



# ARDEN ELEMENTARY

week at a Glance  
SEPT 4-8<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

Monday Sept 4	Tuesday Sept 5	Wednesday Sept 6	Thursday Sept 7	Friday Sept 8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Labour Day</li><li><b>No School</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Non-Instructional Day</li><li><b>No Classes</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>First day back to school</li><li>Half Day</li><li><b>Early Dismissal – 11:45</b></li></ul> <p>Staff Meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>First Full Day of School</li><li><b>8:40-2:30</b></li><li>First Gradual Entry Day for Kindergarten</li></ul>	
Monday Sept 11	Tuesday Sept 12	Wednesday Sept 13	Thursday Sept 14	Friday Sept 15
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>First Full Day of Kindergarten</li></ul>		

## Looking ahead:

Sept. 27 – Picture Day

Sept. 30 – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> – **No School Day** (National Day for Truth and Reconciliation)

## Hello again Arden Families,

Welcome to the first WAAG (Week at a glance) of the year. We will attempt to publish a WAAG each Friday afternoon (Saturday morning at the latest) outlining successes from the week and what is coming ahead. A running log of these emails will be put on to the 'Blog' on our Arden Elementary homepage.



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## **First Day of School**

The first day of school for students from grade 1 to grade 5 is Wednesday, September 6th from 8:35 am until 11:45 am. **Incoming Kindergarten students will have a different gradual entry schedule which will be communicated separately, in the coming days.**

## **School Code of Conduct**

Please review our [Arden Elementary Code of Conduct](#) that is on our website.

## **Outside At Recess and Lunch**

Students will be outside at recess and lunch unless the weather is really bad outside. It has to be very nasty out there for us to deprive them of their chance to get some fresh air and physical exercise. Please ensure students have weather appropriate clothing with them at school. A hoodie just doesn't cut it some days 😊

## **School Website**

The [School Website](#) has a link to the [weekly blog](#) with other useful information, including absence reporting, access to ePortfolios and upcoming events. Please check the school website as needed throughout the school year.

## **Communication**

Email will be the main source of communication between school and home. Please ensure your contact information is current and up to date. Student verification forms will be sent home in September to confirm contact information.

## **District Calendar**

For those of you looking to plan for the upcoming school year, important dates can be found on the [District Calendar](#).

## **Emergency Response & Fire Drills**

Regular fire drills and emergency response drills will be held throughout the year to practice student safety procedures. Our first full school Fire Drill is scheduled for September 29th. Classroom teachers will walk through expectations and practice with students during the first week of school.



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## School Supplies

For the 2023-24 school year Arden will be providing basic school supplies to students in Kindergarten to grade 5. Instead of parents purchasing individual sets of supplies, families provide money to the school and the school will purchase supplies for each student. This approach will ensure equity and equality among all students and will save parents time (no shopping!) and money (ordering in bulk, our discount on school supplies is significant). The only items parents will have to provide are a backpack, a lunch bag, and appropriate shoes for gym.

For Kindergarten to grade 5, the fee will be \$15.

The office will accept e-transfer, cash, or cheque.

Fees are due no later than September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Those who are choosing the e-transfer option, you can send the transfer to [arden@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:arden@sd71.bc.ca). Please make sure you include the following message: **School Supplies-Student(s) Name**

## School Bus

If you are new to the school bus and have not registered, please do so at <https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca/student-transportation/>

In continued partnership with our transportation provider, First Student, Comox Valley Schools, SD71, is offering First View/Parent View, a bus tracking and parent communications app for your smartphone or desktop.

- For more information and to download the app, please go to [www.firstviewapp.com](http://www.firstviewapp.com).
- For FirstView app troubleshooting questions, please reach out directly to via email: [support@firstviewapp.com](mailto:support@firstviewapp.com) or toll-free phone number 888-889-8920.
- To create an account, you will need your student's pupil ID, along with a special code:
- The code will be provided from the district once your student is a confirmed registered regular rider with the bus company.
- The district will be sending out codes once received from the bus company.

## Rules for Riding the Bus

- Be at the bus stop 5 minutes ahead of the posted schedule. The bus will not wait for those who are late
- Stay on the shoulder or sidewalk, well away from the pavement, while waiting for the bus
- Do not run beside the bus while it is moving
- Boarding the bus will be in single file
- No saving spots in line or seats on the bus
- Take your seat right away



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- The bus driver is always in charge
- Remain seated while the bus is in motion
- No eating on the school bus
- No fighting, bullying or horseplay on the bus
- Do not throw litter out the window of the bus
- Always keep head and arms in the bus

## **Class Placements**

The most frequent question we receive is, “Who is my teacher this year?”. We are still sorting through new registrations and figuring out who has moved. As a result, we are still making tweaks. The first day of school will have previous students returning to their classes from last year while all new students will join Ms. Bell in the library. On the evening of September 6<sup>th</sup>, you will get an email from us with your child’s class placement information. Please watch for this email (Please ensure school emails are not going to your junk folder).

Please feel free to email me with any questions or comments at [andrew.ferneyhough@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:andrew.ferneyhough@sd71.bc.ca)

Five more sleeps:)

**Andrew Ferneyhough**

Principal, Arden Elementary

and

**Teresa Cameron**

Vice-Principal Arden Elementary