

Oyama Traditional School

February 2023



Principal: Mr. Robbie Franklin
robbie.franklin@sd23.bc.ca

Secretary: Ms. Christy Steel
christy.steel@sd23.bc.ca

15525 Greenhow Road Oyama
BC V4V 2E1
Phone: 250•870•5121
(report an absence)
Fax: 250•870•5050
Web: <http://www.ots.sd23.bc.ca/>

Principal's Message

Hello parents and guardians,

Last Friday we had our Rainbow Spirit Day! The goal was to share how all of us have our own unique roles and identities, but also belong to a greater community where many diverse 'colours' come together to form a beautiful mosaic. I was blown away by the values of acceptance and kindness that were on display throughout the whole day. In the words of one of our wise kindergarten students, "Mr. Franklin, I really like your outfit! See mine, it is Paw Patrol and has all the colours of all of our houses!" The day was full of smiles!

Rainbow Day was the perfect kick off to February where we have a number of other important and exciting spirit days that include Valentine's Day, Harmony Day, Family Day, Pink Shirt Day and Rare Disease Day. All of these occasions will focus on the values of friendship, respect, acceptance, caring, compassion and understanding for all the diverse members of our community. I am looking forward to the incredible learning opportunities and showcasing just what it means to belong in a community throughout the month!

We have our parent-guardian-teacher conference coming up on Thursday, February 2nd and Friday, February 3rd. Hopefully you have been able to set up an appointment through our online booking system, but if you require further help please feel free to reach out for support (see the school website under parents for details on how to log in). Also, I always remind parents and guardians to never wait until conference dates to sit down with your child's teachers; teachers are happy to meet with parents or guardians at any point in the year, so please never hesitate to reach out. Please take note that students will be dismissed at 12:30 pm those days.

Please note that the first registration period for new students for the 2022-2023 school year is now open as of Monday, January 30th, 2023, starting at 7:00 a.m. Please refer to the district's enrollment website for more information: <https://enrollment.sd23.bc.ca/>. For families without a computer, please contact the school office and we can arrange support accordingly.

Looking forward to the other important day this month—and seeing just what that Groundhog has to say about our winter!

Respectfully,
Robbie Franklin
Principal

Oyama Traditional School

February 2023

Library News

Weekly Battle of the Books practices will begin this week! Our schedule is as follows:

Grade 3/4 Friday mornings at 10:20.

Grade 5 Friday mornings at 10:45.

During the practices, the battlers will be talking about the books they've read and working together to practice answering questions. This will continue until the end of February when we start to battle for spots on the school team.

February brings Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, Harmony Day, Anti-bullying (pink shirt) Day, Family Day and Love Your Library Day. These days are all opportunities to celebrate reading. We have books to support all these topics in our library and hope you enjoy the choices your child brings home this month!

Keep reading!

Mrs. A. Allen and Mrs. T. Smithman

School Registration for 2023-2024

Registration begins for Kindergarten and new students only on **Jan. 30, 2023 at 7:00 a.m. online** and continues through March 17, 2023 until 3:30 p.m. All registration is online only this year. Please see the information sheet in this newsletter for details.

To qualify for entry to Kindergarten in September 2023, a child must be five years of age on or before December 31st, 2023. A **valid birth certificate** (or other government-issued proof of age and citizenship) **and** a copy of one **parent/guardian BC driver's license** and one **parent/guardian BC CARE card** for proof of parental residency, plus **proof of address** must be provided directly to the school by 3:30 p.m. on March 17, 2023 or registration will not be valid.

The School Act allows parents to defer the enrollment of a child's entry to school for not more than one year. Parents are encouraged to discuss deferment with the school principal before a decision is made.

If you know of any children turning 5 this year, please let their parents know that the registration deadline is March 17th (and sooner is better!) Thank you!

<http://www.sd23.bc.ca/DistrictInfo/schoolenrollment/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

Oyama Traditional School

February 2023

Harmony Day

Harmony Day is about inclusiveness, respect, and a sense of belonging for everyone. Our school district will be celebrating *Harmony Day* and our cultural diversity on Wednesday, February 15th, 2023. This will mark the 15th Anniversary of *Harmony Day* in Central Okanagan Public Schools.



Pink Shirt Day

On February 22, 2023, we encourage everyone to practice kindness and wear pink to symbolize that you do not tolerate **bullying**.

Parent/Guardian/Teacher Conferences—Online Booking

Once again, our parent/guardian/teacher conference schedule will be available online on Jan. 23 and parents can book their own appointments! These conferences are being held virtually on **Thursday February 2nd and Friday February 3rd**. Please note that students will be **dismissed early at 12:30 on both days**.

The website is: <https://oyama.schoolappointments.com>

Go to the web site, click on the "REGISTER" menu tab and create an account. Then login and add your students to the system. Our Login Code is OTS.

After the students have been entered you will be able to schedule an appointment immediately by selecting a teacher and clicking the "Book" button. Select an available time slot, click it and then click the "Book Appointments" button. Repeat this for each student.

When you are finished you can view your appointments from the "PROFILE" tab by selecting "View Appointments". You can also print your appointments from the view screen.

*****Also please note that these dates are different from the ones on our school magnet. The dates had been changed for Parent teacher conferences and early dismissal for all schools as requested by School District 23 to accommodate the bussing schedule.*****

Once you have registered, you can find more information under the Help tab. There is a very detailed Parent Instruction Guide with print screens.