



May Newsletter

Month at a Glance

May 5 & 6

*Student-Led Conferences
Early Dismissal at 12:05

May 8

*School Spirit Day
80's Exercise Wear

*Jump Rope for Heart

*PAC Hot Lunch
Hot Dog Day

May 15

School Not in Session

May 18

Victoria Day
School Closed

May 22

PAC Hot Lunch
Cookies & Milk

May 29

School Not in Session



Administrator's Message

Dear KOES Families,

Spring is here, and we are in the final stretch of learning of this school year. Many classes will be heading out into the community for experiential learning opportunities and to build community connections. Thank you to those who tag along with our field trips and assist with supervision—we truly appreciate your support.

OUTDOOR LEARNING

As the weather warms up, many classes will be taking their learning outdoors. Please remember to apply sunscreen in the morning, send your child to school with a hat, and ensure they have a water bottle each day—especially on sunny days or days with field trips.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13TH – KOES TRACK AND FIELD DAY

Our Grade 4, 5, and 6 students will be heading to the College of the Rockies on May 13th for a KOES Track and Field Day. This will be an exciting experience for all students, and qualifying athletes will go on to compete and proudly represent Kootenay Orchards at the Cranbrook Elementary Track Meet on June 2nd.

We are still looking for a few additional volunteers to help time races at the finish line, or help a teacher at a field station with writing down jumping distances on May 13th.

If you are available for the full day, the morning, or the afternoon, please let your classroom teacher or the school office know by emailing carissa.hart@sd5.bc.ca

ANXIETY WORKSHOP WITH JOSH LOCKHART

On behalf of Mrs. Doll and Mrs. Holbrook, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to Josh Lockhart for leading a workshop on parenting anxious children. It was a valuable learning experience, and we hope to welcome him back again. Thank you as well to the parents who attended and contributed to a meaningful and thoughtful discussion on how to best support our children.

CLASSROOM PLACEMENT FOR 2026-2027

There is a new [administrative procedure](#) that outlines how classes are created. Students can provide input as to who they work best with. If you could please have a conversation with your child(ren) and ask them the names of 5 students that they work well with (not necessarily their best friend), we will do our best to try to place them with one or two of those classmates. Please fill out the following form by **May 31st**. Additional parent input can also be submitted by clicking [HERE](#) and filling out the parent input form and bringing it to the office by May 31st. Thank you for your input!

[Student Input for 2026-2027 Class Placement – Fill out form](#)

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May

Administrator's Message Continued

CULTURAL AMBASSADOR TEACHER FROM TOKYO

A big welcome to **Miss Haruka Asakawa!** Miss Haru (pronounced *Miss Halu*) will be at Kootenay Orchards for the next year, assisting in every classroom. She has been an elementary teacher in Tokyo for the past 13 years and is joining us with her main goal to improve her English and gain experience in Canadian learning environments. We are delighted to have her as part of our school community and learn about the Japanese culture.

MOVE-A-THON

[ParticipACTION](#) is hosting a national contest to promote movement throughout the month of June. Active Cranbrook is encouraging all residents to get moving so our community can win *Canada's Most Active Community*. The grand prize is \$100,000. If you're interested in supporting this initiative as an individual, click on the link and register for the challenge.

Alongside this national event, there will also be a friendly local competition among Cranbrook schools. As you know, KO likes to win! We are aiming to provide engaging movement activities for an hour each day. Students can track their active minutes both in and out of school and are encouraged to collect pledges to support their efforts.

Our school has a goal to purchase a climbing wall for the gym. To raise funds for this, PAC is sponsoring a "Move-A-Thon" where students collect pledges to be active for 60 minutes a day. There will be weekly prizes for the classes that move the most, as well as prizes for top movers and fundraising efforts. All funds raised will go directly toward a new climbing wall in the gym. More information about tracking your family's minutes and collecting pledges will be shared in May.

If you, or someone you know, would like to host any "movement" activities in the month of June, such as pickleball, yoga, dance, etc. please email the school and let us know so that we can add it to our calendar!

PLAYGROUND UPDATE

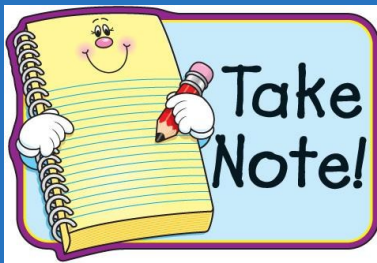
We are thrilled to share that the new swing set has arrived! Thank you to PAC and our school community for the ongoing fundraising that has helped make this possible. One of the new swings is an accessible swing. We are doing some teaching with students about its primary purpose and how to care for it so it will last for many years for the students who need it most. We appreciate your support in reinforcing this learning through conversations at home.

Thank you, families, for your continued and ongoing support of our school. We truly appreciate all that you do.

With gratitude,

Carissa Hart

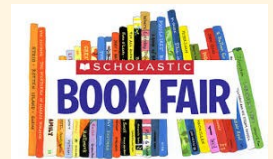




Student-Led Conference

All students will have early dismissal on **Tuesday, May 5th & Wednesday, May 6th** for Student-Led Conferences. On these days, students will be dismissed at 12:05 pm. Teachers will be sending home more information with students.

For families that have bus students, it is highly encouraged that alternate arrangements are made for both these days. For those that cannot make alternate arrangements, please kindly contact our school office.



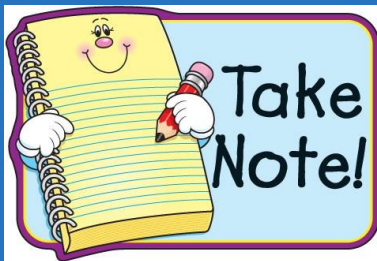
A big thank you to KO Families for supporting our book fair!! We were able to purchase \$900 dollars worth of books for our library and raise an additional \$2200 in Scholastic Dollars towards future book purchases.



Pets on the School Ground



We kindly ask that all pets are kept on a leash away from other students and when possible, off the school grounds. While pets are cherished family members for some, others may not be comfortable being in close proximity to them. We would like to ensure the health and safety of all our students and would like to thank you in advance for your understanding.



Kootenay Orchards' Ready, Set, Learn

Please register with the school office by calling (250) 426-8551
or email Mrs. Gaudord koes.mailing@sd5.bc.ca

YOU'RE INVITED TO:

READY, SET, LEARN

CRANBROOK

INTENDED FOR FAMILIES AND THEIR CHILDREN, BIRTH TO FIVE-YEARS-OLD. THIS EVENT PROVIDES A FUN, FAMILY-ORIENTED ATMOSPHERE WITH THE INTENT OF SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S TRANSITIONS INTO SCHOOL.



TAKE PART IN PLAY-BASED ACTIVITIES WHILE LEARNING ABOUT THE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OFFERED BY YOUR LOCAL EARLY LEARNING PARTNERS, ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, AND OUR COMMUNITY. IT IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE CONNECTIONS AND HAVE SOME FUN!

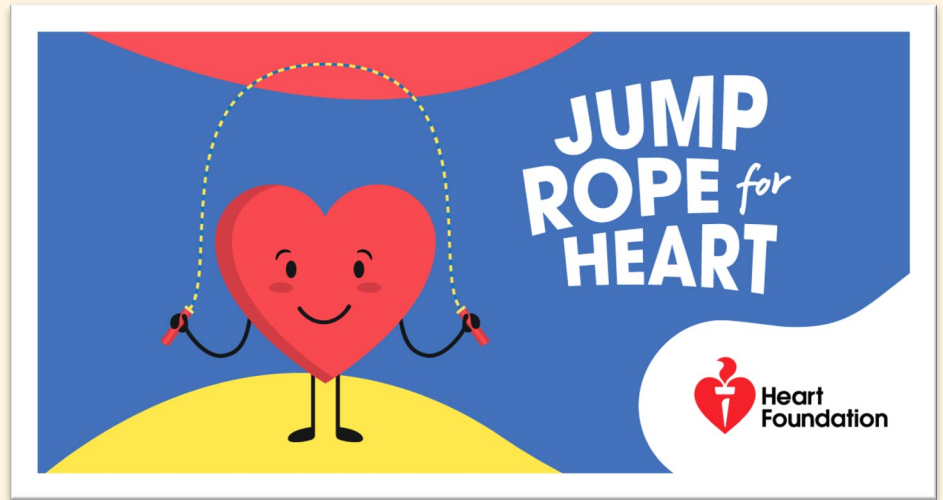
There will be music, treats, bubble machine, activity stations, and more!

WHERE: Rotary Park (134 - 10th Avenue S.)
DATE: Wednesday, May 27
TIME: 10:00 - 11:30am

REGISTER WITH YOUR CATCHMENT SCHOOL AND RECEIVE A CHILD'S GIFT BAG WHEN YOU ATTEND.

SCHOOL BUS ON SITE!





Jump Rope for Heart

Get Ready to Jump!!! On Friday, May 8th, the whole school will be participating in Jump Rope for Heart in support of the Heart & Stroke Foundation.

Thank you to Mrs. Malmberg for organizing a school-wide jump!!

Families who wish to donate to the Heart & Stroke Foundation can do so by using the following link: <https://jumpropeforheart.crowdchange.ca/114676>



BAKE SALE
Tuesday, May 26th at Lunch

Zoe, Finley, and Kenzie in grade 6 (with the support of Mrs. Holbrook) are having a bake sale to raise funds for the food bank and the children's hospital.

BAKE SALE!

May 26th at lunch ★



-Quak!



COOKIES



chocolate chip - 1.00

MUFFINS

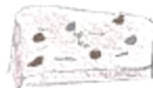
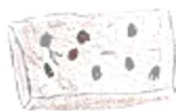


muffins - 1.00



BROWNIES

1.00



DRINKS

Lemonaid - 1.00

Iced tea - 1.00

or

A mixture of both - 1.00





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Métis Nation British Columbia's Ministry of Education presents the workshop series...

“Aansaamb aen kiskayhtaamaahk Learning Together”

“Aansaamb aen kiskayhtaamaahk – Learning Together” (Heritage Michif, translated by Norman Fleury) is a professional learning guide, resource kit and three professional development workshops intended to support early learning and child care professionals to integrate Métis content in early years programming. The three workshops provide additional opportunities to support incorporating Métis specific teachings within early learning programming, promoting learning environments in which Métis culture is recognized and celebrated.

This workshop is divided into three sessions. All three sessions are available in a six hour, 1n-person workshop.



Date

May 29, 2026

Time

9:30 AM- 2:30 PM

Location

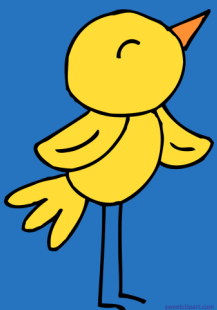
SD5 Board Office- 940
Industrial Road 1, Cranbrook

Contact

Laura-Lee Phillips
laura-lee.phillips@sd5.bc.ca



Enjoying the new swing set!!



Celebrate the Ktunaxa Language!!

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



kulilu

Butterfly



Ɂukayit

Caterpillar



**ʔułumi ʔat qasu·sał
ʔitakiłiʔni Ɂapi qapsin**

May is when everything
starts to grow



maʔnam ʔa·kinmititis

Mother's Day



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