

# OTTER NEWS

January 9, 2023

Upcoming Events	
Date	Event
Thursday, January 12	In The Zone Presentation – Duane Gibson
Friday, January 13	Spirit Day – Twin/Triplet/Quadruplet Day Popcorn Day
Saturday, January 14	Grade 7 Bottle Drive (9:00-2:00PM)
Monday, January 16	Kindergarten Registration Opens
Tuesday, January 17	Earthquake Drill
Tuesday, January 24	Grade 6/7 Boys Basketball Games
Wednesday, January 25	Grade 6/7 Girls Basketball Game
Friday, January 27	Kindergarten Dental Screening

## **North Otter Spirit Wear**

We now have spirit wear available for parents to purchase. Options are limited right now but we will be adding to our gear in the new year. Turn-around time for orders is typically 2-3 weeks.

To order your North Otter Spirit Wear, go to <https://yaphee.ca/store/noe35/>

## **Kindergarten Registration 2023 – Please share with catchment parents**

Kindergarten registration across the Langley School District runs January 16, 2023 thru March 31, 2023. If your child will be five years old by December 31, 2023, you will be able to register through your catchment school. Registration will take place online via email to the school. Our school will have site-specific instructions posted on our website once registration opens. **Please understand there is no advantage in rushing to register your child in the first few weeks of the registration period. Families have until the end of March to secure a space for their child.** For information on what documents you need and instructions on how to register, please visit the District webpage [here](#). To learn more about Kindergarten in the Langley School District, read our brochure [here](#). See graphic [here](#).

## **NOE Foyer and Mural Proposal**

One of our ongoing beautification projects at North Otter is a makeover for the front foyer. This includes new furniture, paint, and signage to welcome our students and guests. Part of the proposal is to replace the mural on the overhead wall as you enter the building. The history of our building is important, and we want to honour the artwork and artist by photographing, printing, and displaying it in another part of the building. We have been in contact with the artist in order to preserve the story and meaning of the work. If you would like to provide feedback on the proposal, you are welcome to send your thoughts and questions to [NOEAdmins@sd35.bc.ca](mailto:NOEAdmins@sd35.bc.ca).

## **Grade 7 Bottle Drive**

Grade 7 students will be collecting refundable cans and bottles to fundraise for their year-end activities. They will be at the school on from 9:00-2:00 on Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup> for anyone that would like to drop off cans/bottles. Alternatively, you can drop them off at a Return-It Depot and use the school

phone number (604-856-3355) and the funds will be deposited into the school account. All funds collected throughout January will go towards the grade 7 fundraiser.

### **Basketball Season**

Grade 6/7 boys' and girls' basketball teams will be starting practices next week. If you have not received any information, please have your child visit the following coaches...

Grade 6/7 Girls – Ms. Homfeld and Ms. Russell

Grade 6 Boys – Ms. Sidjak

Grade 7 Boys – Mr. Woelders, Principal

### **2022/2023 Student Learning Survey (SLS)**

A survey for students in Grades 4, 7, 10, and 12, as well as parents, staff, and principals/vice-principals opens on January 3, 2023. The survey will remain open until April 28, 2023. Parents of intermediate students will be emailed with a link to participate if they choose. If any parents have concerns about your child completing the survey, please email their classroom teacher.

### **Canada Housing Benefit**

***The application portal for the one-time top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit is now open!***

*The Government of Canada has introduced a new affordability measure to help lower-income renters who are most affected by the rise of inflation and struggling with the cost of rent. The one-time top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit provides eligible applicants with a one-time payment of \$500. It is estimated that roughly 1.8 million lower-income renters will be able to benefit from this targeted investment.*

### **How to Apply**

*Applicants will be able to apply for the one-time top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit on December 12, 2022, up until March 31, 2023, and are encouraged to apply online through **CRA My Account**, which is the quickest, easiest and most secure way to apply for the benefit. If you don't have a CRA My Account, register now. You do not need to wait for your security code in the mail. You can still access limited services in My Account to apply for this benefit immediately. Applicants can also sign in to their **My Service Canada Account** to securely access CRA's My Account without having to sign in again or revalidate their identity.*

*A **web form** will also be available to submit applications without having to sign in to My Account or My Service Canada Account. Address and direct deposit changes will not be permitted using the web form – if applicants haven't updated their personal and banking information, they should apply through the CRA My Account.*

*Applicants unable to apply for the benefit online, can call us at 1-800-282-8079 to complete their application with an agent. If you apply through My Account or by phone, and are signed up for **direct deposit**, you can get your payment within five business days.*

### **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	<a href="mailto:dgarland@sd35.bc.ca">dgarland@sd35.bc.ca</a>
Breakfast Club	Weekday morning 7:45-8:30	<a href="mailto:cherimcbride@gmail.com">cherimcbride@gmail.com</a>
Athletics	Practice schedule set by coach	<a href="mailto:dwoelders@sd35.bc.ca">dwoelders@sd35.bc.ca</a>

## FROM THE DISTRICT

### **Multiculturalism in Langley Survey**

*Help make Langley a more welcoming and inclusive place to live! Our community partner, Langley Local Immigration Partnership, wants to hear from residents about their knowledge, opinions, and experiences related to multi-culturalism. Please share your perspectives and complete the survey by January 13. View flyer [here](#) or take survey here: <http://ow.ly/5sVN50MaXSP>*

## FROM THE PAC



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

Here are some updates as we head into December:

- **Hot lunch**
  - To order: 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>

**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

# A Guide to the **Canada Dental Benefit**



Tooth decay is the most common, but preventable, childhood chronic disease both in Canada and around the world. Oral diseases frequently begin in the preschool years which is why it is so important to establish good oral hygiene behaviours in those early years.

The Government of Canada has implemented the interim **Canada Dental Benefit**, which is designed to provide some financial support to help Canadian families access dental care. With this benefit, families can start addressing some of the basic dental care that their young children need while the Government continues its plans to develop a long-term Canadian dental care program.

## **?** WHAT is the benefit?

The interim Canada Dental Benefit provides payments **up to \$650** per eligible child under 12 years of age, per year for two years.

**\$650**

if the family's adjusted net income is under **\$70,000**

**\$390**

if the family's adjusted net income is between **\$70,000 and \$79,999**

**\$260**

if the family's adjusted net income is between **\$80,000 and \$89,999**

The benefit can be used for any dental care provided by any regulated dental professional.



## WHO can apply?

Parents/Guardians who:

- ✓ Have a child under 12 years of age, who does not have access to private dental care insurance.
- ✓ Have an adjusted family net income under \$90,000 per year.
- ✓ Have filed last year's income tax return—for more information on how to file a return, visit [Canada.ca/doing-your-taxes](https://Canada.ca/doing-your-taxes).
- ✓ Receive the Canada Child Benefit for each eligible child.
- ✓ Have or will have dental care expenses for each eligible child that have not been fully reimbursed under another federal, provincial or territorial government program.



## HOW can you apply?

Canada Revenue Agency (**CRA My Account**) will be the quickest, easiest and most secure way to apply for the Canada Dental Benefit. If you don't yet have a CRA My Account, you can register at [Canada.ca/my-cra-account](https://Canada.ca/my-cra-account).

You will need to **provide information** on the dental care visit, including the name of your child's dental care provider(s) and your employer information.

If you apply online and are signed up for **CRA direct deposit**, you can receive your payment within five business days!

If you're unable to apply for the Canada Dental Benefit online, **call 1-800-715-8836** to get your application started.

Make sure you have your Social Insurance Number, address, date of birth and a copy of your income tax return from last year.



## WHEN can you apply?

Parents can apply **starting December 1, 2022**, for dental care received by their eligible child back to October 1, 2022, so long as their child will still be under 12 on December 1. For the second payment, parents can apply starting July 1, 2023.

Visit [Canada.ca/dental](https://Canada.ca/dental) for more information, or call **1-800-715-8836**



Government of Canada  
Gouvernement du Canada

Canada