

OCTOBER NEWS



Administrator's Message



Thank you so much for coming out to our Welcome Back BBQ! It was truly wonderful to reconnect with familiar faces and meet new ones. We're grateful to be part of such a vibrant and supportive community.

The event was buzzing with energy and joy—so much so that I only managed to snap one photo! Amid the busy moments, it was a meaningful opportunity to pause, share stories, and come together as a school family. Your presence made the day special, and we appreciate your continued support.

Thank you for taking the time to collaborate with our teachers on your child's Student Learning Plan. These conversations are more than just planning sessions—they're a powerful way to ensure each student's learning journey is personalized, meaningful, and supported by a strong team.

We have many exciting learning opportunities and events already happening. The middle years and secondary students visited O'Keefe Ranch on Tuesday and the Cross Country running season started on Wednesday at Marshall Fields. Congratulations to our students for a great showing at both events, and a big thank you to our teachers for supporting our students. Be sure to check the calendar of events below to see more exciting events!

Finally, a big welcome to Julie Draht and April Olson who have joined our secondary teaching staff.

Corinne and Danielle

Here's to a fantastic year ahead!



GENERAL INFORMAITON

Grade 8 - 12 students at O'Keefe Ranch







Important Dates

- October 1: vLearn PAC meeting and Elementary Activity Day @ vLearn, Cross Country Run @ DND
- October 7: Grades 7 12 at Oyama Aerial Adventure Park
- October 8: Elementary Activity Day @ St. Anne's Pumpkin Patch, Cross Country Run @ Monashee/JWI
- October 9: Grade 4 and 7 FSA (online)
- October 13: Thanksgiving Day (no school)
- October 15: Elementary Activity Day @ vLearn, Board of Education Meeting
- October 16: Grade 4 and 7 FSA (online), Shake Out BC @ 10:17 am
- October 17: Picture Day
- October 20: What Happens stream Youth Conference
- October 22: Elementary Activity Day @ vLearn
- October 23: Grade 4 and 7 FSA (in-person)
- October 24: Provincial Professional Development Day (no school)
- October 29: Find Your Fit Community Event (Grade 5 8)
- October 30: Grade 4 and 7 FSA (in-person)
- October 31: Halloween

Mental Health & Substance Abuse

The ministry has partnered with the BC Children's Hospital to launch a new mental health resource for families. <u>Language Matters! Understanding Mental Health and Substance Use: A Resource for Families and School Communities</u> is a companion resource to the <u>educator guide</u> and is designed to help parents, guardians and caregivers of school-age children (ages 5-11) and youth (ages 12-18) build a shared understanding of key concepts and language on mental health and substance use.



GENERAL INFORMATION



Volunteering

We love and appreciate parent volunteers! Any new volunteers must have a Criminal Record Check on file – this includes parents that wish to volunteer for activity days. Please see <u>HERE</u> for instructions on how to complete the process. If you already have a criminal record check on file with us, we will let you know if it is expiring.

Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA)

Students in Grade 4 and 7 will be participating in the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA) in October. The FSA provides valuable information about student learning and helps ensure all students in BC are developing a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy. Information has gone home to families of students in Grade 4 and 7.

Graduation Literacy and Assessments

The graduation program requires students to successfully complete a Numeracy assessment in Grade 10 and a Literacy assessment in Grades 10 and 12. The graduation assessments are not tied to a specific course nor do they earn "credits" towards graduation. There are 4 examination periods per school year, with the first being in October. If you have a student in Grades 10 - 12 that needs to write these assessments, please look for an invitation next week to book your assessment date/time or you can go directly to the Bookings page HERE.

Truth and Reconciliation

As we approach September 30, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, we invite you to join us in deepening our understanding of Indigenous history, culture, and resilience—particularly the experiences of the Syilx/Okanagan people, on whose traditional territory we live, learn, and grow.

This day is a time to reflect on the legacy of residential schools and honour the survivors, their families, and communities. It is also a time to take meaningful steps toward reconciliation through learning and action.

We encourage families to explore the work of the Okanagan Nation Alliance, whose community-focused events and resources help foster cultural awareness and understanding. Their initiatives—such as the Unity Run, R'Native Voice, and Youth Leadership Gathering—are powerful examples of how cultural identity and healing are supported through connection and education.

At our school, we continue to integrate Indigenous perspectives into our learning and community practices. From exploring Syilx language and history to recognizing Orange Shirt Day, we are committed to creating space for truth, respect, and reconciliation.

See https://syilx.org/ to learn more.



OUR PAC NEWSLETTER



Do you have an activity you would like organized? We Would love to hear your ideas!



Email us at: pacvlearn@gmail.com

VLEARN PAC MEETING

All vLearn parents/caregivers (K through 12) are welcome and encouraged to attend! Cant make it in person, no worries join here: <u>Zoom Link!</u>

WHEN: Wednesday, October 1, 2025 WHERE: Fulton Highschool, ICE PALACE (front entrance located in the glass tile room on the right.) TIME: 9:30 am - 11:30 am. (9:30 am - 10:00 am, open group discussion for vLearn families.)

PAC Meetings are a wonderful way to connect with other vLearn families, creating opportunities for the students, supporting teachers/parents and enhancing our growth in the community!

T-SHIRT CONTEST!

The PAC is offering an opportunity for all the vLearn students to design their own homeschool t-shirt logo. the students can hand-draw their design or use a plattorm such as Canva (Did you know?.. All students have access to CANVA *for information ask your teachers.) Here's a link for the digital format <u>vLearn T-shirt Logo Design Contest 2025</u>

START DATE: SEPTEMBER 24[™] DUE DATE: OCTOBER 15[™]

STUDENTS VOTING DATE: OCTOBER 22ND - 29TH



MAKING CONNECTIONS!

*Follow along for fun activities, opportunities and important reminder, linked here: <u>Instagram</u>!

*If Facebook is the place you prefer to be, find us here: <u>Facebook!</u>

*An informal vLearn family chat group has been set up by a group of vLearn parents. This is intended to be a place to share ideas, ask questions, organize meet-ups, and anything else you'd like it to be. The group is on Signal and can be found here: <u>Here.</u>

<u>WAYS TO SUPPORT VLEARN PAC!</u>

That <mark>Nature's Fare</mark> has a 3% program for non profit Organizations! We received around \$2,000.00 last year just from submitting receipts!! The funds are used to support students, families, the school, and extracurricular activities.

The Butcher Boys grocery receipts award us with a \$50.00 gift card for every \$5,000.00 spent before

*All you have to do is collect your receipts and bring them to the scheduled PAC meetings and hand them to one of the Executive PAC members or you can place them into the receipt box located by the administration desk at Fulton!

We live in such an amazing community willing to help our children thrive!

If you want to support our vLearn Pac and look great doing it! Nicole Chou & Amber Yawney have been working together to create this fantastic opportunity with Okanagan Gift Co. These amazing vLearn moms have been creating and designing beautiful T-shirts for the vLearn families. All you have to do is use this LINK: <u>Homeschooling</u> and choose your design. The T-shirts cost \$30.00 and the PAC receives \$6.00 for every T-shirt purchased! This money goes towards the vLearn activities planned/organized by PAC!



View Our:

Community Activities:

Click Here For More Details!

Media Smarts Self-guided parent workshop:

<u>Raising Digitally Resilient Kids</u>