

Ocean Grove Elementary

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March 2023 Newsletter

*New Kindergartens 2023

If you have friends, neighbours or family who have children starting kindergarten in September and have not registered yet, please ask them to do so as soon as possible. We are busy with preliminary staff and class configurations and require confirmation of September numbers. Thank you!



Hello Ocean Grove Community,

This staff is providing so many opportunities for students to think creatively and show their work creatively. It happens in the classroom, and in special events. Just this morning I was able to participate in the grades four and five **X Block Showcase** and saw vehicles made of cardboard and scooter boards, original pieces of art, comic strips, passion projects, music composition and critical thinking playing games.

Our **Sparks** experience for our grades one, two and three had volunteers and teachers offering cooking, STEM science, hiking/outdoor skills, ornothography, indigenous culture and outdoor learning, critical thinking and puzzle solving, and crafts. I may have missed a couple of examples, but this gives you an idea.

On bulletin boards there are examples of art that allows students to explore their creativity and apply new skills. Currently, as a school we are learning more about indigenous artists and when you come to the **Student-Led Conferences** on March 15th, I invite you to walk our halls to view the art work.

I also want to give one more shout to our students Eli H., Leo M., Nathan H., Amelia D. and Ma-la H. who **played and sang two classics** at a school assembly, "Sweet Child of Mine" and "Stand By Me". They are very talented musicians who share their passion for music.

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Also, a **shout out** to Lyla W. who asked to share a poem about what Ocean Grove means to her. It was wonderful to hear.

This week our younger classes were busy celebrating **100 Days of School**. As we move into our last days of school, there is still much learning and fun to be experienced. Every day counts. As a former middle and high school administrator I have firsthand observations of how regular attendance makes a difference to learning and self esteem.



Lastly, congratulations to our **Battle of the Books** participants and good luck to the teams heading to the Zones. That was quite an exciting event!

None of this could happen without the dedication of staff, and the support of parents and family members. It is deeply appreciated. Have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,

Louise Panziera, Principal

Monday, March 6th is a
Professional Development Day
NO CLASSES

IMPORTANT INFO RE SD72 AFTER SCHOOL BUS

Student Drop-Offs

If your child is a registered bus student and needs to get off *at a different stop than their normal stop*, please fill out a “bus permission pass” and send to the school with your child, or phone the school office as far in advance as you can and we will fill out the form for you. **Students need this pass before the bus driver can let them off at a different stop so they know that they have your permission.**

If your child is a registered bus student and requires a different bus on different days (for example, if they have two different homes and need to be on bus 3 some days and bus 7 on others), this need to be arranged with the bus garage directly. Email: transportation@sd72.bc.ca .

Effective Tuesday, March 7, 2023, for safety reasons, we do not allow students who do not regularly take the bus (as registered riders) to take the bus with a friend for a play date. Please arrange alternate transportation if your children wish to have a play date.

Arranging Playdates: Students arranging playdates with friends need to do this in advance (or when they get home), not during school hours on the day of the playdate. Thank you for your cooperation.

Out of School Care Program

Starting September 2023

Attached to this newsletter is an information sheet on the Out of School Care Program that will be located on our school premises (and 5 other elementary schools in this district).

Please note that this is a provincial program being facilitated by School District 72, and is not an Ocean Grove program. However, for your convenience, copies of the Application Form are available in the school office. Any questions should be directed via email to: **childcare@sd72.bc.ca**



Our bus drivers need clearance when arriving and leaving our school parking lot. Recently, cars have been parking too close to the proximity of the GATES making entering and exiting difficult or having to wait for cars to move. **Please do not park near the yellow gates.**

Grade 5 Transition to Southgate

Southgate counsellors send out online electronic survey information for Grade 5 teachers to complete which provide information on academics, behaviour, support services, recommendations, etc. Southgate counsellors use this information to help with placement for September.

Tuesday, April 18th: Southgate counsellors visit our grade 5's for a one hour Q & A;

Wednesday, May 10th OR 17th (TBD): Grade 5 tours at Southgate. Grade 5 teachers meet with counsellors while the students are toured around by Southgate Leadership. Specific time slot for Ocean Grove TBD.

Wednesday, May 24th, 6:30 - 7:30 pm: Open House for Grade 5 families at Southgate.

Monday, June 26th (time TBD): all Grade 5's to Southgate for a fun day.



Sunday, March 12, 2023



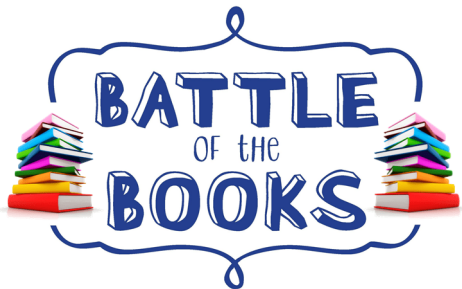
The SD72 calendar committee has developed proposed calendars for the 2023-2024, 2024-2025, and 2025-2026 school years and invited parents and community members to provide feedback that will allow the district to respond to potential issues or concerns.

The calendars will be posted on the district website and feedback can be sent to calendar@sd72.bc.ca by March 10th.

Student-Led Conferences

Student– Led Conference Day is quickly approaching: **Wednesday, March 15th**

A reminder that regular classes are NOT in session. Your child’s teacher will be providing you with information regarding the format/schedule of their classroom conferences.



Once again, we are so impressed with the great reading all these students are doing; they have worked so hard!

We had a record number of 35 grade 3 participants this year making up 12 teams. Grade 4 and 5’s have such dedicated readers, the school battles were so incredibly close and everyone was on the edge of their seats!

Moving on to the Zones taking place **Thursday, March 9th** and welcoming Ecole Willow Point to our school will be:

Grade 3 Teams:

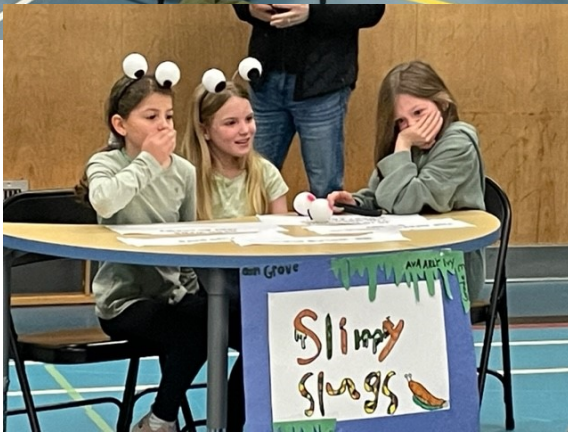
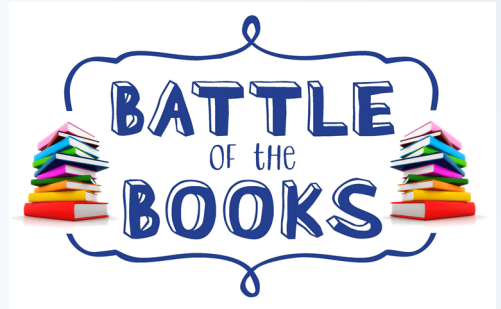
<i>Butterfly Sisters</i>	(Hannah, Audrey & Elizabeth)
<i>Slimy Slugs & Snails</i>	(Bailey, Adelyn & Cameron)

Grade 4 Teams:

<i>Fish Tsunami</i>	(Taggart, Junior & Hunter)
<i>Spy Sisters</i>	(Cassidy, Elianna & Everlee)

Grade 5 Teams:

<i>Magic Frogs</i>	(Eli, Jace & Riley)
<i>Pro Gamers</i>	(Liam, Gordon & Kacey)
<i>Frogs On a Stone</i>	(Carter, Ophelia & Miley)



Out-of-School Care



CAMPBELL RIVER
School District 72

The out-of-school care program is located at Cedar Elementary, Georgia Park Elementary, Ocean Grove Elementary, Pinecrest Elementary, Ripple Rock Elementary and Sandowne Elementary.

Hours of operation are before school from 7 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. and after school from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

LICENSED, QUALITY CARE

- The out-of-school care centres are licensed under the authority of Island Health (Community Care and Assisted Living Act).
- As part of the licensing, at least one responsible adult must have their first aid with CPR endorsement.
- The adult to child ratio will be 1:12.

COST

- Before-school \$10/day
- After-school \$25/day
- Before- and after-school \$35/day
- Full Day (i.e. Pro-D Day) \$45/day

SICK POLICY

- We ask you to keep your child home if they are sick.
- We may call you to pick up your child if they are ill, even if they attended school that day.
- You will be charged for any days your child is away.

Common Questions

Does my child have to attend the school where the childcare centre is located?

Yes. These spaces are only open to children who currently attend the school.

If my child doesn't get into the program, is there a waitlist?

Yes. Your child will automatically be placed on the waitlist, and you will be informed.

Does my child have to attend full-time?

Priority will be given to children who attend five days per week. Part-time children will be considered.

Why does childcare cost so much?

Childcare is not funded by the province and must operate on a cost-recovery basis. We will review the costs to determine if adjustments are required.

How can I pay for childcare?

Payment is due on the first school day of the month. Cheque, e-transfer, or online payments are accepted. A \$50 NSF cheque fee applies to any cheque that is denied or cancelled.

I can't afford childcare, is there a subsidy?

Yes. The Affordable Child Care Benefit is available from the provincial government. Info can be found by searching '[Affordable Child Care Benefit](#)' online.

Will the district cover childcare fees if I can't?

Unfortunately, childcare is unfunded and must not operate at a loss. It also cannot use funds from K-12 school funding. The only support is through the province's Affordable Child Care Benefit.

My child has an educational assistant (EA) during the school day. Will my child have a dedicated EA during childcare?

During the school day, supports are provided based on K-12 funding. For before- and after-school childcare, families must apply through Supported Child Development. (cradacl.bc.ca)

What do I do if I have a concern about childcare?

You should speak to the childcare provider directly. If the issue is not resolved, you can contact the childcare manager at childcare@sd72.bc.ca.