



Ocean Grove Elementary NEWSLETTER

October 2, 2026



Message from the Principal

Autumn has arrived, and with it we have settled into a wonderful start to the school year. Over the past several weeks, our staff has been working diligently to get to know each student, assess their learning needs, and plan meaningful instruction that supports their growth and success. As a school community, we remain committed to working together to ensure Ocean Grove is a welcoming, inclusive, and engaging place where every student feels valued and supported.

We recently hosted our annual Terry Fox Run and are proud to share that we raised nearly \$600 for the Terry Fox Foundation. Congratulations Ocean Grove students! Thank you everyone who contributed to help keep Terry's legacy alive. We know Terry's family would be proud to see the enthusiasm, determination, and generosity demonstrated by our students and families. Your support also reflects the caring spirit that makes our school community so special.

On October 5th we will celebrate World Teacher's Day. This is a wonderful opportunity to recognize the dedication, compassion, and hard work of our teachers, as well as all of our staff members, who make a positive difference in the lives of students every day. As we approach Thanksgiving, I find myself reflecting on all that has already been accomplished this school year and feeling incredibly grateful to be part of such a caring and committed team.

As you gather with family and friends over the Thanksgiving weekend, I hope you have the opportunity to rest, reconnect, and enjoy time together. Thank you for your ongoing partnership and support. I am truly thankful to be part of the Ocean Grove community and for the privilege of working alongside such wonderful students, families and staff.

With gratitude,
Hendrick Horsthuis
Principal



Harvest Soup: Wednesday, October 7th

The PAC is generously helping us to make a harvest soup to be served on Wed., October 7th (not the 8th) to the school community. The majority of ingredients for this soup will be harvested from our school garden by the students! **Students are asked to bring a bowl and spoon to school on the 7th.** Please note that the soup is meant to supplement the students' lunch; so other food items should still be brought to school to be eaten that day.

Student Photo Day



PHOTO DAY

REMINDER

WEDNESDAY, OCT 14

After photo day, a take-home flyer containing instructions & information will be provided for every student.

ISLAND LIFE PHOTO
www.islandlifephotographics.ca



Thanksgiving Day

All schools will be **CLOSED** on Monday, October 12th for Thanksgiving Day.



Pro-D Day

Classes are NOT IN SESSION on the **Friday, October 23rd** Professional Development Day.



As part of our emergency preparedness, we will be participating in the Great BC Shake-Out Earthquake Drill on October 15th.



Student Conference Day

Classes are NOT IN SESSION on the **Monday, November 2nd** Student Conference Day. Information to be sent home by classroom teachers.

Card Project Fundraiser

A reminder that the students are working on a special art project for a new school fundraiser! Their precious masterpieces will be turned into beautiful and useful products, such as mugs, tote bags, tea towels, greeting cards and notebooks.

To ensure your child can receive a **free card featuring their artwork**, you must register and provide your consent for your child's name and artwork to be released to The Card Project.

Please register at www.TheCardProject.ca (click register and our school). **The deadline to register is Sunday, October 4, 2026.** You will be able to view your child's art and place orders starting October 16th.

Children's Appetites

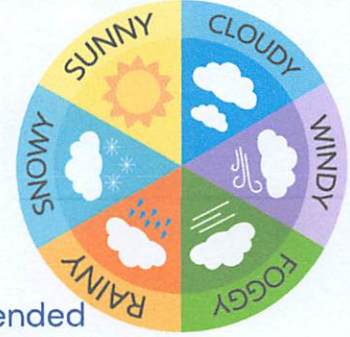
The children are expending a great deal of energy during the day. Many children's appetites are also larger at school, with some children eating the majority of their packed lunch at first recess. Please check in with your child to see if they would like anything extra (lots of children like a half sandwich at recess). If your child has eaten everything here at school and is still hungry we do have a small bowl of snacks available in the classroom.

Weather Appropriate Gear

All students are expected to go outside for 45 minutes a day, regardless of the weather. Even though it may be sunny and warm in the morning, it's not unusual for weather conditions to change throughout the day.

Please ensure that your child has clothing and footwear appropriate for all weather conditions. It is also highly recommended to keep a spare change of clothing at school or in their backpack (all grades).

Finally, it would be greatly appreciated if hoodies and coats are LABELLED with the student's name/initials. One of our goals this year is to drastically cut down on the amount of unclaimed clothing items sent out as donations. Let's get them back to the students!



Hot Lunch Program

As outlined on our website, if your child will be away on a hot lunch day and you wish their lunch to be held in the office for pick-up *the same day*, or given to a specified student, email oceangrove@sd72.bc.ca **before 10:30 am** with "Hot Lunch" in the subject line.

Terry Fox Run

Our entire school participated in the annual Terry Fox Run on Friday, September 18th.

Thanks to the generous support of our community, **almost \$600** has been raised as a donation to the Terry Fox Foundation.

Well done everyone!

Fire Safety House

The Fire Safety House will be at Ocean Grove on Wednesday, October 7th for all grade 3 students to participate in its safety program.



Student Emergency Release

Thank you to everyone who has already returned their completed forms to school.

PLEASE NOTE: If there is an emergency and you have authorized the release of your children into the custody of non-guardian adults, those adults **must present identification** if they come to pick up your children.

Please pass this message along to any adults you have authorized for emergency pick-up on your completed *Student Emergency Release Form*.

Also, this paper form is required so that we may have access to information in the event that online records are not available.

Student Accident Insurance: optional program which may be purchased by parents/guardians.



ACCIDENT INSURANCE

PEACE OF MIND STARTING AT **\$17** PER YEAR



**24/7
365
Coverage**

AT SCHOOL

AT HOME

AT PLAY

SAVE 5% OR 10% ON 3 YEAR OR 5 YEAR PLANS
ENJOY PEACE OF MIND NOT HAVING TO RENEW ANNUALLY

ACCIDENT INSURANCE

FOR COSTS NOT COVERED BY
GOVERNMENT OR WORK BENEFITS



OR HAVE THOSE COSTS COVERED WITH:

SILVER PLAN

\$17
PER YEAR

- 10 Years Unlimited Dental
- \$6k Tutoring
- Ambulance Fees
- \$500 Paramedical
- \$750 Fracture/Dislocation
- \$15k Accidental Death
- + more

GOLD PLAN

\$25
PER YEAR

- 10 Years Unlimited Dental
- \$6k Tutoring
- Ambulance Fees
- \$500 Paramedical
- \$750 Fracture/Dislocation
- \$20k Accidental Death
- + more

PLATINUM PLAN

\$33
PER YEAR

- 10 Years Unlimited Dental
- \$200k Out of Province Medical
- \$6k Tutoring
- Ambulance Fees
- \$800 Paramedical
- \$1k Fracture/Dislocation
- \$30k Accidental Death
- + more

TO LEARN MORE OR BUY:

INSUREMYKIDS.COM

1-800-463-5437

Underwritten by Old Republic Insurance Company of Canada. Please visit insuremykids.com for detailed information on coverages, conditions, limitations and exclusions.



The Strathcona Gardens bus will come and pick up kids from SD72 schools (days/schools indicated in the brochure) and bring them to the arena to join our Everyone Welcome Skating & Pond Hockey session. Supervision is provided, and parents/guardians must pick children up by 5 pm. See full information on next page.

WHAT IS THE SKATING SCHOOL BUS?



Kids ages 7+ can catch a ride on our SRD bus after school to our arena and join our Everyone Welcome & Pond Hockey session.



Cost is \$10/day and you can register up until noon of your desired pick-up day.



We pick-up from the following schools:

Mon/Wed: Sandowne, Penfield, Georgia Park, Southgate

Tues/Thurs: Ocean Grove, Willow Point, Phoenix

Friday: Ripple Rock, Cedar, Ecole Des Deux Mondes, Ecole Mer et Montagne



Strathcona
RECREATION DISTRICT

REGISTER TODAY!

Call or visit our front desk to get your child registered.

STRATHCONA GARDENS RECREATION COMPLEX

We're still open during construction!

Phone

250-830-6777

Email

info@strathconagardens.com

Website

www.strathconagardens.com

Strathcona Gardens SKATING SCHOOL BUS

Welcome on board!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT DOES THE REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDE?

- \$10 fee includes a ride to our arenas on an SRD bus driven by one of our professional drivers, drop-in admission, skate rentals, and a helmet.

WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS THEIR OWN EQUIPMENT?

- Participants are welcome to bring their own skating and hockey gear on the bus.
- Alternatively, parents can drop off their child's equipment at our skate shop on the day of pickup.

WHERE DO PARTICIPANTS GET PICKED UP?

- Pickup from each school will be the same location as the SD72 buses.
- We communicate with the schools and provide them a list of students participating in our program.
- Our bus will be very visible with the SRD logo and blue/green colors on it for kids to identify easily.

WHAT IF MY CHILD NEEDS HELP WHILE AT THE ARENA?

- Our bus driver and skate shop staff will be on hand to provide general supervision and assistance with anyone who needs help with their skates or equipment.
- Our reception desk also has a public phone for kids to use if needed.

WHEN DO KIDS NEED TO BE PICKED UP FROM THE ARENA?

- Parents must sign-out kids with our staff member in Dressing Room E (beside the skate shop on the Leisure Ice) before the arena closes at 5pm.



How to Register

Ages 7+ Registration now open for fall!



Online registration is currently unavailable, so give our front desk a call at 250-830-6777 and press 0.

You can also register in-person by visiting our reception desk in the front lobby of Strathcona Gardens at 225 S Dogwood Street.

Need to make plans last minute? You can register until noon of the pick-up day!

