

YouLearn.ca **January Newsletter**

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

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Principal's Message

Happy New Year and welcome back! I hope 2025 has gotten off to a good start for you and that your year ahead will be filled with accomplishments and successes. Remember, YouLearn staff are here to help. Focus this month, students, and make as much progress in your courses as you can.

Reminder, second semester begins Wednesday January 29. High school dually enrolled students, be sure you have your schedules and are ready to start. If you haven't signed up for classes but are still hoping to, contact your mentor teacher immediately.

Regardless, all students are expected to adhere to semester course completion timelines, unless otherwise agreed upon with their mentor teachers. In other words, if you started a course in the early fall, you should complete it by the end of the month. If this is not the case, contact your mentor teacher who will help you create a new course completion timeline and review your second semester choices.

Please note: Tuesday, January 14 is the submission cut off for our upcoming Summary of Learning Reports, which will be published on Tuesday, January 28. If you are close to finishing a course but need a few extra days, keep working and submit your assignments ASAP. Although there is no guarantee, teachers will work to make summary reports as accurate as possible.

Important Dates

January 14 Semester 1 Cut Off

January 24-28

Secondary Exams

January 28

Summary of Learning Reports

January 29

Inquiry Day: Early Dismissal at Noon

January 30

PAC Meeting 3:30 - 4:30pm



Finally, coinciding with the end of semester 1, I will be retiring. Brad Burns will be the administrator in charge starting February 01. To all the students, families, and staff with whom I have worked over the years: I am sincerely grateful and forever indebted to each of you. It has been said that to teach is to intervene in one's own and another's becoming. Nothing for me could be farther from the truth. For all you have given and taught me about how to better TOGETHER WE LEARN. serve families and teach children, thank you.

TOGETHER WE GROW, WILL

Across the School

Account Usernames and Passwords

From Monday January 13 forward, all students will need to sign into their school accounts using new usernames (see below). In addition, when the first sign, they will be asked to create a new password (see below). An email was sent to parents to this effect. If you could please remind them of this and/or forward that email to their personal email addresses that would be appreciated. Students struggling to get into their accounts are encouraged to contact their mentor teacher or phone our office.

- NEW USER ID: first four letters of your first name (usual) and last four digits of your pupil #
- NEW PASSWORD: 12 characters, including at least one number and one special character

Upcoming Field Trips and Events

Executive Functioning

Staff are excited to continue in 2025 pursuing our school inquiry question: How do we effectively teach executive functioning strategies across grade levels? During the first part of the year, teachers helped students develop their skills in the areas of organization and time management. These will remain focus areas for January, as students return from winter break. However, below is a monthly list of the other areas to be covered for the remainder of the year. Executive functioning skills are life skills which benefit students in all aspects of their lives yet are typically not formally taught. Support your child by sharing your own executive functioning strategies and/or discussing our monthly themes as the year unfolds.

Executive Functioning Themes for 2025

- February = Task Initiation
- April = Sustained Attention
- May = Emotional Control
- June = Impulse Control

To celebrate the end of semester 1 and kick off semester 2, we have several upcoming events. Mark your calendars and keep an eye out for invitations will be sent out soon via email.

- Jan 27 (2:00-4:00 PM tentative) Grad Meeting and Lazer Tag
- Feb 4 Snowshoeing at Apex
- Feb 6 (11:45-2:30) Ice Fishing
- Feb 7 (11:45-2:30) Ice Fishing
- Date TBD Land Based Survival



Halfway There!

Elementary Program

Reminder parents, although the semester change does not impact students in K-6, it does signify the midway point of the year. Please take time to review your child's progress this month and meet with me if you have any concerns regarding timelines. In addition, please continue to submit/upload assignments regularly. Ongoing and timely feedback is essential to effective learning.

Secondary Program

10 - 12

Semester 2

Semester 2 starts January 29. Students, be sure to apply yourself over the next three weeks as you work to complete your semester 1 courses. Also, be sure to connect with your mentor teacher who will help you create new course completion timelines if necessary and review your semester 2 plans.

Progress Check Ins and Semester 2

Cody and Shelley are asking all grade 7-9 students to meet with them about doing a progress checkin for Math, English, PE, and Careers. We would also like to discuss a timeline for starting Science, Social Studies, Art, and ADST. Some students have already started making progress in Art by attending activities at YouLearn.

If you or your child have not reached out to schedule a check-in with Cody and/or Shelley, please do so now.

PAC

Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting

Volunteers are urgently needed to attend PAC's upcoming January meeting! If more members do not sign up in January, PAC will have to fold at the end of this school year. At YouLearn, the commitment is small, and unlike most other schools, parents do not organize events nor fundraise. Quite simply, the PAC secretary treasurer secures a provincial gaming grant each year and PAC members meet 3 times a year to decide how best to distribute these funds based on teacher requests. It's pretty easy and super meaningful. Two meetings remain and parents are welcome to join remotely if coming to Oliver is a problem.

Please help us save our PAC and consider attending PAC's next meeting on Thursday January 30 from 3:30-4:30 PM.

Interested parents are asked to RSVP with Melanie Olson (1970molson@gmail.com) or reach out to her if you have any questions.



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53 (OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN) NOTICE OF KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

January 13 - March 14, 2025

 Children who will be five years old by December 31, 2025, may begin their first year of Primary (Full Day Kindergarten) in September 2025. These will be children who were born in 2020.

Parents or guardians may register these new students from Monday, January 13 to Friday, March 14, 2025 at the following schools:

Cawston Primary	250-485-4434	8:30 am - 2:30 pm	
Okanagan Falls Elementary	250-497-5414	8:30 am - 2:30 pm	
Oliver Elementary	250-498-3468	8:30 am - 2:30 pm	
Tuc-el-Nuit Elementary	250-498-3415	8:30 am - 2:30 pm	
Osoyoos Elementary	250-485-4444	8:30 am - 2:30 pm	
YouLearn	250-498-4597	8:30 am - 3:30 pm	

- Please bring your child's birth certificate and Medical Card with you. Should you require further details, please contact your local school.
- Parents may defer the entry of their child into <u>Kindergarten</u> for one year but registration must occur in the following school year.
- Early registration assists the district with plans for September 2025. Also, Kindergarten spaces in a school
 may be limited and placement is done on a first come, first serve basis.



