



## École Élémentaire Casorso Elementary School

### Weekly Howl – December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025

250-870-5135

School Web Site – <https://cas.sd23.bc.ca/>



#### WEEK OF January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026

##### MONDAY 5<sup>th</sup>

- First Day Back to School After Winter Vacation



##### TUESDAY 6<sup>th</sup>

##### WEDNESDAY 7<sup>th</sup>

- 12:00 pm - Sookocheff, Jaworski & Thompson to MNP (Skating)
- 1:45 pm - Roots of Empathy Visits Casorso



##### THURSDAY 8<sup>th</sup>

##### FRIDAY 9<sup>th</sup>

- Casorso Friday - Wear Your T-Shirt!



#### SAFE DROP OFF & PICK UP TIMES



Supervision Begins: 8:10 am  
Supervision Ends: 2:45 pm

#### OFFICE HOURS 8:00 am- 3:00 pm



Our office, *and therefore the school*, is accessible and open, between these times. During these hours, office staff are available to assist both students and families as necessary.



*Dear École Casorso Elementary Families,*

*With the winter break starting next week, and the days starting to get longer this coming Sunday, we have a lot to be thankful for.*

*We are so proud of our school community and the magic of our winter concert series, and judging by all the smiling faces we have seen in our gymnasium you are too! The children and staff have been working hard to complete a very successful first term of the school year along with learning updates for each child that went home this week.*

*On behalf of the entire Casorso staff, we want to express our warmest wishes for a healthy, happy holiday season to you. Make some memories!*

*Jared Birkeland, Principal*

*Natalie Morin, Vice-Principal*

**"CAS – Putting Our Paws Together To Make A Difference!"**



Central Okanagan  
Public Schools  
Together We Learn

French Immersion Kindergarten  
Informational Session: Tuesday, January 13, 2026  
@ 6:00-7:00 pm Zoom Link: [sd23.org/french](https://sd23.org/french)  
This meeting will be recorded and posted on the  
District website

**ONLINE APPLICATION for STUDENT ENROLLMENT begins on  
Monday, February 2, 2026, at 7:00 am for 2026 - 2027 School Year**  
(for kindergarten, new students, and school of choice for K – 12)

Schools will be open at 7:00 am to provide support to parents that require assistance.  
Documentation Submission Deadline: **Friday, March 13, 2026**

If you are new to Canada, please contact the Welcome Centre for enrollment information at (250)870-5155

**HOW TO APPLY**

**PLEASE NOTE:** *The application process is online only. You are required to have a valid email account.*

In your web browser type: <https://www.sd23.bc.ca/school-enrollment>

**No internet access?** Please contact your school for assistance.

**Online applications begin on Monday, February 2, 2026 at 7:00 am.** Applications will be assigned a date-time stamp on a first-come, first-served basis, which will factor into a student's placement priority.

Complete the online application as early as possible, and provide the required documents listed below directly to the school in by email or in person by **Friday, March 13, 2026**.

1. Student's **Birth Certificate** or other government issued proof of age and citizenship.
2. **Proof of Parent/Guardian B.C. Residency**
  - a. Combination BC Driver's License and Services Card (copy of both sides); or,
  - b. BC Services Card (copy of both sides) **and** one item from the list of Supporting Documentation (3.) below; or,
  - c. Proof of application for BC Medical Services Plan and one item from the list of Supporting Documentation below.
3. **Supporting Documentation/Proof of Parent/Guardian Living Address**
  - Ownership of a dwelling or long-term lease or rental of a dwelling;
  - Documentation indicating British Columbia residence (i.e. utility bill);
  - British Columbia registration of an automobile;
  - British Columbia Driver's License (copy of both sides); or,
  - A current income tax return filed as a British Columbia resident.

**AFTER Thursday, September 3, 2026**

**New in-catchment area enrollments:** Parents will be notified by a confirmation email when the school has accepted the student's application for enrollment. Board Policy 405R – Student Placement (Regulations), will be used to determine student placement and priority.

**New out-of-catchment area enrollments:** Parents will not be notified until after the summer enrollment period is over and all in-catchment area students have been placed.

**Qualifying age:** The School Act requires that a child must be five years of age by December 31, 2026, to qualify for school enrollment in September 2026. No exceptions.

For further information, please visit the School District website [www.sd23.bc.ca](https://www.sd23.bc.ca) or call (250) 860-8888.



# ROOTS OF EMPATHY 2025 - 2026



**Arthur has begun visiting Mrs. Jaworski's grade 2 class this year as a part of Roots of Empathy.**

The goals of the program are:

- To foster the development of empathy
- To develop emotional literacy
- To reduce levels of bullying, aggression, and promote pro-social behaviours
- To increase knowledge of human development, learning, and infant safety
- To prepare students for responsible citizenship and responsive parenting

Started in 1996, Roots of Empathy is an evidence-based classroom program that has shown significant effect in reducing levels of aggression among schoolchildren while helping them develop social/emotional competencies and increasing empathy. At the heart of the program are a neighborhood infant (Arthur) and parents who engage students in their classroom. Over the school year, a trained Roots of Empathy Instructor guides the children as they observe the relationship between baby and parent, understanding the baby's intentions and emotions. Through this model of experiential learning, the baby is the "Teacher" and a catalyst, helping children identify and reflect on their own feelings and the feelings of others. To learn more about the Roots of Empathy Program, click [here](#).

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***"CAS – Putting Our Paws Together To Make A Difference!"***

Website: <https://casorsofamilies.weebly.com/> Email: [cas.pac@sd23.bc.ca](mailto:cas.pac@sd23.bc.ca)

# HAPPY WINTER!

The Casorso PAC is hosting the next general meeting on: **Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**, from **6:30 to 8:00 pm**, in the Casorso Library. All parents/guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend. Childcare and snacks will be provided.

The PAC is made up of all parents and guardians of Casorso students. Get involved by joining our meetings, volunteering, or simply donating. Together, we can help Casorso Elementary thrive. Let's make our school the best it can be! Watch this 1-minute video to learn how you can support our children's education at Casorso by supporting the PAC:

<https://vimeo.com/1072237238/386ea62f43>

The Casorso PAC has an ongoing fundraiser with the **Columbia Bottle Depot**. Bring your returnable items in a transparent plastic bag. Print a label using our PAC account **ID #BBP7X** to raise money for our school.

## **NATURE'S FARE Fundraiser:**

**DETAILS:** Nature's Fare (120-1876 Cooper Road) gives Casorso 3% back when you make a purchase.

**HOW-TO:** Collect your receipts and drop them off at the school office.

**HOT LUNCH Term 2:** Ordering is open from November 26<sup>th</sup> through to December 19<sup>th</sup>!

## **COPAC NEWS:**

**SAVE THE DATE** COPAC Parent Conference Saturday February 28<sup>th</sup> (9 am - 3:30 pm) in person at the new Learning Centre at Hollywood Road Educational Services. Registration will begin when we return in January 2026!

**PAUL DAVIS** will be visiting middle schools in SD23 in January 2026 with two opportunities for parent learning sessions. January 19<sup>th</sup> @ KLO & January 20<sup>th</sup> @ CNB (6:30 pm - 7:40 pm) See attached files for KLO & CNB Digital posters to share with your communities)

**SCIENCE FAIR** is returning to the Okanagan-Shuswap region. The Okanagan Shuswap Regional Science Fair will take place on March 10 & 11 at UBC-Okanagan. Let your community know and we will share more details about registration when they are available. Attached letter contains email address for inquiries.

**STRATEGIC PLAN PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES** (all sessions are 6 pm - 9 pm): There will be five public engagements held in January and February for public consultation. RSS on Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>, GESS on Jan 26<sup>th</sup>, MBSS on Feb 5<sup>th</sup>, KSS on Feb 10<sup>th</sup>, and OKM on Feb 17<sup>th</sup>

**PLEASE SEE BROCHURES BELOW FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

1. Junior Coyotes Winter Programs - POSTER
2. The Strong Roots Centre, Nourish Connection - POSTER
3. Ministry of Education and Childcare: ERASE - POSTER
4. UBC Winter Stem Camp - POSTER
5. KSAN – Winter Lantern Parade - POSTER
6. A Presentation for Parents with PAUL DAVIS - POSTER
7. Okanagan Shuswap Regional STEM Science Fair (March 10 & 11, 2026) - POSTER



*Junior Coyotes*  
**WINTER PROGRAMS**

**WINTER 3ON3**  
Gr 1-9 Boys & Girls  
Sundays | Jan 4 - Mar 8

**MICROBALLERS**  
Boys & Girls | Ages 3-5  
Sundays | Jan 4 - Mar 8

**WINTER 5ON5**  
Gr 6-8 Boys | Jan 10 - Mar 8  
Saturdays & Sundays

**CHRISTMAS CAMP** Gr 1-12 Boys & Girls | December 27-28

**WWW.GOCOYOTES.CA**

***“CAS – Putting Our Paws Together To Make A Difference!”***



# NOURISH CONNECTION

## FOR PARENTS WITH CHILDREN 6-13 YEARS OLD

### THE PROGRAM

Join us for a free, community-based parenting program inspired by the work of Dr. Deborah MacNamara. Each week features a short video or podcast clip from Dr. MacNamara, followed by guided discussion and practical strategies to support connection, emotional development, and confidence in parenting.

This program is available for any Central Okanagan parents, with children between 6-13 years old. Weekly attendance is expected.

*Content is inspired by the publicly available work of Dr. Deborah MacNamara; she is not participating in or overseeing this group.*

### DATES AND INFO

Fridays from 12:30pm-2pm, beginning January 9th.

To register, please visit our website or scan the QR code.

### THE GOAL

To help parents strengthen connection, understand behaviour, and support their child's emotional development.

### THE TOPICS

- Understanding Attachment & Connection
- Guiding Big Emotions & Frustration
- The Power of Play in Development
- Separation, Anxiety & Emotional Safety
- Tears, Tantrums & Emotional Expression
- Boundaries, Leadership & Gentle Discipline
- Creating Restful, Calm Family Environments
- Resilience, Repair & Belonging



The Strong Roots Centre

Childhood Connections

[www.childhoodconnections.ca](http://www.childhoodconnections.ca)

## Information for Parents and Caregivers

### Resources to support you and your child



#### Register for free training

Tips to protect children  
and youth online



#### Have a conversation

Talk with children and  
youth about things they  
may be experiencing

#### What kind of information can I find on [erase.gov.bc.ca](https://erase.gov.bc.ca)?

- **Practical guidance** to help you support your child's safety and well-being
- **Resources and information about:**
  - Diversity and inclusion
  - Mental health and substance use
  - School and online safety
- **Free training sessions** to help you keep your child safe online
- **Videos** explaining erase, the Report It Tool, and safe, caring and inclusive schools
- **Tips** for bringing concerns to your child's school

#### What is the Report It Tool?

**Report It** is an **anonymous online tool** for **students** to report anything concerning to their school safety team—whether it happens at school, online, or somewhere else. Find it at [erase.gov.bc.ca](https://erase.gov.bc.ca).

Questions? Reach out to your school to learn more.



Ministry of  
Education and  
Child Care





**WWEST**THE UNIVERSITY  
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**iSTAND**  
for Diversity in STEM

## WINTER STEM CAMP

Looking for some fun during the Winter Break?

Join the WWEST team for a fun-filled, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) based camp! This camp will engage youth aged 5-10, in winter-STEM themed activities ranging from technology to neuroscience, alongside indoor and outdoor movement breaks!

Daily registration means you can choose 1, 2, 3, or all 4 days of camp!

December 29, 2025-January 2, 2026

\*(no camp on January 1, 2026)

8:30am-3:30pm

UBC Okanagan

ARTS Building 1147 Research Road

\$55/youth/day

TO REGISTER VISIT: [wwest-cwse.ca](http://wwest-cwse.ca)  
or scan the QR code





# KSAN BRIGHT COLOURS Winter Lantern Parade

Sunday, January 18,  
Meet at 4pm, Parade at 4:30 PM

Rowcliffe Park  
All Lanterns Welcome!  
Hot Chocolate to Follow



**Lantern Making Workshop:**

**Monday, January 12  
4pm--8pm**

**St. Michael's Cathedral  
603 Sutherland Ave**

**All Supplies Provided  
Register at [ksan.ca](http://ksan.ca)**



**Bringing light  
into the dark  
time of the year!**



*"CAS – Putting Our Paws Together To Make A Difference!"*

# **A PRESENTATION FOR PARENTS WITH PAUL DAVIS**

**TOPICS INCLUDE**  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
SMARTPHONES  
AI & EDUCATION  
CYBERBULLYING  
INTIMATE MESSAGING  
ONLINE GAMING  
ONLINE GROOMING  
PRIVACY

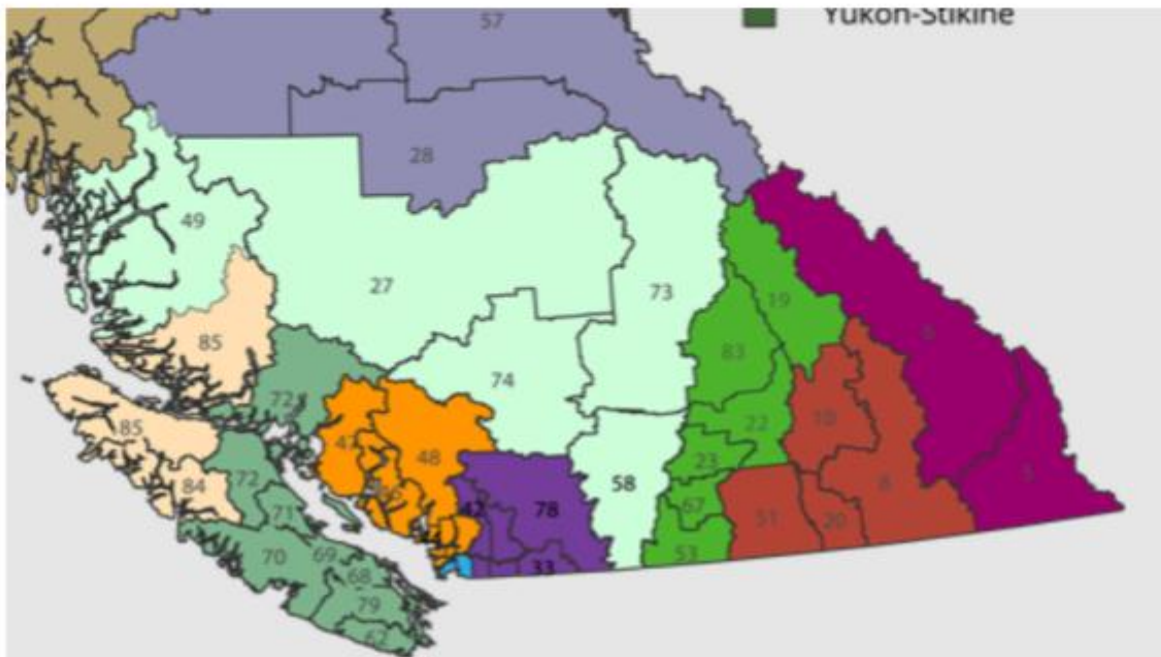


**ÉCOLE KLO  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
JANUARY 19, 2026  
6:30 PM**



Dear Students, Educators, Parents, and STEM Community Members,

With the support of community partners and volunteers, we are pleased to announce the upcoming Okanagan Shuswap Regional STEM Fair! The Regional STEM Fair, will be open to students in grades 3-12, attending public school (Districts 19, 22, 23, 53, 67, and 83), FNSA affiliated schools, Independent schools, and home-schools, living within the region's communities that correspond to the above school districts—bright green on map below. The event will be hosted at UBC Okanagan in Kelowna, BC, on March 10-11, 2026. Winning projects will qualify those students to represent the Region, at the annual Canada Wide Science Fair.



More details and information on how to register, will be provided in the near future. Registration will open in January 2026. We are excited for students to demonstrate inquiry, exploration of the scientific process, and sharing of results, in an inclusive and supportive environment. Please feel free to reach out to me, or the Science Fair Committee at [osstemfair@gmail.com](mailto:osstemfair@gmail.com), with further questions.