



OTTER NEWS

November 14, 2022

Upcoming Events	
Date	Event
Tuesday, November 15	Hot Lunch DW Poppy Volleyball Jamboree (boys and girls) 3:30-6:30 @DW Poppy Greenery Order Deadline Grad hoodies on sale
Thursday, November 17	Spirit Day – PJ Day Deadline for gift card purchases (see note below) Community Movie Night
Friday, November 18	Design and Assessment Day (no school in session)
Monday, November 21	Christmas Concert tickets available
Wednesday, November 23	Canada vs Belgium World Cup Game 11:00AM (first World Cup in 36 years!)
Friday, November 25	End of term 1 Deadline for grad hoodie order to receive before Christmas break
Monday, November 28	Beginning of term 2
Wednesday, November 30	Holiday Greenery delivery
Thursday, December 1	Purdy's delivery
Friday, December 2	Spirit Day – World Country Day (pick a colour, flag, or jersey from any country to celebrate the World Cup)

Volleyball Jamboree

DW Poppy will be hosting the regional elementary school volleyball jamboree. This event is for both boys and girl volleyball players. Due to Poppy's bell schedule, the first game of the jamboree does not start until 3:30 and the last game will not wrap up until 6:30. The live schedule can be [found here \(under jamboree tab\)](#).

Grad Hoodies

Grad hoodies will be available beginning Tuesday, November 15th on schoolcashionline. In order to ensure hoodies are distributed before Christmas break, we ask that all orders are placed before November 25th. First orders placed will be distributed first. Late orders may result in some hoodies being distributed after Christmas break.



Gift Card Fundraiser

This year, North Otter is participating in a gift card fundraiser, where every purchase of gift card results in a percentage that gets returned to the school for our fundraising efforts. To purchase these, review the sheet sent home for gift cards available, make your purchase on schoolcashionline (or write a cheque), then bring in your completed order form to the office.

School Illnesses

Just a reminder that cold and flu season is upon us and we have noticed an uptick in student absences due to illness. Schools are experiencing as much as 25% student absenteeism and many staff members are falling ill, causing classroom vacancies as TTOCs are in short supply across the province. We want to ensure we are doing our best to reduce illness transmission and encourage families to consider the following strategies to curb it.

- Keep your child home if they are sick and exhibiting signs of cold and flu
- Consider sending your child with a mask if they are recovering from a recent illness or have others in the family who are ill
- Encourage your child to wash their hands frequently, both arriving and leaving the home

Christmas Concert

This year, we are excited to announce the LIVE version of our Christmas concert. Students will be performing a matinee show on Tuesday, December 13, as well as two evening shows on December 13 and 14th. However, to reduce the time commitment of students and parents, we are separating our performers for the evening shows.

December 13, 12:45PM show – All divisions will participate (exception Div 1-4)

December 13, 5:00PM show – Divisions 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17 will be performing

December 14, 5:00PM show – Divisions 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 + Grade 6/7 Band

Note: Divisions 1-4 are not enrolled in music with Mrs. Sutlow, and therefore, will not be performing unless they are enrolled in band or in an acting role.

Christmas Concert Tickets

Tickets for this year's show will be sold on schoolcashionline and will be available Monday, November 21st. Tickets are bought by donation, but we ask that parents "purchase" the number of tickets that you need for your family. There is maximum of 260 tickets for each night, plus an additional 260 tickets for the matinee. Please be certain you are getting a ticket for the night that your child is performing (see list above).

To ensure everyone has a seat and we are not breaking fire code, we ask that audience members bring their ticket, that will be distributed on the Friday prior to the concert.

Christmas Concert Volunteers

Mrs. Sutlow is looking for 8-10 parent volunteers to assist in this year's Christmas concert. Volunteers will be assisting as stagehands and helping with transitioning students in and out of the performance. Please reach out to her directly if you can assist (jsutlow@sd35.bc.ca).

Grade 5-7 Elementary Honour Choir

Please see the message from Mr. Steeves about an opportunity for grade 5-7 students...

Dear Elementary Families,

I am very excited to announce the creation of the DW Poppy Elementary Honour Choir. This is a choir that is made up of aspiring singers from the Poppy family of elementary schools. Students will have the opportunity to get specialized vocal instruction, sing more advanced repertoire, and have fun being part of a choir of like-minded students. Students will participate in numerous events this year, including the DW Poppy Elementary Zone Concert (Mar 2), ESPRESSIVO: Summer Pops (June 14) and the Spring Festival Daytrip (Date TBA). There is no fee to join the Elementary Honour Choir, but there will be a cost to participate in our Spring Festival Daytrip.

WHO CAN JOIN: The DW Poppy Elementary Honour Choir is open to any aspiring singers in grades 5 through 7 from Coghlan Elementary, Fort Langley Elementary, North Otter Elementary, Peterson Road Elementary, and Wix-Brown Elementary.

AUDITIONS: There are no auditions for the Honour Choir. Any student who is eager to sing is welcome. However, regular attendance and practice are an expectation of members of the choir.

REHEARSALS: Rehearsals start on Thursday, November 24th and will run every Thursday at DW Poppy from 3:10 – 4:10 in the Choir Room (at the east end of the school just past the cafeteria) through mid-June. While students may need to miss the occasional rehearsal, as we only meet once a week, regular attendance and practice is an expectation for all students who wish to participate. If you have a conflict and are interested in looking at a compromise, please email Mr. Steeves at jsteeves@sd35.bc.ca Please note that rehearsals will end promptly at 4:10, and there will be no supervision available after that time. If your child is interested in joining, please email jsteeves@sd35.bc.ca with:

Student Name
Elementary School
Any Relevant Singing Experience
Parent/Guardian Name, email, and phone number

Sincerely,
Jered Steeves, D.W. Poppy Choir Director

Dressing for the weather

You may have noticed an increase in muddy pants and shoes over the past few weeks. With all grass fields and heavy rainfall, mud will continue to be a problem on the fields. We encourage parents to send along a change of clothes in a ziplock bag for students to change in to if they get wet or muddy. We also encourage students to wear rubber boots if they go out on the field during the wetter months. Indoor days are rare and will only occur when there is a safety concern. Please ensure your child is dressed for the weather.

Lost and Found

We have a large collection of items that have been left outside and put in the lost and found. We have laid these items down the hallway in the primary wing. Please encourage your child to check for any items they may have lost. Any items not picked up at the end of next week will be donated. We also encourage parents to write your child's name on the tag so that we can return the item if found.

Words of Encouragement

If you have an encouraging word that you would like to share with one of our staff members, please take a moment to [fill in this form](#) and we will be sure to share it with the staff member.

Other Volunteer Opportunities

We are always looking for ways to get our parent-community involved in the school. Here are some opportunities where you could get involved.

Events	Time	Contact
Dungeons & Dragons Club	Fridays 2:20-3:20	dgarland@sd35.bc.ca
Breakfast Club	Weekday morning 7:45-8:30	cherimcbride@gmail.com
Athletics Basketball (Gr 6/7 team parent) Basketball (Grade 4/5 coach)	Practice schedule set by coach	dwoelders@sd35.bc.ca

Noon Hour Supervisor Wanted

If you or someone you know loves working with kids and is interested in joining our supervision team during the lunch hour, we are looking for a noon hour supervisor. A successful candidate must meet the following criteria:

- Completion of Grade 10.
- First Aid Certificate (Level I)
- Ability to interact with students in an effective manner.
- Ability to communicate effectively using tact and discretion in the explanation and clarification of information.
- Ability to use judgement in applying established methods and procedures.
- Physical ability to perform the required duties.

Hours: Monday-Friday, 11:40am – 12:40pm.

If you are interested or need more information, please contact Mr. Woelders
dwoelders@sd35.bc.ca

FROM THE DISTRICT

FROM THE PAC



Hot lunch and Movie Night Pre-orders are now OPEN!



Please note the **deadlines for orders**:

- **A&W hot lunch order deadline: Nov. 28**

- **December festive movie night pizza pre-order: Dec. 1**

Due to the amount of work/organization that goes into hot lunches, we are unable to accept any late orders. Thank you for understanding!

**Movie nights will have a limited amount of pizza for sale during the evening (in addition to a concession). Pre-order to ensure that you receive what you want!*

For **NEW** parents/caregivers to North Otter, please register for your Munchalunch account here:

<https://munchalunch.com/schools/NorthOtter>

For **RETURNING** parents/caregivers, use the normal login:

<https://munchalunch.com/login>

----Other fundraisers still on the go:----

Holiday Gift & Greenery Fundraiser

Order here: <https://northotter.growingsmilesfundraising.com/home>

Ordering ends November 15

Delivery is expected Nov. 30 - Dec. 3

Purdy's Holiday Fundraiser

Order here: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/853399-97722>

Setting up a new account?

Our customer number is: 12987

Email is: northotterpac@gmail.com

Deadline for orders is November 16th

Pick up is December 1st (to be confirmed)

Volunteers needed for committees!

Tasks and time commitment vary for each committee, however we're hoping to bring everyone together for some good causes (and maybe have a bit of fun along the way!).

To sign up: <https://form.jotform.com/222965835680265>

Free Family Movie Nights

Bring the whole family for a free movie night in the gym! Join us for fun, prizes and a concession. Movie showing will be voted on next week on the PAC FB page!

Upcoming dates:

Thursday, November 17

Friday, December 9 (Festive Edition!)

*Opening times will be released next week.

Looking to keep up to date on PAC events and activities around the school? Join the North Otter PAC group on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/871816359874721>

FROM THE COMMUNITY

Community Childcare*

*Note: North Otter does not vett childcare providers that are listed in the community section of the newsletter. Please take due diligence when looking into childcare providers.

The Patch Kids Place

Daycare Before & After School



THE PATCH KIDS PLACE

THE PATCH KIDS PLACE LOCATED IN NORTH OTTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HAS DAYCARE DURING SCHOOL HOURS/ FULL TIME SPACE AVAILABLE MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY FROM 8:40AM-1:55PM. REGISTER YOUR 2.5-5 YEAR OLD FOR THE 2022/2023 SCHOOL YEAR.

CALL: 604-626-4547

EMAIL: LIZALDERSON@SHAW.CA

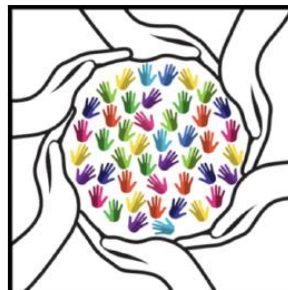
OTHER SPACE MAY BE AVAILABLE PLEASE CONTACT FOR DETAILS
5370 248TH STREET ALDERGROVE BC

Additional Childcare

If there are any families in need of childcare before/after school or on Pro-D days please contact Holly Daignault, 778-899-3970

You are invited to join Early Childhood Educator, Sam Collie, for a **FREE**, Ready, Set, Learn Session

Gifts and Gatherings



It is important to celebrate **every child** for their uniqueness and strengths. Gifts and Gatherings is a program that embraces this celebration!

North Otter Elementary School offers four sessions:

Thursday, October 6th, 1:00pm-2:00pm

Tuesday, November 29th, 1:00pm-2:00pm

Thursday, February 9th, 1:00pm-2:00pm

Tuesday, April 18th, 1:00-2:00pm

Participants will have the opportunity to engage in playful activities designed for all ages. During each session, participants will receive a gift that will allow families to continue to explore their learning at home.



Many people have an important role in raising a child. Adults will gain skills and knowledge to support children beyond the session. Any family member or caregiver is welcome to participate along with children ages 0-5 years.

For more information contact Sam Collie at scollie@sd35.bc.ca

