



Words from the Wolfpack

Tsuma-as Elementary Newsletter
Ms. Girard, Principal

January 22nd, 2026
Mrs. Kynoch, Vice-Principal

Message from the Principal...

Our return to school this January has already been filled with excitement, and we are only 3 weeks in! Basketball season has started for our grade 6 & 7 students, with practices and games well underway. We had several special visitors from the school board in our school last week. Both of our Superintendents and three Trustees spent time in various classrooms and learning about our school goals. They thoroughly enjoyed their time at Tsuma-as and had a great time visiting with students and staff. This week, our teachers extended their Professional Development in Literacy as they worked alongside Dr. Jennifer Kelly, a visiting Literacy expert and author. It was wonderful to see so many teachers from our school and around the district learning together and collaborating to strengthen their literacy instruction and learning routines in their classrooms. In other news, our grade 4 & 4/5 classes are preparing for the upcoming arrival of salmon eggs, which should be any day now! These classes are part of our district Salmonid Program, where students explore the life cycle of salmon, what they need to survive in their habitats and how our ecosystem & community rely on them as natural resources. As you can see, January has started off as a busy but exciting month. This newsletter will outline important upcoming events, deadlines and information. As always if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Ms. Girard through school phone or email mgirard@sd70.bc.ca

Kindergarten & New Student Registration

Student registration for the 2026-2027 school year opens February 2nd. If you have a child starting kindergarten in September (born in 2021) or if you know of any new students registering with our school, you can access registration packages online on the School District Website or you can visit our school office to pick up a paper package. Please note February 2nd registration is for students within catchment only. Out of catchment will not be considered until after February 28th when all in catchment students have been allocated to our school.



Kindergarten Registration opens February 2, 2026

Starting Kindergarten is an important step. Registering early helps us prepare welcoming classrooms and supports.

How to register

1 Catchment School

Register at your neighbourhood catchment school. Use the School Locator if needed found here: sd70.bc.ca/registration Out-of-catchment requests are considered after Feb 28 if space is available.

2 Online or pick up

Registration forms can be found online at: sd70.bc.ca/registration or picked up at your catchment school

3 Email or in person

Email the completed form with a copy of your child's birth certificate, Care Card, and proof of address. Or bring the completed form and documents to your catchment school to register in person.

4 All About Me Form

Families are invited to complete the All About Me form. This helps schools get to know your child and support a smooth, caring transition. Fill it out online here: <https://forms.office.com/r/DZdr6rK78d> or pick up a paper copy when you register in person

Pacific Rim School District



FOR
CHILDREN
BORN IN
2021

Questions or support with registration? Our Early Years team is here to help. www.pacificrimchildren.ca/overview

Cross Boundary Requests

If you are an “Out of Catchment” family attending our school, you will need to complete the Out of Catchment request form annually. This form is being mailed out on Feb 2nd to all Out of Catchment families. If you plan to remain at Tsuma-as Elementary, please complete the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. All Out of Catchment requests will be reviewed and follow up contact will be made in the Spring.



Is your child absent?

A friendly reminder for all families that it is important to make the school aware when your child is going to be absent from school. Please avoid calling the main school line. We have a speciality Absence Phone Line for this purpose. **If your child is sick or is going to be away, please call: 250 723 6080.**

General Traffic Safety

Traffic at the front of our school can be VERY busy at drop-off and pick-up times. Unfortunately, the only crosswalk on Compton crosses at Margaret St. & Kitsuksis Rd (not in front of our school). We encourage all students and families who walk to school to use these crosswalks, but if you choose to drop your child off across from the school, please have a conversation with them about road safety. When crossing, they **NEED** to make eye contact with a driver to be sure they are seen before crossing. There have been a few close calls reported. Child safety is our number one priority.

Bus Safety

We are working closely with Dave Prevost from the bus garage to ensure our students are safe on school busses. Attached at the end of this newsletter are the bus rules set out by the managers and drivers at the bus garage. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the bus garage directly.



Next PAC Meeting: Tuesday February 24th @6pm in the library

Upcoming Food Order Information

Moving forward, all PAC food orders and other PAC fundraisers will only be run through the digital ordering system called “Munchalunch”. This means that paper order forms for food days, fundraisers or clothing orders will

NOT be sent home. Instead, families that are unable to use the online ordering system will be able to bring cash into the office and fill out an order form with Mrs. Brooks. Students will not be able to access paper order forms or bring cash into their teacher. This will help us track our orders and payments more efficiently and smoothly. Thank you for understanding.



Upcoming Food Days:

Thursday February 12th ~ Milk & Cookie Day

Thursday March 5th ~ Pizza Day

School Clothing

The PAC is excited to share that they are running school clothing sales again! This year we will be selling t-shirts, hoodies & sweatpants. On February 2nd order form links will be emailed to families & paper order forms will be available in the office only. The clothing order sale will run for the month of February, with the final order deadline being Friday February 27th. Watch for further information to be emailed out soon. Samples of colours and sizes will also be available to view in the office.



Upcoming 2026 Dates:

January 26th to February 1st – Literacy Week
February 10th – Free Throw Championship (ages 10-13)
February 12th – Pyjama and Cookies & Milk Day (order information emailed out soon)
February 13th – No School for Students: Pro D Day
February 16th – No School: Family Day
February 24th – PAC Meeting in the Library – 6pm
February 27th – Clothing Orders Due
March 5th – Pizza Day (order information emailed out soon)
March 6th – Learning Updates go home
March 9th to March 20th – No School: Spring Break
March 23rd – Back to School!
April 3rd – No School: Good Friday
April 6th – No School: Easter Monday
April 15th – Class Photos
April 22nd & 23rd – Early Dismissal for Learning Conferences
April 24th – No School: Pro D Day



SUPPORTING LITERACY AT HOME

SPOTLIGHT ON

LITERACY WEEK (JAN 26-FEB 1)

Tuesday January 27th is National Literacy Day. This year's theme is "make family mealtime learning time." We use our literacy skills in many parts of everyday life linked to mealtime: reading grocery prices, food packaging, menus and recipes.



FAMILY GAME NIGHTS

Stay at the table after mealtime and play board games or card games together. Games help children develop literacy, numeracy and social skills.

COOK TOGETHER

Read recipes and prepare meals together. Find new recipes online or borrow a recipe book from the local library for inspiration.

MEALTIME

Practice oral language and conversation skills by eating meals together when you can. Turn the screens off and focus on talking about the day and telling stories to one another.

Rules For Bus Students



- The bus driver is always in charge.
- Eating or drinking are not permitted on the bus.
- Students should take their seat promptly and sit properly, always facing forward.
- Students must remain seated while the bus is in motion and are not permitted to face backwards or sit partially in the aisle of the bus. Students are not permitted to change seats or stand while the bus is in motion.
- Students must conduct themselves in an acceptable manner, always. Profanity, obscene gestures, horseplay, throwing objects, fighting, and boisterous or other improper conduct will not be tolerated.
- The aisle and all emergency accesses of the bus must always be kept clear.
- Leaving waste or other rubbish on the floor or throwing it from the windows of the bus is not permitted.
- Extending arms or head out of the bus windows is extremely dangerous and is not permitted.
- Only eligible riders will be allowed access to their assigned school bus and will disembark at their designated school or regular bus stop only. Elementary students wishing to disembark at an undesignated bus stop (i.e. play date) must have a note signed by a parent/guardian.
- Students should be at the bus stop five (5) minutes before the scheduled pick-up time; the bus will not wait for those who are late.
- Students must stay in bus loading zones while waiting and will load and unload the bus in an orderly manner.
- After getting off the bus, Students are not to walk or stand near or beside the bus.
Crossing the road must be done in front of the bus and when crossing, Students need to watch for vehicles not stopping and be prepared to avoid vehicles. Students should not use cellular phones or headphones/electronic devices during the loading or unloading process. Crossing behind the bus is not permitted.
- If the bus does not arrive within 20 minutes of the scheduled time students should return home.
- Any instances of bullying or inappropriate behaviour should be reported to the bus driver.
- Damage to the bus or equipment should be reported to the driver.
- Students are not allowed to sit in the driver's seat or touch any switches or controls of the bus.
- Students may not have anything in their possession that may cause injury to anyone else on the bus.
- Student cell phone use for pictures/videos, music, lighting, or any other use that may be distracting to the bus driver is not permitted on the bus. Music with inappropriate content is not permitted on the school bus.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dave Provost at the bus garage. 250 720 2772