



Dates to know:

September 8

Early Dismissal @ 11:00

September 9

Full day (Gr. 1-5)- Bring lunch!
Kindergarten Gradual Entry Begins

September 9-15

Gradual Entry for Kindergarten

September 11

Open House for families 1:45
(Students in assembly)

September 15

Half Day for Kindergarten

September 16

First Full Day of Kindergarten- bring lunch and a healthy snack!

September 21

Picture Day (AM)

September 25

School Spirit Day: Flannel Day

September 29

Truth and Reconciliation Assembly
10am

September 30

No School- National Day of Truth
and Reconciliation

Please visit our website regularly! The [calendar](#) is updated almost daily!

Rutland Elementary

Rutland Families, welcome to the 2026-2027 school year!

We are excited to welcome students back to Rutland Elementary and to greet the many new families joining our school community. The start of a new school year always brings a renewed sense of energy and possibility, and we look forward to another year of learning, growth, and connection.

As a school, we remain focused on helping every student build strong foundations for success. This year, our work will continue to center on strengthening literacy and numeracy skills while fostering a strong sense of belonging for all students. We want every child to feel welcomed, supported, and confident as they learn and grow at Rutland Elementary.

We are also pleased to welcome several new staff members to our team this year. We know they will make valuable contributions to our school community, and we look forward to the positive impact they will have on our students and families.

A sincere thank you goes to our PAC for their ongoing support of our school. Their commitment helps create many of the opportunities and experiences that enrich school life for our students. Our PAC Executive for the 2026-2027 school year is: President Chantel Clark, Vice-President Lisa Schechtel, Treasurers Devon and Ashley Murtagh, Secretary Julie Ewbank, Hot Lunch Coordinators Kim Ballard and Kandace Norori, Yearbook Coordinator Lizzie Lingstrom, and COPAC Representative Lisa Schechtel. The first PAC meeting is scheduled for September 19th at 7:00 p.m. We encourage all families to attend and learn more about the important work of PAC.

Over the summer, our custodial team worked incredibly hard preparing the building for students' return. Rutland Elementary was also proud to host athletes participating in the BC Summer Games, making for a busy and exciting summer in our school. In recent weeks, staff have been back in the building setting up classrooms, collaborating with colleagues, and preparing engaging learning experiences for the year ahead.

As we begin another school year together, we are grateful for the strong partnership between home and school that helps our students thrive. Thank you for your continued support, encouragement, and trust. We look forward to working alongside you and making this a successful and memorable year for every student.

With gratitude,

Mr. M. Watson
Mrs. R. Popoff

First Week at a Glance – September 7-11

Monday- 7	Labour Day School Closed
Tuesday- 8	School opens- half day for Gr. 1-5 (Bring a snack) Early dismissal @ 11:00
Wednesday- 9	First full day for Gr. 1-5 (Students need a lunch going forward!) Kindergarten gradual entry begins
Thursday- 10	Kindergarten gradual entry continues
Friday- 11	Open house for families 1:50-2:15

Class placements and Teacher Communication

Our teachers are excited to welcome your child(ren) back to school and are looking forward to connecting with families soon. During the first week, we will be reviewing enrolment numbers and finalizing class placements. As a result, some class and teacher information may be communicated later in the week. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Open House September 11

On Friday, September 11 there will be an opportunity for Parents to come to the school starting at 1:50 pm to meet the teacher(s) and visit the classroom, students will be attending an assembly during this time.

School Messenger Safe Arrival/Absence Reporting System

Absences MUST be entered by you, into School Messenger. If you have not already logged in to the system, please use the following link for instructions. It is also available as an app!:

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

Bell Schedule

08:30 am	School Day Begins
11:00 am	Lunch Hour
11:55 pm	Afternoon session begins
1:15 pm	Afternoon Recess Begins
1:30 pm	Afternoon Recess ends
2:30 pm	School Day ends
2:45 pm	Afternoon Supervision Ends and all students must be off school property by this time.

SCHOOL FEES

School fees are \$50 per student. We encourage you to use our online payment system! There is a link on our website, <https://centralokanagan.schoolcashonline.com>. All school fees are due by October 1.

Volunteering

Volunteers play a vital role in enriching the educational experience for students. Whether you're helping out on field trips or supporting activities within the school, your involvement helps strengthen our school community, build connections with the broader community, and positively impact learners. To get started, simply visit your school's front office to pick up the necessary documents, including a criminal record check. Once you've completed the paperwork, you can return it either by mail or in person to the school office or the Board office. **Please note that for the safety of all students, parents and guardians are not permitted to attend field trips unless they have completed a criminal record check and have been approved as volunteers.** We truly appreciate your willingness to make a difference

Dogs at RLE

As adorable and fun as dogs can be, unfortunately all dogs, even on leash, are prohibited from school property by the City of Kelowna bylaw. This also includes tying your dog to the fence and leaving the animal unattended. Owners that violate the bylaw may be fined \$100 by the Regional District of Kelowna. If you are walking to meet your child and you have a dog with you, please plan to meet your child off school property. Thank you to those parents who have been waiting with the four-legged family member just outside the property. We appreciate everyone's cooperation.

The Central Okanagan Public Schools' Financial Hardship Clause

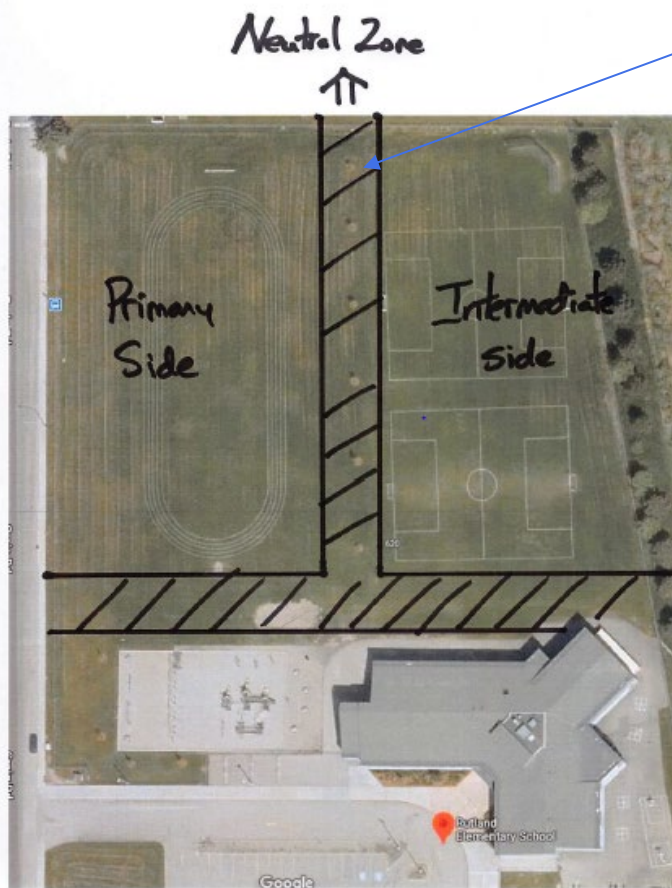
Within Board Policy Regulation 425R – Student Fees (www.sd23.bc.ca), the Board of Education has indicated "that a student will not be excluded from any educational program due to financial hardship". Clause 8.5 in the Regulations provides "*Principals are directed to establish a procedure in each school which will allow for the private and confidential consideration of financial circumstances of individual students and families. Such procedures will preserve the dignity of families who may be unable to pay*". Please contact the school Principal if you are facing a financial hardship that may restrict the ability of your child to access a school program.

Student Accident Insurance

Accident Insurance

Central Okanagan Public Schools does not insure expenses for student injuries that occur on school grounds or during school activities. Parents and guardians can voluntarily purchase private accident insurance. The Kids Plus Accident Insurance Program that was previously offered to our students was discontinued in 2019. The IA Financial Group now offers the Family Accident Reimbursement Plan (FARP) which is a voluntary plan that provides coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses, and critical illness. To apply for the Family Accident Reimbursement Plan or to find out more, click [here](#).

Zones of Play for Lunch and Recess



The Neutral zone is where primary and intermediate students can play together.



RLE Line-up Map

