



YouLearn.ca

December Newsletter

762 Fairview Road
PO Box 940
Oliver, BC V0H 1T0
(250) 498-4597

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday 8:30 - 3:30pm

Principal: Brad Burns
www.youlearn.ca
(250) 498-4597
youlearn@sd53.bc.ca

Principal's Message

Excitement is in the air—winter break is almost here!

Congratulations to our students, parents and guardians for making it through the first third of the school year! We truly appreciate the efforts for keeping your children connected to their teachers, studies, and our school community. And thank you, students, for your hard work in submitting assignments, staying on track with course timelines, and engaging in our growing in-person programs.

As we head into the break, make the most of the time you have left this term by applying yourself to your learning over the next two weeks. It will make the holidays feel even more relaxing! If you've fallen behind, consider using part of your break to catch up—but don't forget to take time to rest, recharge, and reconnect with family and friends.

School closes for winter break on Friday, December 19 and reopens on Monday, January 5. If you need assistance before the break, please reach out to your teachers or our office—we're here to help.

Finally, from all of us at YouLearn, we wish you peace, joy, and wonderful memories this holiday season. Thank you for being such an important part of our community. We couldn't do what we do without you!

Sincerely,

B. Burns

Important Dates

December 15

Written Learning Updates

December 19

Winter Celebration

December 22

to January 2

Winter Break – School Closed

January 5

Back to School





YOULEARN.ca

Christmas Party



CELEBRATE THE END OF YEAR WITH US

WHEN Friday, December 19th, 2025 at 12:30 PM

WHERE YouLearn Oliver



19TH
FRIDAY
DEC 2025



*Lunch
included!*



Early Years Program (Grades K-6)

You've worked so hard this year, and now it's time to celebrate all that you've accomplished! The winter holidays are a chance to rest, have fun, and spend time with family and friends.

Remember, every day is an opportunity to learn something new—even during the break.

Stay curious, be kind, and enjoy the magic of the season.

We can't wait to see all the amazing things you'll do in the new year.



Middle Years Program (Grades 7-9)

As you head into the winter break, take a moment to reflect on everything you've accomplished this year. You've grown, learned, and faced challenges.

Use this time to rest and recharge, but also to think about the goals you want to set for yourself in the new year.

Every step you take, big or small, shapes the person you're becoming.

See you in 2026!

Secondary Program (Grades 10–12)

Winter break is a great time to rest and recharge, but also to keep your mind active.

Review what you've learned, catch up on reading, and stay curious.

A little effort now can make a big difference when you return.

Enjoy the season!

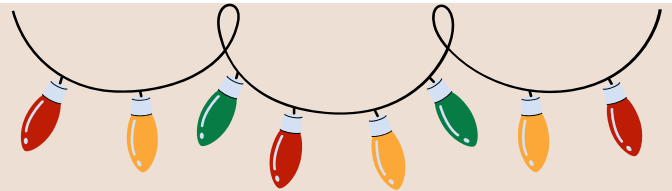


Connections Club

Come get social!

**Thursday afternoons from 1 to 3pm
starting October 24th**

Join Megan, Shelley, and Jessica
as we plan fun activity afternoons with students!



Registration for the 2025–26 school year is open!

Please fill out [THIS FORM](#) to register.

If you have any questions, please call our office at (250) 498-4597
or email ylregistrations@sd53.bc.ca

Note: Only students within our district's catchment area can register with YouLearn.ca. Out of district students must register with one of their local schools or a [Provincial Online Learning School](#).

YouLearn Students
Welcome!

SOSS TRIP TO FRANCE & ITALY

For students in grades 9, 10 and 11 this year!

ALL INCLUDED

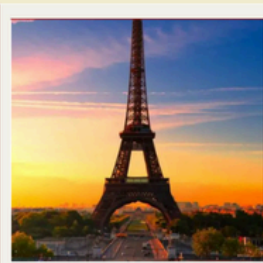
\$6157

PER PERSON

Paris - Cote d'Azur - Monaco - Eze - Nice
Florence - Rome - Pompeii

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- 11 Days and 9 Nights Tour
- Full European Breakfast Daily
- Dinner Daily
- Local Transportation
- Professional Tour Guide & Tips
- Airfare from Kelowna



DEPARTURE: 16 MARCH 2026

TRIP ITINERARY: WWW.EXPLORICA/STOPA-6189

Contact us:

Mrs. Goncalves
Mrs. Stopa

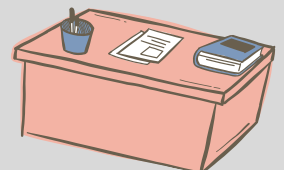
🌐 rgoncalv@sd53.bc.ca
🌐 hstopa@sd53.bc.ca

☎ 250-488-7195
☎ 250-498-7691



Greetings from Mexico
- Jessica M.

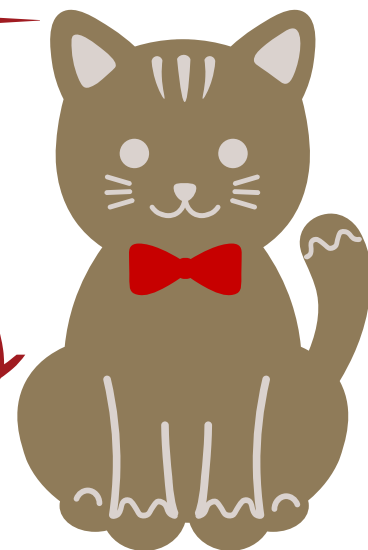
*Thank you Resh
for covering the front desk!*





Happy Holidays

from YouLearn.ca!



We will be closed from December 22nd to January 2nd

See you on Monday, January 5th in 2026!



YouLearn.ca's Career Programs Summary

Period	Program	Details
September	Health Care Sampler	2 days per week online and 2 days per month on campus in Penticton.
September	Information Technology (Computers) Sampler	(Offered every other year) 1 day online and 1 day on campus each week in Penticton.
September	Early Childhood Educator	2 days online each week and 2 days each month on campus in Penticton.
February	Chef Program Camosun College	Online self-paced lessons with a lab one afternoon in Oliver.
February	Trades Sampler	4 days each week in Penticton for 16 weeks.
July	Emergency Medical Responder	5 weeks during the Summer Break.
May	Royal Canadian Mounted Police Jean Minguy Youth Academy	10 days in Vernon in the spring. <u>Deadline to apply is in early January.</u> Recommended participants are grade 12 students.
May	Inclusive Trades Sampler	1 day in each secondary school. Recommended participants are grade 10 students.
All Year Intake	Nail Technician	Kelowna - Marvel College
All Year Intake	Dual Credit College Programs	Penticton and Kelowna Campuses Some common programs include automotive services technician, welding, carpentry, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, etc.

Please contact YouLearn.ca's Career Education Teacher, Steve Pozzobon, if you are interested in taking any of the above programs!

YouLearn.ca's Career Programs – Health Sampler Information

Interested in any of the following career paths?

Health Office Administration
Dental Health
Pharmacy
Nursing
Social Work and Counselling
Allied Health

Enroll in YouLearn's Health Sampler program today! in partnership with Okanagan College

This 120-hour course is a gateway to the dynamic world of health care professions. It will provide students with an opportunity to explore a variety of high demand health care careers, sample job tasks, and identify educational requirements for entry into the profession. The learning experience is designed to help students choose a health career path that aligns with their passion and skills.

Enrollment Requirements

Students must be in Grade 11 or 12

Credits Earned

Students will earn 4 credits (one course) at the Grade 12 Level

Dates

February 2nd to June 17th

Times & Locations

Tuesdays and Thursdays Online from 6–9 pm

+ every second Saturday at the Okanagan College Penticton Campus

- Learn common terminology used in health care settings.
- Build therapeutic relationships with professional practice standards.
- Understand scope of practice and interprofessional health care teams.
- Develop cultural sensitivity and inclusive practices.
- Identify labour market needs, job opportunities in the local area, and how to prepare and apply to college programs.

Please contact YouLearn.ca's Career Education Teacher, Steve Pozzobon, if you are interested in taking the above programs!



Why fireweed? ...with its ability to thrive in disturbed areas, long blooming season, and wind dispersed seeds, fireweed is a stunning symbol of rejuvenation and new growth after destructive events. Its beauty and resilience are truly remarkable

The Collective is a multi-age group who meets monthly to engage in nature-based social activities. The purpose of 'being around others who just get it'.

If your child has experienced the death of a parent, caregiver, or sibling, please reach out to your school's Administrator if you would like further information or to register your child/teen for the group.

Sincerely, The District Counselling Team, ICY & Healthy Schools





Okanagan
Similkameen
SD53

2025/2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR

September 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

March 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

September 1	Labour Day
September 2	Schools Open
September 30	National Day for Truth & Reconcil.
October 13	Thanksgiving Day
November 11	Remembrance Day
December 22	Christmas Break Begins
January 5	Schools Re-Open
January 23-27	Secondary Exam Days
January 28	Second Semester Begins
February 16	Family Day
March 16	Spring Break Begins
March 30	School Re-Open
April 3	Good Friday
April 6	Easter Monday
May 18	Victoria Day
June 22 to 24	Secondary Exam Days
June 25	Last Day of Classes
June 26	Administrative Day (School Closed for Students)

Number of Days in Session 192

Number of Days of Instruction 184

DISTRICT NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS

October 24 – Professional Development Day
February 13 – Professional Development Day
March 23 to 27 - Connected to Spring Break

EARLY DISMISSAL DATES

Schools will notify parents of early dismissal times

Also available on our website: <http://www.sd53.bc.ca/>

Cawston/Keremeos: October 22 & 23 / April 9 & 10

Osoyoos: October 22 & 23 / April 9 & 10

Oliver/OK Falls: October 22 & 23 / April 9 & 10

District wide early dismissal days for Inquiry Time are indicated on calendar with this symbol { }

Family Conferences

October 22: CPS, OKF, OES, OSE, OSS, SESS, SOSS, TEN

April 9: CPS, OKF, OES, OSS, SESS, SOSS, TEN

April 9 and/or 10: OSE

- Stat/School Holidays □ Non-Instructional Days
♥ Secondary Exam Days ● Year End Administration

We are an innovative learning community where all members are supported in their academic, social, and mental well-being equipped with the skills and experiences necessary to thrive in a diverse and changing world.

SCHOOLS IN DISTRICT

Cawston Primary School
Principal: Amanda Palmer

Phone: 250-485-4434
Fax: 250-499-5288
Hours: 8:38am-2:30pm

Okanagan Falls Elem. School
Principal: Katie Poole

Phone: 250-497-5414
Fax: 250-497-8279
Hours: 8:30am-2:27pm

Oliver Elementary School
Principal: Scott Tremblay

Phone: 250-498-3468
Fax: 250-498-0339
Hours: 8:30am-2:23pm

Osoyoos Elementary School
Principal: Jason McAllister

Phone: 250-485-4444
Fax: 250-495-2855
Hours: 8:30am-2:30pm

Osoyoos Secondary School
Principal: Dave Foster

Phone: 250-485-4433
Fax: 250-495-2669
Hours: 8:35am-2:45pm

Similkameen Elem. Sec. School
Principal: Stacey Smith

Phone: 250-499-2727
Fax: 250-499-2411
Elem Hours: 8:30am-2:35pm
Sec Hours: 8:30am-2:40pm

Southern Okanagan Sec. School
Principal: Bev Young

Phone: 250-498-4931
Fax: 250-498-6957
Hours: 8:30am-2:45p

Tuc-el-Nuit Elementary School
Principal: Shannon Miller

Phone: 250-498-3415
Fax: 250-498-0388
Hours: 8:30am-2:27pm

YouLearn.ca – Online Learning & Continuing Education

Principal: Brad Burns Phone: 250-498-4597

DISTRICT CONTACTS – 250-498-3481

Marcus Toneatto	Superintendent of Schools
Subra Paliappa	Secretary Treasurer
Naryn Searcy	Director of Learning & Inquiry
Debby Sansome	Director of Facilities
Susan Trower	Manager of Human Resources
Heather Rose	Director of Student Services
Melia Dirk	District Vice Principal, Early Learning & Childcare

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Rob Zandee
Debbie Marten
Casey Brouwer
Sholeh Pickell
Christine Watson
Karen Clayton
Brenda Dorosz

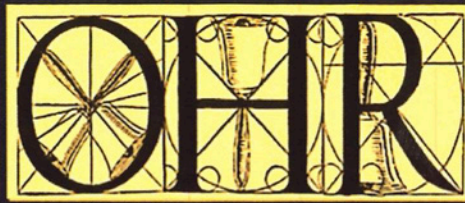
PARENT AND STUDENT APPEALS:

Where a decision of an employee of the Board significantly affects the education, health or safety of a student, the parent/guardian of the student, or the student may, within a reasonable time from the date that the parent/guardian or student was informed of the decision, appeal that decision to the Board. Further information regarding the appeal process can be obtained [HERE](#).

ELEMENTARY PROGRESS REPORTS ISSUED:

Mid-Year Reports: Date to be determined by each school

Final Report: Thursday, June 25, 2026



OLIVER HANDBELL RINGERS &
THEIR SINGERS PRESENT

Bethlehem Night

FRIDAY DECEMBER 12, 7:30PM
SUNDAY DECEMBER 14, 3:00PM
OSOYOOS BAPTIST CHURCH
6210 HIGHWAY 97, OSOYOOS

Admission is free; monetary
donations gratefully accepted