



# PANTHER PRESS NEWSLETTER

October 1 - 4

## Important Dates this Week

Sept 30 - No School - National Day for Truth & Reconciliation

Oct 1 - CDAB

- 3:00pm Senior Boys Soccer at Walnut Grove

Oct 2 - BADC

- 3:00pm Junior Football vs. GW Graham
- 3:00pm Junior Girls Volleyball at Mouat
- 6:00pm Senior Girls Volleyball at Mouat

Oct 3 - DCBA

- 2:45pm Senior Boys Soccer vs REMSS

Oct 4 - A-Tutorial-BCD

- 2:00pm Senior Boys Football at Sullivan Heights
- Grad Baby Photos Due for Yearbook

## The Week Recap

This past week, although a short one, was busy and wrapped up our final week of September and our first full month in the 2024-2025 school year. The annual IB retreat to Zajac Ranch took place on Wednesday and Thursday. All year 1 and year 2 diploma students participated in Zajac-led activities for the afternoon, shared dinner, and had the traditional campfire presentations in the evening.

It was an active week for our sports teams as the boys soccer team started their season with a 6-4 win over GW Graham on Tuesday and the senior girls volleyball team fought hard to bring a 27-25 win against Highroad Academy on Wednesday.

On Thursday, we acknowledged Truth and Reconciliation Day with our annual Orange Shirt event. A special thank you to our Indigenous Department for their guidance through our learning journey and for leading our students in the drumming ceremony in the rotunda.

On Friday, while students enjoyed an extended weekend, Panther Staff participated in virtual learning activities in the Abby Arts theatre including a presentation from Dr. Keith Carlson from UFV who discussed the different types of colonialism with a particular context on Stó:lō Indigenous Cultural traditions.

Read on in this week's newsletter for a glimpse into what to expect during the month of October!



Did you know that all stick bugs in captivity are female? Meet Larry, she resides in Odyssey and is one of Ms. Prato's many creatures.



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## Grad Info

Grad Hoodies are back on SchoolCashOnline for a limited time! The final day for ordering hoodies will be October 18th. At that time, the Hoodie order will be sent to our supplier and students can expect to receive them prior to Winter Break. Don't miss your chance to rep your grad year. \$55 for unnamed hoodies, \$61 to have your last name on the back and \$35 for sweat pants.

Grad baby photos are due on Friday Oct 4th. Find QR Codes around the school to submit yours!



## Tutorial Time

This Friday will be our first Tutorial block of the school year. Tutorial will fall immediately after first period (block A). A few things about Tutorial Time:

- Tutorial is instructional time and students are to be in a designated learning space.
- Students may only attend tutorials of classes they are enrolled in for this semester.
- Students are expected to have a plan and communicate this with their teachers
- Teachers have the right to hold students in their spaces for Tutorial Time to complete extra work, re-write tests, complete missing assignments, etc.
- Students with a first period study, with parent permission, can stay home until the end of tutorial time.
- This is a gift of time for students. Effective use of this time can take you from a pass to a fail, from a 67% to a 75%. This is time set aside for you to complete work, ask questions, and ensure you are on track to do your best in each of your classes.

More information on Tutorial Time can be found in the attached PDF.

## Spirit Week Upcoming

A BIG thank you to our leadership students with the help of Mr. Funk and Ms. Willms for getting our school year off with a lot of activities. Coming up during the week of Oct 7-11th is our first Pep Rally and Spirit Week!

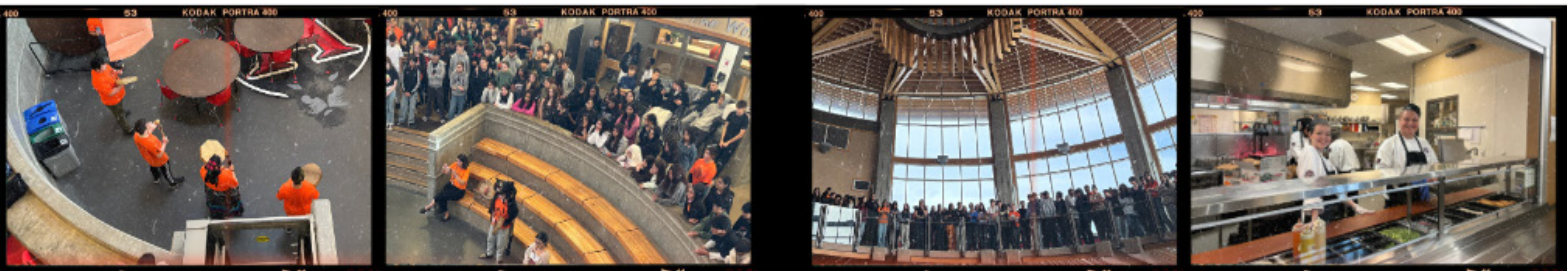
Monday Oct 7 - Jersey Day

Tuesday Oct 8 - Twin Day (dress up as twins or triplets!)

Wednesday Oct 9 - White Lie Day (write a white lie on your shirt)

Thursday Oct 10 - Grade Wars Pep Rally (Gr 9 Green, Gr 10 Blue, Gr 11 White, Gr 12 Red)

Friday Oct 11 - Canadiana Day - Canadian tuxedo, lumberjack, or get creative!





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## Attendance

As we wrap up the first month of the 2024-2025 school year, administration and counsellors will be taking a look at the students who have missed class time, contacting students, and be contacting home. In extreme cases, disciplinary action will occur. Think one or two classes a week isn't a lot? It all adds up!

Interventions from Abby Senior staff will be:

Step 1. Teacher conversation

Step 2. Referral to Panther Achievement Centre for lunch

Step 3. Admin intervention which includes a conversation and a phone call home

Step 4. Attendance letter home

Step 5. Attendance card and contract.

Stay tuned for more info on regular attendance in future Panther Press!