

February Newsletter

Month at a Glance

February 3

Intermediate Ski Day

February 6th

PAC Hot Lunch

Booster Juice

February 11

Hot Chocolate Sale

February 12

Spirit Day

Red, White & Pink Day

February 13

Non-Instructional Day

School Not in Session

February 16

Family Day

School Not in Session

February 17

100 Days of School

February 18th

PAC Hot Lunch

Subway

February 25

*Pink Shirt Day

*KO Pizza Pizza Hot Lunch

February 27

Pro-D Day

School Not in Session



Principal's Message

Staff & Practicum Updates

We are pleased to welcome **Kate Zacharias**, our newest Educational Assistant (EA).

A warm welcome to **Jody Dagg**, who is completing her EA practicum with us. Jody will be here Monday–Thursday mornings until April 2.

We are also excited to host our Year 4 Practicum students from January 26 – April 17:

- **Ethan Braam** working with **Carol Potter**
- **Kylie Flinn** working with **Stephanie Halldorson**

Somer Wolfs working with **Danielle Reinarz**

Supervision & Safety Updates

We have increased outdoor supervision.

- EAs are now providing **morning supervision four days a week**, allowing for **six teachers** to be scheduled for morning recess supervision.

Kindergarten students will join the rest of the school for outdoor supervision after March Break.

Kindergarten Registration

Families are encouraged to register their child for Kindergarten beginning on Monday. Early registration helps the schools plan for our classes for the 2026-2027 year as the budgeting process starts as early as March.

Classroom Placement Policy

There is a lot of discussion and planning that goes into this process to ensure that we have the most optimal learning environments for our students. Parents also have a voice in this process which is outlined in the new [Classroom Placement Policy](#).

If you have information that you would like to share with the school about placement for your child, please review the Classroom Placement Policy and submit the included [form](#) before May 31st, 2026.

Out-of-Catchment Reminder

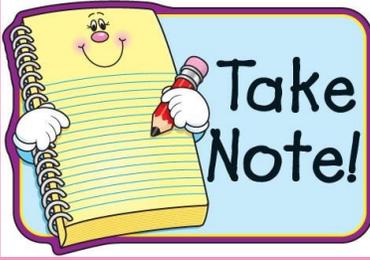
Families who are **out-of-catchment** are reminded to ensure that the school has your **current address** on file.

All students currently enrolled in our school are included in our 2026–2027 planning numbers, whether in-catchment or out-of-catchment.

As a government entity, accurate records are essential for emergency planning and liability, it is important that your current address is on file.

Please review the district's [administrative procedure](#) for submitting out-of-catchment paperwork if this applies to your family.

nupqu
February



Principal's Message Continued:



Special Events

Family Literacy Week was a huge success! A big thank you to **Mrs. Adams** for creating such a wonderful, book-centered week for our students.

Our **Talent Show** auditions begin soon. This is another extra special event that is hosted and organized by Mr. Lutz. Students look forward to showcasing their talents and performing on the Key City Stage for the audience. Due to the conflict with the basketball tournament, Mr. Lutz is looking at an alternate date.

The **grade 6 Elementary Basketball League** has started this week. Basketball is an extra curricular sport that is made possible by volunteer coaches, scorekeepers and Mount Baker students as referees. Thank you to Heather and Mataya for coaching the Girls team and to Mr. Flegel and Mrs. Reinarz for coaching the Boys. Games take place Tuesdays after school. The tournament is February 26 at the Mount Baker.

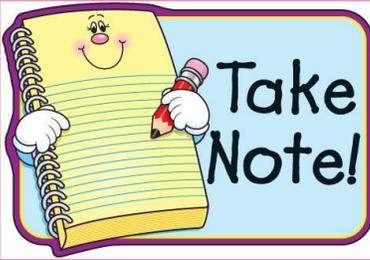
Looking Ahead

We have many hopes and dreams for our school, including:

- An additional playground, which the PAC has been actively fundraising for.
- New blinds for the windows in the gym
- A bouldering wall for the gym
- A garden expansion

We are always looking for **grant opportunities, community partners and / or donations**. If you know of local businesses or funding sources that may be able to help make some of these dreams come true, please reach out!

Thank you for being such an important part of our school community!



The annual KO Talent Show is just around the corner and we want YOU to perform!



Audition Week February 10-14th

Key City Theatre

New date will be announced soon!!

Students wishing to perform need to ensure they get their Registration Forms to Mr. Lutz before Audition Day.

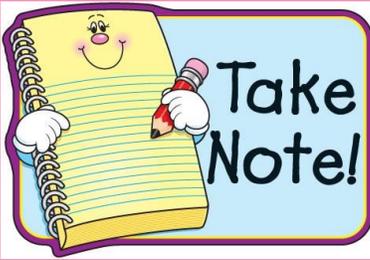


Some acts will given a Golden Ticket and will make it directly into the show; other acts may be given tips for improvement and asked to re-audition.

Acts should be no more than 2 minutes and a Backing Track (karaoke or instrumental) needs to be emailed to [Mr. Lutz](mailto:Mr.Lutz) in advance or brought in on a USB Stick.



If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Lutz at kim.lutz@sd5.bc.ca or through the [Kootenay Orchards Music Facebook Page](#).



Hot Chocolate Sale

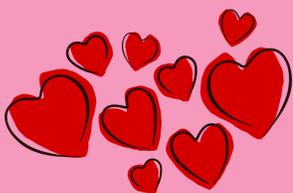
Wednesday, February 11th

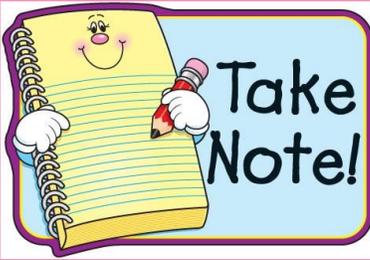
Cost: \$1.00

Join Mrs. Holbrook & Mrs. G outside at lunch for a cup of hot chocolate & marshmallows.



Students can hand in their money to their classroom teacher on Monday, February 9th & Tuesday, February 10th.





Basketball

The basketball season is now underway. Please see the practice and game schedule below.

All players have been provided a jersey to wear. Students are responsible for their jersey and must ensure it is returned at the end of the season.

Practices

Girls 5/6 Girls: Wednesday after school & Thursdays at lunch.

Grade 6 Boys: Tuesday mornings before school & Thursdays after school.

Grade 4 Boys: Wednesdays at lunch

Games

Parents will be responsible for driving students to and from games.

Thank you to Mrs. Heather Stuart Primbs, Mataya, Mrs. Reinarz, Mr. Flegel & Mr. Smith for coaching the teams!!

		KO Basketball Game Schedule					
		Boys Team				Girl Teams	
Date	Away	Home	Away	Home			
January 27	KCA	Kootenay Orchards	Kootenay Orchards	KCA			
February 3	Kootenay Orchards	Gordon Terrace	Gordon Terrace	Kootenay Orchards			
February 10	St. Mary's	Kootenay Orchards	Kootenay Orchards	St. Mary's			
February 17	Kootenay Orchards	Steeples	Steeples	Kootenay Orchards			
February 24	Kootenay Orchards	TM Roberts	Pinewood	Kootenay Orchards			

School COUNSELLOR

Friendology

For over a year, Kootenay Orchards has been using the Friendology program in our classrooms to help teach students about healthy relationships and social communication skills; it has had a positive impact on our students' and teachers' abilities to work through friendship conflicts and recognize what healthy relationships should look and feel like. Parents and Guardians can sign up as a URSTRONG family at no charge to learn more about the language and skills being taught at school. We encourage you to ask your child about Friendology, and take a look at the free resources you can use to support their learning at home: <https://urstrong.com/members/family/>

Red Cross Babysitting (Saturday, April 18th, 2026) and Stay Safe! (Sunday, April 19th, 2026) Course Offerings through College of the Rockies

Stay Safe! Is a course created for 9 to 13 year olds to help them learn how to keep themselves safe both at home and in the community when they are not in direct supervision of a trusted adult. More information about Stay Safe! And upcoming training dates can be found here: <https://cotr.bc.ca/continuing-education/courses/red-cross-stay-safe/>

If you are between the ages of 11 to 15 and are looking to start babysitting younger children, the Red Cross Babysitting course can teach you essentials in first aid and managing young children. More information about upcoming course offerings can be found here:

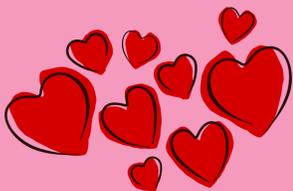
<https://cotr.bc.ca/continuing-education/courses/red-cross-babysitting-course/>

Parenting in the Online World: Free Webinars!

These cold winter months sometimes lead us all to more time spent inside and naturally a little more screen time. It is important to not only remember the effects that screen time can have on our well-being, but also the risks associated with unlimited access to inappropriate content and unwanted or dangerous interactions that might arise using different online platforms.

The Canadian Centre for Child Protection is offering free webinars for parents and guardians in February and April to provide information that protects our kids online. Join these sessions via Zoom from the comfort of your own home and learn about the latest trends, resources, and tips to teach your child about online safety.

Register for either sessions using the following link: [Parenting in the Online World Webinars – ProtectKidsOnline.ca](https://www.protectkids.ca/webinars)

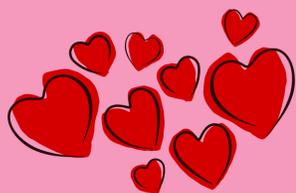


Need to contact our School Counsellor?

Email Mrs. Doll at Karley.Doll@sd5.bc.ca



INDIGENOUS EDUCATION




ROCKY MOUNTAIN
 MÉTIS ASSOCIATION

Rocky Mountain Métis Community
 Kitchen Party Potluck

POTLUCK Dinner

PLEASE BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH TO SHARE
 WE WILL HAVE
 YOUTH JIGGING GROUP
 KIDS ART TABLE
 DOOR PRIZES

SATURDAY MARCH 7TH
 @ 6:00 PM IN THE
 ROYAL ALEXANDREA HALL
 @ THE CRANBROOK TRAIN MUSEUM
 For More Information Please call
 250-489-8960

Registration: Please scan the QR Code


March 6 - 8, 2026
LII MOONTAIN SOUTHERN MICHIF LANGUAGE CAMP

Taanishi kiya??
 Ni-miyoyaayan Kiya maaka?


KOOHKOM MARIE
 Southern Michif Speaker


AMY CROSS
 Métis Facilitator

Rocky Mountain Métis Community Space, Cranbrook BC
 Cost FREE, Limited Registration, For Ages 10+.
 Starts Mar 6th @ 6:00 pm
 CHILDCARE IS NOT PROVIDED FOR THIS EVENT

SPONSORED BY:
ROCKY MOUNTAIN METIS ASSOCIATION
MÉTIS NATION BC


ROCKY MOUNTAIN
 MÉTIS ASSOCIATION



Métis Mental Health Presentation Workshop For BOUNDARIES

PLEASE COME JOIN
 MIKE NIEZEN AT OUR ROCKY MOUNTAIN MÉTIS ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY SPACE at
 110, 108 VAN HORNE STREET SOUTH
 on
 February 7th FROM 11 am TO 12:30 pm

TO LEARN HOW GENERATIONAL & LIFETIME TRAUMA CAN NOT ONLY AFFECT YOU BUT THOSE YOU LOVE. THIS SESSION IS TO HELP BRING UNDERSTANDING OF HOW TO CREATE AWARENESS OF THIS & HOW TO START HEALING.



LUNCH & SNACKS PROVIDED
 EVERYONE IS WELCOME
 FREE & FUN ACTIVITIES

NATANIK

A DAY OF SUNSHINE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2026 10 AM - 2 PM KEY CITY THEATRE
 TAMING THE WILDHORSE PRESENTATION GAMES ROOM KTUNAXA LANGUAGE
 FACE PAINTING ESCAPE ROOM ART STATIONS PINE NEEDLE CRAFT & SO MUCH MORE







 SIGN IN REQUIRED



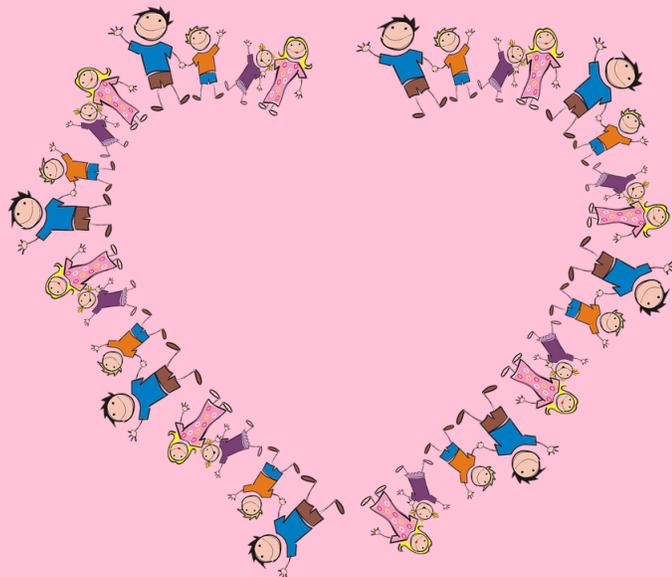
PAC News!!



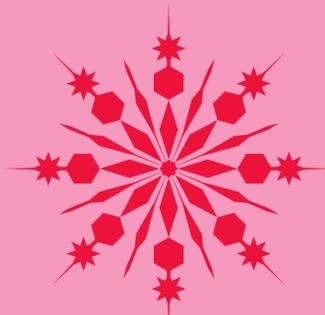
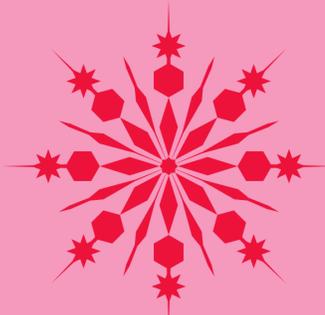
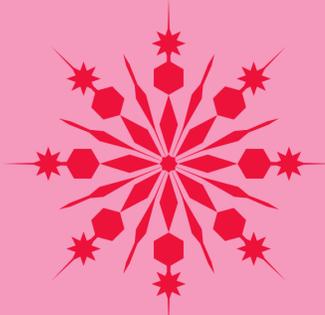
Our PAC meets the second Tuesday of the month in the school library. You can also join via Zoom. Please visit our [PAC Facebook](#) page for the Zoom link.

Next PAC meeting: Tuesday, February 10th at 7:00 pm.

Please visit our [PAC Facebook](#) page for meeting details.



Stay up-to-date on all our PAC Fundraisers & Activities by
joining our Facebook Page 



KO PAC

FEBRUARY HOT LUNCH DATES!

Friday, Feb 6th **BOOSTER JUICE**

Weds, Feb 18th **SUBWAY**

FEBRUARY 26th

FREE COMMUNITY MOVIE NIGHT!

\$5 POPCORN OR CHIP COMBO

MOVIE TITLE TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON!!!

TOP CROP HANGING BASKET FUNDRAISER

OPENS FEBRUARY 13th!

ORDERS DUE BY MARCH 1st!

DELIVERY WILL BE MAY 14th!

The poster features a wooden signpost against a night sky background with a city skyline and a movie projector beam. It includes images of popcorn, a Booster Juice cup, and a Subway sandwich.

Stay up-to-date on all our PAC Fundraisers & Activities by joining our Facebook Page 



If you would like to place an order, please visit [Muncha Lunch](#).

Please Note: Orders will need to be placed one week before the scheduled hot lunch day with the exception of the February 6th date as orders for that one will close on Tuesday, February 3rd. All orders must be paid in full within 12 hours of being added to your cart otherwise they will be automatically deleted.

Friday, February 6th: Booster Juice

Wednesday, February 18th: Subway

Wednesday, March 4th: East Side Mario

Friday, March 13th: Cookies & Milk

Friday, April 10th: Pizza Hut

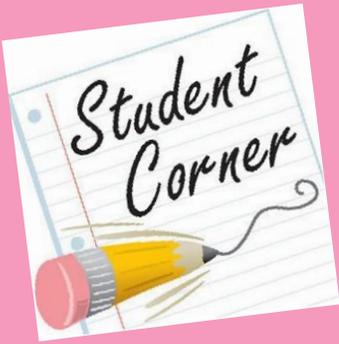
Wednesday, April 22nd: Taco Time

Wednesday, May 8th: Hot Dog Day

Friday, May 22nd: Cookies & Milk

Wednesday, June 3rd: Boston Pizza

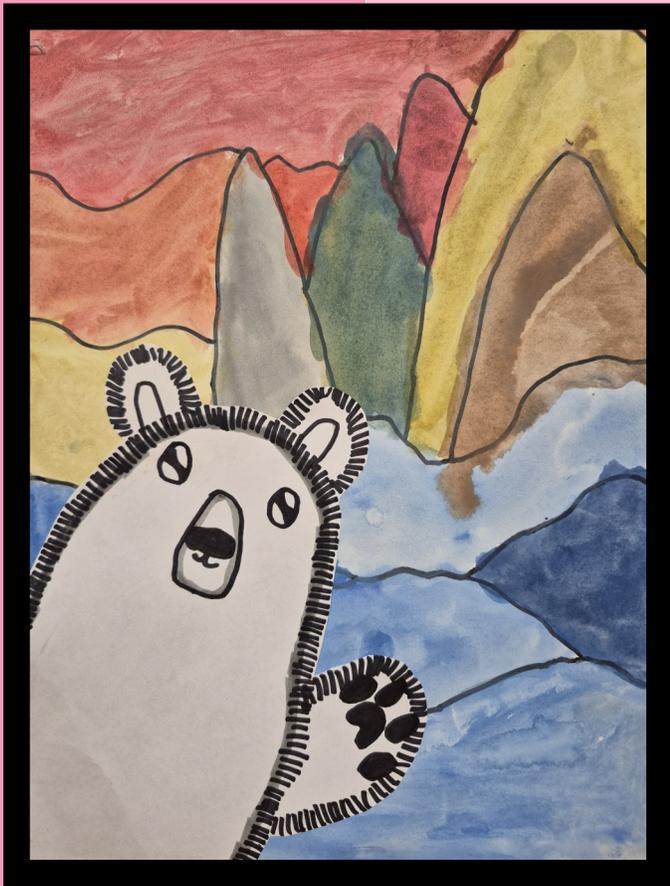
Wednesday, June 17th: Subway



Mrs. Malmberg's Grade 1 Class



Mrs. Reinarz's Grade 4 Class



Celebrate the Ktunaxa Language!!

Scan the QR codes below with your phone's camera to hear the word in Ktuanxa.



nuʔkiy

Ground Hog



ʔa·kiłwi·nam

Heart



ʔa·kiłwiynam

ʔa·kinmiyitis

Valentine's Day



suknikitnamu

Happiness



We would like to acknowledge that we learn, play and work on the Homelands of the Ktunaxa people.