building materials, smoke machines, air fresheners and some types of flowers.

Place	Date	Time Start	Time End
Sandman	Thursday Jan. 5, 2023	9:15	10:15
Memorial	Thursday, Jan. 12, 2023	10:30	11:30
MAC PARK	Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2023	1:00	2:00
Memorial	Thursday, Jan. 19, 2023	11:45	12:45 pm
Sandman	Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2023	9:00	10:00
Mac Park	Monday, January 30th, 2023	10:30	11:30
Mac Park	Monday, February 6th, 2023	9:15	10:15
Mac Park	Monday, February 13th	9:15	10:15
Mac Park	Friday, February 24th, 2023	10:30	11:30
Memorial	Wednesday, March 1, 2023	9:00	10:00
Memorial	Thursday, March 9th, 2023	9:15	10:15



Is your child too sick for school?



Deciding when your child is too sick for school is not always an easy decision.

Children should not come to school if they are sick and unable to participate fully in routine activities. If you have questions and concerns about your child's health, talk with a qualified healthcare professional.

Keep children at home if they have:

- a fever, and keep them home for **24** hours after the fever is gone away without the help of medication.
- vomiting or diarrhea, and keep them home for **24** hours after the last episode.
- a severe sore throat.
- a rash with no known cause.
- a severe cough especially with other symptoms like a runny nose and headache.
- redness, swelling or discharge of the eyes, ears or skin, unless treated.
- been acting unwell and have little energy to join in school activities.

For questions about your child's health you can:

1. Dial 811 or go to HealthLinkBC.ca to speak with a:
 - Registered Nurse 24 hours a day, every day of the year.
 - Registered Dietitian every weekday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. PST.
 - Pharmacist every night from 5 p.m. to 9 a.m. PST every day of the year.
2. Contact an Urgent Care, Walk-in Clinic or Doctor's Office.
 - See the reverse page on when to go to the emergency department.



Seasonal Respiratory Illness

As we continue through the fall and winter, we can expect to see more respiratory illness. This is an annual occurrence, but there are measures we all can take to prevent illness and manage symptoms while at home. The most important measures are to get vaccinated, staying home when sick and follow general hygiene measures like hand washing. Here is some information that may be helpful: [It's respiratory illness season.](#)

For more information on specific illnesses see: [A Quick Guide to Common Childhood Diseases](#)

Important Dates

Mar. 2	Early Dismissal - P/T Interviews (Secondary only)
Mar. 9	Booster Juice
Mar. 17	Eat Clean PAC Hot Lunch
Mar. 20-31	No School - Spring Break
Apr. 3	School's Back In Session
Apr. 7	No School - Good Friday
Apr. 10	No School - Easter Monday
May 2	Secondary Report Cards
May 19	No School - Pro D Day
May 22	No-School - Victoria Day
June 23	Last Day of Classes - Secondary
June 29	Last Day of Classes - Elementary