

# SPARK NOTES

## JANUARY 2026



### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear SESS Families,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! Once again, we had a busy and exciting December! Chef Adolph, Mrs. Douangpanya, and the cafeteria students provided our whole school with a spectacular turkey lunch with all of the fixings and it was delicious! We had many holiday activites for our elementary students led by our highschool leadership class as well as the elementary staff. We had dress up days and photos with Santa where we all showed our holiday spirit and we had an amazing Elementary Holiday concert put on by our hard working students and staff.

Elementary Term 1 reports were shared with parents on SpacesEDU and the end of the semester is quickly approaching for our secondary students with final assessments on January 23, 26 & 27, and the new semester starting on January 28. Secondary students should only be at school for final assessments and work completion and should otherwise remain at home. Busses will run as usual on those days.

We are looking forward to Archery in our secondary and elementary PE and classes as well as many ski & snowboard and tubing & skating days at Apex. Payment and permission forms can all be completed online through Student Quick Pay on the website.

Things continue to amp up for grads. Please encourage your graduates to check in with the Grad Spaces and to check their school emails for important messages. There is a Grad Bottle Drive this saturday and sign ups for February grad photos will be coming out soon.

Sincerely,  
Stacey Smith

### AFTER SCHOOL ACADEMIC SUPPORT

We know that students are under pressure to keep up with their classes, and sometimes students need extra time, space, or help to stay on top of their studies. We are offering after school academic support each Tuesday & Wednesday from 3:00-4:00 to help support students and reduce stress. This support is available for any student in grade 8-12. If you have any questions about these sessions, please contact the school at 250-499-2727.

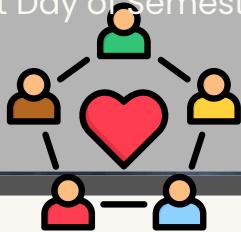


### DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

Winter weather is bound to show up at some point. Please make sure elementary students are coming to school with warm clothes so they can spend recess and lunch hour outside. During the winter a good coat, mitts or gloves, a toque, and winter boots are needed. Snow pants are also beneficial.

### JANUARY EVENTS

- 05 First Day Back to School
- 07 Sr. Basketball @ SESS  
4:00 & 5:45 & Grad  
Meeting @ 5:00PM
- 10 Grad Bottle Drive
- 22 Secondary Last Day of  
Term 2
- 23 Secondary Exams Begin
- 26 Secondary Exams End
- 28 Early Dismissal @ 12:00 PM  
First Day of Semester 2 (HS)



### CONTACT INFO

Principal: Stacey Smith  
Email: [ssmith@sd53.bc.ca](mailto:ssmith@sd53.bc.ca)

Vice Principal: Katie Anderson  
Email: [kanderso@sd53.bc.ca](mailto:kanderso@sd53.bc.ca)

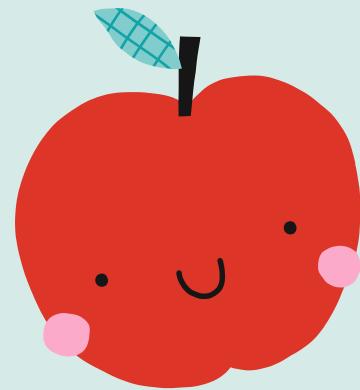
# Bus Expectations & Passes

Expectations for bus behaviour have been shared with all students in Elementary and High School. Students are expected to follow the school's Code of Conduct when riding the bus.

When students will be riding as a guest on a bus that they are not registered on, parents/guardians must contact the office to ask for a bus pass. These passes will be signed by Administration and given to students to present to the bus driver when boarding the bus.



**This planning must be completed with the office and your child(ren) before 1:00pm on the day of travel. Except in the case of an emergency, bus passes will no longer be given after 1:00pm.**



## Visitor Sign-In

Please ensure you are checking in at the office when visiting SESS. All visitors to SESS are meant to sign in at the office prior to entering other parts of the school building. This is to ensure the safety of students and staff and to minimize distractions in the hallways and classrooms.



## SESS is a Pet-free Space!



Student Quick Pay allows you to pay by credit card online [HERE](#). You will be able to add money to your child's lunch account, pay student fees, and athletic fees, all from the comfort of your own home! Please [click this link for instructions](#) on how to set up your account. If you have any questions or difficulties, please email [sessoffice@sd53.bc.ca](mailto:sessoffice@sd53.bc.ca)

# BASKETBALL SEASON IS UNDERWAY!

Grade 8, Junior and Senior basketball is currently underway and our teams are playing hard. There are some home games for our Sr. Boys and Girls on January 7, 8, 15 and 20 if you'd like to come out and support our players. Thank you to all of our coaches!





Let's Go!



## BREAKFAST CLUB

The SESS breakfast program continues to offer a varied and healthy breakfast every morning! All students in grades 5-12 are welcome to drop by for a free breakfast. The program is organized by staff and community volunteers.



## Sparks OF THE MONTH

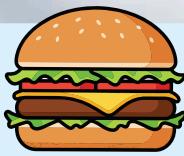


## ELEMENTARY WINTER CONCERT



*yum!*

# GRAD VS. STAFF BURGER CONTEST





## SESS PAC

Our January PAC & Annual General meeting will be on Thursday, **January 29 @ 5:30** in the library. All parents and guardians of SESS students are welcome!



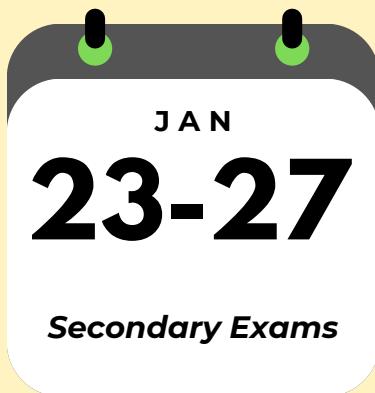
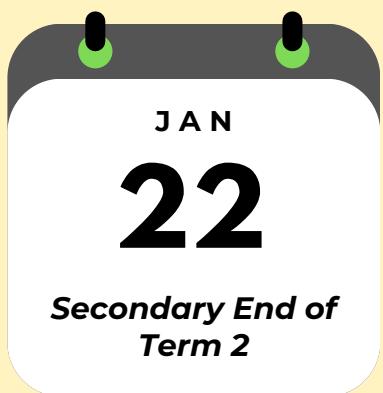
## SPORTING EVENTS @ SESS

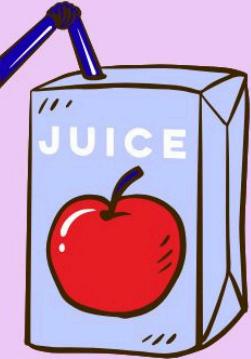
A reminder that students waiting to play, practice or watch games at SESS should not be on school grounds until the event. There is no supervision! All students watching games should have a guardian with them. Thank you for keeping our community safe!





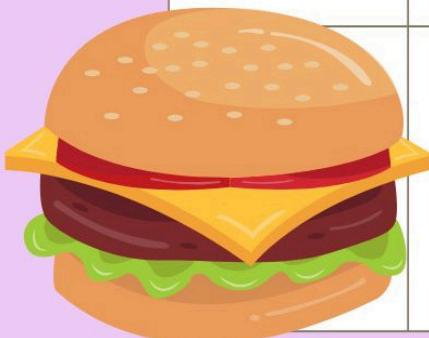
# January Events





# JANUARY

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
5 Jambalya	6 Sheperd's Pie	7 Mac n Cheese	8 Pizza	9 Chef Special
12 Chicken Wraps	13 Roast Pork Dinner	14 Hamburgers	15 Chicken Teriyaki	16 Chef Special
19 Chicken Pita Plates	20 Tacos	21 Perogie Piles	22 Pizza	23 Chef Special
26 Chef Special	27 Beef Stroganoff	28 Chicken Burgers	29 Ham Melts	30 Chef Special



Cafeteria

